

# EXPLORE CLAY



MeLissa  
Pellerito  
REALTOR®

*See our ad on page 2*

2025 Spring | Summer Visitors Guide

# Welcome HOME

Come Home to Clay County



**OVER \$18.5 Million  
SOLD in 2024**

*Multi-Year Multi-Million Dollar Producer*



**MeLissa  
Pellerito**  
REALTOR®



**MeLissa Pellerito**

[mpelleritorealtor@gmail.com](mailto:mpelleritorealtor@gmail.com)

275 S. Lawrence Blvd. Ste 1, Keystone Heights

**Community Involvement • First Time Home Buyers • Veterans • Investment Residential • Commercial Property • Land & Building • Retirement Homes**

# Inside CLAY COUNTY



6

Top 10 Things to do in Clay County



11

New in Clay County



16

Golf in Clay



19

Local Shop, Eat and Play

23 Stay in Clay Spring Break

25 Art & Culture

27 Inspiring Clay Women

30 Outdoors Camp Chowenwaw



33

On The Water

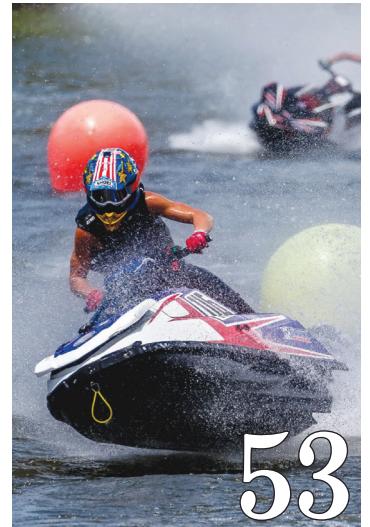
38 Exploring Jennings State Forest

39 Kayaking in Clay

41 Coffee

45 Whitey's Fish Camp Local Fare

48 Unique Eats



53

Events

59 Venues



## WELCOME TO CLAY COUNTY!

Download the app to discover things to do, events, and more.

-  **EXPLORE LOCAL EVENTS**  
Save your ideas and map out your itinerary.
-  **DISCOVER THINGS TO DO**  
Scenic views or adventure- endless possibilities.
-  **FIND DINING**  
Savor diverse local flavors to satisfy every craving.



Scan the QR code to download the Explore Clay app on your Android or iPhone.

## CLAYTODAY

**Publisher**  
Clarice Touhey clarice@claytodayonline.com

**Advertising Sales**  
Leesa Tillman leesa@claytodayonline.com  
Laura Slayback laura@osteenmediagroup.com

For advertising information please contact 904-264-3200.



Kimberly Morgan Director of Tourism & Film Development  
Kimberly.Morgan@claycountygov.com

# WE DO IT RIGHT!



**AMERICAN  
GUTTER INC**



**WINDOWS**



**CARPORTS**



**RAILINGS**



**PERGOLAS**



**SCREEN ROOMS**

**FREE ESTIMATES!  
MILITARY &  
SENIOR  
DISCOUNTS!**

**CALL TODAY!  
352-473-8411  
904.460.0907**

**LOCALLY OPERATED  
FOR OVER 30 YEARS**

**SCC131149799  
SCC131152158  
AMERICANGUTTERINC.COM  
322 SE SR 100  
KEYSTONE HEIGHTS, FL**

**GUTTER**

**LEAFGUARDS**

**SIDING**

**SOFFIT**

**FASCIA**

**GLASS ROOMS**

**POOL ENCLOSURES**

**POLE BARN**

**GAZEBOS**

**SHEDS**

**CARPORTS**



**Board of County  
Commissioners**

**Address:**

P.O. Box 1366  
477 Houston Street  
Green Cove Springs, FL  
32043

Phone: 904-529-5807

904-541-5807

Fax: 904-278-4731

**County Manager**

Howard Wanamaker

**Commissioners:**

John Sgromolo

District 1

Alexandra Compere

District 2

Jim Renninger

District 3

Betsy Condon

District 4

Kristen Burke, DC

District 5

[www.claycountygov.com](http://www.claycountygov.com)



As Chair of the Clay County Board of Commissioners, I would like to extend a warm welcome to you. Clay County, Florida, is a place with small towns and big passions located southwest of Jacksonville with the entire eastern border nestled along the banks of the scenic St. Johns River. Within the county's 644 square miles, you will discover natural beauty, rich history, and a vast array of natural and agricultural resources minutes away from lively business environments.

Founded in 1858, our county has developed into a diverse mixture of suburban and rural areas, resulting in a vivid panorama of productive, modern living, top-rated schools, a well-trained skilled workforce, bustling retail centers, and economic vitality. Clay County is a haven for those who love nature and the outdoors and is home to some of the region's best golf courses, public parks, and walking and bicycling trails. If you add in the enjoyment of boating, fishing, canoeing, or kayaking on our miles of navigable waterways, you can see why people love Clay County.

While you are here, we invite you to explore the many experiences we have in our small towns. You can visit places that share the rich history story of our military roots or local heritage. You can explore our natural resources through hiking, cycling or getting out on the water. You're sure to find some great picture spots. Head to one of our many small businesses to shop, grab a coffee from local roasters, and enjoy unique entrees and favorites served at our locally owned eateries. Our retailers feature locally made products, repurposed vintage ware, antiques, and specialty gifts.

If you run out of time on this trip, please come back to enjoy the uniqueness of the place I call home. I hope you enjoy your time here and look forward to seeing you explore the small towns and big passions Clay County has to offer throughout the year.

Sincerely,

Betsy Condon, Chair  
Clay County Board of Commissioners

Named one of the  
**TOP 100 RESORTS**  
in the US by GoodSam

# FLORIDA'S NEWEST ADULT RV RESORT

Like us now? You  
haven't seen  
anything yet!



RATED 10-10-10 BY  
**goodsam**



## CLOSE TO EVERYWHERE YOU WANT TO BE IN CENTRAL FLORIDA



**KEYSTONE  
HEIGHTS**  
RV RESORT

- A Secure and Gated Resort
- A 2,700 Sq. Ft. Swimming Pool & Spa
- Beautiful Clubhouse
- Pickleball Courts
- Cornhole & Shuffleboard
- Mini Golf
- Spacious Dog Park
- High-Speed Internet & Cable

- Sparkling Bathhouse
- Tidy Laundry Room
- Concrete RV Pads
- Beautiful Landscaping
- Picnic Pavilion
- Fitness Center & Sauna
- Game Room
- Arts & Crafts / Cards Room

LOCALLY OWNED & OPERATED.

352-645-4330 • [WWW.KEYSTONEHEIGHTSRV.COM](http://WWW.KEYSTONEHEIGHTSRV.COM)



# TOP 10 THINGS TO DO IN CLAY COUNTY



Camp Chowenwaw

## 1. CAMP IN A TREEHOUSE

Camp Chowenwaw treehouses are located at the intersection of Black Creek and the St. Johns River, this 150-acre county-owned park was home to a regional Girl Scout camp for over 70 years.



The Firm

## 2. THE FIRM

Test your speed and skills on the Rally Race Car Course at The FIRM in Keystone Heights. Action superstar Travis Pastrana brought his worldwide racing series, Nitro Rallycross to The FIRM in December 2021.

## 3. SPRING PARK

Take a dip in one of the country's oldest spring-fed swimming pool in Spring Park; it's been around since 1871 and known for its therapeutic healing and its constant temperature of 77 degrees.



Leaderboard Arcade

## 4. PADDLEBOARDING

Rent a standup paddleboard from one of PADL's locations in Clay County and catch a vibrant sunrise over the St. Johns River or a magnificent sunset over Doctor's Lake. Better yet, get out on the 39 square miles of water by using one of the 11 public boat ramps.

## 5. INDOOR FUN

For teambuilding activities or just plain fun, check out the Leaderboard Arcade or practice your tricks at Get Air Trampoline Orange Park. For a bit of a challenge, visit Live by the Axe and see if your group can get out in time at Just Encase Escape Room.





## 6. MILITARY MUSEUM

Take in our rich military history by visiting Clay County's military museums: Military Museum of Northeast Florida, Camp Blanding Museum. From exhibits focusing on World War II to artifacts and military vehicles on display, visitors can learn about the county's involvement with our nation's military.



## 7. THRASHER-HORNE CENTER

Immerse yourself in the arts at the Thrasher-Horne Center with live concerts, performances and their adjacent art gallery featuring local artists. The venue is also available to rent for sporting groups, competitions and more.

## 8. TOP OF THE TEE

Top of the Tee at Fleming Island Golf Club offers a family-friendly, intimate take on the driving range experience. Perfect for group outings or parties, it features interactive bays, a bar, and drinks for added fun. It's the ideal spot for casual entertainment or special celebrations.



## 9. SHOPPING

Shop local at shops like Miss Priss Gifts, YUM – A Southern Market and One Swanky Chic Boutique. Local vintage and antique shops in the area include Junque in the Trunk and Now & Then Antique Mall.

## 10. GOLF, BEIGNETS & SUSHI

Head to Oakleaf for a round of golf at Eagle Landing Golf Course, then indulge in warm New Orleans-style beignets paired with a delicious coffee or tea from PJ's Coffee. End the day at Akaya Sushi Bar, where chefs prepare fresh sushi right before your eyes.



PJ's Coffee



# Where Community is Key!



## Celebrating 100 YEARS

Est. 1925

555 S. Lawrence Blvd., Keystone Heights  
[www.keystoneheights.us](http://www.keystoneheights.us)  
352-473-4807

**March 28**

**Centennial Spring Fling**

Family Fun Day! March 28 @  
10 a.m. at Keystone Heights Airport

**April 11**

**Spring Awakenings: A Night of Music**

Music, Food Trucks and Fun!  
6 p.m. Keystone Beach

**May 17-18**

**Pro Watercross**

Keystone Beach

**May 27**

**Memorial Day Ceremony**

Keystone Cemetery Veterans Memorial

**July 4**

**July 4 Celebration**

July 4 at Keystone Heights Theme Park,  
Natural Park and Beach



*Making*

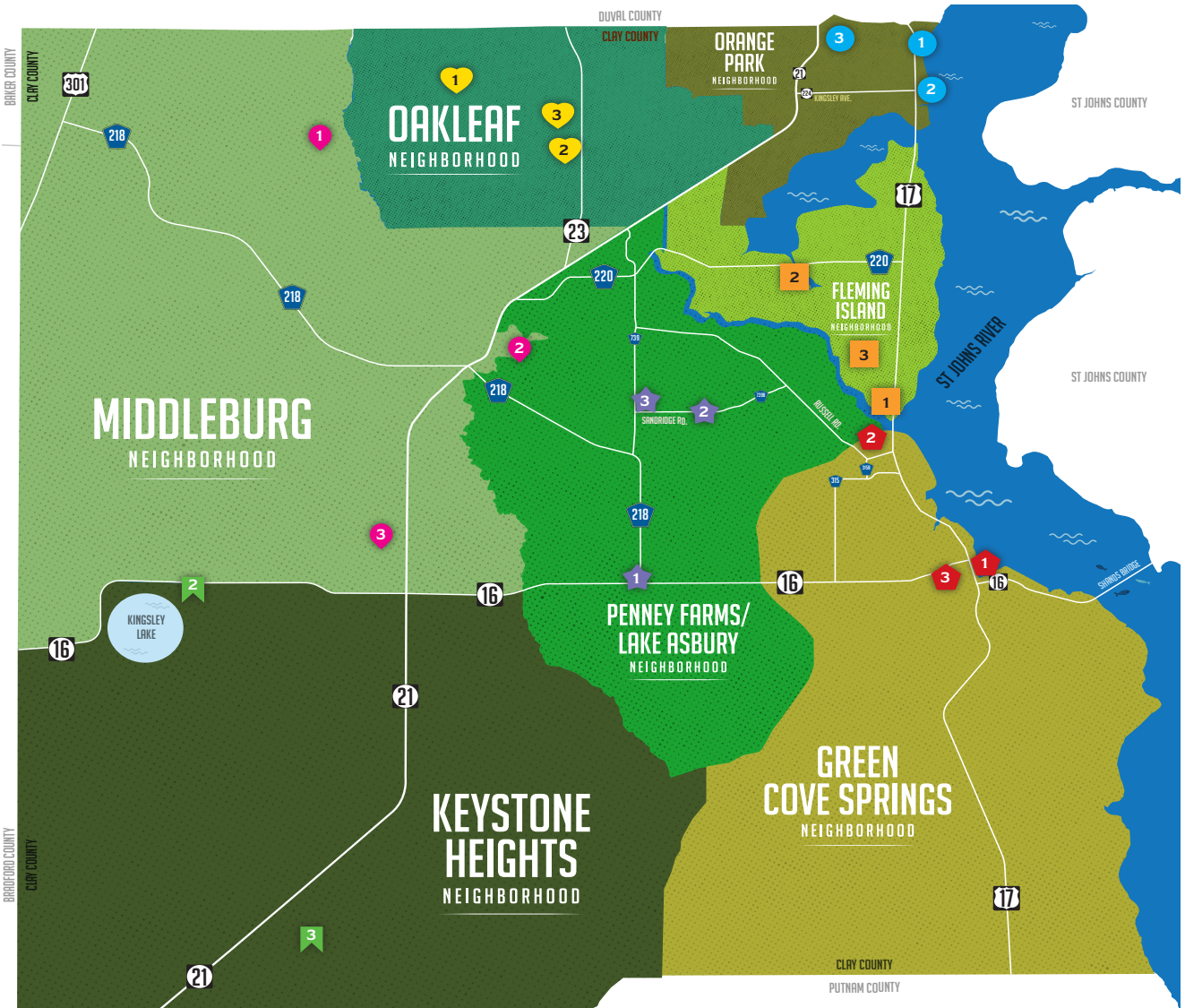


*Memories*



*Together*

# Discover everything Clay County has to offer!



[EXPLORECLAY.COM](http://EXPLORECLAY.COM)

 ExploreClay  ClayCtyTourism  
Tag Your Adventure #ExploreClay

# There's something for everyone in Clay County!

## Orange Park ●

1. **bestbet** - bestbet offers world-class poker, exciting card games, simulcast wagering, and a menu of delicious food and drinks.
2. **Kingsley East River Overlook** - A pocket park with panoramic St. John's River views, Civil War history, and River Road access.
3. **Orange Park Mall** - Orange Park Mall boasts over 120 shops, restaurants, entertainment options, and more.

## Penney Farms/Lake Asbury ★

1. **Scenic Highway** - The J.C. Penney Memorial Scenic Highway winds through oak canopies, hardwood forests, hammocks, and wetlands.
2. **Ronnie Van Zant Park** - A 90-acre park honoring Ronnie Van Zant, featuring sports courts, fields, trails, and a fishing pond.
3. **Lake Asbury Commons** - A shopping plaza with Present Tense Coffee & Books, Emangeo's Brick Oven Pizza, and Sweet Hydrangea.

## Green Cove Springs ◆

1. **Spring Park** - Along the St. Johns River, Spring Park features a spring, playgrounds, trails, a fishing pier, and picnic spaces.
2. **Camp Chowenwaw** - A 150-acre historic park with trails, cabins, camping, fishing, canoeing, a pool, and a Girl Scout legacy.
3. **Walnut Street** - Walnut Street offers boutique shops, art classes, comic collectibles, a wine bar, and sweet treats.

## Fleming Island ■

1. **Black Creek Park and Trail** - A 15-acre site with trails, a 2-mile mountain bike course, paved parking, a pavilion, and restrooms.
2. **Whitey's Fish Camp** - Whitey's Fish Camp features waterfront dining, live music, and classic fried fare in a scenic outdoor setting.
3. **Top of the Tee** - Top of the Tee blends cutting-edge golf tech, great dining, a full bar, and a fun, welcoming atmosphere.

## Oakleaf ♥

1. **Eagle Landing Golf** - Eagle Landing offers a scenic golf course, six tee options, and a clubhouse with indoor and outdoor dining.
2. **PJ's Coffee** - PJ's Coffee serves specialty Arabica beans, cold-brewed iced coffee, organic teas, and freshly baked pastries.
3. **Akaya** - Akaya Grill and Sushi Bar features flavorful sushi, a full bar, and chefs creating masterpieces at the sushi bar.

## Middleburg ◆

1. **Jennings State Forest** - Jennings State Forest has diverse ecosystems, wildlife, scenic ravines, and opportunities for outdoor recreation.
2. **Middleburg Main Street Boat Ramp** - This boat ramp includes fishing piers, parking, restrooms, a pavilion, a playground, and boardwalks.
3. **Outdoor Adventure Park** - A 158-acre park with a 200-yard gun range featuring 45 shooting bays and steel targets for various firearms.

## Keystone Heights ▲

1. **Keystone Beach** - Keystone Beach Park offers a playground, picnic tables, a pavilion, a volleyball court, and views of Lake Geneva.
2. **Camp Blanding** - Camp Blanding Museum displays WWII artifacts and monuments honoring soldiers, Medal of Honor recipients, and POWs.
3. **Gold Head Branch State Park** - Gold Head State Park features trails, ravines, lakes, camping, picnicking, and historic built cabins.

Are you ready to **EXPLORE** the neighborhoods of Clay County?

EXPLORECLAY.COM

📷 ExploreClay 📍 ClayCityTourism

Tag Your Adventure #ExploreClay



# New in CLAY COUNTY



Walnut Street

In 2025, residents and visitors of Clay County can celebrate with the opening of a new hotel, new shopping destinations and new experiences where families can experience a getaway with local flavor and plenty of fun too.

Here's a look at what's already on tap for Clay County in the new year of 2025:

## ACCOMMODATIONS

### TownePlace Suites by Marriott

Paradigm Development Partners, LLC has broken ground for the upcoming TownePlace Suites by Marriott Middleburg. This contemporary, extended-stay hotel will be located at the Clay Town Center, a new mixed-use development at the southwest corner of Branan Field Road and Old Jennings Road.

Anticipated to open in late 2025, the property will be home to 124 rooms and suites with full kitchens, situated across five floors. Guests can also enjoy a state-of-the-art fitness center, an outdoor pool and pool deck. The hotel will also offer a complimentary daily hot breakfast and an in-house market stocked with ingredients and snacks available for purchase.

### The W River Retreat

For those in need of more room traveling with a small group or family members, The W River Retreat in Green Cove Springs is available as a vacation rental. With five bedrooms, three baths and room to sleep twelve, the property overlooks the stunning St. Johns River. The property's kitchen has all stainless steel appliances and an assortment of cookware and every bedroom has Smart TV's with Amazon Prime Included. Nearby wedding venues and events in Green Cove Springs make this a popular destination for overnight stays in 2025.

