

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PRELIMINARY SITE INFORMATION QUESTIONNAIRE

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE - CORD BYRD - SECRETARY OF STATE

This questionnaire is intended only to provide preliminary information about the property to the Bureau of Historic Preservation.

Name and Location of Property

Name: Spring Hill Waterfall
 Address: 5281 Spring Hill Dr
 City: Spring Hill
 Zip Code: 3460 County: Hernando

Name and Address of Owner

Name: Hernando County BOCC
 Address: 20 N Main St
 City: Brooks ville
 State: FL Zip Code: 34601

I support this effort to list or seek a determination of eligibility for listing my property on the National Register of Historic Places:

☒ Yes ☐ No Owner Signature and Date: _____

Phone: 352-754-400

Chairman BOCC

Property Information

Significant Dates (construction, events, etc.):

Erected in 1967. Grand opening of the
new Spring Hill FL Community

Has it been moved? ☒ Yes ☐ No Year moved: 1992

moved to accommodate
US 19 widening.

Property Type

☒ Archeological or Historic Site ☐ Residential Building ☐ Commercial Building ☐ Industrial Building ☐ Public Building ☐ Other (describe

Original use: gateway to the community of
Spring Hill.

Current use: landmark

Property Description:

Describe the design, construction, and general condition of the building. Indicate any architecturally significant features, unique materials, and alterations to the building. (If space below is insufficient, attach additional sheets of paper)

Artificial large waterfall operated by a water pump, all in working order
and maintained by parks & recreation.
See attached photo with approx. dimensions.

Why is the property significant?

Provide a basic history of the property. Indicate significant events, people, or architectural styles associated with the property. (If space below is insufficient, attach additional sheets of paper)

It was erected in 1967 by the Deltona Group/Mackle Bros as the focal point of Spring Hill.
In 1992 the Board of County Commissioners declared it a County historical landmark.
The waterfall (artificial) is still the focal point of Spring Hill and we the residents of
Hernando County would like to apply on the National level of Historic Places to help
Keep the integrity, history and values of this community.

Required Enclosures:

- ☒ Current photos (exterior and interior)
- ☒ Historic photos (if available, photocopies acceptable)
- ☒ Location map (and site plan for large properties)
- ☐ Sketch floor plan
- ☐ Proof of ownership (property appraiser record or notarized letter)

Date: 5/29/25

Submitter's Name and Address

Name: Cheryl Kelly
 Address: 2092 Haulover Ave
 City: Spring Hill
 State: FL Zip Code: 34608
 Email: Kelly.doncheryl@gmail.com
 Phone: (352) 263-4858

Signature: *Cheryl Kelly*

PSIQ

WJ

Waber, Andrew J. <Andrew.Waber@dos.fl.gov>

12:14 PM

To: Kelly.donchey@gmail.com

Dear Ms. Kelly

Thank you for reaching out to us. In order to start the nomination process, we will need for you to first complete a Preliminary Site Information Questionnaire (PSIQ), which you can find at <https://files.floridados.gov/media/706079/psiq-form-2022.pdf>. We will need a signature from the official owner of record of the property; current photographs of the exterior and interior of the building; any historical photographs, even recent historical photographs for the sake of comparison (if they can be found); a location map (a simple Google map printout should suffice); and proof of ownership (a simple property appraiser printout should suffice). If the building is owned by a for-profit or non-profit organization, we would also like to have proof that the individual signing on behalf of the organization is authorized to do so. If you have any floorplans or floor sketches for this building, which do not have to be to scale, we would be interested in that. If there is more about this building you would like to tell us than would fit onto this single piece of paper, please do not hesitate to include continuation sheets. Keep in mind, when we evaluate a building for NR eligibility, we are not only assessing significance, but also integrity. So any changes that have taken place to the building over time should be noted.

Current photographs should ideally be in .jpg or .tiff digital photo file format and should have a minimum resolution of 300 dpi and 1200 x 1600 pixels or larger. Exterior photographs should ideally include at least one shot of all sides of the exterior. Interior photographs should ideally include shots of any principal common areas, principal corridors, and representative shots of prominent room types within the building.

Once we receive the proposal, it will undergo staff review and we will notify you if the proposal is either preliminarily approved, rejected, or we need more information. If approved, you will be receiving a Florida Nomination Proposal (FNP) packet, and we will assist you further in preparing the proposal for presentation before the state National Register Review Board. If rejected, we will state the reason why. Please let me know if you have any further questions.

