

GREEN COVE SPRINGS



BUSINESS & COMMUNITY DIRECTORY

Cove Life

Mission Statement:

Our Vision for Tomorrow creates a plan that will define our unique identity, assures quality of life, and makes Green Cove Springs a premier 21st century city that reflects our traditional values, natural features, and historic characteristics.

CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

Our City Council meets the first and third Tuesdays of each month at 7:00 PM in Council Chambers located on the first floor of City Hall, 321 Walnut Street

CITY ADMINISTRATION

Danielle J. Judd, *City Manager*
Julia W. Clevinger, *City Clerk*
L. J. Arnold III, *City Attorney*
Mike Null, *Asst. City Manager*

DEPARTMENT DIRECTORS

Janis Fleet, *AICP,*
Development Services Director
Marlena Guthrie, *CPA,*
Finance Director
Cynthia Hunter,
Human Resources Director
Robert A. Musco, *Chief of Police*
Mark Schultz, *Electric Utility Director*

For assistance, please call 904-297-7500, visit our website www.greencovesprings.com or Like us on Facebook.

ADVERTISING & LAYOUT INFORMATION:

The Green Cove Springs Directory and Community Review was created and printed by the staff of the City of Green Cove Springs & Clay Today Newspaper. If you would like to be included in the next edition please contact:

Jon Cantrell (904) 264-3200 jon@opcfla.com
Publisher, Clay Today and Clay County Leader

Funding Provided by Businesses
Located in Green Cove Springs.

Welcome to Green Cove Springs

the Clay County Seat, and a charming and quaint community nestled along the picturesque St. Johns River.

As a full-service municipality, we encompass about six square miles, and we serve about 7,000 residents, with a city workforce just under 100.

We operate our own electric, water and wastewater utility system and provide local law enforcement through our Police Department.

Green Cove is a recreation-rich community that showcases many venues. Our star attraction is Spring Park on Magnolia Avenue, located directly behind our Mediterranean architectural style City Hall.

Spring Park has a naturally flowing spring-fed swimming pool that is being renovated, a city pier, a gazebo, playground, picnicking and fishing.

It is near our historic downtown district that is lined with brick streets, galleries, antique shops, eateries, a historic inn and sites, cafés, and a railroad museum. The area includes 83 structures that are listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Also significant to our community is the Augusta Savage Arts and Community Center, located on Martin Luther King Boulevard. It is named for renowned sculptor Augusta Fells Savage, who was born in Green Cove.

Green Cove is known fondly by residents and visitors alike as the Saratoga of the South and proudly displays its motto Cove Life – a state of mind where everyday living is enhanced by the river breeze, beautiful parks and swaying old shade trees draped with moss waving in the wind.

Here in Green Cove, we're passionate about our historical and unique city, and we're poised for its future.

As you scroll through this publication, we trust you will find it a treasure trove of information. Our website, www.greencovesprings.com, links you to various City services.

Regardless of your favorite pastime, Green Cove Springs has activities and businesses that are sure to meet your every need and beckon your return!

Yours in Service,

Van Royal, *Mayor* **Ray Braly**, *Vice Mayor*

Felecia Hampshire, *City Council Member* **Pamela Lewis**, *City Council Member*

Mitch Timberlake, *City Council Member*





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**Wolfson Children's
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At Baptist Clay Medical Campus

Welcome to *Cove Life* Green Cove Springs

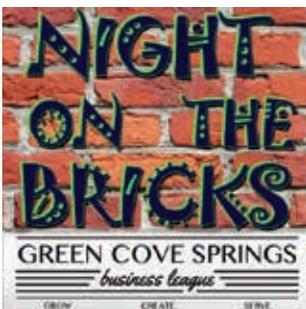
As longtime residents know well, Green Cove Springs is more than just the County Seat. This small town has plenty to offer residents and visitors alike. The Green Cove Springs Business League along with all our local businesses invite you to enjoy the small town atmosphere.

Following are just a few of the things our city has to offer

- A Beautiful Park on the River with a playground and picnic facilities
- Local Golf, Tennis and Boating Facilities
- Antiques Shops, Art Galleries & Studios in the Downtown District
- Family Friendly Holiday Events and Monthly Markets
- Historic Architecture and Museums
- Car Shows and a local Dragstrip
- A Vibrant Volunteer Community

Green Cove Springs Business League Co-chairs:

Lynne Vincent and Brandon Bascelli



For updated event information, membership information and volunteer opportunities, visit us at www.GCSBL.com and www.ThirdSaturdays.com





Break the Chain

Restaurants That Offer More Than Food

Green Cove Springs has a secret that it would like to share with all who visit our local restaurants. Our restaurants welcome patrons with a genuine smile and great food.

Our charming city offers you a chance to Break the Chain and experience a meal where the owner operator is involved in selecting the fresh produce, cooking in the kitchen and working hard to make sure their patrons are pleased with their service.

From our county club to our cafes, you will often find the owners on the property and greeting customers by name.

Whether it's authentic Mexican food at La Casita or the broad selection at Pan Asian that includes Chinese, Japanese, Korean or Thai cuisine pre-

pared fresh each day by a local Chinese family, you can find it in quaint, friendly Green Cove Springs.

Our special variety of restaurants does not end there. If Italian is your pleasure you can stop by D'Fontana's for a pizza plied high with your favorite toppings or a freshly cooked traditional Italian dish that is prepared each day by an Italian-American who loves to share the family style meals he grew up eating.

If a big breakfast or a scrumptious lunch is what you have in mind, then Green Cove Springs is the place to be.

Farmer in the Deli offers generous New York-style sandwiches, as well as breakfast.

Vicki's Kitchen is a local watering hole for regulars who want that personal touch for a home-style breakfast.

Sunrise to Sunset is always packed with customers wanting its home-cooked meals.

Sweet Sensations is another local favorite, with a variety of meal-sized sandwiches and salads, as well as the best desserts for miles around.

A unique place to have a great cup of fresh-roasted coffee and pastry is Spring Park Coffee. You can relax in the period furnishings, work quietly on their computer or chat with a friend over ice cream after dinner. It's a good place to begin or end your day.

If you want a different, personal experience the next time you go out to eat, Break the Chain habit, come to Green Cove Springs and discover one of our culinary secrets.

China Wok

1305 North Orange Ave #127
(904) 529-8668
chinawokfl.com

Pan Asian Cuisine

1306 North Orange Avenue #126
(904) 529-5153
www.panasiancuisinegcs.com

La Casitas

20 N Orange Avenue • (904) 529-9985
mexicanrestaurantgreencove.com

D'Fontana Italian Cuisine

324 Ferris Street • (904) 529-5515
dfontana.com

Mandarin Wok

422 S Orange Street
(904) 284-8060

Woody's Bar-B-Q

1301 North Orange Avenue
(904) 284-1014
www.woodys.com

Spring Park Coffee

328 Ferris Street • (904) 531-9391
www.springparkcoffee.com

Scotty's Place

206 S Orange Street
(904) 531-9659

Vicki's Kitchen

328 Ferris Street
(904) 284-5599

Ronnie's Wings Oysters and More

232 Walnut Street
(904) 284-4728

S&W Home Cooking

1100 Martin Luther King Jr Blvd
(904) 529-1488

Pizza Hut

1367 N Orange Avenue
(904) 284-2244
www.pizzahut.com

Sweet Sensations

25 N Orange Avenue
(904) 529-8554

Farmers in the Deli

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Sunrise to Sunset

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www.larryssubs.com

Subway

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- GREEN COVE SPRINGS — 601 North Orange Ave

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Festivals & Events



photos by Maria Quinn

Green Cove Springs started many years ago with two annual festivals, one was Labor Day/Family Frolics. This was held in Spring Park. It had all the old fun type of things, tug o' war across the Spring Run, climbing a greased pole for a \$50 bill, watermelon-seed spitting, three-legged races and the like.

The second festival was Christmas on Walnut Street. This was held in and around Spring Park and ran concurrent to the Christmas Parade. The Parade of Trees, which lasts several weeks, is also in the park. The Parade of Trees is not a moving parade, it is a static display of trees in the park. People "rent" the trees and decorate them for fun, business or to commemorate a loved one.

As we moved into the late 1980s, we ventured into a third festival, Memorial Day, which later became Memorial Day RiverFest. This started to

include more contemporary items like bounce houses, small trains, pony rides and, of course, vendors. Eventually, because of economics and Memorial Day ties to a race, the Labor Day event was dropped.

In the 1990s, the Clay County Railroad Festival started in the Historical Triangle at SR 16 & the railroad tracks. This is held in March.

After we moved into the 21st Century, the Soul Food Festival started. Traditionally held near the start of October at Vera Francis Hall Park, it includes the Soul Food Festival Parade along Palmetto Avenue and Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

The newest festival is the CalaVida Arts Festival, held in September. The event celebrates the many artists and writers from the Green Cove Springs Area.

Activities include entertainment, plays, visual artists at work and book signings.



2016 Calendar of Events

March 5 – Historic Railroad Festival

March 31-April 9 – Clay County Fair

May 30 – Memorial Day RiverFest

August 2 – National Night Out – sponsored by Green Cove Springs Police Department

Oct. 1 – Soul Food Festival and Parade

Oct. 31 – Trunk or Treat Halloween Festival

Dec. 3 – Christmas on Walnut Street Festival and Parade

Other Events

CalaVida – (date to be announced)

Old Arts & Carts – October (date to be announced)

Third Saturday – Market in the Park – Every Third Saturday

Night on the Bricks – (dates to be announced)

From the River to the Railroad

Highlights of Walnut St.

By Kat Roedell
Photos by Jami Shaw

Life is full of convenience but it's rushed. It seems like a daily drive – to work, to the store, to the beach, to hang out with friends. Our brains get filled with the latest radio commercial, news feed or Facebook posting. It's easy to forget the past in the day-to-day bustle of life.

But when it's time to unwind, and you are looking for a place to explore, you should get in the car and drive to Green Cove Springs ... and then walk! Within a 12 block area of brick-lined streets, you can go from the River to the Railroad – discovering the nooks and crannies of a slower-paced Southern town, and enjoying the architecture of years gone by.

There are things in our town that appeal to many different types of people – from the young urban hipster (Spring Park Coffee, Johnny Copper's Vapor Shop, The Guitar Station) to the home-schooling mom (Spring Park, The Green Cove Springs Historical Triangle, Wild Ginger Studios).

