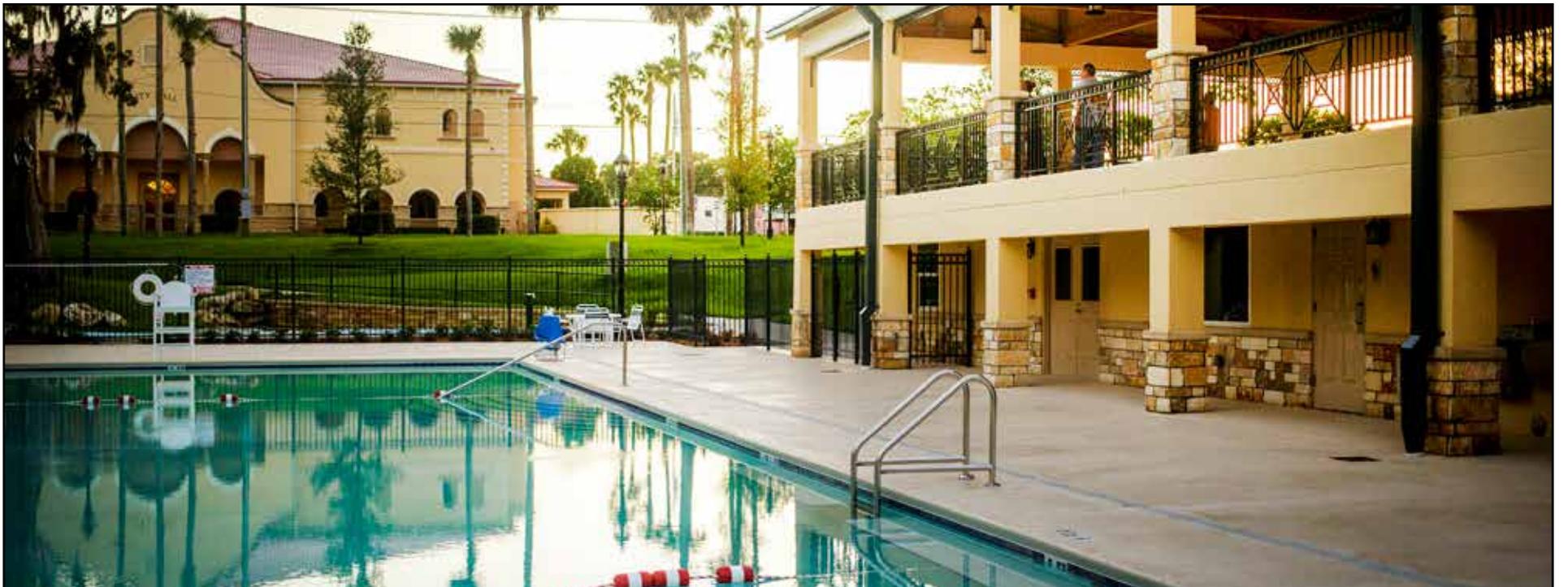


GREEN COVE SPRINGS



2017 BUSINESS & COMMUNITY DIRECTORY



Mission Statement:

Our Vision for Tomorrow creates a plan that will define our unique identity, assure quality of life, and make 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 p.m. in the Council Chambers, located on the first floor of City Hall, 321 Walnut Street.

CITY ADMINISTRATION

Danielle J. Judd, *City Manager*

Mike Null, *Assistant City Manager /
Public Works Director*

Julia W. Clevinger, *City Clerk*

L. J. Arnold, III, *City Attorney*

Janis K. Fleet, AICP, *Development
Services Director*

Marlena Guthrie, CPA, *Finance
Director*

Mary Jane Lundy,
Human Resources Director

Derek Asdot, *Chief of Police*

For assistance, please call 904-297-
7500, visit our website at www.greencovesprings.com, like us on
Facebook at "City of Green Cove Springs
Government" and "Green Cove Springs
Police Department," or follow us on
Twitter at "#gcsTODAY".

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 seven square miles, and we serve about 7,000 residents, with a city workforce just under 100.

We operate our own electric, solid waste, water, and wastewater utility systems 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 between Magnolia Avenue and the St. Johns River, located directly behind our Mediterranean architectural style City Hall.

Spring Park has completed construction to include a Pavillion over-looking the newly renovated, naturally flowing spring-fed swimming pool, a city pier, a gazebo, playground, picnicking, and fishing.

It is near our historic downtown district that is lined with brick streets featuring galleries, antique shops, eateries, a historic inn and a railroad museum. The area includes several 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, Jr. Boulevard. It is named for renowned sculptor Augusta Fells Savage who was born in Green Cove Springs.

Green Cove Springs 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 Springs, we are passionate about our historical and unique city, and we are 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,

Roy M. Timberlake, Mayor • **Constance W. Butler**, Vice Mayor

Pam Lewis, Council Member • **Steven R. Kelley**, Council Member

B. Van Royal, Council Member

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Prominent Clay County Attorney

I recently became acquainted with the folks at Hearing Aid Solutions in Green Cove Springs. After practicing law for over 40 years, it finally became evident that I needed assistance in hearing my clients, family and friends like I used to.

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Welcome to *Cove Life* Green Cove Springs

Welcome to Green Cove Springs, a charming community of 7,000 nestled on the beautiful St. Johns River.

The Clay County Seat, Green Cove Springs is a recreation-rich community, home to our riverfront Spring Park in the center of town with its historic spring-fed swimming pool. Spring Park also boasts a gazebo, playground, fishing and picnicking facilities. The park is the sight of many local festivals and events.

Visitors and residents will also enjoy our historic downtown, with its pedestrian-friendly brick streets, shopping at local antique shops, sipping a hometown coffee, exploring our local artisans or just running errands while supporting local merchants and restaurants.

Other attractions include the Augusta Savage Arts and Community Center, beautiful tree-lined streets with historic Victorian homes. We also offer golf and boating opportunities, as well as our proximity to Jacksonville and St. Augustine.

You'll find lots of information in this publication, along with news on our many festivals and markets, so surely you'll find a new reason to visit or something interesting to do.

Lynne Vincent and Brandon Bascelli



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



Enjoy Restaurants & Quaint Riverfront Beauty



Green Cove Springs offers a great selection of restaurants plus a unique and quaint riverfront opportunity that allows for breathtaking walks along the St. John's River. It's really no secret to all who visit our local restaurants. Our restaurants welcome patrons with a genuine smile and great food.

Green Cove Springs city offers you a chance to experience a meal where many owner operators are involved in selecting the fresh produce, cooking in the kitchen and working hard to make sure their guests are pleased with their service.

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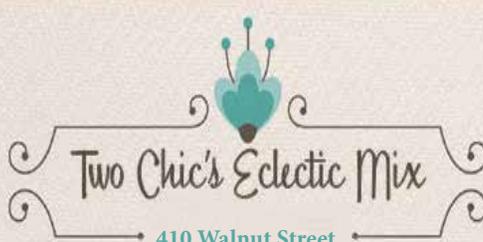
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Green Cove Springs... The Gathering Place

By Kimberly Morgan
Contributor

Green Cove Springs, the quaint small town that serves as the county seat, has always been a gathering place. Whether it was in the 1870s around a spring pool or today enjoying a festival in Spring Park, Green Cove Springs is the gathering place. Here are a few of the reasons people still like to gather here.

Green Cove Springs' spring pool is one of the oldest in the country dating back to 1871, when Dr. Joseph Applegate made it accessible to the public for medicinal purposes. Today, the spring currently flows into a public swimming pool then out to the St. Johns River. The pool is part of the newly renovated **Spring Park**, which provides residents and visitors with waterfront access to the St. Johns River, various pavilions and gazebos, playground and walkways to enjoy the views. The

spring water surges up from below at a rate that has at times exceeded 3,000 gallons per minute and maintains a consistent 72 degree temperature. Where else can you watch the spring water bubble up, swim in the spring-fed swimming pool and then watch the spring water, and occasionally a school of fish, as it makes its way to the St. Johns River?

Green Cove Springs can awaken your passion for history. During WWII, Green Cove Springs was home to Lee Field, an airfield and port that the mothball fleet called home. While the fleet left the port long ago, the **Military Museum of Northeast Florida** keeps the military stories alive at Lee Field. You can see everything from a hellcat engine to a Blackhawk simulator and more. The Military Museum is one of the many points of interest along the Military Trail. Did you know that you can also see the 2nd oldest jail in the country? Clay County's Old Jail and Court-

house are historic treasures that are used often today for our county archives, Teen Court and various special events. In the histor-

ic triangle, near the Old Jail and Courthouse, you'll find the TAPS monument that is dedicated to the 62 Clay County veterans who



lost their lives during combat dating back to the Civil War.