## EVENTS COMING TO REPARATION EARTH

Reparation Earth Farms, an aquaponics farm, located just south of Green Cove Springs now hosts engaging agritourism events and doubles as a scenic venue for private gatherings. Past highlights include Infused Elegance: Mastering Food and Mocktails with Olive Oil and Balsamics and Goat + Yoga + Brunch at the Farm, offering guests unique, memorable experiences. For 2025,

### PJ's Coffee Shop



the farm is planning an Intro to Aquaponics class and other events designed to immerse visitors in sustainable agriculture and nature. Surrounded by serene landscapes, Reparation Earth Farms offers a perfect setting for learning, celebrating, and creating memories that last a lifetime.

## RENOVATED WALNUT STREET REOPENS IN GREEN COVE SPRINGS

After a six-month closure due to the construction and reimagining of Walnut Street in Green Cove Springs, local merchants are excited for the re-opening of one of the city's most popular streets for shopping, nightlife and dining.

Work done on the street during the closure included existing street bricks removed, cleaned and repaired before being placed back onto the street. Other enhancements included new, wider sidewalks for visitors, new landscaping, more street parking and additional lighting along the street with newly, installed light posts.

## NEW BUSINESSES IN CLAY COUNTY

### 7Brew

Nationally-known 7Brew, a drive-thru coffee shop, has plans to expand into the Middleburg community in 2025. Coffee fans can enjoy iced, hot or chilled beverages along with handcrafted

espresso drinks. Non-coffee lovers – there's something for you too! Enjoy energy drinks, handmade shakes and a variety of smoothies and lemonades.

### Anejo Cocina Mexicana

Set to open in the first quarter of 2025 in the Clay Town Center near the First Coast Expressway, Anejo Cocina Mexicana prepares modern interpretations of classic Mexican dishes along with a lively bar area with unique cocktails.

### Callahan's Irish Bistro

In Orange Park, everyone is Irish at the new Callahan's Irish Bistro. This family-owned and operated restaurant is run by generations of the Callahan family that came to the United States from Count Cork in Ireland. Today, the family is proud to serve their grandparent's classic Irish dishes & drinks to the residents of Clay County.

### Chef X

Popular Green Cove Springs restaurant, Chef X, anticipates moving to a new location – the historical Gustafson House at 515 Walnut Street. With exposed brick and a pedestrian-friendly location, the home was built in 1896. Once repairs to the home are complete, Chef X will once again serve their American-style food known for dishes with a bit of Chicago flair. Stayed tuned

to the Chef X Facebook page for updates on construction and news of an opening date coming in 2025.

### Kairos Jax

Kairos Jax is also set to open at the Clay Town Center during the first quarter of 2025. Known for their healthy menu featuring smoothies, juices, coffees and teas, they also serve a variety of breakfast items and have a large selection of items for lunch.

### PJ's Coffee New Orleans

PJ's Coffee of New Orleans has officially opened in the Oakleaf area, offering a welcoming atmosphere and a menu packed with delicious options. Guests can enjoy hot breakfast sandwiches, pastries, on-the-go lunch items, and a variety of signature coffees. Don't miss their famous beignets, perfectly dusted with confectioners' sugar. Visit PJ's Coffee in Oakleaf today and experience a taste of New Orleans right here in Clay County!

### Randevou Caribbean Bar & Grill

The new Randevou Caribbean Bar & Grill is now open for guests at 14 Blanding Blvd. in Orange Park. Featuring a menu of classic Caribbean dishes like Griot served with plantains and rice along with Caribbean goat stew and oxtail stew, those that love the islands cuisine will feel at home here. Nighttime events at the bar and grill include live DJs, sip and paint nights and karaoke nights.



Callahan's Irish Bistro

# Explore Clay

## MOBILE APP



**T**o start creating your own adventures in Clay County, download the Explore Clay app! The mobile app allows residents and visitors to discover places to stay, explore attractions, browse a listing of local restaurants, and access a searchable calendar of events.

### App Highlights

- View upcoming events near you
- Discover activities and attractions that match your interests
- Create a custom trip by adding events and places to your itinerary
- Experience self-guided tours and learn about local culture
- Share events, places and your itinerary with friends and family

### Download Now

The Explore Clay mobile app is available for both iOS & Android devices. Just search 'Explore Clay' in your Google Play or App Store on your device.



# Patriots PASSPORT

## Exclusive Deals from Local Clay County Businesses for Veterans and Active Duty Military

**T**he Patriots Passport is a unique resource created to honor and support the local military community by providing active-duty members and veterans with exclusive discounts, deals, and experiences in Clay County. This free resource connects military families with a variety of local businesses, historical sites, and recreational venues, offering special rates at popular restaurants, coffee shops, retail locations, and landmarks. More than just a collection of promotions, the Patriots Passport serves as a meaningful gesture of gratitude from the community, helping military families explore Clay County, discover new favorites, and enjoy perks tailored just for them.

### LOCAL MILITARY HISTORY

Clay County's commitment to its military community is rooted in a rich history. Local resident Mary Helen Hoff played a pivotal role in national military remembrance by inspiring the creation of the POW/MIA flag after her husband was declared missing in Vietnam. This symbol, now recognized nationwide, is a testament to the strength and resilience of military families and underscores the community's dedication to honoring service members.

### WHAT THE PATRIOTS PASSPORT OFFERS

*Here's a glimpse into the variety of deals and promotions available with the Patriots Passport:*

★ **Dining Discounts:** Military members can enjoy deals at local favorites like Urban Bean Coffee Shop and Luca's Italian Restaurant, where they can unwind, savor great food, and connect with the community.



★ **Retail Perks:** Unique shops like Artsy Abode offer discounts on their distinctive products, allowing veterans and active-duty personnel to shop local and explore handcrafted items and gifts.

★ **Recreation & Activities:** For those who enjoy an active lifestyle, Eagle Landing Golf Club and Eagle Harbor Golf Club both provide opportunities to enjoy discounted days on the greens, perfect for a relaxing weekend or a quick weekday break.

### HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL EXPERIENCES

*For those interested in history and military heritage, the Patriots Passport promotes access to two important local sites:*

★ **Camp Blanding Military Museum & Memorial Park:** Known for its exhibits on Camp Blanding's significant role in World War II, this museum offers a range of artifacts, including weapons collections and military memorabilia. Memorial Park, located on-site, honors nine Army infantry divisions and features tributes to Medal of Honor recipients, Purple Heart recipients, and former POWs.

★ **The Military Museum of North Florida:** This museum provides a closer look at military history through an impressive collection of artifacts and military vehicles, making it a must-see for history enthusiasts and veterans alike.

### HOW TO GET STARTED WITH THE PATRIOTS PASSPORT

The Patriots Passport is a free resource, open to all active military members and veterans. To start enjoying these exclusive deals and experiences, visit the official website to explore the full list of participating businesses and attractions.

## Middleburg Power Equipment Inc.

2815 Blanding Blvd., Middleburg, Florida



**Husqvarna  
Authorized  
Dealer**

**FINANCING  
AVAILABLE**



**Husqvarna**



**Pickup & Delivery Available • Sales • Service  
• Repairs • Chainsaws • Trimmers**

**[middleburgpowerequipment.com](http://middleburgpowerequipment.com)**

**904-291-1100**



## Don't let sore joints lose you points

Whether being in the game means dominating the pickle ball court, playing with grandkids or working in your garden, Baptist Orthopedics can help you stay active.

We offer easy access, with same and next-day appointments and a convenient afternoon walk-in clinic.

Baptist Orthopedics provides personalized care to restore function, alleviate pain or mobility issues and enhance your quality of life.

Treatment options range from conservative management with physical therapy, bracing, injections and medication to advanced surgical interventions when necessary.

In addition to traditional non-surgical treatment options, we also offer innovative ortho-biologic treatments, like platelet-rich plasma (PRP).

When non-surgical options fall short, we provide advanced surgical techniques, including minimally invasive procedures and partial and full joint replacements.

After surgery, our dedicated team guides you through a rehabilitation plan that fits your lifestyle, helping you regain strength, mobility and confidence at your own pace.

Call **904.516.1950**, visit **BaptistJax.com/Ortho** or scan the QR code to learn more.



1747 Baptist Clay Dr., Ste. 200  
Fleming Island, FL 32003

# the ultimate golf experience

FLEMING ISLAND GOLF CLUB



- VOTED #1 GOLF COURSE
- TOPTRACER RANGE
- AUTHENTIC IRISH PUB
- LIVE MUSIC
- DAILY SPECIALS
- BEST OF CLAY 2023



LEARN MORE

2260 TOWN CENTER BLVD, FLEMING ISLAND, FL 32003  
WWW.FLEMINGISLANDGOLFCLUB.COM (904) 269-1440







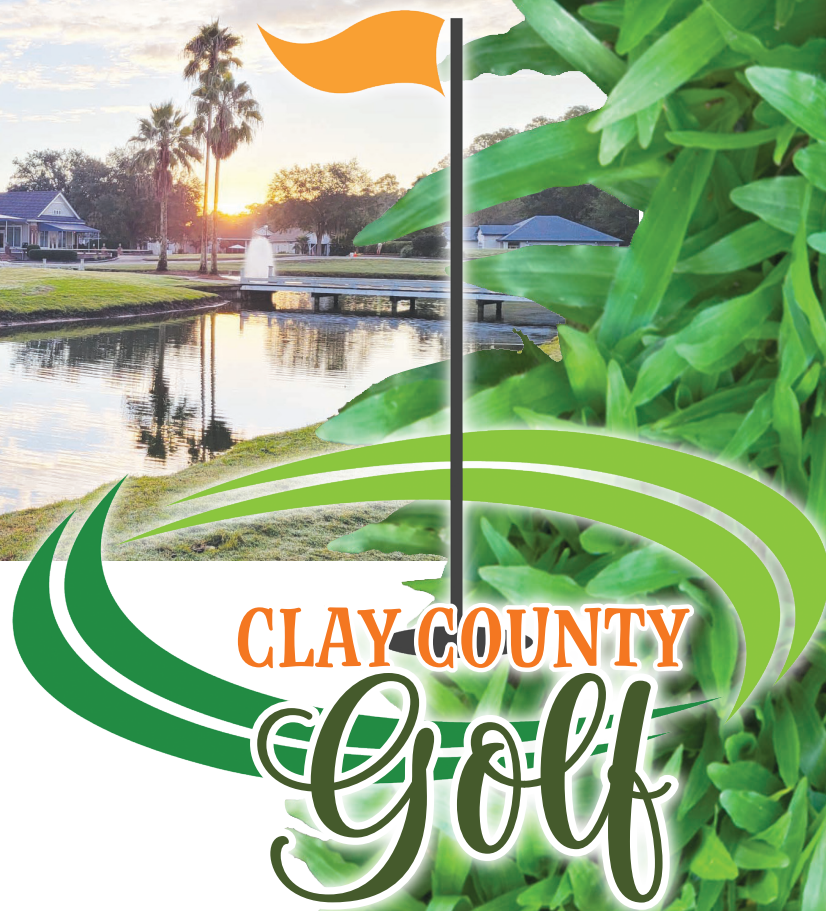
**Eagle Harbor Golf Course**

**F**rom seasoned professionals to newbies on the course, Clay County, Florida welcomes golfers of all levels to play their best on one of our four local courses. From the practice greens to courses rich in wildlife and nature, get ready to test your skills where golf is a year-round sport filled with sunshine.

### **EAGLE HARBOR GOLF CLUB**

Best known for their island practice green, the Eagle Harbor Golf Course in Fleming Island features an 18-hole course surrounding the Eagle Harbor community of homes. Designed by award-winning course architect Clyde B. Johnston, golfers can enjoy rolling Bermuda grass fairways with plenty of water hazards to make the course a bit more challenging.

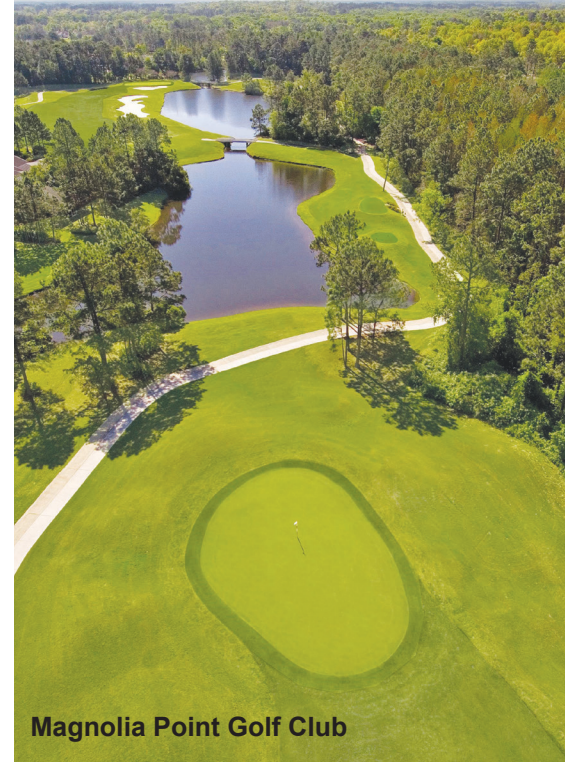
After your round, stop in to talk about your play over a bite to eat or drink at Talons Restaurant. Overlooking the island green, this is a hot spot for local beers and a menu perfect for kids and adults with entrees such as the fresh catch sandwich of the day and the popular pimento grilled cheese sandwich.



**Eagle Landing Golf Course**



## Fleming Island Golf Club



**Magnolia Point Golf Club**

### EAGLE LANDING GOLF CLUB

In Clay County's Oakleaf neighborhood, Eagle Landing Golf Course features a 7,037 yard, par 72 course surrounded with Southern pine and palmetto trees. With six tees, ranging from juniors to championship, this course progresses in difficulty as the game reaches its way to the 18th green. Also designed by golf architect Clyde B. Johnston, Eagle Landing is said to offer a vintage feel with classically designed holes along the course. If you're interested in stepping up your game on the course, Eagle Landing golf professionals are available for private lessons for both adults and juniors.

For a bite to eat with great views of the course, stop in at The Landing Bar & Grill. This family-friendly spot offers breakfast, lunch and dinner daily with entrees ranging from wings, flatbreads, burgers, sandwiches along with a full bar.

### FLEMING ISLAND GOLF CLUB

Designed by local architect Bobby Weed, the Fleming Island Golf Course comes in at 6,700 yards with a par of 71. Surrounded by water and carefully-placed sand bunkers, the front nine challenges golfers to play their best game while the back nine features a quiet course among the trees

and wildlife.

Unique to Fleming Island Golf Club is the Top of the Tee – home to ten covered hitting bays equipped with Toptracer Technology. Each bay has its own seating area, paired with a nearby bar and televisions making this venue perfect for groups. Golfers can choose from different games including closest to the pin, longest drive competitions, points games and more. Top of the Tee is also available for practice sessions before moving over to the main course. The lighted driving range also allows for players to practice even after the sun goes down.

The club's Hibernia Pub overlooks the 10th tee and offers a full menu, including Irish cuisine and a full bar. Stop in for a bite to eat and stay for nighttime fun with live music featured throughout the week by local musicians.

### MAGNOLIA POINT GOLF CLUB

In Green Cove Springs, golfers can test their skills at the Magnolia Point Golf Club among the pine and magnolia trees. Set within a 1,000 acre community, wildlife is frequently seen on the course making it a unique playing field for golfers. Designed by Mark McCumber and Mike Beebe in 1986, this 6,796 yard course features Bermuda grass and no parallel fairways.


Magnolia Point Golf Club is also home to The Golf Academy of North Florida, under the instruction of Dale Claussen, PGA. The academy has produced numerous collegiate players along with their thriving juniors program. With use of V1 Coaching Software, players can take advantage of video analysis during lessons and practice under covered and shaded hitting areas.

Get Ready for Golf in Northeast Florida For those interested in creating an entire getaway of golf all into one package, contact the team at Florida's First Coast of Golf. As partners with the Clay County Tourism board, they have access to tee times, golf academies and more – helping plan the golf vacation you have dreamed of – all in Northeast Florida.

Whether you are a beginner or a more seasoned golfer, our courses are ready to challenge you to reach your best score on the course. Plan your visit to Clay County, Florida and explore our small towns filled with big passions... and great golf courses too.

**Which golf course would you like to play in Clay County?**

**ART FOR EYES OPTICAL**  
*Art For Eyes in Middleburg Serving Clay County since 2007!*  
*Come SEE the difference!*



**Better Vision, Quality & Service | We accept most vision plans**

**(904) 644 - 8873 | www.ArtForEyesOptical.com**  
**2561 County Road 220, Ste 308 Middleburg, FL 32068**

**Hill AUTOMOTIVE Inc.**

*Full Service Repair*

**904.269.6777**

**Jeff Hill**  
*Family Owned and Operated Since 1992*

**234A Industrial Loop • Orange Park, FL 32073 • Fax: 904.269.4242**



*Magnolia*  
P O I N T

# THE MOST UNIQUE COURSE IN NORTH FLORIDA



More Than Golf—  
A Lifestyle  
Destination,  
Open to the  
Public!

**MAGNOLIA POINT**

3670 Clubhouse Dr.

Green Cove Springs, Fl

(904) 269-9276 | [MAGNOLIAPOINTGOLFCLUB.COM](http://MAGNOLIAPOINTGOLFCLUB.COM)

# Local SHOP • EAT • PLAY

**O**ur local shops are filled with treasures you won't find in big box stores! From cozy boutiques to rustic antique shops and more, discover some great places to shop, dine, and play in Clay County.

## WHY SUPPORTING LOCAL BUSINESSES MATTERS

When you shop locally, your dollars stay right here in Clay County, helping to create new jobs and opportunities. Not only does this boost the economy, but it also shapes our community's identity.

By choosing small businesses over national chains, you're helping create a unique Clay County experience that draws visitors from near and far, benefiting both residents and tourists alike. Each mom-and-pop shop reflects the passion and creativity of its owners, creating spaces that make this a welcoming and vibrant community.

## EXPLORE CLAY COUNTY'S SHOPPING DESTINATIONS

**Green Cove Springs:** Walnut Street Charm  
Nestled in the heart of Green Cove Springs, Walnut Street is a charming shopping destination for those seeking local treasures and creative experiences. This vibrant street is lined with small businesses

offering everything from unique finds to creative classes.

5th and Paisley provides farmhouse-inspired clothing, while Cowabunga Comics and Art Gallery is perfect for comic book lovers and art enthusiasts alike. For those feeling creative, The Art Room offers classes in painting, pottery, and even embroidery, allowing visitors to get hands-on with local art.

After shopping and creating, Red's Wine Bar is a relaxing stop for a glass of wine or beer paired with light bites, making for a delightful end to your day.

## ORANGE PARK MALL

The Orange Park Mall has been a cornerstone of Clay County for decades, bringing together familiar stores with locally-owned boutiques and fun activities. In addition to larger stores, the mall features some fantastic small businesses. The mall also hosts family-friendly events and free kids' activities throughout the year, making it a great place for families to spend the day together.