For the young at heart, we have a group of talented event-based busi-

nesses (Lynne Vincent to Wear, Kimberly E's Cottage, Divine Florist).

The avid boater can use the docking facilities at the pier, walk to several restaurants (Ronnie's Wings, Sweet Sensations, DeFontana's, Scotty's Place, La Casita's) and retrieve their mail at St. Brendan's Isle.

For those with a discerning eye, you can enjoy a fun night at the auction (Side By Side), or a quiet afternoon browsing through antique stores (The Treasure Box, The Cove's Treasures, Simply Sensational, 420 Walnut Street) or just wandering Walnut Street following a walking tour found at the River Park Inn. And if you simply fall in love with our little city, stop in at a Real Estate office (Exit Magnolia Point Real Estate, Plantana's Real Estate) and go take a closer look at some of those houses!

There are so many things to see and do, on and near Walnut Street. it is hard to list them all. Come and enjoy the Florida life with us - (CalaVida, Night on the Bricks, Market in the Park, Old Karts and Arts, Christmas on Walnut Street, the Soul Food Festival). Slow life down and enjoy a day on the Bricks ...



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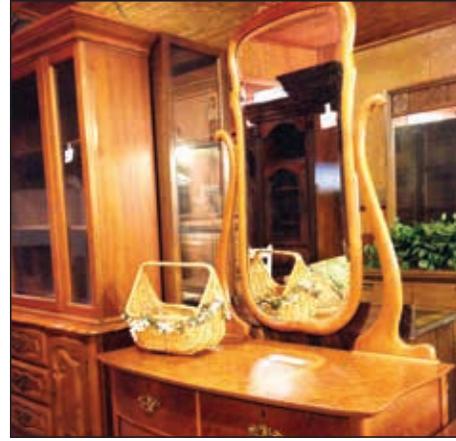


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- **Cove's Treasures**, 406 Walnut, St. Hours; Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. 904-284-8744
- **Something Special**, 1425 Walnut St. Hours: Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. 904-657-2312
- **Treasure Box**, 115 N. Magnolia Ave. Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. 904-400-2444
- **Side by Side**, 26 N. Orange Ave., Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. 904-284-0022
- **Jenny's Antiques**, 420 Walnut St., H Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. 904-657-2215
- **Rainbow Antiques**, 1607 Idlewild Ave., Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. 904-566-6434 or 606-3222
- **Poppi's Bargain Center**, 1602 Idlewild Ave. Monday and Tuesday, noon to 6 p.m. Thursday and Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. 904-571-5258
- **Another Man's Treasure**, 853 SR 16 E/L.C. Taylor Parkway. Hours: Tuesday-Friday 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. 904-284-1155
- **Lacee's Corner**, 317 U.S. 17, Hours: Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. 904-264-9647

The Antiques of Green Cove Springs. Treasures aren't buried here, but some are best kept secrets!

Remember When...

By Pat Garlinghouse

Some readers may remember prior to 1990, when Green Cove Springs was a real destination for many antique lovers.

The River Park Inn building on Magnolia Avenue housed Appleseed Antiques,

and Carey's Antiques occupied the majority of Walnut Street as well as the old Qui Si Sana Hotel, where City Hall is.

Another location was where Ronnie's Wings is now. Although I did not come to live in Green Cove Springs until 1997, I often came across the river to the post office, and to antique.

By the time I came permanently in

1997 to open River Park Inn in the former Appleseed Antiques building, there were no more antique shops.

Many disappointed antique lovers still came to River Park Inn (formerly Appleseed Antiques) wanting to know what happened to all of them.

Fortunately, Green Cove Springs has come full circle and now there are sev-

eral antique shops and thrift stores with great antique treasures that will satisfy even the most selective shopper or budget-conscious buyer.

So plan an outing, have lunch and spend the day visiting them all. I guarantee you will find at least one irresistible treasure, a gift item or at least some great food and a whisper of nostalgia.



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Tax Dollars at Work

Investment in Infrastructure

The City of Green Cove Springs is a full-service government, meeting the needs of its residents.

Services within general government include police protection, a recreation program, street improvements, regulating building activity to ensure proper construction and code enforcement – working to clean up neglected and poorly-maintained property.

We also operate our own utilities – providing electric power, water and sewer service, solid waste collection and stormwater management.

Highlights of Fiscal Year 2016 Budget

Maintaining Electric Department

Upgrading lines, renovating Chapman Substation and planning improvements to increase service reliability -- \$1.2 million

Street Resurfacing

Funded by the Local Option Fuel Tax – \$200,000

Sales Tax Projects – Over \$2 million

- Spring Park and Pool Rejuvenation (Includes \$700,000 from Clay County Commission)
- Augusta Savage Community Center Improvements
- City Hall Archive Room
- Poles for Banners on U.S. 17
- Walnut Street Streetscape
- Sidewalks
- Floating Docks at Pier

The City recently opened a new Police Headquarters and Emergency Operations Center.

The City plans to build a modern new Wastewater Treatment Plant that can accommodate future needs.



Wastewater Improvements



The City is developing a plan to convert its sewer treatment plant to an Advanced Wastewater Treatment Plant and a Reclaimed Water System.

Estimated cost – \$20 million

Need

- Reduce discharge into waterways
- Meet current standards
- Provide capacity for economic development

Potential Funding

- State and Federal grants
- City funds



Our goal at Green Cove Liquors is to exceed your expectations each and every visit by providing you with fast yet friendly service and sound pricing. We thank you for the opportunity to serve you today and look forward to serving you once again in the near future.

CHEERS!!

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trish@rossandross.com

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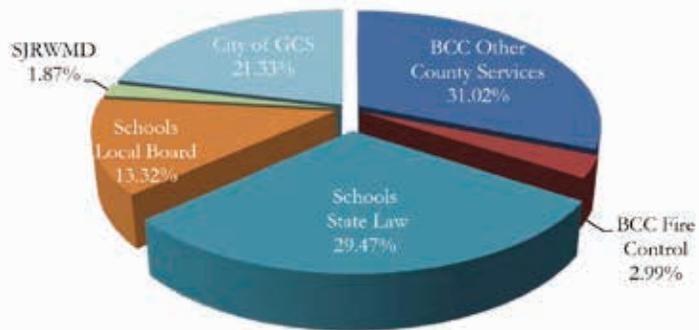
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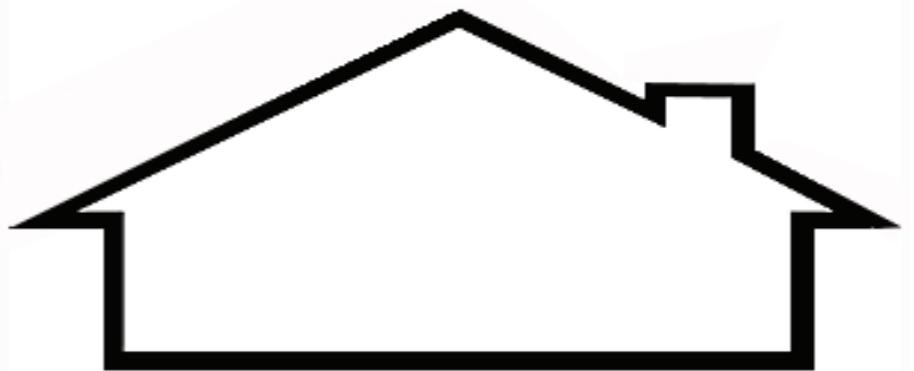
Where Does My Tax Dollar Go?



Green Cove Springs Millage Rates for Property Owners	
Unit of Government	Millage
City of Green Cove Springs	3.6000
Other Units of Government	
Clay County Schools	7.1370
Clay County Government	5.2349
Clay County Fire	0.5048
St. Johns River Water Management District	0.3023
Total Millage for Green Cove Springs	16.7790

City Property Tax Example

Taxable Value	\$200,000
Exemption	\$50,000
Value Taxes	\$150,000
City Millage	3.6 mill
City Property Tax	\$540



CalaVida

ARTS FESTIVAL

OCTOBER 20-23, 2016



In Historic Green Cove Springs

For a Complete list of events as they are booked,
visit: CalaVida.com

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(if you would like to be a Sponsor, Artist, Entertainer or Vendor
for CalaVida, please email: CalaVidaFestival@gmail.com)



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Green Cove Springs Honors the Military

One of Green Cove Springs most touching displays of patriotism was begun by a Vietnam Veteran, Johna Hayes and later championed by Art Yeaman and the Greater Green Cove Civic Association naming it the "Parade of Flags". White crosses topped with an American Flag honor a fallen Clay County military member. The sea of crosses makes a statement that is moving and helps us remember that many gave "all".

The "Parade of Flags" is in its 18th year. Originally, the crosses were displayed in Spring Park during Memorial Day to honor the fallen. In 2014 Heritage Guides, the current organization that displays the flags, believed it was time for more people to experience the patriotic display and decided the flags should "travel". Mr. Yeaman, a dedicated retired Marine Veteran who is the di-

rector and founder of Heritage Guides, spends an inordinate amount of time moving the flags to various locations in Clay County to have the opportunity to honor those that died for our freedoms.

Currently, there is another movement afoot by various veterans and organizations to raise funds for a memorial to honor Clay County Soldiers that gave their lives for our great county. This memorial, which will replace the current one, will be entitled "TAPS" for the Civil War composition often played at military funerals. The new memorial will be more substantial and detailed with the names of all the Clay County fallen. Atop the block of substantial black marble will be a sculpture of three life-size rifles and a helmet. "TAPS" will be located near the old courthouse in the Historic Triangle of Green Cove Springs at 915 Walnut Street.



Green Cove Springs Rotary

Meets Mondays at 12:15 PM

Woman's Club (VIA Building)

17 N. Palmetto Ave (Next to US Post Office)

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TECO Peoples Gas Plans Natural Gas Service to Green Cove Springs

In a move that could help economic development in southeast Clay County, TECO Peoples Gas is preparing to provide natural gas distribution service to Green Cove Springs.

SeaCoast Gas Transmission and Peoples Gas are working together to provide natural gas service to the businesses and residents in Green Cove Springs and surrounding areas of Clay County. If approved, SeaCoast will install nearly 10 miles of pipe, and Peoples Gas will install 13 miles of pipe to serve customers.

Pending approval by the Florida Public Service Commission (PSC), Green Cove Springs will have natural gas service for the first time in 2016. The PSC is expected to vote on the issue by the end of this year.

Construction could start during the first half of 2016, with service to larger customers complete by the end of 2016. Smaller commercial customers could have service in 2017. Residential customers would have service in coming years.

