

*Before the Board of Supervisors in and for the
County of Monterey, State of California*

Resolution No.:

Adopt resolution honoring **Henry Ernest Corda** as a Monterey County Military and Veterans Affairs Advisory Commission's Veteran of the Year for 2020

WHEREAS, each year the County of Monterey and the Monterey County Veterans Services Advisory Commission honors those who have made a significant contribution to their communities, are strong motivators, have demonstrated extraordinary professional competence and are role models for veterans and the community as a whole; and

WHEREAS, the Monterey County Military and Veterans Services Advisory Commission is honored to recognize **Henry Ernest Corda** as a 2020 *Veteran of the Year*; and

WHEREAS, **Henry Ernest Corda** was born on June 21, 1920 in Gonzales, California and was the third of three children born to Angelo and Rumilda Corda; and

WHEREAS, with the exception of his military service, **Henry Ernest Corda** has spent his entire lifetime in his hometown of Gonzales; and

WHEREAS, as a young man, **Henry Ernest Corda** attended elementary and high school in Gonzales, loved participating in all sports, including football, basketball, baseball and track; and

WHEREAS, many years after his exploits on the gridiron, court and athletic fields, **Henry Ernest Corda** was inducted into the inaugural class of the Gonzales High School Sports Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, shortly after the attack on Pearl Harbor, **Henry Ernest Corda** volunteered for military service and enlisted in the United States Marine Corps and was a proud member of the 5th Division, 27th Regiment of the Corps; and

WHEREAS, on February 19, 1945, **Henry Ernest Corda** was a gunner on an amphibious landing vehicle that was part of the first wave of attack on the island of Iwo Jima, his craft was hit by enemy fire, and severely damaged before reaching shore; and

WHEREAS, the transport vehicle was so incapacitated that it could not return to the U.S. ships to pick up much-needed reinforcements to assist in the attack, despite almost insurmountable odds, **Henry Ernest Corda** was able to make it to the beach safely, spent the next few weeks in combat with his fellow troops on Iwo Jima as part of this historic, and ultimately successful, military effort; and

WHEREAS, **Henry Ernest Corda** is one of the few survivors of this epic battle that are still with us today; and

WHEREAS, after serving his country in World War II, **Henry Ernest Corda** returned to his hometown of Gonzales, and in 1948, married the love of his life, Lucille Pura, and were married for fifty-seven years, raised four children, their daughter Val and son's John, Butch and Chris, and the family today includes seven grandchildren and eleven great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, **Henry Ernest Corda** was a mechanic and bus driver for Gonzales High School but his true passion was farming, and for almost forty years, he managed the family farm on Corda Road just outside the city limits of Gonzales, and the Corda Ranch grew a variety of vegetables and for many years was an integral part of the region's vibrant agricultural industry and heritage; and

WHEREAS, **Henry Ernest Corda** was also very active in supporting his hometown of Gonzales where he coached both Little League and Babe Ruth baseball for many years, was an active and longtime member of the Gonzales Booster Club which raised thousands of dollars to support youth sports for both boys and girls, and was a loyal and enthusiastic supporter of the Gonzales Booster Club basketball tournament which, for many years, drew teams from all over California to compete.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Monterey County Board of Supervisors, on behalf of the County and all citizens thereof, honors **Henry Ernest Corda** as a 2020 Monterey County Military and Veterans Affairs Advisory Commission *Veteran of the Year* and wishes him continued success, peace and happiness in all of his future endeavors.

PASSED AND ADOPTED on this ___ day of ____ 2020, upon motion of Supervisor _____, seconded by Supervisor _____ by the following vote, to-wit:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

I, Valeria Ralph, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Monterey, State of California, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of an original order of said Board of Supervisors duly made and entered in the minutes thereof of Minute Book_____ for the meeting on _____.

Dated:

Valeria Ralph, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
County of Monterey, State of California

By _____
Deputy