Dining options range from Thai and Mediterranean cuisine to ice cream treats, so everyone can enjoy a meal they love. Head over to Two Sisters and a Deviled Crab for a satisfying



# Julie Dayton

**MORTGAGE TEAM**  
**904-334-9944**

**28+ years providing  
home financing in Florida**

**\*VA \*USDA \*FHA \*Conventional**

**\*Manufactured Homes**

**\* Down Payment Assistance \*Self-Employed**

**\* Bank Statement (and many more options)**

NMLS 854032/392021





Orange Park Mall



Two Sisters and a Deviled Crab

meal. Known for their rich-tasting seafood, their signature deviled crab, influenced by Cuban flavors, is a must-try. If you're craving something beyond seafood, you'll find options like the crispy fried salmon sandwich, lobster mac and cheese balls, and a classic Tampa-style Cuban sandwich.

For a sweet treat, stop by Swirl Suites Rolled Ice Cream, where indulgence meets creativity. Their rolled ice cream is made to order using premium ingredients, offering a fun and engaging experience as you watch your personalized dessert take shape.

### TREASURES IN KEYSTONE HEIGHTS

Keystone Heights is home to a delightful array of places perfect for fans of rustic décor, teas, and seafood dishes. Handspun Chic Boutique is well-known for handmade home décor items, while This & That Treasures is filled with a wide selection of clothing, antiques, and charming knick-knacks. If you're interested in repurposed and upcycled furniture, The Rustic Gypsy has beautifully crafted pieces that bring rustic character to any home.

A visit to the Tea Room is the perfect way to slow down and enjoy a leisurely afternoon.

This cozy teahouse serves an array of fragrant teas alongside fresh scones, delicious sandwiches, and pastries. The inviting atmosphere makes it a perfect place to relax and indulge in a classic tea-time experience.

For a heartier meal, head to Cedar River Seafood, a beloved family-run establishment that has been serving the community since 1973. Known for its seafood, steaks, and pasta dishes, Cedar River offers a menu that satisfies all appetites.

### SHOPPING FLEMING ISLAND

Fleming Island combines boutique shopping with fun activities, making it an excellent shopping destination with something for everyone.

Rustic Rose and BoldSoul Boutique are favorites for stylish apparel and accessories, each providing fashionable items with a local twist. Antique hunters can explore Junque in the Trunk for unique furniture pieces, while MoonBabies Children's Resale offers gently used children's clothing at great prices.

### LOCAL EATS IN MIDDLEBURG

Middleburg has a fantastic blend of great shopping and tasty eats. For those craving some delicious, down-home cooking, 4 Trees Smokehouse is a must-visit. This family-owned BBQ joint has been serving up mouthwatering smoked meats since 2014, and their stumps, pulled pork, and ribs are favorites among the regulars. The casual atmosphere is perfect for enjoying a hearty meal with sides like baked beans, mac and cheese, and banana pudding.

When it's time to shop, Now & Then Antique Mall is a great place to visit. This well-organized antique store offers a curated selection of vintage furniture, jewelry, and collectibles, all displayed in a welcoming atmosphere. It's an ideal stop for anyone looking for a unique treasure or a special gift, with something new to discover around every corner.

After you've worked up an appetite from shopping, YUM - A Southern Market is the perfect spot to indulge in some sweet treats. This delightful bakery specializes in decadent desserts like cupcakes, pies, éclairs, and macarons. But that's not all – you'll also find a selection of charming gifts like jewelry and candles, making it



## LAKE AREA TITLE SERVICES, INC.

*Full Service Land Title Company*

[www.latsikh.com](http://www.latsikh.com)

**Sandra Darley, Owner/Title Agent**

**Keystone Heights: 7404 State Road 21 • 352-473-9009**

**Lake Butler: 25 E. Main Street • 386-496-8238**

**[sandra.latsikh@gmail.com](mailto:sandra.latsikh@gmail.com)**



The Tea Room of Keystone Heights



The Landing Bar and Grill



Present Tense Coffee & Books

a wonderful place to pick up a thoughtful souvenir while satisfying your sweet tooth.

### OAKLEAF TASTY TREATS & GOLF

Oakleaf is a vibrant community where locals and visitors alike can enjoy delicious food and great golfing. For coffee lovers, PJ's Coffee is an excellent place to visit. This New Orleans-inspired café serves up rich, high-quality arabica coffee beans sourced from around the globe. While there, make sure to enjoy a fresh, warm beignet!

If you're in the mood for some outdoor fun, Eagle Landing Golf Club offers one of the best golfing experiences in Clay County. With a stunning course that spans over 7,000 yards, it's a fantastic place for golf enthusiasts of all skill levels. After a round, unwind at the golf

clubhouse's sports bar, complete with TVs, a full food and beverage menu, and a fully-stocked pro shop. For those with a sweet tooth, Tough Guys Cookies is a local gem. This bakery specializes in fresh-baked cookies, ice cream sandwiches, and milkshakes, perfect for a fun treat with friends or family.

### COZY SPOTS IN LAKE ASBURY & PENNEY FARMS

The communities of Lake Asbury and Penney Farms offer a welcoming atmosphere where shopping and dining come together in perfect harmony. Emangeo's Brick Oven Pizza is a awesome spot for pizza lovers. This local favorite serves more than just classic brick oven pizza – you'll find a variety of delicious options

like calzones, stromboli, wings, fresh salads, and dessert. For a relaxed experience, Present Tense Coffee and Books offers a cozy retreat for book lovers and coffee aficionados alike. Located in the heart of Lake Asbury, this locally owned coffee shop doubles as a second-hand bookstore, where visitors can sip on craft coffees, teas, or frappes while browsing through a great selection of books. The kids will love the dedicated children's area, filled with educational toys, games, and books to explore.

Sweet Hydrangea Boutique & Makers Market provides a one-of-a-kind shopping experience, blending a stylish women's boutique with a unique artisan market. Here, you can find handmade soaps, refurbished furniture, and distinctive home décor, making it a great place to shop for gifts or add a personal touch to your home.



**Broadus  
Raines**  
Funeral Home



- Family Owned and Operated
- Prepaid Cremation and Funeral Plans
- We Serve Veterans (Jacksonville National Cemetery)
- Cemetery Monument and Marker Design
- We Own and Operate our own Crematory

**501 Spring St. • Green Cove Springs**  
**(904) 284-4000 • www.broadusraines.com**



**Supporting Local Year-Round: More Ways to Help**  
Supporting local businesses on Shop Small Saturday is wonderful, but these businesses thrive with your support year-round!

**Here are a few easy ways to show your appreciation for local entrepreneurs all year long:**

- **Follow Local Businesses on Social Media:** By liking and sharing posts from local businesses, you help spread the word to others who may also want to support them.
- **Leave Positive Reviews:** Online reviews on sites like Google, Yelp, and Facebook are a huge help to small businesses. Just a few kind words can encourage others to visit.
- **Share Recommendations:** Word of mouth is powerful. Tell friends and family about your favorite Clay spots, or bring them along for a shopping trip!

**Shopping local is about more than just supporting business—it's about keeping the heart of Clay County vibrant and one-of-a-kind! So, take a day to explore, support local, and celebrate everything that makes this area an incredible place to live and visit.**

# ANEMOIA

MERCANTILE



Uniquely Curated • Vintage-Inspired • Locally Owned

*Stationery + Creative Arts + Gifts + Decor*

868 Blanding Boulevard | Suite 116  
shopanemoia.com | @shopanemoia





Keystone Beach

**W**ith warmer temperatures, plenty of sunshine, and the thrill of outdoor adventures, families are gearing up for a season of fun. Looking for inspiration? Here are some adventurous ways to ‘Stay in Clay’ for Spring Break!

### OUTDOOR EXPERIENCES

Test your skills at wakeboarding on or skiing on Black Creek or bring your fishing gear and try to catch your own dinner. With 39 square miles of waterways in the area, there’s no better way to explore than on the water.

For more exercise, hop on your bike for a ride along the 4.4 mile Doctors Lake Trail on Doctors Lake Road or travel the State Road 21 Bike Path, a paved 5.5 mile path in Keystone Heights.

In Fleming Island, stop by Moccasin Slough Park for a jog or bike ride on their paved trails and stop along the way at the permanent exercise stations located along the route. Kids can enjoy the park’s large playground and the covered patio area is perfect for a picnic lunch.

At Gold Head Branch State Park in Keystone Heights, cool off with a swim in Little Lake Johnson and enjoy a picnic at the nearby covered pavilions. Afterwards, explore the park’s trails and the 5.44-mile stretch of the Florida National Scenic Trail. Keep an eye out for wildlife along the way too. For the adventurous, bring your camping supplies and sleep under the stars as the park offers 73 campsites ready to accommodate tents, trailers and motorized campers.

### INDOOR ADVENTURES

In Green Cove Springs, stop by Cowabunga Comics and check out the latest releases and the classics too when you peruse their massive bins of comic books. Don’t miss the dollar bin, where you’re sure to find treasures on each visit. Admire collectibles and artwork by local artists on display and available for purchase too! Be sure to sign up for their newsletter to learn about upcoming store events and artist meet and greet opportunities.

At the Get Air Trampoline Park in Orange Park, you can try your best gymnastics moves as you dive into the oversized foam pit and play a game of trampoline dodge ball with friends. Jumping comes in handy to show off your dunking skills with the basketball hoops, too. With

*Relax...  
we've  
got this!*

Leave your  
furry friends  
and leafy  
loved ones in  
the comfort  
of your home

**Pet & Plant Care** and other fun stuff!

Call Eugenia Cummings, LMT • (904) 414-1831 [eugenialmt@gmail.com](mailto:eugenialmt@gmail.com)



thousands of square feet of trampolines, you can jump, bounce and flip for hours of fun.

## WHERE TO FIND GOOD EATS IN CLAY COUNTY

For the early risers, Grumpy's Restaurant in Orange Park serves up a great, filling breakfast ranging from waffles, pancakes with bacon and eggs and plenty of coffee and fresh squeezed juice. This full-service, Southern-style restaurant will fill you up with a hearty meal and have you ready for a day of adventure. Be sure to check out their chalkboard for daily specials.

If you are in the mood for waterfront dining, stop in at the legendary Whitey's Fish Camp. A local favorite since 1963, here you can enjoy fresh seafood, live music and feel like you are truly on vacation. Set along Swimming Pen Creek, you can even arrive by boat!

Cool off with a tasty treat at



Maggie D's Ice Cream Parlor. Choose from 30 different flavors of hand scooped ice cream or try their soft serve ice cream in a waffle cone. For an extra treat, Maggie makes fresh miniature donuts in numerous flavors and toppings. Have them for breakfast or a late-night snack – either way, you'll find them delicious.

## PLACES TO STAY IN CLAY COUNTY

Treat yourself to an overnight stay and enjoy the pool at the Courtyard by Marriott Jacksonville Orange Park, Hilton Garden Inn Orange Park and the Holiday Inn & Suites Orange Park - Wells Rd. with affordable rates and close to restaurants, shopping and more.

The nearby Days Inn by Wyndham Orange Park/Jacksonville, the Fairfield Inn & Suites by Marriott Jacksonville Orange Park and the Holiday Inn Express & Suites Fleming Island offer easy access to Interstate 295 and connecting roadways.

## TRAVELING BY RV OR INTERESTING CAMPING?

Explore the possibilities at Camp Blanding Recreation – James E. Johnson Memorial RV Park, Camp Chowenwaw, Goldhead State Park and Whitey's Fish Camp.

*For more ideas on planning your Spring Break in Clay County, visit [www.ExploreClay.com](http://www.ExploreClay.com). Who knows, you might even discover 'new to you' restaurants, attractions and outdoor adventures right in your own backyard.*

## Make Your Move TO CLAY COUNTY

More business owners are choosing Clay County for its business, educational, and lifestyle advantages:

- Real estate & labor cost savings
- NE Florida's most educated employees
- Efficient pro-business government
- Intermodal logistical advantages
- Relaxed quality of life
- Top rated schools



• VISIT [CHOOSECLAY.COM](http://CHOOSECLAY.COM) •

LEARN MORE ABOUT COMPLIMENTARY FULL-SERVICE RELOCATION ASSISTANCE!



**Allstate** You're in good hands



**Felisha Foote, Agent**  
904-406-6512  
[FelishaFoote@allstate.com](mailto:FelishaFoote@allstate.com)

**2640 Blanding Blvd. Suite 206**  
**Middleburg, Florida 32068**

**Home • Auto • Boat • Motorcycle • Life**

# CLAY COUNTY'S



Photo Courtesy of Spotlight Center

## Vibrant Art & Culture

Clay County is a cultural gem filled with thriving art spaces, inspiring local artists, and dynamic annual events. From galleries and art fairs to vibrant community theaters, the art and culture scene is as diverse and welcoming as its community!

Clay County's rich artistic history is also highlighted by one of its most iconic figures—Augusta Savage, a pioneering sculptor born in Green Cove Springs in 1892. Savage's journey from Clay County to becoming a renowned artist during the Harlem Renaissance is a testament to her talent and influence. Among her best-known

works is *The Harp*, created for the 1939 New York World's Fair, which remains a celebrated symbol of African American cultural heritage.

Her journey from Clay County to a pioneering figure in the art world is an inspiring story for both residents and visitors. Her legacy is celebrated in Green Cove Springs, where the Augusta Savage Arts and Community Center honors her contributions through a multipurpose space for after-school activities. The center also features a land marker that commemorates Savage's lasting impact on both the local community and the art world.

### EXPLORE CLAY COUNTY'S ART GALLERIES

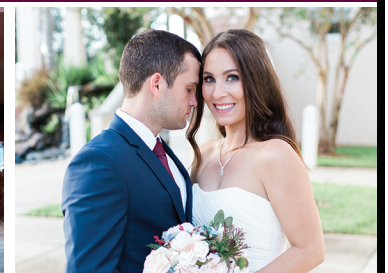
#### Thrasher-Horne Center (Orange Park)

The Thrasher-Horne Center stands as a leading cultural arts facility, offering not one but two distinct art galleries. The first gallery celebrates Florida's local talent, showcasing artists across various mediums. The second gallery focuses on professional photography. Whether you're passionate about fine art or intrigued by compelling photography, this spot is a must-see for art lovers.



THRASHER-HORNE  
CENTER

## CLAY COUNTY'S PREMIER EVENT CENTER



*Live Entertainment with the best  
concerts, tributes, and shows in town.*

*Main Stage Theater, Studio Theater, and  
Over 6200 sq. ft. of rental space for  
recitals, meetings, weddings, expos, and more.*

Call us today to book your next event!

904-276-6815  
THcenter.org

**Art in the Courthouse  
(Green Cove Springs)**

Art in the Courthouse is a unique community outreach program in Green Cove Springs that transforms the Clay County Courthouse into a welcoming cultural space. Developed in partnership with local art groups, schools, county, and civic organizations, the program provides a rotating showcase of artwork from notable community contributors. Exhibitions are displayed on the 4th floor of the courthouse, with collections curated by the invited group or school. With artwork rotating every one to three months, this initiative not only highlights local talent but also fosters a more inviting environment for courthouse visitors.

**ATTEND AN ANNUAL ART EVENT  
Penney Farm’s Annual Arts & Crafts Fair  
(Penney Farms)**

If you’re looking to experience a community-focused celebration of craftsmanship, the Penney Farms Annual Arts & Crafts Fair in the Penney Retirement Community is the place to be. This fair is a beloved tradition, spotlighting the talent of local artisans. Expect a wide range of items, from intricate handmade quilts and custom wood furniture to elegant jewelry and charming home décor. Look out for dates in December.

**DIVERSE LOCAL ART SPACES AND CREATIVE VENUES**

**Creative Craft Lounge – Orange Park**

Whether you’re an amateur or a seasoned artist, the Creative Craft Lounge in Orange Park offers something for every visitor. This welcoming space hosts classes and workshops across a wide range of crafts, including painting, sewing, knitting, crocheting, and resin art. It’s a place where community members can explore their creative side, meet like-minded individuals, and try their hand at new art forms.

**The Art Room – Green Cove Springs**

The Art Room offers hands-on art experiences for a variety of age groups. This lively space provides classes in drawing, sewing, clay work, and more. Weekly workshops allow artists to learn new skills or hone existing talents, making it ideal for anyone wanting a personal, interactive approach to art.

One of the artists that teaches workshops is contemporary artist, Sophie Dare. Based in Orange Park, Dare captures the essence of Florida’s natural beauty in her detailed oil paintings. Her work often features serene landscapes, local wildlife, and scenes from everyday life.

**Orange Park Community Theatre – Orange Park  
The Island Theatre & The Spotlight Center – Fleming Island**

For fans of live performances, Clay County’s local theaters bring stories to life on the stage. The Orange Park Community Theatre, The Island Theatre, and The Spotlight Center are all beloved venues that host plays, musicals, and seasonal performances. With productions ranging from classic plays to seasonal favorites, these theaters provide a wonderful way to experience the county’s performing arts scene and support local talent.

**Come see what makes Clay County a vibrant cultural destination—you might just leave with your own handmade masterpiece!**



**WIGGINS GROUP**

Northeast Florida’s Best Local Builder



**CONSTRUCTION**

- Residential
- Commercial
- Industrial



**RENTALS**

- Townhomes
- Single-Family Homes
- Condos/Apartments
- Office Space



**INVESTMENTS**

- Real Estate
- Development Projects
- Joint Ventures

904-214-7999

WigginsGroup.net



# Inspiring CLAY WOMEN

Clay County is home to a rich history shaped by extraordinary women whose stories resonate across time. Women like Augusta Savage, Anna Kingsley, Margaret Fleming, and Cynthia Haymon have left lasting marks on the region through their art, resilience, leadership, and influence. This article dives into their stories, providing a fuller picture of their lives and the challenges they overcame to build their legacies.

## AUGUSTA SAVAGE

### A Harlem Renaissance Artist From Green Cove Springs

Augusta Savage was born in 1892 in Green Cove Springs. She grew up with a passion for art despite the challenges of her modest upbringing as the seventh child of a fourteen-child family. Her talent became clear at an early age when she molded clay she found in her backyard into figures and animals. Encouraged by teachers and the local community, Savage pursued her passion and earned a scholarship to Cooper Union in New York City. There, she excelled, completing a four-year degree in three years.



Augusta Savage

Savage's career blossomed during the Harlem Renaissance, a cultural movement that celebrated African American art and identity. She became known for her sculptures, which captured the humanity and dignity of her subjects.

One of her most celebrated works, *Gamin*, a captivating bust inspired by her nephew, earned her a Julius Rosenwald Fellowship in 1929. This achievement allowed her to study in Paris, where her talent was quickly recognized and her work showcased at the Grand Palais. In 1931, Savage secured another Rosenwald Fellowship, enabling her to extend her stay in Paris. During this time, she also received a Carnegie Foundation grant, which allowed her to travel extensively across France, Belgium, and Germany, gaining inspiration and exposure to European art movements.

