

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 **Monroe Wilson Mack**, a well-respected Pharmacist and community leader, who passed away on Saturday, August 16, 2014 at age 82; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Mack was born in Campbellton, Florida and attended Florida Agriculture and Mechanical University (FAMU), the only graduate receiving a Bachelor of Science degree in Pharmacy for the graduating class of 1956. He thereafter received his Master's degree in Pharmacy Management from FAMU in 1986, and his Master's in Business Administration from Nova University in 1987; and

WHEREAS, upon receiving his Bachelor of Science degree, Mr. Mack began his illustrious and pioneering career in the field of Pharmacy as FAMU's Chief Pharmacist prior to moving to Tampa to establish the Clara Frye Memorial Hospital Pharmacy. In 1962, Clara Frye Memorial Hospital merged with Tampa General Hospital, and Mr. Mack became the first African-American professional employed at the institution, eventually becoming its Director of Pharmacy and the founding Editor and Writer of the Tampa General Hospital Pharmacy Department's newsletter until his retirement in 1990, and he was credited with elevating the Pharmacy Department to one of the top in the United States and assisting in the hospital's growth and success; and


WHEREAS, during his career as a pharmacist, Mr. Mack served the country he loved by joining the United States Army Reserves in 1956, commissioned as a Second Lieutenant and he retired as a Lieutenant Colonel in 1985, and during his lifetime he also was a respected Real Estate Broker and Mortgage Broker, and served as President of Trako Enterprises, Inc., and as Director of Courtyard at Lowry Place, Impact Associates, Thap Homes and Thap Enterprises Group; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Mack was appointed to Florida Board of Pharmacy by Governor Reubin Askew in 1973, the first African-American to serve, and he was reappointed by Governor Bob Graham in 1977 and again to a four-year term in 1979 where the board elected him President, the first hospital pharmacist to hold the position, and he was Governor Lawton Chiles' first appointment to the Tampa-Hillsborough Expressway Authority, and appointed Preceptor and Clinical Assistant Professor by both the University of Florida and FAMU Colleges of Pharmacy. Mr. Mack was an active member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, the Democratic Black Caucus, a lifetime member of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) and the FAMU Alumni Association, the Diamondback Pharmacy Alumni Council where he received special recognition in 2009, and he was inducted into the FAMU College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences' Gallery of Distinction, where his likeness is displayed in the main corridor of FAMU's entrance; and

WHEREAS, known as a trailblazer, hard worker, mentor, and inspiration to all who knew him, he will be forever remembered for his devotion and love of family, his high ethical standards and generous nature, and although we are grieved at the loss of this outstanding citizen, his legacy will continue to live on through the improvements he brought to our community and in all those whose lives he has touched.

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 Monroe Wilson Mack Family, his wife LaVerne, son Gregory, daughters Traci and Nicole, brother Charlie, and other family members, and to express our hopes that they will take solace in their many cherished memories and the impact of his life on our city.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 22nd day of August, 2014.



Mayor

