



TOPICS:



NEXT STEP



BLUE SPRINGS



OFFICE CLOSURE



CITIZEN OF THE QUARTER



PCO UPDATE



NEXTSTEP

NextStep Academy for adults with autism is preparing for a graduation ceremony for its first cohort! Six students have completed the two-year course and will be graduating this July 27th. Preparations are already underway for the second student cohort, to begin in August. The application cycle is open and the deadline is May 31st. If you or someone you know is interested in applying, or if you would like more information on the program, contact Ronda Burke at RBurke@NextStepatEndeavor.org or call **850-633-7146**.



BLUE SPRINGS

With school ending for the year, the summer season is upon us. Many of our citizens take advantage of the natural beauty around us, including visiting Blue Springs Recreational Area. The park is currently open on weekends and will open during the week beginning Memorial Day. Please be aware that some prices and fees have increased. More details on price increase can be found at <https://bit.ly/JCBOCCAagenda040924>



OFFICE CLOSURE

Jackson County BOCC offices will be closed July 4th and 5th in observance of the Independence Day Holiday.



CITIZEN OF THE QUARTER

The Board has instituted a Citizen of the Quarter program to recognize citizens who make the County a better place to live through their community service and volunteerism. This quarter, the Board recognized Ms. Gloria Hearn as Citizen of the Quarter, April 2024. Ms. Hearn has made notable efforts in maintaining her property and the roadside in her neighborhood in order to preserve its beauty and safety. This has inspired others to follow her example and undertake their own neighborhood beautification efforts. The Board would like to express their appreciation to Ms. Hearn for her hard work and dedication to being FOR Jackson County.



PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER UPDATE

We are thrilled to announce that Mrs. Mary Smith has accepted the position of Public Communications Officer for the Jackson County Board of County Commissioners. The position was recently vacated by Mr. Dylan Bass. Mary has many years of excellent service to the people of Jackson County, having worked in the Community Development Department for almost 7 years. Mary will be responsible for press releases and public information, website and county branding design, as well as taking on responsibility for Citizens Academy. You may reach her at smithm@jacksoncountyfl.gov.