



# *Proclamation*

of the City Council

## ***Hmong History Month September, 2016***

**WHEREAS**, The history of the Hmong people here in the United States is indeed unique and vibrant, and it is appropriate to celebrate this history during the month of September 2016, which has been recognized as Hmong History Month; and

**WHEREAS**, The Lao-Hmong, or free people, are greatly respected and admired for their dedicated service and valiant support of the United States Armed Forces and its allies during the Vietnam War; and

**WHEREAS**, Many Lao-Hmong served in the "Secret Army", which was funded by the CIA and included Special Guerilla units and other Special Forces, to thwart the Pathet Lao and North Vietnamese Army in Laos, Cambodia and Thailand from 1960 to 1975; and

**WHEREAS**, The members of this Laotian hill tribe are known for their warrior traditions, loyalty and bravery as evidence by their contributions to guarding United States personnel and Air Force radar installations, gathering critical intelligence on enemy movement and operations, performing rescue missions to save downed United States Pilots, and fighting in conventional and guerilla combat against overwhelming forces; and

**WHEREAS**, A conservative estimate of over 35,000 brave Lao-Hmong men, women and children lost their lives; more than 50,000 were wounded; and more than 2,500 are missing in action; and

**WHEREAS**, These numbers do not include the devastating loss of 30,000 lives when the Lao-Hmong fell victim to retributive ethnic cleansing starting in 1975 and continuing to this day, nor the thousands forced into re-education camps or who perished attempting to cross the Mekong River into Thailand; and

**WHEREAS**, The Lao-Hmong's heroic and significant contributions to the United States during their fighting efforts in Laos and the positive influence they have since had upon the American way of life will not be forgotten; now, therefore, be it resolved

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that I, John Buckland, Mayor of the City of Yuba City and on behalf of the entire City Council, ask that all residents of this city join me in honoring the Hmong men and women who served the United States with loyalty and bravery, and celebrate the contributions the Hmong people make in our communities.

Done on this 16<sup>th</sup> day of August 2016 at the City of Yuba City, County of Sutter, State of California.

*/s/ John Buckland*

John Buckland, Mayor