

Proclamation



DISCOVERY OF FLORIDA, USA

WHEREAS, American Natives, Spaniards, British, French, and Immigrants from all Nations, help settle Florida and the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, Spanish Explorer Juan Ponce de Leon, first Governor of Puerto Rico, in March 1513, organized and commenced an epic expedition, with a crew of 200 including Women and Blacks, that resulted in the landing on April 2, 1513, naming of Florida (*La Florida*); and

WHEREAS, Ponce de Leon and crew were the first Europeans in recorded history to have come ashore and placed Florida on the Map, brought advanced civilization, Christianity, Cows, Horses, Sheep, the Spanish language, more settlers to the land that later became the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, the now US Territory of Puerto Rico was the historic 1st gateway to the discovery of Florida which opened the doors to the advanced settlement of the USA; and

WHEREAS, after extensive investigation, Historian Douglas T. Peck's re-traced trip, based on the Charts of the day, now point to the Landing Site to be most likely in Brevard County; and

WHEREAS, various US Citizen Organizations including the 500th Florida Discovery Council (CF), United Third Bridge-Royal Order of Ponce de Leon (Brevard), Hispanic Achievers Grant Council, the Florida Humanities Council and others have partnered with Viva Florida 500 to commemorate this significant historic occasion by magna celebrations and events to be conducted throughout 2013; and

WHEREAS, we come together as United States Citizens and Patriots to honor all ancestors and everyone's contributions before and after 1513 to the forming, and prosperity of Florida and our noble Nation for the good of all: Family, Community, USA, and Humanity.

NOW, THEREFORE, we, the City Commission for the City of Kissimmee do hereby recognize the 500 years of the discovery of Florida, USA, and of all those that have contributed or are contributing to the forming of the great State of Florida, and the United States of America.

IN WITNESS, THEREOF, this is signed this 2nd day of April, 2013.

