#### VOLUME 35, EDITION I • JANUARY 2019



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NEWSLETTER OF THE BOONE COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

#### MEET THE TEAM

#### 2019 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Bill Gebhart, President\* Perry Overton, Vice President\* Doug Lau, Treasurer\* Michelle Kelly, Past President Aric Reicks Mark Schneider Amy Landas Jeanna Warrick\* Lois Powers Angel Boring Travis Stevenson Holly Stecker\* Jim Heckman

\*Executive Committee Members

Ex-OFFICIO Dr. Brad Manard, Dr. Drew Nelson, Bill Skare

#### CHAMBER STAFF

Kurt R. Phillips Executive Director Email: director@booneiowa.us

#### Alyssa Knudsen

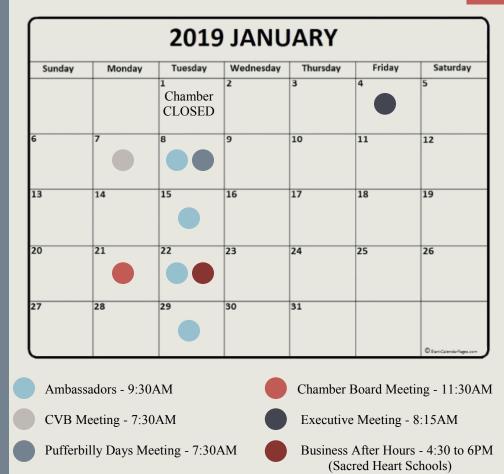
Mgr. of Programming and Events Email: events@booneiowa.us

Kris Blocker

Mgr. of Member Services and CVB Email: office@booneiowa.us

#### CONTACT US

The Chamber Express newsletter is published by the Boone County Chamber of Commerce 903 Story Street Boone, Iowa 50036 Phone: 515.432.3342 event sebboonciowa us www.boonciowa.us



Click <u>HERE</u> to view January's community events.

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#### Jen Burkamper– RE/MAX Real Estate

**NEW MEMBER ALERT** 

Jen Burkamper 610 Prairie Ave Boone, IA 50036 515-708-1045 www.unlockingthedoor.com

### our mission:

"The Boone County Chamber of Commerce' mission is to *enhance the economic vitality and quality of* life in Boone County"

#### FROM THE DESK OF THE DIRECTOR

It's hard to believe it has been nineteen years since the great turn of the new millennium. I remember the fear and trepidation going into the year 2000 as predictions ranged from the "end of the world" to the "end of the desktop computer" due to code that couldn't conceive of a year past 1999. Alas, neither the world nor my computer crashed. But wow, 2000 certainly ushered in a **change of pace of change** that has rarely been seen in the history of the world. Most of these changes were tech-based. Here are just a few from the first decade of this century, as listed by <u>Paste Magazine</u>:

Bluetooth – the ability for one device to wirelessly connect with another. Practical business application: hands-free driving; taking your office on the road.

• Xlerator hand dryers – you know, the ones that blow air at hurricane force. Practical business application: supposed to save businesses on paper costs (although paper seems to be making a comeback)

• The USB Flash Drive - A Universal Serial Bus can store incredible volumes of data on an itty-bitty device. Practical business application: big time piece of necessary office equipment for data back-up and manual file transfers.

• The Blackberry cell phone - the first cell phone to really go beyond phone calls. Practical business application: launched the most important business tool in use today (and pre-cursor to): the smart phone.

• Closely followed by the iPhone - the transformational does-it-all gadget. Practical business application: the digital "gorilla in the room" when it comes to tech trends and advancements in mobile pay systems.

• Amazon Kindle (or, really, anything Amazon) – the pre-eminent change-agent company that invented a way to read your books, news or social media pages without having to pick up a "hard copy". Practical business application: the most disruptive force in print media since words were printed on the first piece of paper. Amazon has subsequently disrupted all commerce since.

• Garmin Portable GPS systems - See ya' maps! Now we can find our way via a screen in our car. Practical business application: GPS systems have become a mandatory equipment for any delivery-based or outside sales organization.

And that was just *some* of the game-changing inventions of the first decade of the 2000's. The point of all of this? It is imperative that we keep up with, invest in and integrate the tools that are changing our industry. While I am a firm believer that personal service will always reign supreme, the definition of "personal service" is not a static concept, and as technology continues to redefine the world of business you have to ask yourself a question: How am I preparing for the future of my company and the changes that haven't even been conceived of yet?

— Kurt Phillips, Executive Director Boone County Chamber of Commerce



our vision:

"To be the leading resource for industrial, retail, tourism, and community betterment initiatives throughout Boone County"

#### PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

I came to Boone County in 2014 to become the Business Development Manager at Genesis Development. My first meeting was with Kurt Phillips and the Chamber. In that first meeting, I realized the importance that connection and service had for this non-profit that I am representing in this community. And since that initial meeting, the Chamber has come so far and moved past my expectations!

It is my pleasure to serve the Boone County Chamber of Commerce as Board Member and President in 2019. I am grateful for the hardworking Chamber staff, who tirelessly ensure events are welcoming, fun and interconnected in Boone County and that member benefits continue to rise. I am also thankful for the Board made up of business and community leaders that are working to keep Boone County a jewel of Iowa.

