

The mission of the Chamber of Commerce is to promote progressive community and economic development to benefit Chamber members and the North Iowa region.



**Happy New Year! Wishing  
all Chamber members a  
healthy and prosperous  
2021!**

## IN THIS ISSUE

- 2 From the President
- 3 *Picture Day* - January 7  
*Chamber Bowl* - Feb 2-4  
Fareway Donates Gift Cards
- 4 *Breaking Glass* - February 25  
Frein Promoted to Vice President
- 5 2021 State Legislative Session  
*Breaking Glass* Recap
- 10 2020-21 *YIELD* Graduates  
*YIELD* Sponsors
- 11 Thank You Directory Advertisers  
Save the Date! Ag Breakfast  
Wellness
- 12 Upcoming Events

## River City Renaissance Project Update

Despite the unique challenges of the pandemic, the city's River City Renaissance project is moving closer to completion.

### MASON CITY MULTI-PURPOSE ARENA

The Mason City Multi-Purpose Arena is bustling with ice sports activities. The new bronze sculptures that adorn the main entrance were dedicated in September. The City installed solar panels on the roof this fall which will result in substantial energy cost savings.

### PRINCIPAL PAVILION

Work on the Principal® Pavilion is underway with completion expected late this year. The unique design will accommodate a variety of entertainment options and the companion indoor stage will provide a rain site.

### THE MUSIC MAN SQUARE

Improvements to The Music Man Square are underway, and the skywalk that will connect the Square to the Hyatt Place Hotel has received all necessary approvals.

### HYATT PLACE HOTEL

The hotel conference center will be an economic driver for the entire region. Hyatt Place Hotel developers are working through the terms of a financing agreement with a local bank, and construction is slated to begin this Spring. Hotel representatives and local officials provided an update to the Iowa Economic Development Authority board last month. IEDA board members responded with positive feedback on the project.



## New Members

### DISCOUNT TIRE

Jennifer Callander, Office Manager  
3331 4th Street SW  
Mason City, IA 50401  
(641) 243-6030  
ian\_03mgr@discounttire.com  
www.tires.com

Discount Tire in Mason City provides friendly and fast service. Whether you need new tires or a simple tire and wheel rotation, Discount Tire has you covered.



## Be Our Guest

**T**une in Friday mornings to the Chamber "Be Our Guest" program at 8:40AM on KRIB 1490 AM, courtesy of Alpha Media.

Jan 1 | Elite Impact Barbell  
Marcus Dow

Jan 8 | Advance Alarm Services  
Casey Waechter

Jan 15 | Synergy Physical  
Therapy & Sports  
Medicine  
Kurt Walderbach

Jan 22 | C.A.V.U.  
Davin McLeod

Jan 29 | Discount Tire  
Jennifer Callander

## From the President

### 2021 is the Year!

**N**ot long after I started my job at the Chamber in May 2001, the late Al Zook paid me a visit. "We've got a group working on building a new band shell," he said. "And we could sure use you on the committee." Of course, I agreed...because who could refuse Al Zook, and how hard could it be?

I figured we'd come up with a design the musicians would love, raise some money, and build a new band shell that could be used by the municipal band, **North Iowa Band Festival** performances, and for other community gatherings and festivals. Easy.

I quickly learned (and I've learned this lesson over and over during my tenure) that we don't do anything in Mason City without a lot of strife. It turns out, we ran into road block after road block. In fact, several of our committee members (who initially formed in 1999) have passed away: Al Zook, Gil Lettow, Rich Dean, and Vance Baird.

The rest of us (Scott Bell, Bob Fisher, Dr. Darrell Fisher, Dennis Higgins, Russ Kramer, and John Klemas) are pretty sure our departed colleagues were smiling down on us last month when we broke ground on the new Principal® Pavilion.

The new venue will be incorporated into the Federal Plaza entrance to Southbridge Center. It will assist in repurposing Southbridge to sustain it as a community gathering place and will also provide a quality performance venue and storage area for the Mason City Municipal Band.

The unique design, with indoor/outdoor back-to-back performance stages, features a Prairie School look more in keeping with the architecture already present on the Plaza, including the Historic Park Inn Hotel designed by Frank Lloyd Wright. Accord Architecture of Mason City worked with the City of Mason City and the all-volunteer Performing Arts Pavilion Committee on the plans.