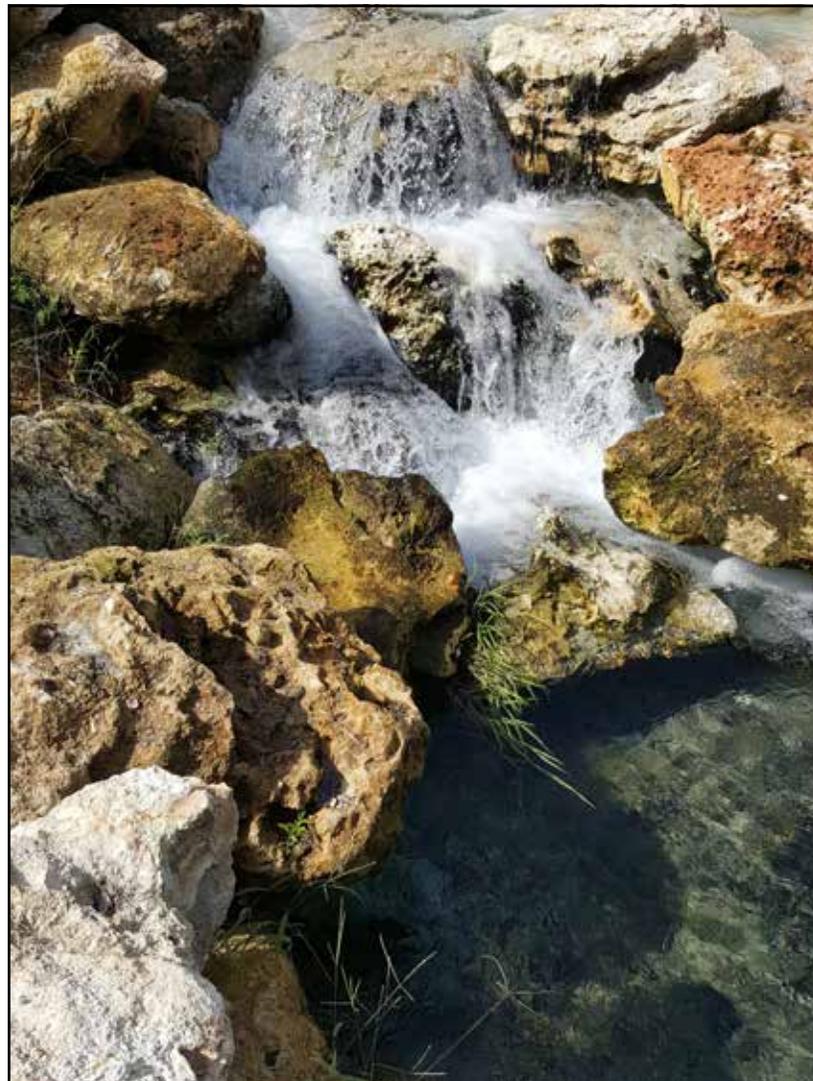
Green Cove Springs can awaken your passion for the arts. Whether it's the **CalaVida Arts & Music Festival**, the **Green Cove Springs Library** murals or celebrating **Augusta Savage**, the African-American art trailblazer and key figure of the Harlem Renaissance, your creativity will be ignited. Don't forget about the great antique finds you'll find along Walnut Street... And 3rd Saturday, Market in the Park.

Green Cove Springs can awaken your passion for the great outdoors. The half-mile long **Wildlife Corridor Trail**, located off South Oakridge Avenue between Green Cove Ave. and Gustafson Farm Road, beckon those seeking a walking or cycling trail in the heart of nature. **Camp Chowenwaw** invites you to partake in outdoor activities like bird watching, fishing, swimming in the public pool, hiking, or camping... even in a treehouse. Camp Chowenwaw is also home to the Girl Scout Museum.

Reconnect with nature at the **Bayard Conservation Area**, a 10,371 acre resource-based park, providing hiking, horseback riding, cycling trails, hunting, fishing, picnicking and primitive camping.

Green Cove Springs can awaken your passion for delectable dishes. The smells of onsite roasted **Spring Park Coffee**, Italian seasoning from **D'Fontana** or the tangy **Pan Asian Cuisine Sushi Bar** will guide your feet to some of our locally owned eateries. Enjoy award winning barbeque from **G's**, delicious desserts from **Sweet Sensations**, or the fun-loving atmosphere of **Ronnie's Wings**. There are many more independent restaurateurs that deliver a unique taste that can only be found in Green Cove Springs.

So bring your friends and enjoy one of the many gathering places Green Cove Springs has to offer.



POISED AND OPEN FOR BUSINESS

Vallencourt Construction

GREEN COVE SPRINGS – Regional and local initiatives have made the county’s halfway-point an incubator for economic growth – and businesses are noticing.

The completion of the Historic Spring Park pool remodeling project and the coming economic boon from the First Coast Expressway give the city both the look and the opportunity to attract more retail and industrial within and around the city’s borders.

The city has issued just shy of 100 new business licenses within the last two years, according to city documents. Within the city’s historic shopping district, Walnut Street, every storefront that is for sale is occupied.

City Council members point to the shopping district’s occupancy as a bellwether for coming economic growth that will reshape the city.

“It’s an indicator,” said Council member Van Royal. “It’s an indicator that other businesses want to be here and for me it’s a big deal because to

say you’re full makes people want to be here more. That’s a good thing – when you have a bunch of vacancies people go ‘why is it vacant?’”

With the First Coast Expressway’s expansion to the Shands Bridge slated for a 2019 start, Green Cove Springs will be within easy access of markets in both Duval County and St. Johns County as drivers shuttle over the proposed multi-lane toll road.

By September 2018, Vallencourt Construction Company – originally located on Blanding Boulevard – plans to move its main office into Green Cove Springs, bringing with it roughly 300 employees.

The company will move into and expand its operation once it moves into the site formerly occupied by an Ace Hardware.

“Green Cove is centrally located to our 100-mile work radius,” said Marcus McInarnay, Vallencourt president. “We hope to draw potential employees from the pool of hard

working men and women that live in and around the area.”

The city has its own incentive programs to help business owners spruce up their current businesses, or recently-purchased properties. The program pays 50 percent of redevelopment costs through a block grant for renovation projects carried out along U.S. Highway 17 and State Road 16 West.

To date, the city has awarded \$104,000 to such projects. The grant is a small part of the way the council has attempted to change past preconceptions of the city.

“In the past, the idea has been that Green Cove Springs is kind of depressed,” Royal said. “And we’ve been able to change that image through festivals, through involvement with the county and even the state – we’ve become more visible.”

Despite the new spark of growth, the city still has its problems. There are vacant storefronts within the city limits that sit in disrepair with-

out productive business owners to revive them. Meanwhile, according to interim Clay Economic Development Corp. President Laura Pavlus, industrial growth within the county seems to be trending the opposite direction.

Instead of having too many vacant storefronts in the retail sector, Pavlus said there may be too many applicants in the industrial sector and not enough industrially-zoned acreage to accept them.

“At Clay EDC, we’ve had a noticeable increase in calls from companies looking for industrial space in even just the last month,” Pavlus said. “I am talking with industrial developers regularly to make sure that they keep us informed about anticipated construction completion timelines for industrial space. I would anticipate that demand will outpace supply very soon.”

Despite how area growth might benefit the city, the city’s limits will act as a net to contain growth. Royal said, however, that the city could reallocate land in Reynold’s Industrial Park for whatever use the city would need it for.

“That’s an idea that we’ve nurtured for as long as I’ve been here,” Royal said.

The First Coast Expressway is expected to do to the southern part of the county what Interstate 295 did to the northern part of the county. And if the city and nearby areas receive new dollars from commuters, new business ventures and industrial development, then the entire county stands to benefit from the shared tax revenue created.

“A rising tide lifts all boats,” Pavlus said.



Officials in Green Cove Springs are encouraged by the recent news that Vallencourt Construction Co. will move its headquarters to the old Ace Hardware in the city’s downtown from its former location at 1701 Blanding Blvd. north of Middleburg, shown here.

POISED AND OPEN FOR BUSINESS

Reynolds Industrial Park

A truly interesting history

Reynolds Industrial Park holds a truly interesting history, and Executive Director Ted McGowan shares a vision that has been growing over several years that will be one more incredible gem added to the crown of the City of Green Cove Springs and Clay County Florida.

McGowan said, "The City of Green Cove Springs has taken great leadership in supporting the redevelopment opportunities that exist for the Port. Everyone recognizes the potential to implement a unique and truly mixed use plan for the 1,700 acres. There have been real challenges in advancing a plan and we have worked with the city and various state and federal agencies to check off those boxes. We are not quite there yet."

Many residents don't realize that the Port is home to a 5000-foot airport which can be expanded to 8000 feet. This is a licensed and regulated airport (FL60), with private restrictions and is available to limited businesses and tenants, yet has no fueling capacity or control tower. The Port has recently commenced a feasibility study to decide if it should be in the Florida Aviation System Plan and the National Plan of Integrated Airport Systems as a publicly owned and used airport. Many issues are evaluated such as noise impacts, market needs, airspace capacity, economic impacts, facility requirements and others but ultimately will be decided by local, regional, state and federal decision makers, in that order. "We believe it can be very positive for the local community if properly evaluated and integrated into a mixed use residential community."