"Peoples Gas is proud to be a good community partner and to better serve this region," said Jeff Whitson, Community Relations manager for Peoples Gas. "This is a growing community

with robust plans for economic development. We are happy to help fuel that progress."

Peoples Gas System, Florida's largest natural gas distribution utility, is part of the TECO Energy family of companies. Peoples Gas serves more than 360,000 customers across Florida.

TECO Energy is an energy-related holding company with regulated electric and gas utilities in Florida and New Mexico: Tampa Electric, Peoples Gas System and New Mexico Gas Co.

Natural gas is an energy source that is efficient, reliable, safe, economical and domestic. Use natural gas for home heating, hot water, cooking and clothes drying – even everyday luxuries like spa and pool heating, outdoor lighting and indoor or outdoor fireplaces – all while saving up to 60 percent on certain energy costs and reducing greenhouse gas emissions up to 70 percent.

Peoples Gas offers substantial cash-back rebates to help with the purchase and initial installation costs of natural gas appliances. Visit www.peoplesgas.com/rebates for more information.

If you are interested in natural gas service to your home or business, call 877-TECO-PGS (877-832-6747).



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The population of our senior citizens in Clay County continues to grow and our mission is to provide services throughout Clay County to maximize opportunities for self-sufficiency and personal independence of Clay County elders and to plan, advocate and administer programs and policies that assure accessible, responsive and comprehensive services and long term care.

Serving Clay County Seniors

604 Walnut Street • Green Cove Springs, FL 32043
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CLAY COUNTY CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT

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Criminal Dept.

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Middleburg 904.282.6490
Keystone 352.478.8016

Historic Archive Center

904.371.0027

Civil Department

904.278.3645

Information Technology

904.269.6361

Recording Dept.

904.269.6362

One of the Best Sites on the East Coast: Site Selector

Clay County seat Green Cove Springs is one of the most ideal cities for a manufacturer to relocate to or expand in, according to a study by Princeton, New Jersey-based The Boyd Company, a site selection company that has worked with clients like Pratt & Whitney, PepsiCo and Dell.

The study, done after several clients asked for the information, looked at 40 of the biggest emerging markets for manufacturing and found that Green Cove Springs is one of the lowestcost cities.

“Green Cove Springs has some very compelling trends,” John Boyd, principle of the Boyd Company, told the Business Journal.

Some of its biggest benefits include its abundant industrial space, access to rail service, proximity to the port and Florida’s friendly business climate.

“Right now,” Boyd said, “Green Cove Springs is one of the best [sites] on the East Coast.”

Excerpted from Jacksonville Business Journal

Why This Green Cove Springs Manufacturer Launched a \$10M Expansion

Clay County’s second-largest private employer is growing. Vac-Con Inc. —the manufacturer of truck-mounted sewage cleaning equipment — broke ground in June for its 65,000- square-foot expansion, which will add to its already 100,000 square feet.

“It has been said for every job in manufacturing, it creates two to three additional jobs in the community, through service industries and other related business. I think that’s an important part of our mission as a manufacturer,” said Marketing Manager Tom Jody.



Excerpted from Jacksonville Business Journal

Competitive Advantages

- Low millage rate
- Strong workforce
- All utilities are provided by the City
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California Company Chooses Clay

The former Food Lion Distribution Center has its second new tenant in a year. Santa Paula, California-based Calavo Growers Inc. has signed a lease for 208,000 square feet of space in the former Food Lion Distribution Center on J.P. Hall Boulevard with the goal of bringing 262 jobs to Clay County in the next five years.

Calavo Growers, a food processor and distributor, will take up the section of the building that houses refrigeration equipment, which will be used in various food processing capacities.

Excerpted from Clay Today

Repurposing U.S. 17 Property



Michelle and Todd Sweatland converted an abandoned property into of-ice space and a deli. Michelle operates her family-law practice in the building in the background.

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Augusta Savage



Cynthia Hayman



Bert V. Royal

The Arts in Green Cove Springs



Lynyrd Skynyrd

By Sandra Royal

Miles away from the lights of Broadway and the Hollywood Hills, far removed from the streets of Harlem and hidden from the bright lights is a sleepy little town that rarely gets a chance to boast of its special contribution to the arts, Green Cove Springs is the home of and the inspiration to arts of the past, present and future.

Around the turn of the century, 1900, a little girl filled her days making figures from clay. (This is Clay County, you know.) That little girl, grew up to become a famous sculptress displaying her art at the 1939 World's Fair. Her name was Augusta Savage.

Another past Green Cove resident, Cynthia Hayman, is an accomplished opera singer who has entertained audiences around the world. Her portrayal of Bess in George Gershwin's Porgy and

Bess is unsurpassed.

Everyone knows "Sweet Home Alabama" and many other songs by Lynyrd Skynyrd. But not everyone knows it was written in a small wooden building called Hell House on the outskirts of Green Cove Springs. In fact, most of Lynyrd Skynyrd's first two albums (the first recorded 42 years ago) were composed there.

Playwright and screenwriter Bert V. Royal lived in Green Cove Springs through his junior high and High School years. His credits include the New York City Fringe Festival award-winning play "Dog Sees God," "Confessions of a Teenage Blockhead" and the teen movie hit, "Easy A."

Currently, Bert is writer and producer of Recovery Road, airing Jan. 16, 2016 on the rebranded ABC Family Network called Free Form.

Artists of all sorts seem to flourish in

this quaint little town. Artist and author, Janis Hollerith creates here as well as being the proprietor of Hollerith's Gallery. Hollerith's Fine Art Gallery has been open for 12 years and represents 12 or more artists.

Award-winning photographer Kevin Floyd continues to capture attention and awards with his stunning work. Kevin, along with well-know photographer John Wood both teach and share their expertise with budding photographers.

Following the Southern Rock tradition of Lynyrd Skynyrd, Curt Towne of the Curt Towne Band owns and operates, with his partner, The Guitar Station, where young guitarists are keeping the rock genre alive. The studio's success has skyrocketed the acceptance of many students into Douglas Anderson School of the Arts.

Wild Ginger Pottery Shop offers a

place for artists to explore and create with clay. Owner Sandy Woolley shared that 40-50 potters meet, take lessons and work in the shop, creating stunning pottery items.

Spring Park Coffee Shop is the place to find books by many of Green Cove Springs' authors. The genres include children's books, teen books, graphic novels, adult novels and religious writings.

Every month, the City of Green Cove Springs hosts Third Saturday Market in the Park. Third Saturday serves as a gathering place for area craftsmen, folk artists, bakers and fresh produce.

CalaVida, an annual arts festival showcases musical performances, dance, theatre and visual arts. The year 2016 will be the events third year.

Mark your calendar for Oct. 20-23 and watch our website for details. www.CalaVida.com

When in town for 3rd Saturday don't forget to visit our great antique shops, restaurants and other wonderful businesses.



What is 3rd Saturday Market in the Park?
It is a monthly produce, arts, unique gift and resale market.

When is 3rd Saturday Market in the Park?
It's every 3rd Saturday of the month from 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM.

Where is 3rd Saturday Market in the Park held?
Around City Hall in Spring Park on the corner of Walnut and US 17.

Sponsored by
**Green Cove Springs
Business League**

e-mail address:
admin@gcsbl.com

Facebook:
www.facebook.com/pages/GCSBL

Vendor booth cost: \$20.00



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Sales Tax Benefits Community



Spring Park Project

- Rebuilding swimming pool
- Adding building with restrooms, a concession stand and a deck
- New park entrance and other work
- Bid alternate will include adding a spray park

“Through the pool renovation and Spring Park enhancements, we’re investing in Green Cove Springs. A key feature will be the deck overlooking the pool. This will be an ideal spot for musical performances and other events.”

Mayor Van Royal

Half-Cent Sales Tax

Since 1990, Green Cove Springs has received money from the one-cent Infrastructure Surtax.

Advantages of this tax include:

- Visitors to the city pay the tax.
- Sales tax revenue increases as spending by the public increases.
- The sales tax provides an ongoing source of funding for capital improvements the city could not afford otherwise.

20 • Green Cove Springs • 2015

Infrastructure Surtax Budget 2016 Fiscal Year	
Spring Park and Pool Rejuvenation (Includes \$700,000 from Clay County Commission)	\$1.4 million
Augusta Savage Community Center Improvements	\$215,000
Police Building Debt Payment	\$420,000
City Hall Archive Room	\$6,000
Poles for Banners on U.S. 17	\$40,000
Walnut Street Streetscape	\$75,000
Sidewalks	\$36,000
Floating Docks at Pier	\$15,000

Augusta Savage Community Center

The Augusta Savage Arts & Community Center was built as Dunbar High School in 1942, and is located on a five-acre parcel of land near the center of Green Cove Springs. Augusta Savage donated the property for the first and only black high school in Green Cove Springs.

The city bought the property in 2007. The city is continuing to remodel and upgrade the property for use as a community center.

Current activities include:

- Food Pantry of Green Cove Springs
- After-school recreation and tutoring program
- Community dances
- Bright Minds Community Development – Summer Camp
- Episcopal Children’s Services Early Learning Center

“The entire city is working together to bring the site back as a hub of community activity. It’s becoming an important place for our children to go and be engaged in learning and recreation.”

Council Member Felecia Hampshire



Augusta Savage Community Center History

Augusta Savage was born in Green Cove Springs in 1892. As a child, she spent time at the Clay County Brickworks, where she gathered clay to mold into birds.

She worked as an artist in Harlem. In the late ‘20s, a photo of one of her sculptures appeared on the cover of Opportunity magazine. The magazine caught the eye of the administrator of the Julian Rosenwald Fund, who granted Savage a scholarship to study art in Paris.

She won a commission for a sculpture for the 1939 World’s Fair – “The Harp,” which depicted black figures singing incorporated into a 16-foot harp.

Private-Public Partnerships

The City Council has helped develop public-private partnerships that benefit the community. One example is the Gateway Corridor Pilot Grant Program.

The Green Cove Springs Business League, a private nonprofit business organization, is full of talented, innovative and creative business owners. It often partners with the City to bring events to Green Cove Springs to benefit local businesses. In the two years since its inception, the Business League has done the following:

- Started a local market called Third Saturday Market in the Park
- Held an event called Night on the Bricks (more planned in coming months)
- Sponsored the annual Christmas Parade the past two years
- Developed the Business and Community Directory published yearly in Clay Today

The Green Cove Springs Business League is striving to build local business by providing resources, networking and community involvement and by being a liaison between city leaders and business owners.

