



Our Community's SUCCESS STORIES

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BOONE'S BUTCHER SHOP CUSTOMER SERVICE IS OUR SPECIALTY "NO BULL ABOUT IT!"

Boone's Butcher Shop has come a long way from the one-room operation it began as 61 years ago in 1946. When Luel Boone opened the business he did not know that it would soon become his legacy.

Luel's son Jerry Boone, who now runs the family business, said the business began after his father slaughtered a couple of animals and sent them to a local locker plant uptown. Without knowing it, he found a niche that was waiting to be filled.

After a while farmers asked him to process the meat, Jerry Boone said. Requests kept coming for the services Boone offered. And so the one room he began the business in became two. "He did this no less than 12 times," Boone said of his father's additions to the butcher shop.

The growing business was not lacking helping hands as Jerry Boone and his six sisters grew up working at the family store helping out with various tasks. After he graduated high school, Jerry began working as a butcher full time. In 1979 he took the operation over and has run Boone's Butcher Shop ever since.

In April of 2004 three quarters of the building was destroyed in a devastating fire. Luckily Jerry Boone and his wife Donna were able to rebuild the family business. Construction took more than a year to complete, finishing in



"Business is better than I ever dreamed it would be," Boone said.

The retail area, a newer portion of the building survived the fire, Boone said. Another part of the business that lived through the blaze is the butcher shop's mascot — the bull.

"Everybody wanted to make sure he came back," Boone said of the bull during the reconstruct of the building.

Luel Boone picked up the concrete animal in 1960 and it has been with the family ever since, with the exception of a brief hiatus when it was stolen from the building's rooftop.

August 2005.

Although at the time the fire seemed like one of the worst things that could have happened, putting the family business at a near stand still, it turned into one of the best things that could have happened, Boone said. With the re-build the Boones were able to build a bigger and more modern building as well as update aging systems.

Boone said the bull, which is used as a local landmark has been through a lot, noting that the bull has even been shot several times. The bull, as it is simply called, is currently all cleaned up and secured on a metal platform extending from the roof.

Today, Boone's remains a family-owned and operated-business. Matthew Boone, Jerry Boone's son, became the third generation to participate in the family business alongside his parents after he graduated from the University of Kentucky in December 2005.

As more farmers have begun to diversify their farming operations, many have chosen to direct market their own livestock, which must be federally inspected, Boone said. To accommodate such needs Boone's provides custom processing and a USDA inspector is on-site everyday. Frozen meat is blast frozen within 12 hours of its slaughter. Meat, including deer and wild game is cut and packaged on the premise.

The Boone's Butcher Shop retail store at the front of the operation at 100 Old Bloomfield Pike sells a variety of local and boxed meat products. A butcher's counter allows shoppers to buy non-frozen meat products. Customers can also buy larger quantities of frozen meat as well as a variety of other products. The storefront is open 8 a.m. – 8 p.m. Monday-Saturday.

Boone's will have fresh turkeys and country ham in stock for the holidays as well as country pork sausage made fresh daily.

Boone attributes the success of his business to the dedication of his family and employees to providing quality service as well as selling a quality product at a good price.

For more information or to book an appointment call 348-3668



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