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Mission Statement:

To further community interests, provide wholesome family entertainment a community gathering place, and promote local businesses.

The Middleburg Civic Association has been hosting community events since 1941. All of our events are open to the public and family-friendly. And, all of the events are made possible through sponsors, donors and volunteer support.

Get involved today and be a contributing member of your community and a part of tomorrow's history.

Monthly Business Meeting/Luncheon

Held 12:30pm-1:30pm, the last Wednesday of each month; open to Middleburg business owners, managers, public leaders, and the general public.

Contact MiddleburgCA@currently.com for more information

2023 Board Members:

Paula Cloud – President

Kristina Knowles – Vice President

Christi Helms – Treasurer

Nichole Rockett – Secretary

Courtney Hoard – Member Chairperson

Paula Cloud – Building Manager

Nina Tyndall – Honorary Board Member

Festivals, Public Meetings, Business Meetings & Building Rental information can be found at

www.MiddleburgCivicAssociation.com

MiddleburgCA@currently.com

ADVERTISING & LAYOUT INFORMATION:

Middleburg Directory and Community Review is created and printed annually by the staff of the Clay Today newspaper. If you would like to be included in the next edition please contact:

Farris Robinson (904) 264-3200

Farris@claytodayonline.com

Publisher, Clay Today and Clay County Leader funding provided by area Middleburg community businesses, Thank You.

From the President...

Salutations!

I would like to extend a heartfelt welcome to our community, my family has personally made Middleburg home for over thirty-three years and I have been the President of our association since 2019. Middleburg is unique because it offers the convenience of a small-town atmosphere while still also maintaining the feel of the country. You will find that even though we are beginning to grow in leaps and bounds, you will still be met with that friendly and small-town welcome.

Middleburg is great for individuals and/or families because it offers a variety of things to do close to home. There are parks, rivers, museums, and a beautiful forest for the outdoor enthusiast. For the more adventurous, just an hour away are beaches, theme parks, and many other fun family activities.

For those of you considering or embarking on a new business venture in Middleburg, you will find it a great place to do business.

The Middleburg Civic Association has been the heart of the community and business networking for over 82 years and has been voted Best of Clay for 5 years since 2019. This year we are focused to provide our local business a great opportunity for networking along with community outreach! Our outreach projects include feeding families and back to school drives, we also take pride in our festivals that are a family, wholesome free to the public entraining events.

2023 was without a doubt a year to get back to what we all do but hopefully with a little more kindness. Middleburg Civic Association is in full swing and hope the community is too! We continue to find new ways to help our members, community and business and we would love your support!

To support our local business members head on over to our website at middleburgcivicassociation.com.

The Middleburg Civic Association offers a year-round calendar of events for the community and great marketing opportunities for businesses through sponsorship and volunteering.

Our monthly meeting is held on the last Wednesday of every month @ 12:30 p.m. and the location is at 2102 Palmetto Street, Middleburg Florida 32068. You can also follow us on Facebook and Instagram to see our events. It is open to businesses, members and the general public. Your membership and support to the MCA helps continue the traditions we hold so dearly in Middleburg. So, either as a community member or a business member take a moment and sign up!

On Behalf of the 2023 MCA Board, and all members, Thank you for your support and do not forget to shop local.

Paula M. Cloud
President



Paula Cloud
President



Kristina Knowles
Vice President



Christi Helms
Treasurer



Nichole Rockett
Secretary



Courtney Hoard
Member
Chairperson

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Middleburg

Area.....	101.1 square miles
Population.....	57,305
HH With Children Under Age 18.....	28%
Over Age 60.....	20%
Median HH Income.....	63,486
Adult College Graduates.....	17.9%
% Home Ownership.....	78%
Number of Homes & Apartments.....	21,624
Zip Code.....	32068

Public Schools

Clay Charter Academy (Charter)
Coppergate Elementary School
Doctors Inlet Elementary School
Middleburg Elementary School
RideOut Elementary School
Swimming Pen Creek Elementary
Tynes Elementary School
Wilkinson Elementary School
Shadowlawn Elementary School
Wilkinson Junior High School
Middleburg High School

Private Schools

Annunciation Catholic School

Public Parks & Recreation

Four Silo Park
Paul C. Armstrong Park
Ridaught Landing Park
Greenwood Park
Jennings State Forest
Black Creek Ravines
Omega Community Park
Hunter-Douglas Park
Foxmeadow Recreational Park

Public Boat Ramps

Middleburg Main Street Boat Ramp
(3788 Main Street)
Jennings State Forest Boat Ramp
(1337 Longhorn Road)

Middleburg is an unincorporated area and census-designated place (CDP) in Clay County. It began in the 1820s first as Clark's Ferry, named for the man who ran the local ferry. From 1833 to 1850, the area was known as Gary's Ferry. Then in 1853, it officially became Middleburg. When Clay County was created in 1858, Middleburg became the county seat until 1874.

One of the largest areas of Clay County, Middleburg includes both rural and small town areas and is fast growing as a center

of commerce and recreation. With access to Black Creek and Doctors Lake, the area boasts great fishing, boating and water sports activities. The beautiful Jennings State Forest offers plenty of outdoor activities including hiking, horseback riding, and canoeing.

Middleburg also is home to St. Vincent's Medical Center Clay County, a full-service hospital that recently added maternity and women's services, more ER rooms and 30 additional inpatient beds.



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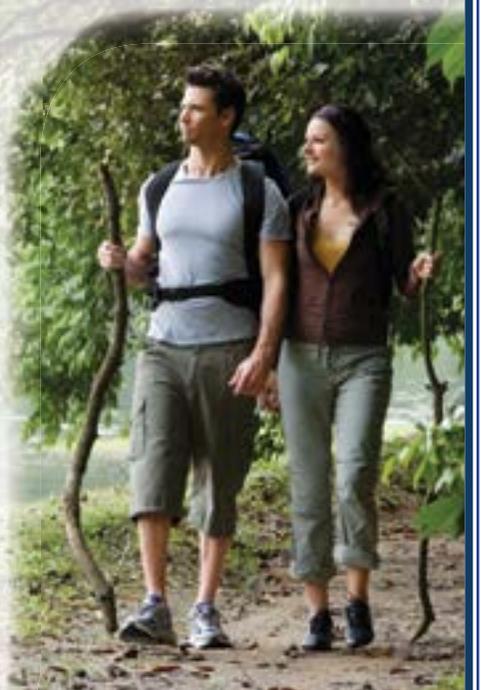
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Middleburg Civic Association



Starting in 1937

On April 19, 1937 Mr. and Mrs. F.W. Budington deeded a parcel of land 150 feet by 200 feet on Palmetto Avenue to the Clay County Commissioners to be used as the ground upon which a Canning Center and Recreation Hall was to be erected for the citizens of Middleburg and for no other purpose. The property, as stipulated in the deed, was not to be used for any school purposes what-so-ever.

The building and original furniture was built by WPA workers and on Nov. 15, 1938, a committee held its first meeting to make rules and regulations for a "Community Home." Those attending this meeting were: Mr. and Mrs. A.W. Budd, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Masters, Mrs. Alice Masters, Mrs. Gussie Stewart, Mrs. Pearl Lee, Mrs. F.W. Budington, Mr. Joe Huntley and Mr. L.E. Ganann. Mr. Budd was selected Chairman and it was voted that anyone using the building would pay 50 cents, with an additional 25 cents as a guarantee that the building would be left clean and in good condition, this amount to be refunded when said conditions are complied with and accepted by the committee in charge. There was an additional charge of 50 cents if lights were used.

It was not until July 1941 that a temporary Executive Committee met for the purpose of forming a corporation and drawing up by-laws. The name was changed from The Community Home to The Middleburg Civic Association. The original sign, made by James McDonald, still hangs over the steps. The proposed Charter was approved, as presented, by Hon. A.D. McNeil, Circuit Judge of the Fourth Judicial Circuit of Florida on July 14, 1941 in Jacksonville. On July 15, 1941 said charter was

filed with Mr. L.T. Ivey, Clerk Circuit Court, Clay County. There were eight specific objects and purposes for which the corporation was organized. They were:

1. To promote the literary, scientific, social and philosophical improvement, advancement and benefit of its members.
2. To render aid to all worthy civic objects and purposes
3. To promote the general development of the Community of Middleburg, Clay County, Florida.
4. To cultivate public sentiment for the promotion of civic improvement and beautification of the community.
5. To develop the mutual welfare and benefit of its members.
6. To cooperate with and to assist in coordinating efforts of all similar organizations and individuals for the promotion of the civic benefit of the Community of Middleburg,
7. To own, maintain and operate a Community House in Middleburg with the full power to leave the building or equipment, to purchase equipment, furniture, fixtures and supplies and to promote meetings, dances, entertainments and other civil meetings and to charge admission.
8. To cooperate in all aspects with the Clay County Chamber of Commerce and the Board of Clay County Commissioners.

The opening date was set for September 10, 1941 and a concert was to be given.

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| Abundant Joy Christian
420 College Dr, Middleburg | Clay Hill Church Of God
5075 County Road 218 Middleburg FL | First Church Of God
3965 Old Jennings Rd Middleburg FL | New Hope for the Lost
2714 Burroughs Rd, Middleburg | North Middleburg Baptist Church
2360 Blanding Blvd Middleburg FL |
| Abundant Life Christian Fellowship
5040 County Road 218 Middleburg FL | ConnectPoint Apostolic Church
3180 County Rd 220 Ste 1 Middleburg FL | Fox Meadow Baptist Church
3227 Old Jennings Rd Middleburg FL | North Middleburg Baptist Church
2360 Blanding Blvd., Middleburg | Sinai International Baptist Church
1535 Blanding Blvd Apt 416 Middleburg FL |
| Black Creek Church of Christ
3216 County Road 218 Middleburg FL | ConnectPoint Apostolic Church
2728 Howard Road Middleburg FL | Grain Of Mustard Seed Ministry
2150 Hill Rd Middleburg FL | Oak Grove Baptist Church
3627 County Road 215 Middleburg FL
Southern Baptist Convention | The Rock Bible Church
1651 Russell Rd |
| Black Pond Baptist Church
3644 Old Jennings Rd Middleburg FL | Cross Roads Baptist Church
1595 Baxley Rd, Middleburg FL | Lakeside Community Church
564 Tara Farms Dr Middleburg FL | Pinewood Presbyterian Church
198 Knight Boxx Rd Middleburg FL | The Jesus Church Of Deliverance Of
The Apostolic Faith
2785 Forman Cir Middleburg FL |
| Black Creek Methodist Church
3925 Main St Middleburg FL | Doctors Inlet Baptist Church
384 Logan Ave Orange Park FL
Southern Baptist Convention | Living Hope Baptist Country Church
5540 Carter Spencer Rd Middleburg FL | Saint Lukes Catholic Church
1606 Blanding Blvd Middleburg FL | Vineyard Christian Fellowship
1740 Glen Laurel Dr Middleburg FL |
| Calvary Baptist Church
1532 Long Bay Rd Middleburg FL | Embassy of Christ
2713 CR 220, Middleburg | Living Waters Of Middleburg
2504 Begonia Dr Middleburg FL | Saint Mark Missionary Baptist Church
2703 Forman Cir Middleburg FL | Family Of God United Church
1530 Long Bay Rd Middleburg FL |
| Calvary Haitian Baptist Church
1532 Long Bay Road Middleburg FL | Faith Wesleyan Church
582 Plantation Dr Middleburg FL | Madeira Baptist Church
1650 Blanding Blvd Middleburg FL | Saint Peter Lutheran Church
1614 Blanding Blvd Middleburg FL | Shekinah Fellowship
2645 Blanding Blvd Middleburg FL |
| Christian Faith Center
4021 Everett Avenue Middleburg FL | Fellowship Bible Church Christian and MA
2827 County Road 220 Middleburg FL | Messiah's Harvest Church
Services held at 2102 Palmetto Street
Middleburg, FL 32068 | Mark Church
1550 Tynes Blvd Middleburg FL | South Middleburg Baptist Church
4565 Alligator Blvd Middleburg FL |
| Corner Stone Baptist Church
20 Cinnamon St Middleburg FL | First Assembly Of God
3167 County Road 215 Middleburg FL | Middleburg Presbyterian Church
4564 Rosemary St Middleburg FL | Middleburg Open Bible Church
5329 Razorback Ct Middleburg FL | Messiah's Harvest Church
2102 Palmetto St Middleburg FL |
| Clay County Church of the Brethren
1811 Henley Rd Middleburg FL | First Baptist Church of Brannanfield
4360 Discovery Dr Middleburg FL | Morningstar Family Church
3900 Main St Middleburg FL | My Redeemer Christian Fellowship
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Debra Chastian Owens
Paula Cloud
Rebecca Cloud
Betsy Condon, Commissioner

