

Proclamation



Bob Buckhorn, 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. Mildred “Babe” Zaharias is one such person; and

WHEREAS, the namesake and former owner of one of Tampa’s most well known golf courses, Babe Zaharias, is recognized as the greatest woman athlete of the early twentieth century. She excelled in many sports, including basketball, track and field, baseball, and golf. As one of the most prominent members of the 1932 United States Olympic Team that competed in Los Angeles, Babe earned gold medals in the javelin and 80-meter hurdles and a silver medal in the high jump; and

WHEREAS, following the Olympics, Babe was recognized as the 1932 Woman Athlete of the Year by the Associated Press (AP), an honor she earned five more times between 1945 and 1954 and voted by the AP in 1950 as Woman Athlete of the Half Century; and

WHEREAS, in 1947, Babe became a professional golfer, leading herself and thirteen other women golfers to establish the Ladies Professional Golfers Association in 1950; and

WHEREAS, during her lifetime Babe struggled to break down social customs and barriers that restricted women from various segments of American life. She challenged the public’s expectancy of women to conform to certain societal norms and became exceptional in athletics, a male dominated domain during her time. Babe Zaharias is recognized by many as a courageous pioneer who blazed a trail in women’s sports which many others have since followed.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bob Buckhorn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim from this day forward, in perpetuity, June 26, 2011 as

“BABE ZAHARIAS DAY”

in the City of Tampa, Florida, and urge all citizens to join me in recognizing Babe Zaharias for her lifetime of great accomplishments and the impact she has had on our city and its citizens.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 26th day of June, 2011.



Bob Buckhorn

Mayor