

Dear Friend,

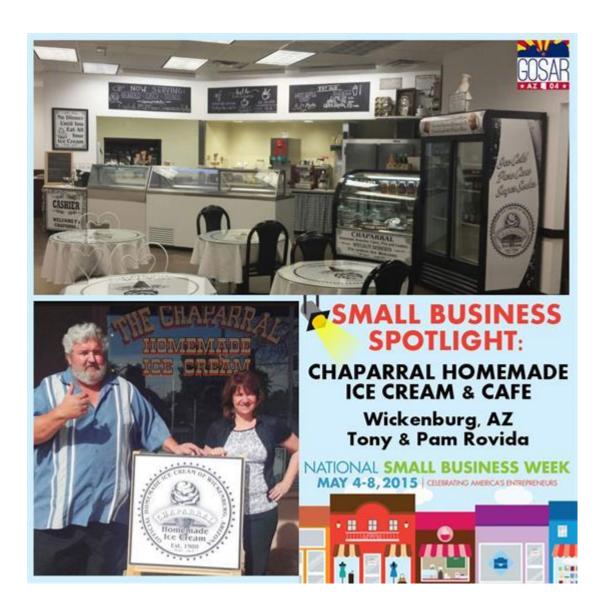
I hope you all enjoyed a wonderful Mother's Day and were able to spend time with family and friends giving thanks for the irreplaceable role that mothers play in our lives. And while the second Sunday in May is always designated to celebrate the most important member of our families, mothers deserve to be cherished and appreciated every single day of the year. So after the gifts have been open and the day's festivities have come to a close, let's commit ourselves to continuing to show the same affection, gratitude and love that our mothers show us every day of our lives.



This past week, communities across the country celebrated National Small Business Week. The important role small business owner's play in our communities cannot be understated. These entrepreneurs sponsor our youth sports teams, are intimately involved in facilitating community events and most importantly provide much-needed jobs. To honor these brave self-starters, I cosponsored the House Resolution celebrating the essential role of small business and the passion of American entrepreneurs. Additionally, throughout the week, I highlighted local small businesses from Arizona's 4th district. Continue reading to see all of the Small Business Spotlights we featured on social media this past week. I encourage everyone to shop locally in support of these vital economic engines.



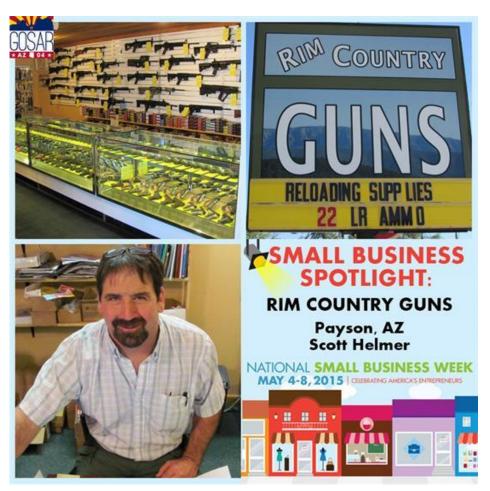




Tony and Pam Rovida have been married for almost 32 years and have spent much of that time owning several of their own businesses. In 2009 they became the fourth owners of the business that originally started in 1980. They have expanded the business to also serve breakfast, lunch and dinner in addition to desserts with their full menu. Pam is very proud that they make all of their own ice creams, sauces, hot fudge, English muffins and salad dressings from scratch. Pam says it's in their blood to own their own business.

Since moving to Arizona and buying the ice cream shop, Tony and Pam have been able to increase sales and the number of employees they have every year. Growth is very important to them. "We like to do a good job and it's a way to let the creativity out. The passion is there and it's rewarding to build something that is your concept. It's an artistic outlet in a different form," said Pam.

One of the bigger challenges they face as a small business is hiring enough employees in a smaller town along with constantly fluctuating costs of labor and materials. Though they face tough challenges daily, they really enjoy being connected with the community and the friendships they have made through the business. Some of their best memories are being able to help with church and nonprofit events that need assistance. "Being able to make the decision to help and then seeing the result is incredibly rewarding," said Pam. "We love the Wickenburg community and Arizona. It's a great place to live and to be a business owner." To learn more about Chaparral Homemade Ice Cream & Cafe, visit their website at http://www.chaparral-icecream.com/



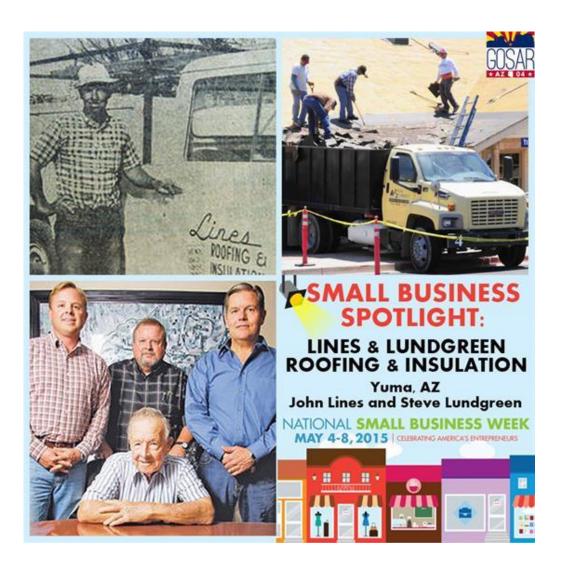
Scott Helmer has been the proud owner of several businesses but started out as the son of a cattle rancher and originally expected to follow in his father's footsteps. The financial crisis in the early 1980s hit Scott hard and threatened to end his dream of being an entrepreneur. Scott went on to

work at a state cement plant in South Dakota and saw that companies were downsizing as technology was taking over so he got out. "I knew if I wanted to get ahead, I wasn't going to accomplish that by working for someone else," Scott said.