For year's the Port has worked to evaluate and close out any potential en-

vironmental issues characteristic of old military bases and industrial use properties. Many believe they would be the responsibility of the Government due to its use during WWII. Recently, the Department of Justice agreed to participate in an investigation and feasibility study of potential remediation regarding past environmental contamination due to the WWII Military Operations around the piers and along the shore of the property.

This effort will help the Port with the clean up efforts meaning once completed, this land will be available for sale, development, and/or allow for financial opportunities for re-development.

Reynolds Industrial Park, directly cross HWY 16, is nearly at full capacity when it comes to buildings leased out. They have one 106,000 sq. ft. building available right now. "This is a Heavy Manufacturing Capacity Building", said John Brown, senior property manager. We also have commercial boat dockage available, 40 acres of fully lit and secured vehicle storage space and acreage available for community events.

While Phase one of the First Coast Expressway is nearly completed, Phase two may begin January of 2019 and move South towards Reynolds Property. This phase will take 3-4 years to complete and will unfortunately take out the Riverbend Golf Course, formerly known as Cattail Creek. This is a total of 181 acres that is part of the land deal for the Expressway. The Florida DOT will build the new super Shands Bridge hopefully also in the 2019 to 2023 time period.

As all of these things come together, the dream of a mixed-use development complete with homes, retail,

restaurants, shops, offices and community facilities all done in a unique urban grid system, similar to how Savannah is laid out, is an exciting possibility. The mile and a half or river frontage and four

miles of existing commercial concrete piers, airport and existing infrastructure frame an unparalleled development opportunity that only ones imagination can limit.



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.



Reynolds Park Aerial View South

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

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

www.reynoldspark.com • 904.284.3676
Green Cove Springs, FLORIDA

POISED AND OPEN FOR BUSINESS

A “Little Detroit” renaissance?

By Eric Cravey
Managing Editor

GREEN COVE SPRINGS – The old Fred Davis Buick dealership building is getting a \$1.4 million remodel and re-design thanks to a Lake Asbury man who is consolidating his two current locations here to make the city his new home.

Once the renovation is complete, Paul Holman, president and owner of FX Custom Paint and Body, will consolidate his Orange Park and St. Augustine shops to Orange Avenue.

Holman, who cut his teeth working on standard autobody collision work, has gained a regional reputation as a hotrod expert. He has been written about in multiple hotrod magazines, blogs and websites and his work has been showcased in car shows and other venues. However, he said, the new Green Cove Springs location won't be just a hotrod shop.

“We will continue to do the hotrods and such, but we have a separate team that specializes in standard collision services. We work with insurance companies and motorists who are seeking repairs after



an accident, sometimes their greatest moment of need,” Holman said.

He said the hotrod team doesn't want to work on the wrecks and the collision team doesn't want to work on the hotrods. Holman is looking forward to his shop being somewhat of a showcase.

“I want it to be nice looking. We work on expensive cars, \$300,000-to-400,000 cars. Very expensive cars, so I don't want somebody pull-

ing up to something where their car costs more than my shop,” said Holman, who closed on the property in October.

He said he would also like to have an outside display to be able to showcase some of the automotive and boat restorations he and his crew complete. He envisions a professionally-designed concrete pad with landscaping where passersby could gawk.

“We have a '69 Camaro – its' a \$150,000 car. We're not talking about an old car on blocks out front. Whether you like cars or not, most people can appreciate old cars,” Holman said.

The 20,000 square feet of space once occupied by the Buick dealership comes with a storied history. The building played a role in earning the city the old nickname of “Little Detroit” because of the number of automobile dealerships concentrated within a few blocks. The moniker was even chronicled in a local history book titled “A Parade of Memories.”

“During and after the mid-1940's, Green Cove Springs became a mecca for servicemen who wanted cars,” state the authors. “Even today, this is still an important part of the economic life of the community, and dealers advertise Green Cove Spring as ‘Little Detroit.’”

However, that nickname lost its gusto in 2000 when Garber Automotive got approval from the Clay County Planning Commission to move just north of the city to the 33-acre site on which it sits today. Garber was the last dealer to move out.

Holman is also building a new 4,000 square foot metal building behind the former car dealership building. He said his customers generally come from a five-county area in Northeast Florida.

“Generally, all over Jacksonville and the surrounding areas. Probably the furthest customer I had was from Sweden. He had a Mustang Pro-Mod. The car has 4,000 horsepower. Actually, we've done a couple of those.”

Holman is looking forward to an August 2018 completion date.



POISED AND OPEN FOR BUSINESS



Your dream home is waiting for you At Rolling Hills at Lake Asbury

Located in Clay County, Rolling Hills at Lake Asbury features Richmond American's sought-after Seasons™ Collection—versatile floor plans priced within reach for a variety of homebuyers.

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Lake Asbury enjoy a wealth of amenities, including tennis and volleyball courts and an amenity center featuring fitness facilities and a pool with a water slide. Shopping, dining and recreation are also nearby.

Visit RichmondAmerican.com or call 904.541.2555 for more information.

*Standard items and included features are subject to change without notice. Features will vary by

home and may not be available on all houses. Availability may vary by community, plan, build status, elevation and/or location.

Prices, specifications and availability are subject to change without notice. Square footage is approximate. Actual homes as constructed may not contain the features and layouts depicted and may vary from image.

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An Accurate Heading Back to Green Cove Springs Marina

Whether looking across the bay or driving across 16 East toward the Shands Bridge from Green Cove Springs I marvel at the complexity of the big boats, large cranes and sailboat masts that are such a part of, and yet such a contrast to, the culture of Green Cove Springs. The opportunity for such commerce grew out of the remnants of the 13 piers left behind by the military after the Korean Conflict when the base at Lee Field was closed and

the mothball fleet was dismantled in the early 1960's.

At the most distant pier you will find, by far, one of the most captivating clusters of boats and folks imaginable. There, heading east, and turning left where the median ends is the undistinguished left turn for the Green Cove Springs Marina. The small marina office is well hidden, buried almost, but folks are friendly and will point you in the right direction. Watch your step now

and prepare for a warm greeting from Bob, Lindsey and Heather.

The Green Cove Springs Marina has served boat lovers from around the world since 1995. I was told that so many countries are now represented that their boats are stored geographically. They do not come because they saw an advertisement but based on word of mouth. The safe harbour in the cove of the St

Johns River coupled with fair and friendly service is well known among the boating community. Both local and international boaters abound. Canada, South America and Europe are well represented but there are also folks from South Africa, the Middle East and elsewhere.

There are an overwhelming 17 acres packed with over 500 boats and a diverse population of boaters



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Across from Winn Dixie beside Zach's.





Photo Courtesy of Green Cove Springs Marina/Tor Pinney Photographer



with a passion for and an interest in them. Many things draw people to such a place and hospitality is one of them. In the morning complimentary coffee is supplied with all the condiments and often pastries along side.

The culture, though, is what really stands out. There is a willingness in the boating community to step up and help each other in time of need without being asked no matter what else is taking place. This community is no exception. In many cases even broken hearts are fixed and stolen dreams fulfilled. There have been weddings as well as funerals here. For the Mug Race in May it is not unusual for the marina to host several hundred people and the three guitars on the office porch testify to regular impromptu entertainment.

Some boats are simply stored,

some are for sale, some are used by live aboards while being worked on, some are forgotten and some are coming out of storage for their next voyage to the Caribbean and beyond. Skilled tradesmen of all pursuits, including two mechanics on call, manage daily to accommodate those whose boats demand attention or need to be put into the water. Autumn is the busiest time of year with 7 – 8 boats being launched each day. Boats up to a beam (width) of 16 feet can be managed. 37 ton and 60 ton lifts are available as are crane and trailer services.

The Green Cove Springs Marina truly impacts the economy of Northeast Florida. In addition to their numerous part time and full time employees, out of towners are a constant. Boat buyers, boat sellers, boat repairers, boat brokers, boat appraisers and boat owners stay over night at the local B&B, purchase groceries, gas, supplies, parts, and use business services in town every day.

In fact many have a unit at St Brendan's Isle in Green Cove Springs, Florida as their mailing address and when the time comes to again become land dwellers, they may be your neighbor because they have come to know and love where all accurate headings lead; Green Cove Springs.



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Memorial Day Honoring the Fallen

Each year the City of Green Cove Springs puts special emphasis on their Memorial Day Festival. The City takes great pride in their long military history and is dedicated to honoring those that have given their lives in service to our Country. High ranking Military Officers, Congressmen, State, County and City Elected Officials along with our many patriotic citizens are in attendance for this special day. However, the most important attendees are the Veter-

ans and their families that come to honor their fallen comrades and loved ones. It is moving to see Veterans proudly come forward to give their name, rank and where they served. Their love of Country abounds and can be heard in their voices. We can never repay what these men and women have done for us in the United States of America. We owe our freedom to them and their bravery.

