



# Certificate of Recognition

## Manatee County District 2

**WHEREAS**, Naomi Bivens will be honored by friends and family on the occasion of her 95<sup>th</sup> birthday on April 23, 2018 and

**WHEREAS**, she was born in Bradenton, Florida on April 23, 1923 and has been a resident of this community ever since; and

**WHEREAS**, she became the wife of Joseph Bivens in 1943 and this marriage was blessed with three children, five grandchildren, and five great grandchildren; and

**WHEREAS**, she was a talented pianist who began playing for the choir at the family church, St. Stephens AME Church, as a teenager, subsequently playing for and directing the choir as a young mother of three children; and

**WHEREAS**, in addition to being a wife and a mother, she has been active in church and civic responsibilities including being a teacher, providing education opportunities for elementary school age children and adults within her residential community, and being an astute businesswoman expanding real estate holdings that she inherited from her family. Naomi and her late husband Joseph Bivens engaged in social responsibility urging those in the community to get out and vote; and

**WHEREAS**, she in her quiet way has been a force for good and a stabilizing influence on those around her during these turbulent years.

**NOW, THEREFORE** I, Charles B. Smith, Manatee Commissioner, do hereby deem it an honor and pleasure to extend this Certificate of Recognition to Naomi W. Bivens on the occasion of her 95<sup>th</sup> Birthday, with sincere congratulations and best wishes for many more happy, productive years.

PRESENTED this 24<sup>th</sup> day of April 2018.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Charles B. Smith".

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Charles B. Smith  
Manatee County Commissioner  
District 2

