

4/27/2005 Moran Recognizes Longford Bottled Water Business

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Moran to Present New Business in Longford with "Building Better Communities" Award

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LONGFORD - Congressman Jerry Moran today announced that he will recognize the citizens of Longford in their work to create and support Longford Water Company, LLC with the "Building Better Communities" award. The community-based group has formed the company in order to bottle and sell Longford's high quality tap water.

For years, this town of 89 people has had a reputation for providing high quality, good tasting water. Groundwater from Longford is naturally clean and soft because as it is filtered by a distinctive group of underground rocks known as the Kiowa Formation. Unlike most bottled water, Longford water does not need to be treated by reverse osmosis, a process used to purify water through removal of unwanted chemicals. This procedure is expensive and removes natural minerals from the water that contribute to good physical health.

Years ago, communities used to compete at the Kansas State Fair regarding the quality of their water. Water from Longford was a frequent winner. Road signs near the community advise, "For Good Health and Longevity Drink Longford

Water, Kansas' Purest." KIWATA is the name of the bottled water.

"For rural communities to survive and prosper into the future, citizens must be willing to create their own opportunities for success," Moran said. "The Longford Water Company is an example of how hard work, innovation, professional management and community pride can create just such an opportunity."

The recognition ceremony and grand opening of Longford Water Company will be at 4:30 p.m. on Monday, May 2, at their main office, 108 Main Street, in Longford. The presentation and opening will follow the Congressman's Clay County 69-County tour stop, which will be held from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. at the same location.

The "Building Better Communities" award was established as a way to recognize and share the good things that are happening in the First Congressional District of Kansas. Beyond providing recognition, this program will provide examples of how creative thinking and teamwork make a positive difference in rural America. Any project, activity or community that enhances the quality of life in the First District is eligible for recognition. Award recipients must demonstrate a spirit of partnership and collaboration and must serve as a role model for other Kansas communities.

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