

# Proclamation



Bob Buckhorn, Mayor

**WHEREAS**, the University of Tampa (UT), a private academic institution located in the city of Tampa, Florida's urban core, provides outstanding education to students locally and from around the world, and the University adds to the vibrancy of the Tampa community, and has developed a rich and long standing relationship with the United States Military since World War II, beginning with classes to train civilians with the skills necessary to ensure victory; and

**WHEREAS**, the Army Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC), UT Spartan Battalion, was established on the campus in 1971, and the program is offered through the Department of Military Science and Leadership and its mission is to mold young Americans into leaders as commissioned officers, and currently there are 130 cadets in the Spartan Battalion; and

**WHEREAS**, an exemplary graduate of an Army ROTC program is **General Peter J. Schoomaker**, who earned the rank of Second Lieutenant in 1969 upon his completion of the program at the University of Wyoming. General Schoomaker has distinguished himself in his United States Army career with commands beginning with his promotion to Captain of the newly formed *Delta Force* in 1978, ascending to the rank of Colonel in 1989, then to Brigadier General in 1992. He served as Commander of Joint Special Commands from 1994-1996 before moving to Commander of the United States Army Special Command, and his career in Tampa began in 1997 with his promotion to Commander-in-Chief of United States Special Operations at MacDill Air Force Base. General Schoomaker retired from his post in 2000, but returned to duty in 2003 to serve as the 35<sup>th</sup> United States Army Chief of Staff until 2007; and

**WHEREAS**, General Schoomaker served his country proudly and was deployed on countless occasions, taking an active role in Iran, Grenada, Lebanon, El Salvador, Panama, Desert Storm, and was part of joint contingency operations in the Balkins, Iraq and Afghanistan, and he earned numerous decorations during his service including three Defense Distinguished Service Medals, three Army Distinguished Service Medals, four Defense Superior Service medals, three Legions of Merit, two Bronze Stars, the Combat Infantry Badge, and several foreign awards; and

**WHEREAS**, in recognition of General Schoomaker's outstanding career with the United States Army, and his dedication to his country and the Tampa community, the University of Tampa will name the building that houses the Army ROTC Program, the ***General Peter J. Schoomaker ROTC and Athletics Building*** in his honor.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bob Buckhorn, by the virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim April 16, 2013, as

## **"GENERAL PETER J. SCHOOMAKER DAY"**

in the City of Tampa, Florida, and urge all citizens to join me in congratulating General Schoomaker and the University of Tampa on the dedication of the General Peter J. Schoomaker ROTC and Athletics Building.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 11<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2013.



*Bob Buckhorn*

Mayor

