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Mulas Dairy of Sonoma Valley Named North Bay's 2017 Dairy of the Year

Mulas Family to receive Edward J. Maddalena Memorial Trophy

SANTA ROSA, CA – May 30, 2017 – Not a day goes by when the Chief's kids don't think about their dad. Though Mitch Mulas—a lifelong dairy farmer and volunteer fire chief—is no longer around to run things, his children still listen to his advice. Vickie, Ray, Carolyn and Mike, operators of Mulas Dairy along with their mother Nilda, are carrying on three generations of dairy farming in the Sonoma Valley. What they want most of all is to make their father and uncle proud... and it's looking like they've accomplished their goal. The Sonoma County Fair is proud to recognize Mulas Dairy as the North Bay's 2017 Dairy of the Year.

"My dad lived on the ranch his entire life, working from sun up to sun down most days," says Vickie Mulas. "He and my uncle Mario built our dairy from a few dozen head to one of the largest in Sonoma County at one time. Dad worked hard with integrity and had a passionate love for promoting and protecting the farming lifestyle, which we are now blessed to continue," she adds.

Today, Mulas Dairy located off Highway 121 has 850 cows and is producing a combination of organic and conventional milk (77% organic). Ray is in charge of farming, Mike handles the dairy and Vickie does the finances. Nilda, who remained on the ranch after Mitch passed in 2011 at age 82, 'rules the roost,' while the couple's children strive to further the family legacy.

"We were raised with farming as the foundation of our lives, helping our dad, participating in 4-H and the Sonoma County Fair, and learning about responsibility, teamwork and leadership. What an honor for the Fair and the dairy industry to recognize us," says Vickie. "I feel like it means we've been successful at maintaining our father's same high level of integrity."

Selected for ranch appearance, herd management and leadership in the dairy industry and community, the Sonoma County Fair is proud to honor Mulas Dairy with 2017 Dairy of the Year Award for the North Bay region. The Fair celebrated the honor during its annual Awards Ceremony on Tuesday, May 23 at the



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Fairgrounds. Mulas Dairy received the honor in loving memory of Edward J. Maddalena. They will also be recognized on Farmer's Day at the Fair, Sunday, August 6 in Chris Beck Arena.

Every day is a holiday during "Holidaze at the Sonoma County Fair!" Get ready to celebrate from August 3 – August 13. You won't want to miss this year's FREE Community Concert Series, the thrill of live horse racing, excitement of an ALL NEW giant carnival, nostalgia of "Holidays in Bloom" themed flower show, live entertainment, incredible food, fun contests, new games and more. For details, visit SonomaCountyFair.com or call (707) 545-4200. Like us on Facebook, and follow us on Instagram and Twitter to keep up with the fun. See you at the Fair!

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