

December 10, 2020

RN 21 50218

MEMBER'S RESOLUTION

By the Honorable Bill Dodd, 3rd Senatorial District;  
and the Honorable Cecilia M. Aguiar-Curry, 4th Assembly  
District; Relative to commending

LARKMEAD VINEYARDS

WHEREAS, Larkmead Vineyards is celebrating its 125th anniversary, and it is appropriate at this time to highlight its history of achievements and underscore the positive impact it has had within the Napa Valley community; and

WHEREAS, With roots dating back to the 1870s when Lillie Hitchcock Coit devoted a portion of her father's property to establish her Salon at Larkmead, which served as a haven for famous artists, poets, and writers such as Robert Louis Stevenson and Jack London, Larkmead Vineyards was founded as a wine estate in 1895 by F. Salmina & Co., and after many years of

award-winning production and the making of sacramental wine during prohibition, Larkmead produced its first vintage wine in 1937 and was featured at a lunch with President Franklin D. Roosevelt on Treasure Island in San Francisco; and

WHEREAS, Influential in the future of the Napa Valley and American wine industries, Larkmead Vineyards worked with Dr. Harold P. Olmo, one of the twentieth century's most influential viticulturists, to plant a clonal station at the estate, which eventually led to the development of Cabernet Sauvignon and its establishment as the signature grape variety of Napa Valley and California; and

WHEREAS, In 1948, Larry and Polly Solari purchased the Larkmead estate, marking the beginning of the Solari family's decades of stewardship, which continued into the 1990s when Cam Baker and Kate Solari Baker took over ownership of Larkmead Vineyards, and committed to establishing it as a world-renowned wine estate, they began building a new state-of-the-art winery on the property with a farmhouse-style hospitality building, added a new tasting room, and expanded the facility to enhance micro-lot fermentation and barrel aging, which resulted in numerous accolades, such as 2017 Winemaker of the Year from the *San Francisco Chronicle*, under the direction of winemaker Dan

Petroski; and

WHEREAS, A longstanding bastion of research and supporter of the Napa Valley Agricultural Preserve, Larkmead Vineyards is at the forefront of viticulture and climate research, and in August 2019, it announced the establishment of a research block, dedicating three acres to be planted with several different grape varieties, clones, and rootstocks for trial purposes during changes in the Napa Valley climate; and

WHEREAS, A strong supporter of the Napa Valley Community Foundation and many other local programs and causes, Larkmead Vineyards has also provided generous financial contributions to the Valley Fire Relief Fund, North Bay Fire Relief, the Napa Valley Land Trust, and the University of California, Davis, facilitating its efforts to preserve Napa Valley's history and digitize the research collection of Professor Emeritus Dr. Harold P. Olmo; and

WHEREAS, By contributing to the success and sustainability of the Napa Valley viticultural community, Larkmead Vineyards enhances the quality of life for residents of the local region and beyond while instilling a great sense of pride in the individuals who are associated with it; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY SENATOR BILL DODD AND ASSEMBLY MEMBER  
CECILIA M. AGUIAR-CURRY, That Larkmead Vineyards be  
congratulated on the celebration of its 125th anniversary and  
commended for the invaluable contributions it has made to the  
advancement of viticulture in Napa Valley and the State of  
California along with its contributions to improving the quality  
of life in the region and State.

Dated this 26th day of April, 2020.

Honorable Bill Dodd

3rd Senatorial District

Honorable Cecilia M. Aguiar-Curry

4th Assembly District