

MONDAY, JULY 31, 2017

Dear Chamber Member,

There was a passing of the baton this past Saturday. Over the weekend one of Boone's long-standing downtown retailers, Holly Larson, finished up her career with her final Crazy Day sale at the store that bears her name. After more than forty years in the trenches she has sold her store and is heading for retirement. Across the street, between 6:30 and 7am a line stretched south to 7th Street, down and around the corner from Modern Dress, with mothers and daughters waiting to bust the doors down and snatch the latest hot deals on dresses. Ashley Redeker, owner of Modern Dress, will be the new owner of Holly's. Holly Larson has proved for forty years, and Ashley now for the last five, that retail stores can still survive in rural America with the right mix of products and service. Good luck to both on their new adventures.

I had a chance to spend a day with engaged local businesspeople on a trip to Marion, Iowa last Friday for the *Downtown Exchange* program. It was a great trip with a lot of good notes and conversation to consider for our hometowns. I am off and running again this week with a trip to Sioux City for the Iowa Economic Development Authority's Downtown Conference. It's three days of all things retail, second story housing, parking, and the revitalization of successful downtowns. This is big stuff these days for cities of all size. Case in point - DSM just announced a \$250 mil. project nears Grays Crossing. Read more about the Chamber's downtown work in the August edition of the **Chamber Express**, coming out later this week.

Hard to believe, but a week from today the CVB will be setting up our booth at the 2017 Iowa State Fair. The Fair opens Thursday, August 10th. One of our "super"-volunteers Dale Burman took a fall this week and will miss his first fair in a long time. Wishing him a speedy recovery. We still need volunteers, so call 432-3342 to sign up and get **FREE** entrance to the fair.

And we're a little more than two weeks from our annual New Teachers Breakfast, presented by **Fareway Stores**, scheduled for August 16th. Contact Alyssa to sponsor a new teacher or administrator and enjoy an fantastic breakfast with us. Have a super week!

Kurt R. Phillips

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

BOONE COUNTY BRIEF SPONSORED BY:



CHAMBER EVENTS

Business After 5
Midwest Dental
August 22

New Teacher Breakfast
August 16th

COMMUNITY EVENTS



Mark your calendars for August 26th for **the Boone County Freedom Flight's Stars and Stripes Extravaganza** at the Iowa National Guard in Boone, Iowa. Windsor Pork Chop Dinner and Boone Big Band Dance plus Silent Auction and Live Auctions! Tickets \$12 in advance, \$15 at the door.

FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE, August 4th from 5pm-10pm. Musical Performances by Balefire, Dinner and Tours at the Boone History Center (fee), Car Show, and Beer Garden. **FREE** to attend and participate!



Ericson Public Library's Solar Eclipse Celebration at Herman Park Pavilion, August 15th from 6-8pm. Get ready for the solar eclipse on August 21st with eclipse glass giveaways, fun activities, and various community partners participating.

Boone Community Theatre's 2017/2018 season tickets are now available! Reserved seating for 2 shows and 2 Dinner Theatres for \$60. Visit www.boonecommunitytheatre.org for more information.



Geocaching 101 at Ericson Public Library, August 19th at 10am. Representatives of the Iowa Geocachers Organization will be introducing the fun, family-friendly hobby. Meets in the 2nd floor meeting room.



Congratulations to Josh Jacobsen with Forte Studios on becoming a Safety Management Specialist. The highly respected certification is awarded by the Board of Certified Safety Professionals to those individuals who meet eligibility and experience criteria in the safety, health and environmental discipline.

Have an upcoming event? Sale? New employee? Announcement? Adding your company's information in the Boone County Brief is FREE and easy! Just send your information to Alyssa at events@booneiowa.us.

FOLLOW THE CHAMBER!