— Pam Lewis



Clay High Graduates Learned Lasting Loyalty

By Elaine Smith
Contributor

Sixty-five years after they graduated, the Clay High School Class of 1952 still holds reunions in the park in Green Cove Springs. They are in their early 80s now, and only about 20 of them are left. But their graduating class had just 47 members to start.

That's a 43% survival rate.

Maybe it's the spring water?

Not all of the graduates currently live in the area. At any given reunion, there may only be five to ten of them gathered round the picnic tables in Spring Park bringing their own refreshments and reminiscences.

They are holding the reunions every four months now.

"Things move faster when you get to be our age," says Mildred Smith, whose twin brother Milford

Cartwright, long-time owner of the Brown & Cartwright Ace Hardware in Green Cove, also used to attend the reunions before he passed away in 2016.

Mildred is most often joined by Harold and Jewel Knowles, Ed and Margaret Ivey, Kathryn Butler McCarthy, Kathryn's brother Charles Butler (Class of '53) and his wife Pat, Kense and Martha Harris, Gordon and Beth McDonald, Elizabeth Knowles Smith, Martha Maxwell (Jeep Maxwell's widow), and Polly Maxwell Krause (Jeep Maxwell's sister). As often as possible, Waldo Romero (Verona Bacon's husband), Mabel Parker Bretler, David Ivey, and Hilda Saunders Alvarez also attend.

For their most recent reunion in September 2017, they tried to gather as many surviving classmates as they could. Several who now live far from Green Cove Springs were go-

ing to make the trip. But Hurricane Irma, an uninvited guest, forced a date change, so emailed updates and pictures arrived instead.

Other than the hurricane, the weather has been beautiful for almost every reunion. On the rare occasions when Mother Nature

doesn't cooperate, the class meets at Mrs. Smith's GCS home.

The attendees say they would love it if any other CHS classes from the forties, fifties, or sixties wanted to join them. For information on upcoming reunion dates, email msmith1763@hotmail.com.



(l to r) Martha Maxwell, Margaret Ivey, Mildred Smith, Kathryn Butler McCarthy, Ed Ivey, Jewel Knowles, Charles Butler, Elizabeth Knowles Smith, Harold Knowles (seated)



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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 of materials coming from local Women's Clubs. Today, the system operates five libraries and has over 300,000 volumes in its Collection. The Library System has continued over time to

develop and refine its services to best meet the changing needs of our community. Major milestones include:

- 1997** The library system computerizes its checkout procedures and card catalog.
- 1999** Public Internet access is made available.
- 2005** The Headquarters Library

- opens on Fleming Island.
- 2015** The Library System begins offering e-books for adults.
- 2016** A new Integrated Library System is introduced.
- 2017** Animated, talking TumbleBooks for kids arrive.

mand, high interest, and popular materials in a variety of formats for patrons of all ages, assists students pre-school through grade 12 in meeting educational objectives established during their formal source of study, and supports individuals of all ages pursuing a sustained program of learning independent of any educational provider.

The Clay County Public Library System provides current high-de-

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 1800's. It was established at its present location in 1970 and the 8,513 sq. ft. building served as the Headquarters Library of the System until the late 1990's.

The Green Cove Springs Branch Library, located in the heart of the City for the convenience of its citizens, provides materials, information, technology and cultural opportunities to enrich, empower, educate and entertain people of all ages and backgrounds. Patrons enjoy access to a collection of almost 54,000 volumes of reading and educational materials including new bestsellers, 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 life-long love of reading through our Story Hours and other early literacy-based programs. STEM-related workshops are offered throughout the year for our younger patrons. Classes focusing on coding and robotics have been, and will continue to be, offered in future with the help of a NEFLIN, Inc. Innovation Grant as well as donations from Deppe Communications & Unicorn Web Development, the Green Cove Springs Elks Lodge #1892, the Friends of the GCS Library, and other community partners. 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, to prevent the "summer slide" in learning achievement, and to assist in acquiring necessary life skills.



Jennifer Parker, Branch Manager, GCS Branch Library

Jennifer has worked here for 31 years. After graduating from Flagler College in St. Augustine, she started as a clerk with the Clay County Library System in October of 1986. Within two years, she was promoted to Asst. Branch Manager. In 1992, Jennifer became Branch Manager. (She has lived in GCS her entire life and this was her childhood library.)

"Our staff is here to guide our patrons to the information, services, and resources they need to enhance and improve their lives", said Jennifer.

She is a big reader and to History, how-to, science fiction, and poetry. She was an English and History major in College. Her favorite authors are Ray Bradbury, Neil Gaiman, Mark Twain, Homer, and Rudyard Kipling.

Jennifer said, "We are innovative and have exciting programs and services for all ages. We enjoy serving and interacting with our community. We want everyone to feel ownership of the Library".

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 here in Green Cove Springs, Florida. 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.

More than 20 years later, the Friends continue to be a vital support to the Library and the local community. Through their efforts, thousands 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 to enhance library services;
- 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 to assist staff with operations and pro-

- gramming;
- Providing early literacy outreach to the local elementary school under the auspices of the Cove Storytellers;
- Facilitating the Cove Book Club to generate public interest;
- Holding membership drives and promoting Library programming at public events like the Market in the Park; and
- Funding special library needs through their year-round fundraising efforts.

Recently, the focus of the Friends' fundraising efforts has been on renovating the GCS facility itself. On August 26, 2017 at a public ceremony, a mural depicting a view of the St. Johns River from

Spring Park by local artist Anthony Rooney was dedicated to the memory of longtime Children's Librarian Michelle Kreitzer. The installation of this 30'x 6' foot mural represents Phase 1 of the Friends' long term plan to renovate the Children's and Young Adult areas of this Branch. Phase II will involve installing more original, hand-painted artwork by Mr. Rooney from the entryway of the Children's Library in to the lobby to draw patrons into the area.

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/ClayCtyLibrary>



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

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477 Houston Street, 2nd Floor
Green Cove Springs, FL 32043
Telephone: (904) 269/284-6305
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This is a savings of approximately \$600 annually based on a full \$50,000 homestead exemption in the unincorporated area of Clay County.

Branch Office:

Park Central Plaza
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Orange Park, FL 32073
Telephone: (904) 541-5332



www.facebook.com/ccpaofl



CalaVida

MUSIC & ARTS

OCTOBER 8-13, 2017



CalaVida Music & Arts Festival organized in 2014, recognizes and celebrates the importance of the arts. The Festival began with passion and the belief that the arts (music, painting, sculpting, acting, dance and writing) have a positive impact on our lives as well as our community. So, with big plans and no money, we set out to solicit sponsorships, contact artisans and secure entertainment. An now, in 2018, we will celebrate our 5th Year.

Our goals are to supply the community with opportunities to experience a variety of visual, performance and written arts. We celebrate that creative spirit by bringing in artists, not only from our local community, but outside the community as well, so that our residents have an opportunity to experience a vast array of talents.

Among our entertainers, there have been African, Scottish Highland, Peruvian, Flamenco and Native American dancers. We have had musical ensembles that vary from Jazz and Celtic to rock and country, spiritual to soul and barbershop to classical. Writers have signed and discussed their books and theatre troupes have thrilled us from the stage.



Cala ARTS FESTIVAL 2018



Michelle Lambert



CURT TOWNE BAND

This year, CalaVida is contributing to the J.P. Hall Children's Charity Christmas Party and has proudly supported Bright Minds Summer Camp by paying camp tuition of children in Green Cove Springs. Last year three art scholarship awards were presented to Clay county residents - two Senior student awards and one teacher award.

Although CalaVida Festival happens only once a year, in 2015, we were privileged to host the The Volunteers of the United States Army Field Band in Spring Park in October 2015. At CalaVida 2017, we were honored to premier "Savage," an original play by Tony Walsh. "Savage" is based on the life of Augusta Savage, a Green Cove Springs born sculptor of world renown. Davenia McFadden, has been in numerous TV shows including MadMen, Glee, All My Children starred.

Plans have already begun for CalaVida 2018 along with some exciting changes. In 2018, the CalaVida Concert Series will begin. Visit CalaVida.com in the Spring to stay up to date on the 2018 CalaVida Events as they're added along with additional concerts throughout the year.

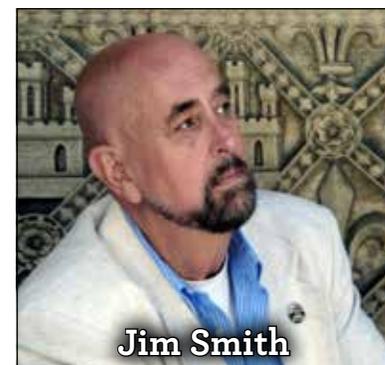
Year five is going to be an exciting event so if you would like to be a sponsor, entertainer, vendor or volunteer, please email: CalaVidaFestival@gmail.com

Special thank you to our Event Sponsor, Heritage Signs, our major sponsors VyStar, St. Vincents Clay, Mittauer & Associates, HiLiner, and all the other very generous sponsors.

