

# BOARD NOTES

By: John Cooper  
Board President

We pray this newsletter finds you, your families and friends well during this unusual time in history. COVID-19 has impacted us all in different ways, and we are focused on the unexpected benefits this slow-down on daily activities has produced. The love and compassion we have for one another as fellow human beings has been brought to the forefront along with a collective “we’re all in this together” attitude that is both empowering and comforting.

At Springboard Landings, we are keeping up the momentum! 2020 has brought the addition of two new members to our Board of Directors. Jeff Doremus joins us for a one-year term as a member of the Owen Board Fellows Program. Penny Brink has joined the Board for a three-year term and is currently serving as Secretary. We are excited to welcome these additions and the energy they bring to our mission.

The Big Payback (#BigPayback), our biggest fundraiser of the year, will take place on May 6-7 and we are gearing up for it to be another great online event. This year, the Big Payback will only accept online payments by credit card and is not accepting checks during the 24-hour event. This is being done to help limit physical transactions that may contribute to the spread of COVID-19. However, if you feel more comfortable writing a check, please make it out to Springboard Landings.

Our search for land continues as we look toward the closing date on the sale of our Murfreesboro property. We are closer every day to finding the perfect location for our flagship Landing and breaking ground in 2020 thanks to your support.



## MEET OUR NEW BOARD MEMBERS

### Secretary - Penny Brink



Penny manages sales operations and proposals in the healthcare industry. Through personal and work experience, Penny recognizes the need for advocates for underserved populations and is passionate about the success of Springboard Landings. Before entering the healthcare field, Penny taught high school English and Journalism. Penny was a founding member and officer of the Nashville Women’s Ice Hockey League, a nonprofit organization dedicated to growing the sport for females of all ages, and has served on conference committees and headed fundraising events benefiting young people in recovery from drug and alcohol abuse. A graduate of Father Ryan High School, Penny received her Bachelor of Arts degree in English with a minor in Sociology from Belmont University and holds a Master of Education for Secondary Education from Vanderbilt University.

### Director - Jeffrey M. Doremus



Jeff is a first-year MBA student at Vanderbilt University’s Owen Graduate School of Management, and is currently serving a one-year term on the Springboard Landings Board as a member of the Owen Board Fellows Program. Prior to moving to Nashville to pursue his MBA, Jeff advised institutional endowments and family offices on their investment portfolios with Cambridge Associates in Boston, Massachusetts. Jeff is passionate about non-profit service, having previously served on the Board of Young Professionals for The Steppingstone Foundation in his hometown of Boston, and is excited about supporting the Nashville community through his work with Springboard Landings. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics with a minor in History from Denison University.



Left to Right Kristina Krawchuk and Charlie Cooper



## SPRINGBOARD SPOTLIGHT

### THE BIG PAYBACK, Photo 1

What a great splash for Springboard Landings! Due to our big wins in 2019, we were asked to participate in this year's Big Payback kick-off training on Wednesday, February 26 at the Wilson County Expo Center. More than 500 people from over 900 Middle Tennessee non-profits attended the training. "Visual Storytelling for Your Organization" was our panel focus and included discussions on campaign strategy, inspiration and execution. It was a wildly successful day packed with meeting and hearing from inspiring leaders and organizations.

### JOIN US FOR THE BIG PAYBACK 2020 | MAY 6-7 | 6PM-6PM, Photo 2

The Big Payback is our biggest fundraiser of the year and this year we need your support more than ever. This 24-hour day of giving shines a spotlight on LOCAL giving and sparks a new sense of energy around generosity. In the wake of COVID-19, the entire 24 hours will be online only. Online gifts made during The Big Payback will be amplified by incentive cash prizes for participating nonprofits. Springboard Landings can win prizes based on the most donations in a selected time period, the most money raised, the specific time a gift was made, and more. Follow us on Facebook for updates throughout the 24-hours and check out the leaderboard in real time to watch our progress. It all starts May 6 at 6pm!

[www.thebigpayback.org/SpringboardLandings](http://www.thebigpayback.org/SpringboardLandings)

### OTHER WAYS TO GIVE:

#### KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS, Image 3

Sign up for Kroger Community Awards by creating a digital account and linking your card to Springboard Landings. Proceeds from your purchases benefit Springboard Landings at no additional cost to you. Visit [www.krogercommunityrewards.com](http://www.krogercommunityrewards.com). Type in Springboard Landings Inc. #LD723

#### AMAZON SMILE, Image 4

If you plan to shop for supplies on Amazon, please consider using AmazonSmile and selecting Springboard Landings as your Charity of Choice. Proceeds from your purchase benefits Springboard Landings at no additional cost to you. [www.smile.amazon.com](http://www.smile.amazon.com).

