

CITY OF WINTER PARK

proclamation

Winter Park Holiday Tree Day of Retirement | October 21, 2017

WHEREAS, the for nearly three decades, Winter Park residents have celebrated the city's annual tree lighting ceremony in Central Park; and

WHEREAS, the southern red cedar, a native Florida tree, began serving as the centerpiece of Central Park during the holiday season when it was donated to the city in 1988 by Bob Opsahl, Winter Park resident and former WFTV news anchor; and

WHEREAS, the cedar tree has provided residents and visitors a warm holiday glow under which to relax, reflect, recreate and reminisce during the holiday season; and

WHEREAS, the majestic tree has also provided shade from the Florida sun and a climbing structure for children of all ages throughout the past 30 years; and

WHEREAS, although the aging tree will be retired on this day, it will continue to serve as a landmark and fond reminder of years gone by; and

WHEREAS, until the city finds the perfect replacement tree, a new electronic, digital tree will provide holiday spirit with over 5,000 lights sequenced to music; and

WHEREAS, upon the tree's retirement, its service to our community is tree-mendously appreciated and will be forever rooted in fond family memories.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Steve Leary, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Winter Park in the state of Florida, do hereby proclaim **Saturday, October 21, 2017**, as "Winter Park Holiday Tree Day of Retirement" in Winter Park, Florida.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Winter Park, Florida, to be affixed this 20th day of October 2017.

Steve Leary
Mayor