Andrew Waber

Historian | Bureau of Historic Preservation | Division of Historical Resources | Florida Department of State | 500 South Bronough Street | Tallahassee, Florida
32399 | 850.245.6430 | 1.800.847.7278 | Fax: 850.245.6439 | Andrew.Waber@DOS.fl.gov | www.flheritage.com



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Historical Resources

88°F Windy

12:20 PM
6/18/2024

4-13-67

Thousands expected for Mackle opening

Twelve thousand to 15,000 people, mostly from Central Florida, are expected to attend the grand opening Sunday, April 30, of the Mackle brothers' new Spring Hill development, the Mackles announced last night.

Almost this many people attended the opening of Spring Hill's sister Deltona four years ago and even more are expected here, said Gaston Bridges, general manager of Spring Hill.

Announcement of the big date was made by the famed Mackle brothers to their distinguished guests attending a cocktail party and dinner at the Holiday Inn, Weeki Wachee. Attending were more than 100 Hernando county business, civic, professional, and political leaders and their husbands and wives.

The grand opening will be an all-day affair, but the heaviest concentration of people is expected during the afternoon. Sheriff Slim L. Lowman is assigning a special deputy who will have charge of traffic control. The Deltona corp., it was learned, has arranged to contribute \$200 to the Brooksville Kiwanis club in return for the services of Kiwanians to handle traffic during the day.

In addition the civic auditorium committee, headed by Mrs. Tom Hogan, will be in charge of the cold drink stands. The athletic club will have the hotdog

concessions, and the Junior Service league will have the ice cream concessions.

Bridges asked the various civic groups to take over the money-making projects, he said, "because we need the services during the day and we could think of no better approach than to arrange for the services in connection with the civic needs of our friends in Brooksville."

At the same time The Sun-Journal management announced plans are underway for a grant, Spring Hill opening edition of the newspaper of Sunday, April 30. Advertising Director John Rankin and News Editor Tom Mould are arranging the mallway type edition, which will be complete with color and with articles and pictures galore about Spring Hill and Hernando County.

Tentative plans call for a press run of at least 25,000 copies of the newspaper, which no doubt will make it the biggest circulation weekly newspaper in the state, probably during all of 1967. The news-

paper will go to all regular subscribers plus the thousands who attend the opener at Spring Hill. It will be mailed by various groups and individuals all over the country and hundreds of copies will go to 100 Deltona sales agents throughout the world.

"April 30 will be a big day for the Mackle brothers and for Hernando county," said a Sun-Journal spokesman. "We plan for the newspaper of that day to be a big one, too."

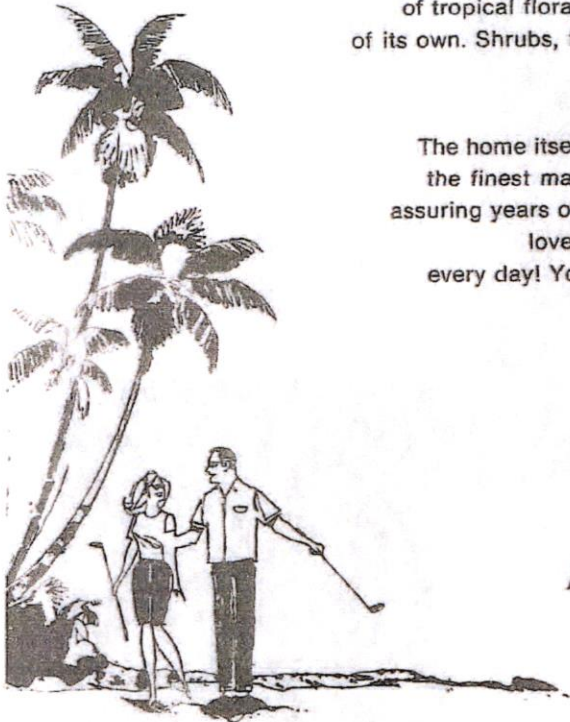
Active Leisure in the Florida Sun!

