

Rural Summit 2020

Wednesday April 29

Noon-5pm: Community-specific Activities Around Facilities, Critical Issues & the Future

2-4pm Mount Vernon: Panel discussion "The Secret to Mount Vernon's Retail Success" followed by a 3:00 guided walking tour.

4:30 – 5:30pm Swisher/Cedar Ridge Winery & Distillery – "Building a Destination Retail Operation!"

5:30pm- 7pm: Cedar Ridge Reception Sponsored by The Bill Menner Group and Trusted Energy

Thursday April 30

7:30-9am Continental breakfast

7:30-9am Registration

9am Conference Welcome

- Kirkwood Community College President Lori Sundberg
- IRDC Chair Sandy Ehrig

9:15am Summit Reflections: Kelly Bay, Emmetsburg and Benji Nichols, Decorah

9:30am Conference Opening Keynote. Steve Siemens.
"Visualize or Fossilize! A New Decade to Make Good Happen."
Sponsored by ITC Midwest

10:30am Networking Break

11:00am Break-out Sessions #1, #2 and #3

Facilities and Projects: Small Towns and Big Projects: Stories from the Field"
Critical Issues: "Health and Health Care: Driving Healthier Small Towns"
Facing the Future: "Connecting Ag and Community"

12:15pm Lunch, exhibitor overview and an Empowering Rural Iowa policy implications roundtable

1:30pm Break-out Sessions #4, #5 and #6

Facilities and Projects: Community Vitality through the Arts
Critical Issues: New Strategies for Essential Public Services
Facing the Future: Investing in Yourself: The Role of the Private Sector

2:30pm Short Break with Light Snack/Transition to Break-out Rooms

- 2:45pm Break-out Sessions #7, #8 and #9
Facilities and Projects: Rural Communities Innovating with Technology
Critical Issues: Workforce Solutions and Innovations
Facing the Future: Communications 2025
- 5:00pm Rural Recognition Awards Reception
Sponsored by Iowa Farm Bureau/Renew Rural Iowa
- 6:30pm Dinner on your Own

Friday May 1

- 7:00am Buffet Breakfast; Community Networking Time
- 8:00am Welcome Back, Day 2
- 8:10am Roundtable: Community Colleges and their Rural Impact
Sponsored by the Iowa Association of Community College Trustees
- 9:10am 50 Ideas in 50 Minutes
- 10:00am Break
- 10:15am Roundtable: The Road to a Rural Vision
- 11:00am Closing Keynote David Williamson.
"Turn It Up! Leadership Lessons from 50 Years of Rock'n'Roll"
Sponsored by Lincoln Savings Bank
- 11:45am Adjourn