

# PROCLAMATION



## Office of the Mayor

**WHEREAS**, from 1961 to 1975, more than 40,000 Hmong men were recruited by the CIA to fight in the Secret War in Laos, a part of the Vietnam War; and

**WHEREAS**, in May 1975, the United States withdrew from Laos and hundreds of thousands of Hmong fled into Thailand to seek safety, and soon many Hmong refugees and their families immigrated to Wisconsin – where today Appleton is home to more than 3,000 Hmong residents; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Appleton recognizes the important cultural, social, political, and economic contributions of Hmong Americans, which enrich and enhance the city; and

**WHEREAS**, after 40 years in the United States, our Hmong neighbors have made achievements as business owners, professionals, and volunteers in the Fox Cities; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2015, the City of Appleton was the first city in the State of Wisconsin to commemorate this day and to formerly recognize and celebrate the history, culture and contributions of Hmong Americans in Appleton and other cities in Wisconsin.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT I, JACOB A. WOODFORD**, Mayor of the City of Appleton, Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim May 14 as

## Hmong American Day

in Appleton and invite you to join us each year in celebrating our Hmong community.

Signed and sealed the 1<sup>st</sup> day of May 2020.

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**JACOB A. WOODFORD**  
MAYOR OF APPLETON