MACKLE-BUILT HOMES BLEND BRILLIANT DESIGN WITH LOVELY SUB-TROPICAL SETTING

There are no repetitious homes—row after row of sameness—at Spring Hill! The Mackle architects have successfully blended a wide variety of attractive home models with a gay profusion of tropical flora to create a bold and imaginative pattern of homes, each with a subtle personality of its own. Shrubs, towering pines and oaks, flowers, high rolling green countryside, winding paved streets and drives and thoughtful placement of each home on its lot—these are the ingredients of planned Spring Hill!

The home itself, which can be yours at Spring Hill, is built by highly skilled craftsmen using only the finest materials. The man of the house will appreciate the heavy-duty construction features, assuring years of serene living without serious maintenance problems. The woman of the house will love the delightful and utilitarian design which allows her many extra work-free hours every day! You'll be amazed at the high-quality, charming design and luxury touches of every Mackle-Built home at Spring Hill. You will be more amazed at their low prices!

The price of every Spring Hill home includes home and lot, paved streets, sidewalks, fully-sodded lawns and basic landscaping. City water and sewerage service provided by a regulated public utility.



**MACKLE-BUILT
MEANS QUALITY CRAFTED HOMES**

M

HOME FINANCING QUALIFICATIONS

FHA FINANCING: YOU CAN OBTAIN FHA PRIMARY FINANCING, REGARDLESS OF YOUR AGE, IF:

- A.** You are now retired. **B.** You are employed in the Spring Hill area.

This type of financing provides for low down payments and long term mortgages. An FHA mortgage may be obtained if you are now retired and have a monthly income equivalent to slightly more than four times the monthly payment required for the home of your choice.

If you are employed in the vicinity of Spring Hill, you may obtain an FHA mortgage regardless of your retirement date, if you meet the monthly income requirements.

CONVENTIONAL FINANCING: Most anyone can qualify for Conventional Financing, as long as he is financially capable of carrying the mortgage on the home of his choice, has good credit and otherwise qualifies under accepted lending practices.

ALL CASH: Naturally, an "All Cash" purchase is available to anyone.

First Spring Hill plat accepted by county

Elliott Mackle, senior vice president of the Deltona corp., met with county commissioners Monday afternoon and filed a plat for the first unit of Spring Hill. The first plat outlines 1,213 lots for development near Hunter lake and ranges in size from several acres down to 75 feet by 100 feet lots.

"This is our first one," Mackle said. "And it certainly will not be our last one. I invite you all to come down and see the property at anytime."

Architect Jim Vensel told the commissioners: "I don't know how many plats we will have but I expect it will be eight or 10."

Some two miles of roads have been completed in the subdivision and water lines are being installed.

A recent decision by the commissioners has allowed soil-cement base roads for



ELLIOTT T. MACKLE
Spring Hill developer

the project and a core from one of the roads was shown to the commissioners by County Engineer, C. E. Mammel.

Mammel told the commissioners that soil-cement base was used extensively in other areas of the state although this was the first use of it in Hernando county. The base will get a one inch covering of asphalt.

Hernando County Rep. E. C. Rowell, Wildwood, paid the commissioners a surprise visit and suggested that the commissioners prepare any legislation that they might want introduced in the legislature at the first opportunity they had.

"I wanted to see if you had any problems I could help you with," Rowell said. "We would like to have had any local legislation you wanted by Feb. 1. I don't like last minute legislation."

Rowell told the commissioners that he hoped they wouldn't wait until the third week of the legislature and hope to pass some legislation.

"There may be something controversial," he said. "If it is highly controversial, such as zoning, it should be brought to the people first."

Rowell told the commissioners that he



E. C. ROWELL
Hernando representative

believed his district was as pure as any in the state as far as reapportionment was concerned. "We have 42,237 in the district," he said. "And the norm is supposed to be 41,687. We are less than 250 off."

Rowell told the commissioners that he thought one group of legislatures would try to take the race track money away from the smaller counties, but he thought he could stop that. "I'll stick a bill in the hopper to abolish all pari-mutuel racing in the state," he said.

Commissioner Benjie Rivenbark asked: "What is the status of the mental hospital?"

"If I can set up a meeting the 15th or 16th in Tallahassee with Tom Adams and the cabinet, we will see," Rowell said. "I am sure the board did everything it could do."

Rowell called the mental hospital situation a political "bug-a-boo."

Commissioner Murray Grubbs said: "We were told all along not to rock the boat. Everyone I talked to said everything was OK."

Rowell said that the county might as a last resort ask for the property back.

