

# *City of Tarpon Springs, Florida*

## **PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, generations of Irishmen and women have helped shape the idea of America, overcoming hardship and strife through strength and sacrifice, faith, and family; and

**WHEREAS**, by 1776 nearly 300,000 Irish nationals had emigrated to American colonies and played a crucial role in America's War for Independence; and

**WHEREAS**, since the military governorship of Irish American Andrew Jackson, Irish Americans in Florida have provided leadership and service to the state, counties, and local communities; and

**WHEREAS**, Irish Floridians can look back with pride on the legacy of their Irish forebears, who have contributed significantly to education, business, sports, literature, science, medicine, and the arts; and

**WHEREAS**, we owe a debt of gratitude to the generations of Irish Americans who have sacrificed and contributed to building a better America; and

**WHEREAS**, March has been designated Irish American Heritage Month throughout the United States to coincide with the celebration of St. Patrick's Day on the 17<sup>th</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Tarpon Springs recognizes the Florida Ancient Order of Hibernians and celebrates our friendship in honor of the long history of Irish American contributions to the State of Florida and our community.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Costa S. Vatikiotis, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Tarpon Springs, Florida, do hereby proclaim March 2023 as

### ***Irish American Heritage Month***

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Tarpon Springs, Florida, to be affixed this 14<sup>th</sup> day of March 2023.

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*City Clerk & Collector*

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*Mayor*