CalaVida's mission is to foster and support arts education and provide quality artistic performances and events that promote the historical, cultural and social importance of the diverse community of Green Cove Springs, Florida.



LENA McFADDEN
JENNY DAVENSON & SHARON BUCK



Jim Smith



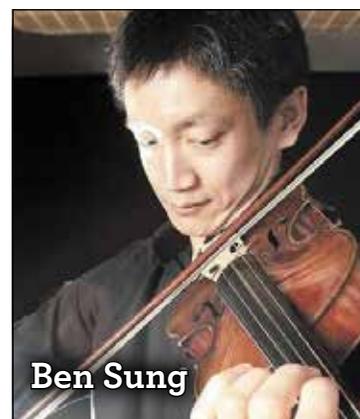
Elk's Needle



Mango Fever



Jason Evans Band



Ben Sung



West African Drummers

If You Love The Outdoors,



1

1 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.



2

2&3 Spring Park & Pool

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 your chances and find an open available picnic area free of charge. Enjoy the newly renovated spring fed pool & splash park. Call City Hall at 297-7500 to make a reservation.



3



4

4 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.



5

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.



6

5 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



2

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

6 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.

7. Bayard Conservation Area

The Bayard Conservation Area is operated by the St. Johns River

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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.floridas-water.com/recreationguide/bayard/

8. Clay County Fairgrounds

Throughout the year, a multitude of 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.

9. 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.

10. Carl Pugh Park

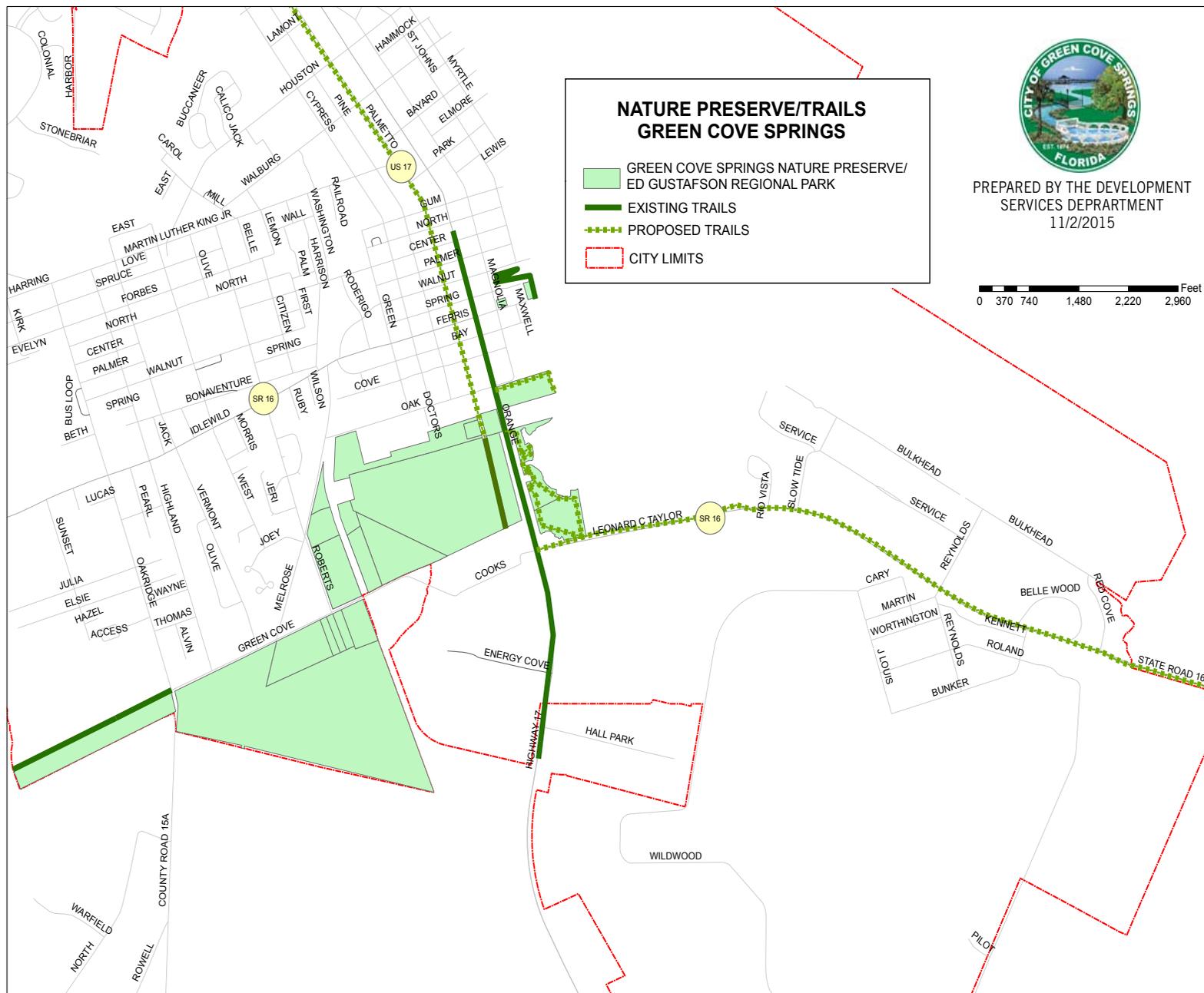
This County-owned facility is leased to the Green Cove Springs Baseball/Softball Association (GCSBSA). It is located at 317 S. West St. (behind the Clay County Health Department). For additional information, contact Clay County at 284-6378.

11. 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 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, 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 Environmental 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

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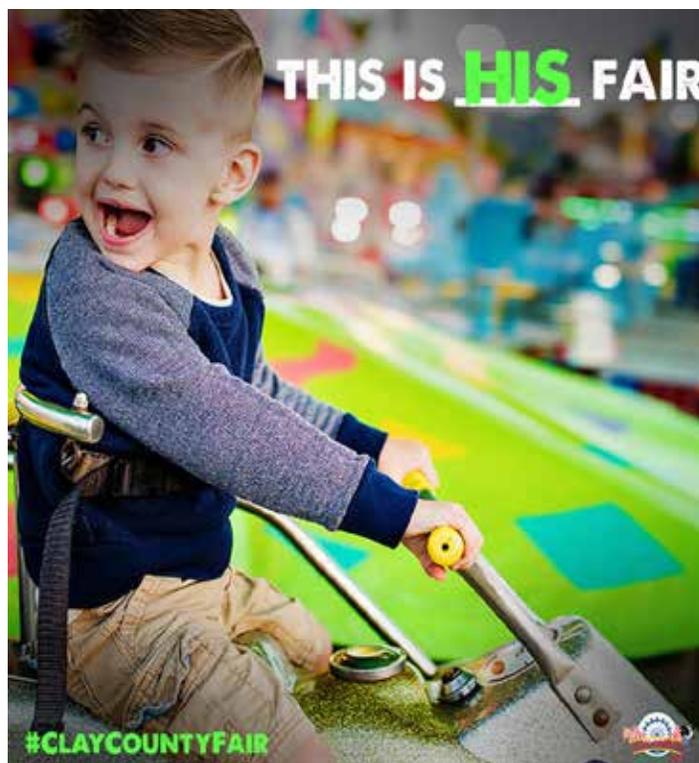
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Mark your calendar! The 2018 Clay County Agricultural Fair will be rolling into town March 29th through April 7th with the theme of “This is our fair!”. Our main entertainment schedule will include country artists: Chris Jansen, Chase Rice and High Valley. Our lineup will also include Christian sensation, Jeremy Camp! You will be able to find everything you’re accustomed to enjoying at the fair including the Early Florida Village, fair food, livestock exhibits, crafters, and more! We will have new activities including a Redneck Romper fashion show, Bubba’s Belly contest, Goat Yoga and so much more! We encourage everyone to share their favorite fair story with us via social media. Discounted tickets are on sale now on our website. For a full list of activities and specials at the fair, please visit our website at www.claycountyfair.org. **We’ll see you soon!**

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 mil-

itary 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 recollect-



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tions, 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.militarymuseumof-northflorida.com



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Activities for Clay County Youth

Green Cove Springs

Baseball Softball Association

The GCSBSA has been around since 1958 and has called Carl Pugh Park, located at West Street and State Road 16, home for over 40 years. The



association offers baseball and softball programs for youth ages 4-14 years old. It is the goal of the association to teach the children of the community the discipline and camaraderie of being part of a team and the passion for the sport of baseball and softball. You can look for sign-ups to begin around July for fall programs and January for spring programs. Contact info: 904-529-7800, www.gcsaa.siplay.com