Michelle Cook, CCSO Sheriff
Cecilia Freer
Pamela Haun
Kristina Knowles
Melody Lee-Carte

Monica Mercer
Nichole Rockette
John Ruark
Cynthia Saben
Karen Schenk

Tom Spencer
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904.215.3000
Contact: John Fagan
john@johnfagan.com

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Contact: Janet Stratton
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Middleburg, FL 32068
904.282.7373
Contact: Cassie Leino, Manager
Cassie.Leino10@yahoo.com



Black Creek Customs
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Middleburg, FL 32068
904.351.8776
Contact: Shelly McGlothlin
art@blackcreekcustoms.com

Black Creek Methodist Church
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Middleburg, FL 32068
904.282.5589
Contact: Nichole Batten
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Black Creek Squares
904.263.6861
Contact: Kenneth Perez
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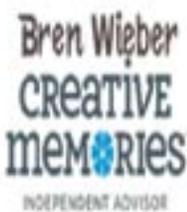
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Owner: Joann Clark
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President: April Watts
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Contact: Shonda Waller



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Owner: Tom Hayes
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Contact: Douglas Decker
Email: douglas.decker@walmarthealth.com



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93 Plankton Avenue
Middleburg, FL 32068
904.609.3120
Owner: Travis Watts
WattsOutdoorAdventures@gmail.com

Wiggins Construction

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Green Cove Springs, FL 32043
904.622.6165
Contact: Brain Wiggins
Brian@WigginsConstruction.net



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Calendar of Events

JULY 2023

- 1 Christmas in July for "Operation Santa Cause" for Military kids. Contact: Kathleen Weise at 904.413.1150 to arrange for collection box or email: OperationSantaCause@gmail.com
- 3 Compliment your Mirror Day
- 4 Independence Day
- 6 National Fried Chicken Day
- 7 National Chocolate Day
- 10 Teddy Bear Picnic Day
- 14 National Mac & Cheese Day
- 19 National Hot Dog Day
- 23 PARENT'S DAY
- 26 **MIDDLEBURG CIVIC ASSOCIATION Meets Last Wednesday of each month from 12:30 PM-1:30 PM. Come and NETWORK with the "BEST OF CLAY NETWORKING GROUP" five years in a row!** Check our website at www.MiddleburgCivicAssociation.com Email: MiddleburgCA@currently.com
- 30 National Cheese Cake Day

AUGUST 2023

- 1 Sisters Day
- 2 Teachers return to School-Clay County
- 3 National Watermelon Day
- 3 "Kindergarten Prep Class" Middleburg Martial Arts-2361 Blanding Blvd., Middleburg
- 4 Coast Guard Birthday
- 5 "ANNUAL" FILL THE BACKPACK GIVE-A-WAY EVENT!" BACK TO SCHOOL EVENT presented by the MIDDLEBURG CIVIC ASSOCIATION & OUR COMMUNITY. Back Pack & Supplies Give Away! First Come, First Serve. Line up at 9:00AM Located at 2102 Palmetto Street in downtown Middleburg.
- 7 National Purple Heart Day
- 10 National S'mores Day
- 10 Students return to School-Clay County
- 11 Play in the Sand Day
- 20 Senior Citizen's Day
- 24 National Waffle Day
- 25 National Second Hand Clothes Day

- 30 **MIDDLEBURG CIVIC ASSOCIATION Meets Last Wednesday of each month from 12:30 PM-1:30 PM. Come and NETWORK with the "BEST OF CLAY NETWORKING GROUP" five years in a row!** Check our website at www.MiddleburgCivicAssociation.com Email: MiddleburgCA@currently.com
- 28 Bow Tie Day

SEPTEMBER 2023

- 4 Labor Day
- 9 "Student Focus Seminar" Organizer your student for school- Martial Arts-2361 Blanding Blvd
- 11 Patriots Day
- 11 Grandparents Day
- 12 Hug Your Hound Day
- 15 National POW/MIA Recognition Day
- 16 Annual Anniversary Celebration Middleburg Martial Arts- 2361 Blanding Blvd. Open to the Public. Free admission. Food, Vendors & Fun!
- 17 Citizenship Day
- 18 Air Force Day
- 23 September Equinox-First Day of Fall
- 24 Gold Star Mother's Day
- 24 Operation Santa Cause "RIDE WITH SANTA" American Legion #250, 2680 Black Creek Dr, Middleburg off CR218East 904.282.3766 For info or to sponsor, contact: Jeanne Scholl 904-945-4142

- 27 **MIDDLEBURG CIVIC ASSOCIATION Meets Last Wednesday of each month from 12:30 PM-1:30 PM. Come and NETWORK with the "BEST OF CLAY NETWORKING GROUP" five years in a row!** Check our website at www.MiddleburgCivicAssociation.com Email: MiddleburgCA@currently.com
- 29 National Coffee Day

OCTOBER 2023

- Breast Awareness Month
- Domestic Violence Awareness Month
- 1 National Homemade Cookie Day
- 2 Name Your Car Day
- 2 Child Health Day
- 4 Taco Day
- 7 BULLY PREVENTION SEMINAR

- 2:00PM held at Middleburg Martial Arts -2361 Blanding Blvd. Open to the Public. Free admission. Registration is requested.
- 9 Columbus Day Observed
- 12 Columbus Day
- 12 Take Your Teddy Bear to Work Day
- 14 National Desert Day
- 15 White Cane Safety Day
- 15 MEDICARE OPEN ENROLLMENT through Dec 7
- 16 Boss's Day
- 17 Wear Something Gaudy Day
- 20 Middleburg Martial Arts ANNUAL TRUNK OR TRICK EVENT 5PM located at 2361 Blanding Blvd., Middleburg. Open to the Public. Jump House, Food Trucks, Vendors, Games, and Prizes.
- 26 Make a Difference Day
- 28 National Chocolate Day
- 25 **MIDDLEBURG CIVIC ASSOCIATION Meets Last Wednesday of each month from 12:30 PM-1:30 PM. Come and NETWORK with the "BEST OF CLAY NETWORKING GROUP" five years in a row!** Check our website at www.MiddleburgCivicAssociation.com Email: MiddleburgCA@currently.com
- 27 Tell a Story Day
- 31 Halloween

NOVEMBER 2023

- 1 National Calzone Day
- 1 MARKET PLACE OPENS through 1/5/2024
- 1-24 "Operation Santa Cause" for Military kids. Contact: Kathleen Weise at 904.413.1150 to arrange for collection box or email: OperationSantaCause@gmail.com
- 4 ANNUAL HISTORIC FALL FESTIVAL 11AM-4PM Presented by Middleburg Civic Center 2102 Palmetto Street, Middleburg - Vendors, Food Trucks, Jump House, Games, Music. contact: MiddleburgCA@currently.com or www.MiddleburgCivicAssociation.com
- 5 Daylight Saving Time ends
- 7 Men Make Dinner Day

- 10 Marine Corps Birthday
- 11 Veteran's Day
- 14 National Pajama Day
- 16 National Fast Food Day
- 20-24 Clay County School Thanksgiving Break NO School Students/teachers
- 23 THANKSGIVING DAY
- 24 Black Friday
- 25 SHOP SMALL DAY EVENT – Shop Local Event presented by One Swanky Chic located at 424 Walnut St, Green Cove Springs. Vendors and Food Truck
- 27 Cyber Monday
- 28 Giving Tuesday
- 29 **MIDDLEBURG CIVIC ASSOCIATION Meets Last Wednesday of each month from 12:30 PM-1:30 PM. Come and NETWORK with the "BEST OF CLAY NETWORKING GROUP" five years in a row!** Check our website at www.MiddleburgCivicAssociation.com Email: MiddleburgCA@currently.com
- 30 FIRST DAY to drop off CHRISTMAS LETTERS to SANTA at One Swanky Chic Boutique located at 424 Walnut St, Green Cove Springs

DECEMBER 2023

- 5 Operation Santa Cause for Military Kids www.OperationSantaCauseInc.com
- 7 Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
- 7 MEDICARE ENROLLMENT ENDS
- 12 National Poinsettia Day
- 13 National Guard Birthday
- 13 **MIDDLEBURG CIVIC ASSOCIATION Meets Last Wednesday of each month from 12:30 PM-1:30 PM. Come and NETWORK with the "BEST OF CLAY NETWORKING GROUP" five years in a row!** Check our website at www.MiddleburgCivicAssociation.com Email: MiddleburgCA@currently.com
- 15 Bill of Rights Day
- 15 National Cupcake Day
- 16 LAST DAY to drop off CHRISTMAS LETTERS to SANTA at One Swanky Chic Boutique located at 424 Walnut St, Green Cove Springs
- 17 Wright Brothers Day

- 18 National Twin Day
- 21 Clay County School Christmas Break Dec 21-Jan 8
- 21 Winter Solstice (Shortest day of the year)
- 24 Christmas Eve
- 25 CHRISTMAS DAY
- 28 Call a Friend Day
- 31 New Year's Eve – BE SAFE

JANUARY 2024

- 1 New Year's Day – Happy New Year! Time to renew your Middleburg Civic Association Membership. Don't forget you get a \$10 discount if you renew before January 31st. Not a member? Join now! VOTED "BEST OF CLAY""NETWORKING" five years in a row! Contact us at: www.MiddleburgCivicAssociation.com or Email: MiddleburgCA@currently.com
- 8 Clay County Students return to school
- 4 National Spaghetti Day
- 15 Martin Luther King Day
- 19 Popcorn Day
- 20 Soup Swap Day
- 23 National Pie Day
- 24 Belly Laugh Day
- 31 **MIDDLEBURG CIVIC ASSOCIATION Meets Last Wednesday of each month from 12:30 PM-1:30 PM. Come and NETWORK with the "BEST OF CLAY NETWORKING GROUP" five years in a row!** Check our website at www.MiddleburgCivicAssociation.com Email: MiddleburgCA@currently.com

FEBRUARY 2024

- 1 Eat Ice Cream for Breakfast Day
- 2 Groundhog Day
- 2 National Wear Red Day
- 7 Send a Card to a Friend Day
- 9 National Pizza Day
- 11 Make a Friend Day
- 11 Super Bowl Day
- 12 Lincoln's Birthday
- 14 Valentine's Day
- 16 Do A Grouch A Favor Day
- 20 President's Day
- 28 **MIDDLEBURG CIVIC ASSOCIATION Meets Last Wednesday of each month from 12:30 PM-1:30 PM. Come and NETWORK with the "BEST OF CLAY NETWORKING**

GROUP" five years in a row!