"What about these statements by several legislators that the only reason they voted for it in the first place is that they had their arms twisted," asked Rivenbark.

"It might be wise at times to vote for something you don't necessarily agree with in order to get what you want," replied Rowell.

County commissioners put the Spring Hill road (old S.R. 50-West) on top of the priority list Monday night.

The \$10,000 paving job is to start soon.

Other priorities were delayed until Road Supt. Clyde Daniel could furnish estimates on materials costs. The commission only has \$25,000 budgeted for materials.

In another evening workshop session,

four of the commissioners (John W. Rice was absent) adopted tight specifications for soil cement-based roads in the county. The specs were drawn by engineer Gene Mammel. Most roads have been rock-based in the county, but the Mackle Brothers are using soil cement.

A large delegation of residents from Weeki Wachee Woodlands came to complain because the roads have not been paved. The matter was taken under advisement. The roads were accepted 60 days ago.

Commissioners talked at length with Road Supt. Clyde Daniel about keeping a better records system on equipment, purchasing, maintenance, and personnel.

Next Monday evening the meeting will be on consideration of redistricting the county.

1968

ADVERTISED IN

Reader's
Digest

**BEGIN A NEW ADVENTURE IN
FLORIDA LIVING AT**

SPRING HILL

ANOTHER MACKLE-BUILT COMMUNITY BY THE DELTONA CORPORATION

**PRESENTING 15
BRILLIANTLY DESIGNED
FLORIDA HOMES**





Young plans



New arrivals



Tip time

Resting



Big day at

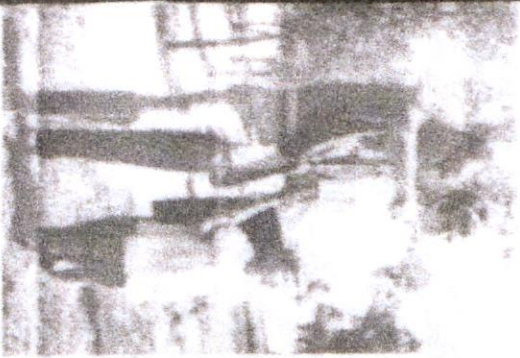
SPRING HILL



The opening



Visiting Spring Hill



Project's goals

Local friends



The 1988 Spring Hill

The good guys







Roads - Mariner Boulevard - Board Concurrence to Hold Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony

County Administrator Charles Hetrick suggested that it might be appropriate to schedule a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the widened section of Mariner Boulevard from Spring Hill Drive to just north of Northcliffe Boulevard.

The Board concurred with the suggestion.

Resolutions - Spring Hill Waterfall - Adoption of No. 92-05 Declaring Waterfall a Prominent Landmark

Comm. Brown-Waite read aloud Resolution No. 92-05 which declared the artificial waterfall at the intersection of US 19 and Spring Hill Drive a prominent landmark.

Motion

Comm. Brown-Waite moved to adopt Resolution No. 92-05; seconded by Comm. Ester and carried unanimously.

Representatives of the Spring Hill Garden Club and the Spring Hill Civic Association thanked the Board for the Resolution.

Permits - Fees - Board Denial of Waiver of Land Use Fees for YMCA

Development Department Manager Grant Tolbert indicated that the Hernando County Family YMCA had submitted a letter requesting that they receive a refund of the permit fees for two Land Use Authorizations that they received for the sale of Christmas trees at two separate locations. The YMCA at various times of the year utilized commercial properties for the sale of Christmas trees, pumpkins, etc. The cost of the Land Use Authorization is \$50 per location. Although the YMCA was a non-profit organization, Resolution No. 91-62 (Fee Schedule) did not exempt non-profit organizations from the fees incurred in obtaining Land Use permits. Land Use Authorizations were only permitted on Commercial-zoned properties. The staff must inspect the sites to insure that there was adequate parking available as well as to provide for public safety upon ingress/egress from the site for the proposed purpose. It was the staff's opinion that the fees collected were necessary to cover the cost of inspections and the administrative time utilized for the processing of the Land Use Authorization.

Mr. Tolbert stated that the staff recommended that the Board deny the reimbursement of the permit fees for Land Use Authorization to the Hernando County YMCA.

Motion

Comm. Ester moved to approve the staff recommendation; seconded by Comm. Varvel and carried unanimously.

