



WHEREAS, Climbers for Peace (CFP) was founded 21 years ago and is sponsored jointly by Sister Cities Santa Rosa-Cherkasy and Veterans for Peace; and

WHEREAS, CFP has been bringing ordinary citizens from different countries together for climbing adventures that demonstrate how people with different languages and cultures can cooperate in a spirit of trust and friendship; and

WHEREAS, CFP has had 10 prior expeditions in Europe and America summiting iconic mountains, including Elbrus in Russia, the highest mountain in Europe, Olympus, the Home of the Gods in Greece, Shasta in California and Denali in Alaska; and

WHEREAS, a group of veterans and other citizens joined with members of the Iranian Mountaineering Federation for a peace climb to the summit of Damavand, an 18,605-foot volcano that is sacred to the Persian people; and

WHEREAS, Fred Ptucha, of Santa Rosa at age 75 became the oldest American to ever summit Damavand; and

WHEREAS, pictures of the climbers proudly holding Iranian and American flags on the summit were sent around the world and provided inspiration and hope for peace-loving people everywhere; and

WHEREAS, CFP hopes to reduce tensions between America and Iran and help avoid another tragic war in the Middle East.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Chris Coursey, Mayor of the City of Santa Rosa, on behalf of the entire City Council, commend

**Xavier Polk, Fred Ptucha, and David Wahlstrom of
CLIMBERS FOR PEACE IN IRAN**

for the vision and courage they demonstrated by reaching out to the Iranian people at this time of increased governmental tensions between our two countries, thereby promoting World Peace for all people.

Mayor Chris Coursey
August 14, 2018