

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the Cherry Laurel Garden Club was first established in March of 1948, as one of many local garden clubs in the Ormond Beach area dedicated to preserving public parks and land, and beautifying our cities. This local club joined the state-wide Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. on February 21, 1951 and is celebrating their 70th anniversary of the union; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. is a non-profit group for the purpose of engaging in activities which are charitable, educational, and scientific. Community service and environmental stewardship are core to the Cherry Laurel Garden Club's mission. They are made up of 40 members who are committed to: stimulating the knowledge of and love for gardening; sharing the advantages of association in promoting conservation; legislation and city beautification; and advancing their garden club ideals. The club's first project started in 1948, with club members working alongside local leaders to convince the City of Daytona Beach of the need to purchase land and create a public park. The first park became what is now known as the Tuscawilla Preserve at the Museum of Arts and Sciences; and

WHEREAS, the Cherry Laurel Garden Club's projects over the past seven decades are many and include landscaping, irrigation and gardening at the historic Anderson-Price Memorial Building and Lilian Place/Hotchkiss House, planting trees at the Emory Bennett Memorial and Good Samaritan Nursing Homes, fundraising for the Chiles Academy in Daytona Beach, providing plants for new homes constructed by Habitat for Humanity of Greater Volusia County, and fundraising for Penny Pines to replace pine seedlings in our state forests. A diverse array of programs and field trips are part of the club's schedule each year as well; and

WHEREAS, the club is considered a lifeline for many of their older members and when the pandemic caused most groups to stop meeting, the Cherry Laurel Garden Club continued to meet in-person with appropriate guidelines. The club supported local Ormond Beach businesses throughout the pandemic by inviting those businesses to speak at meetings, lead workshops and sell merchandise at pop-up shops. This generous support of our community was in return for the support the club received from those local businesses during the club's fundraising efforts; and

WHEREAS, the Cherry Laurel Garden Club has won many local, state, regional and national awards for their good works over the years. The City of Ormond Beach is fortunate to have this group as part of their community.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Partington, Mayor of the City of Ormond Beach, Florida, do hereby proclaim May 12, 2021, as a time to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the

CHERRY LAUREL GARDEN CLUB

in the City of Ormond Beach and urge all residents to join with me in celebrating this special event.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and cause the seal of the City of Ormond Beach, Florida, to be affixed this 12th day of May in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-One.



BILL PARTINGTON
Mayor