Upon returning to New York in 1932, Savage made an indelible impact on the Harlem art scene. She founded the Savage Studio of Arts and Crafts, where she mentored a generation of artists who would go on to shape the Harlem Renaissance and beyond. Her most famous work, *The Harp*, was commissioned for the 1939 New York World's Fair. The piece symbolized hope and resilience but was tragically destroyed after the fair due to a lack



of funds for preservation.

Despite facing systemic racism and financial challenges that hindered the preservation of much of her work, Savage's contributions to art and education remain monumental. Today, her work lives on through pieces like *The Diving Boy* at Jacksonville's Cummer Museum, and her story continues to inspire as a testament to the transformative power of art in challenging times.

## ANNA KINGSLEY

### A Freed Slave and Plantation Overseer

Anna Kingsley's life is a powerful narrative of resilience and complexity. Born Anta Madjiguène Ndiaye in present-day Senegal around 1793, Anna was captured and sold into slavery as a child. At age 13, she was purchased by Zephaniah Kingsley, a slave trader and plantation owner, who made her his wife. They had four children together.

When she turned 18, Zephaniah freed her and gave her responsibilities for maintaining his East Florida plantations. As a free woman, Anna became a skilled and influential overseer of Zephaniah's land. In the 1820s, she managed Laurel Grove, a plantation in the Clay County area, where she oversaw the cultivation of crops. Her expertise in agriculture contributed significantly to the plantation's success.

Anna's life, however, is not without controversy. As a formerly enslaved person who later owned slaves, her story reflects the complexities of agency within a system of oppression. Yet, her ability to navigate this brutal system to secure freedom and prosperity for herself and her children is a remarkable achievement.

When the American Civil War began, Anna and her children aligned themselves with the Union



Anna Kingsley's Great Granddaughter

cause. In 1862, after Union forces took control of Jacksonville, Anna, along with other free Black residents, was evacuated for safety. The following year, she returned to the area to remain near her children. Anna passed away in 1870 at the age of 77. She was buried in Jacksonville, though the exact location of her grave is unknown.

## MARGARET FLEMING

### An Integral Developer of Fleming Island

Margaret Seton Fleming's life is a story of endurance and vision. Married to Lewis Fleming, she settled in Hibernia Plantation during the mid-19th century, a period marked by political and economic turbulence. After Lewis's death during the Civil War, Margaret took on the daunting task of managing the plantation on her own.

Recognizing the potential of the burgeoning tourism industry, Margaret converted Hibernia into a resort, welcoming visitors from across the country. Under her leadership, the plantation became a place of relaxation and rejuvenation, known for its hospitality and scenic beauty.

Margaret's contributions extended outside of tourism. She was instrumental in founding Saint Margaret's Episcopal Church, named in honor of Saint Margaret of Scotland. Sadly, she died just before the building was completed and the first service held was Margaret's funeral service.

Developments within the community continued after her death – her bold dreams were a catalyst in the origins of Fleming Island.

## CYNTHIA HAYMON

### A Gifted Singer From Penney Farms

Cynthia Haymon, a gifted soprano born in Penney Farms, brought international acclaim to Clay County through her exceptional talent and dedication to the music. She began her journey locally, developing a passion for singing that led her to study at Northwestern University.

Haymon's rise to prominence came with her portrayal of Bess in *Porgy and Bess*, a role that showcased her voice and captivating stage presence, ultimately earning a Grammy nomination.

In addition to her performance career, Haymon has devoted herself to education, mentoring young artists, and sharing her expertise with future generations. Her work as a teacher underscores her commitment to fostering musical excellence in future generations.



Cynthia Haymon

The stories of Augusta Savage, Anna Kingsley, Margaret Fleming, and Cynthia Haymon offer a window into the resilience, creativity, and leadership of women who shaped Clay County's story. From the arts to agriculture, from community building to international acclaim, these women remind us of the strength and vision that define Clay County's heritage.



*why not*  
**HAVE FUN & SUPPORT  
A GREAT CAUSE?**

*THE funnest  
tourney in Clay  
County!*



**GOLF TOURNAMENT  
FRIDAY, MAY 9TH  
EAGLE HARBOR GOLF CLUB**



## **HELP. HOUSING. HOPE.**

Providing a Christ-centered approach to meet the needs of people experiencing crisis and housing insecurity through collaborative partnerships and accountability programs.

[mercysupportservices.org](http://mercysupportservices.org)



**SHOWTIMES ON  
AUGUST 23RD & 24TH**



**ALL EVENT PROCEEDS GO TOWARDS TRANSFORMING LIVES AND BUILDING COMMUNITY IN CLAY COUNTY**



*Clay Electric Cooperative, Inc.*

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

*Clay Electric and its wholesale power provider,  
Seminole Electric Cooperative, are dedicated to  
remaining valuable community partners in Clay  
County for many years to come.*

 **Seminole Electric**  
COOPERATIVE, INC. TM

# Outdoors

## CAMP CHOWENWAW



**N**estled along Black Creek and the St. Johns River, Camp Chowenwaw is a captivating destination in Green Cove Springs that blends rich history, outdoor adventure, and a commitment to preserving the natural beauty of Clay County. Once a beloved retreat for the Girl Scouts, this 150-acre park is now open to the public, offering activities for all ages and interests. Whether you're seeking a weekend getaway, an educational day trip, or simply a peaceful place to reconnect with nature, Camp Chowenwaw has something for everyone.

### HISTORY OF CAMP CHOWENWAW

Established in 1933 by the Girl Scouts of Duval County, Camp Chowenwaw served as a fantastic summer retreat for generations of young girls. Its name comes from the Creek word for "sister," reflecting the spirit of community and camaraderie that defined its early years. After 70 years of operation, Clay County purchased the property in 2006, with the assistance from Florida Communities Trust to conserve its natural communities, preserving its legacy, and providing outdoor recreation to the general public. Today, visitors can

explore its historical roots through exhibits and landmarks that tell the story of the camp's rich past.

### THINGS TO DO AT CAMP CHOWENWAW

From tranquil hikes to immersive educational experiences, Camp Chowenwaw offers a variety of activities that cater to outdoor enthusiasts, history buffs, and families alike. If you're looking for a day of exploration or a weekend of adventure, the park provides countless opportunities to immerse yourself in nature, learn about local history, and create lasting memories.

### OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

Nature enthusiasts will find plenty to enjoy at Camp Chowenwaw. The park features a network of trails perfect for hiking, including the Tree House Boardwalk Trail leading to Treehouse Point and the Hickory Trail winding through over a mile of wooded paths and natural terrain. There's also the Jungle Trail, a boardwalk trail that goes to the fishing pier along Black Creek, which is a popular local fishing spot.

### FAQS

#### What is the best time of year to visit?

Camp Chowenwaw is enjoyable year-round, but the cooler months from October through April are ideal for camping and outdoor activities.

#### Are there entry fees?

No, entry to the park is free. However, there are fees for accommodations and pool access.

#### How do I book a campsite?

Reservations can be made online or by contacting the park directly at (904) 529-8058. Fees vary based on the type of accommodation.

#### What are the park's hours?

The park is open daily from 8:00 a.m. to sunset. Overnight campers must check in between 1:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. and check out by 11:00 a.m.

#### Are there any rules I should know?

Yes, campers' stays are limited to seven consecutive nights per month, and quiet hours are observed from 10:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. Swimming is not allowed in Otter Springs, the onsite artisanal pond or Black Creek, and the pool fees apply to all day-use visitors.



The land is home to a diverse array of wildlife and plant species. Birdwatchers and nature photographers will appreciate the sightings of whitetail deer, wild turkeys, armadillo, and even the occasional manatee along Black Creek. The hiking trails offer prime opportunities to enjoy the park's lush landscapes and observe local fauna in their natural habitat.

If you want to get out on the water, PADL offers paddleboard rentals, allowing visitors to glide across the serene waters directly from the park.

A playground and a volleyball court add to the options for outdoor fun. In addition, from Memorial Day through Labor Day, the park's swimming pool is open. It's a perfect spot for cooling off during the summer months.

## LEARN ABOUT HISTORY AND NATURE

The Chowenaw Centuries Exhibit Museum is a highlight for history buffs, showcasing artifacts from the camp's Girl Scout era and the Indigenous Peoples of Clay County. Nearby, the Pawpaw Nature Center captivates visitors of all ages with interactive displays on local wildlife, from gopher tortoises to manatees.

## PICNICKING AND RELAXATION

Scattered throughout the park are picnic tables and grills, perfect for family gatherings or quiet lunches. Shared amenities, like covered patios, add to the charm, while the kitchens are reserved exclusively for campers to enhance their stay.

## OVERNIGHT STAYS

For an unforgettable camping experience, consider some of Camp Chowenaw's options for overnight stays:

- Squirrel Run Cabins: These air-conditioned cabins sleep up to six people and are equipped with electric outlets for added comfort.
- Ahwenassa Cabins: These cabins have a traditional log cabin look and also include beds and air-conditioning.
- Treehouse Cabins: Eight unique treehouses provide rustic accommodations with screened enclosures and bunk beds, perfect for adventurous families or small groups.
- Primitive Tent Sites: Ideal for traditional campers, these sites offer a back-to-basics experience with shared amenities.

## VENUE RENTALS

The park also has three different buildings available for daytime use on a rental basis. These event facilities are perfect for hosting celebrations like birthday parties, baby showers, and other memorable gatherings.

- Big Cabin: accommodates up to 150 people.
- Kiwita Nature Center: accommodates up to 55 people.
- Orange Blossom Building: accommodates up to 30 people.

## NEARBY ATTRACTIONS

Round out your visit by exploring the nearby communities. In Green Cove Springs, stroll through scenic Spring Park, shop along Walnut Street, or grab a coffee at the charming Spring Park Coffee. Just north in Fleming Island, enjoy Irish cuisine and a lively atmosphere at Hibernia Pub or try state-of-the-art golfing at Top of the Tee.

Camp Chowenaw is more than a campground; it's a gateway to adventure, history, and the natural beauty of Northeast Florida! Whether you're pitching a tent under the stars, exploring the trails, or diving into the area's rich heritage, this Green Cove Springs gem is a must-visit destination for locals and travelers alike.



LOW WEEKLY & MONTHLY PAYMENT OPTIONS

NOW DOING TOURS IMMEDIATE MOVE-IN

# SIEGEL SELECT®

Extended-Stay Living

- NO CREDIT CHECK
- FULLY FURNISHED
- ALL UTILITIES INCLUDED
- KITCHENETTE
- SIEGEL REWARDS

1656 WELLS RD.  
ORANGE PARK, FL 32073

904.456.8898 • SIEGELSELECT.COM •

Personal Health Insurance Planning

To find the right health plan, you need the right agent!

- Under 65 On & Off-Marketplace planning
- COBRA alternative
- Over-age dependents

Receive year-round expertise at no extra cost, even after you enroll.

Scan QR code to connect today!

Looking for health insurance?

Call Elizabeth Fell at The Bailey Group 904-417-9128

The Authorized Agency for Florida Blue Your local Blue Cross Blue Shield

The Bailey Group is an NFP Company. The Bailey Group is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Florida Blue is a registered service mark of The Bailey Group and Blue Cross Blue Shield. ©2021





**SHOP LOCAL**  
&  
**SAVE AT HAGAN ACE HARDWARE!**



**Choose Your Community!**

# Choose Hagan Ace Hardware Over Amazon!

Same products, **more for you and your community**



For monthly  
**Hagan Ace Hardware**  
sales, special offers and  
coupons - scan here!



# Hagan **ACE** Hardware



1480 Park Ave.,  
Orange Park  
904- 639-5769

Duane Foster  
Your *helpful*  
Park Avenue Manager



1305 N. Orange Ave.  
Green Cove Springs  
904-284-9931

Joan Saunders  
your *helpful*  
Green Cove Manager



1022 Blanding Blvd  
Orange Park  
904-272-1414

Mitch Turner  
Your *helpful*  
Blanding Blvd. Manager

[www.haganace.com](http://www.haganace.com) | [www.hagancoastaloutfitters.com](http://www.hagancoastaloutfitters.com)

# FLORIDA BY THE Water



With diverse ecosystems and tons of outdoor recreation opportunities, there's no better way to experience Florida's natural beauty than by venturing out on the water.

In Clay County, some of the most memorable water experiences await just a short drive away. From tranquil fishing lakes to thrilling boat rentals and historic river cruises, check out some of our favorite ways to spend a day by the water.

## MIKE ROESS GOLD HEAD BRANCH STATE PARK

Keystone Heights

### Paddling

Little Lake Johnson is a lovely spot for paddling. Visitors are welcome to bring their own canoes or kayaks. Once on the water, paddlers

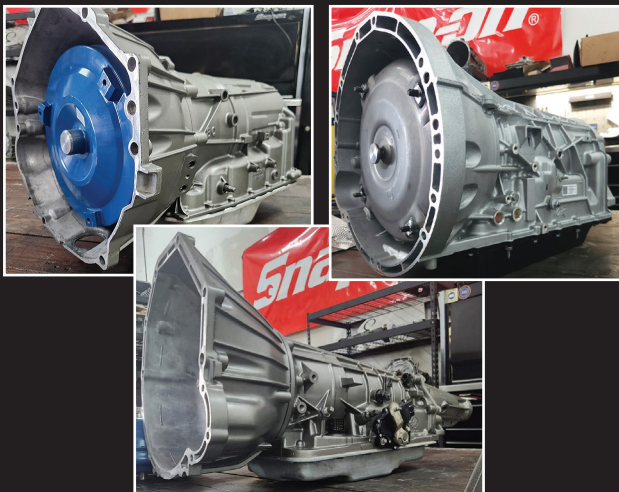
can enjoy the calm atmosphere and natural beauty surrounding this freshwater lake.

### Swimming

During the warmer months, Little Lake Johnson is a popular swimming destination. The water is fed by the park's unique ravine system, giving it a refreshing, natural quality that's perfect

# Epic POWERTRAIN

Transmission Specialists of NE Florida



**904-984-EPIC**

3034 Bravo Ct., Orange Park FL 32065

[www.EpicPowertrain.com](http://www.EpicPowertrain.com)

## Welcome to North Florida Pharmacy!

Serving Lake City and the surrounding areas since 1993.

Our simple formula of courteous customer service and our quick prescription turn-around time has enabled us to grow and reach out to the North Florida region with eight total pharmacies.

### We Deliver!



### North Florida Pharmacy offers:

- Drive-through service
- A trained Dr. Comfort shoe specialist
- In-pharmacy vaccines for the flu, shingles, and more!



**North Florida Pharmacy of Keystone Heights**

405 S. Lawrence Blvd • Keystone Heights, FL 32656

Hours: Monday-Friday 8:00am-6:00pm • Saturday 9:00am-1:00pm

for a summer dip. Its sandy beach offers a place to relax and cool off after a hike or a day of fishing.

### Fishing

Fishing is another favorite activity at this state park. The lake is home to panfish, catfish, and bass. Anglers can fish from the shoreline or from non-motorized boats like canoes, making it a peaceful place to cast a line surrounded by nature.

## JENNINGS STATE FOREST

Middleburg

### Paddling

Jennings State Forest offers paddlers a unique experience, with scenic ravines formed by natural erosion over centuries. The North Fork Black Creek flows through the forest, fed by springs and creating an ideal environment for canoeing and kayaking. Popular paddling routes extend between Powell Ford and Ellis Ford, where visitors can glide along the peaceful creek surrounded by forests.

### Fishing & Swimming

In addition to paddling, Jennings State Forest allows fishing and swimming in designated areas, making it a versatile spot for people who want to spend the day by the water. North Fork Black Creek offers plenty of fishing opportunities for those looking to catch freshwater species.

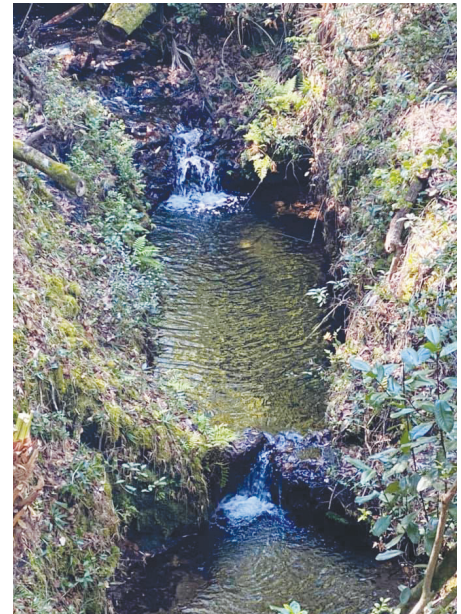


## CAMP CHOWENWAW PARK

Green Cove Springs

### Paddling

For paddlers, Camp Chowenwaw Park provides easy access to the Black Creek Paddling Trail, with rentals available through PADL's self-service station. Paddleboards can be rented to explore Black Creek. Paddlers can enjoy miles of pristine waters surrounded by wetlands, old forests, and abundant wildlife.



Black Creek's calm waters are ideal for beginners and seasoned paddlers alike, offering a chance to experience the waterways at a leisurely pace.

### Boat Charters in Clay County

Exploring Clay County by boat is an unforgettable experience, with its beautiful waterways and access to the St. Johns River. Choose from an exciting fishing adventure, a relaxing sunset cruise, or a chance to learn how to sail with these great local boat charters.

*We can help you find that "perfect" place to call home*

Whether you are new to the area, a long-time Floridian, looking to buy, sell, or rent... with our nearly 20 years of experience in the Lake Region, we can help you make your next move with confidence.

**Todd & Debbie Beals**  
LAKE AREA GROUP  
Realtors

Todd Beals: (904)588-2083  
Debbie Beals: (316)648-0595

- FIRST-TIME HOME BUYERS
- LAKE HOMES
- LUXURY HOMES
- INVESTMENT PROPERTIES
- RESIDENTIAL
- COMMERCIAL PROPERTY
- LAND & BUILDING
- RETIREMENT HOMES
- PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

- Multi-Year, Multi-Million Dollar Producer
- We are all Independent Realtor Agents

510 S. Lawrence Blvd., Keystone Heights ~ Office (352) 478-8320



Use this trailer for free if you buy or sell with us!

# CLAY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

PROUDLY SERVING WITH HONOR AND COURAGE



" The CCSO is committed to building genuine relationships with our growing community. Through deliberate agency expansion, we are prioritizing the reduction of crime while fostering a safe community where families and businesses thrive. Welcome to Clay! "

*Sheriff Michelle Cook*



REPORT SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY



RECEIVE EMERGENCY ALERTS



ANONYMOUSLY SUBMIT A TIP



HELP KEEP OUR  
COMMUNITY SAFE!  
SCAN THE QR CODE TO  
DOWNLOAD THE FREE APP!