Clay County 4-H Youth Development

The 4-H Program uses a learn-by-doing approach to help youth gain the knowledge and skills they need to be



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responsible, productive citizens. This is accomplished by providing hands-on educational programs through community-based clubs, afterschool programming, special interest workshops, and camps. The programming is unique in that youth participating in 4-H select a project to complete based on their interests. There are over 40 project areas like cooking, robotics, gardening, livestock, environmental science and archery. 4-H is available to youth ages 5-18 years old and clubs usually begin in September each year but you can join any time during the year. Contact info 904-284-6355, clay.ifas.ufl.edu

include building a strong camaraderie, confidence, self-discipline and the ability for children to defend themselves. It brings kids together, teaches basic athletic skills and skills that can be applied to life. Wrestling helps develop physical and mental toughness and is a great outlet for children who have ADD and ADHD. Boys and girls ages 5-14 years old can join. Look for sign-ups to begin around the time school starts. Contact info: www.claywrestling.com, Team Clay Kids Club on Facebook

Clay Youth Wrestling

Clay Youth Wrestling offers camps and clubs through Clay High School. Children are divided in to beginner and advanced groups based on experience and ability. The benefits of wrestling





Clay County Public Library System

The Green Cove Springs Branch Library provides materials, information, technology and cultural opportunities to enrich, empower, educate and entertain people of all ages and backgrounds. Besides books, the library offers many different classes and workshops for adults, as well as youth reading programs and activities for children including crafts, music and dance. Contact info: www.claycountygov.com/departments/library

make ethical and moral choices in their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scouts Oath and Law. Boys start as Cub scouts beginning in kindergarten or first grade, depending on the pack, and can continue on to Boy scouts through the age of 18. Boy Scouts is a year round program and information is often sent out about joining at the beginning of each school year. Contact info: 904-388-0591, www.nfscouting.org

Clay County Fair

The Clay County Fair comes annually around the beginning of April. There are livestock shows which include pigs, horses, cows and chickens. You will find nightly concerts, midway rides, food & craft vendors, and all kinds of fun for the family. The fairgrounds also house the Early Florida Village and a new RV park. Contact info: 904-284-1615, www.claycountyfair.org



Girl Scouts of Gateway Council

Girl Scouts builds girls of courage, confidence and character, who make the world a better place. Girls can become a Daisy scout once they begin kindergarten and continue through the program ending as an Ambassador scout in their senior year of high school. Girls can sign up for a troop through the website or can look for information to come out from their school around the beginning of each school year. Girl Scouts is a year round organization so you can join at any time. Contact info: 904-388-4653, www.girlscouts-gateway.org

Boy Scouts of America, North Florida Council

The mission of the Boy Scouts of America is to prepare young people to

Green Cove Springs Christmas parade and Christmas on Walnut Street

The parade and festivities generally always fall on the first Saturday in December. The parade usually starts mid-day and the family fun on Walnut St and in Spring Park last into the evening. You can start the day with the Jingle Bell Fun Run, then enjoy the food vendors, arts and crafts vendors, bounce houses, pictures with Santa and finally end the day with the lighting of the City Christmas tree shortly after dark. You don't want to miss the parade of trees in Spring Park while you are down there. Local individuals and businesses decorate trees that are displayed throughout the park to honor loved ones, promote businesses or just for fun.



The Rotary Club of Green Cove Springs celebrated its 90th anniversary. The club was chartered on August 17, 1926. Meetings are held every Monday at 12:15 at the Council on Aging in Green Cove Springs. Visitors and Rotarians from other clubs are welcome to attend.



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Clay heads to region finals 2017



Staff photos by Randy Lefko

Clay High School football continued its historic reign of playoff games in 2017 after finishing 2016 with a state semifinal loss to Ponte Vedra High School. Blue Devil football coach Joshua Hoekstra, left, has been buoyed by the strong running of running back Aundre Carter, right, who has put together a string of three straight near-300 yard rushing games to propel the Blue Devils into the Region 2-5A final on Fri., Nov. 25 at Baker County High School. Clay enters the 2017 region final with wins over Hernando and Zephyrhill high schools. Hoekstra has coached the Blue Devils to a Class 5A championship game in 2013 (Lost to American Heritage) and Final Four appearances (state semifinals) in 2015 (Lost to Wakulla) and 2016 (Lost to Ponte Vedra).

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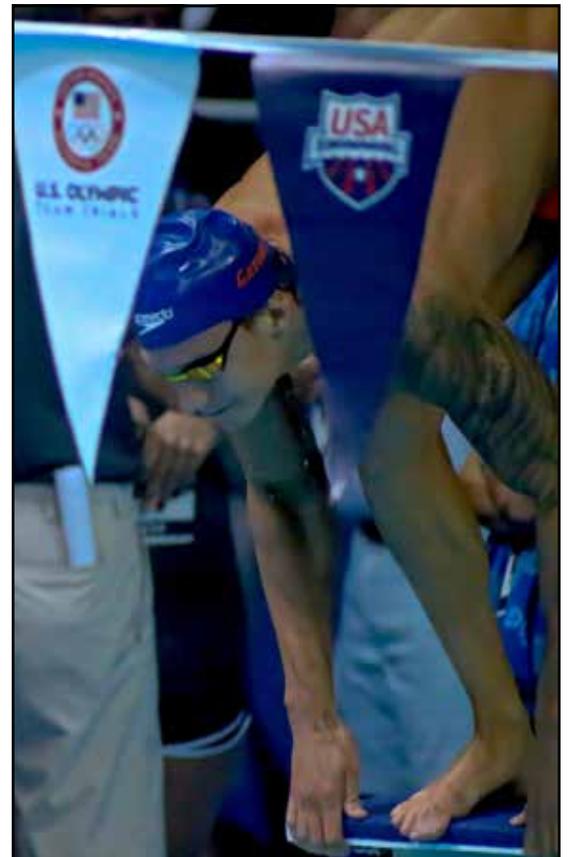


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Swimmer of Year

Clay High graduate and now, world swim champion Caeleb Dressel, fresh from a summer of seven gold medals at the World Swim Championships in Budapest where he set an individual American record in three events; the 50 freestyle, the 100 freestyle and the 50 butterfly, plus became the first swimmer ever to win three gold medals in one day, was named the 2017 USA Swimmer of the Year at the recent United States Aquatic Sports Convention. Dressel's seven world golds equaled U.S. Olympian Michael Phelps plus Dressel has won two Olympic gold medals swimming relays in RIO 2016. Dressel has won numerous college titles in the 50 and 100 freestyles, the 100 butterfly and has won Southeastern Conference titles in the same events as he embarks on his senior year at the University of Florida. Dressel also won numerous gold medals at the Florida state championships while at Clay High School.





ARE YOU READY TO SECURE YOUR VOTE?

Register to vote online at RegisterToVoteFlorida.gov

Checklist for **New Voters** in Clay County

- Submit a voter registration application to our office.
- Check Florida Voter Information Card for accuracy.
- Contact the Supervisor of Election office for change or corrections.
- Become familiar with sample ballot (online and published in local newspapers).
- Mark upcoming election dates on the calendar.
- Know available voting options; Vote By Mail, Early Voting or vote at the polls on Election Day.

Checklist for **Registered Voters** in Clay County

- Check voter registration status including party affiliation.
- Contact the Supervisor of Election office for questions or changes (name, address, party affiliation, and/or signature).
- Become familiar with sample ballot (online and published in local newspapers).
- Locate assigned polling place prior to Election Day.
- Mark upcoming election dates on calendar.
- Select the voting option best for you; Vote By Mail, Early Voting or vote at the polls on Election Day.

Know available voting options; Vote By Mail, Early Voting, or vote at the polls on Election Day.



Chris H. Chambless, CERA, MFCEP
Clay County Supervisor of Elections
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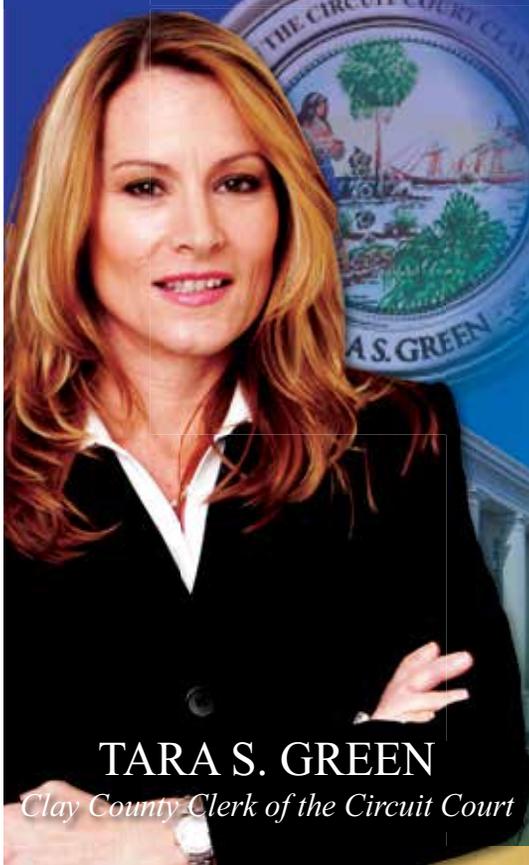


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VFW: Veterans helping Veterans

Across America, the initials VFW are a familiar sight and symbolize a commitment to the nation both at home and abroad.

