

# In Memoriam



*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. One of these individuals was Dr. Joseph C. Bondi, a Tampa, Florida native, one of the Tampa area's most beloved citizens, well-known educator, writer and public servant, who passed away on Tuesday, January 8, 2013 at age 76; and

**WHEREAS**, born on August 15, 1936, Dr. Bondi attended Hillsborough High School, graduating in 1954 and is a Hillsborough High School Hall of Fame member, and he spent his childhood summers on Longboat Key, a place he enjoyed visiting throughout his life; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Bondi was proud to be a graduate of the University of Florida where he completed his undergraduate and graduate work and earned his Doctorate Degree, leading him to his illustrious career in education as a teacher, school administrator and college professor. He taught at Wilson Junior High School and Greco Junior High School, and served as Dean of Boys at Franklin Junior High School prior to joining the University of South Florida in the College of Education as Professor of Education in 1965, where he remained for 38 years until his retirement in 2003. He also served as a Curriculum Consultant for many Florida school districts and was a partner in an international consulting firm, Wiles, Bondi and Associates that provides services across the United States and in twenty foreign countries; and

**WHEREAS**, believing youth ages eleven to fourteen needed a learning environment designed specifically for them, Dr. Bondi was a pioneer in early adolescent education and is credited with developing the Middle School concept, organizing one of the first five middle schools in the United States. Dr. Bondi authored more than twenty-five leading educational textbooks in curriculum, instruction, supervision and school administration, including *Curriculum Development: A Guide to Practice*, co-authored with Dr. Jon Wiles that was first published in 1979 with the Eighth Edition published in 2010, and this well respected book has made required reading lists worldwide; and

**WHEREAS**, a public servant who was devoted to his community of Temple Terrace, Florida, Dr. Bondi served as a member of the Temple Terrace City Council from 1970-1974, and then as Mayor of the City of Temple Terrace from 1974-1978, and under his leadership a new City Hall, library and recreational center were established without increasing taxes. Dr. Bondi also served as the first Chairman of the Hillsborough County Council of Governments in 1975, and he is listed in *Who's Who in America*; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Bondi was especially known as a devoted and loving husband, father and family man, and although we are grieved at the loss of this outstanding citizen, his legacy will continue to live on through the improvements he brought to our community, and in all those whose lives he has touched throughout the world; and

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bob Buckhorn, by the 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 the Dr. Joseph C. Bondi Family, his wife Patsy, daughters Pamela and Beth, son Bradley, Grandchildren, sister Frances, and other family members, and to express our hopes that they will take solace in their cherished memories and the impact of his life on our community, state and nation.

Dated this 18<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2013.

  
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Mayor

