



## ***Proclamation***

Board of County Commissioners  
Manatee County, Florida

**WHEREAS**, the Pittsburgh Pirates are one of Major League Baseball's oldest and most storied franchises having won five World Series championships, most recently in 1979 when Willie Stargell and the "We Are Family" Pirates brought the World Championship home to Bradenton for Spring Training; and

**WHEREAS**, the Pirates call Manatee County their home away from Pittsburgh, having hosted Spring Training activities in Bradenton every year since 1969 – the second-longest continuing Spring Training relationship between a city and a Major League Baseball team; and

**WHEREAS**, the Pirates' Spring Training weeks in Manatee County generate an estimated \$36 million into the local economy each year, resulting in a unique promotion and marketing partnership between Pittsburgh and the Bradenton area; and

**WHEREAS**, Manatee County has invested Tourism Development Tax revenues in the team's facilities at Pirate City and at LECOM Park, baseball's oldest spring training stadium which has consistently been voted Best of the Ballparks by *Ballpark Digest* and *Spring Training Online* readers; and

**WHEREAS**, the Pittsburgh Pirates are outstanding community partners and have provided financial support to improve youth baseball, softball, and recreational facilities around Manatee County through the Pirates Charities Fields for Kids program and the team's players and staff have volunteered countless hours in the community over the past 50 years; and

**WHEREAS**, the Pirates' history and five decades of fan memorabilia will be on display as part of the "Baseball in Manatee County: 50 Years of Pittsburgh Pirates Spring Training" exhibit traveling throughout the Manatee County Public Library System in 2018.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED** by the Board of County Commissioners of Manatee County, Florida, that Tuesday, February 13, 2018, shall be known, designated, and set aside as

### ***PITTSBURGH PIRATES DAY***

in Manatee County, Florida.

**ADOPTED** with a quorum present and voting this 13<sup>th</sup> day of February 2018.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA**

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*Priscilla Trace, Chairman*

**ATTEST:** *Angelina Colonnese*  
*Clerk of the Circuit Court*

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