



County of Sonoma

State of California

Date: January 25, 2022

Item Number: _____

Resolution Number: _____

4/5 Vote Required

Resolution Of The Board Of Supervisors Of The County Of Sonoma, State Of California, Congratulating Jay Gamel on his retirement from the Kenwood Press

Whereas, Jay Gamel came to the Bay Area in the 1970s from Chicago to continue working as a writer for Commerce Clearing House; and

Whereas, Jay then worked in the photography and art departments for *Rolling Stone* magazine in San Francisco; and

Whereas, Jay discovered the town of Kenwood in Sonoma Valley and decided to live there full time, settling on Adobe Canyon Road; and

Whereas, Jay decided to make a transition to journalism and began helping publish the Kenwood Community Club's newsletter, *The Kenwood Express*; and

Whereas, seeing a need for a town newspaper, Jay then decided to start the *Kenwood Press*, mailing the publication to every resident in Kenwood at no charge; and

WHEREAS, at the same time, Jay worked for the *Sonoma Index-Tribune*, covering county government, and criminal trials, among other assignments; and

WHEREAS, Jay soon began working at the *Petaluma Argus-Courier* as business editor and government editor, and covering the Petaluma City Council; and

WHEREAS, Jay sold the *Kenwood Press* to Alec and Ann Peters in 1994, and a few years later came back to the paper to work full-time, aiding in the publication's expansion into the neighboring communities of Oakmont and Glen Ellen; and

WHEREAS, after four decades of distinguished work in journalism in Sonoma County, Jay retired from the *Kenwood Press* at the end of 2021, working closely with new owners Melissa Dowling and Paul Goguen to continue the paper's long record of excellence; and

WHEREAS, his career in journalism has earned the utmost trust and respect from colleagues, the local populace, and many government officials on all levels; and

WHEREAS, Jay was a willing and generous collaborator, fostering fledgling *Kenwood Press* journalists, eager to engage in lively editorial discussions, and demonstrating how a reporter can whittle extensive knowledge of an issue into a cogent article with a reasonable word count; and

WHEREAS, Jay has been not only an essential communicator of important news and information to North Sonoma Valley residents, but also an active contributor and volunteer in the communities he cares so much about; and

WHEREAS, Jay's ethic of service to his community led him to work with a team to develop Plaza Park in Kenwood into the beautiful park it is today, and to spend time as a board member of the Kenwood Community Club, helping to preserve the historic Kenwood Depot for continued public use; and

WHEREAS, Jay's generosity with his time and knowledge helping others is legendary, especially when it comes to his immense technical skill and expertise with just about every Apple product known to man; and

WHEREAS, Jay's countless professional and social contributions have made his community an undoubtedly better place.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Sonoma do hereby congratulate Jay Gamel on his retirement from the *Kenwood Press* and his contributions to quality journalism in Sonoma County.

Supervisors:

Gorin:

Rabbitt:

Coursey:

Hopkins:

Gore:

Ayes:

Noes:

Absent:

Abstain:

So Ordered.