



County of Sonoma

State of California

Date: October 14, 2025

Item Number: _____

Resolution Number: _____

☐ 4/5 Vote Required

Resolution Of The Board Of Supervisors Of The County Of Sonoma, State Of California,

Honors and Congratulates Mel Sanchietti as Sonoma County Harvest Fair

2025 Lifetime Contribution to Sonoma County Agriculture Award Recipient

Whereas, the Sonoma County Harvest Fair, created in 1975, is a signature nationally and locally recognized event showcasing the extraordinary wine, food and agriculture in Sonoma County bringing people to the region to celebrate the harvest season; and

Whereas, annually the Sonoma County Harvest Fair honors outstanding members of the Sonoma County agricultural community to be recognized for their contributions to the preservation and enhancement of farming in Sonoma County; and

Whereas, Mel Sanchietti was born and raised in Sonoma County on the Santa Rosa land his Italian immigrant grandparents purchased in 1919. He and his wife of over 40 years, Janeen, continue to live in the same home Mel's grandparents built in 1929; and

Whereas, Sanchietti's grandparents purchased the Irwin Lane property planted to wine grapes, but the ensuing decade brought prohibition, and vineyards were no longer a viable farming business. The Sanchiettis looked to other crops, planting prunes, walnuts, pears and apples and raising poultry; and

Whereas, during World War II when there was an abundance of fruit on the property, Mel's father, Gus Sanchietti, and other local farmers began selling produce on a vacant lot on Market Street in San Francisco, returning weekly and eventually establishing the San Francisco Farmer's Market; and

Whereas, Mel Sanchietti grew up farming fruit with his dad and found that he liked being a farmer and as an adult he started a small custom farming business. In 1979 he contracted with Korbel Winery to farm all their vineyards; and

Whereas, in the late 90's, after many years of contracting with Korbel, Mel Sanchietti accepted a position at the winery as Vice President in charge of farming; and

Whereas, in his role at Korbel Winery, Mel Sanchietti helped purchase property and led grower relations during a time of expansion playing an integral role during the purchase of Kenwood Vineyards, Valley of the Moon, and Lake Sonoma Winery as well as property in the Sacramento Delta. Mel Sanchietti served in this role for 15 years before retiring; and

Whereas, in retirement Mel Sanchietti continues to work on the home ranch, where he also enjoys spending time with his three children, daughters Angela and Lori, son Mark and five grandchildren; and

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors does hereby honor and congratulate Mel Sanchietti, the Sonoma County Harvest Fair's 2025 Lifetime Contribution to Sonoma County Agriculture Award recipient and thanks him for his ongoing contributions to the preservation and enhancement of farming in Sonoma County

Supervisors:

Hermosillo:	Rabbitt:	Coursey:	Gore:	Hopkins:
Ayes:	Noes:	Absent:	Abstain:	

So Ordered.