SCAN ME



# MAKE YOUR NEXT DECISION, YOUR BEST DECISION



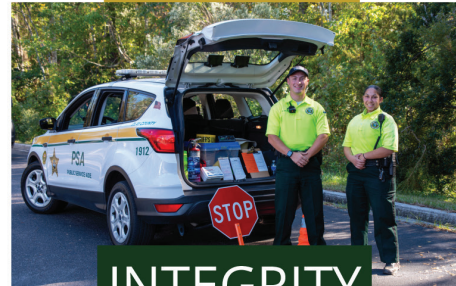
KEEPING 644 SQUARE MILES OF  
LAND AND WATERWAYS SAFE.

MORE THAN 903 MEMBERS STRONG

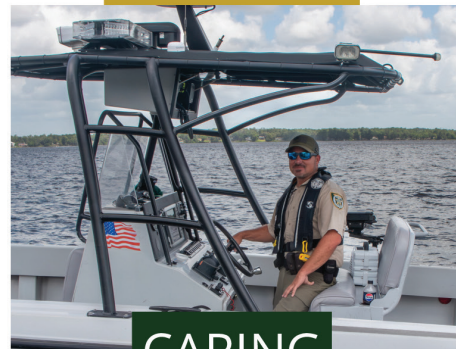
SCAN THIS LINK WITH YOUR  
SMARTPHONE TO VIEW OPEN  
POSITIONS, SPEAK WITH A  
MEMBER OF OUR RECRUITING  
TEAM, AND LEARN MORE ABOUT  
A CAREER WITH THE CLAY  
COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE!



Scan me 



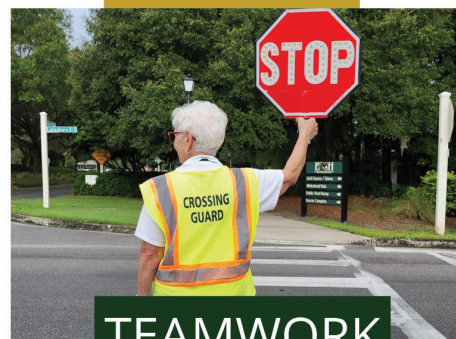
INTEGRITY



CARING



EXCELLENCE



TEAMWORK

904-264-6512  
CCSO NON-EMERGENCY NUMBER

901 N. ORANGE  
AVENUE  
GREEN COVE  
SPRINGS, FL

## BOATFLORIDA RENTALS

### Fleming Island

For those who want the freedom of captaining their own vessel, BoatFlorida Rentals in Fleming Island is an excellent choice. They offer both sport deck and pontoon boat rentals, perfect for exploring the miles of waterways within the St. Johns River and Black Creek.

To add some excitement, opt for their tubing or ZUP board add-ons, which transform your boat rental into a thrilling water adventure. Whether you're cruising with family or enjoying a day of water sports, BoatFlorida Rentals provides a seamless way to enjoy Clay County's beautiful waters.

## NEPENTHE CHARTER SAILING

### Green Cove Springs

Nepenthe Charter Sailing provides a unique way to experience the St. Johns River and beyond. With private sailing charters for up to six passengers, you can customize your adventure, whether it's a day sail, a sunset cruise, or an overnight journey to places like St. Augustine or Amelia Island.

## SOUTHERN COVE CHARTERS AND EXCURSIONS

### Fleming Island

Southern Cove Charters offers a variety of water experiences on the scenic St. Johns River. For fishing enthusiasts, nearshore fishing trips take you 10–12 miles offshore, targeting an array of species with the guidance of a knowledgeable captain. Trips last between 6 and 8 hours and include everything you need, such as bait, tackle, and a fishing license.

If you prefer relaxation, their leisure charters provide an opportunity to lounge on a raft, explore Black Creek's sandy shores, or take in the sights on a historic waterways cruise. During these excursions, guests can enjoy wildlife spotting, hear fascinating stories about the region's history, and make lasting memories.

Guests can try their hand at sailing by taking the wheel or hoisting the sails, or simply relax and soak in the stunning views. Nepenthe offers additional activities such as kayaking, swimming, and swinging from a halyard for added fun.



Whether it's a celebration, a romantic getaway, or just a chance to escape, Nepenthe delivers an unforgettable sailing experience.

## SWIMMING POOLS IN CLAY COUNTY

Florida's waterways offer unparalleled adventures, but Clay County also boasts fantastic swimming pool facilities for those looking to relax or perfect their skills. Whether you're teaching kids to swim, enjoying a splash on a summer day, or diving into a junior Olympic-sized pool, there's something for everyone to enjoy.

### AQUAfin Swim School

If you're seeking to teach your children how to swim or improve their water skills, AQUAfin Swim School is the go-to destination. This facility offers a variety of programs for all skill levels, from beginners learning the basics to more advanced swimmers refining their techniques. Keep in mind that AQUAfin Swim School operates on a lesson-registration basis, so be sure to sign up in advance to enjoy their facilities.

### Barco-Newton Family YMCA

The Barco-Newton Family YMCA has a 25-yard pool that remains open year-round, offering an excellent venue for swimming laps, water aerobics, or simply splashing around. Non-members are welcome to purchase a day pass, making it an accessible option for occasional visits or family outings.

### Camp Chowenwaw Park

Camp Chowenwaw Park is not only a haven for paddlers but also home to a public pool open from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend. It's a budget-friendly option with pool-use fees of \$3 for adults, \$2 for children and seniors, and free entry for kids under 3 and registered campers.

### City Pool at Green Cove Springs

Located in the heart of Green Cove Springs, this public pool is open on select days from May through September, providing a family-friendly option for summer fun. Adjacent to the pool, a splash pad adds extra excitement for younger children. Day fees are \$5 for adults and \$3 for children, active military, and seniors, with free entry for kids aged 2 and under.

### Magnolia Point Pool

Situated within the Magnolia Point Golf & Country Club, the Magnolia Point Pool is a junior Olympic-sized pool perfect for serious swimmers and casual visitors alike. Non-members are welcome to access the pool for a \$10 fee.

From cruising down scenic waterways and casting a line in quiet lakes to exploring the St. Johns River and its tributaries by kayak, Clay County offers a diverse array of water experiences for every type of adventurer. Whether you're looking for a peaceful day of paddling or a guided fishing charter, the local waters await with endless opportunities for fun and relaxation.

**UPHOLSTERY • CUSHIONS • DECOR**

**Large Selection of FABRICS**

**Debbie's**

**Decorators Workroom**  
Custom Work & Reasonable Rates

**2494 Blanding Blvd., Ste 10 • Middleburg**

**904-282-3229**

**WINDOW TREATMENTS**

**AUTO • BOAT**

**Rodman Forbes**

**R&R Concrete LLC**  
(904) 589-5848

**R&R Concrete LLC**  
• Owner ran and operated  
• Driveways, Sidewalks, Patios  
• Specializing in tear out & replace  
• Block work  
• No job too big or small, **WE DO THEM ALL**  
• As good as some and better than most

Rodmanforbes0628@gmail.com

# Exploring JENNINGS STATE FOREST

Breathtaking trails, and convenient location near charming local towns, it's an ideal spot for day trips and weekend adventures.

Jennings State Forest is a sprawling natural retreat in Clay County that spans over 25,000 acres. Located near Middleburg and a short 30-minute drive from Jacksonville, the forest is an inviting escape for outdoor enthusiasts and nature lovers. With its diverse ecosystems and unique hiking opportunities, Jennings State Forest offers visitors an unforgettable experience, whether they're seeking adventure or relaxation in the great outdoors.

## HISTORY AND OVERVIEW OF JENNINGS STATE FOREST

Jennings State Forest stands as a testament to Florida's dedication to conservation. Acquired through programs like Conservation and Recreation Lands (CARL), Preservation 2000, and Save Our Rivers, this protected area is managed by the Florida Forest Service.

What sets Jennings apart is its incredible biodiversity, boasting 15 distinct biological communities, including sandhill, flatwoods, and blackwater streams. These habitats not only support a wide variety of flora and fauna but also offer visitors a glimpse of ecosystems rarely seen in other parts of Florida. The forest is home to animals like river otters, alligators, eastern cottontails, northern bobwhites, and pine warblers, among others.

## THINGS TO DO IN JENNINGS STATE FOREST

Jennings State Forest offers an abundance of activities for outdoor enthusiasts and families. From scenic trails that wind through diverse ecosystems to peaceful waterways perfect for canoeing, this natural gem provides countless ways to connect with the great outdoors.

## Recreational Activities

Jennings State Forest is a haven for outdoor activities. Visitors can enjoy hiking, biking, canoeing, and horseback riding on its many trails. Wildlife viewing is also a popular pastime, with opportunities to spot everything from river otters and alligators to hawks and white-tailed deer.

## Camping

For those seeking an overnight adventure, the forest offers both primitive drive-up camping and backcountry hike-in camping. The Hammock and Bootleggers campgrounds provide convenient access, while more remote options are available along trails like Pioneer, CrossCut, and Dunn's Farm.

## Notable Trails

The forest's trails cater to hikers of all skill levels, with the Pioneer Trail being a standout attraction. This 11.6-mile trail takes visitors through varied terrain, from bottomland hardwood forests to rolling hills and sandhills. Highlights include breathtaking views from bluffs above Black Creek, cascading waterfalls, and sightings of diverse wildlife. Another notable route is the Dunn's Farm Trail, which intersects with the Pioneer Trail. This 2.7-mile trail is steeped in history, tracing land once owned by William W. Dunn in the 1880s.

## EXPLORING THE SURROUNDING AREA

After a day of exploring Jennings State Forest, the nearby towns of Oakleaf Plantation and Orange Park offer plenty of options to unwind and recharge.

## VISITOR INFORMATION AND FAQs

Planning a trip to Jennings State Forest is easy when you know what to expect. With affordable entrance fees, year-round access, and a range of amenities, the forest welcomes visitors of all experience levels. Below, we've provided answers to commonly asked questions to ensure you are fully prepared for your outing.

### Hours and Fees

Jennings State Forest is open daily from sunrise to sunset, year-round. Entry fees are just \$2 for a day pass or \$45 for an annual pass that covers all Florida State Forests.

### Hunting and Fishing

Regulated hunting and fishing are allowed in designated areas, but visitors must obtain the appropriate licenses and permits. Hunting is only permitted during specific seasons, as outlined by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.

The State Forest Department encourages both hunters and other visitors to wear bright clothing and to keep dogs leashed. Hunters should stay away from marked hiking and horseback riding trails as much as possible.

### General Tips for Visitors

- Plan your visit during the winter months for mild weather and optimal hiking conditions.
- Pack essentials like water, snacks, sunscreen, insect repellent, and sturdy hiking shoes.
- Keep an eye out for wildlife, including green tree frogs, gray foxes, hawks, deer, and a variety of songbirds.

*For more information on Jennings State Forest, visit the Florida Forest Service website.*

## OAKLEAF PLANTATION

Oakleaf Plantation offers a variety of places to complement your visit to Jennings State Forest. Golf enthusiasts can enjoy a round at Eagle Landing Golf Club, a top-tier course with a clubhouse featuring a lively sports bar. For a coffee break, PJ's Coffee serves rich, New Orleans-inspired coffee and fresh baked goods. When it's time for a meal, Akaya Grill & Sushi delights with expertly crafted sushi combos and sizzling hibachi dinners.

## ORANGE PARK

Just a short drive away, Orange Park provides a charming mix of things to do. Visitors can savor locally roasted coffee at Urban Bean Coffee House, indulge in authentic Puerto Rican cuisine at Palermo Puerto Rican Kitchen, or enjoy a leisurely stroll along River Road beside the St. Johns River. For those looking to shop, the Orange Park Mall offers a variety of retail options.



# Kayaking IN CLAY

Clay County is a great place for water enthusiasts, boasting 39 miles of navigable waterways, including the iconic St. Johns River, serene Black Creek, and other picturesque spots like Doctors Lake. These waterways offer a mix of scenic beauty, rich history, and opportunities to observe Florida's diverse wildlife. Whether you're a seasoned paddler or a family looking for a fun day out, Clay County's kayak launches provide convenient access to plenty of outdoor fun!

## Green Cove Springs Camp Chowenwaw Park

Camp Chowenwaw Park offers a direct entry point to historic Black Creek, a 13-mile-long blackwater stream. Paddlers can explore its two major tributaries—North Fork and South Fork—and even venture into Peters Creek nearby.

The park features a PADL station for

convenient self-service paddleboard rentals.

**Nearby Activities:** After your paddle, stroll along Walnut Street, filled with unique shops and dining options, or relax at Spring Park, where you can enjoy scenic views of the St. Johns River and a historic spring.

## Keystone Heights Mike Roess Gold Head Branch State Park

This stunning park is a gem for outdoor enthusiasts. Paddle on Little Lake Johnson, surrounded by rolling sandhills and old-growth longleaf pines. The park also offers hiking trails, wildlife viewing, and family-friendly amenities like picnic areas and playgrounds.

**Nearby Dining:** Refuel at Julia's Midtown Café for pizza and ice cream or savor seafood at Cedar River Seafood.

## Orange Park: Rob Bradley Conservation Park at Nelson Point

Opened in 2023, this 10-acre waterfront park provides access to Doctors Lake, a beautiful estuarine body of water connected to the St. Johns River. The park's kayak launch is perfect for exploring the lake's tranquil waters.

**Nearby Attractions:** Visit Clarke House Park to see the historic Clarke House or let the kids play on the expansive playground. Then, head to The Urban Bean Coffeehouse Café for coffee, baked goods, and tasty meals.

**Fleming Island: Doctors Lake Park**  
Doctors Lake Park offers a convenient kayak launch with a PADL station for kayak and paddleboard rentals. Paddle through the brackish waters of this St. Johns River inlet, known for its calm conditions and scenic beauty. The park also features a fishing pier and picnic area.

**THE FIRM**  
*Florida International Rally & Motorsport Park*

**PREMIER DRIVING INSTRUCTION & MOTORSPORTS EVENT FACILITY**

- OPEN TRACK DAYS FRI - SUN
- CORPORATE/TEAM EVENTS
- TRACK/FACILITY RENTAL
- MILITARY/TACTICAL TRAINING
- DRIVING INSTRUCTION
- RALLY & TEEN SAFETY
- ROAD & 4 X 4 OFF ROAD
- LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING
- GOVERNMENT CONTRACT TRAINING

**Contact us to book your experience.**  
management@gorally.com  
www.gorally.com





### KAYAK SAFETY TIPS

Before you hit the water, keep these safety tips in mind to ensure a fun and secure paddling experience:

- **Check waterway conditions:** Be aware of water levels and currents.
- **Plan your time:** Allow a minimum of two miles per hour for paddling under normal conditions.
- **Wear a PFD:** Florida law requires a Coast Guard-approved personal flotation device (PFD) for each kayaker. Children under 6 must wear a PFD at all times.
- **Stay hydrated:** Bring plenty of water in a reusable container.
- **Carry a cell phone:** Keep it in a waterproof, floatable bag in case of emergencies.
- **Watch for motorboats:** Stay to the right and face their wake to avoid capsizing.
- **Respect wildlife:** Do not approach or harass animals, as they can be dangerous.
- **Share your plan:** If you are paddling alone, leave a float plan with a reliable person and on your car's dashboard.
- **Bug spray:** Protect yourself from mosquitoes and other pests.

**Nearby Dining:** Enjoy delicious brick-oven pizzas, pasta, and burgers at Brick Oven Pizzeria & Gastropub, a local favorite.

#### Middleburg Jennings State Forest

Jennings State Forest is a nature lover's dream, featuring over 15 natural biological communities and several recreation areas. The Ellis

Ford Recreation Area is a popular starting point for paddling along Black Creek, offering routes ranging from two to ten hours.

**Nearby Activities:** Explore the Pioneer Trail within the forest, or head to Oakleaf for shopping and dining options to round out your adventure.

Clay County's kayak launches offer a perfect mix of adventure and relaxation, with scenic routes and nearby attractions to suit every paddler. Whether you're exploring Black Creek's quiet beauty, gliding across Doctors Lake, or enjoying family-friendly parks, kayaking in Clay is an experience you won't want to miss.

## Youth Programs at The Salvation Army of Clay County

Volunteers needed. Please call 904-276-6677.

Teen Night  
Jr. Brass Band  
Character  
Building Troops

Performing Arts  
Camp Keystone  
Jr. Soldiers &  
Corps Cadets

2795 CR 220 Middleburg, FL 32068 | 904-276-6677  
www.salvationarmynefl.org

# Coffee IN CLAY

**Here's a look at some of Clay County's top coffee shops:**

The best way to get to the heart of a community? Spend time with the locals at a neighborhood coffee shop. Meet the residents and enjoy a cup of locally, brewed coffee or try a house made pastry while listening to live music – whatever your needs, support local businesses during your time in Clay County and let us help you find the perfect cup of joe.



### OVER THE SECOND CUP TEA ROOM

With the elegance of Europe and the charm of an English cottage, enjoy tea time at Basketique Custom Theme Baskets & Gifts & Over the Second Cup Tea Room in Orange Park.

Make new friends or reminisce over a pot of tea, try a variety of tea sandwiches and condiments and treat yourself to chocolate and desserts. The folks at Over the Second Cup Tea Room believe tea time is a ceremonial occasion with servings taking place with crystal servings, linens and fine China.

Perfect for small groups or individuals, owner Patricia Sessions is a certified tea sommelier and is available to help you find the perfect tea for

your needs and preferences. Enjoy a step back in time with a fresh pot of tea while you are in Clay County.

### BLACK RIFLE COFFEE COMPANY

This Veteran-founded coffee company gives back to veterans, law enforcement and first responders with every purchase made. Founded in 2014, the company's mission is to serve coffee and culture to people who love America. With their weapon-themed coffee brews, coffee fans can choose from favorites like the Freedom Roast, the light roast Gunship, the Silencer Smooth light roast and more.

### ELLIANOS COFFEE

"Italian quality at America's Pace" is the motto of Ellianos, and that's exactly what you can expect. With drive through windows on both sides of the

## TAKE-AWAY BUFFET

GOURMET COMFORT FOOD

BOXES • BOWLS • FAMILY MEALS

## CALL AHEAD FOR LARGE ORDERS & CATERING!



Monday - Friday 10:30 AM to 8 PM • Closed Saturday • Sunday 11 AM to 6:30 PM  
1805 East West Parkway, Suite 4 • Fleming Island, FL 32003 • Phone: (904) 375-9627

building, you can experience high quality espresso beverages, latte freezers, smoothies, coffee and breakfast sandwiches in a flash! Pick some up today or grab a bag of whole, ground and toddy grind beans to make at home.

