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Tourism Buzz September 2006

## It's "Culture in Clay" in September and October !

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### **Thrasher Horne Center for the Arts Announces Its 3rd Season!**

Tickets went on sale on July 31<sup>st</sup> and the line was out the door and around the corner! What a great beginning. We'll see familiar faces and plenty of new ones. There's Urban Cowboy, Some Enchanted Evening and the Pirates of Penzance from Broadway and Off-Broadway. There are Piano Sundays and children's fares, such as Lady Bug Action Hero and Alice. We can enjoy A Johnny Cash Christmas Holiday Tribute or Bobby Horton Songs from a Christmas Gathering 1880. It's the best value in town in an outstanding, state of the art theatre. Call 904-276-6750 or go to [www.thcenter.org](http://www.thcenter.org) for more information.

### **Orange Park Community Theatre Kicks off with The Fantastics!**

Get ready for The Fantastics as Orange Park Community Theatre kicks off its new season too. It's family fun with a fake feud and fading love. Come watch our own friends and neighbors singing, dancing and showing off! They do it well! All weekends in September through the 30th. You can even to Dinner and a Show! OPCT has partnered with Longhorn Steakhouse to offer you a Dinner and a Show on Thursday, September 28th. Call 904-276-2599 or [www.OPCT.org](http://www.OPCT.org) for reservations.

### **Augusta Savage Presentation & Lecture**

On Thursday, September 14 at 7 p.m. at the Old Courthouse in the Historic Triangle there will be a public presentation and slide show by art historian & author Dr. Theresa Leininger Miller. On Saturday September 16 at 2 p.m. at City Hall, 321 Walnut Street, there will be a Round Table Discussion. It's free and open to the public. Call 904-866-0018 for more information.

This illustrated presentation, with 180 slides, will address the life and work of internationally recognized artist Augusta Savage, who produced more than 130 pieces in bronze, clay, plaster, wood, marble, alabaster, soap, and terra cotta. Most of her work is unpublished and in the hands of at least thirty-three private collectors, but she is represented in twelve public institutions, such as the Smithsonian Museum of American Art; the Cleveland and Spencer Museums of Art; Yale, Howard, and Hampton Universities; and the Schomburg Center of the New York Public Library. Savage's subjects are diverse. They included realistic portraits of black and white leaders and common folk, slave and war memorials, genre scenes, statues indicative of emotional states, animals, dancers, musicians, bookends, nudes, garden pieces, and figures inspired by African Amazons, mythology, and black Christianity. Call 904-866-0018 for more info.

## The Soul Food Festival is Back!



Along with food and entertainment, art is on Sale at the Soulfood Festival in Green Cove Springs.

If you like sweet potato pie and other down home cookin', then the **5<sup>th</sup> Annual Soul Food Festival** on October 7 is the one for you! Vera Frances Hall Park is located at the end of Martin Luther King Blvd in Green Cove Springs. There's plenty of room for parking, running, playing, entertainment, food and fun! New additions to this year's festival include a Native American Dance Group and local mascots like Jaxson – De Ville! The entertainment is endless, including a kid's and adult fashion show. For more information, please contact Felecia Hampshire, event coordinator, or Matthew Tinney, 284-6671 or Terri Salter - 264-3558.

## ☀ Clay County's Two Largest Craft Fairs ☀

Some of our largest Clay County craft fairs happen in October. Certainly, the **Town of Orange Park Fall Festival** and **St. Catherine's Annual Bazaar** fall into that category. Oct 21-22 sees the grounds around St. Catherine's Catholic Church on Kingsley come alive with rides, games and vendors. The food and entertainment make for a great family gathering! Call 904-264-0577 for more information.

Just down Kingsley at the corner of Park Avenue, there are more than 200 booths of craftsmen (and women) and vendors just waiting for your visit to the **Town of Orange Park Fall Festival**. See craft demonstrations, live entertainment and enjoy the food. With 2 days, you can visit both events. For information on the Town of Orange Park Fall Festival, call 904-264-2635.



Candle making is just one of the live craft demonstrations at Town of Orange Park Fall Festival.

## The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Clay County Hispanic Festival

October is **Hispanic Heritage Month**. It's the perfect time in Clay County to celebrate all things Spanish! Come out for the music, the food, the clothes, dancing, the food, the music and did I mention the food! Up Front Productions is bringing us the multicultural live sounds of Mexico, Puerto Rico, Santo Domingo, Guatemala, Bolivia, Spain and El Salvador, including a tribute to the late Celia Ruz. It's free admission and free parking at the corner of Kingsley Avenue and Highway 17 on Saturday, October 28. Other events to add to the Fiesta are the Reception and Dance at Mi Casa inside the Quality Inn & Conference Center on Highway 17 on Friday evening. There's a Masquerade Party at Mi Casa on Saturday evening. The cost is \$20 and starts at 8 pm. Call 904-215-1350 for details.

