

# In Memoriam



*Pam Iorio, 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 **James “Jim” Tarbet**, Executive Director of Ye Mystic Krewe of Gasparilla, who passed away on December 2, 2010; and

**WHEREAS**, born in 1949 in Salisbury, Rhodesia (now Harare, Zimbabwe) Jim Tarbet grew up in Edinburgh, Scotland and traveled the world during his 25-year career in the British Royal Navy, retiring as Commander. As a classmate at the naval academy with Prince Charles, he went on to serve as the prince’s aide-de-camp from 1970-1972; and

**WHEREAS**, while stationed in Washington, D.C., he arranged several British navy warship visits to Tampa and Queen Elizabeth’s arrival on the HMS Britannia in 1991. Always stressing his love for the United States and the Tampa Bay area, Jim moved to Tampa in 1992 taking a job as Vice President of Operations for Beneficial Finance, developers of what would become Harbour Island. He later went on to become a citizens of the United States in 2003; and

**WHEREAS**, hired in 1999 to oversee the Ye Mystic Krewe of Gasparilla, Jim interacted with nearly 60 other krewes, oversaw maintenance of the Jose Gasparilla pirate ship barge and 11 floats, coordinated debutante, captain and coronation balls, and provided oversight to the water and land invasion that draws upwards of 400,000 people for the annual Gasparilla Pirate Fest, now known as one of the largest parades in the country. He was also responsible for the revamping of the Children’s Gasparilla Extravaganza and planning for the Krewe’s annual scholarship golf tournament; and

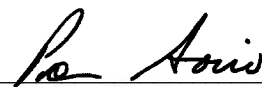
**WHEREAS**, known by all as someone with a calm and innovative personality, Jim’s organizational skills and ability to interact with business leaders and the community were evident as he led the organization through a period of tremendous growth, always enjoying the dynamics, traditions, and challenges of managing this Tampa tradition; and

**WHEREAS**, although we are grieved at the loss of this outstanding citizen, his legacy will continue to live on through his accomplishment and in all those whose lives he touched.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Pam Iorio, 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 Jim Tarbet’s family and many friends 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 25<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2011.



  
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Mayor