

# *Resolution*

*THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF SAN MATEO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
RESOLUTION HONORING AND COMMENDING*

## *JOHN VARS*

*Upon Receiving the Farmer of the Year Award*

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**WHEREAS, John Vars** graduated from the Brown University with degrees in Geology and Latin American Studies where, through an awareness of environmental and development issues, he developed a profound interest in sustainable agriculture; and

**WHEREAS, John Vars** studied organic farming practices at the UCSC Center for Agroecology and Sustainable Food Systems for two years, where he met his future business partner, Mike Irving; and

**WHEREAS, John Vars**, in 2004 and 2005, went on to manage Green Oaks Creek Farm near Año Nuevo; and

**WHEREAS, John Vars** then spent two seasons managing the farm at Esalen Institute and teaching the basics of organic farming to dozens of interns, where he deepened his love of training and mentoring young people to start their own farm businesses; and

**WHEREAS, John Vars** with Teresa Kurtak and Mike Irving, in 2008, launched Fifth Crow Farm in Pescadero, a new farming operation built from scratch on a shoestring budget, big dreams and sore muscles that is rooted in a values-based approach to land stewardship, sustainable food systems and a vision for a viable future for local agriculture.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Supervisors of San Mateo County hereby honors and commends **John Vars** upon receiving the **Farmer of the Year Award** from the Half Moon Bay Coastside Chamber of Commerce for the vision, passion and commitment to agriculture represented in Fifth Crow Farm and extends best wishes for continued success!

*Dated: March 22, 2024*

*Supervisors:*

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*Warren Slocum, President*

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*Dave Pine*

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*Noelia Corzo*

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*Ray Mueller*

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*David J. Canepa*

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*Attest: Deputy Clerk of the Board of Supervisors*