

Proclamation



Jane Castor, Mayor

WHEREAS, originally playing baseball in 1901 as the Baltimore Orioles, the iconic **New York Yankees** was renamed in 1913, and the team is a member of the American League East Division and competes in Major League Baseball, and the franchise is based in Concourse, Bronx, New York City, where their home field is Yankee Stadium; and

WHEREAS, Major League Baseball's World Series was first played in 1903, and it is an annual championship event between the champion teams of the American League and the National League, and over the years, the New York Yankees have won a record twenty-seven World Series in their forty appearances, and the team has established a large and loyal fan-base in the Tampa Bay area, across the United States and internationally; and

WHEREAS, in 1994, the New York Yankees made Tampa, Florida their second home when they broke ground on their spring training facility, Legends Field, renamed the **George M. Steinbrenner Field** in 2008 after the organization's Principal and Managing Partner, George M. Steinbrenner (1930-2010), and the facility is known as the largest spring training ballpark in Florida, accommodating more than 10,000 fans per game during each spring training season; and

WHEREAS, for the past twenty-five years, the New York Yankees Spring Training in Tampa has resulted in an economic impact of approximately \$2 billion including more than 3.8 million fans entering the gates of George M. Steinbrenner Field, and the organization employs over 500 Florida residents, most of them in Hillsborough County, resulting in an estimated total salaries of more than \$45 million annually; and

WHEREAS, the New York Yankees are deeply committed to the Tampa Bay community and well-known for its dedication and generosity including raising millions of dollars for local nonprofit community partners such as the Special Operations Warrior Foundation, Feeding Tampa Bay, St. Joseph's Hospital, Metropolitan Ministries, and the organization annually hosts a children's holiday concert featuring the Florida Orchestra, a Hillsborough County Coaches Banquet, a Helping Others Persevere and Excel (HOPE) Week, and a New York Yankees Luncheon benefitting the Boys and Girls Clubs of Tampa Bay; and

WHEREAS, the City of Tampa is honored to be home to the New York Yankees Spring Training for the past twenty-five years, and is appreciative for its contributions and positive impact to our community and residents, and look forward to many more years of our partnership and superior baseball.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jane Castor, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida do hereby proclaim the month of March 2020 as

"NEW YORK YANKEES APPRECIATION MONTH"

in the city of Tampa, Florida and urge all residents to congratulate the New York Yankees on this milestone 25th Anniversary and thank the organization for all they contribute to the sport of baseball and to the Tampa community.

Dated in Tampa, Florida this 6th day of March, 2020.



Jane Castor

Mayor