BOLOGNESE

Ingredients:

- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 1 stalk of celery, chopped
- 1 carrot, peeled & chopped
- 3 tbsp EV00
- 1 lb ground chuck, patted dry
- Kosher salt
- 3 oz. thinly sliced pancetta, finely chopped

- 1 cup Becker Vineyards 2021 Barbera
- 1/3 c tomato paste
- 1 bay leaf
- 2 c (or more) chicken stock
- 1 c whole milk
- 1 lb fresh pasta
- 2 oz. finely grated Parmesan, plus more for serving
- Pinch of finely grated nutmeg
- Salt & Pepper

Instructions:

- 1. Pulse chopped onion, celery, and carrot in a food processor until very finely chopped and transfer into a bowl.
- 2. Heat olive oil in a large pot over medium heat. Add beef to pot and season with kosher salt. Cook, breaking apart, until browned and transfer to a bowl.
- 3. Wipe beef fat from the pot. Cook the pancetta in the same pot over medium heat for 6-8 minutes, until crisp. Add pulsed vegetable mixture to the pot and cook, stirring occasionally, until soft.
- 4. Return beef to pot and pour in 2021 Barbera. Reduce heat to low and cook, smashing beef with a wooden spoon until meat is finely ground and most of the wine has evaporated, 12-15 minutes.
- 5. Add tomato paste, bay leaf, and nutmeg. Cook, stirring occasionally, until tomato paste has darkened, about 5 minutes.
- 6. Pour chicken stock and whole milk into pot, add a pinch of salt.

 Reduce heat to lowest setting and cook, uncovered and stirring occasionally, for 2-2 ½ hours. If the liquid reduces before the meat is completely tender, add an extra ½ cup stock and continue cooking. Discard bay leaf. Taste sauce and adjust seasoning with salt.
- 7. Using tongs, transfer cooked pasta to pot with sauce. Add 1 cup pasta cooking liquid and Parmesan cheese (about ½ cup). Increase heat to medium, bring to a simmer, and cook, tossing constantly, until pasta is all dente and liquid is slightly thickened, about 2 minutes.
- 8. Plate your pasta and enjoy with the 2021 Barbera!