

From: Ashland Chamber of Commerce <info@visitashland.net>
Sent: Friday, April 24, 2020 5:06 PM
To: officemgr@visitashland.com
Subject: Business Update for 4-24-2020



COVID-19 Update 4-24-20

The next few weeks are going to be very telling in terms the different entities on the Federal, State, and Local levels to determine the “Best Practices” for opening our businesses and public areas again. Missy Hughes from the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation says everyone agrees on 3 items;

- Public Health
- Phased in Approach
- Metrics

We are hoping to have professionals from different industries involved in the process as it may not be a one size fits all. It will be a learning curve because we have never had to deal with this type of situation.

The new CARES act is now coming from Washington to Madison so they are dissecting the programs and creating programs. I’m hopeful those huge businesses that were given the PPP grants will forfeit them back and open up more opportunity for our extremely vulnerable businesses.

The Health Departments from Ashland & Bayfield Counties sent a communique

urging people not to have garage sales. They ask that we wait until further notice. Our House to House Garage Sale event was postponed right away and who know when it will be. Hopefully in June!!

Good News!! The NFL Draft!! Football makes everything better!! Will the Packers snag KJ Hamler a Wide Receiver from Penn State? He's a speedy little guy at 5'9", just needs to hold on to the ball!!

It's very nice out and a great time to get outdoors. JoAnn put a fun game up on our [Facebook Page](#) that you can do with your family. Travel down to southern Ashland County and check out the murals and do your own mural scavenger hunt to try and answer the questions!

Here's to a Happy 100th Birthday to Jean Richardson!! She turns 100 on Sunday so if you know her, wish her a Happy 100th. She sure doesn't act her age!!



BUSINESSES RE-OPENING or DOING SOMETHING NEW:

- Little Friends of Jesus will re-open on Monday, May 11, 2020.

VIRTUAL EVENTS

- **04/24/2020**
Big Top Chautauqua's Tiny Tent Show: Episode 4 at 7pm. Watch on

[Youtube](#) or [Facebook](#)

Times like these call for connection, music, and the familiar faces of those we hold dear. What we need is a little inspiration from Wisconsin Author Michael Perry and our Blue Canvas Orchestra in their living rooms! Let's keep the "social" in social distancing! We are excited to gather to create music together in new ways and share some big love from the Big Top! For more information go to <https://www.bigtop.org/tinytentshow.html>

- **05/01/2020**

Big Top Chautauqua's Tiny Tent Show: Episode 5 at 7pm. Watch on [Youtube](#) or [Facebook](#)

Times like these call for connection, music, and the familiar faces of those we hold dear. Let's keep the "social" in social distancing! We are excited to gather to create music together in new ways and share some big love from the Big Top! For more information go to <https://www.bigtop.org/tinytentshow.html>

Small Businesses... Retail, Food & Beverage, Lodging.... etc. etc.

Look at these webinars coming up with NWWIB Mari Kay-Nabozny's Team!! The staff from the Northwest Workforce Investment Board otherwise known as NWWIB is working with us to hold a series of FUN ways you can learn and improve your social media presence as a retailer, restaurant or other customer-driven business. This is the time to hone in on those social media skills and if you aren't sure of how they work, this is a great time to learn. We are offering a series of 3 modules for our EPC group and other small businesses, we have 2 left.

Every Tuesday we will offer another valuable lesson on how to use social media to engage your socially distant customers!!

- April 28: Social Media Engagement for socially Distanced Customers - Instagram
10-11am [REGISTER HERE](#) for Week 2: Instagram
 - May 5: Social Media Engagement for Socially Distanced Customers - TikTok
10-11am [REGISTER HERE](#) for Week 3: TikTok
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BUSINESS UPDATE

For a list of what businesses are open and how they are doing business go to <https://www.visitashland.com/events/latest-news-and-updates/>

As a business please continue to email information regarding your business to info@visitashland.com as we will continue to update the website and Facebook pages.

SUPPORT YOUR SMALL BUSINESSES

Check out our **One Stop Gift Certificate Shop** on our E-commerce page at visitashland.com. Many people are home from work and receiving a paycheck, and very concerned about our small businesses that have been severely impacted. Providing a one-stop shop for folks to show support of our small businesses and purchase gift cards will hopefully help some of you in this crisis situation. These are certificates for the individual businesses. This is a work in progress so please be patient and keep checking back. If you don't see your business and would like to be listed on our Chamber Store site, please email info@visitashland.com. <https://shop.visitashland.net/15-chamber-store>

CHAMBER HOURS

In an effort to limit our people to people contact, the Ashland Area Chamber of Commerce will close the office. We want to assure you that one of our highest priorities is the health of our staff, customers and the well-being of our community regarding COVID -19. If you need anything, please call our office; we have remote access to the phone lines 715-682-2500. If you need chamber

dollars reimbursed, please email Mary at info@visitashland.com and we can take care of that as well.

Other Links

- [Travel Advisory for Ashland County](#)
 - [Travel Advisory for Bayfield County](#)
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