



United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

RECOGNIZING: GREAT HARVEST IN IDAHO FALLS

Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic have not been easy for small business owners and their employees to overcome. Throughout the pandemic, many were forced to temporarily close their doors. Those that reopened had to innovate their business models to comply with local guidelines and public health mandates. As we turn the corner on the COVID-19 pandemic, I am proud to relaunch Support Local Gems, a statewide initiative, on May 21st to encourage Idahoans to support local small businesses in their communities. This month, as a senior member and former chairman of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, I will honor six small businesses located throughout the State of Idaho. I am pleased to honor Great Harvest in Idaho Falls as one of the Idaho Small Businesses of the Month for May 2021.

The Great Harvest Bread Company in Idaho Falls is owned and operated by Tiffani and John Van Orman. With two locations in Eastern Idaho, the bakeries are known for their vast selection of artisan breads, sweets, and treats. They pride themselves on using the freshest ingredients and making their products completely from scratch.

Since its establishment over 20 years ago, the business has been actively involved in the Idaho Falls community, donating money and baked goods to school fundraisers, church gatherings, and local charitable causes. While the pandemic has impacted their business, it has not deterred their charitable efforts. During the March 2020 shutdown, Great Harvest kept all of their employees on the payroll and increased their production. The Van Ormans donated the extra food items to their local food pantry, YMCA, local school districts, hospitals, and emergency responders. They also placed “Generosity Tables” stocked with free baked goods outside of their bakeries and encouraged customers to take them to people in need. Their spirit of generosity is what defines Idaho’s small businesses, and Great Harvest Bread Company has stepped up for its community during these hard times.

Congratulations to Great Harvest in Idaho Falls on being selected as an Idaho Gem for the month of May. You serve as an example in your community and are an outstanding example of what it means to be one of Idaho’s Local Gems.