Ordinances - Landscaping - Approval to Remove Specimen Trees With Stipulations for Consolidated Freight Trucking

Mr. Frank McDowell, III, Commercial Administrator/Code Enforcement Official advised that Mr. Bobby Laseter of Laseter Engineering and Construction (Laseter), had submitted site and construction drawings to the Development Review Committee (DRC) for the proposed Consolidated Freight Trucking facility to be located on SR 50 East between the Coca-Cola Bottling Company plant and the Clyde Daniels Construction Company.

Mr. McDowell indicated that the staff had specific concerns about the removal of the specimen trees, and therefore, had requested that the issue be addressed by the Board. The tree survey submitted by Laseter

RESOLUTION 92- 05

WHEREAS, the artificial waterfall at the intersection of US19 and Spring Hill Road, was erected in 1968 and has served as a prominent landmark for all residents; and

WHEREAS, such a monument symbolizes the history, culture and values of a community and

WHEREAS, this symbol represents the essence of the Spring Hill Community, reminding all that pass by of the beauty of that community.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF HERNANDO COUNTY, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The Board of County Commissioners of Hernando County declares and designates the above artificial waterfall as a Hernando County historical landmark.

SECTION 2. The Board of County Commissioners of Hernando County desires that state and federal agencies take due notice of this designation and provide appropriate safeguards to insure the perpetuation of this site.

ADOPTED in Regular Session this 14th day of January, A.D. 1992.

(SEAL)

BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS, HERNANDO
COUNTY, FLORIDA

Attest:

Karen Nicolai
KAREN NICOLAI
Clerk

By:

John Richardson
JOHN RICHARDSON
Chairman

June Ester
JUNE ESTER

Harold D. Varvel
HAROLD D. VARVEL

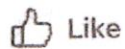
Ginny Brown-Waite
GINNY BROWN-WAITE

Anthony C. Mosca, Jr.
ANTHONY C. MOSCA, JR.

12:24



< Beth Narverud Hernando County Commissio...



Like



Comment



Send



Share



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Comment



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Share



Message Beth Narverud Hernando County Com...



Developing Spring Hill: Spring Hill's Start & its Iconic Waterfall

Exhibitions, History, Clubs & Lectures/Features

By Diane Bedard • Posted on July 14, 2022

In 1968, the United States was in the throes of the Vietnam War, Richard Nixon was elected President, and **Spring Hill**, Florida was established. It is hard to imagine how the mega land developer, Deltona Corporation, would choose to develop this specific piece of Florida.

The Mackle Brothers created the Deltona Corporation to build their Florida communities. They created the name Deltona by combining Daytona and Delray. It was through Deltona Corporation that Spring Hill, an unincorporated area of Hernando County between Clearwater and Brooksville, was planned and built.

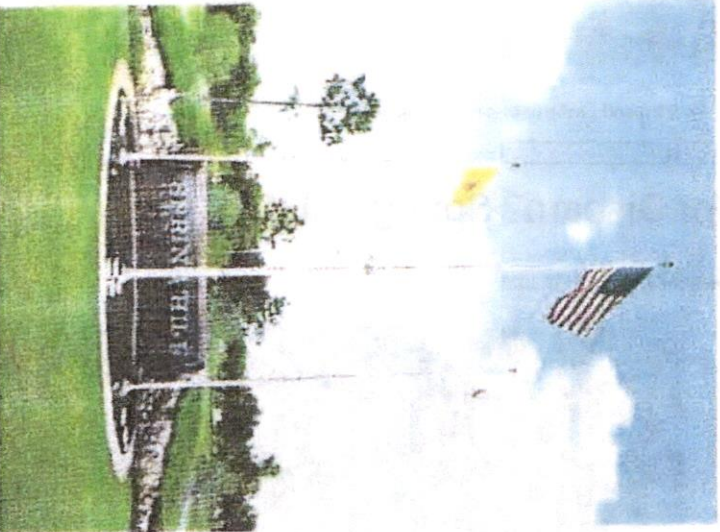
Frank Mackle, III, explained its location, "Between Clearwater and Brooksville were miles and miles of raw land: gently rolling, oak tree covered, and lake dotted." So, the western portion of Hernando County was converted to the unincorporated census tract we know today.



At the time of the opening, Deltona Corp. had built 5 miles of roads, 15 model homes, an administrative building, a sales office and a water and sewage system and not much more.

