

Jacksonville Business Journal - December 28, 2007

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# JACKSONVILLE Business Journal

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## Credit union to break ground on green branch

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**Community First Credit Union of Florida** will break ground on the first green-certified branch in Jacksonville Jan. 2.

The branch at 13520 Beach Blvd. will be the first green bank building project certified to meet Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design standards in the area, said architect Tom Gentry at **TTV Architects Inc.** of Jacksonville. The **U.S. Green Building Council** runs the LEED program.

The Jacksonville commercial general contractor Auld & White Constructors LLC will host the groundbreaking for the 4,455-square-foot branch.

The green branch is part of a large expansion plan that Community First announced in September 2006 when it was in the process of buying 10 outparcels of land in Northeast Florida. Construction of a branch was estimated to cost from \$1.7 million to \$2.8 million, but the LEED building would cost about 10 percent more, Community First CEO John Hirabayashi said at the time.

Community First has 18 branches in Northeast Florida, according to its Web site. It ranked second on the list of credit unions in The Business Journal's 2008 Book of Lists with \$972 million in area deposits at Dec. 31, 2006.

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