

Proclamation

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF SAN MATEO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
PROCLAMATION DESIGNATING FEBRUARY 19, 2004 AS

FRANK SIRI DAY

WHEREAS, on this 19th day of February, two thousand and four, FRANK SIRI is honored for fifty-seven years of distinguished service in agriculture; and

WHEREAS, FRANK SIRI began his life long career in agriculture at the young age of twelve, when his father, Antioco Siri, passed away unexpectedly in 1927, followed by his mother, Marina, a few years later, leaving the family farm in San Francisco to Frank, his sister, Rose, and their brothers Rudolph, Luis, and Angelo, where the Siri children worked very hard together to keep the family business running; and

WHEREAS, in 1941, FRANK SIRI moved to East Palo Alto to start a new farming operation, where, over time, he purchased various other properties and developed them into a grocery store, a "variety" store, a drug store, a barber shop, a hardware store, and an auto supply store which, collectively, helped give identity to the small burg of East Palo Alto; and

WHEREAS, in the late 1940's, FRANK SIRI rented land in the farming and ranching community of Pescadero from Joe Cabral- a venture that turned out to be the beginning of a lifelong friendship; and

WHEREAS, FRANK SIRI became a founding father of the San Mateo County Farm Supply and Farm Bureau, where both he and Joe solicited other farmers, growers and friends to contribute to the construction of the Farm Supply Building which remains at 765 Main Street in Half Moon Bay; and

WHEREAS, in the 1960's the farming operation in East Palo Alto began to feel the pressure of the expanding City, as the County of San Mateo condemned Siri's lands for various schools, including Ravenswood High School, Brentwood School, and Ronald McNair School; and

WHEREAS, the family farm persevered, with the help and encouragement of loyal friends, the Siris eventually moved into cut flower production, specializing in mini carnations - they eventually cultured over 110 varieties, several of which were patented; and

WHEREAS, the family business flourished, the East Palo Alto operation grew to more than 300,000 square feet of greenhouses, and the newly acquired Watsonville operation covered 310,000 square feet of greenhouses, in addition to 38 acres of outside plants and flowers; and

WHEREAS, while building the family business, FRANK SIRI still found time to be active in many civic and community services, including serving on the East Palo Alto Sanitary Board of Directors and the San Mateo County Grand Jury, as well as being an active member of many trade and business associations; and

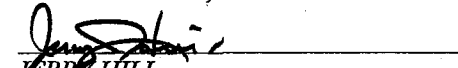
WHEREAS, FRANK SIRI actively served on both the Farm Supply and Farm Bureau Board of Directors until the summer of 2003,


NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED by the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors that February 19, 2004 is hereby designated FRANK SIRI DAY and the Board expresses congratulations and sincere gratitude to FRANK SIRI for more than fifty-seven years of outstanding service to the agricultural community of San Francisco, Santa Cruz, and San Mateo Counties, and wishes him happiness, good health, and good fishing upon his well-deserved retirement.

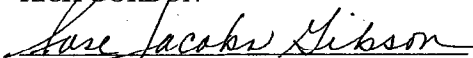
DATED: February 19, 2004

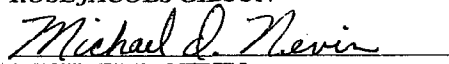
SUPERVISORS:


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