The flexible space design will accommodate a variety of entertainment—from the large municipal band to individual musical acts. The interior companion venue will provide a rain site for performance activities such as the **North Iowa Band Festival** and Friday Night Live events. In addition, the annual Tuba Christmas celebration will be able to host even more performers and spectators.

The project will be paid for by Iowa Reinvestment Act funding, private contributions, corporate contributions, and grant funding. A generous contribution from The Principal

Foundation secured naming rights for the pavilion. The city council awarded the bid to Henkel Construction Company and work should be completed later this year.

It's been a long time coming, but good things are worth the wait! I'm eagerly looking forward to the ribbon-cutting. Cheers!



Robin Anderson  
President & CEO



## Picture Day - January 7

Start the year off right with **Picture Day**, set for 10AM-2:30PM on Thursday, January 7 on the third floor of the Commerce Center. Anthony Djuren Photography will take professional headshots to use for business cards, company newsletters, online profiles, and more...at a fraction of the regular price!

For only \$40, participants will receive a professional digital copy of their photo. Each participant will take three photos and select one of the three for retouching.

To register, visit [masoncityia.com](http://masoncityia.com) and select the 15-minute time slot of your choice (we will make sure there is ample time between participants to stay physically distanced). A confirmation email will be sent the week of the event with additional details.

*Anthony Djuren*  
F O T O G R A P H Y

## Chamber Bowl - February 2-4

The 28th annual **Chamber Bowl** will take place February 2, 3, and 4 at Mystic Lanes. A boxed dinner is included, and many prizes are awarded each night. Register a team soon, as this event fills up quickly!

**Time:** Registration from 3:30-3:50PM | Bowling begins at 4PM | Meal at 5:30PM

**Date:** Tuesday, February 2; Wednesday, February 3; or Thursday, February 4

**Location:** Mystic Lanes | 2571 4th St SE, Mason City

**Fee:** \$200 per team of six (includes meal, three games, and shoe rental)

All necessary precautions will be implemented to hold a safe and responsible event. To register, complete the form inserted in this newsletter, the online form at [masoncityia.com](http://masoncityia.com), or contact Kativa at the Chamber.

Thank you, **Chamber Bowl** Sponsors!



## Fareway Donates Gift Cards to Members

Fareway Stores, Inc. recently announced a second donation in the amount of \$200,000 to the Iowa Association of Chambers of Commerce (IACC) for gift cards to be distributed in the communities Fareway serves.

The Chamber received \$4,000 in gift cards, which staff members distributed to small businesses and their employees in North Iowa just in time for the holidays.

This is the third round of giving this year. Eighty Fareway gift cards were distributed to Chamber members in the spring through this campaign.

## Membership Renewals

**Congratulations to the Chamber members celebrating membership anniversaries in January!**

### **One Hundred Plus Years**

Atlantic Coca-Cola Bottling Company (113)  
Wells Fargo Bank (109)  
Locher Law Firm (101)  
1ST Insurance (100)

### **Eighty Plus Years**

Laird Law Firm (83)  
Arnold Motor Supply (82)  
US Bank (80)

### **Seventy Plus Years**

Allied Purchasing (79)  
RSM US LLP (78)  
Henkel Construction Co. (77)  
Hosmer Honda (76)  
Masters Chiropractic (76)  
Petroblend Corp. (75)  
WHKS Engineers, Planners & Surveyors (73)  
Culver-Hahn Electric Supply (70)

### **Sixty Plus Years**

KIMT-TV, MY3.2 TV (67)  
Pepsi Beverages Company (66)  
Plumb Supply Co. (66)  
Cerro Gordo County Farm Bureau (64)  
The Nettleton Dental Group, PC (63)  
Major Erickson Funeral Home & Crematory (62)  
McDonald's Restaurant (61)  
Pappajohn, Shriver, Eide & Nielsen P.C. (61)

### **Fifty Plus Years**

CURRIES (53)  
Builders FirstSource (52)

### **Forty Plus Years**

Northern Cedar Service Co. Inc. (47)  
United Way of North Central Iowa (47)  
North Iowa Eye Clinic, P.C. (45)  
43 North Iowa (41)  
Trinity Lutheran Church (41)



## Membership Renewals (cont.)

### *Thirty Plus Years*

Mechanical Air Systems (39)  
Ag Processing, Inc. (36)  
Cinema West Theatre (36)  
Mason City Tile & Marble (35)  
Hampton Inn & Suites (32)  
CENT Credit Union (31)  
North Iowa Community Action  
Organization (31)  
Maggie's Sewing Center (30)  
McCloskey Appliance (30)

