



by Sara Sobota

The Evolution Of Security Systems & Home Automation Across The Industry

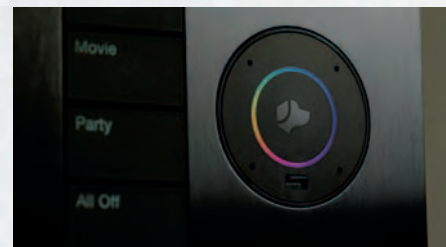
With the evolution of security systems & home automation over the past 3 to 5 years, home & business owners are provided with the peace of mind and comfort knowing that their home or business is safe and is a comfortable place to live or make a living. There are several platforms available in our industry today to accomplish the above. *Building Industry Synergy* reached out to two highly successful companies locally that have systems in place to offer all of the comforts and security desired by homeowners, property management companies and building contractors here across the Grand Strand.

With **Security Vision**, luxury home automation is taking a huge leap forward.



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Security Vision is the first dealer in the Grand Strand area to offer Josh.ai, a fully controlled smart home system that integrates seamlessly with luxury



smart home products. With a spontaneous phrase or the touch of a button, numerous features in your home can work automatically to create your ideal customized environment.



Michele Weissman, owner of Security Vision, said Josh.ai offers a progression from the smart home systems that proliferated in the past 5-10 years.

“What Josh.ai brings to the table is that it’s more intelligent, private, and secure,” said Weissman. “When voice command and voice control in homes



Security Vision owner & operator, Michele Weissman

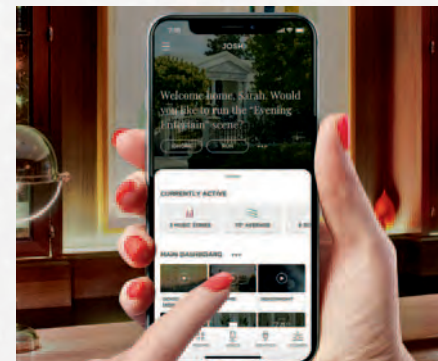
first came out, everyone wanted an Alexa. But then people started learning, ‘I don’t know if I trust this Alexa thing because I’m not sure who’s listening.’ They like the idea of it, but it’s not secure. Josh features complete privacy and data security. It’s designed so that there’s no one out there listening to your conversations and you’re not bombarded with ads based

on what you’ve been browsing or talking about.”

Josh.ai’s range of abilities is dizzying.



“It can control your TV, your sound, your lighting, your thermostat, your fans, shades, your security system, your door locks, your garage



door, your cameras, and your outdoor areas,” said Weissman.

The Josh.ai system can be installed completely from scratch or can be integrated with smart home devices customers already have in their homes. In addition, it learns the homeowner’s patterns, so it can determine, for example, the kind of music to play.

“The system is always learning, and it updates itself automatically, so it continuously operates on the cutting edge of functionality,” said Weissman.



In addition, Weissman noted, Josh.ai features natural language commands, so the speaker isn’t required to use a specific word or

phrase. At the same time, it can be set to implement multiple commands with a predetermined phrase.



“You can simply walk into a room and say, ‘Josh, it’s hot in here. Can you lower the temperature, close the blinds, and play music?’ It will know what kind of music you want based on what you’ve asked for before. Or, you can walk in and say, ‘Josh, I’m having company.’ That could mean it should adjust the lights, play music, put the temperature to a certain setting, raise the blinds halfway, and put specialty lighting on the artwork. So, you can be specific or general when you’re talking to it.”

Josh.ai has been around for a few years, Weissman said, but she waited

(Continued on page 12)

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Trusted Home Services Mission Statement
The mission of Trusted Home Services is our dedication to our customers, to provide honest, professional, high quality services one job at a time.

Trusted Home Services' Application Engineer, Greg Hicks, oversees the Security & Home Automation division.

"If someone falls, we have a medical alert button they could access anywhere in the house," said House. "Cameras that you can access through



Greg Hicks (right) reviews the latest capabilities in security & home automation that Trusted Home Services has to offer with Dave Edwards (left) in the new showroom.

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your phone are big today, as well as self-locking doors that you control by phone. There are just a lot of options. And the whole automation realm – tying everything together. We do a good job of integrating all features so you don't have so many apps on your phone that you have to open."

Trusted Home Services also prides itself on its accessibility and customer service.

"You'll always get a friendly person on the phone when you call in," said House, "and you always get a live person, even after hours. When we leave, our managers rotate and the phone number is forwarded to their personal cell phone."

Trusted Home Services features lines including Vista, Lutron, Honeywell, HIK Vision cameras & Alarm.com – all top-quality, reliable brands.



The concept, House said, is conveyed through the company's motto.

"Quality and comfort you can trust." ■

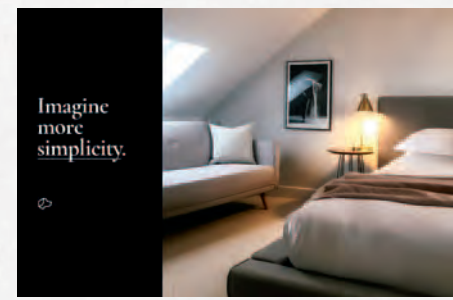
to adopt it until it went through a few refinements and expanded its line of integrated products.



"I waited until they started pairing with Lutron and built a higher-end lighting keypad," said Weissman. "It pairs really well with Lutron shades and lighting. It's just that extra cool feature that some of these smart homes are implementing."

One nice element, Weissman said, is that Josh.ai can be installed in a new home or an existing one, and customers can select the degree of integration they wish, from just tv and music to all elements of home automation.

"It can be on a small platform, or it can be elaborate," said Weissman.



Weissman said that area customers are very enthusiastic about Josh.ai, Weissman emphasized, and the potential it brings for secure, convenient, and intelligent home automation.

The sky is the limit when it comes to **Trusted Home Services'** capabilities in security and home automation.

"We can do pretty much anything you can think of," said owner, Jeff House.



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Trusted Home Services Mission Statement
The mission of Trusted Home Services is our dedication to our customers, to provide honest, professional, high quality services one job at a time.

Trusted Home Services owner & operator, Jeff House, in the new showroom located @ 1516 Hwy. 501 in Unit #105.

It's all about control, and convenience is one major factor.

"We have capabilities of controlling your security system from your phone. We can set it up so when you pull in the yard, it deactivates, and when you leave, it activates itself," said House.

"We can also install a little key fob so when you get home and get out of your car, you can deactivate your system before you even walk in the door. Then you don't have to worry about punching in codes or worrying if the alarm might go off."

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Other areas of security include medical alerts and cameras, and they can all be integrated to work through one app.

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