

In Memoriam



Jane Castor, Mayor

WHEREAS, the City of Tampa takes pride in recognizing those individuals whose commitment and dedication have made a lasting impact on our community and nation and one of these individuals was **Elaine Fantle Shimberg**, a well-respected and beloved Author, Philanthropist and member of the Tampa, Florida community who passed away on Wednesday, April 14, 2021 at the age of 84; and

WHEREAS, born on February 26, 1937 to the late Karl and Alfreda Fantle in Yankton, South Dakota, Ms. Shimberg grew up in Fort Dodge and Sioux City, Iowa where she developed her love of writing, and she graduated from North Western University, majoring in Radio and Television and was a member of Alpha Epsilon Phi Sorority, and thereafter, she made Tampa, Florida her home, working for radio stations WALT-AM 1110 and NewsRadio WFLA; and

WHEREAS, an award-winning author, Ms. Shimberg began writing at age seven, published her first book in 1979 titled *How to be a Successful Housewife/Writer*, and many of her twenty-five books include topics on health, medical and family issues, children's books, her biography *Growing Up Jewish in Small Town America* published in 2011, she had many articles printed including in Reader's Digest, Men's Health, Seventeen, and Writers Digest, and her success resulted in guest appearances on numerous national television shows, she co-hosted a women's talk show on WFLA-TV, her book *Relief from IBS* was named one of the Best Lay Medical Books for Public Libraries by Library Journal, she freelanced for local newspapers, and she was a speaker at the American Society of Journalist and Authors national meetings; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Shimberg was devoted to the Tampa Bay area and she gave of her time, talents and resources for the benefit of others including sharing her acting abilities in local theater, serving in leadership capacities with the American Cancer Society's Florida Public Information Committee, with Congregation Schaarai Zedek Sisterhood, St. Joseph's Hospital Board and St. Joseph's Hospital Foundation, she was a founding member of the University of South Florida's (USF) Women in Leadership & Philanthropy program, she helped create the Philanthropy Women of St. Joseph's Women's Hospital and she was the first lay person to serve on the Florida Medical Association's Council on Ethical and Judicial Affairs; and

WHEREAS, for her vast contributions, Ms. Shimberg received numerous recognitions over her lifetime including the Shimberg Health Sciences Library, the Shimberg Breast Center at St. Joseph's Women's Hospital, the Shimberg Playhouse at the David A. Straz, Jr. Center for the Performing Arts, and the Tampa Prep athletic facility's Hinks and Elaine Shimberg Field are all named in her honor, and she received an Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters Degree from USF; and

WHEREAS, well-known for her creativity, empowering and bright nature, energy and vivaciousness, Ms. Shimberg will forever be remembered for her deep love of her family, and for her compassion and kindness.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jane Castor, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida, do hereby urge all citizens to join me in publicly expressing sorrow and heartfelt appreciation to the Elaine Fantle Shimberg Family, her husband Mandel 'Hinks', children Karen, Scott, Betsy, Andy, and Michael, Grandchildren, Great-Grandchild, and other family members, and to express our hopes that they will take solace in their many cherished memories and the considerable impact of her life our community and our nation.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 20th day of April, 2021.



Mayor