

Ideas Unlimited Club

Guest Presenter: Chris Boyle

Port Austin Kayak

Tuesday January 28, 2025

12:00 pm - 12:45 pm ACC Oscoda Room 213 or Virtual

Meeting number (access code): 2422 511 3381

Meeting password: vsR8pzgk77

or past the following link into your browser:

<https://alpenacc.webex.com/alpenacc/j.php?>

[MTID=m231ca02f9f021474e381590c079648fc](https://alpenacc.webex.com/alpenacc/j.php?MTID=m231ca02f9f021474e381590c079648fc)



Agenda:

A. Welcome Announcements

- Marv Pichla: New Start - Same Mission

B. Guest Prester: Chris Boyle

A former big city attorney turned rural entrepreneur. A passionate advocate of creating beautiful places and projects as a means of fostering community engagement while inspiring new entrepreneurs to "get in the game", Chris has launched or supported a number of successful businesses and projects including:

- Converting an old marina into a design oriented restaurant, beer garden, retail clothing store + kayak shop. PAK has served as a community connection to Lake Huron while igniting Turnip Rock as a tourist destination. (Note PAK has been consistently referenced as the business that launched a renaissance in Port Austin)
- Renovating an abandoned restaurant and lodge into a design oriented boutique hotel and restaurant. Dark Sky is the self proclaimed closest business to a Dark Sky Park and sits at the trailhead of a historic footbridge and walking trail.
- Bringing back to life an old industrial building that has sat vacant for 25 years and turning it into PAK's Garage -a community marketplace designed to support micro-enterprises and spark new businesses, bike hub and public art installation. PAK Garage continues to evolve towards an ambitious master plan that will include an outdoor music stage, food and beer hall.
- Helped launch the 53 North Art Barn project. Chris has played a pivotal role in creating what has been recognized nationally and internationally as a best of class example of what artists can do to reimagine barns. Currently four barns have been transformed under the 53 North umbrella with more planned.
<https://www.53northart.com>
- Creating permanent artist housing and a residency program designed to bring new artists to the community. Chris and his father Terry served as the early inspiration for PAIR (Port Austin Artist in Residence) that has introduced over 30 artists to the community over the past 20 years. Additionally PAIR has served as a convening place for a September songwriters week bringing a collection of musicians together to co-create songs that are shared with the public during a weekend concert.

C. Next Session: February 25, 2025

Call Marv Pichla with meeting questions. (989) 214-0181

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