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CHAMBERvision

Lincoln Chamber of Commerce



JANUARY 2008

CHAMBERvision

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2008 CHAMBER ANNUAL LUNCHEON TO FEATURE ALISON LEVINE



Alison Levine

The Lincoln Chamber of Commerce Annual Luncheon will be held on Wednesday, February 6 at the Cornhusker Hotel and will feature Alison Levine, Leaders of the first American Women's Everest Expedition.

Alison Levine is no stranger to risk-taking. She has survived sub-zero temperatures, hurricane-force winds, sudden avalanches, and a career on Wall Street. Levine started climbing mountains just 18 months after her second surgery to repair a life-threatening heart condition. She has since climbed peaks on every continent, served as the team captain to climb Everest, and will become the first North American to complete the route to the South Pole. Levine's 20 year business career encompasses healthcare, technology and finance. After

CHAMBER EVENTS

JANUARY, 2008

[Click Here](#) to register for events

January 9

8:00 a.m.

Chamber Coffee

Chamber of Commerce,
 Lincoln Room

Sponsored by Aquila

January 10

5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Young Professionals Group:

Social

Heidelberg's (North
 Location)

January 11

7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.

Small Business Network

Chamber of Commerce,
 Lincoln Room

January 16

8:00 a.m.

Transportation & Public Works Forum

Chamber of Commerce,

earning her MBA from Duke University, she went to work for Goldman Sachs. In 2003 she left Wall Street, to serve as deputy finance director for Arnold Schwarzenegger in his bid to become Governor of California. She is the founder and president of DareDevil Strategies, a consulting firm, specializing in organizational effectiveness and team dynamics.

To sign up for this event go to www.LCOC.com. If you are interested in sponsoring this exciting event, call Jaime Henning at 436-2366 or e-mail at jaimehenning@LCOC.com.

CHAMBER WELCOMES NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEMBERS



Martin

Four people were inducted as Board Members December 5th at the Chamber's Annual Board Installation Dinner: Drew Stange, Cori Sampson Vokoun, Rich Claussen, and Jim Bishop.

Drew Stange is the principal operating officer and managing broker of NAI FMA Realty. With a Business Administration Degree from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, he manages the daily operations of the business. Before joining NAI FMA Realty in 1990, Drew worked for a regional public accounting firm.

Cori Sampson Vokoun has been an integral part of her family business for many years and heads the operation of Sampson Construction. Cori received her Bachelor of Arts Degree from Princeton University. Cori is a LEED Accredited Professional and is part of the US Green Building Council.

Rich Claussen joined Bailey Lauerman in 1986 as an account executive. The American Association of Advertising Agencies has recognized the company as one of the top six creative agencies in the United States for its size. Since its inception, the firm has enjoyed an impressive rate of growth, now totaling over \$60 in annual billings and employing 70 people to serve local, regional and national clients from offices in Lincoln and Omaha.

Jim Bishop presently serves as the Senior Vice President & Business Banking Manager for Wells Fargo Bank. Jim oversees business banking officers and staff in growing Wells Fargo's existing business client base and developing new business for Wells Fargo Bank. Jim worked for the National Bank of Commerce and made the transition to Wells Fargo Bank in 2000. Jim has been with Wells Fargo Since 1988 previously serving as Vice

Lincoln Room

January 16

12:00 Noon - 1:00 p.m.

Ambassador Council
Chamber of Commerce,
Lincoln Room

January 17

7:30a.m. - 8:30 a.m.

Young Professionals Group:
WHAT Breakfast
Valentino's (70th & Van
Dorn)

January 23

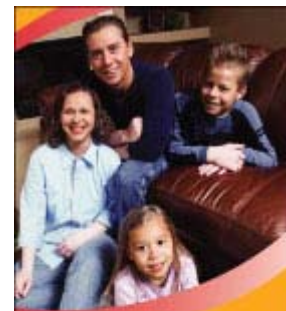
8:00 a.m.

Public Policy Forum
Chamber of Commerce,
Lincoln Room
Sponsored by Grubb &
Ellis / Pacific Reality

January 24

4:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Business After Hours
Sponsored by Lexus of
Lincoln
6500 Telluride Drive



ChamberBlue

Small Group
Health Plans



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of Nebraska**

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President and Business Banking Manager.

JoAnn Martin, President & Chief Executive Officer of Ameritas Life Insurance Corp is the 2008 Chair of the Lincoln Chamber Board of Directors. JoAnn has been with Ameritas for over 23 years and previously served as Senior Vice President and CFO.