Check our website at www.MiddleburgCivicAssociation.com Email: MiddleburgCA@currently.com

MARCH 2024

- National Women's History Month
- 1 Read Across America Day
- 5 National Pancake Day
- 10 Daylight Saving Time starts
- 11-15 SPRING BREAK Clay County Students
- 17 St Patrick's Day
- 19 Let's Laugh Day
- 19 Spring Begins-Vernal Equinox
- 19 Students return to school
- 24 Palm Sunday
- 27 **MIDDLEBURG CIVIC ASSOCIATION Meets Last Wednesday of each month from 12:30 PM-1:30 PM. Come and NETWORK with the "BEST OF CLAY NETWORKING GROUP" five years in a row!** Check our website at www.MiddleburgCivicAssociation.com Email: MiddleburgCA@currently.com
- 29 Good Friday-No school
- 30 Take a Walk in the Park Day
- 31 Easter

APRIL 2024

- 1 April Fool's Day
- 3 Find a Rainbow Day
- 4 Clay County Fair Begins (4th-14th)
- 12 Grilled Cheese Day
- 12 Clay County Fair Day Students/Teachers
- 13 Annual Spring Festival 11AM-3PM Middleburg Civic Center 2102 Palmetto Street, Middleburg! Check our website at www.MiddleburgCivicAssociation.com or Email: MiddleburgCA@currently.com
- 14 Clay County Fair Ends
- 15 Tax Day
- 16 Wear PJ's To Work Day
- 22 Earth Day
- 24 **MIDDLEBURG CIVIC ASSOCIATION Meets Last Wednesday of each month from 12:30 PM-1:30 PM. Come and NETWORK with the "BEST OF CLAY NETWORKING GROUP" five years in a row!** Check our website at www.MiddleburgCivicAssociation.com Email: MiddleburgCA@currently.com

- 26 Poem in Your Pocket Day

MAY 2024

- Military Appreciation Month
- 2 National Day of Prayer
- 4 Star Wars Day
- 5 Cinco de Mayo
- 7-10 Teacher Appreciation Event/Luncheon presented by One Swanky Chic located at 424 Walnut St, Green Cove Springs
- 12 MOTHER'S DAY
- 18 Armed Forces Day
- 24 Clay County Graduation Day
- 27 Memorial Day
- 28 National Hamburger Day
- 29 **MIDDLEBURG CIVIC ASSOCIATION Meets Last Wednesday of each month from 12:30 PM-1:30 PM. Come and NETWORK with the "BEST OF CLAY NETWORKING GROUP" five years in a row!** Check our website at www.MiddleburgCivicAssociation.com Email: MiddleburgCA@currently.com
- 30 Clay County Last Day of School

JUNE 2024

- 1 Say Something Nice Day
- 5 National Doughnut Day
- 6 Drive-In Movie Day
- 8 Best Friends Day
- 12 Red Nose Day
- 14 Flag Day
- 16 FATHER'S DAY
- 19 Take Your Dog to Work Day
- 20 Summer Begins-Longest day of the year
- 21 National Flip Flop Day
- 22 American Eagle Day
- 26 **MIDDLEBURG CIVIC ASSOCIATION Meets Last Wednesday of each month from 12:30 PM-1:30 PM. Come and NETWORK with the "BEST OF CLAY NETWORKING GROUP" five years in a row!** Check our website at www.MiddleburgCivicAssociation.com Email: MiddleburgCA@currently.com

JULY 2024

- 4 Independence Day
- 6 National Fried Chicken Day
- 3 Compliment your Mirror Day
- 4 Independence Day
- 6 National Fried Chicken Day
- 7 National Chocolate Day

- 10 Teddy Bear Picnic Day
- 14 National Mac & Cheese Day
- 17 National Hot Dog Day
- 23 PARENT'S DAY
- 31 **MIDDLEBURG CIVIC ASSOCIATION Meets Last Wednesday of each month from 12:30 PM-1:30 PM. Come and NETWORK with the "BEST OF CLAY NETWORKING GROUP" five years in a row!** Check our website at www.MiddleburgCivicAssociation.com Email: MiddleburgCA@currently.com

NOTE:

Azalea Ridge Homeowners Association
Contact 263-5129
Meets quarterly at Library

Black Creek Park North Neighborhood Association
Contact: Howard Davidson, Jr
904-282-5230
Meets quarterly at Library

CCSO NET Meeting
2ND Thursday of the Month
6:00pm-8:00pm
Meets at the Middleburg Civic Center
2102 Palmetto St, Middleburg

Citizen Advisory Group
3rd Monday each month
6:00pm-8:00pm
Meets at the Middleburg Civic Center
2102 Palmetto St, Middleburg

Ravines Resort Condo Association
Contact: 904-278-2338
Meets 2nd Monday PM at the Middleburg Civic Center located at 2102 Palmetto Street in downtown Middleburg

Contact: 904-298-2321
Meets 3rd Thursday PM at the Middleburg Civic Center located at 2102 Palmetto Street in downtown Middleburg

Ridgewood Trails CDD
Contact: 904-940-5850
Meets occasionally at Library

Middleburg “2023 Business of the Year”

LR

Latour | Roberts, PA

Each year, the Middleburg Civic Association selects one of our businesses as our “**Business of the Year**”. This one stands out with its continuous dedication to the Middleburg area community. With all of the great businesses in Middleburg joining in to support our amazing community, there were so many to choose from.

This business has gone above and beyond to contribute time, money, and resources to events happening in the Middleburg area. Never hesitating, they have rallied around the fine folks of Middleburg to support and help our community move forward, grow and prosper.

We would like to honor *Latour & Roberts, PA*, our “**2023 Business of the Year**”. Congratulations, from all of us at the Middleburg Civic Association and the Middleburg Networking Group! Your dedication to the community is greatly appreciated.

Latour & Roberts, PA serves the community in so many different capacities. *Latour & Roberts, PA* is very much hands on when it come to our community. They are always there to give a helping hand and have been a huge supporter of our community from supporting our Annual Festivals or Back to School Events that are free to the public. Thanks again to your whole crew!

Come out and join us at our Middleburg Networking group, the one voted as “**BEST OF CLAY**” for “**BEST NETWORKING**” five years in a row. We meet on the last Wednesday of each month. Bring your business cards and fliers to distribute to other members as we network with each other to improve our businesses and community. Check out our website at www.MiddleburgCivicAssociation.com or Email us at MiddleburgCA@currently.com for more information.



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Middleburg “2023 Member of the Year”



With all of the great support this year, it was very hard to choose only one member in our business community to be our “**Member of the Year**”. With the great folks of Middleburg joining in to support our community, there were so many to choose from. It was a tuff decision, but in the end there can be only one.

This member has gone above and beyond to contribute their time and resources to events happening in Middleburg. Never hesitating or complaining about things, they have rallied around the fine folks of Middleburg to support and help our community move forward, grow, and prosper.

This year’s winner is **Middleburg Martial Arts!** Congratulations!

Middleburg Martial Arts has been a dedicated part of the community for many years helping to guide and serve our residents both young and old. **Middleburg Martial Arts** has also volunteered their time and talents with the Middleburg Civic Association on many events to give a special experience to children and adults from all walks of life. Thanks **Middleburg Martial Arts**, for all you do!

Come out and join us at our Middleburg Networking group, the one voted as “**BEST OF CLAY**” for “**BEST NETWORKING**” five years in a row. We meet on the last Wednesday of each month. Bring your business cards and fliers to distribute to other members as we network with each other to improve our businesses and community. Check out our website at www.MiddleburgCivicAssociation.com or Email us at MiddleburgCA@currently.com for more information.

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Middleburg “2023 Volunteer of the Year”



Each year, the Middleburg Civic Association selects one person from the Greater Middleburg community to be recognized as “Volunteer of the Year”. This year our winner is none other than the **Hendry Farms**. Congratulations go to **Hendry Farms**!

Hendry Farms volunteers as community members for the Middleburg Civic Association where they have been working very hard by volunteering many hours every year. They give their time to help make our community a great place to live, play, and work. For several years, Hendry Farms has been giving selflessly and enlisting the help of many others to join along the way. **Hendry Farms** proudly volunteers their time and talents with the Middleburg Civic Association as outstanding community members.

Hendry Farms, thanks for all that you do! We could not do it without you and your BIG HEART! The Middleburg Civic Association is blessed to have you.

Come out and join us at our Middleburg Networking group, the one voted as “**BEST OF CLAY**” for “**BEST NETWORKING**” five years in a row. We meet on the last Wednesday of each month. Bring your business cards and fliers to distribute to other members as we network with each other to improve our businesses and community. Check out our website at www.MiddleburgCivicAssociation.com or Email us at MiddleburgCA@currently.com for more information.



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The Middleburg Market Update

What is the state of our local real estate market?

Your view of the market depends a lot on where you get your information. There are many conflicting opinions and it can be very overwhelming to decipher who is actually correct. Do you want to be a local expert and stay on top of the market? Here are my favorite current statistics as well as answers to your most common questions.

I am proud to inform you that Middleburg is in what I call a “stable market.” The median sales price of a single-family home is \$342,000 so far for 2023.

To put that in perspective, 2022 was \$340,700. That is only a 0.4% difference!

On average, homes are on the market for 51 days before going under contract compared to only 13 days in 2022.

Ever wonder how you know if it is a Sellers or Buyers market? All you need to do is look at the months supply of inventory! Right now we are at 2.9 which means that if no new listings hit the market, our inventory would only last 2.9 months before running out. Equilibrium, when you have an equal number of Buyers and Sellers in the market, is between 5 and 6 months of inventory. Knowing that bit of information, we can say that we are in a Sellers market currently.

The number one question we get at the EXIT Inspired Real Estate Middleburg office is about timing the market. Should we wait for prices to go down, interest rates to go down, or for more foreclosures to hit the market? The answer is a resounding NO!

“An intelligent investor is a realist who sells to optimists and buys from pessimists.” – Benjamin Graham

Real estate appreciates higher in value and interest rates go down over time. The financial cycle has been happening since we first started taking records. One thing has remained consistent, real estate has proved time and time again to be the top investment. Why, because people need housing just like they need food. It is essential. There will always be a need for it.

The Florida real estate market is one of the most profitable in the USA. If you are reading this article, then I know you agree that Middleburg is a special place we call home. Middleburg still has a small town feel even with the growth that continues to impact us locally. As someone that grew up here in Clay county, when Blanding was 2 lanes only 2 high schools and farm property was abundant! I

have seen so many changes. Growth is inevitable. Being surrounded by creekfront, riverfront, lake front, new construction homes, parks and driving distance to beaches, we will continue to draw new neighbors and new businesses to our area! Remember in real estate it is “location,location,location” As Clay County neighbors/residents we are fortunate to be in a great location to call home!

EXIT Inspired Real Estate is your neighbors, your local experts and we are here for you, even if you aren't looking to buy or sell right now! If you simply want to know where your investments value is or how to start preparing for a purchase, reach out to us.

