County of Sonoma
State of California

Date: July 9, 2026

Item Number: 2026-0401

Resolution Number: _____

☐ 4/5 Vote Required

Resolution Of The Board Of Supervisors Of The County Of Sonoma, State Of California, Congratulating Alvin Cadd Upon His Induction Into The Sonoma County Farm Bureau Hall Of Fame

Whereas, Alvin Cadd, a beloved Alexander Valley farmer, conservation leader, storyteller, and lifelong steward of the land, has been selected for induction into the Sonoma County Farm Bureau Hall of Fame in recognition of his extraordinary contributions to Sonoma County agriculture; and

Whereas, born in Healdsburg in 1926 and raised in Sonoma County, Alvin Cadd has lived through and helped shape nearly a century of Alexander Valley history, carrying forward the values of family, hard work, humility, neighborliness, and deep respect for the land; and

Whereas, Alvin's family roots in agriculture began on the family ranch in Geyserville, first purchased by his grandparents at the end of World War I, and later farmed by Alvin and his family through prunes, dairy, apples, and ultimately winegrapes; and

Whereas, after graduating from Healdsburg High School in 1944, Alvin served his country during World War II as a member of the Merchant Marines aboard a Liberty ship carrying ammunition and supplies to the Philippines; and

Whereas, upon returning home, Alvin married Alyce, the love of his life, best friend, business partner, and fellow adventurer, and together they built a remarkable 77-year marriage rooted in family, farming, the outdoors, travel, photography, and shared devotion to their

community; and

Whereas, Alvin and Alyce worked side by side on the family ranch, expanding from prunes and dairy into apples, where Alvin grew Rome Beauty and Golden Delicious varieties and became known for his ingenuity, including modifying an apple polisher to improve the process of preparing fruit for market; and

Whereas, through dedication, persistence, and teamwork, Alvin and Alyce became one of the top growers selling to the Vacu-Dry Company, with Alyce hauling apples to the Sebastopol cannery and Alvin balancing ranch work with his career at what is now the Sonoma County Water Agency; and

Whereas, as agricultural markets changed, Alvin and Alyce transitioned the ranch into winegrapes, planting their first vineyard in 1970, and the Cadd ranch continues today to produce Chardonnay and Sauvignon Blanc under the stewardship of the family's fifth generation; and

Whereas, Alvin retired from the Water Agency in 1979 and became a full-time farmer, while also becoming a respected voice on water issues in Alexander Valley through his 15 years of service as president of the Russian River Property Owners Association; and

Whereas, Alvin's firsthand knowledge of the Russian River, Alexander Valley, local agriculture, flood patterns, water quality, fish habitat, and land stewardship made him a trusted advocate and an irreplaceable source of practical wisdom for neighbors, agencies, and community leaders; and

Whereas, Alvin's contributions have previously been recognized through the Sonoma County Farm Bureau's Luther Burbank Conservation Award in 2012 and the Sonoma County Harvest Fair's Lifetime Contribution to Agriculture Award in 2014; and

Whereas, those who know Alvin describe him as a true icon of Alexander Valley — a man whose knowledge comes not from theory, but from a lifetime of working, learning, living, and caring for the land and the people around him; and

Whereas, Alvin's legacy is reflected not only in the ranch he helped build and preserve, but in the values he has passed on to his children, grandchildren, neighbors, and all those fortunate enough to hear his stories and learn from his experience; and

Whereas, as Alvin approaches his 100th birthday, he remains a farmer at heart, a living link to Sonoma County's agricultural history, and one of Sonoma County's genuine treasures;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Sonoma hereby congratulates Alvin Cadd upon his induction into the Sonoma County Farm Bureau Hall of Fame and expresses its sincere appreciation for his lifelong contributions to agriculture, conservation, family farming, and the Alexander Valley community.

Be It Further Resolved that the Board of Supervisors extends its warmest congratulations to Alvin Cadd and his family and joins the Sonoma County Farm Bureau in honoring his remarkable legacy as a steward of the land and a treasured leader in Sonoma County agriculture.

Supervisors:

Rabbitt: Coursey: Gore: Hopkins: Hermosillo:

Ayes: Noes: Absent: Abstain:

So Ordered.