

Awarded annually by the Clark-Floyd Counties Convention-Visitors Bureau, the John H. Minta Tourism Award honors the memory of Board of Managers Past President and long-time Clarksville Town Council President John H. Minta who had a passion for Southern Indiana, its cities, towns, historic sites and tourism opportunities. This year's award was presented to Bekki Jo Schneider at a special ceremony during a matinee performance at Derby Dinner Playhouse on Thursday, May 8.

The award is given annually based on the level of contribution to the tourism industry such as creating a significant economic impact in the communities, multiple years of contributions, the outcome of those contributions, and the long-term gain by the tourism industry.

The John H. Minta Tourism Award honors those who, like Minta, have displayed devotion and enthusiasm and who have created momentum in promoting tourism over multiple years with significant contributions to the tourism industry in Clark and Floyd Counties of Southern Indiana, the Sunny Side of Louisville

Bekki Jo is the Managing Director of Derby Dinner Playhouse which this year is marking its 40th consecutive year in operation. The dinner theater is one of only a handful of such venues in the United States to have such longevity, making it one of the longest-enduring dinner theatres in America.

She was selected for the honor because of her long-term and tenacious efforts in bringing tourists to the metropolitan area. Over the decades, Derby Dinner Playhouse has been responsible for bringing tens of thousands of tourists to the area for its productions.

Bekki Jo serves on the Board of Directors of the Arts & Cultural Attractions Council and the Board of Directors of Leadership Southern Indiana and has worked closely with the Clark-Floyd Counties Convention & Tourism Bureau to help promote tourism in Southern Indiana.