

E-Newsletter

Monday, December 12, 2016

Dear Chamber Member,

Is it possible that the playing field has moved slightly in the direction of *level* for brick and mortar stores? Last Friday multiple news outlets reported that the online giant Amazon will now be charging sales tax in the state of Iowa. At the state's base of 6% sales tax this can mean an extra \$60 on purchases that previously sold only for the cost of the good at \$1,000. State's have long considered how to implement interstate sales tax as millions of dollars are spent annually by residents with out-of-state vendors. Estimates have it that Iowa could see as much as \$24 million more in sales tax revenue with this new development. Read more here <http://www.kcci.com/article/online-retail-giant-amazon-to-charge-sales-tax-in-iowa/8484549>.

The weather may be chilly but the warm-hearted folk at YSS are excited to host our December **Business After 5** tomorrow night at their offices, 105 So. Marshall Street in Boone. Come help them finish out 2016 with a bang and celebrate thirty-five years of serving the area. ALSO - Bring a non-perishable food item to add to the food drive for IMPACT.

For those that need a reminder: Still thirteen (13) days until Christmas. Our **Gift Certificate** program is a great way to give a gift that offers hundreds of options for spending dollars with more than 200 local Chamber member businesses. Give us a call ahead and we'll prepare as many as you need at any value you choose. Certificates never expire and we'll send you out with a complete list of shops, stores and Chamber members where they can be redeemed (It's a great idea for your staff!)

Stay warm and have a great week!

Kurt R. Phillips

Kurt R. Phillips, Executive Director
Boone County Chamber of Commerce

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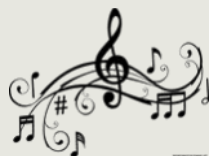


UPCOMING
EVENTS

Business After 5
December 13th
Youth & Shelter Services

Upcoming Events:

It's time to **SELL A SONG on KWBG**. Through December 25th, you can call or e-mail your holiday song requests to KWBG. With your pledge of \$5 or more to benefit the local Salvation Army, they'll play your requested Christmas song. For every dollar pledged Nerem & Associates Real Estate and Insurance will match it!



Mark your calendar: **Business After 5** – December 13th Youth and Shelter Services (105 S Marshall) 5:00 – 7:00 pm. 'Tis the season to give...please bring some non-perishable items to benefit IMPACT Community Action Food Pantry.

The Diva Inside has a new home! 702 Story Street is now filled with unique, fun and affordable fashion jewelry, accessories and clothing. The Diva inside will have temporary hours through December and January, click [HERE](#) for further information.



Tweet, Tweet! Would you be interested in spoiling the feathered friends of the Iowa Arboretum? They are looking for donations of suet and bird seed to give to the birds for the holidays and throughout the year. The feathered friends eat: Black Oil Sunflower Seeds, Wild Bird Food, In-Shell Peanuts, and no shell peanuts, and any variety of suet. Monetary donations for bird seed and suet are also accepted. You can drop off your donation Monday-Friday from 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. at the Iowa Arboretum.

Boone County Public Health is offering **flu shots for children under age 18** on December 14th from 3 to 5:45 p.m. in the Boone County Hospital Home Care/Public Health Office located at 105 South Marshall Street in Boone. To schedule an appointment, call (515) 432-1127.



After Hours with Exit Realty, December 12th 5-7pm at the Octagon Center of the Arts (427 Douglas Ave. Ames). Give back by helping to pack the smart cars with non-perishable items for ACCESS (Assault Care Center Extending Shelter & Support). For additional information call 515-450-5242

Enjoy **20% off in Gifts Galore** at Boone County Hospital starting December 1st. Hours are Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.



Alliant Energy has created options to fit your business and budget, like their money saving rebates. If you have completed any equipment upgrades, replacements or additions in 2016, you might be eligible for a rebate. But don't delay, as the **deadline to submit rebate claim forms is January 31, 2017**. See all the options for managing your energy use at alliantenergy.com/business.

Click [HERE](#) for the KWBG and Nerem & Associates **Christmas Light Scavenger Hunt!**

The Chamber office will be **CLOSED** Monday, December 26th, and Monday, January 2nd. We apologize for any inconvenience.