## **Nugget Markets Acquires Sonoma Market and Glen Ellen Village Market of Sonoma Valley**

Eric Stille, president and CEO of family-owned Nugget Markets, announced Wednesday the company's upcoming acquisition of Sonoma Market and Glen Ellen Village Market. The purchase of these Sonoma Valley grocery stores is expected to close March 31, 2016.

Family-owned and operated, Sonoma Market and Glen Ellen Village Market offer the Sonoma community homegrown personal service, high-quality prepared foods and perishables, and a commitment to local growers, producers and their community. Recently recognized as "Best Grocery Store" and "Best Customer Service" by the Sonoma Index Tribune's People's Awards, this small grocery chain is a true Sonoma Valley destination that fosters and shares the same values and philosophies as Nugget Markets.

"It is an honor and a privilege to be given the opportunity to acquire Sonoma and Glen Ellen Village Markets," Stille said. "Co-owners Don Shone and Dale Downing, and their entire team have built a fabulous brand. Our Core Values align nicely and I see both brands growing stronger with this acquisition!"

Shone and Downing agree Nugget Markets' good standing with its community, associates and guests played a large part in their decision. "A big factor in deciding to sell to the Nugget Markets and the Stille family is their dedication and commitment to their employees and customers. Though we have been sought after by many companies over the years, only now do we feel we have the perfect fit for our market family," Shone said. "Dale and I can rest assured that our employees, who have helped build this company and are loved by the community, will be well taken care of."

Nugget Markets has occupied a place on FORTUNE Magazine's national "100 Best Companies to Work For" list for 10 consecutive years. Stille attributes the honor to Nugget Markets' dedicated associates, leaders and loyal guests. Just one step inside any Nugget Markets is enough to sense each associate's upbeat energy, positive outlook and focus on world-class service.

Founded in 1926 by Stille's grandfather and great-grandfather, Nugget Markets offers a unique down-home yet progressive shopping experience that focuses on natural, organic and local products displayed alongside conventional and ethnic items, offering the best of all worlds.

Nugget Markets operates 15 stores located in Sacramento, Yolo, El Dorado, Placer, Solano and Marin counties and is known regionally for its high-quality perishables, including produce, meat and seafood, bakery and chef-led kitchen offerings, friendly associates and outstanding guest service.