Deltona constructed the Waterfall to Welcome Prospective Buyers

At the entrance to this grand community, Deltona Corporation constructed a park that featured a beautiful waterfall fountain with 3 large flagpoles to welcome prospective buyers.



US 19 and Spring Hill Drive.

A beautiful fountain was constructed at the entrance to Spring Hill, at the intersection of Spring Hill opened to huge crowds in May of 1967. Sales of home sites went at a record pace and the 28,500 platted lots were essentially sold out in three years!

Home › At Home & Beyond › Keep or Discard? Spring Hill Waterfall

Welcome to the World

Read more & Comment

Keep or Discard? Spring Hill Waterfall



By Austyn Szempruch

June 15, 2024

5897 0



Spring Hill waterfall on Spring Hill Drive and US 19 (file photo) [Credit: Elizabeth Dentato]

- Advertisement -

Commissioners Consider Removal

The future of Spring Hill's historic landmark- the Spring Hill Waterfall, was up for discussion last week.

The Hernando County Board of Commissioners held a special meeting last week to review the Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan for Fiscal Year 2025. At the workshop, Commissioner John Allocco spearheaded a discussion regarding the renovation of the welcome sign at the intersection of Spring Hill Drive and US 19. Though it is not yet on any official plan, the district 3 commissioner noted that they do have funds that could go toward the project.

"We hear about it all the time that waterfall that is there," Allocco said. "That is basically the entrance we think of to Spring Hill or Hernando County. Obviously, it is outdated. It has been there longer than most of us have been on this planet, and I think it is time for there to be a change there."

The commissioner suggested that they could use landscaping funds to help not only that median but other similar areas around the county as well. He proposed reaching out to UF/IFAS and master gardeners for help with the project. Allocco's hope is that the county could use what it learns from this process to assist in the beautification of the other medians "because we do not want them to look like trash," he said.

- Advertisement -

Allocco proposed eliminating the "not Florida-friendly" water feature and "removing the high maintenance problem" that currently exists, as he feels it is a waste of water. He would still like to have a welcome sign that identifies the Spring Hill area he just does not feel like the waterfall is the best course of action.

Besides the waterfall, there are other navigational challenges regarding the roads surrounding the sign that need to be addressed as well. Commissioner Brian Hawkins added that he would like to see a transit study of the area to see what makes the most sense regarding the lanes surrounding the median. He would like to address the traffic congestion at the intersection and "if it calls for it, I would not be opposed to just removing it altogether," said Hawkins.

Commissioner Jerry Campbell would also like to see a study done much in the same vein as Hawkins suggested, but his concern was less for the old "sudsing" prank that used to be more common years ago and is more perturbed by the high volume of cars that often park on the median for various reasons. This upsets him because "people are trying to take care of it," and he wants locals to respect the property. He would not like to eliminate the median but rather find a way to fix the traffic situation, much like his fellow commissioners.

Commissioner Steve Champion respects the heritage of the sign, but he concurred with the majority in this case. He feels a "nice marquee, a stone structure that says, 'Welcome to Spring Hill,' with Florida-friendly landscaping," would be acceptable for the entry point to the town. His bigger issue is the same as everyone else's: the traffic.

There was some dissention on how to address the renovation, though. Chairwoman Elizabeth Narverud appeared to be in the minority for keeping the fountain as she was the only one to speak in its defense on Tuesday.

The chairwoman feels they could reduce the size of the water feature, renovate the sign, and reconfigure the roads around the median, but she would not vote for the full removal of the historic feature. Narverud wishes "to maintain our heritage in this county. I do not want to see that tossed away."

That heritage extends to the founding of Spring Hill in 1967. The developers of Spring Hill, the Mackle Brothers' Deltona Corporation, welcomed prospective buyers to the community with a grand park entrance featuring a prominent waterfall and three towering flagpoles.

For many years, the Spring Hill Garden Club maintained the landscaping of the waterfall. According to the club, the waterfall was declared a historic landmark by Hernando County in 1992.

Over the years, the Spring Hill waterfall experienced periods of disrepair, but community-led efforts have ensured that their landmark remained. The Brooksville Garden Club took on the project to restore and maintain the waterfall after the county parks department decided to cut its maintenance from the budget in 2011. Numerous businesses and organizations rallied in the effort to preserve the waterfall and it was restored to working order within a few months. In 2014, the Garden Club returned maintenance of the waterfall back to the county.

