



Proclamation

WHEREAS, a woman receives a diagnosis of breast cancer every two minutes, making the disease the second most frequently diagnosed cancer among women in the United States; and

WHEREAS, this year approximately 246,660 new cases of invasive breast cancer will be diagnosed among women in the United States; and

WHEREAS, screening rates are declining and a recent study revealed that among the 1.5 million women studied over the age of 40 with health insurance, less than fifty percent received the recommended annual screening; and

WHEREAS, the efforts of the Merced City Firefighters, IAFF Local #1479, and other organizations have made a major contribution to spreading breast cancer awareness to men and women in our community through outreach, education, and screening programs; and

WHEREAS, through research and advocacy, significant advances have been made in the fight against breast cancer, decreasing the mortality rate by 36 percent; and

WHEREAS, the 2.5 million breast cancer survivors living in the United States today are a testament to courage, as well as to the importance of promoting awareness about breast cancer, providing information, funding research, following recommended screening guidelines, and offering treatment to those who are affected; and

WHEREAS, the 2016 Breast Cancer Awareness Month theme, "Fighting for the cure!" empowers women with the life-saving message of early detection, the importance of annual mammograms, and compassion for those already diagnosed.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, STANLEY P. THURSTON, Mayor of the City of Merced, do hereby proclaim October 2016 Breast Cancer Awareness Month, and urge all citizens of Merced to take cognizance of this event and participate fittingly in its observance.

Signed this 3rd day of October 2016.

Stanley P. Thurston, Mayor of Merced