We would like to thank past chair Mark Hesser of Pinnacle Bank for his leadership in 2007. We would also like to recognize outgoing board members Dick Campbell of Campbell's Nursery and Garden Center, Carl Sjulín of West Gate Bank, and Mark Matthes of Duncan Aviation for their service. We appreciate all your hard work!



URBAN DEVELOPMENT TO PLAY A KEY ROLE IN LINCOLN'S FUTURE

Parking, community revitalization, and development standards will all be on the Urban Development Department's "to-do" list in 2008. That information comes from Department Director Dave Landis. Director Landis unveiled his plans for the department to Lincoln Chamber members during December's combined Transportation & Public Works Forum and Public Policy Forum.

"The Urban Development Department has a unique vision," said Landis. "No longer are the days when our department is thought of only as a protector of neighborhoods. We are looking to improve all aspects of our city."

Nearly one-hundred Lincoln business leaders attended the December forum.

Director Landis said his department is working on several different programs aimed at increasing home ownership in Lincoln's neighborhoods. According to Landis, more home ownership leads to a neighborhood in which the residents have more invested in seeing that neighborhood succeed.

Parking will also come under Urban Development's wing in 2008. Right now, Director Landis says the department is operating in the black. His goal for the year is to maintain that fiscal responsibility while increasing the City's parking services.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

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Fax: (402) 489-9670
www.customblindsdesign.com
INSURANCE

CISCO

Mr. Galin Karpisek

State senator Tony Fulton will be the featured speaker at January's Transportation & Public Works forum. Senator Fulton will address his new plan to help bridge the State's road funding gap.

We hope to see you in January.



MAKE YOUR CHAMBER MEMBERSHIP WORK FOR YOU

The ultimate goals for any business are to increase revenue while controlling costs. There are several different ways businesses can do this, and the Lincoln Chamber is here to help.

Being a member of the Chamber means you are a part of a vast coalition that is working toward the same goal: sustaining and building Lincoln's economy. As a Chamber member, you have the inside track on who is doing business where.

Did you know that our organization receives more than 2 million requests each month on where to purchase goods and services in Lincoln? We refer only Lincoln Chamber members to callers, visitors and the general public. Our retail members benefit from the over \$100,000 of Chamber Shop Lincoln Checks purchases annually, and these checks are redeemable only at member businesses.

Along with encouraging others to do business with fellow Chamber members, the networking opportunities provided by the Chamber can ultimately pay for your membership. This year's Business to Business TradeShow was attended by some 2,000 people. One-hundred fifty Chamber members had their businesses on display, and many have expanded their client base as a result of the tradeshow.

"This was our third year exhibiting at the Business to Business Tradeshow, and we are really happy with the exposure we have gotten," said Sheila Hartl, Office

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www.bankoflincoln.com
BANKS

Community Bank of Lincoln was recently organized by combining an experienced banking team with a local Board of Directors to bring a new level of relationship-based banking services to Lincoln. This professional banking team, partnering with 244 local investors, adds an entrepreneurial spirit to our commitment to provide creative financial solutions to businesses and individuals throughout the community.

DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES OF NEBRASKA, INC.

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www.dsninc.org
HUMAN SERVICES
Developmental Services of Nebraska is a non-profit human services organization that provides services to individuals with developmental disabilities.

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Manager for Vacek Family Dentistry, "we have already received three new clients as a direct result of the tradeshow."

Whether it's referring a potential new customer to a member business or offering valuable networking opportunities, the Lincoln Chamber is here to work for you!



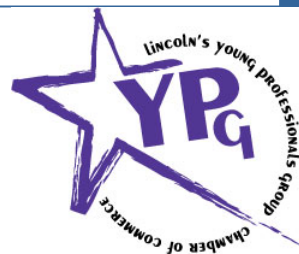
THE RESULTS ARE IN: LINCOLN CHAMBER MEMBERSHIP SURVEY

The Lincoln Chamber wanted to know what was on its members' minds. A six question survey was e-mailed to the Chamber membership at the end of November. The survey asked respondents to rank how they thought the Chamber was performing in certain areas: Retaining and expanding jobs, advocating for a favorable business climate, creating opportunities to network, providing useful and relevant information, and supporting young professionals.

We received 254 responses, and the majority of you ranked the Chamber as doing a good or very good job on the above items. We want to thank all of you who responded. We are reviewing your responses and will use them to help guide us as we plan for the future.

LINCOLN'S YPG ADDS MORE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS

Lincoln's Young Professionals have selected additional representatives to join the Council in 2008. They are Patrick Adams, Conspicuous Media, Rebecca Albee, Thompson Realty Group, Stacy Brass, Union Bank and Trust Co., Molly Brummond, M.E. Group, Clover Frederick, Nonprofit Marketing Network and Chad Hood, United Way of Lincoln and Lancaster County.