In 1899 veterans of the Spanish-American War (1898) and the Philippine Insurrection (1899-1902) founded local organizations to secure rights and benefits for their service. Many arrived home wounded or sick. There was no medical care or veterans' pension for them, and they were left to care for themselves.

In their misery, some of these veterans came together and formed organizations that would eventually band together and become known as the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States. After chapters were formed in Ohio, Colorado and Pennsylvania, the movement quickly gained momentum. Today, membership stands at nearly 1.7 million mem-



This landmark VFW building in Green Cove Springs was built in 1939

bers of the VFW and its Auxiliary.

The members were instrumental in establishing the Veterans Administration, developing the national cemetery system, fighting for compensation for Vietnam vets exposed to Agent Orange and for veterans diagnosed with Gulf War Syndrome. In 2008, they won a long-fought victory with the passing of

a GI Bill for the 21st Century, giving expanded educational benefits to America's active duty service members, and members of the guard and reserves, fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan. They were the driving force behind the Veterans Access and Accountability Act of 2014, and continually fight for improved VA medical services for women veterans.

Besides helping fund the creation of the Vietnam, Korean War, World War II and Women in Military Service memorials, in 2005 the VFW became the first veterans' organization to contribute to building the new Disabled Veterans for Life Memorial, which opened in November 2010. And in 2015, the VFW became the first supporter of the National Desert Storm War Memorial which is planned for construction at our nation's capital.

The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States (VFW) is a nonprofit

veterans service organization comprised of eligible veterans and military service members from the active, guard and reserve forces.

The mission of the VFW is to foster camaraderie among United States veterans of overseas conflicts, to serve our veterans, the military and our communities and to advocate on behalf of all veterans.

The VFW has many programs and services that work to support veterans, service members and their families locally, as well as communities worldwide.

Flag Retirement Ceremonies are popular local events. About 1400 flags are retired each year at Post 1988. This is a respectful ceremony to appropriately dispose of tattered or faded American flags. An old, weathered, faded, ripped or torn flag should always be retired and replaced with a new flag. But a retired flag deserves to be treated with the respect and destroyed in a dignified way for it still represents our great nation and our citizens.

The Green Cove Springs Post 1988 will dispose of the United States of America Flag with dignity, with the proper procedures designated by the United States Government. So please give your old American Flag to Post 1988 for appropriate disposal.

Post 1988 supports the high school athletic department, scouts and ROTC programs. The post also participates in the VFW national scholarship essay program that awards \$10,000.00 annually.

The members also support the Ft. McCoy Veterans Village near Salt Springs for ambulatory veterans and Paws for Patriots to provide service animals to veterans.

At Green Cove Springs Post 1988 it is all about "Veterans helping Veterans". The Green Cove Springs VFW welcomes anyone who has served on foreign soil to join them at 421 Orange Avenue.

Contact the post at 904 284-0775 for further information.



Provides Community Service in our Support of:

- The Green Cove Springs Adopt Our Library Program
- Support of our Veterans at Lassen Nursing Home; Fishing, Bingo
- Green Cove Springs Soul Food Festival
- Support the GCS Police Dept. in the Trunk or Treat Event
- Strumming For Success - Teaching GCS children to play the guitar
- The Lodge runs the Santa's Workshop portion of the Green Cove Springs Annual Christmas Parade providing the gifts the kids receive.



GETTING TO KNOW YOUR FRATERNAL ORGANIZATIONS IN GREEN COVE SPRINGS

Fraternal Order of Eagles

The F.O.E. traces its history back to 1898 when six theatre owners gathered in a Seattle shipyard to discuss a musician's strike. After a lengthy discussion they decided to "bury the hatchet" and form "The Order of Good Things." As time passed and membership increased, the Bald Eagle was chosen as the official emblem and the name was changed to "The Fraternal Order of Eagles."

Nationally, more than \$10 million a year is donated to local communities,

fundraisers, charities and more. As part of its philosophy, the F.O.E. gives back 100 percent of monies raised in the form of grants. Fundraisers are conducted for eight major charities, including the DD Dunlap Kidney Fund, Max Baer Heart Fund, Robert Hansen Diabetes Fund, Art Ehrmann Cancer Fund, Lew Reed Spinal Cord Injury Fund, Jimmy Durante Children's Fund, M. Floyd Alzheimer's Fund, Parkinson's Fund, Memorial Foundation and the Golden Eagle Fund.

Elks (BPOE 1892)

The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks (BPOE) will soon be celebrating their 150th anniversary. During periods of challenge, war, and upheaval, the Elks have always met the needs of the community. The Elks created a field hospital for the victims of the 1906 San Francisco earthquake and fire, as well as field hospitals for the American Forces in WWI.

The Green Cove Springs Elks Lodge continues this strong tradition of benevolence and protection today with ongoing service and contribution to veterans, special needs children, and a drug awareness campaign. They, along with other local lodges, support the Lassen Veterans Nursing Home in St. Augustine. Members of the lodge hold monthly bingo sessions at Lassen, and also bring veterans to the lodge for an afternoon of fishing and lunch. Members of the lodge sup-

port the Florida Elks Children's Therapy Services, partner with the local elementary school and library, provide a scholarship for local high school students, organize Santa's Workshop after the city Christmas Parade, and participate in various other charitable and community activities.

Members of the Green Cove Springs Elks Lodge, which is located at 702 South Orange Avenue, enjoy a beautiful riverfront location with a screened porch, a great menu nightly, and wonderful camaraderie. The public is invited every Tuesday night for charity bingo. If you would like to stop by and learn more about the benefits of becoming a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the lodge is open every Saturday morning serving breakfast to current and prospective members.



The FOE also pledged \$25 million for the creation of a Diabetes Research Center on the University of Iowa's medical campus and in 2014 the facility opened its doors.

Historically, the FOE claims credit for establishing the Mother's Day holiday in the United States as well as the "impetus for Social Security. Distributed Ten Commandments monoliths across the United States and helped end age based job discrimination with their "Jobs After 40" program.

The clubs are known as "aeries". The Green Cove Springs Aerie is known

as the little Aerie with "the Big Heart". Membership is just a little over a hundred members. Last year donations from the Green Cove Springs Aerie were almost \$19,000.00. In addition to national charities, many local charities are also supported including Charles E Bennett Elementary, Friends of the Library, Green Cove Food Pantry, Green Cove Springs Athletic Association, and Governors Creek Nursing Home to name a few.

The Eagles' Aerie is located at 424 Walnut Street in Green Cove Springs. We welcome visitors that might what to see what we are all about.



Rotary Club of Green Cove Springs

Rotary's name came from the group's early practice of rotating meetings among the offices of each member. Established by Paul Harris in Chicago in 1905 as a service organization and forum where people from diverse backgrounds could exchange ideas and form friendships, it has become an international organization throughout Asia, Europe/Africa, and the Americas.

One of the greatest achievements has been the Rotary's worldwide campaign against polio that began in 1979. Additionally, the Rotary sponsors thousands of projects throughout the world that promote peace, fight disease, provide clean water, save mothers and children, support education, and grow local economies.

Annual Club fundraisers include a

65 mile bike ride, a golf tournament and serving as host of the Clay High School Invitational Wrestling Tournament. Other local outreach includes the Quarterly First Responder award, given to a local police or fireman and the Virgil Fox Memorial Scholarships to seniors at Clay High.

Local partners include Charles E. Bennett Elementary School, Augusta Savage Arts and Community Center, Green Cove Springs Food Pantry, Friends of the Green Cove Springs Library, Challenge Enterprises, Clay County Council on Aging, Salvation Army, Way Clinic and the YMCA.

The Rotary Club meets at Magnolia Golf and Country Club. The Club is meeting temporarily at the Council on Aging every Monday, while renovations are being made at the Country Club.



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

GROWING IN GREEN COVE Business Development Serves Green Cove

Through a partnership between the Clay County Chamber of Commerce and the Florida Small Business Development Center at the University of North Florida (Florida SBDC at UNF) local businesses are able to work with a professional credentialed business consultant at no cost. State designated as Florida's Principal Provider of Business Assistance, the Florida SBDC at UNF has been assisting small businesses to grow and succeed for over 40 years. The Florida SBDC at UNF has offices throughout Clay County providing small 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 also have access to more specialized services, such as government contracting assistance, agribusiness advice, international trade expertise and nonprofit assistance. Funding for the program is facilitated by the Clay County Chamber of Commerce and is made possible by sponsorships from the Jacksonville Jaguars, the Clay County Development Authority, the

Economic Development Corporation, VYSTAR, Alliance and Associates, First Atlantic Bank and BestBet.

