

People On the Move

[Reprints](#) [RSS Feeds](#) [+ Most Viewed](#) [+ Most Emailed](#)

Spotlight — Hospitality

Ted Peters fell in love with cooking growing up in Stratford, Conn., and working the kitchens of nearby country clubs. Then it was off to culinary school in Providence, R.I., and a series of chef positions in Florida, Texas and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Which brings him to Feb. 11, when he will travel with two other cooks from the kitchen at the **One Ocean Resort** hotel in Atlantic Beach up to the James Beard Foundation in New York City to prepare a six-course meal at the renowned James Beard House in Greenwich Village, the former residence of the famous American chef who celebrated American cuisine. He will be accompanied by pastry chef Nancy Slatky and sous-chef James King.

"To be able to have this opportunity, it's just a huge honor, to see the people who have cooked there in the past and realize what it means to be invited to cook there," Peters said.

You know it's a special meal when it has a title — this one's entitled *Voyage of the Seas on the First Coast*, and naturally, it features seafood.

"Simple flavors, but done right," is how Peters describes the meal.

The first course is called *Exploration of the Sea Scallop*, with scallops barbecued and pan roasted. The Florida flavors cuisine continues throughout, with other courses featuring lobster, citrus sorbets, red snapper, English pea and okra succotash and a collection of citrus- and strawberry-inspired desserts.

To see the complete menu, along with five wines, log on to www.jamesbeard.org and go to the calendar of events.

"A meal like this, it's almost a symphony, if you will," Peters said. "A lot of different components have to come together at the right time.

"We are featuring incredible food that is

regional to this area. We stay true to that and embrace it."

Peters has been the executive chef at One Ocean Resort since the owners bought the former Sea Turtle Inn and spent \$45 million turning the building into a first-class resort hotel. He said he enjoys the small, intimate restaurant and the personal closeness to the customers that the owners require.

"People in Jacksonville are really great family people and they really like to enjoy themselves," he said, "but they have no pretensions that you find in other cities."

Peters lives in Woodbine, Ga., with his wife, Maria, and two children, 2 1/2-year-old daughter Katelyn, and 5-month-old Matthew.