Jeanne Beland-Scholl, Broker
Michael Wright, Broker
EXIT Inspired Real Estate
2747 Blanding Blvd, Suite 102
Middleburg, FL 32068



ASK ME WHY EXIT!

Having grown up here in Clay county I was very grateful to have teamed up with Michael Wright to bring our office EXIT INSPIRED REAL ESTATE into Middleburg! We have over 20 years of experience in real estate in Clay county and surrounding NE Florida counties, and are looking forward to inspiring people who are interested in being a real estate agent, selling their house and/or are interested in buying a home in Florida!

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EXIT INSPIRED REAL ESTATE
904-945-4142
www.JeanneScholl.com

“Ride with Santa” Sunday, Sept 24, 2023

proceeds to benefit Operation Santa Cause Inc. who provides toys for our Local Florida National Guard and Gold Star children



Ride starts at American Legion Post 250 • 2608 Black Creek Dr, Middleburg, FL 32068
For more information or to sponsor contact Jeanne Scholl 904-945-4142

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Want to get away from the hustle and bustle of everyday life? With all the stress and fear going on right now with the Covid 19, it's good to get away from it all and center yourself. To me horseback riding in the forest is like meditation in motion. Sometimes we get so caught up in the everyday problems and concerns that we forget the simple pleasures of life that take us back to basics. I enjoy seeing the new flowers bloom or watching the foliage change with the seasons. I sometimes feel like a pioneer trying to figure out what animal left the track I am looking at. I enjoy seeing all the wild animals that make their habitat in the forest.

I feel so fortunate to have Jennings forest right in my back yard. For those of you not aware of Jennings, you really should go take a hike out there. It's here in Middleburg and you can get to it by various locations. I go down Live Oak and enter at the front of the Forest. There is a small fee to pay but it is so worth it. One can also buy a yearly park pass, which gives you access to the Forest all year round. The forest is used for many things from hiking, camping, horseback riding, and hunting.

I ride the forest about 3 times a week and there is always something new to discover. One ride we saw a newborn deer. Other rides we have seen coyotes, owls, turtles, hawks, turkeys, snakes and all kinds of birds. There is actually a bird watching station close to the entrance off Live Oak Lane, which allows you to see the different species without being seen. I practice Martial Arts and we have a saying in Korean called Pyung Ahn, which means calm and peace. This is what I experience when I go into the forest. I forget the business and all the issues of daily life and take a few hours to enjoy nature's bounty. The birds singing their melodies, the squirrels scurrying all around, the turtles slowly moving through the forest, and the deer who jump and run away when we get too close.

Here is a description of the Forest from my riding buddy, Ms. Kathleen Rowan:

"When I first moved here Jennings was a novelty, an easy escape from daily stress. I started riding with a "seasoned rider" named Katie. She usually only rode in Jennings Forest. I used to ask to ride elsewhere. She was a very busy person and stated that Jennings was as beautiful to her as anywhere else. When I looked, all that I saw were pine trees, scrub,

sand, and scrub oaks. It was nice but not as beautiful as I remember other places.

Fast forward a few years and now I know what she meant. Jennings State Forest is as beautiful as other places. I now realize how wise Katie truly was. As each new season comes, the trails change. When fall comes the forest shows us things you could not see through the dense leaves. You can see further distances, into the streams, abandon nests, behind bushes and trees. In the fall you also see orange mushrooms, pitcher plants, and yellow flowers blooming. As spring comes you see the wild azaleas blooming, honeysuckle, purple flowers, blackberry bushes blooming, and the density of leaves return.

You also see different types of wildlife that appear and disappear like magic, zebra butterflies, moths, birds, deer, raccoon, tortoise, and of course bugs.

When the storms blow through and the trees are down it makes us take a different route because our trail is blocked. The streams, which were running low are then moving and making sounds, which put our horses on high alert, as we pass by. Again, we notice something new that we did not see before while traversing our new trail.

Going to Jennings State Forest is like watching your favorite old movie. It is relaxing and enjoyable, but with each new visit there is something new you never noticed before."

- Kathleen Rowan

I love riding in the forest and encourage anyone reading this to go visit. You can go for a short stroll and/or even drive through some areas. It will give you a brief sanctuary from your busy life and help you become more centered. In martial arts we have a goal which is to become "one with nature." Certainly the forest helps me make progress with this goal and I know it will assist others as well.

Jan Lappin
Middleburg Martial Arts



The Serenity of Jennings Forest

Organizations Meeting in Middleburg:

Agape House Clothes & Food

2645 Blanding Blvd., Middleburg, FL 32068
904-291-0510

Alcoholics Anonymous Middleburg

904-399-8535

American Heritage Girls

Troop# FL1335

The Cross at Doctors Inlet

582 Plantation Dr., Middleburg

Troop # FL 3110

Pinewood Presbyterian Church

198 Knight Boxx Rd, Middleburg

Troop # 0138

St Luke Catholic Church

1606 Blanding Blvd, Middleburg

American Legion Post #250

3939 CR 218, Middleburg

904-282-3766

Meet 3rd Thursday of each Month

Boy Scouts of America-Clay County

nfcscouting.org

CALC Foundation –Food Distribution Center

4510 Camellia St., Middleburg, FL 32068

Calvary Baptist Church Food

1532 Long Bay Rd, Middleburg, FL 32068

904-282-0407

Clay County Sheriff's Office Explorer Post 989

Contact: 904-838-8547

Clay County Sheriff's Office: NET Meeting

County: Karin Callaway 904-955-7196

Clay County Habitat for Humanity Thrift Store

1717 Blanding Blvd., Middleburg, FL 32068

904-282-7590

First Baptist Church of Middleburg Food & Clothes

2645 Blanding Blvd, Middleburg, FL 32068

904-282-5289

Fraternal Order of Eagles Aeries 4365

1932 Long Bay Rd., Middleburg, FL 32068

Email: FOE4365@att.net

Contact: Desiree Bryan 904.413.7542

Fraternal Order of Police Clay County Lodge #104

2547 CR 220, Middleburg, FL 32068

904-290-1232 (OP Lodge)

Friends of the Library

Meet 2nd Tuesday of January, May & September

2245 Aster St., Middleburg, FL 32068

Email: MCHFriendsOfTheLibrary@gmail.com or call

904-541-5855

Girl Scouts of America-Clay County

Contact: 904-388-46534-H Club Clay County

Contact: 904-269-6355

Middleburg Black Creek Lions Club

Meets 3rd Tuesday each month @ 1:00 PM

Middleburg-Clay Hill Public Library

2245 Astor Ave., Middleburg

Contact: Ed Dickson

Contact: 904-254-7891

Middleburg Civic Association

"Middleburg Network Group"

2102 Palmetto St., Middleburg, FL 32068

www.MiddleburgCivicAssociation.com

MiddleburgCA@currently.com

Meets Last Wednesday of each month from

12:30 PM -1:30 PM COME NETWORK WITH

"THE BEST OF CLAY" five years in a row!

Middleburg Garden Club

Meet First Thursday of Sept to June

9:30 AM to 11:00 AM at Watson Realty

Blanding Blvd back room

Middleburg Museum

3912 Section St., Middleburg, FL 32068

Located behind Middleburg Civic Center

Open: Sundays 2 PM to 4 PM or by appt.

Contact: April Watts at 904-609-3123

Moose Lodge #

1932 Long Bay Rd, Middleburg

Moose Lodge #

2108 Palmetto St, Middleburg

Police Athletic League of Clay County

450 Parkwood Dr., Orange Park, FL 32073

904-385-9390

Salvation Army

2795 CR 220, Middleburg, FL 32068

904-276-6677

Special Olympics of Clay County

Contact: Lisa Cayton 904-472-9094

Email: b4useeit@aol.com

Middleburg Methodist Food Distribution Center

3925 Main St, Middleburg, FL 32068

904-282-5589

VFW Post #8255 Middleburg

2296 Aster Ave., Middleburg

Contact: 904-282-0475

Veterans Council

CCCF.ORG or email info@vcccf.org

Contact: Keith Brandon

904-529-4735

Contact: Cheri Korn

904-529-4735

Vietnam Veterans

Contact: Gary Newman 904-269-1857

Weigel Senior Center

3916 Section St, Middleburg

Contact: 904-291-3520

Food Bank:

Agape @ First Baptist of Middleburg

Evangel Temple Southwest

Middleburg Methodist Church

Food Bridge: Thursdays 9:30AM-11:00AM

Bread Basket: Saturdays 9:00AM-11:00AM

Open to anyone

2023 Schools: Middleburg Area



Annunciation Catholic School
1610 Blanding Blvd
Middleburg, FL 32068
904-282-0504

**Cinnamon Street Baptist
Christian School**
29 Cinnamon Street
Middleburg, FL 32068
904-406-5755

Clay Charter Academy
904-406-1607
1417 Red Apple Rd. ,
Middleburg, FL 32068
<http://www.claycharter.org/>

Clay Hill Elementary
(904) 336-0775
6345 County Road 218
Jacksonville, FL 32234
<http://che.oneclay.net/>

Coppergate Elementary
(904) 336-0675
3460 Copper Colts Court
Middleburg, FL 32068
<http://cge.oneclay.net/>

Doctors Inlet Elementary
(904) 336-0975
2634 County Road 220
Middleburg, FL 32068
<http://dis.oneclay.net/>

Lighthouse Christian School
3925 Main Street
Middleburg, FL 32068
904-406-4866
www.lighthousechristianschool.net

Middleburg Elementary
(904) 336-1875
3958 Main Street
Middleburg, FL 32068
<http://mbe.oneclay.net/>

Middleburg High School
(904) 336-8075
3750 County Road 220
Middleburg, FL 32068
<http://mhs.oneclay.net/>

Pinewood Christian Academy
198 Knight Boxx Rd
Middleburg, FL 32068
904-272-6408

Pace Center for Girls - Clay
(904) 458-0840
429 College Drive
Middleburg, FL 32068
<http://pacecenter.org/>

RideOut Elementary
(904) 336-2875
3065 Apalachicola Boulevard
Middleburg, FL 32068
<http://roe.oneclay.net/>

Swimming Pen Creek Elementary
(904) 336-3475
1630 Woodpecker Lane
Middleburg, FL 32068
<http://spc.oneclay.net/>

Tynes Elementary
(904) 336-3850
1550 Tynes Boulevard
Middleburg, FL 32068
<http://tes.oneclay.net/>

Wilkinson Elementary
(904) 336-4075
4965 County Road 218
Middleburg, FL 32068
<http://wes.oneclay.net/>

Wilkinson Junior High
(904) 336-6175
5025 County Road 218
Middleburg, FL 32068
<http://wjh.oneclay.net/>

Softball state title fuels Bronco momentum

by Randy Lefko, Sports Editor



MIDDLEBURG - With the spring 2022 season being finalized with a thrilling state championship run by the girls softball team and coach Ashley Houston's amazing run to the first-ever team title for Middleburg High School, the fall to spring seasons of 2022 to 2023 provided a shift to the "W" column for Bronco nation "Horsepower".

Houston's run to the title gave a sort of 'Yes we can' to Bronco faithful and, with the football squad under new leadership with head coach Ryan Wolfe bringing his impressive history of coaching at a high level, the gridiron was the first test of the momentum theory.