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ASSOCIATIONS - BOARDS -
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Municipalities pooling together to provide electricity, natural gas, and energy related services.

These individuals will join existing Council members Carrie Campbell Grimes, Village Gardens, Eric Aslakson, Northwestern Mutual, Derrick Eells, TenDot Corporate Travel, Kevin Hagemoser, UNL, Jessica Kennedy, National Research Corp., Liz Shotkoski, The Gallup Organization, Matthew Wegener, ISoft Data / Turbine Flatts and Sue Wilkinson, Ameritas Life Insurance Corp., as they determine programming and lead the Young Professionals Group in 2008. The group will be chaired by Carrie Campbell Grimes and Russ Ripa will serve as vice-chair for 2008.

If you are interested in joining or have associates who would benefit by expanding their network of contacts and engaging in the issues important for Lincoln, please check out the website www.lincolnypg.com or contact Stephanie Dostal, sdostal@lcoc.com.

ELLINGSON NAMED MARKETING COORDINATOR FOR THE PARTNERSHIP



Ellingson

Kate Ellingson has been named as the new Marketing Coordinator for the Lincoln Partnership for Economic Development.

Her duties will include coordinating marketing efforts of the Partnership as well as the Lincoln Area Development Partnership and Lincoln Specialty Care.

The Lincoln Area Development Partnership is a group of Lincoln area communities and counties that jointly market the region for new business opportunities. Lincoln Specialty Care markets Lincoln medical services to regional communities.

"It is a natural fit both in terms of combining those positions and appointing Kate to fill those duties," said President Wendy Birdsall. "We're excited to have her on board and look forward to expanding those programs for the benefit of the community."

Since moving to Nebraska in January of 2004 Kate has been a news reporter with 10/11 News and an area manager with National Research Corporation. Most recently Kate was the Co-Anchor for the morning show on channel 10/11.

Prior to moving to Lincoln, Kate worked in marketing in Seattle and Los Angeles for various companies including Deloitte and Touche.

"I'm excited to work at the Chamber and look forward to being a part of such a thriving organization," Ellingson

SERVICELINC EMPLOYMENT SERVICES/REGION V

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SNAP FITNESS

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NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS
The Arc of Nebraska is an advocacy and support organization with and for people with developmental disabilities

said.

Kate graduated from Western Washington University with a degree in Business Administration, with a concentration in Marketing. She was the President of the Student Marketing Association, and in her senior year of college received the Marketing Student of the Year Award for the state of Washington. During college, Kate also studied international business in Barcelona, Spain.

YOUNG PROFESSIONALS GIFT DRIVE



The Lincoln Young Professionals Group recently held a gift-card drive for Culler Middle School in Lincoln. Working through Lincoln Public Schools, the philanthropy committee selected

Culler Middle school based on need and the idea that middle school students may not be a popular choice for traditional holiday gift drives that are focused on elementary age students and younger.

Young Professionals across Lincoln contributed 63 gift cards totaling nearly \$950. Gift cards were purchased from local clothing stores for students. Cards were distributed based on need and incentive, such as extra credit work.

Photo: Ron Glenn, Culler Community Learning Center Director; Aaron Zabawa, Associate Principal at Culler and Sue Wilkinson, Ameritas and Lincoln Young Professionals Philanthropy Committee Chair.

RODEOS ARE COMING TO TOWN



The Extreme Bull Riding tour will make its first-ever stop in Lincoln. The action starts January 4th at 7:00 p.m. at the Lancaster Event Center. If you can't make it on the 4th, you have another chance to catch the tour on January 5th at 7:00 p.m.

All the riders of both the National Professional Bull Riders and the Bull Riders of America have been working hard on some new tricks so you can expect some amazing riding.

There will also be entertainment following

and their families.

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the bull riding. On the 4th, DJ "Shorty" will be leading the fun. Then on the 5th, Mark Keaton and Aces High Band will be performing. The doors to the dance open at 8:30 p.m. nightly. The cost of the dance is included in the ticket price. Advanced tickets are \$15.00; tickets at the door are \$18.00 and children 5 and under are free. Call the Lancaster Event Center, 441-6545, for more information.

On January 25-26 at 7:30 p.m., Pershing will host the Dodge PRCA Championship rodeo. There will be seven championship events: Bareback Riding, saddle bronc riding, tie down roping, steer wrestling, team roping, girls barrel racing, and bull riding. Tickets are on sale now at the Pershing Center box office, all Ticketmaster retail locations, www.ticketmaster.com or charge by phone, 475-1212. Advanced tickets are \$18 & \$25, and kids are half price. Tickets the day of are \$20 & \$28, and kids are half price.

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