“My desire to help Green Cove Springs prosper has been centered around helping the business community through developing partnerships, whether they are government-related, like the Matching Grant Program, or private entities, such as the Green Cove Springs Business League.”

Council Member Pam Lewis

Former Police Station Site

Following the move to the new Police and EOC facilities, the City has completed the demolition of the old Police Station. What next?

Without question, Spring Park and the river is Green Cove Spring’s greatest asset. Using it to drive positive development for the future is critical.

As we see a strong uptick in businesses locating in an around Green Cove Springs, this property becomes a key component in the long-term economic development plans for our downtown.

Ideas range from including it in the Spring Park complex to establishing a private-public partnership with an entity to become an anchor business in the revitalization of the park area and the Walnut St/Spring Park downtown.

“Taking advantage of this piece of property is one of those ‘once-in-a-lifetime’ opportunities to help shape our future.”

Council Member Mitch Timberlake

First Coast Technical College Plans Green Cove Campus

In its 50th year, First Coast Technical College is still looking for opportunity to better serve the population of the tri-county area of Clay, Putnam and St. Johns counties.

In order to serve the residents of Clay County, FCTC is launching a completely renovated 15,000-square-foot facility in the Magnolia Layne Shopping Center in Green Cove Springs.

The new facility has already started Practical Nursing classes on a limited basis, and once the renovation project is complete, additional programs will

be offered from the beginning of 2016.

Cosmetology (including barbering), Medical Assisting, Medical Office Assistant, Pharmacy Technician and Massage Therapy are some of the programs that are slated to start at the new facility.

Offices, located in Suite 118, 1305 N. Orange Ave., are open on Monday, Tuesday and Friday from 8 am to 5 pm for registration.

Call 904-863-3103 to reach the desk or call our St. Augustine campus at 904-547-3282 for additional information.



Cove Shopping Center gets upgrade

Cove Plaza shopping center is undergoing an upgrade. New paint, new parking lot and, hopefully, new tenants.

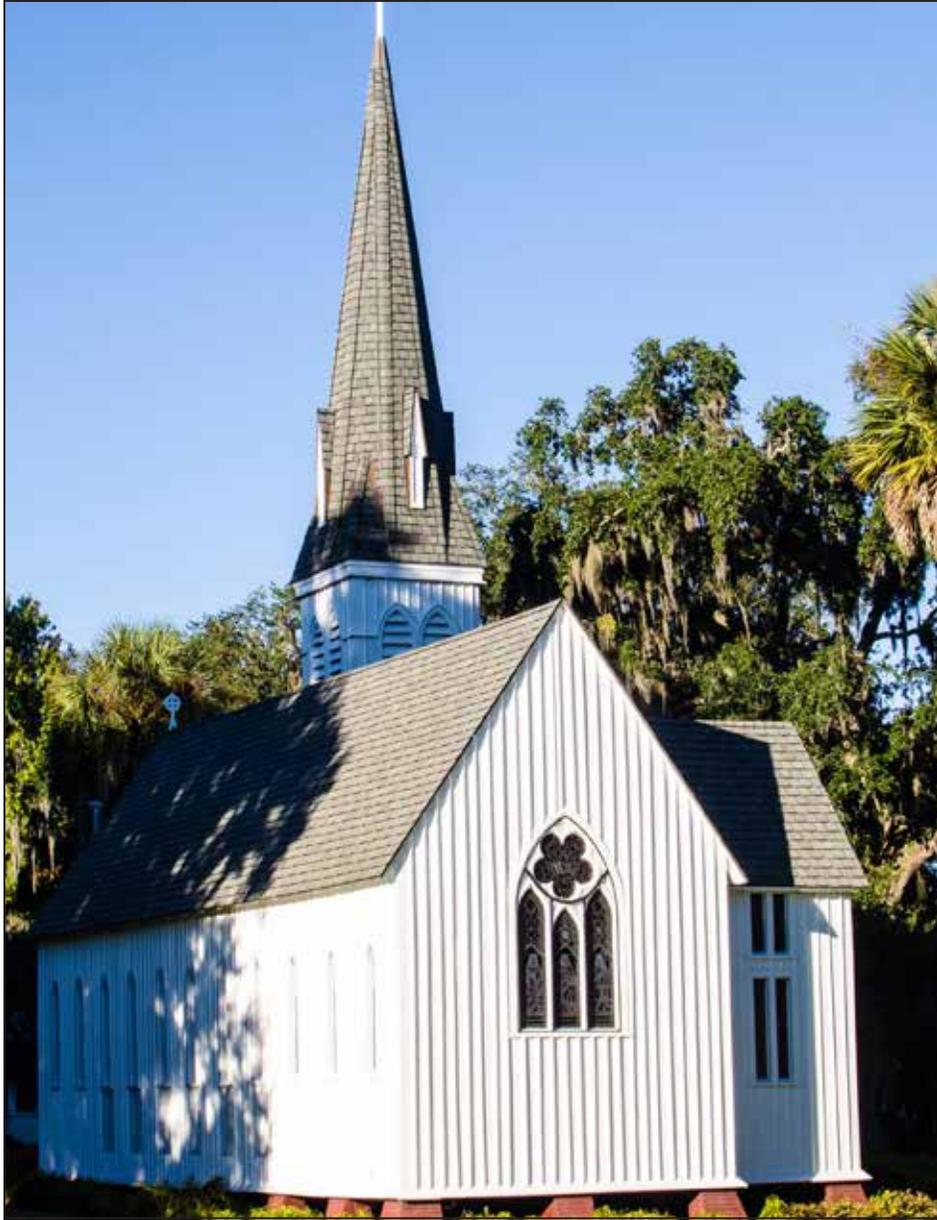
The shopping center, located at the south end of Green Cove Springs at 1401-1435 S. Orange Ave., has new owners, who are making improvements.

Space of all sizes are available, according to property management company, Bruce Strumpf, Inc. <http://www.brucestrumpf.com/index.php/cove-plaza>

For more information, call 727-449-2020 or email johnstoner@brucestrumpf.com.



Christmas on Walnut and the Memorial Day RiverFest are two major Green Cove Springs Festivals.



St. Mary's Episcopal Church



The Churches of Green Cove Springs

By Larianne Stutts
Photos by Jami Shaw

Green Cove's dedication to preserving its traditional values and rich heritage is evident in its churches. Several churches are located in the heart of the city, two of which are estimated to be some of the oldest in the county.

All the churches have unique architectural attributes that make them beautiful to look at, but functional as places of worship. Many of Green Cove's citizens flock to these buildings on the first day of the week.

The First African Missionary Baptist Church dates back to 1883 and is said to have been founded by a group of former slaves soon after the Civil War.

This church is actually a combination of two buildings side by side on Palmetto Avenue. The larger building is made of white brick with beautiful arches curving over its entrance. The stained-glass windows are accented teal painted ledges that draws the eye to the windows.

To the left of the main building is a smaller building that is simpler in style. The area between the buildings is connected with wrought iron gates that add

to the uniqueness of the building.

Continuing on Palmetto Avenue, right across from the courthouse, is the Mount Zion African American Methodist Episcopal Church. It features white brick with the stained glass windows. The glass depicts a cross amidst soft shades of blue and purple.

St. Mary's Episcopal Church dates back to 1878. This quaint little church is a popular venue for weddings and other intimate family events. This is, in part, due to the serenity of the location, as it is set on the edge of the St. John's River.

It is also noted for its stained-glass

windows that were created by Colgate Studio in New York. Set in the carpenter gothic style, the church's windows add to the church's historical charm.

Not far from the St. Mary's is the First Presbyterian Church, founded in 1884. It is made of white painted wood with trim cut in Victorian gothic style pieces surrounding the windows. The windows contain stained glass, but it is more of a textured glass than a picture or a design.

The roof is a steel gray that angles sharply, and it is pointed with a magnificent steeple.

The sign in front of this church is

made with the same design style as the building, with elegant lettering and a pointed “roof” covering.

The Mount Pleasant Missionary Baptist Church is located on the corner of Houston Street and Martin Luther King Drive. This coffee-colored building is topped with a grand steeple and also has the stained glass of some of Green Cove's other churches.

It was founded in 1987 and is modern in design. One of the unique attributes of this church is its large area that is not only utilized for parking but also for festivals and service-oriented projects. Stained-glass windows can be seen on all sides of this building.

Just off Orange Avenue and across from the fire station is Hickory Grove Baptist Church. This church was established in 1963 and covers quite a large landscape. Many windows adorn this relatively modern building and they, too, are laden with stained glass. The design in these windows is more of a compilation of diamond-shaped colors, brighter than those from the 1800s.

On the left-hand side of U.S. 17, as one enters Green Cove from Orange Park, is Springs Church. This church was founded in 1960 and similar to the Hickory Grove Church.