Unfortunately, but somewhat telling, was that the Bronco football had four of the strongest teams on the docket to face in

the first four games under Wolfe and the result was no wins. No wins and an 0-4 start was not what Horsepower wanted, but the pendulum swing reversed and Wolfe started to get the results that were anticipated on the broad shoulders of senior running back T.J. Lane and junior quarterback Jayden Jenkins behind a mountainous offensive line.

The Broncos football started to get into their rhythm behind an understanding that a playoff berth was still within reach based off the strength of schedule rankings that decide the fate of teams and a little luck for the Broncos.

That being said, also in the fall, legendary volleyball coach Carrie Prewitt was embarking on her final call as coach after nearly 30 years at the helm and her team

was enthusiastic to say the least to get the outgoing coach one final memory.

Prewitt, with handful of deep Final Four runs, district and region titles and players that extended their careers into fruitful college careers, used every tactic in her big Rolodex to get the Broncos that one final Final Four.

In the final saga of the season, after a blistering five-game overtime win over a very tough Bartram Trail team that energized her girls; led by powerhitting of Connor Rahn and Brooke Forkum and led defensively by senior Summer Repogle eeked out a final district title for Prewitt as well as a regional playoff berth.

Back to football, Wolfe ended his season with a five win of six games finish that was halted in region playoffs with Middleburg earning the only region playoff berth from Clay County.

Along the way, Lane earned All State honors with a massive finish; nearly 2,000 yards rushing and 18 touchdowns, to put the Bronco football pin back on the mat.

Cross Country got a boost from a second Mussante as little brother to Emma, Kole, was one of top athletes on the harrier squad (best of 17:34) of with eventual wrestling medalist Logan Moore a top contender (best of 17:28). Mussante's sister, Emma, in her college races for Florida Southern College, continued her prowess with a record setting cross country and track season in the spring.

For the girls, Molly Burt "the Hurt" was top contender for the Lady Broncos with best of 21:20 that got her 25th place and near miss for a region championship berth.

In the winter, with wrestling on tap under now-proven coach Coll Robertson, the Broncos grapplers went on a tear with wins in tournaments throughout the state,

though stuck in a region chock full of powerhouse programs like Fleming Island and Clay.

Robertson had four state qualifiers; Moore, Grady Woodard, Tucker Cody and Wyatt Leduc, all with 40-plus wins on the season with Moore earning a fifth place medal.

The big prize in wrestling though went to the girls wrestling team who had sophomore sensation Cheyenne Cruce go unbeaten and earn a state title with a thrilling finals match. Cruce and her teammates were steady top three team finishers in tournament competitions with the Bradshaw sisters; Grace Bradshaw, Skyla Fisher and Memphis Moses all making the state meet with Bradshaw, the lone senior, earning a bronze medal.

Middleburg boys basketball finished 10-14 under new coach Sean Sweeney with a roster full of underclassmen while the girls hoops finished 9-13 under coach Lindsey Burkhart.

In the second half of the school year, the boys weightlifting team got some state medals; Joshua Senear and Gabe Harp going 2-3 at 169 in Traditional scoring.

In track, Madison Underwood finished fifth in discus at state.

For softball, though, Houston's want of a repeat did not occur with a district semifinal loss to Columbia, though earning a region playoff berth off rankings. Middleburg eventually lost in eight innings in the region bracket to Fort Walton Beach.

Middleburg baseball finished 4-15 with a few highlights; one a grand slam homer by Bradley Gilbert, the other a near upset, 6-5, of region finalist Clay High in regular season play, then a just as thrilling 7-5 loss to Clay in the district tournament.





Middleburg

**4Trees
Smokehouse**

1948 Henley
214-3041

**Bono's
Bar-B-Q**

2640-211 Blanding Blvd
282-4288

China Wok

2640-209 Blanding Blvd
291-6988

Dunkin' Donuts

1543 Blanding Blvd
406-0474

Grumpy's

1805 Blanding Blvd
203-9305

**168 Thai &
Sushi**

1803 Blanding Blvd
606-7198

Burger King

2732 Blanding Blvd
282-1887

Culver's

1767 Blanding Blvd
203-2071

Dunkin' Donuts

5110 CR 218
282-0200

Hardee's

2730 Blanding Blvd
282-1889

**Asian
Paradise**

2223 CR 220
278-7778

Capio's Cafe

2710 Blanding Blvd
413-7776

Dalton's

2808 Henley Rd
282-1564

**Firehouse
Subs**

2640-210 Blanding Blvd
291-4411

Huddle House

4094 CR 218
291-3850

**Bambino's
Pizzeria**

2575 C.R. 220
644-7377

Chick-Fil-A

1710 Blanding Blvd
291-8220

**Domino's
Pizza**

4158 CR 218
282-0234

First Wok

2474 CR 220
272-7738

**Kelly's Country
Kitchen**

2216 Mimosa
406-9491

**Black
Creek Café**

2696 Blanding Blvd
282-7373

China Cafe

1545 Branon Field RD
282-9988

**Dreamette
Ice Cream**

2620 Blanding Blvd
282-7373

Fushimi Sushi

1786 Blanding Blvd
282-8900

**Kentucky Fried
Chicken**

2693 Blanding Blvd
282-1374

Restaurants



**La Catrina Taco
& Tequila Bar**
2710 Blanding Blvd
214-3016

**Papa John's
Pizza**
2696 Blanding Blvd
282-5959

Salsa Mexican
2574 CR 220
375-0494
1803 Blanding Blvd
214-3560

Taco Bell
2614 Blanding Blvd.
282-0380

Wendy's
2530 Blanding Blvd.
291-1157

**Little Caesar's
Pizza**
2468 Blanding Blvd
291-2000

**Papa
Murphy's**
2640 Blanding Blvd
282-7381

Sonic
2610 Blanding Blvd
689-9784

Tony's Pizza
2221 CR 220
375-9925

**What-A-
Burger**
1778 Blanding Blvd
406-7418

Maggie D's
2219 CR 220
999-9466

Pizza Hut
2475 Blanding Blvd.
282-0909

Starbucks
1795 Blanding Blvd

**Tropical
Smoothie Café**
1782-11 Blanding Blvd
282-8777

**Yama Sushi
& Bento**
2569 CR 220
375-9777

McDonalds
2485 Blanding Blvd
282-9303
561 Plantation
298-2530

**Popeye's
Chicken**
2496 Blanding Blvd
352-275-1753

**Stone E Cabin
BBQ**
4430 CR 218
291-5858

**Valentina's
Italian Bistro**
330 College Drive
375-0910

**Yume Fusion
Sushi & Grill**
2640-204 Blanding Blvd
406-0865

**Nicole's On
the River**
1101 Blanding Blvd
251-9977

**Royal Moose
Coffee Company**
2441 Blanding Blvd
406.9523

Subway
2710-17 Blanding Blvd • 282-0242
5105 CR 218 • 281-2674
Branan Field @ Wal-Mart • 589-9967
2572 CR 220 • 258-7602

**Waffle
House**
1537 Blanding Blvd.
614-8923

Zaxby's
2524 Blanding Blvd.
512-1100

About the 2023 Middleburg Civic Association

This year marks 82 years that Middleburg Civic Association (MCA) has been making a difference in our community and going strong. Over the years, the services that the association has provided has changed with the needs of the community but the heart of the organization to give back has remained steadfast. In today's climate, meeting the needs has surely looked different than in years past and been steadily changing, but the MCA board and members have risen to the challenge and provided countless opportunities to community individuals and business members alike.

Monthly meetings, held the last Wednesday of the month at the Civic Association building, provide members with an opportunity to find out what is happening right here in our community. With various speakers every month covering topics such as economic development, healthcare, Education, Sheriff's office, County commissioners, and even small business education, meetings are a great way to keep you up to date and feel more connected. They also provide an amazing networking opportunity to get to know not only your neighbors and local businesses, but also learn of other local happenings and stay informed of what's going on in our local community.

Over the past few years, the Association has been pleased to offer festivals and fun wholesome family events throughout the year that are free to the community. Thanks to our community sponsors and volunteers, these events offer something for everyone. They not only provide an array of fun activities for the children with bounce houses, petting, zoos and an assortment of other activities but also provide a great opportunity to meet your neighbors and community leaders and offer local small businesses the chance to showcase their products and services that many may not be aware of. They are a great way to fill your day with friends, food, finds and fun! They allow local residents a chance to get out and connect with not only other residents and community leaders, but discover local small businesses and organizations that they may have not been familiar with.

Community outreach and giving back is a top focus that has remained at the forefront of the Associations mission. Thanks to our numerous community volunteers and sponsors the Association has been able to make a real difference right here within our community. The Back-to-School event that provides school supplies to local children and teachers has grown every year as the association provides supplies for more than 350 children within our community. We understand that during these difficult times families struggle to provide the Thanksgiving meals they once could, so the Association was happy to provide over 200 local families with Thanksgiving meals. The Associations give back doesn't stop there as when Christmas season rolls around our members and community partners rally together to bring home a memorable Christmas for local children in need.

In the past, the Association has been host to Town Hall Candidate Forums so our local community could get to know the candidates not only on a local level, but also on a statewide level. This gives our community an in depth opportunity to meet candidates and address the issues that are important to

us and our ever changing community. The Association will once again rise to the challenge to bring the community this open forum to discuss the issues that are most important to us as candidates begin their campaign process this year.

The Civic Association is just as active and vital within our community as ever. The past 82 years has presented plenty of opportunities for the association to grow and change within the community and we are looking forward to what the future holds for this amazing community organization. If you would like to be more involved please reach out as we could not do all that we do within the community without the support of local citizens.

Get involved today and be a contributing member of your community and a part of tomorrow's history. Join us at 2102 Palmetto Street in downtown historic Middleburg or contact us at www.middleburgcivicassociation.com or email us at middleburgCA@currently.com or maybe follow us on facebook.

Kristina Knowles
One Swanky Chic Boutique

424 Walnut Street | Green Cove Springs, FL | 904-671-3819

Find us on **Facebook** at One Swanky Chic Boutique



As a member you receive website recognition, special discounts provided by other members, facebook marketing promotions for business members, opportunities to market at community events, monthly meetings with speakers from county officials , development and businesses. an annual listing on the Middleburg Directory, as well as **reduced rates** for venue rentals.

BUILDING AVAILABLE FOR EVENT RENTAL



2102 Palmetto Street
Middleburg, Florida 32068
middleburgcivicassociation.com

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Building 8 Suite 210A
Jacksonville, FL 32256

Cell: (904) 563-3521
Office: (904) 413-1378
jsorel.libnat@gmail.com



Clay County Habitat for Humanity's Restore is a home improvement store that accepts donations of new or gently used furniture, appliances, housewares, and more. Proceeds from the sales of these items help Habitat's work in our community.

To donate or shop, please visit:
1717 Blanding Blvd., Middleburg, FL 32068
Open Tuesday - Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
(904) 282 - 7590 ext. 205
www.clayhabitat.org



Thanks FOR VOTING US #1 FIVE YEARS IN A ROW!!

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166 BLANDING BLVD., ORANGE PARK

A Chronological History of Middleburg

By Archives Specialist Vishi Garig, a Service of Clerk of Court and Comptroller Tara S. Green

1766 - William Bartram and son visited a trading post in the area now known Middleburg.