WATERFALL FROM PAGE A 1

fic to avoid some accidents. I don't think that they necessarily wanted to take down the fountain, but I was absolutely not going to support taking down the fountain," said BOCC Chairwoman Elizabeth Narverud.

Narverud was the most outspoken board member in support of preserving the waterfall during that workshop.

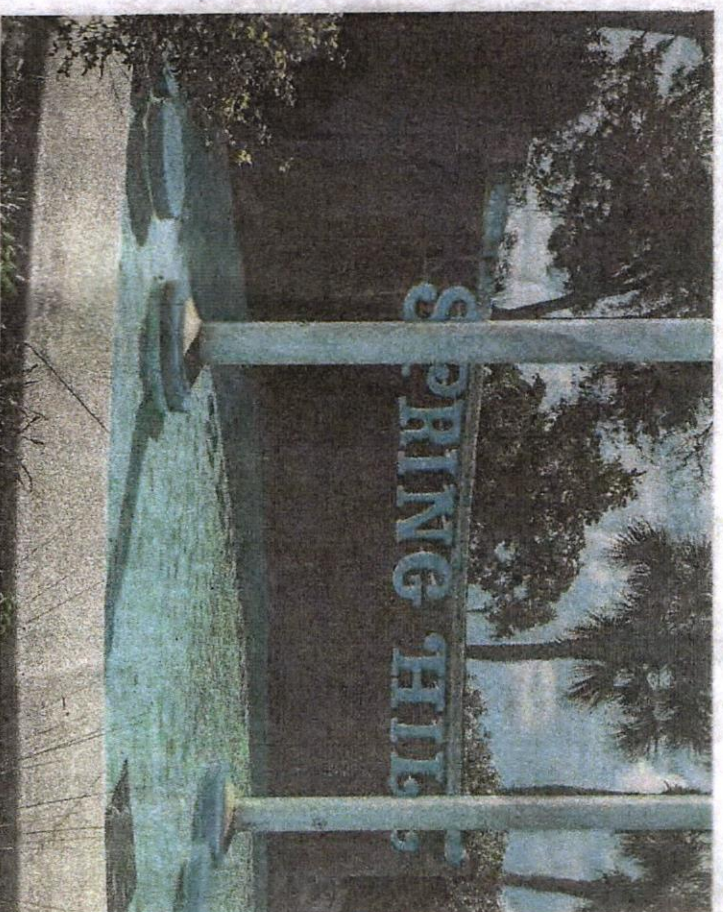
Last Saturday, the community came together to show their displeasure with the potential removal of the waterfall by waving signs at passing cars and urging cars to honk in support of the fountain. The gathering in support of the waterfall

was organized in part by Ryan Amsler, who is running against Narverud for county commission.

Cheryl Burnett, a realtor in Hernando County, said, "We have very few attractive landmarks on this side of the county. We have the beautiful Hernando Beach and we also have the Spring Hill water fountain, and that's it. What else is there that tells people they're at Spring Hill or Hernando Beach?"

Sherry Kendrat, a seven-year resident of Spring Hill, said that the waterfall was eye-catching when she first moved to the area; it was like an oasis.

Cheryl Kelly, a Spring Hill resident since 1989, said she is trying to apply to place this waterfall on the National Register of Historic Places. She is looking



Spring Hill Waterfall on Saturday, June 22.

for photographs and newspaper clippings from when the waterfall was first erected to help in her quest to make it a historical landmark.

During the board meeting on Tuesday, the commissioners reached a consensus about their plans for the waterfall.

Chairwoman Elizabeth Narverud said they will be repairing the waterfall with volunteers from the community. Volunteers must formally fill out an application, and Scott Herring, the director of public works, will be in charge of the application process.

"We have community members that are willing to help foot the bill for this. I believe they have a strong say in what's

going to be done as long as it give with what the community said Narverud.



Residents show their support for preserving the Spring Hill Waterfall on Saturday, June 22. [Photos by Julie Maglio]



pool of water is ~ 23' deep ~ 35' wide ~ 1-2' water

Waterfall wall - 3' thick, 7 1/2" Tall:

Construction - plaster like material for water, concrete border
waterfall wall is block, brick, stucco with brick cap.



I don't believe this has any function
for the waterfall? If so, it can
be removed from application.