## FIREPOWER COFFEE ROASTERS

Experience freshly roasted whole beans and ground specialty coffees with the knowledgeable team at FirePower Coffee Roasters in Keystone Heights. Truly a family business, the Beck family welcomes you to enjoy a selection of brewed coffees from the daily, rotating menu featuring coffees from around the world.

Interested in taking coffee home as a souvenir? Choose from their selection of whole or roasted beans packaged in both convenience packs and larger sizes.

While you're enjoying time in the shop, you may be able to see some of the roasting process, ask questions and learn about the process and enjoy the bold flavors of aroma making their way through the shop. As you make your way through the retail shop, check out the education slides and information scrolling through the monitors to learn about the processes and coffees available for your enjoyment.

Together, owners William and Carol Beck hold over ten certifications in coffee and tea educational programs and food safety. They have each completed additional course work related to coffee processing and preparation, making them 'go to' experts when it comes to the brewing process and finding the perfect cup of coffee.

Tea drinkers, also be sure to speak with Carol



The Lab

— she's a certified tea sommelier! Sample specialty and organic teas from Two Leaves and a Bud right in the shop and choose from a variety of sizes of packages to enjoy tea-time at home. Carol can help you select teas based on your preferences.

## THE LAB BAKERY & COFFEE BAR

New to the coffee scene in Clay County, The Lab Bakery & Coffee Bar in Orange Park welcomes visitors to enjoy a bite to eat and a cup of Northeast Florida's own Martin Coffee.

This family-owned coffee spot features a rotating menu of desserts and drinks to pair with

your cup of coffee. Enjoy your drink with one of their homemade treats, made from family recipes like a slice of Red Velvet cake with cream cheese frosting, topped with raspberry drizzle and white chocolate chips. Other favorites include German chocolate cupcakes and cookies and don't forget to add some of their homemade whipped cream to your coffee.

For those looking for a place to work remotely, stop in and get caught up on emails at The Lab, where you can enjoy a welcoming environment, tasty treats and free Wi-fi too.

## PRESENT TENSE COFFEE AND BOOKS

At Present Tense Coffee and Books, you can enjoy a classic combination any day of the week with homemade artisan coffee and new and used books. Since opening in the summer of 2019, they display their love of artistic detail with their 9-minute roasted coffee beans that are aged for 30 days before being ground.

Other delicious concoctions include their signature drink the PLN, a black tea and lavender beverage that's perfect for cozying up with a good read or tackling the day. While you're there, be sure to pick up a delicious cinnamon roll, vegan banana muffin or a homemade scone.

Interested in a read? Present Tense offers an amazing selection of books from various national and local authors as well as a great trade-in deal. Be sure to check in for their weekly events, including dollar bin book days, book club meetings, child's story time and more.



**WEEKDAY** SUNRISE TO SUNSET  
*Monday - Friday*

**BREAKFAST AND LUNCH UNDER \$12!**



**Delicious meals at unbeatable prices!**

All in Breakfast and Lunch comes with a variety of sides and your first drink to make it the perfect meal!

**"BEST BREAKFAST IN GREEN COVE SPRINGS... HANDS DOWN" - EXPLORE CLAY**

**We can't wait to serve you—visit us soon!**

618 N ORANGE AVE. GREEN COVE SPRINGS, FLORIDA 32043

 @sunrisetosunsetdiner
 (904) 531-9624
 sunrise2sunset.us

Your Gathering Place!





**Great Coffee**  
**Great Tea**  
**Great Food**  
*with*  
**Great Friends**

**2023 Park Ave., Orange Park, Florida**  
**(904) 541-4938**  
**theurbanbeancoffeehouse.com**



**Royal Moose Coffee Company**

Perfect for a quiet, relaxing cup or for getting things done, Present Tense is a true local gem with a delicious assortment of hand-crafted drinks to satisfy any craving. Drink like a local and enjoy a good read today.

**ROYAL MOOSE COFFEE COMPANY**

The newest place for coffee in Middleburg is the Royal Moose Coffee Company – you’ll know you’re there when you see the moose statue welcoming you outside the building!

Enjoy breakfast all day with cinnamon rolls, muffins, croissants sandwiches paired with fresh



coffee and specialty drinks. From traditional cappuccinos to chai lattes or their signature Moose Mocha made with chocolate, caramel and whipped cream or just sit back with a hot cup of coffee – Royal Moose Coffee Company welcomes you to enjoy your favorites amidst their friendly community.

**SCOOTER'S COFFEE**

Enjoy Scooter's Coffee without even having to get out of the car as this coffee shop is drive-thru only! Scooter's Coffee is quickly becoming a hit with locals serving up specialty espresso drinks,



**The Tea Room**

single-origin coffee, fruit smoothies and even Red Bull infusions. Known for their fast drive-thru and freshly, baked from scratch pastries, Scooter's signature drink is the Caramelicious®. Be sure to use the Scooter's Coffee mobile app to receive perks and earn free drinks too!

**SPRING PARK COFFEE**

As a nod to the days of the turn of the century, the cozy Spring Park Coffee in Green Cove Springs is a short walk from Spring Park along the St. Johns River. This locally-owned shop features freshly roasted coffee from their sister

# BARLEY & PIE

## Brewing Company

**OPEN**

Monday: 3p - 10p  
 Tues-Wed: 11a - 10p  
 Thur-Sat: 11a - Midnight  
 Sunday: 10a - 9p

barleyandpie.com

- full liquor bar / wine / beer
- brunch sundays: 10a-1p
- sourdough pizza, burgers, wings, salads
- kids eat free tuesdays: 5p-close
- happy hour & food specials twice a day, everyday:  
 3p-6p & 9p-Midnight with 2 for 1 Clay Lite & house wine, \$2.50 well cocktails, \$9 house cocktails

1605 County Rd 220 Unit 145 • Fleming Island, FL 32003 • 904.579.4710

company, Brass Tacks Coffee Co.

Since opening in 2011, this friendly coffee shop also features bagels and breakfast sandwiches – including their popular breakfast biscuits, made in-house each day. In the afternoon and evening, pair your coffee with a fresh cookie or pastry.

Choose from specialty drinks like their version of Butterbeer, made with espresso, toffee nut, caramel and butterscotch, a peppermint mocha or sip on a classic hot cocoa while catching up with friends. And be sure to check out the ‘Name of the Day’ board outside the shop, if your first name is there – you’ll receive free coffee!

As a great souvenir of your time in Clay County, take home a 32oz. growler of Double Strength Cold Brew coffee – blended by the knowledgeable team at Brass Tacks Coffee Co. and Spring Park Coffee.

Snuggle up on one of the shop’s cozy couches with a book from the book swap area, enjoy live music on the first Friday of every month or grab a board game and challenge your family – whatever you decide, Spring Park Coffee welcomes visitors to relax and indulge.

### THE TEA ROOM

New to Keystone Heights, The Tea Room is open by appointment only for guests to take advantage of an afternoon of tea with friends and family. Offering an extensive list of teas and a variety of finger sandwiches, sweet treats and desserts, The Tea is a welcome addition to locals and visitors in Keystone Heights.

High Tea events include a sampling of three teas from around the world featuring both



Spring Park Coffee

sweet and savory variety’s. Food menus can be customized depending on the group with items to choose from including cucumber sandwiches on white bread, chicken salad baked on fresh-bread rosemary bread, mixed fruit drizzled with jalapeno honey and more. Etiquette classes are also available by appointment.

### THE URBAN BEAN COFFEEHOUSE CAFÉ

Locally-owned and operated in the heart of Orange Park, The Urban

Bean Coffeehouse Café is a popular favorite with residents throughout the day. Featuring specialty and hand brewed coffees, organic teas, a menu featuring all-day breakfast items, salads and signature deli sandwiches, don’t miss trying one of their gourmet donuts baked in-house daily.

From the pine tables, coffee bar and window seats made from the same 130-foot tree to the use of local and organic supplies as much as possible, owners DuWayne and Pam Hegal pride themselves on creating a sense of neighborhood with their customers.

When night falls at The Urban Bean Coffeehouse Café, choose from a selection of wines and local, craft beer with your meal. And there’s no shortage of live entertainment with Open Mic nights and a monthly Art Buzz event featuring local artists, vendors and live music.

Pull up a seat and enjoy a neighborhood scene filled with passion – and great coffee.

Fuel Your Coffee Journey with the Caffeinated in Clay Tour! Wrap up your coffee journey through Clay County with the ultimate guide at your fingertips! The Caffeinated in Clay tour, available in the Explore Clay app, features a complete list of local coffee shops and their locations.



CAFFEINATED IN CLAY MOBILE APP TOUR



Visit our Website

## The Hilltop

Restaurant and Event Venue



CALL TO RESERVE YOUR TABLE

**Dinner Hours: Tues.- Sat. 5:30-9:00**

**Happy Hour: Tues.-Fri. 4:30-7:00**

**Live Piano by Winston:  
Fridays & Saturdays 6:00-9:00**

**Sales Office Hours:  
Tues.- Sat. 10:00-4:00**

☎ 904-272-5959

📍 2030 Wells Rd. Orange Park, FL 32073



# Whitey's

WHERE THE LOCALS EAT SINCE 1963



**A** local staple since 1963, this Clay County staple offers a welcoming spot for those excited for a taste of the Florida lifestyle. Whether you come by car or arrive by boat – everyone is welcome to enjoy the views, nightlife and delicious food.

In addition to the restaurant, the Whitey's property is home to a marina offering boat and canoe rentals, a boat launch, a bait shop and even a RV park.

You're in for a delight at Clay County's unique fish camp -

wine cream sauce served with rice.

Other special dishes include blackened catfish with grits and their glazed salmon with a teriyaki glaze served over rice with cabbage and cilantro. And be sure to ask about their all-you-can-eat daily specials – including shrimp, catfish and more!

If you're in the mood for a variety of seafood eats, build your own seafood combo with favorites like catfish, clams, scallops, oysters, mahi and more. Be sure to save room for their legendary Key Lime Pie too!

## LIVE ENTERTAINMENT AND EVENTS

Whitey's Fish Camp is also a great spot for local events and weekly activities. Every Friday night, Saturday night and Sunday afternoon, enjoy live music on the Tiki Deck, making for a perfect day on the water.

Monday nights, Whitey's host more live music with their popular 'Jam Night' as local musicians meet up on the Tiki Deck to play great music together.

In the Spring, get ready for the Thursday Night Workin' Man's Bass Tournament. This popular fishing event started in 1995 and brings in an incredible amount of boats and local fishermen every week during the season. Don't have a boat? You can still join the fun and watch the weigh-ins to see who takes home the weekly prize and cheer on your favorite team as they move up the points ladder for the season.

One of Whitey's Fish Camps most popular annual event is their Lighted Boat Parade held



every year during the holiday season. Families, businesses and local organizations decorate their boats to cruise along Swimming Pen Creek competing for prizes and recognition. Proceeds from the event benefit the local Safe Animal Shelter.

## READY TO VISIT WHITEY'S FISH CAMP?

Whitey's Fish Camp is located at 2030 Country Road 220 along Swimming Pen Creek, just west of Fleming Island. For the latest entertainment lineup and to check out more of their tasty menu, go to [www.whiteysfishcamp.com](http://www.whiteysfishcamp.com)



## A LOOK AT WHITEY'S FISH CAMP MENU

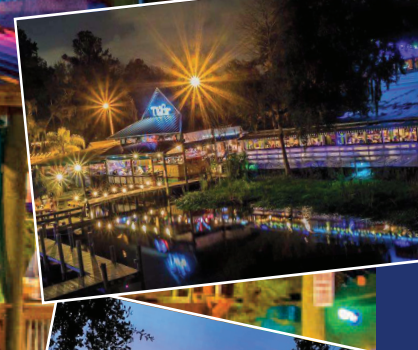
Bring your appetite when you come to Whitey's Fish Camp. Known for a huge selection of fried dishes, like their fried shrimp, fried catfish and even alligator nuggets (!), don't miss out on their specialties like their stuffed flounder, stuffed with crab meat and topped with cheese in a white

Family Owned & Operated Since 1963

# WHITEY'S FISH CAMP

RESTAURANT, FISH CAMP & RV PARK

The REAL  
Fish Camp!



**Voted #1 In Northeast Florida**

**"Best Fish Camp, Best Catfish & Best Gator Tail!"**

- Full Service Bar - Inside & Out
- Lunch Tuesday-Sunday
- Outside Waterfront Dining Available
- Down Home Atmosphere
- Boat Docking at the Door
- Private Party - Space Available
- Bait & Tackle
- Boat Rentals
- Daily Happy Hour Specials



2032 CR 220 • Fleming Island • [www.whiteysfishcamp.com](http://www.whiteysfishcamp.com)

904-269-4198

**TWO LOCATIONS JAX + OP**

**FULL BAR!**

**ARCADE & PINBALL**

**FULL MENU!**

ASK ABOUT THE  
**ALL DAY**  
**PLAYPASS**  
AT BOTH LOCATIONS

**PIZZA!**

**100'S OF CRAFT BEERS AND ROTATING TAPS**

**JAPANESE RHYTHM GAMES**



**LEADERBOARD ARCADE**

**ORANGE PARK, FL**  
1760 WELLS ROAD  
904-579-3435

**JACKSONVILLE, FL**  
5285 SHAD RD. SUITE 316  
JACKSONVILLE, FL

FOLLOW OUR SITE AND SOCIALS FOR MORE INFO

**LEADERBOARDARCADE.COM**





# Culinary

UNIQUE OWNERS, UNIQUE DINING

The residents and businesses of Clay County are what make our community so unique. Discover new cuisine and meet the members of our county when you 'eat local'.

With entrepreneurs opening their own restaurants to established restaurants branching out with multiple locations and families sharing their heritage and culture through food – Clay County is home to unique owners and plenty of unique dining.

Take a look at some of the unique places that await you with great food in Clay County

## BARLEY & PIE BREWING COMPANY

Co-founded by Clay County resident Philip Maple, former brew master of Jacksonville's Wicked Barley Brewing Company, this is Fleming Island's first craft brewery. The brewery is home to 20 taps and features a full liquor bar. In addition to drinks, Barley and Pie serves North Florida's first sourdough neo-Neapolitan pizza.

Order from your table or order at the counter and have your food and drinks delivered right to your table. With live music on the weekends,

weekday lunch specials and weekly specialty pizzas – this new pizzeria and brewery is Fleming Island's new hot spot.

## EMANGEO'S BRICK OVEN PIZZA

What started as a food truck has taken off for the family-owned Emangeo's Brick Oven Pizza as they've recently moved into their first brick and mortar location in the Green Cove Springs/Lake Asbury area of Clay County. (Don't worry, you can still find the food truck out in the community too!)

Get ready for creative pizzas like the Spicy Pepper Jack Steak pizza, the Chicken Pesto pizza and the popular Dill Pickle Pizza. Other favorites include hot and cold grinders, dinner plates like fettuccine alfredo, stuffed shells, lasagna and more. If you want to kick your dinner up a few notches, sub the red pizza sauce with a Ranch base instead – delicious!

## JOHNNY'S BBQ

At Johnny's BBQ in Keystone Heights, no one goes home hungry. Choose from a variety of ribs, pulled pork, brisket, turkey and more. What



## EXPLORE CLAY

Scan the QR Code to download the Explore Clay app on your phone. You can also search 'Explore Clay' in the Google Play or APP store

started as a fifteen-table restaurant has quickly expanded into a full-sized restaurant and catering business serving over one million pounds of barbecue a year. Locally-owned and operated since 1988, Johnny's BBQ has proudly served residents and visitors with mouthwatering barbecue, seafood, lunch platters and more. With loyal guests from the community, this popular barbecue restaurant partners regularly with the Keystone Heights football team, the Kiwanis Club and more.

## GRUMPY'S RESTAURANT

For a bit of a diner feel, treat yourself to Grumpy's Restaurant in Orange Park and Middleburg – home to creative waffles and

# LA NOPALERA

## Authentic Mexican Restaurant

Delicious Traditional Mexican Cuisine

MARGARITA MONDAY

\$4.00 Margaritas

2004 Kingsley Ave.  
Orange Park, FL  
904-276-2776

WWW.LANOPALERAKINGSLEY.COM

IF YOU DON'T SEE A PIT  
IT AIN'T LEGIT!

## BONO'S

### PIT BAR-B-Q

SINCE 1949

\$5

OFF purchase of \$25 OR MORE

Valid at Fleming Island location only  
Dine in or take out only  
Must present coupon  
Not valid with any other offers  
Expires 10-01-2025

Best BBQ in town

Catering Available

Family platters available

1765 TOWN CENTER BLVD.  
FLEMING ISLAND  
(904) 269-8870  
BONOSBARBQ.COM

Southern diner breakfast dishes, perfect for starting the day. For lunch, choose from a variety of sandwiches, homemade soups, Southern salads and desserts.

Open for breakfast and lunch, the Orange Park location is Grumpy's original location and they've now expanded with five additional stores around the Northeast Florida region. Also, don't miss checking out the daily chalkboard for daily specials!

### Woodland Burger and Wings



### URBAN BEAN COFFEEHOUSE CAFÉ

In Orange Park, the Urban Bean Coffeehouse Café is home to fresh coffee, gourmet food and made from scratch desserts – including donuts!



PJ's Coffee

Located at the intersection of Highway 17 and Kingsley Avenue, the café is locally-owned by Pam and DuWayne Hegel and known is a local gathering place for the Orange Park community.

Urban Bean features breakfast all day, every day along with flatbreads and handheld sandwiches. Try their variety of coffees and pick up a dozen authentic New York bagels baked fresh in-house, daily. At night, the café frequently features live musicians and welcomes small groups. And don't miss their donut selection that changes often and sometimes carries themes like Shark Week donuts!

### PJ'S COFFEE

Discover the rich flavors of New Orleans right here in Clay County at PJ's Coffee! Inspired by the vibrant culture and culinary traditions of the Big Easy, PJ's Coffee brings a taste of Louisiana to Oakleaf. Indulge in their must-try beignets – golden, pillowy delights dusted with powdered sugar, perfect for satisfying your sweet tooth. To elevate the experience, pair them with their signature Café au Lait, a comforting blend of bold Dark Roast coffee and creamy steamed milk that's sure to warm your soul.

### AVILA BAKERY AND CAFÉ

Avila Bakery & Café in Orange Park brings authentic Venezuelan cuisine to Florida. Everything is made from scratch using family recipes, including favorites like empanadas and cachitos—semi-sweet dough stuffed with cheese and ham.

Founded by Gilberto and Amenyuri, Avila continues a tradition that

# MILLER'S ALE HOUSE



1756 Wells Rd.  
Orange Park  
904-278-4600

[millersalehouse.com](http://millersalehouse.com)



Avila Bakery and Cafe

started in Caracas in 2007. Their dishes are inspired by recipes from Abuelita Matilde, offering the same homemade flavors and love that define Venezuelan cooking.