### *Twenty Plus Years*

Mason City Parks & Recreation  
Department (26)  
Schupick & Associates, P.C. (25)  
Larson Contracting (24)  
North Iowa Air Service (20)

### *Fifteen Plus Years*

Ironhouse Gym, Inc. (19)  
Kevin Dolphin CPA, P.C. (17)  
Community Housing Initiatives/  
River City Apartments (17)  
Habitat for Humanity of North  
Central Iowa (17)  
Athletico (16)  
Cabin Coffee Company (16)  
Nature's Best Ingredients, Inc. (15)

### *Ten Plus Years*

Cavalier Coaches, Inc. (14)  
Rib Crib BBQ & Grill (14)  
Potter & Brant, P.L.C. (14)  
ControlPrint Creative (11)

### *Five Plus Years*

Oak Leaf Comics & Collectibles (9)  
Mike Hegtvedt Real Estate &  
Auction Company (8)  
Navratil Excavating Inc. (7)  
Theilen Auto Sales (7)  
MercyOne Mason City Home  
Medical Shop (6)  
MercyOne Mason City Urgent Care  
(6)  
MercyOne North Iowa  
Dermatology Care (6)  
MercyOne North Iowa Women's  
Health Center (6)  
MercyOne Regency Family  
Medicine (6)  
MercyOne Regency Pharmacy (6)

## Breaking Glass - February 25

February's session of the **Breaking Glass Leadership Series** features Iowa Deputy Secretary of Agriculture, Julie Kenney. This session is scheduled from 8-9:30AM on Thursday, February 25 at the Commerce Center (virtual option available).

Julie Kenney has a passion for agriculture and is a tremendous asset to the Iowa Department of Agriculture. She grew up on her family's crop and livestock farm and currently owns and operates a corn and soybean farm in Story County. Julie believes women are vital to agriculture, and she is a strong advocate for all Iowans.

**Breaking Glass** offers a unique learning experience to help women stretch their leadership potential, drive their careers with vision and purpose, and make a greater impact within their organizations. Tickets are \$10 for Chamber members and \$20 for non-members. Contact Kativa Weitzel (kweitzel@masoncityia.com) to register.

Sponsored by:



Julie Kenney  
Iowa Deputy Secretary  
of Agriculture

## Frein Promoted to Vice President



Colleen Frein  
Vice President

Colleen Frein has been promoted to Vice President. She has served on the Chamber team for five years in the role of Program Director, Community Concierge, and Membership Director. She earned the IOM credential in 2019 which is a professional designation in the association industry sponsored by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

Colleen will continue her responsibilities as Membership Director which include membership service, staffing the Ambassador Committee, managing the membership database, and invoicing.

An active community volunteer, Colleen is the current president of River City Kiwanis, a board member at Charlie Brown Preschool & Childcare, a member of the Trinity Lutheran Church Council and the District Improvement Advisory Committee for the Mason City Schools, among other roles.

Prior to joining the Chamber, Colleen worked as a multimedia journalist including serving as anchor/producer for the Daybreak program on KIMT TV3. She holds a degree in mass communications from St. Cloud State University and is a native of Rochester, MN.



## 2021 State Legislative Session

The interests of North Iowa businesses are represented at the state capitol through the Chamber's membership in the Iowa Chamber Alliance. In preparation for the upcoming legislative session, ICA held a virtual Legislative Leadership Coffee which provided an opportunity to share priorities with elected leaders and hear their thoughts on the upcoming session.

In addition, State Senator Amanda Ragan and State Representatives Sharon Steckman attended the Chamber Board Meeting (via Zoom) on December 16.

Priorities for the 2021 legislative session include:

- Support for the recommendations outlined by Gov. Reynolds's Economic Recovery Advisory Board.
- Funding for existing programs and consideration of new resources that promote "placemaking" as a workforce attraction and retention strategy.
- Development of immediately deployable resources for large scale disasters when budget reserves are full to assist businesses with recovery.
- Favorable policies and additional funding for broadband through the Empower Rural Iowa initiative.
- Fully funding the Future Ready Iowa initiative.
- Addressing barriers to employment such as access to childcare and student debt repayment.
- Supporting education at all levels from pre-school through post-high school options.
- Developing and supporting incentives with proven return in targeted industries.
- Removal of the sunset for both the Brownfield and Grayfield programs.

The Iowa Chamber Alliance is a non-partisan coalition that represents the leading chamber of commerce and economic development organizations throughout Iowa that focus on promoting economic growth policies and initiatives. Chamber President Robin Anderson is a past chairperson of this group, and North Iowa Corridor Economic Development Corporation President Chad Schreck currently serves as Chair-Elect.



Senator  
Amanda Ragan



Representative  
Sharon Steckman

## 2021 Chamber Events

Mark the calendar for these popular Chamber events in 2020! Details to come.

**Picture Day** | January 7

**State of North Iowa** | Spring 2021

**Chamber Bowl** | February 2-4

**Ag Breakfast** | March 25

**North Iowa Band Festival** | May 27-31

**Chamber Golf Outing** | June 17

**Moonlight Bike Ride** | Summer 2021

**Ag Tour** | July 2021

**New Member Luncheon** | August 26

**Chamber Cup** | Summer 2021

**Annual Meeting** | October 7

**Operation Thank You** | December 9

## Membership Renewals (cont.)

### *Five Plus Years (cont.)*

**Titan Pro SCI (6)**  
**Mason City Surgery Center (6)**  
**Jeffrey Auto Repair Service (5)**  
**McKesson Corporation (5)**  
**Steve Kruse (5)**  
**Applied Industrial Technologies (5)**  
**North Iowa Periodontics, PLLC (5)**

### *One Plus Years*

**Cerro Gordo County (4)**  
**Jane Fischer and Associates LLC (3)**  
**Applebee's Grill + Bar (3)**  
**Better Business Bureau (3)**  
**Edward Jones - Carol Styner,  
Financial Advisor (3)**  
**Heaven's Best Service Group (2)**  
**Memorial Park Cemetery, Crematory  
& Funeral Home (2)**  
**Beltone (2)**  
**Mason City Arena (1)**  
**The Sports Page of Mason City LLC  
(1)**  
**Bands by O'Brien (1)**  
**Country Axe (1)**  
**Twisted River Farm (1)**  
**Nordic Home Improvements (1)**  
**Budget Blinds of Mason City (1)**  
**Enchanted Acres (1)**

## Breaking Glass Recap

The December *Breaking Glass Leadership Series* was held virtually with Rev. Dr. Norma Cook Everist. Norma grew up in a generation that often dismissed women and did not see them as equals. Despite gender inequality, Norma persisted, broke glass, and accomplished many "firsts" in faith-based organizations and communities.

