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February 1, 2026

Dear Board Member,

Planning is underway to host MFA's 45th Annual Family Reunion Convention at the Omni Mount Washington Resort at Bretton Woods, NH over Memorial Day weekend, May 22-25. The Function and Category Focus Committees are hard at work to guarantee this year's event is another great success.

The success that the Association and the MFA Convention achieve each year is due to the hard work of many dedicated people, but Curt O'Hara's efforts have been extraordinary. It is fitting that at this year's Convention, Curt will be honored as the "2026 Person of the Year" for his longstanding support of MFA and the Annual Family Reunion Convention. Chris Flynn expressed the sentiments and reasoning of the Committee perfectly when he announced, "Curt has been one of the greatest supporters of MFA and the Convention. Whatever the need, big or small, Curt is one of the first to find a way to fill that need. When transporting the Convention product to the Hotel was in question, Curt and AGNE stepped forward delivering the product each year not just on time, but early. Curt is an enthusiastic ambassador who recruits numerous attendees and sponsorship participation from his vendor partners as well as one of the best "Las Vegas Night" money sellers, ensuring the success of this important Convention event each year. We are fortunate to have his service."

Curt deserves the Milton W. Segel Distinguished Service Award and I applaud his selection. Curt continues to support MFA as a long-time member of the Function Committee and a Convention Committee Chair for many years. Curt appreciates the importance of the MFA Convention as an important industry networking event, as well as a major source of funding for the Association.

I am requesting a donation of \$400 per Board member in support of this special tribute to Curt, a great industry leader. I hope you can participate. Please make your check payable to the Massachusetts Food Association and send it directly to the MFA office (420 Lakeside Avenue, Suite 402, Marlboro, MA 01752). **For your convenience you may pay by credit card by calling the MFA office, 617-542-3085. Due to security concerns, please do not email credit card information.**

I hope you will be able to join us for "MFA's Halloween" Convention and be present for our tribute to Curt on Sunday evening, May 24th. Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Michael J Violette
Chair, MFA Board of Directors

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