

## HONORING BROWNSTOWN ELECTRIC SUPPLY COMPANY

## HON. TODD C. YOUNG

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 18, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, many Hoosier small businesses across my district power the economic engine of the state, while also playing a critical role in the civic life of their communities. Today it is my honor to highlight one such small business. Brownstown Electric Supply Company, based in Brownstown, Indiana, is a privately-owned electrical supply company that has provided utility companies with technical expertise and electrical supplies for over four decades.

Carl Shake founded Brownstown Electric Supply Company in 1970 after a long career in the electrical supply and utility service industry. Brownstown Electric has grown from a small business in Jackson County, Indiana to a regional company that has expanded its reach as far as Illinois, Kentucky, and Ohio. Brownstown Electric is now run by Carl's son-in-law, Gregg Deck, who stewards the company with the same principles that has made Brownstown Electric a staple of Southern Indiana.

In addition to their economic contribution to the area, Brownstown Electric is an active member of their local community. They regularly sponsor local high school sports teams, participate in the Brownstown High School school-to-work program, and contribute to the Jackson County History Center of Indiana. This heart for service is exemplified in their organization of the Zach Pickard Pelican Run, a 5K run event dedicated to raising awareness for Hutchinson-Gilford progeria syndrome. Employees of Brownstown Electric organized the fundraiser in honor of the son of an employee who lives with the genetic condition.

Brownstown Electric Supply Company is emblematic of the Hoosier ethic. They are a family-owned and operated small business that not only delivers quality products and service, but also maintains a strong commitment to improving their community.

It is an honor to represent businesses like the Brownstown Electric Supply Company. I hope their example serves to inspire other would-be entrepreneurs, and I am pleased to highlight their good work today in this installment of Indiana's 9th District Small Business Spotlight.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

## HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 18, 2015

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, due to a flight delay on July 27, 2015, I was unable to attend House Roll Call Vote numbers 467, 468 and 469. If present, I would have voted yes on S. 1482, H.R. 1656, and H.R. 2770.

## TRIBUTE TO KATHY AZEVEDO

## HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 18, 2015

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the career of Kathy Azevedo; a dedicated public servicewoman, community pillar, and local advocate. On Wednesday, November 18, 2015 Azevedo will celebrate her retirement from the Norco City Council after 12 years of service.

For over 45 years, Kathy has been a resident and supporter of the Norco community. Before beginning her public service work, Kathy opened her own Jazercise studio. Azevedo has been a member of the Norco City Council since 2003. In addition to the Norco City Council, she also served as Mayor in 2005, 2009, and 2013. She has also served with the Norco Chamber of Commerce, as a member of the executive committee of the Western Riverside Council of Governments, and as a board member of the YMCA of Corona-Norco.

Preservation of Norco's rural and natural environment issues have been at the center of Azevedo's time in office. Her service work has helped lead to the establishment of the Horsetown, USA brand for Norco, establishing the largest city-wide residential zoning codes in the state of California, and the creation of Silverlakes Park, a 144-acre equestrian and recreational land space for the enjoyment of future generations.

In addition to her passion for preservation, Councilwoman Azevedo has also been a large champion of women's health and fitness issues. As a cancer survivor, Azevedo brings complexity and depth to these issues through her unique perspective.

Kathy serves as a member of the National Grant Review Board for the American Cancer Society. In addition to the American Cancer Society, Azevedo also was an original member of United Norconians for Life Over Alcohol and Drugs (Unload) and the founder of the nonprofit group Support Sisterz. Support Sisterz is a group of cancer survivors who help to provide assistance and support to individuals battling the disease.

Outside of her public service, Azevedo is an avid horseback rider and dedicated family woman. She married her high school sweetheart, Danny, and together they have two children and three grandchildren. Her family is her passion and she can often be found on the sidelines of her grandchildren's sporting events. I am proud to call Kathy a fellow community member, American and friend. I add my voice to the many who will be congratulating her on the celebration of her career of serving the city of Norco.

## IN RECOGNITION OF STRUGGLE FOR FREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY DAY

## HON. ROD BLUM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 18, 2015

Mr. BLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Struggle for Freedom and Democracy Day.

Today is a day celebrated by our Czech and Slovak friends to commemorate the difficult road to independence and democracy.

On this day, seventy-six years ago, soldiers from Nazi Germany mercilessly murdered nine Czech students and professors celebrating the independence of the Czechoslovak Republic.

Fifty years later, on November 17, 1989, a peaceful student demonstration honoring those that lost their lives to the Nazis was terminated by riot police, igniting the Velvet Revolution which ended the Communist control in Czechoslovakia and subsequently, the eventual establishment of independent, democratic Slovak and Czech Republics.

Today, we honor and remember those who sacrificed to fight tirelessly against oppressive regimes. The journey to establishing republican governments is perilous and we, as a people, must continue to support democratic institutions in Central Europe and around the world. As a co-chair of the Slovak Caucus and a member of the Czech Caucus, I am proud to support continued political, economic, and cultural ties between the United States, Slovakia, and the Czech Republic.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

## HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 18, 2015

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, due to a flight delay on May 18, 2015, I was unable to attend House Roll Call Vote number 240. If present, I would have voted yes on H.R. 91.

## RECOGNIZING RON BROWN UPON HIS RETIREMENT AS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF SAVE MOUNT DIABLO

## HON. MARK DeSAULNIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 18, 2015

Mr. DESAULNIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Ron Brown of Walnut Creek, California upon his retirement after his fifteen years of service to Save Mount Diablo and over forty years as an advocate in the non-profit sector. Through his service with Save Mount Diablo, Ron has made significant contributions that have improved both the day-to-day operations of the organization and the conservation field at large.

Mount Diablo is the most significant natural landscape in our region, and serves as the landmark that unites much of the 11th Congressional District. Save Mount Diablo has worked since 1971 to preserve the land on and around Mount Diablo to promote healthy ecosystems and continued access for people and wildlife.

Under Ron's leadership, Save Mount Diablo has raised over \$25 million to preserve thousands of acres of land, preserved several dozen properties, including the group's largest and most expensive acquisition—the 1,080 acre Curry Canyon Ranch—and has indirectly helped to protect thousands of additional acres throughout the area.

Ron was instrumental in attaining voter-approved "Urban Limit Lines" of every city in

Contra Costa County, helping to maintain the most important wildlife habitat areas in the East Bay. Thanks to Ron's leadership, Save Mount Diablo has grown its programs and capacity, increasing from a modest staff of three to eighteen staff members. Save Mount Diablo has become a leader on issues of land-use advocacy, land purchase for inclusion in parks, and relationship building with local governments and developers.

I applaud Ron's efforts to restore the historic "Eye of Diablo" beacon at Mount Diablo's summit, which commemorates the attack on Pearl Harbor. I am honored to have worked with Ron on many of these endeavors, including his efforts to improve various state park roads prior to the Tour de California bicycle race.

I am grateful for Ron's many accomplishments and for the many partnerships he built during his time with Save Mount Diablo. I wish Ron all of the best in his retirement, where I'm told he hopes to spend his time with his grandchildren, enjoying the land he has worked so hard to protect.

Congratulations, Ron, on a remarkable career that has preserved the ecosystems and the icon of the East Bay.

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DEFERRED ACTION FOR PARENTS OF AMERICANS AND LAWFUL PERMANENT RESIDENTS AND CHILDHOOD ARRIVALS (DAPA/DACA)

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**HON. RUBÉN HINOJOSA**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 18, 2015

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to voice support for President Obama's Executive Actions on immigration. These initiatives—namely, the Deferred Action for Parents of Americans and Lawful Permanent Residents (DAPA) and an expansion of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)—could provide as many as 5 million immigrants with temporary relief from deportation.

President Obama has courageously led in the face of a Republican Congress that is derelict in its duty. A legislative solution is the only long term fix to our broken immigration system. Yet, despite the support of the American people, a bipartisan majority in Congress, business groups and the faith community—the Republican leadership has fallen prey to xenophobia and the politics of fear.

Now it appears the Fifth Circuit—in denying the Federal Government's appeal of the preliminary injunction that blocked implementation of President Obama's initiative—is playing politics instead of performing its constitutionally mandated role of interpreting the law.

The Constitution is clear on the powers of the Executive Branch. Prosecutorial Discretion is a well-established principle.

I applaud the Administration's decision to appeal this decision and vigorously defend its executive action on immigration before the Supreme Court. My hope is that the Court takes this important case, and I expect that it would rule in favor of justice and the President's action.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

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**HON. GLENN THOMPSON**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 18, 2015

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, on roll call no. 631 I was absent during passage of H.R. 1694 the afternoon of November 17, 2015 because I was meeting with constituents from Pennsylvania's Fifth Congressional District. Had I been present, I would have voted yes.

