

**January 7, 2021**

# **NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING  
1195 THIRD STREET  
NAPA CA 94559

Keep the Balloons Flying! As a concerned county resident, I urge you to support the use permit application's approval by "Balloons Above the Valley" at 5360 Washington Street, Napa.

In addition to being a county resident for 26 years, I am a professional aviator operating from the Napa County Airport and the Napa Valley. I fly a hot air balloon for non-commercial use. I have formed an association with Balloons Above the Valley to operate my balloon within the strict standards that local commercial operators have established. BATV has self-regulated flying practices over and above FAA requirements, inculcating private operators by providing launch and recovery areas, local microclimate analysis, and policy for voluntary overflight avoidance of noise-sensitive areas. Their goal is simple, maintain the highest safety standards possible, have a strong social conscience, and operate using practices that promote the environmental, economic, and aesthetic well-being of the Napa Community.

I strongly urge a favorable vote by the planning commission to approve the use permit.

SINCERELY,

ROBERT E. DE YOUNG