

Proclamation



Jane Castor, Mayor

WHEREAS, vascular comes from the Latin word for hollow container, and the vascular system, also known as the circulatory system, is comprised of the vessels that carry blood and lymph throughout the body to deliver oxygen and nutrients, cleanse, and take away tissue waste; and

WHEREAS, a condition that may affect the vascular system is considered vascular disease, and can range from problems with arteries, veins, and vessels that carry lymph to tissues with the flow of blood, and vascular access played a critical role in treating patients during the COVID-19 Pandemic; and

WHEREAS, *Vascular Access* refers to a direct method of introducing or removing devices or chemicals from the bloodstream including intravenous therapy (IV) that allows delivery of fluids directly into a vein, and hemodialysis whereby a patient's blood is removed so it can be filtered and purified through a dialyzer, as when kidneys are not functioning properly, and greater than 90 percent of patients admitted to hospitals require some form of vascular access to receive life-saving treatment; and

WHEREAS, *Vascular Access Specialist*, an integral part of healthcare teams, are well educated and experienced, and the clinicians are certified in Vascular Access (VA-BC™) and provide exceptional vascular access insertion, care, and maintenance in all care settings including hospitals, outpatient and skilled nursing facilities, and in patient's homes, with the objective of promoting an optimal, proactive, and intentional approach to preserve vasculature, improve clinical outcomes, and enhance patient safety; and

WHEREAS, founded in 1985, the Association for Vascular Access (AVA) is an organization of healthcare professions, including locally Florida Gulf Coast Vascular Access Network (GulfVAN), and the members are dedicated to the support and promotion of the specialty of vascular access, and its mission includes being a leader in healthcare by protecting patients and providers to improve lives; and

WHEREAS, Sunday, October 5, 2025, marks the **Seventh Annual Vascular Access Specialty Day** to promote the advancement of the specialty of Vascular Access, and the date October 5th was chosen to honor the birthday of the Association for Vascular Access' founder, the late Suzanne F. Herbst Stone, RN (1944-2023).

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jane Castor, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim Sunday, October 5, 2025, as

“VASCULAR ACCESS SPECIALTY DAY”

in the city of Tampa, Florida, and urge all citizens to join me in thanking Vascular Access Specialist for their commitment to patient health and safety, and for their expertise and dedication in treating those affected, and for continually learning and achieving for the benefit of their patients.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 12th day of September 2025.



Jane Castor

Mayor