

In Memoriam



Bob Buckhorn, 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 its citizens. One of these individuals was **The Honorable Haven Wilson Poe**, a well-known and respected public servant and community leader, who passed away on Sunday, February 9, 2014 at age 82; and

WHEREAS, the youngest child of the late Haven Elizabeth Wilson and the late John Robert Wilson, Haven Poe was born on August 11, 1931 in Haines City, Florida and moved to Tampa as a young girl, attended Wilson Middle School and graduated from Henry B. Plant High School, where she was voted Most Athletic Girl; and thereafter graduated from Florida State University where her degree in social work led her to a lifetime of volunteer service and advocacy, especially for the welfare of children; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Poe loved the Tampa community and with a natural desire and drive to help others, she was involved in many aspects of volunteerism and service including devoting her time, energy and talents to the Hillsborough County Juvenile Detention Center, Travelers Aid Society, Children's Services for Hillsborough County, served on the University of Tampa Board of Trustees, and she is credited with the Oral School for the Deaf being moved into the Hillsborough County school system, the first school for hearing impaired children in the county; and

WHEREAS, she continued serving the citizens of the Tampa community with her successful two-term elections to Tampa City Council, serving from 1979 to 1986, and subsequently Mrs. Poe was elected to the Hillsborough Board of County Commissioners from 1986 to 1990, where she served as Chair, and helped guide Hillsborough County to implement a modern land-use plan; and

WHEREAS, among her many accolades and honors, Mrs. Poe received the *Liberty Bell Award* in 1976 from the Hillsborough County Bar Association, and in recognition of her commitment and dedication to the children of the Tampa Bay community, the *Haven W. Poe Center for Runaway Children* is named in her honor; and

WHEREAS, known as a true public servant, friend, and inspiration to all who knew her, she will be forever remembered for her love of family, friends and community, honesty, high ethical standards, and generous nature, and although we are grieved at the loss of this outstanding citizen, her legacy will continue to live on through the improvements she brought to our community and in all those whose lives she has touched, especially the children she cared so much about.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bob Buckhorn, 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 Haven Wilson Poe Family, her husband Charles, her daughters Lynn and Jennifer, Grandchildren, and other family members, and to express our hopes that they will take solace in their many cherished memories and the impact of her life on our city.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 13th day of February, 2014.



Bob Buckhorn

Mayor