



County of Sonoma

State of California

Date: March 1, 2022

Item Number: _____

Resolution Number: _____

4/5 Vote Required

**Resolution of The Board of Supervisors of The County of Sonoma, State of California,
Congratulating Melvin Silva on the Celebration of his 100th Birthday**

Whereas, Melvin Silva was born on January 21, 1921, to Manuel (Mike) and Mae Azevedo Silva as the second of five children living on a ranch located on Stony Point Road, Rohnert Park; and

Whereas, Mel grew up on ranches located in Petaluma where, among many skills, he learned that his choice of vocation was not ranching; and

Whereas, Mel worked for Petaluma Pump and Well, Ragghaianti Electric Company and then in 1956, he and his Uncle Bert Silva, started Silva's Appliances at 122 Washington Street, Petaluma, later moving to 402 Main Street – buying out his Uncle in 1962 and running the business until he retired in 1982, and

Whereas, Mel served in World War II in the Army Air Corps where he was a motor pool worker and a mechanic located in Casablanca, North Africa, India and Burma, where his squadron ferried gas “over the hump” to China. It was while in Burma he was given a Harley-Davidson motorcycle to deliver supplies, fueling his lifelong love for two-wheeled adventure; and

Whereas, Mel met his wife, native Petaluman Betty Armstrong, at a dance at Holy Ghost Hall and they married in 1948 raising four daughters and he is a proud father, grandfather, great grandfather and great great grandfather; and

Whereas, Mel has had a life well-lived – an expert horseman who was the owner of the fastest horse in town, Nubs, they would race all challengers at Kenilworth Park; he enjoyed dancing with Betty, riding motorcycles, bowling (he was a champion bowler), RV excursions and camping and boating on Lake Berryessa with family and friends.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors congratulates Melvin Silva on the celebration of his 100th birthday, and wishes him well.

Supervisors:

Gorin: Rabbitt: Coursey: Hopkins: Gore:

Ayes: Noes: Absent: Abstain:

So Ordered.