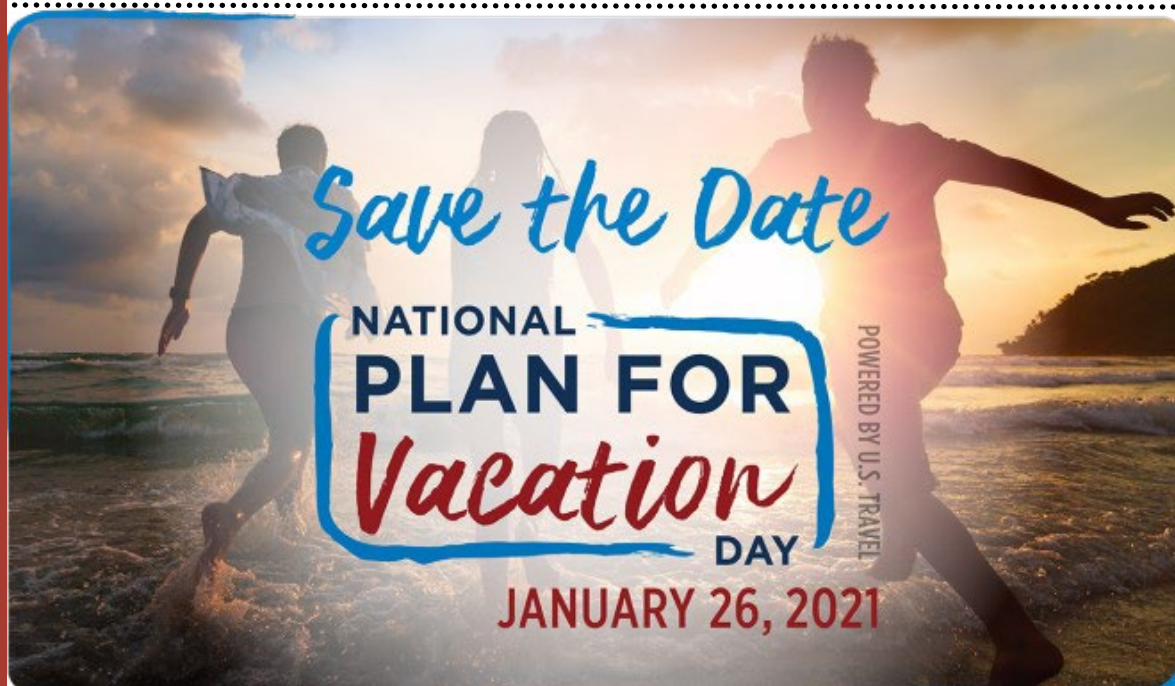


## Visit Mason City awards grant funds

The Visit Mason City Board of Directors recently announced approval of seven marketing grants to be used for projects promoting Mason City attractions and events. Award amounts ranged from \$400 to \$1,000. Award recipients include the following:

- **Mason City Youth Hockey** for print & digital advertising to promote 2021-22 tournaments – November 2021, December 2021, January 2022, and February 2022
- **Go For Broke Productions** for print materials, print and digital advertising, and website for barrel racing events scheduled May 7-9, 2021 and August 21-23, 2021
- **North Iowa Band Festival** for print materials and advertising to promote 2021 event scheduled May 20-24
- **Charles H. MacNider Art Museum** for DOT signage along US-18, Exit 186
- **The Mason City Foundation** for print advertising (Chanhasen Dinner Theatres Playbill for The Music Man performance March-September 2021)
- **North Iowa Events Center** for website development
- **River City Steak Challenge** for print and digital advertising to promote 2021 event scheduled July 2-4

Visit Mason City's Tourism Marketing Grant provides financial assistance for marketing projects that promote events, tournaments, conventions, activities, and facilities that attract tourism activity to the community. Projects must have a focus outside a 90-mile radius of Mason City.



## Connect with Visit Mason City!



@MasonCityIowa



@VisitMasonCity



@VisitMasonCityIowa





# VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

## Promotions Committee

- Market the downtown district's defining assets
- Communicate unique features through storytelling
- Support the buy-local experience

## Design Committee

- Create an inviting, inclusive atmosphere
- Celebrate historic character
- Foster accessible, people-centered public spaces

## Economic Vitality Committee

- Build a diverse economic base
- Catalyze smart new investment
- Cultivate a strong entrepreneurship ecosystem

## Organization Committee

- Build leadership and strong organizational capacity
- Ensure broad community engagement
- Forge partnerships across sectors

## Event Volunteers

Volunteers are always needed and welcomed at any event that Main Street Mason City puts on. It is a great way to be active in your community and give back!

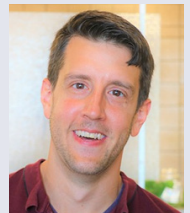


*"As a lifelong resident of Mason City, it's been exciting to watch the progress to downtown, including the beautification efforts and the continued business growth. I am hoping my thirty plus years of experience not only working in the downtown district, but also as a small business owner, will enhance the synergy Main Street Mason City has created. I am excited to have the opportunity to help promote our beautiful downtown and all the opportunities we have."*

- Patti Olson-Weiss

*"Here in my community of Mason City, there are lots of volunteer opportunities and programs. One of the best is Main Street Main City. Main Street looks at the big picture and has a community-wide impact that starts with our downtown heart. Also, Main Street also does an amazing job of empowering me and others to be active community members. I believe, here in Iowa, it's the only answer to creating a fun and cohesive downtown. Without the program, we would have a very incomplete community that I honestly wouldn't want to live in."*

- Matt O'Brien



The Governor's Visit to Mason City



Friday Night Live



Multi-Purpose Arena



# Corridor

JANUARY 2021



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### Officers:

**Robert Klocke, Chairman of the Board**  
First Citizens Bank

**Diane Fischels, Vice Chair**  
Mercy Medical Center - North Iowa

**Paul Stevenson, Secretary**  
Clear Lake Bank & Trust

**Scott Smed, Treasurer**  
Bergland + Cram Architects

**Nate Carney, Past Chairman**  
Dean Snyder Construction

### Directors:

**Kent Brcka**  
Henkel Construction

**Collin Davison**  
Heiny Law Firm

**Mark Ebeling**  
City of Clear Lake

**Christy Marchand**  
CFO Systems, LLC

**Marty Mensen**  
Alliant Energy

**Dave Versteeg**  
Mason City Community School District

### Ex-Officios:

**Mayor Nelson Crabb**  
City of Clear Lake

**Mayor Bill Schickel**  
City of Mason City

**Supervisor Tim Latham**  
Cerro Gordo County

**Dr. Steven Schulz**  
North Iowa Area Community College

**Aaron Burnett**  
City of Mason City

**Tom Meyer**  
Cerro Gordo County

**Scott Flory**  
City of Clear Lake

## NEW YEAR, NEW OPPORTUNITIES

### THE RIVER MASON CITY APARTMENT COMPLEX IS OPENING UP NEW HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES FOR NORTH IOWANS.

