



# PROCLAMATION

ONE CITY. ONE JACKSONVILLE.

**WHEREAS:** Square dancing has been a popular tradition in America since early colonial days when settlers would dance to ease the hardships of frontier life; and

**WHEREAS:** The square dance is popular throughout the world. The dance for groups of four couples is performed in a compact framework, with each couple forming a side of a square. Cooperative movement is key to an accomplished dance; and

**WHEREAS:** Square dancing is accompanied by music but movements are prompted by the instruction of a "caller". Square dance is called in English worldwide; and

**WHEREAS:** In 1982, President Ronald Reagan proclaimed square dancing as the "Folk Dance of America", and it has been designated as the official folk dance of the State of Florida; and

**WHEREAS:** In addition to the physical health benefits, square dancing is a traditional form of community celebration, providing mental stimulation and social interaction through teamwork and cooperation; and

**WHEREAS:** The month of September is recognized as Square Dance Month internationally, nationally, and locally by the Northeast Florida Square and Round Dancers Association.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, LENNY CURRY,** by virtue of the authority vested in me as mayor of Jacksonville, Florida, do hereby proclaim September 2019 as

## SQUARE DANCE MONTH

in Jacksonville and encourage all citizens to learn more about square dancing and its importance in our nation's history and culture.



IN WITNESS THEREOF, this 19<sup>th</sup> day of August  
in the year Two Thousand Nineteen

*Lenny Curry*

MAYOR

CITY OF JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA