

2019 Verona Area Chamber of Commerce Board Election

Candidate Biographies

Charlie Eggen
General Manager
Verona Hotel Group



I have the pleasure of leading an amazing group of over 100 team members serving the Verona community and visitors to the area since 2008. Our award-winning hotel properties, Holiday Inn Express and Fairfield Inn, provide tens of thousands of exceptional overnight lodging experiences to visitors annually in Verona, Wisconsin. The hotel business and growing tourism is my passion. I love it!

I have enjoyed 25 years of hospitality management experience with full and limited service hotel brands. I am a Certified Hospitality Administrator with a track record of delivering exceptional service and profitability. My teams strive to create an enjoyable work environment, positive visitor experiences, strong customer loyalty, and a consistent reputation of excellence to achieve profitable returns. Simply, I work to lead and support great hotels that guests love. As a result, our Verona hotels have been consistently recognized as "Best of the Best" within their brands. I have been honored as General Manager of the Year for both IHG and Marriott brands.

Being involved in our community and my industry is important to me. In addition to serving as a Board Member for the Verona Area Chamber of Commerce; I also serve as a Commissioner on the City of Verona Tourism Commission, President of the Greater Madison Hotel & Lodging Association, Vice-Chair on the Board of the Wisconsin Hotel & Lodging Association, and as a Board Member of Destination Madison (Greater Madison Convention & Visitor's Bureau).

I am a daddy of two young and energetic kids. I love living in the Madison area and serving the greater community. In my free time, I enjoy time with family, having fun with the kids, traveling up north to the lake, going on a cruise, or the catching latest movies on the big screen. I am a fan of Wisconsin Badgers, Brewers, and Packers.

Kassie Gorski
Owner
Big Apple Early Learning Academy



My name is Kassie Gorski and I am extremely interested in becoming a member of the Verona Chamber Board. Originally from a small town in Illinois, I now call Verona home with my husband Steven and daughter Tessa. Before welcoming my own little one into the world I have always had a passion for children. It has always been a dream of mine to be able to own and operate my own children center. I was able to make this dream come true last November in 2018 when I opened the doors to Big Apple Early Learning Academy here in Verona on Keenan Court. Being able to build a successful and highly recommended private center as an early 30s female is quite an accomplishment. But this is just the beginning of my commitment to contribute back to our beautiful community.

With years of extensive background of experience from being a classroom teacher with several age groups and working my way up into management roles I was able to gain my knowledge in order to make my dream come true. I've greatly enjoyed bringing affordable and quality childcare to Verona and its surrounding areas. I would love to be able to continue giving back to the community by being a representative of the Verona Chamber Board.

When I am not staying busy with the day to day operations at Big Apple, I enjoy spending time with family and friends, attending local events, being outdoors and active at the gym. I look forward to continuing to be a valuable member of the Verona Community and hopefully your consideration to be a member of the board. Any questions please feel free to reach out to bigapple.owner@gmail.com or 608-535-9398! Thanks.

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Tara Osterholz
Chiropractor, Owner
Verona Chiropractic

My name is Tara Osterholz and I am co-owner of Verona Chiropractic. I have lived in Verona for nine plus years and have been an active member of the community for the last seven years. I have and continue to enjoy serving the community through both chiropractic and being on the Chamber Board. I advocate for community wide collaboration by engaging businesses, schools and community members in order to drive local economic growth.



Growing up in Platteville, WI I appreciate the small town feel of Verona. As a business owner, I know the importance of a strong local economy. By serving as a Chamber Board Member I hope to continue to influence and support local businesses to make this community the best it can be. I would love the opportunity to continue making our Hometown Verona the best it can be.

Jason Stendalen
Owner
C4 Insurance

I (Jason Stendalen) have lived in the Madison and surrounding area for the last seventeen years. My wife and I currently reside in Verona, and also own a salon in town. I own and operate C4 insurance in addition to the Salon...and in addition to renting out salon spaces in Verona my wife operates her salon which she has run for over twenty-three years.

I have an interest in being more involved in the Verona community, and continuing as a VACC board member to better shape the future of our community. With my varied background I believe that I may bring some different perspectives, and insight to the group. I am very committed to knowing what is going on in the community and finding better ways that I can help and support local businesses.



I think being a board member of the VACC allows me to better understand what challenges and issues face Verona as a community. This knowledge allows me to better help both individuals and businesses in the area.

I sincerely hope that I can continue my role with the VACC and become a more involved member of the community.

Thank you again for your consideration and please let me know if you would like any further details.

Theresa Wilson
AVP Branch Manager
Park Bank

I have lived in Verona for 36 years with my husband Larry we own our own small plumbing business. We raised our two daughters here. While they were growing up, I was very involved with VASD serving on many committees such as Parent Round Table, President of PTO, PTA, PAC along with serving 2 terms on VAHS Site Council. I am currently serving as a member of BMIT Advisory Committee for the district.



I also had a part in bringing the Kiwanis Club to our community serving as Vice President, President elect, and I am now serving as President. I have served on the Chamber Board for six years as Treasurer and currently as Vice President.

I have worked at Park Bank for over 14 years my current role is AVP Branch Manager. Helping people in the community is something I am passionate about and am fortunate to have the opportunity to do that every day.