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Jane Castor, Mayor

WHEREAS, **Rotary International** was founded in 1905, by the late Chicago Attorney Paul Harris who envisioned professionals with diverse backgrounds exchanging ideas and forming meaningful, lifelong friendships, and the organization has grown to over 31.2 million Rotarian members within 35,000 clubs globally; and

WHEREAS, a non-political and non-religious organization, the mission of Rotary International is to provide service to others, promote integrity, and advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace through the fellowship of business, professional, and community leaders; and

WHEREAS, with a vision of seeing a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change, Rotarians are committed to important initiatives that include literacy and education, promoting peace and health, growing local economies, and other meaningful projects that make the world a better place and enhance the quality of life for all citizens; and

WHEREAS, locally, the Rotary Club of Tampa was the first civic club in our community, chartered on April 7, 1914, making it the second Rotary club in the state of Florida, and for over a century, the organization has contributed substantially to Tampa's growth and success through its dedication to the Rotary International's motto of *Service Above Self*, and its many projects have benefitted our neighborhoods and citizens including establishing the West Tampa Boys Club in 1926, leading to the successful Boys and Girls Clubs of Tampa, which positively impacts the youth of our community; and

WHEREAS, the Rotary Clubs around the nation are participating in the Flag for Heroes initiative that honors our nation's military members, veterans, first responders, medical personnel, teachers, and others who serve, and the Rotary Club of Tampa is hosting the *Flags for Hillsborough Heroes* event on Friday, January 6, 2023, whereby more than 300 illuminated United States of America Flags will fill Hillsborough Veteran's Memorial Park, each bearing a medallion with the name of an honoree, their service information and the sponsor's name, and the funds raised will support community service grants funded by the Rotary Club of Tampa Foundation.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jane Castor, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim January 6, 2023, as

"ROTARY CLUB OF TAMPA FLAGS FOR HILLSBOROUGH HEROES DAY"

in the city of Tampa, Florida, and urge all citizens to thank Rotary International and the Rotary Club of Tampa for their contributions to our world, nation, state, and city, and support the Flags for Hillsborough Heroes event that recognizes those who serve on behalf of us all.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 7th day of December, 2022.

Mayor

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