

WHEREAS, The Nature Centers Commission established The Amy Carpus Lifetime Achievement Award in 2021 honoring longstanding Nature Centers Commission Board member Amy Carpus, who dedicated her life and career to conservation, education and sustainability, and who generously donated her time and energy for many years to serve on the Nature Centers Commission out of love for Gainesville's parks; and

WHEREAS, This award recognizes an individual who has made significant, impactful, and enduring contributions over an extended length of time to conserving Gainesville's natural resources; and

WHEREAS, The Nature Centers Commission wishes to bestow the Lifetime Achievement Award posthumously to the first recipient, Amy Carpus, to recognize her 22 years of service to the City of Gainesville, and her lifelong passion as a conservation and natural resource steward; and

WHEREAS, The Nature Centers Commission recognizes Mary C. Rosier with the Amy Carpus Lifetime Achievement Award for spending most of her life tirelessly advocating for Gainesville's parks and natural spaces; and


WHEREAS, Mary C. Rosier is 96 years old and has lived in Gainesville since 1949. Mary C. Rosier spent decades at Morningside Nature Center as a volunteer, a naturalist and instructor, and on the Board of Friends of Morningside. Mary was a lifelong Girl Scout and helped to create the Girl Scout Equestrian Adventure program in this area, as well as assisting with countless other projects and programs. Mary campaigned for and helped develop the Bikeways program in Gainesville, as well as many other projects that helped Gainesville stay green, beautiful, and accessible.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Lauren Poe, by the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Gainesville, do hereby proclaim March 17, 2022 as

***Eileen Ahlquist, Oak Hammock at the University of Florida, First Magnitude  
Brewing, Amy Carpus, and Mary C. Rosier Day***

in the City of Gainesville and invite all our neighbors 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 21st day of February, A.D., 2022.

  
Lauren Poe  
Mayor



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 contributions to Gainesville's natural environment; and

WHEREAS, Star Volunteer Eileen Ahlquist has been a volunteer with the Gainesville Greenway Challenge since 2019, and from 2019 until November of 2021 she contributed 144 hours to removing invasive plants from City nature parks. Eileen is an enthusiastic ambassador, telling others about the Gainesville Greenway Challenge volunteer program. She also educates her neighbors by helping with invasive plant identification and proper removal techniques. Eileen is such an active and passionate volunteer that she continued working through the pandemic on her own and with her husband to remove nearly all of the coral ardisia berries from 6 acres of Jolly Woods Nature Park; and

WHEREAS, Star Green Business Oak Hammock at the University of Florida demonstrated exceptional environmental practices by preserving large amounts of native canopy during construction; installing 682 solar panels; providing electric carts for staff, moving to plant-based takeout containers, and installing LED lighting; and

WHEREAS, Oak Hammock promotes environmental stewardship by maintaining beehives, providing community gardens, facilitating composting, and maintaining a National Wildlife Federation Certified Wildlife Habitat that includes pollinator plants, and a solitary bee hotel; and

WHEREAS, Star Green Business First Magnitude Brewing utilizes green business practices including preserving and enhancing native tree canopy on their grounds; repurposing an abandoned warehouse and maintaining the original footprint; reducing energy consumption by installing LED lighting, warehouse fans, and high efficiency mini-split AC units; using honey that is harvested from pollinator-friendly plants grown at solar panel sites; and going carbon neutral; and

WHEREAS, First Magnitude Brewing purposefully sited their business to be in close proximity to Depot Park and the Gainesville-Hawthorne trail to support and encourage access by cyclists and pedestrians; and

WHEREAS, First Magnitude Brewing supports our local community and environmental causes. The brewery offers a place for non-profits to host fundraisers at no cost. They fundraise and donate money to worthy causes such as the Florida Springs Institute, Friends of Wakulla Springs, and Florida Museum of Natural History for imperiled butterfly species conservation. And they have partnered with Current Problems to remove trash from local creeks; and