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RECOGNIZING JOSEPH H. BOER

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**HON. BILLY LONG**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 18, 2015

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Joseph H. Boer, owner of Lake Ozark Missouri's Blue Heron Restaurant, for his service to our nation and entrepreneurial spirit, which has broadened the economic foundations of his community.

Born in Holland, Boer attended culinary school and apprenticed in distinguished restaurants including the Hof Ragaz Spa Hotel in Switzerland before becoming a sous chef at the Belgian Embassy in Den Haag, Netherlands. He was later drafted for service in the Dutch Armed Services where he became skilled in cooking for entire battalions of anti-aircraft personnel.

After surviving World War II and qualifying to be included with a special quota for displaced persons, he immigrated to the United States of America in 1956. Upon his arrival, he worked in Littleton, Colorado but soon moved to Kansas City, MO. There, he went on to work at the Terrace Grill at the Muelburch Hotel and the Colony Steak House before earning his U.S. citizenship in 1961.

After gaining citizenship, Boer served two years in the U.S. Army. He spent time in Fort Leonard Wood, Fort Smith, Fort Devens, Puerto Rico, and West Point. Because of his knowledge of the German language, he was selected to be a part of the NATO exercise "Crescendo" in Germany, which demanded his unique skills as a linguist.

Through these experiences he gained the skill and confidence he needed to open his first restaurant, the Top Deck at Mai Tai, near the Lake of the Ozarks. He went on to work at Lefty's Little Chef Steak House and the Potted Steer Restaurant at Westgate Lanes in Jefferson City before buying the Potted Steer Restaurant at Lake of the Ozarks and purchasing what would become the Blue Heron Restaurant in 1984. Sitting atop the highest point above Lake of the Ozarks, the Blue Heron Restaurant has become known for providing fine quality cuisine as well as an elegant, romantic atmosphere since opening July 4th, 1984.

Mr. Speaker, Joseph H. Boer deserves this body's utmost respect for his incredible life story and dedicated entrepreneurial spirit. I extend to him my deepest appreciation for his impressive efforts, which have contributed greatly to the Lake of the Ozarks community.

SUMMARY OF PRESIDENT MA YING-JEOU REMARKS IN MEETING WITH CHINESE LEADER XI JINPING

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**HON. ROBERT A. BRADY**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 18, 2015

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my sincere appreciation for the Republic of China (Taiwan) President Ma Ying-jeou's leadership in pursuing long-term peace and stability across the Taiwan Strait. President Ma met with Chinese leader Xi Jinping in Singapore on November 7. This meeting was historic and paved the foundation for future prosperity and peace in the East Asia region. On the same day, our State Department expressed the view that the United States welcomes the meeting between leaders on both sides of the Taiwan Strait and noted the historic improvement in cross-Strait relations in recent years.

I particularly took notice of President Ma's remarks on the importance of consolidation of the "1992 Consensus" and the maintenance of peace across the Taiwan Strait.

Below is the summary of President Ma's remarks in meeting with mainland Chinese leader Xi Jinping, which explains clearly the origin and the meaning of the Consensus and shows how it is consistent with the Constitution of the Republic of China. For the full text, please visit the website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of China: <http://www.mofa.gov.tw>.

Summary of President Ma's remarks:

Sustainable peace and prosperity is the common goal in the development of cross-strait relations, and the "1992 Consensus" is the fundamental basis for achieving this goal. On Aug. 1, 1992, our National Unification Council passed a resolution on the meaning of "one China," which said that both sides of the Taiwan Strait insist on the "one China" principle, but they differ as to what that means. The consensus reached between the two sides in November 1992 is that both sides of the Taiwan Strait insist on the "one China" principle, and each side can express its interpretation verbally; this is the 1992 Consensus of "one China, respective interpretations." For our part, we stated that the interpretation does not involve "two Chinas," "one China and one Taiwan," or "Taiwan independence," as the Republic of China Constitution does not allow it. This position is very clear, and is accepted by the majority of the people of Taiwan . . . The two sides have together created a model for the peaceful resolution of disputes that should be further consolidated until it becomes the normal state of affairs.

Another goal is the reduction of hostility and the peaceful handling of disputes. Taiwan's people, especially civic leaders, have a negative impression of situations such as our tourists being refused admission to the United Nations Headquarters because of their passport, frustrations our experts have had in participating in NGO meetings, and interventions we have faced when engaging in bilateral or multilateral cooperation on trade. The two sides ought to begin by reducing hostility and confrontation on these fronts. Those participating in these activities are mostly intellectuals or members of our middle class, and this affects our work pertaining to cross-strait ties, and