

1350 Bennett Valley Road Santa Rosa, CA 95404 P: (707) 545-4200 x202 F: (707) 573-9342 HarvestFair.org Publicity@SonomaCountyFair.com

## **Contact:**

Emily Janowski publicity@sonomacountyfair.com (707) 545-4200 ext. 202

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Sonoma County Harvest Fair Honors Robert Muelrath For Lifetime Contribution to Sonoma County Agriculture

SANTA ROSA, CA – September 25, 2018 – The Sonoma County Harvest Fair is proud to honor Robert Muelrath with the Lifetime Contribution to Sonoma County Agriculture award, for his dedication to Sonoma County agriculture.

Robert Muelrath better known as "Bob" in the agriculture community, is a second-generation Sonoma County farmer. His family's farming legacy in Sonoma County began in Bodega Bay with a small dairy and poultry operation. For 38 years Bob ran his dairy business, served on multiple dairy and milk producer boards and served as president of the Sonoma County Farm Bureau.

Fellow agriculturalist and friend Bob Dempel commended Bob saying, "I know of no other person more worthy of this award. He was one of the longest serving school board members in Sonoma County. He has openly supported pro agriculture laws. He contributed openly not only money but farm product to a vast number of agriculture events. Bob and his wife are most always at every agriculture event."

Bob is a graduate of Santa Rosa High School where he served as the 1961 FFA Chapter President. His long list of accolades and volunteer hours speak to his devotion to agriculture. After thirty-eight years in the dairy business he now farms beef cattle, forage crops, hay pumpkins and fall ornamentals.

Bob is a graduate of California Agricultural Leadership Program, Class XIII. He has dedicated his time away from the farm serving as a board member of the Sonoma County Farm Bureau from 2004-2014, board member of the Consolidated Milk Producers of California from 1978-1982, a board member of the United Dairyman of California from 1982-1984, a board member of the League of California Milk Producers from 1980-1984 and countless of other committees. Bob served on the Bellevue Union School District Board of Trustees from 1972 until 2004, helping procure sites and build two new schools for the district. Most recently, Bob served as the Sonoma County Farm Bureau Foundation President from 2015-2016.



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Bob is better known by the general community for Muelrath Ranches. Muelrath Ranches is Bob and Audrey's pumpkin patch where they grow a variety of pumpkins and winter squash. Every fall they open to the public to visit and learn about agriculture. A night visit to the pumpkin patch is a Sonoma County Fall tradition for many families.

The Sonoma County Harvest Fair is proud to recognize Robert Muelrath for his dedication and service to Sonoma County agriculture. Bob will be honored during the Harvest Fair Annual Awards Night to be held September 30 at Luther Burbank Center for the Arts. A limited number of tickets are available at Harvest Fair or at the Harvest Fair Box Office located at 1350 Bennett Valley Road in Santa Rosa.

The 2018 Sonoma County Harvest Fair is October 5-7 at the Sonoma County Event Center at the Fairgrounds. Visit HarvestFair.org or call (707) 545-4200 or find "Sonoma County Harvest Fair" on Facebook.

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