Proclamation
Board of County Commissioners
Manatee County, Florida

WHEREAS, the prosperity and well-being of the citizens of Manatee County are highly dependent upon the cooperation, mutual understanding, and respect between our agriculture producers and the urban segment of our population; and

WHEREAS, this year’s Farm City Week celebration will highlight “Citrus Then and Now” and spotlight the past, present, and future of Manatee County’s citrus industry; and

WHEREAS, Manatee County’s citrus production has decreased by half, from 4,723,000 boxes in 2004 to 2,772,000 boxes in 2017, with many abandoned groves; and

WHEREAS, the industry has suffered greatly from hurricane destruction, urbanization, poor water quality, labor availability, and the introduction of pests and diseases, namely citrus greening and citrus canker, affecting nearly 100 percent of groves and backyard trees; and

WHEREAS, scientists are coming together to find solutions to save the industry, introducing alternatives including: thermotherapy, new rootstocks and varieties, antibiotic sprays, and improved tree nutrition; and

WHEREAS, Farm City Week provides an opportunity for the general public to better understand the struggles of citrus farmers, the efforts to find alternatives, and renewed opportunity to support Manatee County’s citrus industry through the purchase of local citrus fruits and juices.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED by the Board of County Commissioners of Manatee County, Florida, that November 7-17, 2018, shall be known, designated, and set aside as

FARM CITY WEEK

in Manatee County, Florida, and all citizens are urged to recognize the contributions agriculture has made to our economy and community.

ADOPTED with a quorum present and voting this 23rd day of October 2018.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA

______________________________
Priscilla Trace, Chairman

ATTEST: Angelina Colonneso
Clerk of the Circuit Court