



# ***HIGH SPRINGS HIGHLIGHTS***

## **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

The High Springs Police Department is excited to welcome our newest team member, Santa Fe.

Thank you to Aim Powers Retrievers and Santa Fe Ford for their generous donations, which allowed Santa Fe to come to our agency and start her training.

Santa Fe is assigned to High Springs Community School by handler Officer Montana Sayers and will foster mentorship and firearm-ammunition detection on our school campus.



Photo by Montana Sayers



Photo by Doug Hope

## **FIRE DEPARTMENT**

New for 2024, we will feature one of your High Springs Firefighters in each newsletter.

In this issue, we introduce you to Firefighter/Paramedic Doug Hope. Hope has been in the fire service for 25 years, six of those with High Springs.

If Doug looks familiar, you may recognize him from the viral photograph of him, and then-partner Brian Langston purchasing a microwave for a house-bound patient in 2019.

Away from work, Doug is the proud father of four children.

## BUILDING DEPARTMENT

Did you know? Any non-mechanical job \$5,000 or more, or mechanical job of \$15,000.00 or more, is required to have a Notice of Commencement on file through Alachua County Clerk of Court.

The address to have a document recorded is:  
201 EAST UNIVERSITY AVENUE  
GAINESVILLE, FL

If your document needs to be notarized before it is recorded, we can provide Notary Service for you in the Building Department with parties signing present.



Photo by Getty Images

## PARKS & REC DEPARTMENT

Renovations at the new Douglass Community Center are coming along nicely. Currently, staff and contractors are working on new fencing around the park and resurfacing the basketball courts. Stay tuned for further updates, and information on a ribbon-cutting later this year!



Photo by Kevin Mangan





Photo by Kevin Mangan

## PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Work has started downtown, repaving city parking lots on NW 185th Road, Railroad Ave and at City Hall. Part of this project includes adding more handicap parking on the 185th Road project.

In the weeks to come, crews will begin Phase III of our road paving projects. Target areas include the following:

- NW 240th Street from US-441 to NW 188th Ave.
- NW 187th Road between 239th and 238th Street.
- NW 238th Street between US-27 & NW 187th Ave. (includes widening the road off US-27)
- NW 176th Avenue from Main Street to Southside Court.

## COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT

The last quarter in the CRA district was productive. The annual CRA Report was completed and presented to the City of High Springs Community Redevelopment Agency Board and Alachua County. The report can be found at [highsprings.gov/cra](https://highsprings.gov/cra).

Planters are being refreshed with new plants, and the perennials that were planted last year are growing after their winter slumber.

The façade matching grant program is underway with two approvals from the CRA Board and two additional applications submitted for approval. These applications will be presented to the Board for approval at the next CRA meeting on May 9th.

If you are a business in the CRA District that wants to make some much needed improvements and updates to the façade of your business, please apply soon. Façade grants are awarded on a first come first serve basis, and the money is going fast.



Design by Zerbor



Photo by Alan Alligood

## PLANNING DEPARTMENT

During the February 19th Historic Board meeting, members voted 3-0 to approve a plan by the High Springs Woman's Club to repair siding, replace two front windows, and apply a fresh coat of paint to their 100-year old clubhouse.

To aide in the renovations of this community landmark, the CRA Board voted to approve a \$10,000 façade grant application submitted by the Woman's Club.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- APRIL 25TH: COMMISSION MEETING
- APRIL 27TH & 28TH: PIONEER DAYS
- MAY 4TH: KIWANIS CLUB MINI GOLF TOURNAMENT
- MAY 9TH: CRA MEETING