

TOWN OF FAIRFAX PROCLAMATION

In Memory of Dirk Ooijkaas

WHEREAS, Dirk Ooijkaas, a cherished resident of Fairfax for 35 years, has departed from this world, leaving an indelible mark on our community through his dedication, warmth, and visionary contributions; and

WHEREAS, Dirk Ooijkaas, with deep roots in the Marin Gymnastics community, notably at Gym World in San Rafael, dedicated his life to nurturing the physical and emotional well-being of our children and their families; and

WHEREAS, in 2015, Dirk Ooijkaas established the Flying Dutchman Gymnastics program at the Pavilion in Fairfax, creating a haven for young minds aged 4 to 12 to explore and develop their gymnastic talents, thereby enhancing the lives of countless families; and

WHEREAS, Dirk Ooijkaas, through his popular and successful organization, served thousands of children and their families, utilizing the Pavilion for vibrant activities, and providing a focal point of joy and learning; and

WHEREAS, during the challenging times of the pandemic, Dirk Ooijkaas selflessly opened his business to offer refuge and continuity for children, exemplifying his commitment to the welfare of our youngest residents; and

WHEREAS, Dirk Ooijkaas, by making the Flying Dutchman Gymnastics a walkable beacon of the community, significantly enhanced the quality of life in Fairfax, providing ease and support particularly to families and mothers; and

WHEREAS, his initiative to expand programming, including Tot's Open Gym for babies and toddlers and weekend Gymnastic Birthday parties, further demonstrated his deep understanding of community needs; and

WHEREAS, Dirk Ooijkaas, in collaboration with Fairfax Recreation, enriched our community's spirit and opportunities through summer camps, embodying the spirit of cooperation and community-building; and

WHEREAS, Dirk Ooijkaas, showed his profound care for both the physical spaces and the hearts of the community he so dearly served; and

WHEREAS, Dirk Ooijkaas, with his bright smile, warm heart, and enthusiastic greeting, became a symbol of kindness and encouragement in the lives of all who had the privilege of encountering him; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, that Town Council of the Town of Fairfax with the community of Fairfax, do hereby honor the memory of Dirk Ooijkaas and express our profound gratitude for his extraordinary contributions to our town. We solemnly pledge to uphold his legacy of joy, community service, and unwavering dedication to the growth and happiness of our children.

AND, BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED that April 3, 2024 is Dirk Ooijkaas Day in the Town of Fairfax.



Signed this 3rd day of April 2024.

Barbara Coler, Mayor of Fairfax