



Proclamation

Board of County Commissioners
Manatee County, Florida

WHEREAS, Manatee County is known for being the first location in North America where Hernando De Soto's expedition disembarked; and

WHEREAS, in 1938, the U.S. Government-appointed Swanton Commission determined De Soto's expedition arrived on the shores of the mouth of the Manatee River at Shaw's Point on May 30, 1539; and

WHEREAS, Manatee County has been home to the Hernando De Soto Historical Society since 1939, and 2014 marks the 75th anniversary of the Hernando De Soto Historical Society; and

WHEREAS, over the course of these 75 years, the Society has brought together a remarkable collection of committed volunteer members who represent a diverse cross-section of our community, and these members have given hundreds of hours each year to provide the heritage festival and to educate the community about this historical event; and

WHEREAS, through the efforts of the Hernando De Soto Historical Society and the Conquistador Historical Foundation, significant funds have been and are being raised and redistributed back into the community to help other local organizations; and

WHEREAS, the heritage festival is a significant and rich celebration that attracts thousands of visitors annually to Manatee County, and the County takes pride in the Hernando De Soto Society and its members, who are honored to have the esteemed duty of sustaining the heritage of Hernando De Soto.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED by the Board of County Commissioners of Manatee County, Florida, that April 2014 shall be known, designated, and set aside as

HERNANDO DE SOTO HISTORICAL SOCIETY MONTH

in Manatee County, Florida.

ADOPTED with a quorum present and voting this 25th day of March 2014.

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

By: _____

Larry Bustle, Chairman

ATTEST: ***R. B. "Chips" Shore***
Clerk of Circuit Court

By: _____

Deputy Clerk