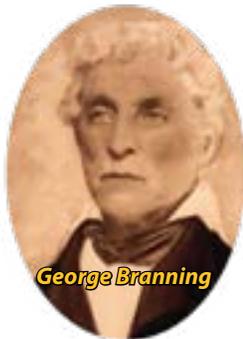
Bartram's Travels is the short title of the literary and scientific classic that describes his journey through southeastern North America during the Revolutionary War era.

First published in **1791**, it is an resource on the flora and fauna of the Southeast, especially Florida.

One of his most important finds was a plant called Bartrams Ixia, now critically endangered. A few small colonies of this plant were found at Camp Blanding, south of Middleburg.

1816 - George and Samuel Branning received Spanish Land Grant.

Branning operated two ferries and a toll bridge on the north prong of Black Creek. He also donated the lumber and labor to build Middleburg United Methodist Church in 1847.



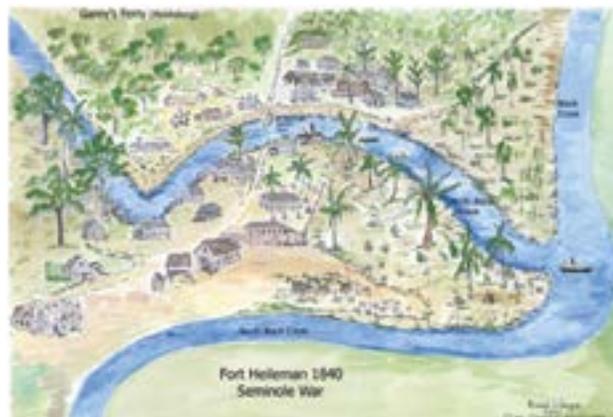
George Branning



1826 - Federal Road was built through area (then known as Garey's Ferry). Federal Road is now known as Main Street and is the oldest road still in use in Clay County today. Brigadier General Thomas Jesup ordered the road built from Micanopy, Florida, northward and to cross Black Creek where Branning's Ferry was operated.

1828 - United States Post Office at Whitesville was established. Samuel Garey, at Garey's Ferry, was the first postmaster. His ferry was located at the present day Main Street boat ramp. Whitesville (named after State Representative Joseph White) was another early name for the area that became Middleburg.

1836 - Fort Heileman (Second Seminole War fort) was officially named by Capt. Charles S. Merchant. Due to the raids conducted by Native Americans, much of the population of the Black Creek District holed up at this fort for protection. Disease and food shortages marked the stay of many at the fort. The fort was located where the Main Street Boat ramp is today.



1841 - Fort Heileman abandoned as the fighting moved further south.

1843 - Garey's Ferry Post Office established; moved from Whitesville.

1851 - Middleburg Post Office established; moved from Garey's Ferry.

1858 - Clay County is created out of southern section of Duval County (legislation signed by the Florida Governor on December 31, 1858). More than 150 citizens signed the petition to become Clay County. Pioneering family names like Hatcher, Padgett, Prescott, Carter, Strickland, Dillaberry, Johns, Branning and more were involved in the effort.



1859 - Webster, an area south of Whitesville and also later known as Middleburg, is Clay County's first county seat (1/1/1859).

1864 - Civil War: The Battle of Halsey's Plantation occurs about five miles east of Middleburg on October 24th. Trouble started when Union troops raided Middleburg, set fire to warehouses and stole cattle. The battle occurred near the intersection of CR 218 and Henley Road.



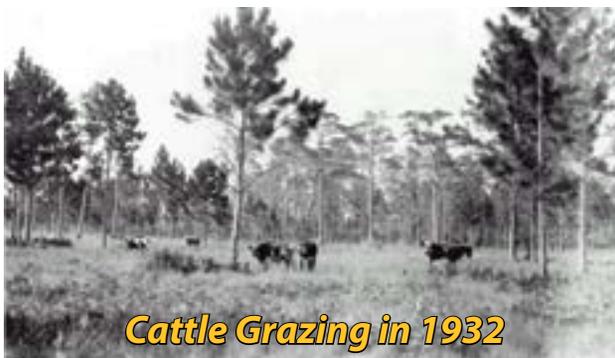
1867 - Start of period of population growth due to turpentine and logging industries. Middleburg, on Black Creek, becomes the center of commerce, water transportation and government.



Scotland Saw Mill

1871 – Reconstruction: The county seat moved to Green Cove Springs from Middleburg after a vote by the citizens. The railroad went through Green Cove Springs and a large tourism industry was developing there.

1890s to 1900s - Decline of the area occurred due to the above-mentioned decision to have the railroad bypass the area. There was less reliance on river and creek transportation. However, the timber and turpentine industries thrived. Cattle ranching and the dairy industry thrived, too.



Cattle Grazing in 1932

1939 – 1946 Rapid growth took place again in the area due to construction of Camp Blanding. There was a massive influx of soldiers training at Camp Blanding in WWII. Military training continues in our area and the base (located on beautiful Kingsley Lake) continues to be a county jewel, attracting thousands of recreational visitors and military personnel year-round.



Post-WWII – Present Day: Initial development of area was focused on creating a suburb of Duval County (majority of working residents commuted). Now, expansion of State Road 21 (Blanding Blvd), development of the First Coast Expressway (\$1 Billion FDOT total project), and continued mixed-use development of Middleburg (commercial properties, hospitals, factories, schools, churches and large housing units) means Middleburg is in a prime position as a new hub for growth, revitalization and employment opportunities for citizens.

Interested in more information about Middleburg history or Clay County history in general? Visit clayclerk.com and click on the link to Historical Archives. You'll find a wealth of information and articles there. Efforts to preserve Middleburg's history and unique natural resources are ongoing thanks to the many local citizens, volunteers and local government personnel involved in maintenance of records, artifacts and photographs. Kudos to them all.

The Middleburg Museum at 3912 Section Street is open on Sundays from 2pm-4pm. The Clay County Archives (managed by Archives Specialist Vishi Garig) at 21 Gratio Place in Green Cove Springs is open Monday-Friday from 8am-5pm (check holiday schedule and/or call ahead). The Camp Blanding Museum at 5629 State Road 16 (between Middleburg and Starke) is open daily from noon-4pm. All these locations are worth a visit.

Networking in Middleburg

What's Happening in Middleburg?

Middleburg Civic Association has been voted by our community for **1st Place** as the **"BEST OF CLAY"** in **"Best Networking Group"** five years in a row.

Want to know about what is happening in Middleburg? Then join us at the **Middleburg Civic Association** meetings. Find out about the local community events here in Middleburg for free. Come out and join us for the Spring Festival, Back Pack Give Away, Thanksgiving in our Community, Visit with Santa Event, and the Annual Historic Fall Festival. Don't forget about the Town Hall Meetings that are open to the public. Are you interested in knowing about road closures and changes? Interested in knowing who the "movers and shakers" are? Find out in advance what businesses are coming to our area.

If you are interested in volunteering or working with our community, please come and join us for our monthly meeting. We meet on the last Wednesday of each month from 12:30 to 1:30 PM. The Middleburg Civic Association is located at 2102 Palmetto Street, Middleburg, FL 32068. All are **FREE and OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**. Come on by a little earlier or stay a little later to promote your business or event. Bring plenty of business cards and brochures to share with others. Let us know if you have a special event happening in Middleburg.

Come check out what the excitement is all about. For more information, check out our website at www.MiddleburgCivicAssociation.com and join our **Facebook** or email us at MiddleburgCA@currently.com

SPECIAL THANKS to our **MIDDLEBURG NETWORKING** members who have done and continue to do a tremendous job at supporting our community. The **Middleburg Civic Association** is operated by all volunteers and donations. We welcome all volunteers and sponsorships. Come on out and even bring your employees with you for a day of community involvement. We offer and encourage community volunteer service hours. Planning for college or want community service hours on your resume, Come out and volunteer in your local community civic association. Help us make a difference.



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- ♥ Childbirth education and support
- ♥ Parenting education and support
- ♥ Information on baby care and safety
- ♥ Earn incentives for baby while you participate



Enrolling is simple: Just call Healthy Start at **(904)259-6291**





The MBC Lions offer free Vision Screening, Eye exams, and glasses for all those in need. Contact the number listed below or visit our web site at Lions have been helping with vision needs since requested by Helen Keller back in the early 1900s.

The club holds periodic food drives for local food banks who help those needing food assistance. Over 4,000 lbs of food were collected last year.

During this past holiday season a toy drive was held providing toys for 125 children in the area. Look for I. Formation on this years event.

In December the club provided breakfast for 35 homeless Vet's during a Stand Down held by NE Florida Veterans Village.

A TV was purchased for a local assisted living facility. Over 20 organizations in our area and around Florida who help people in need are supported by the Lions.

The clubs primary fundraiser is an annual golf tournament. This year the 17th annual Middleburg Black Creek charity tournament will be held at Eagle Landing in Oakleaf on March 8 of 2024. For information on playing or donating contact one of the numbers below.

Lions, our service renovation who's motto is we serve where there's a need there's a Lion.

Contacts at middleburgblackcreeklionsclub.com
Ed @ 904-254-7891



Middleburg Black Creek Lions Club

Our pride meets the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at VyStar Credit Union in Middleburg. The meeting starts at 1pm.
Their address is:
VyStar Credit Union, 2762 Blanding Blvd., Middleburg, FL 32068

Everyone is invited to our annual golf tournament March 8, 2024, with tee off at 1 pm. Dinner to follow. This is our annual fund raising and is fun and exciting. Raffles and 50 / 50 are also part of this event.
Again save March 8, 2024 for a great time.

The tournament will be held at:
Eagle Landing, 3989 Eagle Landing Pkwy., Orange Park, FL 32065

Visit our club website at
www.middleburgblackcreeklionsclub.com

For information about the tournament, player registration, sponsor and donor information.






Little Museum. Big Heart. Come Discover.

THE MIDDLEBURG MUSEUM UPDATE

A Nonprofit 501(c)(3) Organization

PLEASE NOTE: Our Museum no longer uses a Post Office Box, and our mailing address is:
3912 Section Street • Middleburg, FL 32068

Written by Rhonda Fountain

We had a most successful Spring Festival on April 15, 2023. We are most appreciative of the Middleburg Civic Association for including us in their festivals. This photo shows Paula Cloud presenting our Museum President, April Watts, with two of the very generous donations we received that day from Latour Robert, P. A. and the Clay County Cruzers. We appreciate ALL the generosity and support we receive daily from the local residents of Middleburg, and the surrounding Clay County community. Shown left to right, are Brenda Schenk, Ruth Paine, Paula Cloud, April



Watts, Debbie Chastain Owens, and Jennifer Joseph.

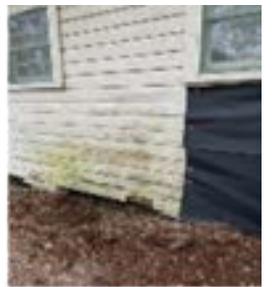
The Museum is working hard to make activities and tours more available to the public, including a new event called "Friday Nights at the Museum." Our last one was on the most recent Friday, May 12 when we celebrated Mother's Day. We enjoyed light refreshments and featured a



32 • Middleburg Civic Association • July 2023

Mother's Day display put together by Dr. Cynthia Stone and her helpers.

