

City of Gainesville, Florida
Office of Mayor Lauren Poe
PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, The Nature Centers Commission presents the Annual Star Awards to recognize individuals, groups, businesses or organizations for their positive contribution to Gainesville's natural environment; and

WHEREAS, The Star Good Neighbor Award is being presented to the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ), represented by Dollie Danielle Wygant, in recognition of their fourth year adopting a City of Gainesville nature park. Periodic work days provide meaningful and engaging service activities for at-risk youth, and provides an opportunity for kids to unplug and get outdoors to learn about and help the environment. Gainesville's parks have benefitted from the various park improvement activities which have included fence building, invasive plant control, vegetation height reduction for safety, and litter pick-up. Dollie Danielle Wygant, juvenile Probation Officer Supervisor, recognizes the importance of getting kids outdoors and extends herself above and beyond her typical duties to ensure this program continues; and

WHEREAS, Star Volunteer Maya Lahti has been a regular volunteer with the Gainesville Greenway Challenge since March, 2018 and has volunteered nearly 72 hours this past year. In addition Maya has assisted with various other land management projects. With a keen interest in natural resource management and protection, and a willingness to learn anything, Maya has proven to be a Star Volunteer; and

WHEREAS, Star Volunteers Steve Boissoneault and Susan Breier have volunteered with Sweetwater Wetlands Park for several years serving more than 384 hours collectively. They have given time and effort consistently, predictably, and unconditionally. Steve and Susan have provided various services including keeping the boardwalks clean for park visitors, picking up trash, assisting with educational programs, maintaining trails for increased accessibility, and providing accurate and engaging information to park visitors. Steve and Susan are hardworking, dedicated, and wonderful volunteers.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Lauren Poe, by the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Gainesville, do hereby proclaim March 5, 2020 as

Maya Lahti, Steve Boissoneault and Susan Breier, and Florida Department of Juvenile Justice Day

in the City of Gainesville and invite all our citizens to join me in recognizing these Star Award recipients, and expressing our appreciation for their service, dedication, and positive contributions to Gainesville's natural environment.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the official seal of the City of Gainesville, Florida, this 9th day of January, A.D., 2020.


Lauren Poe
Mayor

