

To Whom this may concern,

When Boo approached my business to build out her website, I was not only thrilled to get the work, but also excited for the future because of what she could bring to our region. I was thrilled because 50% of my business is photography fed by events. A venue around the corner meant less time traveling and more time with my family. Not only was I excited, many other vendors in the area shared my enthusiasm. During the past year, vendors in this area have been directly impacted by Covid. The promise of work through partnering with Stepping Stones as a venue here in our backwoods was the light at the end of the tunnel. It was brought to my attention recently that there is pushback on such a venue taking place. This made my throat drop into my stomach. I started to question why I had those feelings. Why would I care so much? I'm going to tell you why.

Let me rewind to when Boo came to me to build her website. When most clients sit down with me, they talk all about how their website can grow their business. Rightfully so, right? Boo on the other hand caught me completely off guard. "How can I have my website show all the great vendors in our area? I want to bring more business to the vendors in our area? Have you eaten at the Birchwood Inn? Their food is so good. We need to have them on our website so others use them. The new owner of Woodman's is so sweet and nice, we need to add her......" I had to repeatedly re-direct her attention to her own business! That being said, she has a whole section on her site for vendors and local attractions.

When you have a gathering in this area, you're giving 10+ companies some business. One event can bring more than 10 jobs. This rejection of something good in our area doesn't just affect one establishment, it affects many. I want you to think about that and the outcome it will have to those who have been trying to hang on during this difficult year. Trust me when I say this...Please don't make the light at the end of the tunnel go away!!!

Best regards, Lindsey