Scott acknowledges there are some serious challenges to being a business owner, especially for a gun and ammo store like his. "In this business, the government has a lot of control and many of the regulations are implemented through the banks. It greatly affects the financing we get." Another issue he encountered was that not many insurance companies will give coverage to arms retailers.

However, the many challenges give way to the hard earned victories. For Scott, the biggest victory is being able to work for himself. "I would be happy working for myself if I owned a septic truck. As long as I have some control of my future." Scott likes starting and building businesses probably more than he enjoys running them. He believes it is important to always be growing and evolving in order to survive in today's competitive business environment. Currently, Scott is planning on moving his business to the lot next door in order to build a new and bigger location due to the fact that Rim Country Guns has outgrown its current space.

It's great to have self-starters like Scott who enjoy working and building a business that plays an important role in our community and provides much needed jobs. I applaud Scott for all of his hard work and wish him the best with the new location. To learn more about Rim Country Guns, visit their website here: http://www.rimcountryguns.com/home.html



John Lines and Steve Lundgreen represent fourth generation owners of one of Yuma's oldest family-run businesses. They specialize in residential and commercial roofing and insulation, and install acoustical ceilings and built-in vacuum systems for residential and commercial applications. Lines and Lundgreen was started in 1945 and was the only roofing company in Yuma at the time. Through the years the business has faced many challenges including multiple recessions along with booms and busts in the housing market. Because of that, the business has evolved and relies on re-roofing existing homes and businesses, and stays aggressive when bidding for work.

When asked about memorable moments in working with Lines and Lundgreen, John recalled, "I worked on my first roof with my grandfather when I was 10 pulling nails out of wood shingles and he paid me \$2 an hour and after two days I thought I was rich." He also said that while it can sometimes be stressful working with family, not many people are as lucky to work in the type of environment that he does.

"It's great to see my dad and brother every day and I have three of my sons work out in the field with me and two of my daughters help out in the office. It's a joy to see the continuity and have it be a family run environment all the way around." John says that he loved working with his father and grandfather who taught him all the skills he uses today and is now teaching his children the trade to continue the family's legacy.

"We are proud to have been voted Yuma's best since they introduced the roofing category and have won each year, it's the best recognition we could ask for. We like to be able to focus on giving back and serving the community as well, and our business gives us the opportunity to be more involved with other local groups. It's been great to build upon the foundation that was built for us and seeing the continuity, that's something special you get from working with family and in a community like ours." To learn more about Lines & Lundgreen Roofing & Insulation, visit their website at http://www.linesandlundgreenyuma.com/



Jim Carlo grew up in an entrepreneurial environment where he was bred to work for his family's construction business with his dad, uncle and brothers. After becoming owner of the business, Jim was hit hard during the recession beginning in late 2007 and his story of perseverance was featured in a 2014 Havasu News article titled "Throttling up in tough times":

"The American Dream isn't dead for Jim Carlo of JR Motors. The former owner of a home building company was sent into early retirement when the recession hit. He reinvented himself in 2010 when he started JR Motors with wife Gina. 'We've doubled sales every year since we opened,' Carlo said. He sells pontoon boats more than anything else. 'They're through the roof,' Carlo said. 'There's a wide range of prices and styles to choose from to fit any budget. We sell new pontoons starting around \$30,000 all the way up to those with twin engines that go 72 miles per hour and retail in the neighborhood of \$150,000.' The boating industry, with its strong fundamentals, has been able to navigate the financial tidal waves of the last few years with resiliency and strength. By adapting their business models to the changing economic climate, they have managed to weather the storm and move forward."

One of Jim's favorite parts of owning his own business is meeting new people, interacting with the public and customers that come to the dealership. "It's a much more personal experience and nice to get to meet so many people, not just the one person your building the home for so it's nice to have that aspect now." More information about JR Motors can be found at their website, http://www.jrmotorsales.com/

2015 Congressional Art Competition Finalists

Each spring, a nation-wide high school arts competition is sponsored by the Members of the U.S. House of Representatives. In Arizona's 4th district, we had 153 submissions this year and our local judges had the difficult task of selecting 4 finalists. I'm excited to announce this year's winners:



Jasmine Finley's winning artwork is being sent to D.C. for the National Congressional Art Ceremony in June. Her piece will be displayed in the Capitol building for 1 year, along with all of the winning pieces from each congressional district around the country. Jasmine also won a \$6,000 scholarship from Northern Arizona University. To view all the art submissions visit Congressman Gosar's Flickr page at flickr.com/repgosar.

As always, you can follow everything I am working on in Arizona and Washington, D.C. through my website (http://gosar.house.gov) on Twitter @RepGosar, or through Facebook at Representative Paul Gosar.

Sincerely,

Paul A. Gosar, D.D.S Member of Congress





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