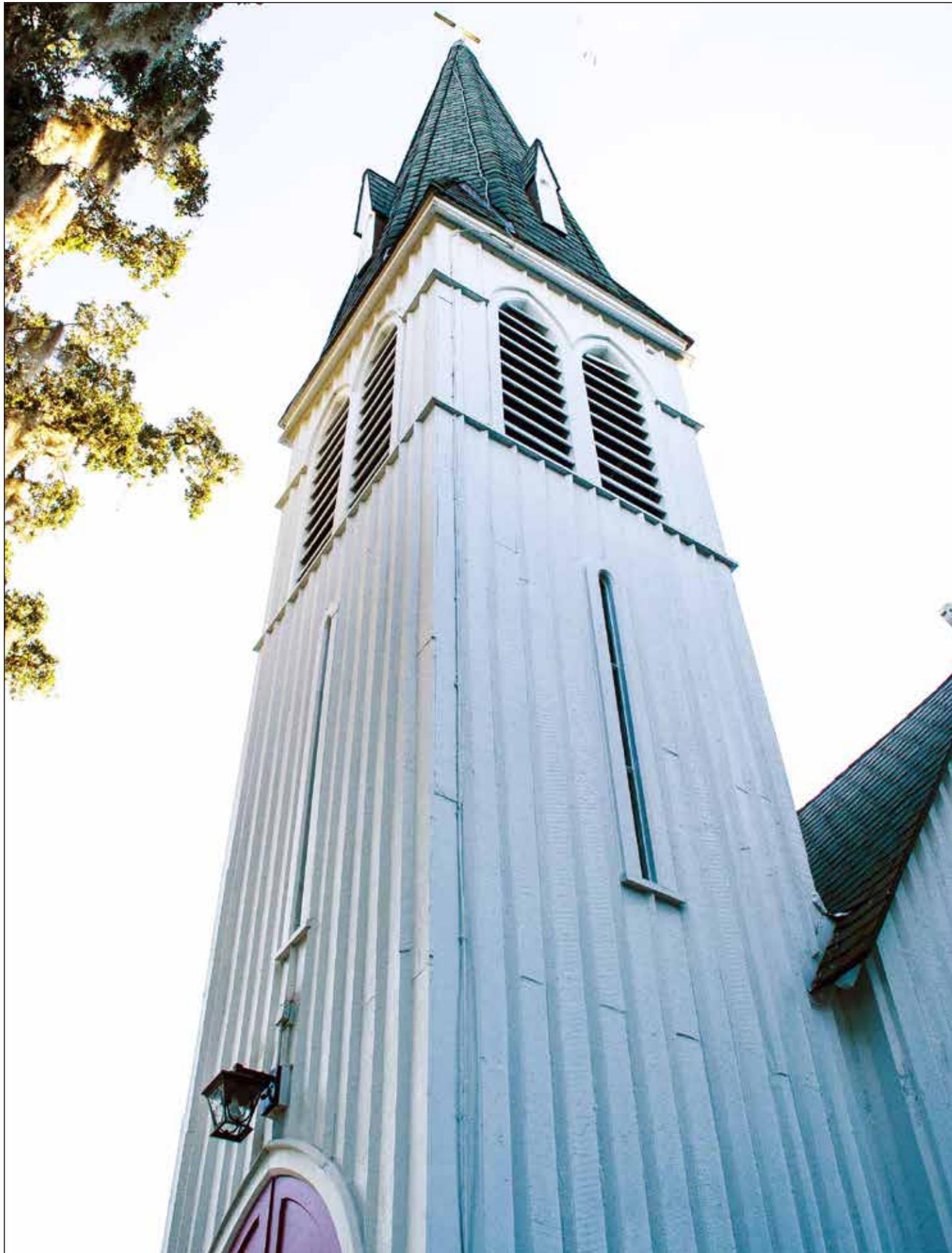
It is a compilation of cinnamon-colored buildings made of smaller brick. There is no steeple, and this church has no noted stained glass windows, with one exception. There is a large and slender cross right in the front and to the left.

As you turn from U.S. 17 to Idlewild Avenue, and just to the right of the library, is the Sacred Heart Catholic Church. This church was founded in 1874, and it was updated in 2010.

In keeping with Catholic tradition, there are two life-size white statues. One depicts Mary, the mother of Jesus, and the other depicts Jesus.

Stained-glass windows surround the church. On the opposite side of the building is a stained-glass window depicting a goblet. This church serves the non-English speaking community as the lessons are presented in Spanish. The church is a welcoming place for the young people of the city.

In this historic district of Green Cove Springs, between the brick roads and the Railroad Museum is the First Baptist Church. It is a white building made of smaller bricks resting together, and has two stories. This



Steeple of the First Presbyterian Church



**Window at Mount Pleasant
Missionary Baptist Church**



First African Missionary Baptist Church



Sacred Heart Catholic Church

church was founded in 1889.

The white of the building showcases lovely stained-glass windows, imported from Germany, on the front and left sides of the building. The simplicity of the colors, with the stained glass being the focal point, is indicative of the 1800s.

On the corner of Walnut Street and Palmetto Avenue stands the First United Methodist Church, which was founded in 1991. This large building has fresh new paint of a terra cotta shade. It is made of brick.

Many windows can be seen from any side of this large building, and the ones on the ground floor are the notable stained glass.

It is clear from the preservation of its churches that the city of Green Cove Springs respects its heritage.

Each church has its place in the history of Green Cove Springs, and all have a unique story to tell. To tour the churches of Green Cove is to travel back in time and observe the unfolding of a new generation while showing the greatest respect to the ones who established these places of worship many years prior.

Put an Exit Sign on Your Lawn and Consider it SOLD!



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**404 Walnut Street
Green Cove Springs, FL
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**1590-8 Island Lane
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History of Steamboats, Navy Ships

Green Cove Springs is located along the west bank of the St. Johns River. It serves as the County Seat of Government for Clay County, Florida.

The city's name originates from the three physical characteristics. "Green" refers to the perennially green vegetation characterized by its treescape and foliage. "Cove" refers to a bend in the St. Johns River creating a safe area for mooring of boats during inclement weather.

"Springs" refers to the natural spring originating from the Floridan Aquifer, with an estimated flow rate of approximately 2,200 gallons per minute.

The spring water, which is a constant 78 degrees, flows into the west side of the municipal swimming pool and then flows out the east side, forming a spring run that eventually empties into the St. Johns River.

The first inhabitants of this region some 5,000 years ago were attracted to the area because of the warm mineral spring. The spring (also referred to as "The Boil") was a source of sustenance and curative qualities for a variety of sicknesses. The medicinal qualities of the spring and its location along the St. Johns River served as major contributors to the community's development as a prominent attraction and destination for tourists during the 19th Century.

The first development of the area to become Green Cove Springs was by George I. F. Clarke in 1816 from land he received from a Spanish Land Grant. Mr. Clark used the land for construction and operation of a lumber or sawmill for harvesting of Live Oak trees.

In 1854, "White Sulfur Springs" was the name of the first development attempted by David Palmer and Sarah Ferris. In 1866, it was renamed Green Cove Springs when the post office was established. On November 2, 1874, the Town of Green Cove Springs officially incorporated.

During the late 1880s, the town experienced great prosperity as evidenced by the large number and quality of hotels constructed. The medicinal qualities of the spring and the area's climate made Green Cove Springs a popular vacation destination during the winter. The city was recognized as "The Saratoga of the South", "The Parlor City" and "Watering Hole for the Rich". Tourists and visitors journeyed along the St. Johns River by riverboats.

Green Cove Springs had the first trolley system in the state. The prominence of the community as a winter style resort changed when Henry Flagler constructed his railroad allowing northern visitors to vacation in destinations further south in more tropical areas like Palm Beach

and Miami. The onset of the new railroad system also led to the decline of riverboat use for transporting tourists to the hotels, ending the community's prominence as a destination for northern visitors during the winter season.

The area was also the home of Gustafson's Farm, owned and operated by Frank and Agnes Gustafson. Their family dairy operation began in 1908, and it earned the couple recognition as "Mama and Papa Gus". They started delivery of milk products to the local hotels supplied from one cow named Buttercup. The dairy operations moved to a 10,000-acre location just south of the city and continued to grow. The dairy closed in 2013.

In 1883, the Ladies Village Improvement Association of Green Cove Springs incorporated to promote beautification efforts within the city, and it later evolved into becoming the first Federated Women's Club of Florida. The Village Improvement Association (VIA) still exists and operates from the building dedicated in 1915. The building housed the city's first public library.

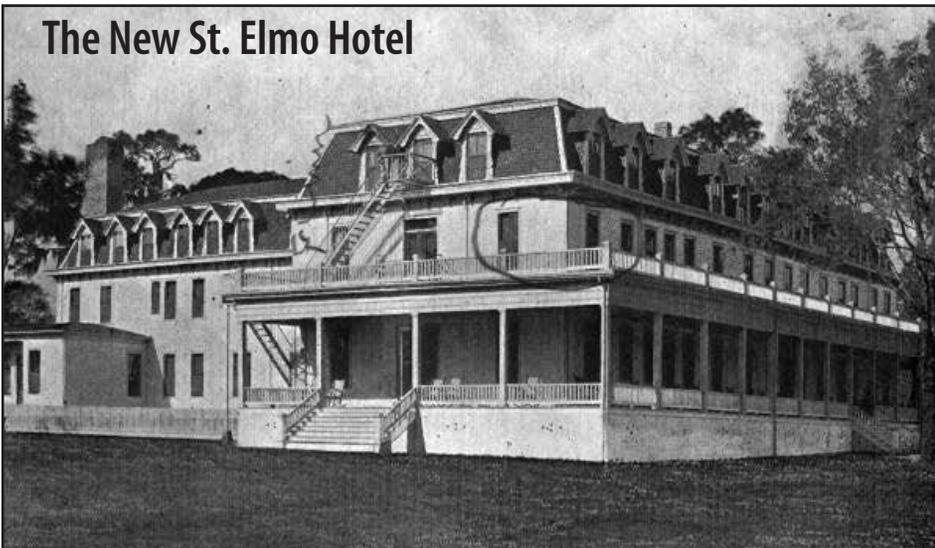
In the 1930s, the town began a slow recovery following the Great Depression, receiving funding from the Works Progress Administration" (WPA) for construction of a new high school, the recreational building adjacent to the spring

/swimming pool area and other community improvement projects.

Green Cove Springs experienced further recovery in the mid to late 1930s from the federal government's decision to commence construction of two military installations in the area. One was Benjamin Lee Field in Green Cove Springs, and the other was Camp Blanding, a National Guard Training facility approximately about 20 miles west of the city on State Road 16.

Benjamin Lee Field was a Naval Air Training Field designed to train pilots for landing operations on aircraft carriers during WWII. The facility was later renamed Naval Air Station Green Cove Springs and later re-designated as a Naval Auxiliary Station associated with the Naval Air Station Jacksonville complex. During this period, the government expanded the complex with construction of 13 concrete piers serving as the berthing place for over 600 ships placed in reserve status and referred to as the world's largest "Mothball Fleet".

The community's vibrancy was sustained through 1960, when the federal government decommissioned NAAS Green Cove Springs. The City purchased this facility from the federal government during the early 1960s in the hope of developing the property into a center for industrial



development. The city later sold the property to the Reynolds Corporation for development of an industrial park.