We have been addressing the structural issues at the Museum and met recently with Karen Walker, Director of Library Services for Clay County to discuss them. She, in turn, met with the Facilities people in Clay County to see what can be done before some of the problems become worse. Unfortunately, we learned that we are not in the budget for the repairs that must be made before the building continues to disintegrate. We were advised that another meeting will take place in the near future wherein they will try to get Engineering on board. They will also be discussing ways they can incorporate the Museum into the planning stages of the new budget which begins on October 1. We are just hoping that some of the desperately needed repairs (i.e., the exterior walls which are decaying on the left side of the building) will take place before it is too late. Other issues that we have asked to be looked at are exterior and interior lighting, leaking, and the instability of the upper front doors (which the Electrical Inspector noticed on a recent safety inspection of the Museum). There are several other items listed which were turned into Facilities on May 10. Some of these items are urgent. The Museum building is owned by the Clay County Board of Commissioners.



We have been depending on several of our members to finance some of the projects in the past. Especially due our thanks is Dr. Cynthia Stone, Curator, who had generously been paying a considerable sum to store our valuables at a local climate controlled storage unit. She has most recently donated and paid for materials in order to get the storage shed (donated by Gayward Hendry), ready to house these materials.

The next time you visit the Museum, please spend some time in our new Music Section which features musical instruments, record players, album covers and lots of interesting musical memorabilia from the past. These are some of the items from our collection we've been able to bring back from storage to the Museum to display.

Elections were held at our Fall Meeting in October. It was decided on

by the members that only three officers would be selected for now, including President, Secretary and Treasurer. Following are the election results: President: April Watts; Secretary: Rhoda Fountain; Treasurer: Ruth Paine.

Our Middleburg Museum members are the heart of our organization. We all share a love for our community and a passion to preserve, promote, and share its history. Currently, we have twenty-three members who have paid their membership dues and are in 'good standing' for 2023! If you haven't joined the Museum or paid your dues yet, please remember to do so **before August 1, 2023**. This way you will be in 'good standing' too and will enjoy the benefits of Museum members, such as voting at our upcoming Annual Fall Membership Meeting. We are always happy to welcome new members into our fold, and we'd love for you to join us! Below are the different Museum Membership Categories we offer:

- INDIVIDUAL (18-64 years of age) - \$25 per year
- INDIVIDUAL with GROUP Discount* (18-64 years of age) - \$18 per year
- JUNIOR (12-17 years of age) - \$15 per year
- SENIOR (65+ years of age) - \$20 per year
- SENIOR with GROUP Discount* (65+ years of age) - \$13 per year
- LIFETIME (65+ years of age) - \$250 one-time fee
- *GROUP – Individuals who are new or existing members of the Middleburg Civic Association or the NSSDAR May Mann Jennings Chapter receive a \$7 discount when they join or renew their membership in the Middleburg Museum.

You may use the QR Codes below to either JOIN or RENEW your Museum Membership.



Several of our Museum members are volunteering their time weekly to create a "Museum Library" containing print resources that can be utilized to learn about Middleburg, Clay County, and the local surrounding areas of Northeast Florida. These resources will be displayed on rolling bookshelves that we can store in our 'library closet' and then roll out for easy access. Our plan is to continue to add to our Museum Library throughout the years to come.

To summarize, we are being as proactive as we can to promote The Middleburg Museum and to maintain and preserve our Museum collection. We have met with several county officials, including Chris Abetz, Clay County Small Business Development Center at UNF Business Consultant, Karen Walker, Director of Library Services for Clay County, Betsy Condon, Clay County Commissioner, and Kimberly Morgan, Director of Tourism for Clay County. We appreciate all of these people who were so very

willing to give us their time and guidance during the past year. Our Museum members have stepped up to help raise money for routine operating expenses, maintenance and repairs of our building, and enhancing the services we are able to provide our community. We are actively pursuing local and state grants and we're collaborating with local restaurants such as the Middleburg Bono's to hold fundraising events at their businesses. Now, however, we need to put the rubber to the road and take whatever means necessary to ensure that the Museum becomes self-sustaining and that the damage is arrested before we no longer have a building for this critical service to Clay County.

Please plan to visit the Middleburg Museum from 2-4 p. m. any Sunday afternoon. Our docents will be glad to show you around. If you have any questions, please email us at middleburgmuseum@gmail.com, and <https://bit.ly/middleburgmuseumfl> is our website address. Below are our social media accounts and we hope you will follow us.

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We welcome the community's suggestions and support as we move forward with this most valuable Clay County treasure.

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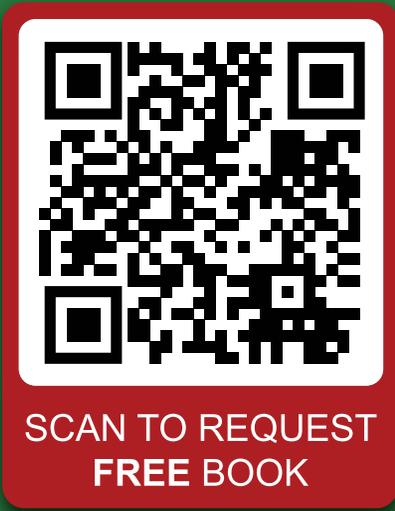
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BOOMERS ARE BOOMING AND OUR LONG TERM CARE SYSTEM IS BUSTING

The baby boomer population, stretching from 1946 to 1964, constitutes one of the largest demographic groups in American history, with nearly 76 million individuals. Their substantial numbers contribute to the growing need for long-term care services. As this generation ages, a significant portion will require ongoing assistance with daily activities, medical care, and support for chronic health conditions.

Advances in healthcare have greatly increased life expectancy for Americans. While this is undoubtedly positive, it also means that more individuals are living longer, often with chronic health conditions requiring ongoing care. These longer lifespans increase the likelihood of developing age-related ailments such as Alzheimer's, dementia, and mobility issues, which necessitate skilled long-term care.

The responsibility of caring for aging parents often falls on the family, particularly the adult children and grandchildren of baby boomers. Being a caregiver can have significant emotional and financial impacts on families.

Caring for an aging parent can be emotionally challenging. Witnessing a loved one's health and functional decline can cause stress, anxiety, and feelings of helplessness. The emotional toll can strain caregivers' relationships and negatively impact their own health and well-being. Caregivers often experience burnout due to the demands of providing 24/7 care while juggling their own responsibilities. Additionally, caring for an aging family member can impose a substantial financial burden. Caregivers may have to reduce work hours, take unpaid leave, or even leave their job entirely. This loss of income can have long-term consequences, including reduced savings for retirement and diminished career prospects.

Caregivers may also have to pay for medical supplies and home modifications out of their own pockets.

The cost of long-term care presents a significant financial burden for both baby boomers and their families. Many individuals lack sufficient savings or insurance coverage to handle the expenses associated with home care, assisted living, or nursing homes. The average annual cost for a nursing home in our area exceeds \$9,000 a month! Our expertise lies in helping families who are currently caring for their loved ones ensure that when their turn comes and they need long-term care, their family won't have to make the same difficult choices they are currently facing.

The growing need for long-term care among baby boomers presents multiple challenges. The size of this demographic, coupled with increased life expectancy, places a burden on the healthcare system and families. Our office not only addresses the emotional strain on families as they care for their loved ones but also helps alleviate the financial burden, ensuring a different situation for their own future.

Just a note to keep in mind:

**MEDICARE OPEN ENROLLMENT is October 15, 2023
through December 7, 2023**

**MARKETPLACE OPEN ENROLLMENT is November 1, 2023
through January 15, 2024**

This article was provided by Bill Green with Green Insurance. Bill is a long time member with the Middleburg Civic Association and volunteer in many events in Middleburg. He can be reached at info@greenins.com

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LONG HOUSE

(Circa 1890) 3858 Main Street

This home was purchased by Edward Long for his parents in 1896. It was an example of the open side gambel frame vernacular style. This building features drop siding exterior wall fabric and an exterior field stone chimney stack.



OLD MASONIC LODGE

(Circa Late 1800-1889) 3893 Main Street

This building was moved to its present site from where the present Masonic Lodge is now. It is often called "the old lodge." It has an open side gable frame vernacular building built in the federal-period style. It has a one bay gable roof entrance porch on the east side. This yellow painted two-story building is balanced or symmetrical in appearance. It is beside the Clark-Chalker house.



UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

(Circa 1847) 3925 Main Street

This building is one of the oldest Methodist churches in continuous use in Florida. It is a frame vernacular Church built of Hand-wrought lumber and nails. Mr. George Branning later donated the bell which was forged in New York and shipped by steamboat. One early use of the bell was to toll the death of his son, Robert Branning, who died in 1861 at 20 years of age.



THE FROSARD BUDINGTON HOME

(Circa 1910) 3916 Main Street

This is Historic Middleburg's only example of Queen Anne architecture. It is unusual in that it is a single story with a rounded corner on the veranda porch. The rounded columns are called ionic. The interesting shape of the left-hand gable window when facing the front of the house is called Palladian. In 1927, Mr. and Mrs. F. Budington gave a deed to the Middleburg United Methodist Church which later added the Budington Educational Building. This home is now owned by Mrs. Pat Mueller.



THE BARDIN HOME

(Circa 1888) 3881 Main Street

This is Middleburg's only example of Italian architecture. This style is more common in other areas of the country than in the South. There is a central cupola which is a small structure built on to the house. It is often used as a lookout and for air supple ventilation. Mr. Henry Bardin's house has two wide porches across the front of the hoe. It also has Victorian style gingerbread trim. The Bardins used to have square dances there many Saturday nights.



THE BUDINGTON HOME

(Circa Late 1800's)

Originally at 3913 Main Street

This is a white two-story house with a wide L-shaped porch which extends out to an area which can be used now as a carport. The shutters on this home are functional. This frame vernacular home is thought to have been moved to its present sit by rolling it on logs from across the street where the F. Budington home is now. This home is simpler in appearance on the outside than the Frosard Budington house across the street. This house has been relocated to the Main Street Park.



THE STEWART HOME

(Circa 1890-1911) 3895 Main Stree

This is Middleburg's only example of center gable frame vernacular architecture. It is a white two-story home with a porch. It has a front facing gable wall dormer window.

The home was built by George Chalker. As Mr. Chalker had a home on wharf Street, he rented this house to Mr. and Mrs. G.P. Stewart. The Stewarts moved from the Gin House Landing area where they had a turpentine mill.



DR. G.E. ADAMS & DR. STONE HOME

(Circa Early 1900's) 2145 Wharf Street

This building is a small frame vernacular home. It has decorative wooden trim on it. There is wooden "gingerbread" trim at the top of the porch columns. The porch with railing is on the left side of the house when facing the front. This building served as a Doctor's office and home in 1914. Later, the house became a private residence.



THE GEORGE CHALKER HOME

(Circa Late 1800's) 2160 Wharf Street

This white two-story home sits on a large area of land. It is Colonial Revival architecture which features a flat roofed porch with a railing above which is supported by square columns. There is a dormer window on the roof on the front of the house. A vine-covered retaining wall fronts the home on Wharf Street. The Chalker family was related to many families in Middleburg. It is presently under-going renovation and restoration.



THE CLARK-CHALKER HOUSE

(Circa 1835) 3891 Main Street

This is the oldest building in Middleburg. It is a white two-story columned house with a white picket fence. This open side gable frame vernacular home was built for Capt. Matthew Clark and his staff.

They were with the U.S. 2nd Dragoons stationed at Ft Heilman. During the Second Seminole Indian war, the house was headquarters for General Winfield Scott. Martha Ann Chalker later occupied the house for 82 years until her death in 1936.