The River is a four-story housing complex with 133 units on Mason City's downtown riverfront, turning a formerly empty parking lot into an impactful addition to the South Federal area. The complex includes 113 apartments from studio size up to three bedrooms, with rents ranging from approximately \$595 for a studio to \$1,050 per month for a three bedroom apartment. Twenty townhomes, with two to three bedrooms, lease at \$1,300 to \$1,400 per month. Over half of the 20 townhomes are already occupied, and 48 apartments are leased. The complex is a project from Talon Development and Eagle Construction of Sioux Falls, South Dakota, and is the first Opportunity Zone project to be developed and completed in Iowa.

The Opportunity Zone program was initiated at the federal level as part of the 2018 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act and offers communities in participating states the chance to create jobs and spark economic development by encouraging long-term investment in low-income areas. These areas are known as Opportunity Zones and are connected to private investors through the program's provided tax incentives. Steve Boote, owner of Talon Development and Eagle Construction, looks for communities that are growing and gaining momentum. He was attracted to invest in Mason City because of the ongoing River City Renaissance and downtown revitalization projects.

The River is poised to play a key role in revitalizing downtown Mason City. Market-rate housing for North Iowa's workforce is a significant area of need, according to Chad Schreck, President and CEO of the North Iowa Corridor EDC. "Our local employers tell us that people they've hired have a hard time finding a place to live. The numbers indicate there's a need for quality housing to support business needs and attract young professionals."

The River apartments will have a big impact on housing for workforce development, and will continue to catalyze the growth of the downtown Mason City district. Residents of the new complex could walk to work downtown, enjoy the nearby coffee shops and restaurants, and cross the footbridge to get to the mall and arena. The city already has talked about improving the riverfront walkway.

"The housing project will help revive the South Federal area. It's a really neat opportunity," said Schreck. "The way it's all going to tie together with the hotel and arena in that area is the exciting thing. It will have as big an impact as will the rest of the projects going on downtown when you have people living there."



**CHAD SCHRECK**  
PRESIDENT & CEO

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**HUNTER CALLANAN**  
WORKFORCE SPECIALIST  
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**JOYCE MARTIN**  
MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS  
COORDINATOR  
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## PAPPAJOHN ENTREPRENEURIAL CENTER

## The Entrepreneurial Edge

*A NIACC John Pappajohn Entrepreneurial Center Publication*

### Pappajohn Center is Seeking Business Mentors

The NIACC John Pappajohn Center is looking for experienced entrepreneurs and business owners to become Venture School mentors and participate with our Venture School students starting in February 2021. Venture School is a premier statewide entrepreneurial program created by the University of Iowa and is built from a streamlined curriculum developed by the National Science Foundation I-Corps at Stanford University and the University of California, Berkeley.

Since its inception, Venture School has helped guide over 300 startups across the state of Iowa, and is designed to benefit Iowa startups and entrepreneurs. Each team is assigned a local entrepreneur as their mentor. The 8 week spring cohort launches on February 4<sup>th</sup> and will be a hybrid class. The first night and last night are in person, the 6 weeks in between are on ZOOM. Mentors dedicate about 2-3 hours per week. An orientation session and training will be provided.

When you become a Venture School mentor:

- You can support and influence the success of a new entrepreneur
- Contribute to the energy and movement of a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship in North Iowa
- Assist startup businesses and early stage companies in elevating their communities and create jobs for others
- Contribute to building Iowa's entrepreneurial ecosystem



Do you remember how you felt when you started or expanded and grew your business? Wouldn't it have been great to have a mentor who knew what you were going through and could give you support and direction? We follow the same mentor manifesto put forth by David Cohen and Brad Feld of Techstars®. \*Techstars® has a tested and successful model for creating a culture of entrepreneurs and innovation and building a mentor network to support them. Now is your chance to give back! Contact Candi Karsjens at [candi.karsjens@niacc.edu](mailto:candi.karsjens@niacc.edu) with questions or to volunteer.

