

**WHEREAS**, parks and recreation areas help preserve the cultural, historical, and ecological beauty of our county and provide a place for families to connect with nature, which is an integral part of the high quality of life Clay County residents and visitors enjoy; and

**WHEREAS**, access to parks and recreation areas promotes health and wellness by encouraging physical activities, and spending time in nature positively impacts mental health by increasing cognitive performance, relieving stress, and strengthening interpersonal relationships; and

**WHEREAS**, designated parks and recreation areas also promote economic prosperity through increased property values, increased tourism, the attraction and retention of businesses, and crime reduction; and

**WHEREAS**, parks and recreation areas promote inclusion, social equity, and community building by ensuring all residents have fair and just access to high-quality parks, recreational programs, and activities; and

**WHEREAS**, the National Recreation and Park Association’s 2024 Parks and Recreation Month theme is “**Where You Belong**,” which celebrates the many ways parks and recreation professionals across the country foster a sense of belonging in their community by providing welcoming and inclusive programs, essential services for all ages and abilities, and safe, accessible spaces to build meaningful connections.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of County Commissioners, Clay County, Florida, does hereby proclaim July 2024, as

**PARKS AND RECREATION MONTH IN CLAY COUNTY**

and in so doing, we recognize the many reasons why our local parks and recreation facilities and the dedicated staff members that operate and maintain them, truly embody the essence of belonging.

**DULY ADOPTED** by the Board of County Commissioners, Clay County, Florida this 9th day of July 2024.

**ATTEST:**

Tara S. Green  
Clerk of Court & Comptroller  
Ex Officio Clerk of the Board

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