

Proclamation



Jane Castor, 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; and

WHEREAS, by 1905, West Tampa became Florida's fifth largest city with a robust business community including successful cigar factories, a streetcar service, a free library, investments in public schools, and where baseball became an important part of the community; and

WHEREAS, 1925, the City of West Tampa was annexed by the City of Tampa, and it continues to be a valued part of Tampa's success story with its vast contributions to the development of our community, and the diverse cultural and historical impact it has made over the years; 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 Chamber of Commerce supports businesses, nonprofit organizations and individual members, and it promotes merging the community's diverse resources for creative networking, encourages businesses to succeed and grow, and it strives to enhance the West Tampa neighborhood while preserving its important and rich past; and

WHEREAS, the West Tampa Chamber of Commerce hosts a signature annual event that brings together the West Tampa community of businesses, organizations, residents, and the entire Tampa Bay region for a day of celebration and promotion of West Tampa's unique culture; and

WHEREAS, this year, the West Tampa Chamber of Commerce and its sponsors will host the **8th Annual Flavor of West Tampa: Sangria & Cigars** on Sunday, November 10, 2019, at the Julian B. Lane Riverfront Park, and the celebration will showcase West Tampa's diverse restaurants and cuisines, and it features multicultural entertainment, children's activities, a business and organization expo, a domino tournament, and traditional sangria and cigars, and the day will provide the opportunity for a reunion of families and friends that have long-time ties to the community, and for all attendees to share in the historic roots and significance of beautiful West Tampa.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jane Castor, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim Sunday, November 10, 2019 as

"WEST TAMPA DAY"

in the city of Tampa, Florida, and encourage all citizens to join with the West Tampa Chamber of Commerce in this annual community celebration, and thank them for its commitment and leadership that is dedicated to the residents and businesses of West Tampa.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 10th day of November, 2019.



Jane Castor

Mayor