

PROCLAMATION

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MARION COUNTY, FLORIDA

WHEREAS, the U.S. House of Representatives has designated July as Parks and Recreation Month, in recognition of their integral role in communities throughout the country, the State of Florida, and Marion County, Florida; and

WHEREAS, parks and recreation programs build healthy, mindful communities that aid in the prevention of chronic diseases, provide therapeutic recreation services for those who are mentally or physically disabled, and improve the mental and emotional health of all citizens through time spent in nature; and

WHEREAS, our parks and natural recreation areas ensure the ecological beauty of our community and provide places for children and adults to connect with nature and engage in outdoor activities, such as popular sports, hiking trails, and many other pursuits designed to promote active lifestyles; and

WHEREAS, parks and recreation programming and education activities, such as out-of-school time programming, youth sports and environmental education, are critical to childhood development; and

WHEREAS, parks and recreation increase a community's economic prosperity through higher property values, expansion of the local tax base, increased tourism, the attraction and retention of businesses, and crime reduction; and

NOW THEREFORE, the Board of County Commissioners of Marion County, Florida, by virtue of the authority vested in us do hereby proclaim that the month of July 2024 be known as

“PARKS AND RECREATION MONTH”

in Marion County, Florida, and urge all citizens to acknowledge the importance of parks and recreation and the numerous benefits they provide to the community.

DULY PROCLAIMED this 2nd day of July, 2024.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MARION COUNTY, FLORIDA**

MICHELLE STONE, CHAIRMAN

KATHY BRYANT, VICE CHAIR

CARL ZALAK, III, COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

CRAIG CURRY, COMMISSIONER

GREGORY C. HARRELL, CLERK

MATT MCCLAIN, COMMISSIONER