THE GEORGE HASKELL HOME

(Circa Late 1800's) 3894 Main Street

This frame vernacular home was built by Mr. Haskell as a replica of his home in Salem Mass. He was stationed with the Union troops during the Civil War in the area.

He was attached to the Paymaster Corps. He later acquired 500 acres of land. The house is three stories and has been remodeled and kept in good condition. It is white with a decorative eagle on it.



THE HADDEN HOME

(Circa 1912) 3887 Main Street

This is a colonial revival home with a balanced front called a symmetrical façade. This is a two-story home with round columns. It has a tin roof like several of the historic homes in the historic district. An interesting aspect of this home is that the decoration above the front door was originally made from an old bed head-board. This is called a decorative entrance Pediment.



THE BARTHLOW HOME

(Circa 1800's) 3884 Main Street

This is a frame vernacular home, which is a typical wood frame home of the period. It is a small home with a tin roof and green metal awnings over the porch. Homes during this period were built with fireplaces for heat as is this one.

This home has a metal fence. Some of the other homes have wooden, brick, metal or stone fences in front of their homes. Some do not have fences. This home remains in the Barthlow family to this day.



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There are lots of opportunities for YOU

Article Betsy Condon, Clay County Commissioner, District 4

There are lots of opportunities for YOU to shape Clay County in future years. The Board of County Commissioners is working on our first ever Strategic Plan. When I first ran just about 3 years ago, I heard a number of residents ask about a county plan. This year, as Chairman I got to choose a focus and I chose a Strategic Plan. Please give us your valuable input. You can do that by going to claycounty.gov \$ typing Strategic Plan in the search bar. This information will be culminated up into a plan the BCC will vote on at the end of this calendar year.

Another opportunity for your input is on Conservation. The BCC is putting together a list of potential conservation ideas; it isn't just land! We are working with the NE Florida Land Trust to craft language for a ballot initiative on the 2024 General Election Ballot. It will simply ask if you want to pay a little more every year on your property taxes restricted for conservation.

The BCC welcomes public input! However, did you know we can't just say no more storage units or car washes? As all property owners have rights, so do commercial owners. As long as a property owner is operating within current zoning and land use codes, we don't have any say on what is built. Complicating the matter is any property in the Branam Field master plan had their zoning changed back

in 2005. A lot of other Middleburg properties have zoning and land use dating back even further. No one could have anticipated this exponential growth Florida has & is experiencing post-Covid but we will do all we can to ease the pressure.

We have lots of other great projects wrapping up. We just finished Phase 1 of our Broadband Project with Phase 2 coming quickly behind it. We also anxiously await the opening of the Clay County Gun Range off CR 215 as it has been plagued by supply chain issues. It should open any day! Finally, our Clay Regional Sports Park will open phase 1 by the end of December. It is 250 acres of protected park land with 8 multipurpose sports fields, restrooms, a playground & walking trails. Immediately to the south, North Florida Land Trust has purchased over 800 acres where residents are welcome to hike & enjoy nature.

These are just a few tidbits of the great things going on in Clay County. Please don't hesitate to reach out to me either by phone/text at (904)615-7284 or by email at betsy.condon@claycountygov.com. I enjoy serving as your District 4 County Commissioner! Thank you!

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With more than 25,000 veterans in Clay County, the Clay County Veterans' Services Office serves as a liaison for local veterans when obtaining benefits. The veterans' service officer ensures veterans, and their families can access as many veterans' benefits as they may be eligible for, including disability compensation, pension, death and burial benefits, education, and medical expenses.

Clay County VSO Mission Statement

The Clay County Veterans' Service Office's mission is to apply specialized knowledge in the best way suited to meet the needs of every veteran or dependent who comes to the office for assistance and to ensure that each person is treated with dignity and respect. Customer Satisfaction is our #1 priority.

If you have any unmet Veteran needs or questions please contact VCCCF.ORG or email us at info@vcccf.org

Mission Statement ~ Strategic Goals ~ Vision



Veterans Council of Clay County Florida, Inc. (EIN: 86-1868391) is a 501(c)3 non-profit coalition of independent Veterans' organizations and auxiliaries dedicated to improving Clay County veterans' health, and educational attainment, human welfare, and opportunities for their families.

Strategic Goals:

1. Increase Communications and Veteran Knowledge
2. Cultivate Partnerships
3. Champion Veterans Community Center
4. Conduct Fundraising

Vision

The Council is working to provide a centralized location for Veterans, families, and caregivers to increase knowledge regarding veterans' benefits and connect with resources and information in the community while promoting camaraderie in the form of a Veterans Community Center for Clay County.

Veterans Council of Clay County welcomes all Veterans, Retirees, family members, Veteran caregivers, and supporters of Veterans for Clay County.

This information was graciously provided by John Ruark. John is a member of the Middleburg Civic Association. John works tirelessly and is committed to servicing our local veterans and is the Vice-President of the Veterans Council.

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SERVPRO of North Clay County/Oakleaf/North Middleburg has an excellent team of professionals! We have a well-trained and tenured production crew. We are faster to any disaster! When Hurricane Ian and Tropical Storm Nicole were brewing in the tropical waters surrounding Florida, SERVPRO of North Clay County/Oakleaf/North Middleburg was ready for your storm related needs. Whether it was rising river water intruding into your homes, or flooding due to storm run-off, or “Category 3” water. “Category 3” water carries many different pollutants and bacteria from being transferred outside your property and penetrating inside your property can cause significant health problems. Just know SERVPRO of North Clay County/Oakleaf/North Middleburg takes great pride in returning your homes, places of business, and schools to their pre loss condition. SERVPRO of North Clay County/Oakleaf/North Middleburg is here for you and the community for all your storm related restoration needs as if, “Like it never even happened!”

We have over 50+ years of experience in Storm Damage and Restoration. We have a well-trained and tenured staff. We are faster to any disaster! Before storm season and any major or “named storm” approaches, SERVPRO of North Clay County/Oakleaf/North Middleburg recommends checking to see if you are in a flood zone. And whether or not you are eligible for flood insurance. Contacting your insurance agent will be the best way to

ensure your property has the appropriate coverage. Also, make sure you have all important documents, medications, and prized possessions are located and moved to a safe area. In the event of an evacuation order or a power outage, be sure to have bottled water, non-perishable food items, gas for a gas powered generator/or solar powered generator, a weather radio, chargers for your mobile devices, flashlight and batteries, first aid kit, and a road map if evacuating. In the aftermath of the Storm Damage, SERVPRO of North Clay County/Oakleaf/North Middleburg is here for your water extraction needs with our state of the art truck mounts. Our Production crew will restore your home or place of business with our state of the art equipment, mitigation & restoration techniques. In order to make the Storm Damage, “Like it never even happened!”

Thank you, Clay County! It's an honor and a privilege to be voted #1



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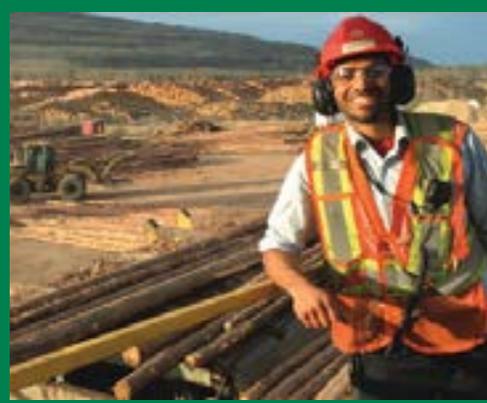


Come Grow with Us!

Operations roles start at: **\$17.75** per hour

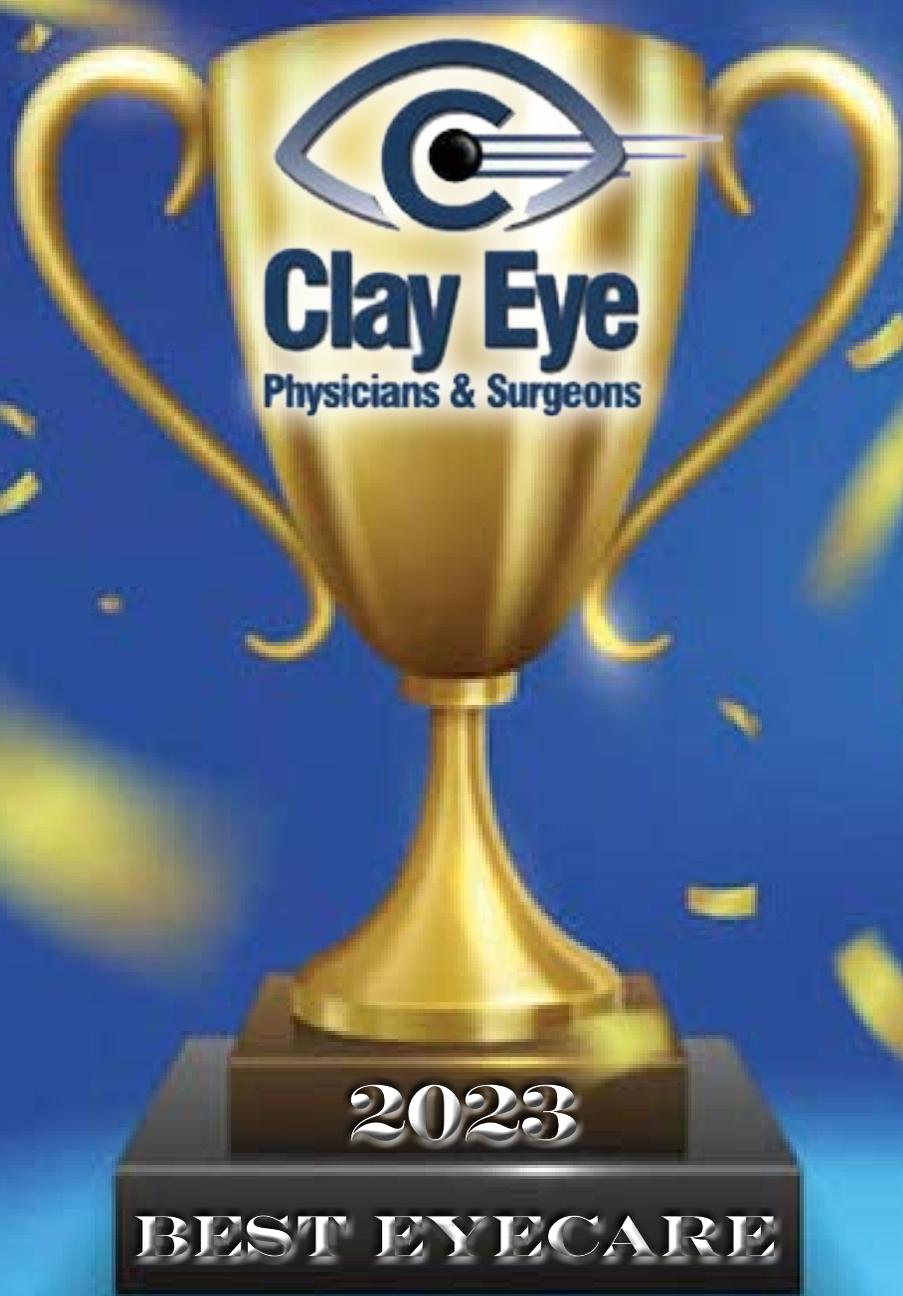
Maintenance roles start at: **\$27.00** per hour

DAY ONE BENEFITS: include Health, Dental, Vision, 401(k)



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