



Season Kirkwood

SAYZOONS



What products or services do you offer?

We connect people physically to the natural world through recreation and experiences. We are renting recreation equipment to enjoy on the lake or rivers or along the Crow Wing Trail. We also offer day trip adventure planning, a Rec Wagon for community parks, and outdoor day camps for children. We are also working on some great tourism experiences.

Something that people don't know about you?

Because of learning differences, I made the conscious decision out of high school to work as many different jobs, which had great training opportunities and taught me experientially, and to move as often as possible to different places my ancestors lived so I could have great capacity for running my own business one day. And a great lived experience.

What is your opinion on the future of entrepreneurship?

I believe that entrepreneurs are going to get a lot more support. Entrepreneurs of the future, I hope, will have fewer hurdles to jump and more time to develop their services. Not everyone learns the same, and not everyone works within the parameters set by the people on top.

How did you get the idea for your business?

Survival. I realized that if I was to live a long and healthy life, I needed to spend more time doing what I loved. Sharing with others is how to enjoy it the most. I realized that there was a place for SAYZOONS in our marketplace. I am probably pushing 50-60 hours a week, but I don't feel like I am working ever!

How do you find new ideas?

All of my ideas are from visions or dreams I have of a better place to live and play. Usually, I am sitting fireside, where I delve deep into my heart and mind to solve problems in communities. As my capacity and experience grow, so do the visions. I stay true to myself and my growth.

What is the most important lesson you have learned in your entrepreneurial career?

I am a visionary and a storyteller, and I used to always be open about what I see improving lives of others and services for communities. There is a lot of power and influence in having passion and a well thought out plan. I just need to be patient and stay focused on SAYZOONS.

How do you make sure you reach your goals?

I have learned that all visions and concepts have their time and place. I never forget what my past dreams were. Many of the SAYZOONS offerings were ideas I had 20 years ago. I don't let fear and doubt get in the way anymore.

What other local businesses inspire you?

I am inspired by Mireille from The Silhouette Company. She has been a great sounding board for me over the years. I am also very inspired by The Village Connection Thrift and the work they do.

Why did you choose to start your business in St. Pierre Jolys?

I went to tour the Musée St. Pierre for my wedding venue. When I walked on the grounds, I said to myself, "I need to do great things here!"