

*PROCLAMATION*

**WHEREAS**, July 1 remains a historical moment as it commemorates the incorporation of the City of Oakland Park 97 years ago; and

**WHEREAS**, the City's history began as the City of Floranada in 1925 and was reincorporated in 1929 as the City of Oakland Park, led by Joseph Dewey Hawkins, a native of Live Oak, Florida, who arrived in Oakland Park in 1922 when the City consisted of six families. Hawkins, a natural leader, united the community, served as the City's first Mayor, and continued to serve for more than 28 years; and

**WHEREAS**, today, covering more than eight square miles, Oakland Park is a diverse community of over 47,000 residents who enjoy special events, beautiful parks and recreation opportunities, and high-quality City services; and

**WHEREAS**, Oakland Park is a City on the move, making incredible progress through smart infrastructure investments, strong support for local businesses and residents in need, and a growing spirit of volunteerism that continues to shape our bright future; and

**WHEREAS**, this past year, the City celebrated the relocation of City Hall into the new and beautiful Sky Building and paved the way for the redevelopment of six acres of City property into high-quality residential, retail, open space, and a future platform for a commuter rail stop, supporting long-term economic sustainability and offering inviting amenities to the community; and

**WHEREAS**, as the City looks ahead to its centennial celebration, we approach the completion of the new City library at Centennial Park, the new Greenleaf Park, with a new playground, shaded pavilion, basketball court, tennis and pickleball, and lighting; enhancements to Veterans Park, Royal Palm Park, Stevens Field, Lady Lake Trail, Richard E. Giusti Park, J Dewey Hawkings Landing Canoe and Boat launch and Fire Station 20.

**NOW THEREFORE**, the City Commission of the City of Oakland Park, Florida, by virtue of the authority vested in it by the Charter, hereby authorizes Mayor Steven R. Arnst to proclaim July 1, 2026, as

**CITY OF OAKLAND PARK'S 97<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY**

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Oakland Park, Florida, to be affixed this 17<sup>TH</sup> day of June 2026.

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
STEVEN R. ARNST, MAYOR

ATTEST \_\_\_\_\_  
RENEE M. SHROUT, CMC, CITY CLERK