HONORING DAVE LENTELL AS IOWAN OF THE WEEK

HON. CYNTHIA AXNE

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 8, 2022

Mrs. AXNE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Dave Lentell as Iowan of the Week. Dave is the Lead Lender Relations Specialist at the Small Business Administration (SBA) Iowa District office. Dave lives in Waukee, and through his almost 29 years with the Iowa SBA he held countless conversations connecting with small business owners throughout Iowa and across the 3rd District. I'm glad to take this opportunity to recognize Dave for his dedicated public service for Iowa's small businesses over the course of his career.

Dave first joined the Iowa SBA in 1993 for an internship while studying at Drake University. Quickly after starting his work, the Great Flood of 1993 happened, and Dave stepped up and took an outsized role in facilitating disaster relief information. Dave was offered full-time work after graduating college and has remained with the Iowa SBA since then. Over that period, Dave has helped other businesses and homeowners through periodic disaster events—while also offering technical support and advice to businesses seeking to breakthrough. Dave most appreciates the ability to connect with business owners and lenders to identify paths forward for Iowa's small business economy—which includes over 273,000 small businesses.

Since COVID–19 began, Dave has once again stepped up as he did in 1993—but in this case, the pandemic affected every small business in Iowa. With SBA charged to administer disaster relief programs such as Economic Impact Disaster Loans (EIDL) and the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP), Dave's engagement with the business and lending community increased. Through collaboration with businesses directly, and associated organizations and groups, Dave worked hard to ensure that information was distributed throughout the Iowa community and has earned the respect of his SBA colleagues, who nominated him to my office for recognition.

While we all seek a general return to normalcy, Dave relates that business models have changed during the pandemic—and in many cases that change is here to stay. While the role of SBA may see changes in the future, Dave's service over the past 28 years has certainly been welcome help for our District. I am glad to honor Dave Lentell as Iowan of the Week.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 170TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CITY OF OXFORD

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 8, 2022

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 170th Anniversary of the City of Oxford.

A part of Alabama's Third Congressional District, Oxford, is located in Calhoun County. The Muscogee Creek Nation called Choccolocco Valley home for 12,000 years. In 1540, Hernando DeSoto crossed the region on behalf of Spain in search of riches. France claimed the lands in 1699 after successfully establishing settlements at Mobile, New Orleans and Biloxi. Even though France controlled the area that would later become Oxford, it was still inhabited by the Creek Nation. England gained possession after the signing of the Treaty of Paris at the end of the Seven Years War. In 1789, the entire northern portion of Alabama was owned by Georgia. The lands were given to the federal government in 1802 as part of the Mississippi Territory.

Alabama was admitted to the Union on December 14, 1819. Benton County was incorporated on December 18, 1832, and included present-day Calhoun, Cleburne and portions of Cherokee and Talladega Counties. At the time of incorporation, the only incorporated towns in Benton County were Jacksonville and White Plains. In the early 1830s, the Snow and Simmons families were two of the first European descent families to settle among the Creek natives. Snow owned the land south of present-day Choccolocco Street, and Simmons owned the land north. An early legend recalls the area south was called ''Skace Grease'' and the area north ''Lick Skillet.'' Local folklore says a traveler was passing through and needed a place for rest and food. As he was visiting, he was directed to ''lick the skillet'' because they were ''skace of grease.''

Oxford was established on February 7, 1852, the bill proposed by Representative Matthew Allen of Benton County. The limits of the town included one square mile from the center at the male academy on Second Street. Elisha S. Simmons, Edmund P. Gains, John A. Turnipseed, Stephen C. Williams, and Woodson Seay were authorized to run on a ballot for the election of three council members and an intendant (mayor). It was decided that on the first Saturday of each March, annual municipal elections would be held for offices of council and mayor.

On February 21, 1860, Oxford was chartered for the second time due to redrawing of boundary lines and the changing of the name of Benton County to Calhoun County. The limits of the town included a half-mile in each direction from the railroad culvert at Spring Street. Elections were to be held on the first Monday of each March annually. In this incorporation, the law called for the election of seven councilmembers and an intendant. The councilmembers and intendant were given the power to elect a marshal, clerk and treasurer. Those who have served as mayor of Oxford, respectively, include Elisha S. Simmons, Dr. Stephen C. Williams, Samuel C. Kelly, James S. Kelly, Edgar H. Hanna, Charles T. Hilton, William J. Borden, John B. McCain, Dr. Thomas C. Hill, Robert P. Thomason, William H. Griffin, John N. Gunnels, Thomas A. Howle, Maj. William A. Orr, George W. Eichelberger, William C. Gray, Dreadzil P. Haynes, Asa C. Allen, William R. Norton, Davis C. Cooper, Robert R. Pope, Dr. Thomas B. Howle, Carl D. Pace, Hemphill G. Whiteside, Alvis A. Hamric, Bester A. Adams, Earl R. Martin, Therman E. Whitmore, Leon Smith, and Alton Craft.

The Oxford Police Department was established at the time of the first incorporation. However, the earliest police force only included one town marshal. The first recorded marshal for Oxford was Francis M. Gardner, who served in the early 1880s. The Oxford Fire Department was organized on May 18, 1884, as a volunteer department. Major William A. Orr served as the first chief.

In 1904, the citizens of Oxford were convinced that the town needed a permanent city hall for the purposes of conducting municipal business. In September of that year, it was decided city hall would be located in a building on Main Street and the fire department would share the building. An armory was established adjacent to the building for the Calhoun Rifles. The calaboose was located several yards south on Spring Street.

Madam Speaker, please join me in wishing Oxford a happy 170th anniversary.

BIOECONOMY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2021

SPEECH OF

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 2, 2022

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, I want to commend the authors of the America COMPETES Act of 2022 for including $52 billion to incentivize private-sector investments and continued American leadership in semiconductor manufacturing to help address supply chain disruptions and ensure that more semiconductors are produced here at home.

Within my central Florida district is the NeoCity technology campus which is recognized as an emerging microelectronics and advanced manufacturing hub, that has already made synergies with institutions of higher education across Florida and key partnerships with the U.S. Department of Defense and U.S. Department of Commerce. NeoCity is home to BRIDG, a not-for-profit, public-private partnership specializing in domestic semiconductor research, development, and manufacturing. Imec, a world-renowned international research and development organization active in semiconductor design and architecture. SUSS MicroTec, a leading supplier of equipment and process solutions for the semiconductor industry. And SkyWater Technology, the only U.S. owned and operated pure play trusted foundry, that works on leading-edge advanced packaging technology. They all work in collaboration out of the Center for Neovation, one of the most state-of-the-art advanced manufacturing facilities in the western hemisphere. As envisioned by this important legislation, the facilities, and experts at BRIDG, imec, SUSS MicroTec, and SkyWaterTechnology offer immediate capability to accelerate U.S. production of critical semiconductor chips, strengthen the domestic supply chain so chips are made in America, and turbocharge our research capacity. Equally as important, the NeoCity Academy, a public STEM magnet high school, is training the leaders of tomorrow's science and technology workforce.

I am proud of the work being undertaken in my district to support domestic semiconductor manufacturing technology development as they work to address the supply chain. I look forward to working with the Administration and the U.S. Department of Commerce on implementation of the American Competes Act and the CHIPS for America Fund.