

# Proclamation



*Bob Buckhorn, Mayor*

**WHEREAS**, first known as the Badge of Military Merit, the **Purple Heart** is our nation's oldest military medal and was established on August 7, 1782 by General George Washington, and is specifically a combat decoration awarded to members of the armed forces of the United States of America who are wounded by an instrument of war in the hands of the enemy and posthumously to the next of kin in the name of those who are killed in action or die of wounds received in action; and

**WHEREAS**, chartered by the United States Congress in 1958, the Military Order of the Purple Heart (MOPH) members are military men and women who have received the Purple Heart medal for wounds suffered in combat, and its mission is to foster an environment of goodwill and camaraderie among the combat wounded veterans, promote patriotism, support legislative initiatives and provide service to all veterans and their families; and

**WHEREAS**, as we celebrate our freedom, we should be mindful this as a gift of life given to each of us by the men and women who bravely served and continue to serve their country, and the ultimate sacrifices many have made on our behalf; and

**WHEREAS**, Tampa, Florida, home to MacDill Air Force Base, enjoys a unique relationship with our nation's military, and demonstrates its support and appreciation for those servicemen and servicewomen in our community at every opportunity; and

**WHEREAS**, the Veterans Council of Hillsborough County, Inc. serves as local affiliate of military veterans organizations, and acts as a liaison between government and veteran organizations on actions affecting veterans and their families residing in Hillsborough County; and

**WHEREAS**, the Veterans Council of Hillsborough County has deemed Tampa, Florida a Purple Heart City, and will present the City of Tampa with a **Purple Heart Flag**, to be flown annually on August 7<sup>th</sup>, the nationally recognized day set aside to honor those who have been awarded a Purple Heart medal.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bob Buckhorn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim August 7, 2013 as

## **“PURPLE HEART CITY DAY”**

in the City of Tampa, Florida and urge all residents to join me in recognizing and commending all active American Military Service Men and Women, Veterans, and Fallen Military Heroes, especially those who have gallantly earned a Purple Heart in the name of freedom.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of July, 2013.



*Bob Buckhorn*

Mayor

