

# PROCLAMATION



**WHEREAS**, the City of Lee's Summit wishes to acknowledge citizens who have made relevant impacts on our community and our country; and,

**WHEREAS**, since the beginning of time, mankind has wistfully looked at the earth's moon to marvel and wonder about its existence; and,

**WHEREAS**, on May 21, 1961, President John F. Kennedy, declared his colossal goal of "landing a man on the moon and returning him safely to the earth" by the end of the decade, and further urged Americans, to work diligently to lead the achievements of space travel; and,

**WHEREAS**, surmounting unbelievable hurdles, NASA recruited the brightest engineers, mathematicians, scientist and aviators across the country to help them achieve this feat; and,

**WHEREAS**, motivated by this daunting challenge an engineer named Dr. Harold Finch persistently studied and developed the technology used to protect astronauts from the dramatic temperature swings of space. Furthermore, Dr. Finch's determination and expertise promoted him to become the project director of NASA's Apollo space mission; and,

**WHEREAS**, through years of numerous trials, tragedy and finally triumph, on July 20, 1969 Commander Neil Armstrong and lunar module pilot Buzz Aldrin, landed the Apollo Lunar Module Eagle on the moon. As millions of people watched on their television, Neil Armstrong stepped out of the module and spoke the infamous words, "That's one small step for a man, one giant leap for mankind" and planted an American flag on the moon's surface; and,

**WHEREAS**, this monumental accomplishment forever changed humanity by inspiring men and women to seek new heights in the exploration of the space frontier.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, William A. Baird, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Lee's Summit, Missouri, do hereby present this proclamation to

## ***DR. HAROLD FINCH***

in recognition and appreciation of his invention and his work on the phenomenally historic Apollo 11 space mission fifty years ago.

**IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the City of Lee's Summit, Missouri, this 23rd day of July 2019.

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***MAYOR WILLIAM A. BAIRD***