

Proclamation



Bob Buckhorn, Mayor

WHEREAS, West Tampa, Florida was established in 1892 when Hugh C. Macfarlane purchased 200 acres of land just west of the Hillsborough River for development, and within just a few short years, thousands of people moved into the area, and on May 18, 1895 West Tampa was incorporated. By 1905 it became Florida's fifth largest city, and in 1925 the City of West Tampa was annexed by the City of Tampa; and

WHEREAS, the **West Tampa Chamber of Commerce** was established in 1929 and its mission is to provide leadership and business opportunities that foster growth and quality of life while preserving the historical values of the West Tampa Community; and

WHEREAS, the **West Tampa Optimist Club** was founded in 1948 and is committed to "Bringing out the Best in Kids" in the community through its support of civic service clubs such as the West Tampa Boys & Girls Club, Salvation Army, youth sports organizations, and scholarship programs, and its efforts over the years have resulted in many awards and recognitions from Optimist International's national and regional divisions; and

WHEREAS, annually the West Tampa Chamber of Commerce and the West Tampa Optimist Club bestow the **George Guida Memorial Outstanding Citizen of West Tampa Award** to an individual for their continuous service to the West Tampa Community and for meeting the criteria of having held an executive office in a civic club or community project, and served in community activities, fundraising or active leadership, and on January 30, 2014 at the Annual Recognition Banquet, **Angel Rañón** will be honored for his many years of dedication and contributions to West Tampa; and

WHEREAS, born in Galicia, Spain, Mr. Rañón moved to Tampa, Florida with his family as a child and graduated from Hillsborough High School. Except for a period during World War II when he worked for the Tampa Marine Corporation helping to build seagoing tugboats for the United States Army, Mr. Rañón spent his career with his father's construction company, Rañón & Jimenez, eventually becoming its President. He has been an active and involved member of the Tampa community his entire life and has held leadership positions in various organizations including the Tampa Jaycees, Sertoma Club, Centro Asturiano, Centro Español, Gasparilla Distance Classic, the Tri-County Woodturner's Club, Tampa Woodcrafter's Club, and he is a Mason. Mr. Rañón was named to Hillsborough High School's Hall of Fame, and as a Master woodcrafter, he has won numerous awards with entries in the annual Florida State Fair.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bob Buckhorn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim January 30, 2014 as

"WEST TAMPA DAY"

in the City of Tampa, Florida, and encourage all citizens to join me in congratulating Angel Rañón on this deserving recognition, and thanking the West Tampa Chamber of Commerce and West Tampa Optimist Club for the commitment and leadership dedicated to the residents and business community of West Tampa.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 30th day of January, 2014.



Bob Buckhorn

Mayor