#### Upcoming Events

##### Start Smart Workshop

**January 13:** 6:00—8:00 pm; Zoom Online Session

**January 27:** 6:00—8:00 pm; Zoom Online Session



[www.pappajohncenter.com](http://www.pappajohncenter.com)  
500 College Drive, Ste 120  
Mason City, IA 50401

# YIELD Sponsors

98.7 KISS Country / 103.7 The Fox\*  
 Ag Processing, Inc.\*  
 Alpha Orthodontics Powered by Smile  
 Doctors\*  
 Atlantic Coca-Cola Bottling Company\*  
 Bergland + Cram Architects  
 Cargill Protein\*  
 Central Park Dentistry\*  
 Children's Dental Center of Mason  
 City\*  
 Clear Lake Bank & Trust Co.\*  
 Dental Center of North Iowa  
 Diamond Jo Casino - Worth Co.\*  
 Drs. Weber & Otto Family Dentistry\*  
 First Citizens Bank\*  
 Heartland Asphalt, Inc.\*  
 Henkel Construction Co.\*  
 Holiday Inn Express and Suites -  
 Mason City\*  
 Jane Fischer and Associates LLC\*  
 Laird Law Firm\*  
 Lee Realty\*  
 Major Erickson Funeral Home &  
 Crematory\*  
 Mason City Clinic  
 MercyOne North Iowa Medical Center  
 Metalcraft, Inc.\*  
 Mid-West Roofing Company/Custom  
 SheetMetal Works\*  
 North Iowa Eye Clinic, P.C.\*  
 North Iowa Orthodontics\*  
 NSB Bank\*  
 Overhead Door Company of Mason  
 City\*  
 Ozzie Ohl\*  
 POET Biorefining - Hanlontown\*  
 REG Mason City, LLC  
 River City Morning Kiwanis\*  
 Stoney Creek Hospitality Corporation\*  
 Sukup Manufacturing\*  
 The Nettleton Dental Group, PC\*  
 Transform Hot Yoga  
 Wells Fargo Bank\*  
 WHKS Engineers, Planners &  
 Surveyors\*

\*Denotes multi-year sponsor



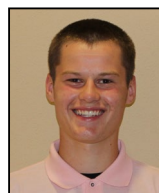
## 2020-21 YIELD Graduates

Since 2003, the Chamber has provided leadership training for area youth. The **YIELD** program (**Youth Investing Energy in Leadership Development**) is an investment in our future citizens and leaders that will surely yield huge benefits for North Iowa. This program is a model for youth leadership programs and has been replicated in other communities, including some in our region.

**YIELD** participation is offered to high school juniors from Mason City High School, Newman High School, and the Mason City Alternative School. These students are identified as good students and good citizens who are likely to emerge as future community leaders. Thank you to Principals Dan Long and Tony Adams for their support.



Grant  
Bohls  
MCHS



Eli  
Brinkley  
Newman



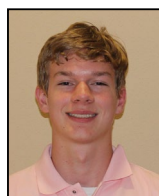
Olivia  
Crom  
MCHS



Madi  
Elwood  
Newman



Jennaya  
Everist  
MCHS



Samuel  
Fabian  
MCHS



Gretchen  
Garrett  
MCHS



Makenna  
Hansen  
MCHS



Matthew  
Henrich  
Newman



Lane  
Kruger  
MCHS



Grant  
Lee  
MCHS



Logan  
McDonough  
MCHS



Isabella  
Monarch  
MCHS



Claire  
Reidel  
MCHS



Jack  
Siglin  
MCHS



Kylee  
Sullivan  
Newman



Emma  
Weiner  
Newman

## Thank You Directory Advertisers

The "North Iowa's Best Businesses" 2021 Membership Directories were distributed in **Operation Thank You** packets in December. This annual printed directory of member contact information is a useful tool for Chamber members. Additional copies of the directory are available at the Chamber office upon request.

Thank you to the advertisers who made this publication possible.



