



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Local Restaurant Owner Honored  
As Outstanding Restaurateur of the Year**

Dennis Stevens, owner of Fork in the Road located in Mukwonago, was honored as the Outstanding Restaurateur of the Year (OROY) by the Wisconsin Restaurant Association (WRA) Milwaukee Chapter, made up of Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Washington and Waukesha counties. The OROY award is given by fellow members of the Milwaukee Chapter based on success in business, community service and dedication to the restaurant industry.

The OROY award was presented to Stevens in a surprise presentation on January 19th, at a WRA chapter meeting held at Potawatomi Hotel & Casino in Milwaukee. Rep. Cory Horlacher and Rep. Scott Allen were in attendance to present a Legislative Citation to Stevens.

On Tuesday, March 10, Stevens will also be honored with a commendation medal at the 2015 WRA Awards Dinner gala, taking place at Hilton Milwaukee City Center.

Stevens has been a part of the restaurant industry since 1972, learning every role of the restaurant business while managing several restaurants in Illinois and Indiana. After moving to Wisconsin, Stevens became part of the De Rosa Corporation team as General Manager at the 27th Street Chancery. In 2002, Stevens fulfilled his dream of becoming a restaurateur and became owner of Fork in the Road in Mukwonago.

Over the past 15 years, Stevens' vision, passion and tireless enthusiasm have combined to make his Casual American restaurant a great success story. He has grown his business by double digits 12 years in a row and has grown by more than 200% since he started. As Stevens would say, "It's all about dreaming. If you don't dream, you get old. You have to dream."

Stevens lives in Waukesha with his wife Jan. They have two children.

*WRA represents a broad range of foodservice operations and is dedicated to advocacy, education and communication for the restaurant industry. For more information, visit [www.wirestaurant.org](http://www.wirestaurant.org).*

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