## NAS JAX Air Show

The air show returns to NAS JAX on October 27 thru the 29! It's the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the [Blue Angels](#) and they will be showing off again as thousands of fans gather to watch the Navy's Flight Demonstration Squadron perform! To get the schedule and performers information, go to [www.nasjax.navy.mil](http://www.nasjax.navy.mil) and click on the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Air Show. Or call 542-2345/4011 for more information.

## First Coast Ham Jam Announces Entertainment Lineup!

**First Coast Ham Jam** opens on November 2 with the Walt Disney Tribute Show. Then Friday, Nov 3 features Craig Morgan. Saturday showcases Clay Walker and Sunday brings in the Artimus Pyle Band. So there you have it. Make plans for some great Bar-B-Q by the river, along with plenty of family fun! Go to [www.hamjam.org/](http://www.hamjam.org/) or call 904-838-5530 for details.

## SciFi Lands in Clay County!

Mr. David Dwiggins, a film producer for such movies as Species III and Flightplan, came to Camp Blanding in August to check out some possible sites for an upcoming project. It will be a film for television's SciFi Channel. It could be shot as early as November. It's about aliens landing on a distant planet where our heroes are stationed. During the site visit, we were discussing economic impact when a cast and crew come in to film. Mr. Dwiggins said it like this: Say a film group stays at a hotel and it's unexpected revenue for that property. Perhaps then the hotel management decides to take that income and repaint. Then a painter is hired. Perhaps the painter then buys a new truck that he needed. The truck dealership pays something else forward. On average, a dollar is spent about four times in a community. Mr. Dwiggins travels all over the world and said there's a good chance he may be coming back to the Jacksonville area and also to Camp Blanding. We are very excited! We will know by next month.



David Dwiggins (in truck) came to Camp Blanding for a site visit for a SciFi Channel made for TV movie. Sargeant Richard Sapp, Natl Guard Reserves, RET showed us around.



Mr. Dwiggins, seen here with Richard Sapp went to "great heights" to get the shot for an "alien film" set next to the woods!

### September-October Calendar of Events:

9/14	<b>Augusta Savage Presentation &amp; Lecture</b>	Old Courthouse, GCS
9/14	<b>The Fantastics</b>	OP Comm. Theatre (OPCT)
9/15-9/17	<b>Southern Monster Truck Showdown</b>	Clay County Fairgrounds(CCFG)
9/16	<b>Augusta Savage Round Table Discussion</b>	GCS City Hall
9/16	<b>N FL Arabians Youth Group Fun Horse Show</b>	CCFG
9/22-23	<b>The Fantastics</b>	OPCT
9/25	<b>Jim Draper Portraiture in Nature</b>	Thrasher-Horne (THCA)
9/28-30	<b>The Fantastics</b>	OPCT
9/30	<b>First Coast Hunter Jumper Horse Show</b>	CCFG
9/30	<b>Middleburg Sock Hop</b>	Middleburg Civic Assoc. (MCA)
10/6-8	<b>N FL Hunter Jumper Horse Show</b>	CCFG
10/7	<b>Soul Food Festival</b>	Vera Frances Hall Park/GCS
10/13-15	<b>Clay Cnty Fair Association Event</b>	CCFG
10/14	<b>Dukes of Dixieland</b>	THCA
10/18	<b>Alice</b>	THCA
10/20-22	<b>St. Catherine's Annual Bazaar</b>	St. Catherine's Church/OP
10/21-22	<b>Town of Orange Park Fall Festival</b>	Orange Park Town Hall Park
10/20-22	<b>Florida Sun Cat Show</b>	CCFG
10/27-29	<b>NAS Jax Airshow</b>	NAS Jax
10/28	<b>FL / GA Game</b>	Alltel Stadium, Jacksonville
10/27	<b>Hispanic Festival Reception</b>	Mi Casa/Quality Inn OP
10/28	<b>Hispanic Festival</b>	OP Town Hall Park (OPTHP)
10/28	<b>Hispanic Festival Masquerade Ball</b>	Mi Casa/Quality Inn OP
10/28	<b>N FL Hunter Jumper Horse Show</b>	CCFG
11/2-5	<b>First Coast Ham Jam</b>	Reynolds Park Yacht Center

[www.claytourism.com](http://www.claytourism.com) (Calendar of Events) for more!

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