### WOODLAND BURGER AND WINGS

In Keystone Heights, don't miss out on ordering your lunch or dinner from the gas

station!

That's right, you'll find Woodland Burger and Wings inside the One Stop Convenience Store on County Road 214.

Ask about the 'Burger of the Month' that's typically a creative burger with unique toppings like buffalo sauce, blue cheese, bacon and a brioche roll – toppings change monthly! If you're

in the mood for wings, choose from a variety of sauces like sweet red chili, buffalo garlic, honey hot, cajun dry and more. And if you're in a hurry, order online on their website.

There's plenty more places to discover during your time in the area. So, we hope you are hungry, get out and enjoy great eats found around Clay County!

## LIVE Baby Alligators!



**Live Music Every Friday**



# GATOR BAIT

## SPORTS GRILL

MELROSE, FLORIDA

*Located in Historic Melrose*

gatorbaitmelrose.com

352-475-1360 • 304 State Rd. 26 • Melrose, FL

- Wed: Music Bingo
- Thurs: Ladies Night & Live Music
- Fri: Live Music

Open Wed-Sundays







# The Corner Pocket

Food, family & fun!

Full Bar - Glo Pool - Non-Smoking Environment

WEEKEND BREAKFAST 7-11



14 N. Magnolia Ave.,  
Green Cove Springs  
(904) 284-1992  
[www.facebook.com/thecornerpocketgcs](http://www.facebook.com/thecornerpocketgcs)



## STONER'S PIZZA JOINT

\$5 OFF YOUR ORDER OF \$30+

PROMO CODE: 5OFF30

Valid until 7/31/25

1581 COUNTY ROAD 220, STE 110  
FLEMING ISLAND, FL  
(904) 269-5880



SCAN TO ORDER ONLINE



# Santioni's

## ITALIAN RISTORANTE

Reservations recommended | Live music daily

*Enjoy fresh, quality cuisine prepared to order,  
capturing traditional Italian fare in a quaint, fine dining atmosphere*



*Extensive Menu with daily Fresh Catch Feature*

*Full Bar with Hand Crafted Cocktails | Offsite Catering | Event Space for Rent*

**4-9pm Tuesday-Thursday • 4-10pm Friday & Saturday • 4-9pm Sunday / Closed Mondays**  
**3535 US Highway 17 Fleming Island • 904-264-1331**

**Place reservations at [Santionis.com](http://Santionis.com)**

**NEW ~ IN ORANGE PARK!**



**Got to try  
Holey Moley  
NY Bagels!**

**\$5 OFF**

\$20 minimum purchase, new customers only.

Valid at our Park Ave. location in Orange park.

Offer expires 08/01/2025

**1177 Park Ave # 14, Orange Park • (904) 375-0113**

**Black Creek Cafe**

*Your local favorite hometown diner!*



**2696 Blanding Blvd., Middleburg  
904-282-7373**



2851 Henley Rd., Green Cove Springs • (904)406-0161

**"Excellent service,  
delicious food."**  
*"Best Spanish—oops! — PUERTO RICAN!  
—food I've had since I moved from NYC 5 years ago!"*



**El Pego**

**2177 Kingsley Ave, Suite 13  
904-375-1744**



**Callahan's Irish BISTRO**

**2141 Loch Rane Blvd. #140  
Orange Park, FL 32073  
905-541-4274 • Callahansbistro.com**



*Our attention to detail is evident in everything we do – from local produce, premium hand-cut steaks and a larger selection of bison dishes than any other restaurant. We pride ourselves on delivering American dining the way it was meant to be enjoyed.*

**TED'S MONTANA GRILL - JACKSONVILLE**  
Orange Park | 8635 Blanding Blvd. | Jacksonville, FL 32244  
**904-771-1964**

**Reserve your table at TEDSMONTANAGRILL.COM**

©2025 Ted's Montana Grill Inc.

# Events IN CLAY COUNTY



Clay County Fair

## JANUARY

Enjoy live performances in Clay County at the Thrasher-Horne Center for musicals, comedy, and expos, the Spotlight Center for dinner shows, and the Orange Park Community Theater and Island Theater for local productions.

### 3rd Annual BBQ, Bacon & Brews Fest

January 25 & 26, 2025, at the Clay County

Fairgrounds enjoy two days of mouthwatering BBQ, chocolate-covered bacon, live entertainment, family-friendly activities, and unique shopping.

## FEBRUARY

### Northeast Florida Scottish Games and Festival

On February 22 residents of Northeast Florida gather and enjoy athletics, music, food

and fun of the games.

### Paranormal Cirque III

January 31- February 3. Experience the eerie thrills of under the black-and-red big top at the Orange Park Mall. With acrobats, illusionists, and chilling performers, this one-of-a-kind show blends circus, theater, and cabaret for a night you won't forget. (Ages 13+, under 17 requires adult guardian.)



Quality • Design • Service



# Spread Happiness

1940 Park Avenue, Orange Park 904.264.5120 [orangeparkflorist.com](http://orangeparkflorist.com)



## Northeast Florida Scottish Games



## MARCH

### Clay Bridal Spectacular

March 16, 2025 This Bridal show will feature an amazing selection of wedding professionals ready to help you find the perfect gown, wedding decor, photographer, music, menu, and much more.

### Food Truck Fridays

Green Cove Springs Food Truck Friday brings local eats and live music to Spring Park every first Friday, March through November, with rotating food trucks and Northeast Florida bands by the St. Johns River.

## Vintage Market Days



### Penney Farms Old Fashioned Farm Day

Visit Penney Farms and experience the annual Old Fashion Farm Festival! Antique farm equipment include tractors and engines from years gone by.

### Vintage Market Days Spring Market

Vintage Market Days, March 7-9 is an upscale vintage-inspired market featuring original art, antiques, clothing, jewelry, handmade treasures, home décor, outdoor furnishings consumable yummys, seasonal plantings, and a little more.



## FAMERS MARKETS

### 3rd Saturday Market in the Park

Every Third Saturday from September to June. Organized by Green Cove Springs Business League, each month features a variety of local vendors selling fresh produce and other freshly made goods. Live entertainment or music is also featured every month.

### Orange Park Farmers Market

Voted "Best Voted Farmer's Market in Northeast Florida!" With over 100 vendors selling fresh, local produce and homemade crafts, live music and great food, it's sure to be fun for the entire family! Season runs September – June.

### Fleming Island Saturday Market

Come check out the Fleming Island Saturday Market at the Village Square Shopping Center across from the Fleming Island High School. First Saturday of the month from 9:30a.m. - 2 p.m.

# BLACK CREEK

# TRACTOR

# & EQUIPMENT








## 904-545-4541

## BLACKCREEKTRACTOR.COM

2787 Blanding Blvd., Middleburg 32068

## APRIL

### Clay County Agricultural Fair

April 3-13. Since 1987 the Clay County Agricultural Fair has provided Clay County and Northeast Florida with an event that's both fun and educational in a family atmosphere. In fact, the Fair vision says it all "A Family A\*Fair".



## MAY

### Pro Watercross

May 16-19. Get ready to witness high-speed water racing action as top athletes battle it out on the waves in Keystone Heights. Watch live or tune in and support the watercross athletes!

### RiverFest

Join the City of Green Cove Springs to celebrate the beginning of the Summer at Spring Park. The day starts with a Memorial Day Ceremony featuring a flyover by the Dreamland

Squadron. The afternoon features over 100 total craft booths and food trucks, rubber duck races and live entertainment. The day ends with a fireworks display over the St. Johns River. Don't miss this family-friendly event!

## JUNE

### American Farmstead Convention 2025

May 31, 2025 - June 1, 2025 At the upcoming American Farmstead Convention, guests can learn to raise, grow, process, and



**Industrial Space  
For Lease**

# REYNOLDS PARK

The Park is a 1550 acre multi-use development with facilities including a 5000 sq. ft. airstrip, 3 miles of St. Johns River frontage, rail access, and adjacent nature preserve.

[www.reynoldspark.com](http://www.reynoldspark.com) • 904.284.3676  
Green Cove Springs, FLORIDA



preserve food through educational speakers, roundtable discussions, hands-on workshops, live skill demos, music, a farmers market, and more.

## JULY

### 57th Annual Keystone Heights 4th of July Parade

This beloved community tradition features patriotic floats, festive fun, and family-friendly activities, all capped off with a spectacular fireworks display. Celebrate Independence Day in true small-town style with friends, family, and neighbors.

## AUGUST

Don't miss Matilda the Musical coming to the Spotlight Center this August! Experience the heartwarming and magical story of Matilda,



a brilliant young girl with extraordinary abilities, brought to life on stage. Perfect for all ages, this theatrical delight is filled with music, laughter, and a touch of rebellion!

## SEPTEMBER

### 904 Day

904 Day is a special day dedicated to honoring the community's unique culture, local businesses, and the people who make this area truly special.

Use #ExploreClay on social media to share

your local experiences and join the celebration of everything that makes our community extraordinary!

## OCTOBER

### Amazing Grace Family Farms Fall Festival

Amazing Grace Family Farms is the perfect place to celebrate Fall with the ones you love! Enjoy Fall photo ops, test your skills in our crop maze and most of all, create priceless family memories you'll remember for years to come.

# Like it never even happened!



**SERVPRO of North Clay County/Oakleaf/North Middleburg**

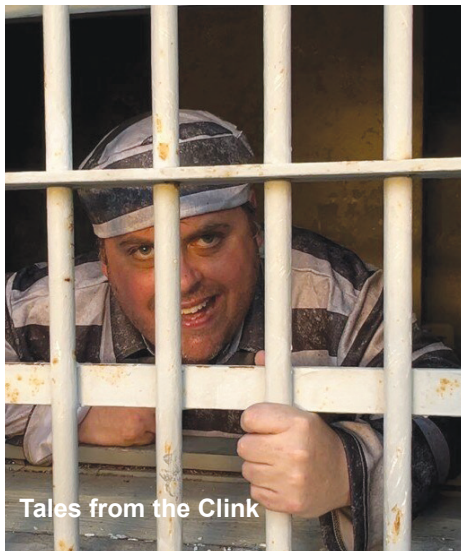
**Specializing in Fire & Water Mitigation and Restoration  
24/7 Emergency Services**

**Mold Mitigation & Remediation • Air Duct Cleaning • Carpets  
Walls & Hard Surfaces • Biohazard • Deodorization**

**35 Knight Box Rd, Ste 5, Box 7 • Orange Park**

**904-861-8870**

**servpronorthclaycountyoakleafnorthmiddleburg.com**



Tales from the Clink

**Orange Park Annual Fall Festival**

The town of Orange Parks is Clay County's oldest and largest Arts and Crafts Festival! The Fall Festival began in 1982 with roughly twelve craft booths and a couple guitar players.

**Soul Food Festival**

This event includes the Soul Food Parade and features local foods, dance, contests, children's activities, entertainment, and fun.

**Tales from the Clink**

Come experience stories ripped from the

headlines and archival court files about true crimes that happened right here in Clay County! Meet some real "characters" who wish they'd never broken the law or tries to escape from jail!

**NOVEMBER**

**Annual Krawl'n for the Fallen**

A weekend event for all off-road enthusiasts! The annual Krawl'n for the Fallen event is to raise awareness, show support and to remember, honor, and pay our respects for those who are no longer with us.

**Penney Arts and Crafts Fair**

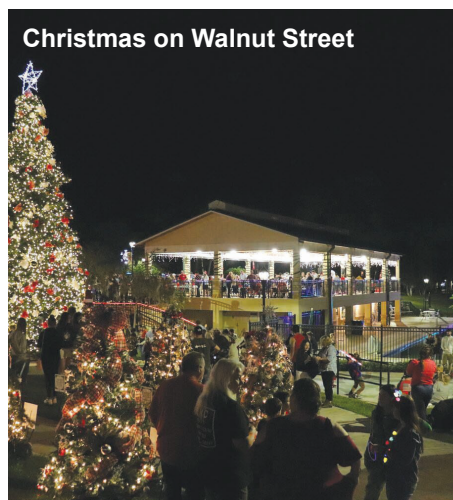
The artisans of Penney Farms Retirement Community have been working all year to create many unique items for your holiday gift-giving.

**Vintage Market Days Holiday**

MarketExperience an upscale, vintage-inspired shopping event featuring original art, antiques, cozy winter fashion, handmade treasures, home décor, seasonal plants, delicious treats, and more. It's the perfect place to find unique holiday gifts and festive inspiration!

**DECEMBER**

Celebrate the holiday season at Green Cove Springs' Christmas on Walnut Street! Enjoy a festive parade, honor a Hometown Hero, explore the Vendor Village for unique gifts and treats, and stroll through the magical Parade of Trees in Spring Park. It's a perfect way to kick off the holidays with family and friends!



Christmas on Walnut Street

**Hometown Holiday**

This event features a shopping village, hay rides through our decorated trail of lights, live entertainment, Clarke House tours, photos with Santa and more!

**Various Parades**

Celebrate the season with parades across Clay County, including the Green Cove Springs Christmas Parade, Oakleaf Christmas Parade, Middleburg Christmas Parade, Keystone Heights Christmas Parade, Whitey's Fish Camp Lighted Boat Parade, and the Orange Park Fire Truck Parade, each bringing festive cheer to their communities.

**GENESIS BROTHERS**  
FLOORS, KITCHEN & BATH

**Make Your Dream a Reality**  
Call today for a **FREE ESTIMATE!**

**(904) 644-7533** [WWW.GENESISBROTHERSINC.COM](http://WWW.GENESISBROTHERSINC.COM)

SCAN TO START YOUR NEXT PROJECT

**VINYL • HARDWOOD • TILE  
BATH REMODEL • WALK-IN TUB  
• KITCHEN • DEMOLITION  
VISIT OUR SHOWROOM**

# Unique Venues IN CLAY COUNTY

## CAMP CHOWENWAW

Camp Chowenwaw (Cho'-wen-waw) County Park, is a beautiful 150-acre site at the mouth of Black Creek, near its confluence with the St. Johns River. If you're desiring a casual ceremony or a vintage/shabby chic gathering, Camp Chowenwaw's outdoor amphitheater and Big Cabin provide the perfect backdrop.

## THE CLAY THEATRE

The Clay Theatre is an elegantly charming wedding venue located in Green Cove Springs, Florida. A former two-screen movie theatre situated on the St. Johns River across from Green Cove Springs' Spring Park, the venue offers clients a beautiful venue that can be modulated to their needs. The Clay Theatre's neutral but elegant decor—which includes brick walls, wooden plank ceilings, and touches of quartz and art deco art—can fit with any couple's theme.



## THE CITY OF KEYSTONE HEIGHTS

The City of Keystone Heights offers a few parks that are perfect for an intimate wedding celebration. Keystone Heights Natural Park, site of the historic Keystone Inn, sits on more than 5 acres of preserved land. Home to majestic native trees, a gazebo, nature path and butterfly garden, the Natural Park offers a quaint, tranquil place for your event.

## THE MANOR AT 12 OAKS FARM

The Manor at 12 Oaks Farm is a premier wedding and event venue – combining elegant refinement and rustic beauty for your one-of-a-kind celebration. At the heart of the estate is the elegant Manor house with its unmatched southern charm set on an equestrian farm – it's the perfect place to give your wedding a unique, sophisticated, yet rustic backdrop.

## THE OAKS RANCH

The Oaks Ranch is 100 acres of shady oak trees draped in Spanish moss and miles of serene trails in Florida back country. It is a beautiful, secluded setting to have your wedding and reception. There are many choices, with three wedding ceremony sites, a 4,000 sq. foot barn with a/c and heat and the stable area with a lighted dance floor for wedding rehearsal, ceremony and reception.

## SPRING PARK

Spring Park, located along the banks of the St. Johns River, Spring Park offers the perfect romantic setting for an outdoor wedding. Covered facilities available include the Spring Park Gazebo, Spring Park Pool Pavilion, and covered picnic areas.





GOD, FAMILY, AND REAL ESTATE

**Contact us  
for all of your  
Real Estate  
needs.**



**Schenita Little  
Broker / Owner  
904-505-7108**



**Angela Holley  
Realtor  
850-420-8137**



**Becky Mitchell  
Realtor  
904-759-7721**



**Robin Neal  
Realtor  
904-894-1826**

**What do you love most about Clay County, and what makes it unique to you?**

I love that Clay County is a great location to raise your family, and it offers plenty of family-oriented neighborhoods. The highly rated school system is also what made me chose to live in Clay county. It's unique because it has Creeks, Lakes, Preserves and Parks for your enjoyment.

**Tell us about your business: why you started it, what makes it special, and how it connects with the Clay County community.**

1st Choice Real Estate is a Christian based Real Estate Firm that focuses on keeping God 1st in all that we do, loving our families, taking care of our families and providing the resources to assist our clients with selling, purchasing or investing in real estate. Our motto is God, Family and Real Estate.

I started our company because I believe that everyone can and should benefit from purchasing Real Estate. I wanted to use the knowledge that I gained to help as many people as I can to do the same. My goal is to assist others with building wealth through Real Estate and I take pride in providing the knowledge that our clients need to bring their Real Estate Dreams to life.

**Who is your ideal customer, and why should they visit your business?**

Our ideal customers are people who want to purchase homes for their families to build generational wealth. We assist 1st time homebuyers as well as seasoned investors. Customers looking for a trustworthy, dependable and reliable real estate professionals who makes them a priority will not be disappointed when working with the 1st Choice family.

2561 County Rd 220, Unit 306  
Middleburg, FL 32068  
(904) 505-7108  
[www.1stchoicerealestateinc.org](http://www.1stchoicerealestateinc.org)

in Florida back country. It is a beautiful, secluded setting to have your wedding and reception. There are many choices, with three wedding ceremony sites, a 4,000 sq. foot barn with a/c and heat and the stable area with a lighted dance floor for wedding rehearsal, ceremony and reception.

### SPRING PARK

Spring Park, located along the banks of the St. Johns River, Spring Park offers the perfect romantic setting for an outdoor wedding. Covered facilities available include the Spring Park Gazebo, Spring Park Pool Pavilion, and covered picnic areas.

### THRASHER-HORNE CONFERENCE CENTER

The ideal setting for your special event. With a contemporary design and beautiful chandeliers, the grand room can accommodate up to 240 guests with room for dancing. With a variety of rooms and seating options available for every occasion you can design the perfect event.

### TUCKER'S FARMHOUSE

Tucker's Farmhouse is a family owned and operated business. The natural beauty, and rustic charm of our property provides the perfect setting for weddings and events. At Tucker's Farmhouse, their goal is for your wedding day to be your best day ever.

Did you know Clay County is home to more than 40 event venues? Whether you're planning a wedding, family or military reunion, sports tournament, or any group gathering, you'll find the perfect place to create meaningful memories.