About the Florida SBDC at UNF Consultant:

Ana "Annie" Grogan, the business consultant assigned to the Clay County region, has been in her role for three years and continues to make her rounds throughout the county meeting local small businesses and getting to know what their needs are. She has office hours in Green Cove Springs, Keystone Heights, Middleburg and Orange Park. Annie also works with local small business owners to start local business groups and initiatives as needed. She now offers routine workshops throughout the county on "How to start a business" and "How to write a business plan," two topics that are critical when starting a small business. To check on classes, go to the training link at www.sbdc.unf.edu.

Business owners or aspiring business owners can reach Annie Grogan at the Clay County Chamber of Com-

Pamela J. Lewis, M.A., N.C.C., L.M.H.C.
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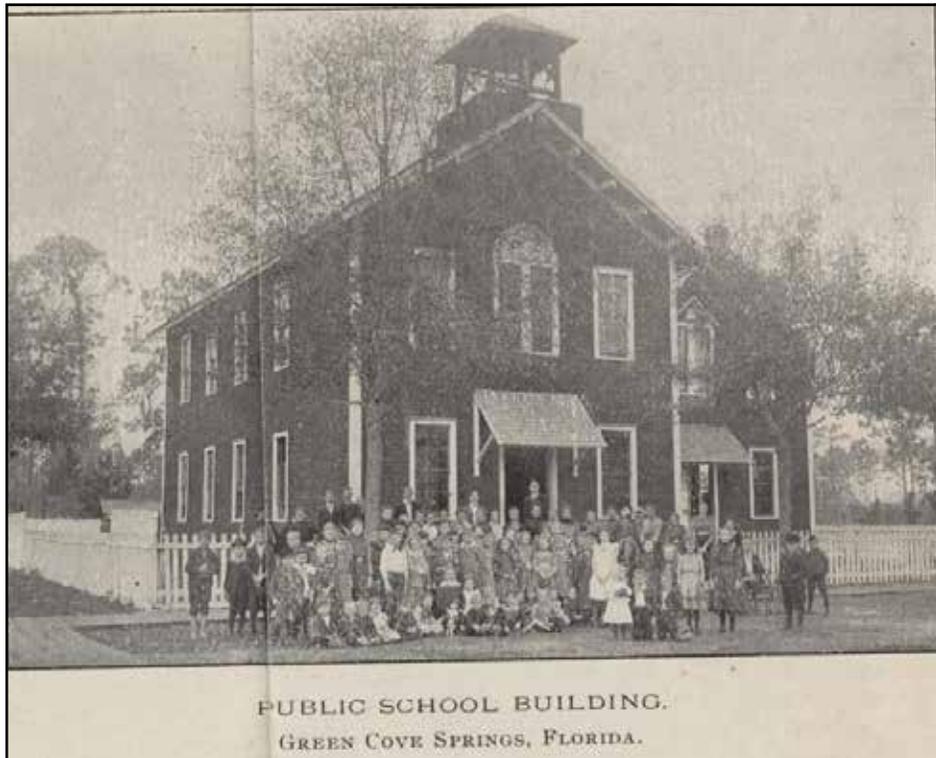
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one shoe shop, two saw mills, a Masonic Lodge, two laundries, one railroad, one ice company, one undertaker, one brick yard, seven churches, two newspapers, one barber shop, two drug stores, one rice and feed mill, one bicycle shop, a telephone system, one livery stable, one cigar factory, a fertilizer factory, one jewelry store, one graded school, three meat markets, a street railway, two blacksmith and wheelwright shops, two artesian wells



(which supply the town water), 4 trains a day come and go as do two steamers.

Spending a winter in Green Cove Springs, where flowers bloom all the year and the climate is unsurpassed, brings health and happiness to all who visit.

The mayor is H.E Bemis, the town Marshall Charles Wilson, the Clerk and Treasurer , Ira Thomas; Tax Collector Charles E Lipford; Councilmen are Ellis Geiger; Chairman, Warren Munsell, W. J Wilson, V.D. Eddy and J.C Willie.

Nature has done much for Green Cove Springs. The streets in Green Cove Springs are pretty beyond description, the roadway being made with sawdust and on each side beautifully sodded; the grass green all year and clipped till it looks like a lawn covered with a green carpet.

The Tyler House needs no recommendation to anyone who has been a guest of this house. It is beautifully situated on Walnut Street, on line of the Street Railway, near the white sulphur springs and the St. Johns River, directly west on Walnut Street from the steamboat landing. You will find in arrival of all trains or boats, day or night, their courteous and obliging porter. Look for the badge on his cap, "Tyler House" and go with him to this house and you will not regret it.

The Bank of Green Cove Springs

is pleased to receive your deposits. A general banking business is transacted under conservative rules. The officers are PL Sutherland, president OA Buddington, vice president WJ Wilson, cashier. Directors: WC Jackson, Ira Thomas, OA Budington, WJ Wilson, PL Sutherland.

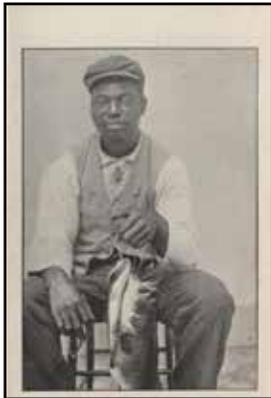


The Magnolia Hotel- This beautiful hotel with five large and handsomely furnished cottages will open for guests for the winter. The name of OD Seavey as propertier is a guarantee for fine



service. Its patrons always find it the best place for hunting, fishing, bathing, golfing, and lawn tennis.

Thousands of black bass and trout are caught near Green Cove Springs each year. Alligators abound in the numerous creeks, also in the St. Johns River. Quail hunting in season is one of the best sports. Hunters come here from all the States in the Union. Green Cove is the paradise for all lovers of sports.



This is the winter residence of Mrs. Carl H. Schultz of New York City. This is one the beautiful places at Green Cove Springs. The yards of this place are filled with every kind of rare plant that can grow in Florida. It is a place that



all tourists should see while in our city.

The Schultz family also owns a fertilizer factory in town where they make Stimuseed, a fertilizer for potatoes, one of the main crops here.

This is the winter residence of Mr. M Hoyt of Chicago, who has for 26 years spent the winters here. The white sulphur spring water used as a beverage and daily bathing by Mr. Hoyt has caused the bloom of youth to this gentleman. Mr. Hoyt is the founder of the W.M. Hoyt Grocery Company, one of the largest corporations of its kind in the United States.



The winter home of Thaddeus Davids is another one of our beautiful homes. Mr. Davids, who is from New York, is the owner of the largest ink manufacturing company in these United States.



If you have not been fortunate as to try the water from this spring, the sooner you come and try it the better for your health. It is the Fountain of Youth Ponce de Leon was searching for. The flow of the spring is enormous. The spring is beautifully situated near the center of Green Cove Springs, surrounded by a natural park in which the beautiful magnolia, live oak and numerous varieties of evergreen trees abound.

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If you haven't visited this place, arrange your trip before you start form home so you will come direct here and see the beauties in and around Green Cove Springs.





Department Practices Community Policing

The goal of the Green Cove Springs Police Department is to provide the highest quality professional police services in partnership with our community. Our Officers are entrusted to consistently seek and find ways to affirmatively promote, preserve, and deliver a feeling of safety and security while providing service and problem resolution for all persons within the City of Green Cove Springs.

Members of the Green Cove Springs Police Department are committed to working with the community to solve problems and proactively address developing issues. We believe that positive interaction with community members and organizations will provide the best and most effective solutions to current and future problems. All persons will be treated with courtesy and respect. Members of the Police Department will conduct themselves in the most professional manner possible so they may serve as a positive role model for the community. We believe in the highest standards for the agency. The Green Cove Springs Police Department is committed to continued training for all employees. We believe in collaborating with community

groups such as elementary schools, high schools and not for profit organizations to build partnerships and serve as mentors for our youth. The Green Cove Springs Police Department strives to promote volunteerism within its ranks and our community which we so gladly serve.

The Green Cove Springs Police Department is committed to cooperation with area Police Departments and Sheriff's Offices in analyzing trends in criminal activity that affect the City of Green Cove Springs. We will actively work with other law enforcement agencies to develop strategies for successfully combating criminal activity in the area and promoting Neighborhood Watch Programs within our community.

When you see our Officers in the community take the time to speak with them. The members of the Green Cove Springs Police Department are approachable, friendly and are part of the Green Cove Springs community. We are very fortunate to serve such a great city and look forward to meeting your needs.

Derek S. Asdot,
Chief of Police





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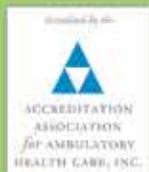
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