

HAPPY New Year!

📅 This is Tom Throssel with Community comment

When I was in the US Coast Guard, if someone did a really good job, it was common to hear someone else say to them "Bravo Zulu" or maybe they would "give them Kudos".

You can google those words to see where they came from, but they are simply a way to say good job.

I want to take this opportunity to say "Bravo Zulu" to a few people and businesses I see in our community that I believe are hidden gems and worthy of public recognition.

We recently had our company Christmas party and it was held at the Sequoia Conference Center. This is part of the Humboldt County Office of Education in Burre Center. I have been to many events at the Sequoia Conference Center and have used the facility to host events as well, and I can say it is a beautiful venue, with a commercial kitchen, and state of the art sound and video. The best thing about it, though, is the staff. From first contact when taking reservations, to setting up tables or cleaning up, they are top notch. They are some of the most helpful and kind people around. Kudos to Dave, Amanda, Klark and all the other staff members of the Sequoia conference center.

Another group that I believe deserves recognition is the young staff at Ultimate yogurt in Eureka. I'm not saying the other yogurt shops in town are bad. In fact, I love going to see Scott at Redwood Yogurt in Arcata. He is a tremendous supporter of our county, especially with regard to youth music and arts. I'm just saying that today I want to acknowledge the team at Ultimate Yogurt in Eureka. Every time I go, No matter what is going on, there is a smiling, friendly face to welcome me and they make the environment a place I want to be. Way to go!

There is one more place I found in the past year that needs some recognition. While having a discussion with my friend James, about the lack of fried chicken restaurants in Humboldt county, he recommended that I try out Chesters Fried Chicken. This is located inside the Chevron Gas station at Valley west in Arcata. James suggested I try the fried chicken and chicken strips. Well honestly I think they are some of the best in the area, BUT their staff and customer service is what impressed me most. Not only did they have Friendly, attentive and helpful staff, but the environment was clean. I did not expect a gas station chicken restaurant to impress me, but the staff did just that. Usually Within seconds of walking up to the counter, someone greets me and asks how they can help, and before I can get my soda, they have my order packaged up and ready for me to check out. The line may be a bit longer now that I am spoiling my secret, but I'll bet they impress you too!

A local business owner recently told me that when they interview potential employees, they look at attitude and teach-ability, and don't hire people solely on experience. Attitude and teach-ability make a huge difference. They help to create businesses where employees want to work and customers want to visit.

I don't own any of these businesses and really don't want this to be a commercial for any of them. That isn't the point. What I want to do , is give credit to some people who are making a difference in our ~~county~~ *community* with their positive attitude and excellent customer service. So I want to say Bravo ZULU and Kudos for jobs well done.

Thank you

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