### Full Page Advertisers

Chad Harrison, CPA PLLC  
Clear Lake Bank & Trust Co.  
Dental Center of North Iowa  
First Citizens Bank  
Henkel Construction Co.  
Jane Fischer and Associates  
Larson Contracting

Holiday Inn Express & Suites -  
Mason City  
Homestead of Mason City  
IOOF Home & Community Therapy  
Center  
Iowa Heartland Credit Union  
Johnson Heating & Air Conditioning  
Landfill of North Iowa  
Lehigh Cement Company LLC  
Mason City Roofing  
Mechanical Air Systems  
Mint Springs Dentistry  
North Iowa Area Community College  
North Iowa Orthodontics  
POET Biorefining - Hanlontown  
ServiceMaster by Rice  
Thrivent Financial - Todd Leet  
Woodharbor Custom Cabinetry &  
Design Showroom

### Quarter Page Advertisers

1ST Insurance  
Bergland + Cram Architects  
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## Save the date! Ag Breakfast – March 25

The **Ag Breakfast** is set for Thursday, March 25. The Agribusiness Committee hosts this annual appreciation event to bring together farm and business for breakfast and education. More details to come!

Tickets are available for Chamber Members in full tables (10 seats) for \$100 or half a table (5 seats) for \$50. Individual tickets are \$12 and student tickets are \$5.

Contact Kativa for more information or to purchase tickets: [kweitzel@masoncityia.com](mailto:kweitzel@masoncityia.com) | 641-423-5724.

Thank you to the 2021 **Ag Breakfast** Sponsors:

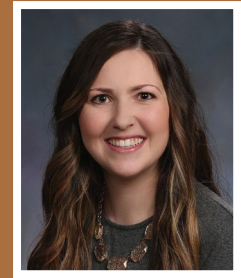


## Wellness

**Make It OK**

[MakItOK.org/IOWA](http://MakItOK.org/IOWA)

**Weitzel Trained as  
"Make it OK" Ambassador**



Kativa Weitzel  
Program Director

**Chamber Program Director Kativa Weitzel completed the Healthiest State Initiative "Make it OK" Ambassador program in December. As an ambassador, she will advocate for ending the stigma surrounding mental health, share pertinent resources, check-in with businesses, and make presentations to groups as requested.**

Now, more than ever before, people are feeling increased anxiety, stress, or loneliness due to social distancing requirements. The "Make It OK" program promotes a general understanding of mental health illnesses, and emphasizes "it's OK" to seek assistance.

Visit [MakItOK.org/Iowa](http://MakItOK.org/Iowa) to learn more about ending mental illness stigma and accessing free mental health resources.



# Chamber Leadership

## Executive Committee

Andy Meyer, Chairman of the Board  
*Bergland+Cram Architects*  
Jane Fischer, Chair Elect and Community & Membership Division Vice President  
*Jane Fischer & Associates, LLC*  
Tyler Kerr, Past Chairman  
*REG Mason City, LLC*  
Danielle Pace, Treasurer  
*Clear Lake Bank & Trust Co.*  
Bill Phillips, Government Affairs Division Vice President  
*Henkel Construction Company*  
Dr. Steve Schulz, Workforce & Leadership Division Vice President  
*North Iowa Area Community College*  
Jeff Gribben, Small Business Division Vice President  
*First Citizens Bank*

## Board of Directors

Mary Amsbaugh, *Sukup Manufacturing*  
Kyle Bermel, *Metalcraft, Inc.*  
Dr. Noemi Cruz-Orcutt, *Mint Springs Dentistry*  
Michael Davis, *IOOF Home & Community Therapy Center*  
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Katie Wold, *Market 124*  
Dan Young, *Young Construction of North Iowa*

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## Upcoming Events

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

### Professional Development

Thursday  
**January 7**

**Picture Day** | 10AM-2:30PM

3rd Floor Event Room | Commerce Center | 9 N Federal Ave

**Leadership North Iowa Begins** | 2:30PM

### Get Involved/Committee Meetings

Tuesday  
**January 5**

**Ambassador Meeting** | Noon-1PM

Zoom Conference Call

Wednesday  
**January 13**

**Agribusiness Committee** | 8-9AM

Zoom Conference Call

**Program Committee** | Noon-1PM

Zoom Conference Call

Tuesday  
**January 19**

**Workplace Wellness Committee** | 3-4PM

Zoom Conference Call

Wednesday  
**January 27**

**Board Meeting** | Noon-1PM

Zoom Conference Call

### February 2021

February 2-4 | **Chamber Bowl** at Mystic Lanes

February 11 | **Business After Hours** hosted by Main Street Mason City

February 25 | **Breaking Glass Leadership Series** - Julie Kenney, Iowa Deputy Secretary of Agriculture