*Honoring the Past, Embracing the Future*  
*We welcome you to become a part of our Aviation Family*



## COME VISIT OUR NEW FBO & ADMIN OFFICES

- FREQ. 122.700
- GREAT RESTAURANTS WITH-IN 5 MILES
- CORPORATE AND GENERAL AVIATION
- BUILDABLE LAND AVAILABLE FOR LEASE -AVIATION AND NON-AVIATION USE
- FLIGHT SCHOOLS
- EXCELLENT CUSTOMER SERVICE!!
- AIRCRAFT SALES & SERVICE ON-SITE
- STAFFED M-F 8A.M. - 5P.M.
- COMPETITIVE FUEL PRICING - JET-A & 100LL
- 100LL AVAILABLE VIA SELF-SERVE 24/7
- COURTESY CAR FOR PILOTS

# 352.473.0031

7150 AIRPORT RD, STARKE, FL  
KeystoneAirport.com



- Individual & Business Tax Preparation
- Small Business Bookkeeping
- Year-Round Service
- In-Person & Virtual Appointments

Personalized & Professional Services

# (904) 614-4012

**IRS APPROVED TAX PREPARATION BUSINESS**

**40+ Years Experience • Licensed & Insured**

  
**KINGSLEYJEWELRY**  
*Perfection is Our Obsession...*



**Voted Best Jewelry Store  
 in Clay County 5 Years in a row!**  
**Thank You!**



668 Kingsley Ave., Orange Park • (904) 278-2480  
 Tues. – Fri. 10am to 6pm • Sat. 10am to 2pm  
[KingsleyJewelry.com](http://KingsleyJewelry.com)



Jax Hope Inc. empowers the North Florida Parkinson's community through education, advocacy, and resources to improve their quality of life. Founded in 2017, the organization offers various programs including physical fitness, support groups, and resource services. Our goal is to address the daily challenges and slow the progression of Parkinson's disease.

**Education • Connection  
 Advocacy • Awareness**

**(904) 804-5535**  
[www.jaxhopeinc.org](http://www.jaxhopeinc.org)

Stay informed no matter what!



Sign up and receive election notifications right to your phone. Text **CLAYVOTES** to **91896** and opt-in to receive updates directly from our office.

*Next Election*

**2025 Municipal Super Tuesday Election**

Tuesday, April 8  
 7 AM - 7 PM

The deadline to register to vote is March 10, 2025.



**ClayElections.gov**

Your source for verified election information.



Vote by Mail ballots must be requested for every election cycle. If you'd like to Vote by Mail in 2025/2026, please scan this QR code, give us a call, or visit us online.



**Chris H. Chambliss**  
 Clay County  
 Supervisor of Elections  
 (904) 269 - 6350

# Oyster INC

## SEAFOOD MARKET



**Wednesday-Saturday 10am - 7pm | Sunday 11am - 5pm**  
**922 Blanding Blvd, #5, Orange Park • (904) 566-3341**

*(across from Super Wal-Mart)*

## Experience Green Cove Springs



*Market  
in the  
Park*

**Every 3rd Saturday of the Month**  
**10 am - 2 pm**

*321 Walnut Street in Front of City Hall*



*Location:  
Can be viewed  
on both sides  
of US 17  
between  
Lamont and  
Palmer*

**December 6, 2025 • 6 pm**

- Every 1st Sat. in December • Over 50 parade entrees
- One of the largest night parades in North Florida

### GREEN COVE SPRINGS BUSINESS LEAGUE

*Networking • Increased Visibility • Referrals*

Need additional business contacts? The Green Cove Springs Business League holds monthly meetings with guest speakers so members can develop business relationships and increase their professional network.

Learn more about other area businesses and the benefits and services they provide. Every 3rd Tuesday of the month.

**[www.GCSBL.com](http://www.GCSBL.com)**

**find us on facebook**

**RIGHT  
WHERE  
YOU'RE  
MEANT  
TO BE**

**Award-  
winning  
hotel**

## **HOLIDAY INN HOTEL & SUITES ORANGE PARK - WELLS ROAD**

Discover warm hospitality and award-winning service at the Holiday Inn & Suites Hotel Orange Park – Wells Road, centrally located off exit 10 of I-295 and U.S. 17.

Whether you are staying local in the Town of Orange Park or venturing out to explore greater Jacksonville, you'll find this hotel close to what matters most.



From beautiful guest rooms to outstanding amenities and ample event space, this hotel has become many travelers' and locals' "go-to" in the area for a reason.

**Book your next stay with us at the Holiday Inn & Suites Orange Park - Wells Rd! We look forward to welcoming you.**

### **AMENITIES TO ENJOY**

- Daily \$5 breakfast buffet
- Outdoor pool and whirlpool
- Fitness center
- Business center
- On-site full-service restaurant and bar
- Private banquet rooms and meeting space for rental



### **CONTACT US**

**IHG** ONE REWARDS

**H** *Holiday Inn  
& Suites*  
AN IHG HOTEL

Holiday Inn & Suites Orange Park  
(904) 562 - 7400  
620 Wells Road, Orange Park, FL 32073

# PAT'S NURSERY



**We provide top notch,  
personal lawn and garden  
services to every customer.**

*Pat's Nursery is a full-service, independent Nursery and Garden Center that can provide all of your gardening and lawn care supplies, plants, design and landscaping services.*

*Our goal is to help you beautify your home both inside and out with landscaping and plants that thrive in the North Florida area. We feature a broad spectrum of trees, landscape plants and shrubs along with ground cover and beautiful blooming flowers that will acclimate to your home in sunny Florida.*



***Open 7 Days a Week!***

**Mon-Sat 8:00 A.M - 5:00 P.M.**

**Sunday 9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.**

**[patsnurseryinc.com](http://patsnurseryinc.com)**

**904. 284.2011  
7060 Hwy 17 • Fleming Island**





# VAC·CON

[www.vac-con.com](http://www.vac-con.com)



**PROUDLY MANUFACTURED IN CLAY COUNTY**  
**EST 1986**

# Create Your Dream Space with "The Screen Specialists"

We Specialize In: Pools, Patios, Porches, Screened Enclosures, Glass and Vinyl Rooms, Concrete & More!

SERVING THE FIRST COAST  
SINCE 1982



Exclusive Nylon Headed Fastener

The Southern  
Enclosures Advantage

Patented Nylon Sleeve and Cap

Uncage YOUR Enclosure With  
**UltraScape!**

Customers Love the Finished Look!  
You'll NEVER See Rust Again! 10 Years Warranty!

**Southern  
Enclosures**  
Licensed & Insured | Florida Contractor CGC 055987

**FREE ESTIMATES**  
**904.284.5101**

[www.southern-enclosures.com](http://www.southern-enclosures.com)  
3285A Hwy. 17 • Green Cove Springs



## YOUR COMFORT IS OUR GOAL

Hickman's Heating & Air Conditioning is a family owned Air Conditioning business that is founded on four core values: Respect, Integrity, Customer Focus, and Expert Craftsmanship. We specialize in residential heating and cooling as well as light commercial.

- Friendly, knowledgeable solutions for all your residential or commercial heating, cooling and air quality needs.
- Exceptional warranties, skilled installation, maintenance and repair services
- Emergency 24-hour HVAC service available



**HICKMAN'S** | HEATING & AIR  
CONDITIONING

RESPECT. INTEGRITY. CUSTOMER FOCUS. EXPERT CRAFTSMANSHIP

Family Owned and Operated

Hickman's Heating & Air Conditioning  
1633 Farm Way Suite 505 Middleburg  
License: CMC1249686

**904.289.9994**

Your pets  
are our passion

## After Hours Urgent Care

Friday, Saturday & Sunday  
5PM - 12 Midnight

 **clayhumane**

2230 Filmore Street • Orange Park, FL 32065 • [ClayHumane.org](http://ClayHumane.org)

- After Hours Urgent Care
- Low Cost Spay/Neuter Services
- Humane Education
- Wildlife Protection
- Pet Therapy
- Disaster Animal Response Team



The 27th Annual

*Bradford County*  
**STRAWBERRY  
FESTIVAL**

---

**When:**

March 29 and 30, 2025

**Location:**

Bradford County  
Fairgrounds

2300 N Temple  
Avenue, Starke

[www.BradfordCountyStrawberryFestival.com](http://www.BradfordCountyStrawberryFestival.com)



**POKER  
TOURNAMENTS  
& CASH GAMES**



**VEGAS-STYLE  
TABLE GAMES**



**DELICIOUS  
FOOD &  
DRINKS**



**OPEN DAILY | 10AM - 4AM**

455 PARK AVE, ORANGE PARK, FL

**BESTBETJAX.COM**



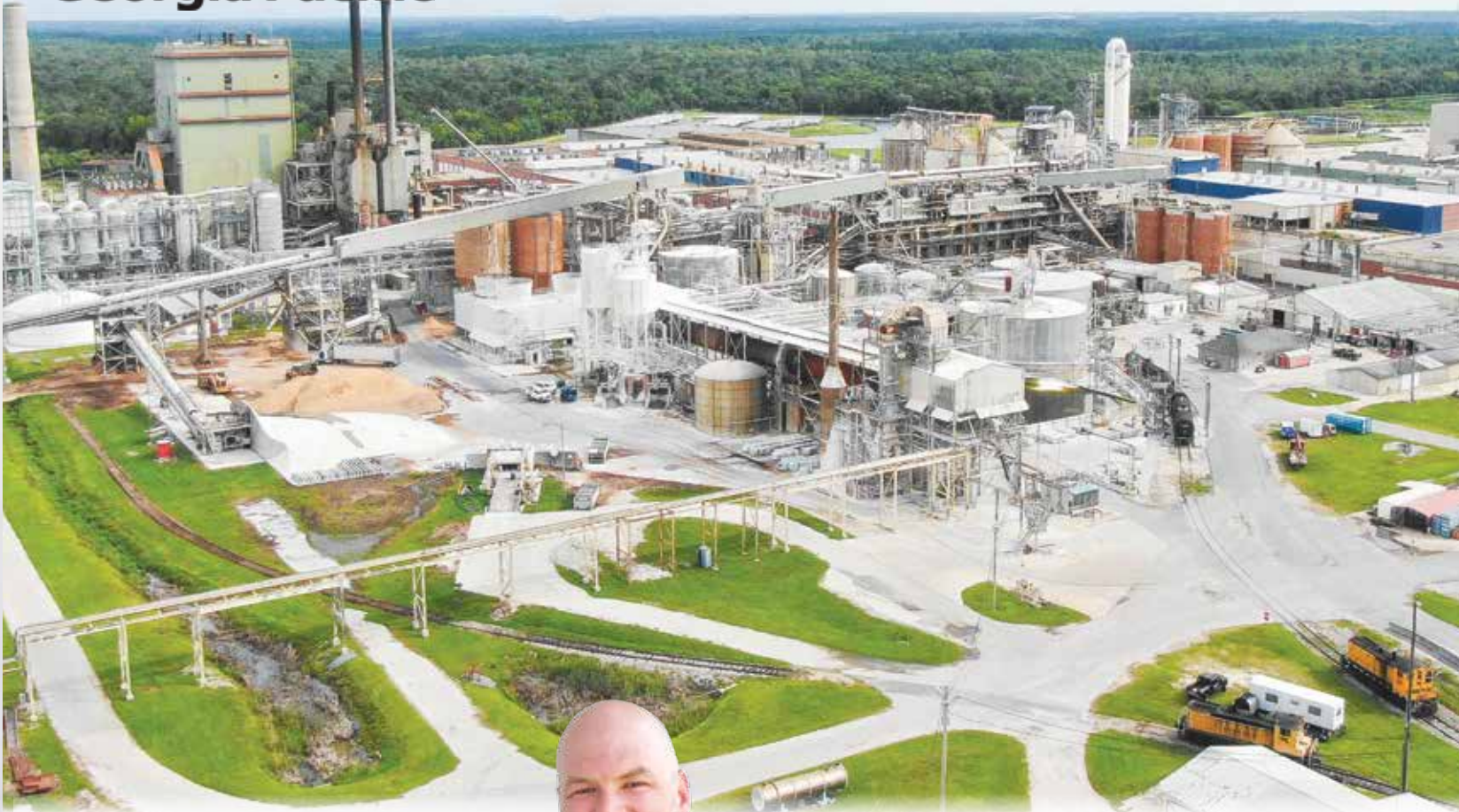
## Careers begin and grow here

From our headquarters in Atlanta, Georgia, to mills and facilities in 30 states around the country, Georgia-Pacific's world-class employees are the best at what they do. Scan the QR code to see available positions in our Palatka mill.





# A Pillar of Economic Growth in Palatka



*"In bathrooms, kitchens, and at backyard barbecues, you can find our household products helping to make everyday life a little easier."*

– Vin Webster, vice president of manufacturing at the Palatka facility

Georgia-Pacific's mill in Palatka has been a cornerstone of the community for 78 years, employing more than 1,000 workers. "In bathrooms, kitchens, and at backyard barbecues, you can find our household products helping to make everyday life a little easier," said Vin Webster, vice president of manufacturing at the Palatka facility.

The mill began operations on November 5, 1947, under the name Hudson Pulp and Paper Company. Initially, the Hudson mill had 279 employees but quickly became Florida's largest producer of facial and bathroom tissue. Over the years, it expanded its product offerings to include gummed paper tape and kraft paper for bags and sacks. In its early days, the mill was a significant community in Putnam County, featuring its power plant, fire department, police department, medical facilities, two cafeterias, and water supply. Today, it remains the largest private employer in the county, supporting more than 1,000 jobs directly and creating an additional 2,426 indirect jobs in the community.

The mill produces well-known consumer brands such as Brawny®, Sparkle®, and Angel Soft®,

as well as private-label paper towels and bath tissue. The mill also manufactures kraft paper used for recyclable mailers, grocery bags, butcher paper, and linerboard used in producing corrugated boxes.

Since its inception, daily production has skyrocketed by 800 percent. Georgia-Pacific acquired the mill in 1979 and has since modernized and expanded the facility, investing over \$1.2 billion since 2002.

With an annual economic impact exceeding \$1 billion, the mill plays a crucial role in the growth of Palatka and the surrounding region.

Beyond its economic contributions, the Palatka mill has also received recognition from the Environmental Protection Agency for its efforts in reducing energy and water consumption. In 2018, it earned the ENERGY STAR Challenge Achiever for Industry by cutting energy use by over 10 percent in three years. Additionally, in 2020, the mill

received the EPA's ENERGY STAR Top Project award for achieving a 40 percent reduction in water use within just 10 weeks, thanks to investments in upgraded equipment and monitoring systems.

The Palatka facility manages 16 wooded plots for sustainable forestry practice. When one area is harvested, saplings are replanted, allowing the land to be reused. After 15 years, these saplings mature into full trees, ensuring a continuous supply of resources without the need to encroach on new forested areas.

Georgia-Pacific, headquartered in Atlanta, is one of the leading manufacturers and marketers of bath tissue, paper towels, napkins, tableware, paper-based packaging, cellulose, specialty fibers, and building products.

The company operates over 150 facilities globally, directly employing around 30,000 people and creating more than 89,000 indirect jobs.

Where comfort  
meets convenience  
— *in two great locations.*

**Holiday Inn Express & Suites**  
**904.215.8900**

1815 East West Pkwy, Fleming Island, FL • <https://www.ihg.com>



Located minutes from Green Cove Springs and Jacksonville, we are walking distance to great restaurants, cinema, boutiques and shopping.

**Hampton Inn & Suites by Hilton**  
**904.406.6424**

1735 Jeremiah St. • Middleburg, FL • <https://www.hilton.com>



Located between First Coast Expressway and State Rd. 21 and convenient to St. Vincents Medical Center, Oakleaf Plantation, and Cecil Commerce Center. Minutes away from local seafood, ethnic cuisine and great southern barbecue.

*Both locations feature:*

- Free Hot Breakfast
- Premium Coffee and Tea
- Free Wi-Fi, Pool and Exercise Room

**Call for Special Rates!**



[blackpearlplumbing.inc@gmail.com](mailto:blackpearlplumbing.inc@gmail.com)

*Barry Beasley*  
**904-654-5002**

*Commercial / Residential / Remodel / Renovations*

2487 C.R. 220  
Middleburg, FL 32068

CFC057424



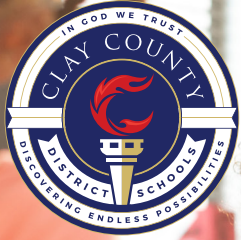
**We're here when you need us**

Advanced veterinary medicine is right down the road...when you need it.

- Same Day Urgent Care
- Specialized Surgery/Orthopedics
- Inhouse Diagnostics & CT Imaging
- Hospitalization/Recovery
- Daycare/Boarding

**Black Creek Veterinary Hospital**  
**(904) 282-0499**  
4100 CR 218, Middleburg, FL  
[blackcreekvet.com](http://blackcreekvet.com)





# CLAY COUNTY DISTRICT SCHOOLS



**COMMITTED TO FOSTERING A SAFE AND HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT FOR ALL STUDENTS AND STAFF.**

Clay County District Schools – **AN A-RATED SCHOOL DISTRICT IN THE STATE OF FLORIDA** – is preparing students for success in a global and competitive workplace upon graduation, with a strong focus on improving the academic well-being of every learner, offering world-class educational opportunities for all students.

**DAVID BROSKIE**  
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS



**PineApple Report's 2022-2023 Excellence in Education Leadership Award Recipient**

## DISTRICT *Highlights*

- ★ Graduation rate is 95% for the District's seven traditional high schools.
- ★ Named Academically High Performing School District by the Florida Department of Education.
- ★ Ranked #1 County with Best Public Schools in Florida by Niche in 2023.
- ★ CCDS offers 34+ Career and Technical Education programs.
- ★ All junior high and senior high schools have accelerated learning programs.
- ★ Ten CCDS schools are recognized as a Purple Star School of Distinction by the Florida Department of Education.
- ★ Enhanced and increased security measures to keep students and staff safe.
- ★ Secured over \$1.2 million in grant funds for fine arts programs across all schools.
- ★ All students have digital access through Chromebooks and Wi-Fi at every school.



## STAY CONNECTED

[ONECLAY.NET](http://ONECLAY.NET)

[@ONECLAY](https://www.facebook.com/ONECLAY)

[@ONECLAYSCHOOLS](https://twitter.com/ONECLAYSCHOOLS)

[@ONECLAYSCHOOLS](https://www.instagram.com/ONECLAYSCHOOLS)

1975  2025

# ORANGE PARK MALL

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS

## Celebrating 50 Years of Shopping, Dining, & Entertainment

Shop over 120 stores including Dillard's, Pandora, Hollister, Buckle, Old Navy, BoxLunch, and Miniso. Grab a bite at Buffalo Wild Wings, Natural Kitchen, or Popeyes, then catch a show at our 24-screen AMC Theater.

[OrangeParkMall.com](http://OrangeParkMall.com) |  

