

Proclamation



Bob Buckhorn, Mayor

WHEREAS, thousands of the United States' Armed Forces Troops have served America in times of peace and war, and through their dedication and sacrifices, our nation and its people have been assured safety and prosperity, and our freedoms, ideals and values protected; and

WHEREAS, many of these brave and committed men and women gave the ultimate sacrifice, their lives, during military service and their families left to mourn have also paid a great price for our nation; and

WHEREAS, dating back to World War I and a symbol of great honor that no one wants, a **Gold Star Lapel Pin** is presented by the United States Department of Defense to the spouses, parents and children of a fallen service member who was killed in combat or in support of certain military activities; and

WHEREAS, known as a **Gold Star Family**, flags or banners with a gold star are often displayed by the family to make others aware of the sacrifice their family member has made and to honor their service to our country, and sadly, additional stars are sometimes added to represent each military member who died should the family suffer more than one loss; and

WHEREAS, Tribute To The Troops® (TTTT) was founded by singer and songwriter Rockie Lynn in 2004, and its mission is to honor, treasure, and remember the sacrifices of the nation's post 9/11 Fallen Heroes and their families, and they additionally established the Fallen Hero's Children's Education Fund to provide financial assistance to the surviving children; and

WHEREAS, the **3rd Annual Tribute To The Troops Ride & Memorial** event held the weekend of April 13-14, 2019 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Tampa, Florida includes motorcycle riders from across the United States visiting Tampa Bay area Gold Star families to show appreciation and to let them know their loss will never be forgotten, a Florida Tribute To The Troops' Annual Dinner, and a Rockie Lynn concert.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bob Buckhorn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim April 13-14, 2019 as

"GOLD STAR FAMILY DAYS"

in the city of Tampa, Florida, and urge all citizens to join me in honoring our nation's fallen military heroes and in expressing heartfelt gratitude to all Gold Star Families for their sacrifice in the defense of freedom and the American way of life.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 8th day of February, 2019.



Bob Buckhorn

Mayor