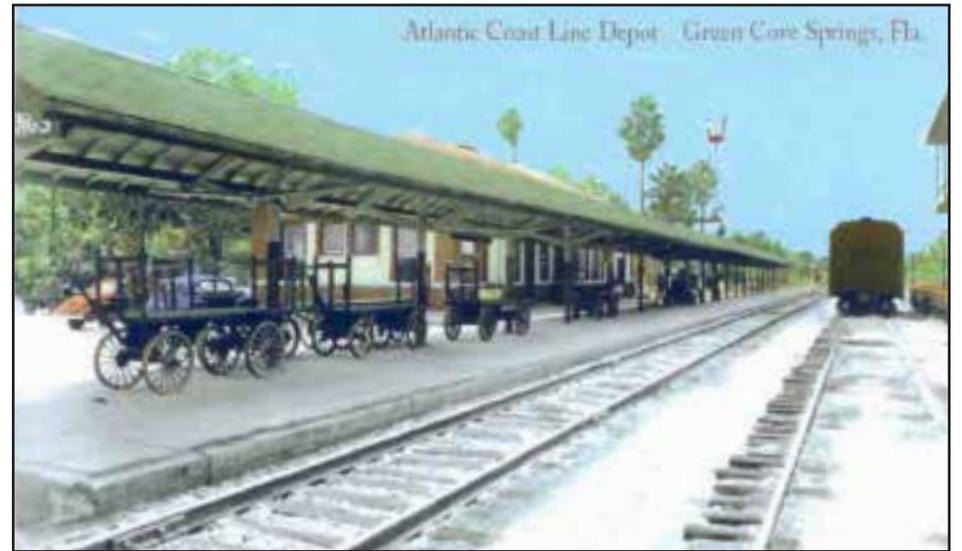
In 1982, the city increased in area through annexations of the Reynolds Industrial Park. In 1985, the city annexed approximately 950 acres known as the Magnolia Point Golf and Country Club. There have been other annexations resulting in the increase of the City's land area to approximately 7.2 square miles.

In late 1989, a Cultural Resource Survey of Green Cove Springs was conducted. The survey found 198 structures of historical significance. They include the former historic Clay County Courthouse, the County Jail,

the Spring Park complex, St. Mary's Episcopal Church and the Village Improvement Association.

The Historical Triangle is home for the former courthouse, the former jail and, the Clay County Historical Society's History and Railroad Museums. The River Park Inn Bed and Breakfast is the last remaining connection to the many grand hotels of the city's past era as a popular tourist destination.

In 2004, the city relocated its operations from 229 Walnut Street, the former City Hall, adjacent to the municipal swimming pool and moved into a new two-story stucco structure situated on the site of the former Clarendon and Qui-si-Sana hotels.



If You Love The Outdoors, You'll Love Green Cove Springs!

City Pier

The St. Johns River has always attracted people to its shores. The City Pier is an extension of Spring Park that invites people to enjoy an afternoon of fishing. You can sail to our pier, walk into town for dinner and retire to their boat for an overnight stay. Our City Pier offers water and electricity for a reasonable overnight fee.

City Spring-Fed Pool

The City pool is under renovation, but it soon will return to entertaining both locals and tourists. The famous pool is spring-fed and was built as part of a winter resort.

Spring Park Picnic Pavilions

Green Cove Springs offers covered

pavilions with bar-b-que grills that the public may use. The pavilions can be reserved for a fee or you can take their chances and find an open available picnic area free of charge. Call City Hall at 297-7500 to make a reservation.

Vera Francis Hall Park

Vera Francis Hall Park is located on Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard near the Augusta Savage Arts and Community Center. At the back of the park there is an amphitheater for entertainment and a canoe or kayak launch on Governors Creek that spills into the St. Johns River a few miles away.

Augusta Savage Friendship Park

Augusta Savage Friendship Park is

located at the corner of Walburg Street and Pine Avenue. The park has a playground designed for younger children and families.

Augusta Savage Arts & Community Center

The center, built as Dunbar High School in 1942, is located on a five-acre parcel of land near the center of Green Cove Springs, along Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard. Augusta Savage donated the property for the first and only black high school in Green Cove Springs.

Visit the website: asaccgcs.org

Shands Pier Boat Ramp

Shands Boat Ramp is located just north of the Shands Bridge, off State Road 16 at Old Shands Bridge Boat

Launch Road. The water at the boat ramp is very shallow and only the smallest of boats can use the boat ramp without encountering problems.

Bayard Conservation Area

The Bayard Conservation Area is operated by the St. Johns River Water Management District. With just over 10,000 acres, Bayard offers cycling, hiking, fishing, horseback riding, bank fishing, boating access, canoeing and wildlife viewing. Primitive camping is available. For more information, call the District's Bureau of Land Management at (386) 329-4404. www.floridaswater.com/recreationguide/bayard/

Clay County Fairgrounds

Throughout the year, a multitude of



Treehouses are part of Camp Chowenwaw Park



The Green Cove Dragway offers family fun. (Doug Freeman Photography)

events are held on the fairgrounds to satisfy many interests, including a variety of equine events, 4-H activities, auctions, Scottish-Highland games and a haunted house.

The Early Florida Village Exhibit opened in 1991. Antique cars displayed throughout the village will please the auto enthusiast.

For more information, call (904) 269-6378 or visit <http://claycountyfair.org>.

Governor's Creek Boat Ramp

This County-owned facility is located just outside the City's northern boundary along US 17 at Governor's Creek. It features a large covered picnic area, fishing pier and a two-lane public boat launching facility. Call 904-284-6378.

Knights Boat Ramp

This County-owned facility is located north of the City along U.S. 17 at Black Creek. For additional information, contact Clay County at 904-284-6378.

Carl Pugh Park

This County-owned facility is leased to the Green Cove Springs Baseball/Softball Association (GCSBSA). It is located at 317 S. West St. (behind the Clay County Health Department). For additional information, contact Clay County at 284-6378.

Camp Chowenwaw Park

A 150-acre site that Clay County purchased in 2006 from the Girl Scouts of Gateway Council. The Girl Scouts operated the camp for more than 70 years before deciding to relocate. The parcel,

which has 100 acres of wetlands and 50 acres of uplands, is located at the mouth of Black Creek. The trail systems through the uplands and the wetlands offer scenic tracts for the hiking enthusiast. Camping facilities include treehouse cabins.

Green Cove Dragway

Green Cove Dragway opened in September 2013 on an unused runway at Reynolds Industrial Park in Green Cove Springs.

We are proud to provide a facility that offers wholesome family entertainment and a safe and controlled environment for young and old alike to enjoy their need for speed as well as a venue for generations of families and friends to gather and enjoy.

Green Cove Dragway is a 1/8 mile International Hot Rod Association sanctioned drag strip that also offers a Mud Playground and Drift Course.

Our slogan is "RUN WHAT YA BRUNG," and we attract not only our local residents but racers and race fans from Jacksonville to Georgia - in fact, we've had folks come from as far away as Kentucky!

Green Cove Dragway prohibits any alcohol or illegal substances at our facility with a zero tolerance policy. Our patrons are grateful for this as they continually voice their appreciation for a safe and friendly place.

For more information: www.greencovedragway.com, www.facebook.com/greencovedragway, 904-868-DRAG (3724)

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Clay County Public Library System

The Clay County Public Library System operates as a department of the Clay County Board of Commissioners. It began in 1961 with initial building blocks of the collection coming from local Women's Clubs.

Today, the system operates one Headquarters Library and four Branch Libraries, with over 300,000 volumes available.

The Library System continues to develop and refine its services to best serve the Clay County community, including adding Wi-Fi, printing capabilities and programming for all ages.

The Clay County Public Library System provides current high-demand, high interest and popular materials in a variety of formats for patrons of all ages, assists students from preschool through grade 12

and supports individuals of all ages.

Green Cove Springs Branch

The Green Cove Springs Branch Library has been a cornerstone of our City since it was first organized by the Village Improvement Association (Federated Women's Club of Green Cove Springs) in the late 1800s.

It was established at its present location in 1970 and the 8,513 square-foot building served as the Headquarters Library of the System until the late 1990s.

The Green Cove Springs Branch Library, located in the heart of the City, provides materials, information, technology and cultural opportunities.

Patrons enjoy access to a collection of almost 54,000 volumes of reading and educational materials including new best-sellers, CD's, DVD's, periodicals, e-books,

young adult and graphic novels, children's picture and chapter books, special collections of local and Florida history and more.

The Library provides free access to computers, Wi-Fi, internet services, online research databases and in the near future, technology classes.

Concerts, lectures, workshops and trivia nights are offered for our adult and senior residents. At all times, the Library serves as an educational, creative and safe environment for area youth. Teens can meet, socialize and earn volunteer hours through our Teen Advisory Group.

Children can learn and develop a lifelong love of reading through our Story Hours and other early literacy-based programs.

Working in support of and in cooperation

with the School District, the Library provides six weeks of daily programming in June and July for ages 2-17 to support summer reading and to prevent the "summer slide" of reading and learning achievement.

Friends of the Green Cove Springs Library

The Friends of the Green Cove Springs Public Library was formed in 1989, by a small group of dedicated community volunteers. Their initial goal was to be of service to the Green Cove Springs Library and to raise funds toward the purchase of needed materials and equipment and to provide children's and adult programs through the sale of donated materials.

Through the group's efforts, thousands

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of children have discovered the wonders of reading; adults have expanded their minds and improved their lives.

When the Library has had a need, the Friends Group has worked to meet that need through partnerships with various civic groups, charitable organizations and businesses. The Friends endeavor at all times to support the Library and its mission in our community by:

- Sponsoring educational and recreational programs
- Serving as library advocates by keeping city and county officials well-informed
- Promoting community awareness of the Library's resources, services and needs
- Volunteering their time and energy
- Providing early literacy outreach to the local elementary school under the auspices of the Cove Storytellers
- Facilitating the Cove Book Club to gener-



- Funding special library needs through their year-round fundraising efforts

For more information on Library services and the Friends of the GCS Library, visit us online at: <http://www.claycountygov.com/departments/library> or on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/ClayCityLibrary>

REYNOLDS PARK



REYNOLDS PARK is located in beautiful northeast Florida. The park is within the historic town of Green Cove Springs and was established in 1965 by industrialist J. Louis Reynolds of the Reynolds Metal Company. The Park remains in the family today.

The Park is a 1750 acre mixed use development with facilities including 5000' airstrip, 3 miles of St. Johns River frontage, rail access, and adjacent nature preserve.

Buildings 5000 to 105,000 ft.² and sites for lease

• Jacksonville: 35 Minutes	• Gainesville: 60 Minutes	• I-10: 30 Minutes
• St. Augustine: 25 Minutes	• Orlando: 2 Hours	• World Golf: 15 Minutes
• St. Augustine Beach: 30 Minutes	• Georgia Border: 1 Hour 15 Minutes	• Ponte Vedra Beach: 30 Minutes
• Daytona Beach: 1 Hour	• I-95: 15 Minutes	• Orange Park: 20 Minutes

Transportation access by road, Air Rail gain solid access. New expressway connecting I-95 to I-10, is in the construction phase. The beltway will be located adjacent to the property and an access point provided. For detailed information see FDOT web site, www.fdotfirstcoastouterbeltway.com.