#### WE ARE LIVE, Photo 5

Check out our new look online! That's right, Springboard Landings has a new look with updated information, new photos and a video gallery. Same place - just a different face [www.springboardlandings.org](http://www.springboardlandings.org).

# COMMUNITY CORNER

## FEATURING BRIAN WILLIAMS

By: John Cooper

While developmental disabilities are frequently identified in childhood or as the result of an injury, sometimes people do not learn of their condition until later in life. Brian Williams was 38 years old when he learned he had Asperger's syndrome. "It was kind of interesting, because it answered a lot of questions about me, because I knew I was odd. It made me feel better about myself."

Born and raised in Clarksville, his father's last stop before retiring from the military, life finally started making more sense for Brian. School and socialization had always been a challenge. In 1996, while a student at MTSU, Brian experienced depression that started a downward spiral. Seeing an ad for National Depression Screening Days on TV, Brian went to see a psychiatrist, who he credits with saving his life. The depression was addressed, but as it turns out, it wasn't the only challenge Brian had been facing. In 2007, Brian lost his job with Comcast – a job he took great pride in and had won awards three years straight. He became depressed again, and his psychiatrist, who he'd continued seeing since college, referred him to get tested for autism. It turned out that he was, in fact, on the spectrum.



Today, Brian works full time in video production for Mount Zion Baptist Church. His favorite hobby has always been movies, and he attributes being a movie buff to "coming along with autism." He also loves to work out, having completed three half-marathons and one full 26.2 mile marathon.

"Autism is learning and growing at the same time. I appreciate it now, later in life. It took a lot of painful things, understanding I probably had it all my life. I went through a divorce and my father's death. This is the journey that I went through, to here I am now. I want to grow with God. I want to be a better man for God. I want to be better for everything."

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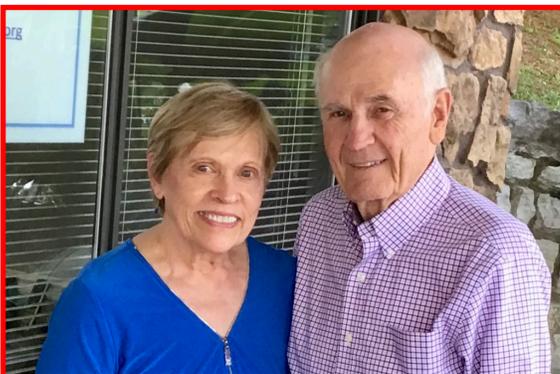
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## A WORD FROM OUR FOUNDERS

By: Pat and Charlie Cooper



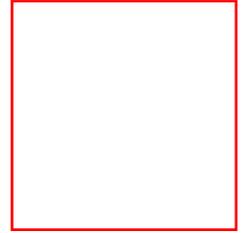
Our love and prayers go out to everyone most affected by COVID-19. This time of isolation gives us pause to prioritize the important things in life, and our role in helping make a better world for everyone, especially the vulnerable. We are more committed than ever to bringing the mission of Springboard Landings to fruition sooner rather than later. We are currently on track to purchase land and break ground this year. With your continued support we will achieve this goal together!

Thank you!

**Psalm 46:10: Be still and know that I am God.**



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Nashville, TN 37221



Title FirstName LastName

Address1

City, State ZipCode

**NO INCOME TAXES ON AN IRA CHARITABLE ROLLOVER!**

This law allows 70 1/2 year olds to make a QCD (Qualified Charitable Distribution) from your IRA up to \$100,000 to Springboard Landings (a qualified public charity). If you are interested in this opportunity contact your financial advisor or us at 615-719-9060. See how at [www.kitces.com/blog/qualified-charitable-distribution](http://www.kitces.com/blog/qualified-charitable-distribution)

**Providing adults who need a limited amount of support an option for independent living in a secure, community-centered environment.**

Springboard Landings is a member of the Center for Nonprofit Management and The Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee.

[SpringboardLandings.org](http://SpringboardLandings.org)

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Springboard Landings is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Donations are tax deductible.

