

WHEREAS, the Public Library is a focal point of a community's literacy efforts, providing continuing education and special programming to encourage a life-long love of books; and,

WHEREAS, the Friends of the Mansfield Public Library is joining with the library to celebrate books with the 15th annual "Mansfield Reads!" our own version of the "One City, One Book" program that has been embraced nationwide; and,

WHEREAS, citizens are being asked to come together and read the same book in hopes of initiating discussions and reconnecting with reading and the books offered at the Mansfield Public Library; and,

WHEREAS, this year's selection is "On Texas Backroads: Stories Found Along the Way" by best-selling Texas author Carlton Stowers, recipient of the A.C. Greene Literary Award for Lifetime Achievement and a member of the Texas Literary Hall of Fame; and,

WHEREAS, Mansfield residents are encouraged to read the book and attend the many special events planned during March and April, including showings of Texas films, cooking Texas cuisine and a lecture with the author on April 27 at the Mansfield Public Library; and,

WHEREAS, the nationally award-winning Mansfield Reads! program offers the community an opportunity to continue an annual tradition that not only promotes literacy but inspires communication, creativity and cultural exchange among our citizens,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, David L. Cook, Mayor of the City of Mansfield, Texas, join with members of the City Council to hereby proclaim April 2018

MANSFIELD READS! MONTH

in the City of Mansfield and urge all citizens to participate in this event as a celebration of reading and the positive impact literacy has on people's lives and on our community.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I do hereby set my hand and cause the official seal of the City of Mansfield to be affixed this 26th day of March, 2018.