

MERCIER ORCHARDS

June 4, 2018

Ms. Donna Whitener
Mayor City of Blue Ridge
Blue Ridge City Hall
480 West First Street
Blue Ridge, GA 30513

BLUE RIDGE • GEORGIA
Growing for you since 1943

Dear Mayor Whitener:

This year marks the 75th Anniversary of Mercier Orchards, and we are extremely proud to be a humble part of the culture, economy, landscape and Agri-tourism industry of Fannin County since 1943.

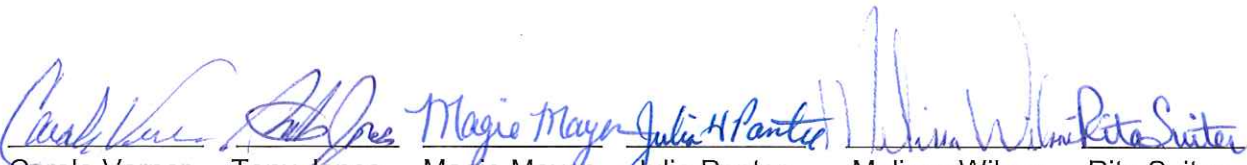
Bill and Adele Mercier, our founders, had a vision for the family farm operation that originated on Scenic Drive and is still flourishing today by our 4th generation. Mercier Orchards continues to implement the best practices of our founding fathers by growing and managing the family farm in a way that is both economically and environmentally sound.

Mercier's is a substantial economic generator in Fannin County, employing over 250 people during peak season and a major supporter and contributor of Fannin County School System's numerous clubs and organizations.

The farm has grown from 27 to 300 acres and over 100,000 apple trees. Mr. Bill Mercier always said *"the day you stop planting and expanding the orchard is the day you are going out of business – you just don't know it yet."* He was an inventor and visionary that is reflected in the way we operate Mercier's today. The rich heritage of the Mercier Family has resulted in our farm becoming the largest privately-owned orchard in the State of Georgia.

On behalf of The Mercier Family, we, the members of the 75th Anniversary Steering Committee, respectfully ask the Blue Ridge City Council in addition to the Fannin County Board of Commissioners, to consider designating Scenic Drive the 'BILL AND ADELE MEMORIAL BYPASS,' as a tribute to our founding and beloved patriarchs, as we celebrate 75th year of business.

Sincerely,


Carole Verner Tony Jones Magie Mayer Julie Panter Melissa Wilson Rita Suiter
HR Food Safety Social Media Bakery Supv. Events Marketing

75TH ANNIVERSARY STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS