

and country. I hope she uses this momentous day to do the same.

Again, Mr. Speaker, I would like to extend my congratulations to Velma Bulvin on her birthday. May her year be filled with happiness and blessings.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GARRET GRAVES

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 12, 2018

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 314, and YEA on Roll Call No. 315.

HONORING THE DEBERNARDI
FAMILY

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 12, 2018

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with the Honorable JARED HUFFMAN to honor Don and Bonnie DeBernardi and their family for their immense contribution to the dairy industry in Sonoma County. The DeBernardi family is being honored as the Farm Family of the Year by the Sonoma County Farm Bureau.

Mr. and Ms. DeBernardi are first generation dairy farmers who entered the profession and lifestyle in the hills of Goat Rock in Sonoma County, California in 1968. They have been producing cows' milk since then and in the late 1990s added goats to their farm. Mr. DeBernardi followed the footsteps of his Swiss ancestors and began producing their Tomme-style Two Rock Valley Goat Cheese and expanding the DeBernardi Dairy franchise. They currently have 2,000 acres of owned or leased farmland, which is home to their 700 organic cows and 200 goats.

Mr. and Ms. DeBernardi are active members of our community. They are longtime contributors of 4H, FFA, Petaluma High School and Tomales High School. Mr. DeBernardi sits on the Sonoma County Farm Bureau Board of Directors and is a member of the Western United Dairymen, Druids, Elks, Nicasio Native Sons and the Petaluma Golf and Country Club. Ms. DeBernardi is a founding member of the North Bay Dairy Women and a member of St. Vincent de Paul Church. Mr. DeBernardi was an early supporter of the annual Artisan Cheese Festival and DeBernardi Dairy frequently participates in the community event. In 1979, DeBernardi Dairy was honored as the Dairy of the Year by the Sonoma County Fair.

Today the DeBernardi Dairy has three generations actively participating on the family farm. The entire family shares Mr. and Ms. DeBernardi's passion for the dairy industry and our community. Mr. and Ms. DeBernardi are dedicated stewards of the land and hard-working and passionate people.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. and Ms. DeBernardi and the entire DeBernardi family have made important contributions to our community. It is therefore fitting and proper that we honor them here today.