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Small Business Development Center Increases Service

For more than 20 years, the Florida Small Business Development Center (FSBDC), Florida's "premier source" for business assistance [§ 288.001, Fla. Stat.], has operated a part-time office at the Clay County Chamber of Commerce.

Starting in December, the FSBDC will have a full-time office in Clay County, providing small businesses no-cost, confidential consulting to help them grow and succeed.

The office will operate from the Chamber office, 1734 Kingsley Ave. in Orange Park and from the Green Cove Springs City Hall, 321 Walnut St.

The Clay County Chamber of Commerce facilitated funding of the program through public and private dollars.

The Chamber is thankful for the sponsors who have made this resource become a full time reality. The sponsors are the Jacksonville Jaguars, the Clay County Development Authority, the Economic Development Corporation, VYSTAR, Alliance and Associates, First Atlantic Bank and BestBet.



Business Consultant Annie Grogan (right) works with a couple.

With a full-time presence, the FSBDC will be able to provide more businesses with access to consulting, training and information in the areas of business startup, business planning, marketing, financial analysis, access to capital and more.

Small business owners will also have access to more specialized services, such as government contracting assistance, agribusiness advice, international

trade expertise and nonprofit assistance.

Ana "Annie" Grogan has accepted the position of business consultant in the Clay County office.

According to Janice Donaldson, FSBDC at UNF regional director, "With her extensive business background, Annie is an ideal candidate to represent the FSBDC in Clay.

"Her experience, as an HR director in a Fortune 500 company, as a 10-year

U.S. Army commissioned officer and as the founder and executive director of a nonprofit organization has prepared her to hit the ground running."

Annie has built strong partnerships in the northeast Florida community with business organizations and in the Latino Community.

Doug Conkey, Clay County Chamber of Commerce president stated, "I am excited to help make a full-time SBDC a reality, as it will enhance the business community by making resources available that will create jobs, grow companies, enhance capital and create a business climate in Clay that will undoubtedly lift our brand and quality of life.

"This would not have happened without our sponsors' support. We are all very appreciative as we begin a new chapter in Clay."

Business owners or aspiring business owners can reach Annie Grogan at the Clay County Chamber of Commerce at 904-239-0722 or at a.grogan@unf.edu.

HERITAGE Signs
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www.heritagesignsfl.com

The advertisement features a large, stylized logo for "HERITAGE Signs". The word "HERITAGE" is in a bold, white, sans-serif font, with a blue horizontal line underneath it. The word "Signs" is written in a blue, cursive script font, overlapping the "HERITAGE" text. Below the logo, the text "PROFESSIONAL SIGN SOLUTIONS SINCE 1998" is written in a white, sans-serif font. At the bottom right, the phone number "904.529.7446" and the website "www.heritagesignsfl.com" are displayed in a white, sans-serif font. The background is a dark, textured grey.

Military Museum of Northeast Florida

The mission of the Military Museum of North Florida, located in Green Cove Springs Florida, is the preservation and respectful presentation of the rich military history of our citizen servicemen and women in order to honor their sacrifices to maintain our freedom.



Educational aspects of The Military Museum of North Florida

While the mission of the Military Museum of North Florida is to honor those whom have served their country in the Armed Forces, one of the goals of the museum is to ensure that our youth understand the dedication and sacrifices that those veterans demonstrated and endured.

A significant number of military oriented events have shaped the foundation and direction of this country, from the American Revolution to the Civil War, the Spanish American War, World War I, World War II, Korea, Vietnam and our current actions in Iraq and Afghanistan. All of these actions have caused significant changes in the direction of the American political and social scene. The museum is prepared to coordinate with the Clay County School System to provide student visits oriented toward the era that their history classes are studying. We are prepared to provide guided, narrative tours emphasizing the period that the class is studying.

Additionally, the museum has an extensive military reference library covering from the evolution of warfare through our current hostilities in Southwest Asia. We have over 900 volumes (not counting periodicals) that

are available for students to use in research of a particular period of history.

The museum is also developing a "Living History" library videotaping veterans who have served their country giving their views of the war in which they were involved. These first hand recollections, particularly of World War II, Korea

and now Vietnam are fast becoming unavailable. All these interviews will be available to serious students.

For more information here is our contact data: Phone: 904-410-0781 (between 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.) E-mail: militarymuseumNF@aol.com, website is: www.militarymuseumofnorthflorida.com

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Your Vote Matters!

5 Keys to Voter Success in the 2016 Election Season



March 15, 2016 - Presidential Primary Preference Election
August 30, 2016 - Primary Election
November 8, 2016 - General Election

Key #1 Prepare, Prepare, Prepare!

- ★ Verify your precinct at www.ClayElections.com.
- ★ Florida is a closed primary state. Voters are limited to choosing candidates of their party.
- ★ The last day to register to vote or change your party affiliation is 29 days prior to the Election.
- ★ You must have valid picture and signature identification. Your photo and signature may appear together in one document or on two separate documents. Acceptable forms of ID:

★ Florida Driver's License	★ Florida ID Card issued by DHSMV	★ U.S. Passport
★ Debit or Credit Card	★ Public Assistance ID	★ Student ID
★ Neighborhood Association ID	★ Retirement Center ID	★ Military ID
- ★ Don't forget to update your signature and address with the Elections Office!

Key #2 Vote by Mail

- ★ Request a mail ballot in writing (including e-mail), in person, by phone or at www.ClayElections.com.
- ★ Mail ballots must be returned to the Supervisor of Elections Office by 7:00 p.m. on Election Day.

Key #3 Vote Early

Now with **SIX** convenient early voting locations to serve Clay County!

- ★ Fleming Island Library, 1895 Town Center Boulevard, Fleming Island, FL 32003
- ★ Orange Park Library, 2054 Plainfield Avenue, Orange Park, FL 32073
- ★ Middleburg Civic Center, 2102 Palmetto Street, Middleburg, FL 32068 ****NEW****
- ★ Keystone Heights Tax Collector's Office, 7380 State Rd 100, Suite 10, Keystone Heights, FL 32656
- ★ Eagle Landing Residents Club, 3973 Eagle Landing Parkway, Orange Park, FL 32065
- ★ Clay County Supervisor of Elections Office, 500 N. Orange Avenue, Green Cove Springs, FL 32043

Key #4 Vote on Election Day

- ★ From 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
- ★ You must vote in the precinct of your legal residence.

Key #5 Visit www.ClayElections.com



Chris H. Chambless
 Clay County Supervisor of Elections 500
 N. Orange Ave. | P.O. Box 337
 Green Cove Springs, Florida 32043
 (904) 269-6350 | www.ClayElections.com

'Community Spirit' and the Green Cove Springs Police Department

The Green Cove Springs police department is responsible for the safety and security of the 6,900-plus citizens who live in the city.

The members of the department put their lives on the line for us every day, never knowing what to expect when they are responding to a routine call.

However, these officers and their support staff are equally committed to another role, that of volunteerism. From their commitment to Halloween Trunk or Treat to the MS 150 ride, they can be counted on to use their valuable time off to improve the lives of our citizenry.

Led by Chief Robert A. Musco, the recipient of the 2015 Southern Police Institute alumnus of the year award, the department has grown to more than 20 full and part-time officers and has recently moved into a new modern Category 5 police station and emergency operations center.

Chief Musco has been the driving force behind the modernization of the force and the emphasis on community involvement as well as its impressive quick response times.

The officers who serve and protect us do naturally what many police departments are trying to teach – to be a part of the community through personal involvement.



Many of our officers have either gone to school or grown up in Green Cove Springs.

Our officers volunteer as instructors at Camp Cadet, a summer leadership program for youth, accompany kid to school on National Walk to School Day or volunteer to help with traffic control for the Clay High Homecoming Parade (many are alumni).

The list of projects they support on their own time is indeed impressive and exemplifies the motto on their patrol cars "Community Patrol, Serving with S.P.I.R.I.T."

When we go about our daily business, we should always keep in mind what our officers do for us and show them our appreciation with a word of thanks and a handshake.



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Chief Robert A. Musco invites you to visit your new Police Department

The Story of Dorothy and the Council on Aging of Clay County

Dorothy had been a housewife all her life. Her days had been filled taking care of her family.

She held a strong sense of family and pride. The children were gone now, and contact with them was becoming less and less.

Dorothy would never ask a thing of her family.

At 69, Jim was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease. Dorothy, at 67, remained by his side through the whole ordeal. Her children couldn't help often. They were very busy with work and their own families.

So Dorothy was alone. And as the disease clouded her husband's mind and his ability to care for himself, Dorothy started down the road as his Caregiver.

He was no longer the strong man she had relied on, but almost a stranger, who needed 24-hour care.

Soon Dorothy's health was slipping. Luckily, a friend stopped by for a visit. She was shocked at what she saw.

The yard was a mess. Inside the home, Dorothy was exhausted, and looked it. Jim was sitting in front of the TV snoozing with breakfast still on a TV tray.

When Dorothy explained to her friend what was happening, they were both in tears. The friend left Dorothy, promising to find help; and Dorothy, exhausted, was too tired to say "no".

At this point, the Council on Aging began providing various forms of assistance to Dorothy.

When faced with a crisis, need assistance or are planning for the future, Council on Aging is your best choice.

Council on Aging is a Florida State licensed provider of senior care services. Our staff is certified and has background and drug screens before they are hired.

An individualized assessment is at no charge. We will identify the types of support an aging adult and caregiver needs. We will also identify available funding to assist you in meeting those needs.

In-Home Services include – Personal Care, Homemaker Services, In-Home Respite Services and Home Delivered Meals (Meals-on-Wheels) and Case Management.

Adult Day Health Care – Offering services to Alzheimer's, dementia and/or disabled seniors, a safe place to be on

weekdays while the family caregiver is working or tending to other family needs. Services are flexible enough to meet every family's needs, offering multiple levels of care. Service can be five days a week or as little as four hours per week, depending on your need.

Transportation – Clay Transit Division offers services to both ambulatory and wheelchair passengers. We offer service

that is customized to meet the needs of our passengers with special needs.

Senior Centers – We operate four senior centers in Clay County. At a Senior Center, adults ages 60 and over have the opportunity to be out of the house, socialize with folks their own age and to enjoy a nutritious lunch. Seniors can participate in many fun activities, volunteer and lead activities such as exercise, dance, billiards,

educational lectures, bible discussions and computer classes.