Providing a connection in a business environment brings people and organizations together to support one another and advance our interests. Taking initiative and making things happen creates a proactive and creative environment. Stewardship plays a vital role in the quality of life and business community, keeping members informed through our relations with the Boone, Madrid and Ogden City Council Members and the ever developing business climate.

I encourage each chamber member to actively promote the Boone County business and tourism climate by being patrons of our local membership directory. The next time you need a business service, go ahead, and use your brand new Member Guide. You can also call or email our Chamber staff, you will be pleasantly surprised by the quality of service and inter-connectivity we all share. Working together promotes a stronger voice within our communities, with our elected officials and in the business and tourism communities as a whole. And if you know of a local business that is not a member of the Chamber or the CVB, please reach out to them and let them know why you are a part.

Connect with your peers today and become a proactive member of the Boone County Chamber of Commerce. We all look to improve our business environment; we can create a stronger community in the process.

—Bill Gebhart Genesis Development/Bill Gebhart Projects

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The Flat Tire Lounge was started by 10 local friends and is now co-owned by 3. The building was originally an old feed store and was built in the early 1900's. Most recently it was a storage building for Perkins Electric. Flat Tire Lounge celebrated it's 10-year anniversary in June 2016.

The inside features the bar counter top made with concrete and broken wine bottles polished down for a smooth finish. Our main attraction is our 800 square foot deck that is less than 12 feet from the High Trestle Trail. The High Trestle Bridge is only 2.5 miles west of Flat Tire Lounge.

Flat Tire Lounge is a great place to stop while riding by on your bicycle or motorcycle. We have a large variety of craft beer including a variety made right here in lowa. We also have an extensive menu of Mules we offer as well as a full bar. All family members including the four-legged ones are welcome.



Would your business like to be the next Member Spotlight? Contact Alyssa at events@booneiowa.us to learn more!



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#### **DECEMBER HIGHLIGHTS**



Santa's Workshop



Business After Hours - APC





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724 Story Street Boone, IA 515-432-7611

#### ANNUAL AWARD NOMINATIONS

The Boone County Chamber of Commerce invites you to nominate a deserving business or individual in our annual nomination and awards voting.

Nominations will be tallied, and the awards presented at the Boone County Chamber of Commerce Annual Meeting on March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019. Submit nominations to Alyssa at events@booneiowa.us or call 432-3342.

#### **Business/Industry Award**

A Member organization that you believe made the most significant strides in expansion, improvement or reinvention of their business or industry, to receive the Chamber's Business/ Industry Award.

#### Entrepreneur of the Year Award

A Member (business or person) who you believe best exemplified the spirit of entrepreneurship in 2016, to receive the Chamber's Entrepreneur of the Year Award.

Fenner H. Stevenson Volunteer of the Year Award A Member who you believe best exemplified the chamber's goals and missions, through their active volunteerism and engagement in chamber events and programs.

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#### **BUSINESS AFTER HOURS**





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MARCH 7, 2019 6AM to 9AM

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# Chamber Annual Meeting MARCH 5, 2019 11:30AM to 1PM

#### BOONE & OGDEN AMBASSADORS



Condon Services · November 27, 2018



Boone Veterinary Hospital - December 4, 2018



Nerem & Associates · December 11, 2018



Boone Bank & Trust · December 18, 2018



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#### NON-PROFIT OF THE MONTH



The YMCA of Greater Des Moines is a powerful association of men, women and children of all ages and from all walks of life joined together by a shared passion: to strengthen the foundations of community.

With a commitment to nurturing the potential of kids, promoting healthy living and fostering a sense of social responsibility, the Y ensures that every individual has access to the essentials needed to learn, grow and thrive. The Y has the long-standing relationships and physical presence not just to promise, but to deliver, lasting personal and social change.

Though the world may be unpredictable, one thing remains certain – the Y is, and always will be, dedicated to building healthy, confident, secure and connected children, families and communities.

Boone County YMCA | 608 Carroll St. Boone, IA | 515-432-5925



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#### **CVB HAPPENINGS**

#### 2019 and Beyond

We can be thankful for the many tourism opportunities we have in Boone County. Our natural resources, parks, and attractions are second to none and are utilized by local citizens, and others from across our state and nationwide. People camp in our parks, hike and bike on our trails, and float on our river. They roll down our train track, fly on our ski lift and speed around our racetrack. These experiences are unique, diverse and exciting.

As we enter 2019, the Convention & Visitors Bureau Committee will continue to evaluate the impact tourism on our county? The committee will focus on the following question in 2019: How can we draw more visitors to our area and bring greater value to our members and local communities? This year the committee will invest time and resources in to answering this guestion and work towards improving tourism in Boone County.

Happy New Year.

— Mark Schneider, Iowa Arboretum Chair, Convention & Visitors Bureau

#### CHAMBER BENEFIT

Fifty-two times a year, the Boone County Brief bulletin arrives in the inboxes of more than 460 chamber members and staff every Monday morning, enabling members to be in the know about the latest events and happenings within the chamber and the community. As a chamber member, you are welcome to use the brief as a FREE tool to reach fellow members with information about your business.

> -Kris Blocker Mgr. of Member Services and CVB



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