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Libraries create welcoming and inclusive spaces for people of all WHEREAS:

backgrounds to learn together and engage with one another; and

WHEREAS: Libraries and librarians play a crucial role in the education and

> development of children. Librarians are literary experts, offering everything from preschool story hours to summer reading clubs that

sustain school-year learning; and

WHEREAS: Libraries provide a learning environment that fosters joyful

exploration, encouraging students to research subjects that they are

genuinely curious about; and

WHEREAS: A library card is free to any Jacksonville resident and serves as the

gateway for people to pursue their dreams, explore new passions and

interests, and find their voice; and

WHEREAS: Jacksonville Public Library consists of over twenty regional,

> community, and neighborhood branches and offers programming, resources, and other services to community members of all ages; and

WHEREAS: A Jacksonville Public Library card can be used to access in-person and

online resources free of charge. Every citizen can benefit from

possessing a library card.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, DONNA DEEGAN, by virtue of the authority vested in me as mayor of Jacksonville, Florida, do hereby proclaim September 2023 as

LIBRARY CARD SIGN-UP MONTH

in Jacksonville and encourage all citizens to sign up for their own library card.



IN WITNESS THEREOF, this 25th Day of Aug. in the year Two Thousand and Twenty-Three.

Donna Deega