



TOPICS:



CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



ENDEAVOR UPDATE



SUMMER FUN PASSPORT



CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Lacey Ekberg, the new director of the Jackson County Chamber of Commerce, introduced herself at the recent Board meeting to the Commissioners and county staff. With 25 years of extensive experience in chambers of commerce and economic development across 32 states, she has already started implementing plans to promote both the Chamber and Jackson County. A Listening Session for Chamber Members is scheduled for June 13th at 11:30 am at RCC with Ms. Ekberg, Kelsi Jackson from the TDC, and Nikisha Milsap from Main Street Marianna. This session aims to gather feedback to shape the Chamber's strategic plan, enhancing support for its members, the business community, and the overall development of a thriving community for residents and businesses alike.



SUMMER FUN PASSPORT

The Jackson County Tourist Development Council has launched their Summer Fun Passport campaign to engage local youth in exploring their community. From Memorial Day Weekend to Labor Day Weekend, students in Jackson County can visit various attractions, earn points, and exchange them for prizes. The campaign aims to provide fun activities, foster a deeper appreciation for the county, and create lasting memories. Passports are available at the Jackson County Visitor Center, featuring destinations such as outdoor adventures, historical sites, and local businesses. Points and prizes must be redeemed by August 30, 2024. For more information, contact the [Jackson County Visitor Center](https://www.jacksoncountyfl.gov/visitor-center) at (850) 482-8061 or email TDC@jacksoncountyfl.gov.



ENDEAVOR UPDATE

The New Orleans Mission (CHROME) has initiated discussions with the County to purchase three cottages on the Endeavor property in phases. The first, Bethune Cottage, will serve as a women's treatment facility for individuals recovering from addiction.

CHROME's commitment to providing a supportive environment aligns with the County's mission to promote community health and well-being. The proposed sale of Bethune Cottage for \$85,000 is a significant step towards this shared vision. Both parties are finalizing a purchase and sale agreement, following the Board's approval of a memorandum of understanding (MOU) outlining the commitment and due diligence requirements.

On April 9, 2024, the Board awarded RFP 2324-19 to NW Florida LD, LLC (Rausch Coleman). The Board has since approved a Purchase and Sale Agreement for the property on Pooser Road, enabling Rausch Coleman to begin development for attainable housing. This partnership is expected to enhance community growth and provide much-needed affordable housing options for the workforce.