

PROCLAMATION

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MARION COUNTY, FLORIDA

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners recognizes The Trakehner is a European warmblood horse of East Prussian origin, and the bloodlines of the Trakehner horse can be traced back to the town of Trakehnen, East Prussia, and a stud farm owned by Frederick William I, in 1732; and

WHEREAS, Trakehner breeders began to focus on producing an athletic endurance horse that could serve as an efficient and powerful cavalry horse during wartime, but with the versatility to work on local farms during times of peace by introducing English Thoroughbred and Arabian blood into the local mare population; and

WHEREAS, despite their relatively small numbers compared to other breeds, Trakehners have a significant presence in Olympic sports like Dressage, Jumping, and Eventing. This is evidenced by two American-born ATA Trakehners on the U.S. Eventing Team at the Tokyo Olympics, and a purebred German Trakehner who repeated her Olympic double gold medal performance at the Paris Olympics for the German team; and

WHEREAS, The American Trakehner Association exists to promote the performance of the Trakehner horse in all disciplines, particularly dressage, three-day eventing, hunting, jumping, and driving. The association also aims to encourage public understanding of the Trakehner horse, including its breeding, intelligence, and performance; and

WHEREAS, The American Trakehner Association will hold its 50th-anniversary celebration here in Marion County from October 8th through the 11th at the World Equestrian Center; and

NOW THEREFORE, the Board of County Commissioners of Marion County, Florida, by virtue of the authority vested in us, do hereby celebrate the American Trakehner Association, for its five decades of many successes of this oldest of all Warmblood breeds, credited by UNESCO with Intangible Cultural Heritage status.

DULY PROCLAIMED this 1st day of **October 2024**.

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

MICHELLE STONE, CHAIR

KATHY BRYANT, VICE CHAIR

CARL ZALAK, III, COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

CRAIG CURRY, COMMISSIONER

GREGORY C. HARRELL, CLERK

MATT MCCLAIN, COMMISSIONER