Other programs include commodities distribution?, which is open to all qualifying individuals, Emergency Alert Response systems and Senior Emergency Home Energy Assistance.

Call 904-284-3134 for more information or visit us on the web at www.claycoa.com.



Council on Aging Annual Arts & Karts Event

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Gateway Grant Program

The Gateway Grant Gateway Corridor Pilot Grant Program is a public-private partnership to improve the city's Gateway Corridor, U.S. 17.

Eligible projects in the boundaries of the Gateway Corridor or the Central Business District can receive grant awards up to 50 percent of the total project cost for projects such as landscaping, sidewalks, lighting, signs, façade improvements and enclosing dumpsters. Two dollars has been used for every dollar of city funds.

In 2014, the grant program received an Award for Excellence in Planning and Growth Management from the Northeast Florida Regional Council.

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Green Cove Springs Baseball/Softball Association

The Green Cove Springs Baseball/Softball Association is a nonprofit organization that has served Clay County children at Carl Pugh Park since 1973. The GCSBSA have between 250-300 children participate each season, ranging in age from 3 1/2 to 15 years old.

Parents volunteer fill many capaci-

ties such as coach, assistant coach, team mom and dugout dad. Please call the contact information to find out how you can get involved.

If you are interested in your child participating in baseball or softball contact GCSBSA for more information 904-529-7800, facebook.com/greencovebaseball



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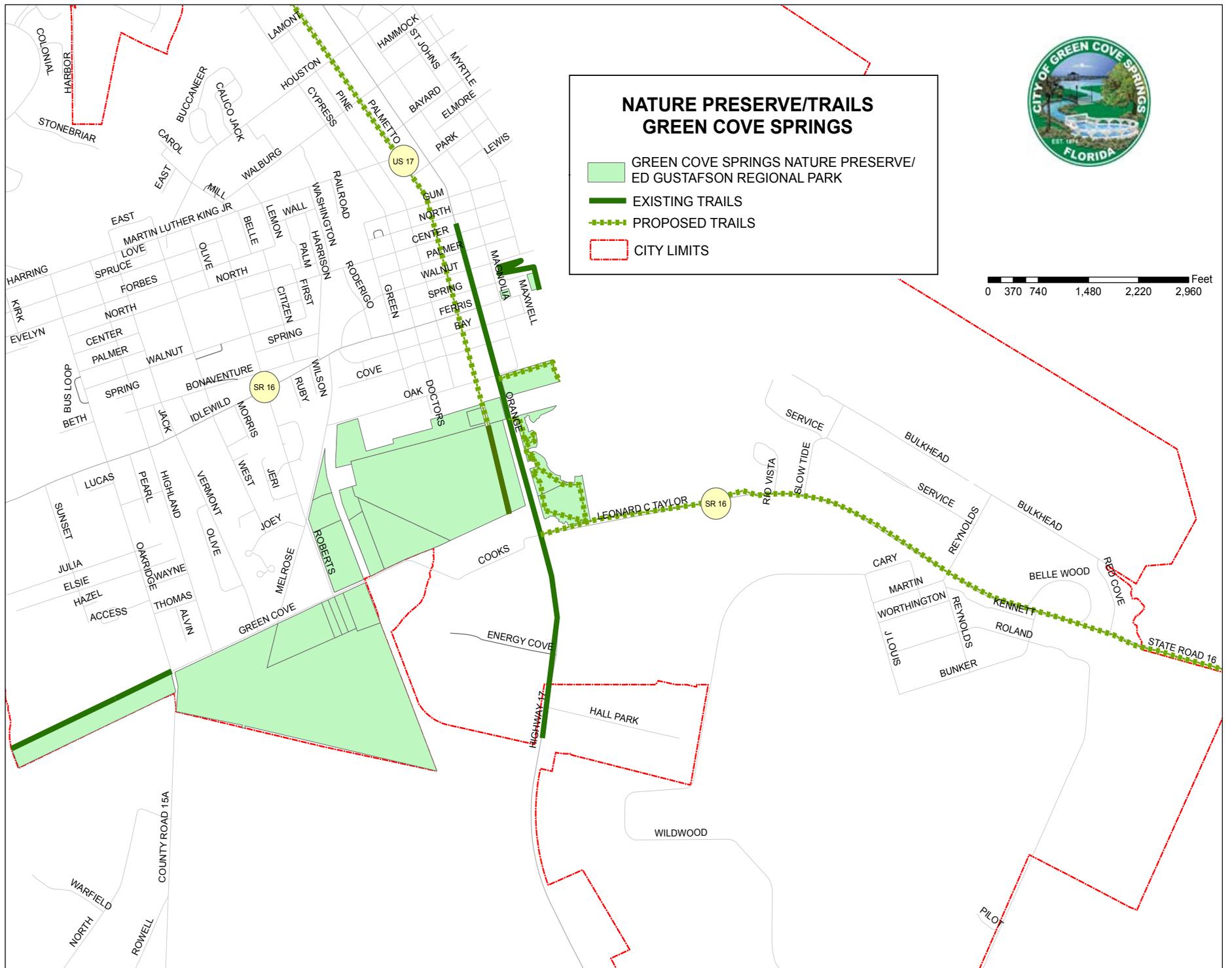
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11/2/2015

Green Cove Springs Trails and Sidewalk System

The trail and sidewalk system within the City and surrounding area includes over 10 miles of paved and unpaved surfaces to accommodate hikers, bicyclists, equestrians and paddlers.

This system is continuing to grow, 38 • Green Cove Springs • 2015

based on a master plan.

When complete, the trail and sidewalk system will connect the Black Creek Trail on US 17 to the SR 16 Trail and to Clay County's Gateway Loop Corridor Trail, which is a Florida Department of Environ-

mental Protection Opportunity Trail.

Fitness stations and signs along the trails assist people using the trails.

The system will link the following locations:

- Green Cove Springs Nature Preserve

- Augusta Savage Arts and Community Center
- Vera Francis Hall Park
- Spring Park
- St. Johns River Water Management District conservation land



Roger A. Suggs, CFA, AAS, CCF Clay County Property Appraiser

Announces to Clay County Citizens:

Don't miss out on the annual property tax savings available to eligible homeowners.



We would like to mention... Don't forget to file for your homestead exemption!

Apply by March 1, 2016.

This is a savings of approximately \$600 annually based on a full \$50,000 Homestead Exemption in the unincorporated area of Clay County.

Main Office:

County Administration
Building

477 Houston Street, 2nd Floor

Green Cove Springs, FL 32043

Telephone: (904) 269/284-6305

Fax: (904) 284-2923



Branch Office:

Park Central Plaza

1518 Park Avenue

Orange Park, FL 32073

Telephone: (904) 541-5332

For more information please contact our offices or website at www.ccpao.com

New Patients Welcome!

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Kim Simon, ARNP
Mark Gabel, LCSW
Steve Richter, RPh

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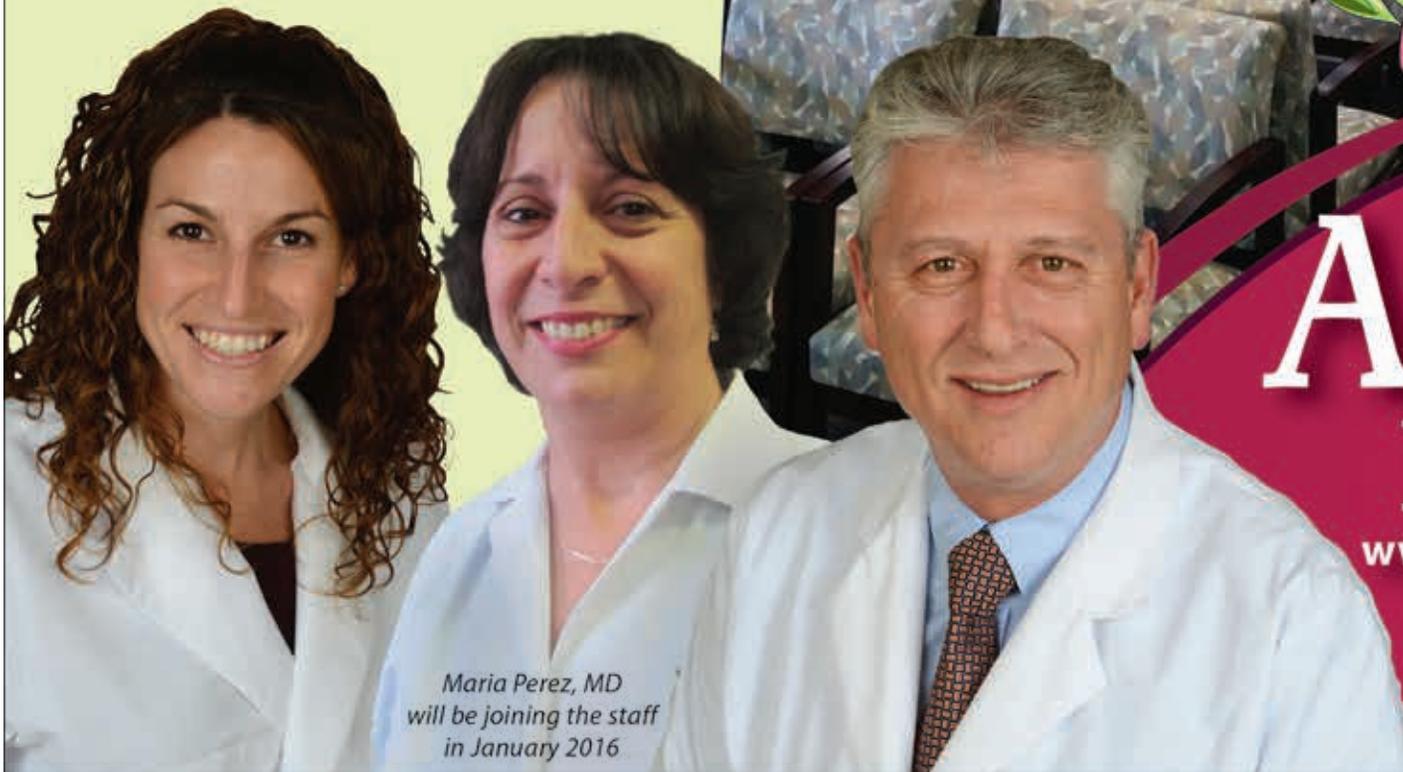
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*Maria Perez, MD
will be joining the staff
in January 2016*



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