

Proclamation



Jane Castor, Mayor

WHEREAS, hearing, or auditory perception is the process, function, or power of perceiving sound, and more specifically the special sense by which noises and tones are received through the ear as stimuli; and

WHEREAS, observed annually in May, **Better Hearing and Speech Month** was established in 1927 by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) to provide an opportunity to raise awareness about communication disorders and hearing and speech problems, and to encourage parents to identify possible speech and language problems in their children that may be hearing related; and

WHEREAS, signs of hearing loss may include frequently asking people to repeat themselves, turning an ear in the direction of sound to better hear, being unable to hear all parts of a group conversation, having the television or radio volume abnormally high, and experiencing pain or noises such as ringing in the ears (tinnitus), and some hearing loss may be related to an accumulation of earwax, loud noise, aging, severe pressure change, drugs that cause damage, injuries, and foreign objects in the ear; and

WHEREAS, experts in the intricate sense of hearing include Otolaryngologists who are physicians that specialize in the treatment and management of diseases and disorders of the ear, nose, throat (ENT) and related bodily structures, and Audiologists, primary health-care professionals who evaluate, diagnose, treat, and manage hearing loss and balance disorders; and

WHEREAS, in an effort to bring awareness about hearing to the nation, the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association has established the theme **Communication at Work** for the 2020 Better Hearing and Speech Month, and they encourage individuals to take care of their hearing by avoiding loud noises and music, ensure there is not an accumulation of earwax, not smoke, reduce salt intake, and other measures to improve their hearing.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jane Castor, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim the month of May 2020 as

"BETTER HEARING AND SPEECH MONTH"

in the city of Tampa, Florida, and urge all residents to become aware of the importance hearing has in the daily lives of individuals, and to make sure they seek professional help should they experience hearing difficulties.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 27th day of April, 2020.





Mayor