

# PROCLAMATION

## BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MARION COUNTY, FLORIDA

**WHEREAS**, all Marion County citizens depend on farmers to produce the food and fiber necessary for health, safety, and quality of life; and

**WHEREAS**, agriculture significantly affects our local economy, employing 33,740 people with an economic impact of \$1.7 billion dollars; and

**WHEREAS**, the cattle industry and forest products, with over 400,000 acres of timberland, are big economic drivers and contribute substantially to economic value; and

**WHEREAS**, the practice of agriculture results in water recharge that is essential to surface and groundwater; and

**WHEREAS**, as Horse Capital of the World®, the county has more equines than any other U.S. county; hosts the world's leading Thoroughbred sales with \$180 million annually, and 210,000 acres are used for horses; and

**WHEREAS**, as part of the Farm City Week celebration, Dr. Harrell Phillips and Mr. Scott Seiler will be inducted into the Marion County Agriculture Hall of Fame for their contributions to the agriculture industry;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, The Board of County Commissioners of Marion County, Florida, by virtue of the authority vested in us do hereby proclaim that **November 20<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024** be known as

### **“FARM CITY™ WEEK”**

in Marion County. We remind everyone that producers and consumers share a unique interdependence, for one cannot exist without the other.

**DULY PROCLAIMED** this 19<sup>th</sup> day of **November 2024**.

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
KATHY BRYANT, CHAIRMAN

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CARL ZALAK III, VICE CHAIR

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MICHELLE STONE, COMMISSIONER

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CRAIG CURRY, COMMISSIONER

**ATTEST:**

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GREGORY C. HARRELL, CLERK

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MATT MCCLAIN, COMMISSIONER