

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



**Time:** 4-6PM

**Date:** Thursday, April 21

**Location:** Historic Park Inn  
15 W State St

**Sponsored By:**



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## U.S. Chamber Awards Chamber Exclusive 5-Star Accreditation

The Chamber accomplished a big goal last month when the U.S. Chamber of Commerce awarded the organization with its highest professional designation of Accredited with 5 Stars. This elite credential is reserved for chambers that demonstrate sound policies, effective organizational procedures, and a positive impact on the community.

"This accomplishment by the Mason City Chamber is an acknowledgement of their truly excellent work," said Raymond P. Towle, U.S. Chamber Vice President, Federation Relations and IOM. "These Accredited chambers are recognized for their ability to serve as a resource to their region's businesses while maintaining transparent governance practices, sound financial controls, safe work environments, effective communications, and value in programming. They are commended for their continued advocacy of free enterprise and leadership in their communities. It is a tremendous accomplishment."

The purpose of the U.S. Chamber's Accreditation Program is to facilitate continuing excellence in the chamber industry and to foster a pro-business environment across America. In order to receive Accreditation, a chamber must meet minimum standards in their operations and programs, including areas of governance, government affairs, communications, and technology. This extensive self-review can take 6-9 months to complete.

"We're proud of this accomplishment," said Robin Anderson, President & CEO. "It's been so gratifying to hear from colleagues across the country who have called to congratulate us on this achievement. In our world, this is a big deal. I'm very proud of our team," she said.

Local chambers are rated Accredited, 3-Stars, 4-Stars, or 5-Stars. The final determination is made by the Accrediting Board which is comprised of U.S. Chamber board members.

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



U.S. Chamber of Commerce

Five-Star Distinction

**Accredited**



## New Members

**SUMMIT CARBON SOLUTIONS**  
Quinn Slaven  
2321 N Loop Dr  
Ames, IA 50010  
(515) 531-2635  
info@summitcarbon.com  
www.summitcarbonsolutions.com

Summit Carbon Solutions will drive job growth across the Midwest, reduce emissions, and provide a substantial boost to the ethanol and agricultural industries that are critical to the U.S. economy.

### LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS NORTH IOWA

Jennifer Ramaeker, Co-President  
630 East State Street  
Mason City, IA 50401  
(641) 420-4904  
jrramaeker@gmail.com  
LWVNI.org

Non-profit, non-partisan political organization.

### DAVE STURGES TRUCKING INC.

Joe Sturges, Owner  
17292 170th St  
Rockwell, IA 50469  
(641) 512-1998  
tammy.meggers@yahoo.com

### VALUE INVESTING VALETS

Terry Schumaker, Co-Founder  
439 25th Street SW  
Mason City, IA 50401  
(641) 512-0445  
valueinvestingvalets@gmail.com

The Value Investing Valets are a stock investing education and coaching service.



## From the President

### Candy is BACK...and other exciting news!

**T**he promise of Spring is all around us, and that's just one reason I'm feeling so positive these days. Here's a list of some of the things that put a SPRING in my step!

- Entries are coming in daily for participation in the 83rd **North Iowa Band Festival** parade...and this year, the committee decided we won't have any restrictions on the distribution of candy, flyers, and other items. But most importantly—CANDY. After all, who can resist a Frootie that has rolled around in the street a little bit?? Somehow, parade candy just tastes better! If you haven't registered yet, get your parade entry form in to Noah Harris (nharris@masoncityia.com) soon.
- Clearly, North Iowans want to see *The Music Man* on Broadway! Our trips for July 12-15 and July 19-22 are filled, but we're looking to add a third trip, so if you're interested, contact Allyson Krull at akrull@masoncityia.com or call 641.423.5724 for more information.
- We're thrilled to be a pilot program for the **National Civics Bee** for middle school students. Our in-person event featuring the top 10 finalists from the essay competition is scheduled on April 12. The winner will receive a \$1000 cash prize!
- The **Breaking Glass** session on April 27th features University of Iowa President Barbara Wilson. I'd be excited about this even if I wasn't an Iowa graduate. It's pretty cool that the presidents of both Iowa and Iowa State are women...and even cooler that both of them have appeared at our **Breaking Glass** events.
- It was an honor to be present when former "Boss of the Year" winner Matt Curtis from Wayne's Ski & Cycle earned the SBDC Entrepreneur of the Year award. Well done.
- Earning 5-Star Accreditation from the U.S. Chamber of Commerce is a big deal for us! We're one of just three chambers in Iowa to earn this credential. I'm incredibly proud of our team, and I hope you are, too!



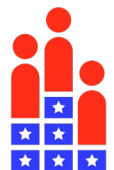
Robin Anderson  
President & CEO

## North Iowa Civics Bee - April 12

The Chamber of Commerce is hosting the first **North Iowa Civics Bee** at 1PM on Tuesday, April 12 at the Mason City FEMA Room. A panel of judges has selected ten middle school students to face off in the live bee, flexing their civics knowledge for a chance to win recognition and cash prizes – including a \$1,000 college scholarship.

In order to qualify, students in grades 6-8 were asked to submit a 500-word essay identifying an issue facing their community and how they would use civics to solve it. Judges were especially impressed with the ideas posed by the students, including ways to clean up parks, impact student relationships in the classrooms, and improve Mason City's recycling program.

The Chamber is one of just six pilot communities selected to be part of the U.S. Chamber Foundation National Civics Bee. Thank you to Sukup Manufacturing, who is helping sponsor the **North Iowa Civics Bee**.



**National  
Civics Bee**



## North Iowa Band Festival Grand Marshal Award - Richard E. Leet

The Grand Marshal Award recognizes a person or people of local or national prominence who have made a significant contribution to the development, history, or success of the festival. The **North Iowa Band Festival** Committee is pleased to announce Richard "Dick" Leet as the 2022 award recipient.

Dick was the founding director of the Charles H. MacNider Art Museum and is a notable artist and educator. In 2003, as a member of the Mason City Sesquicentennial Committee, Dick designed and crafted giant puppets that performed at local parades and celebrations leading up to the community's 150th birthday bash in July. The puppets debuted at the 2002 **Band Festival** parade.

In addition, Dick created the logo for the Band Festival in 1992, 1993, and 1994. These designs were memorialized in the collectible festival buttons each of those years.

Dick is a long-time and active member of the First United Methodist Church and Mason City Rotary, having served in leadership positions for both organizations through the years. An accomplished artist, he is a member of the Iowa Museum Association (President 1978-79, Hall of Fame 2001) and the Iowa Watercolor Society.

A graduate of the University of Northern Iowa, he also earned a Master of Arts degree from UNI. Dick and his late wife, Kay, are the parents of two children: Kimberly and Todd, and are doting grandparents to five.

Congratulations to Richard Leet on this well-deserved recognition!



Richard E. Leet

## Breaking Glass - April 27

The Chamber is honored to host University of Iowa President Barbara Wilson for April's **Breaking Glass** session. The luncheon will be held from 11:30AM-1PM on Wednesday, April 27. Please note the departure from the normal Thursday morning meeting to accommodate Dr. Wilson's travel schedule.

Dr. Barbara J. Wilson began her term as the 22nd president of the University of Iowa on July 15, 2021. She earned a bachelor's degree in journalism and MA and PhD in communication arts from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Dr. Wilson has a distinguished career in academics, most recently serving as Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs for the University of Illinois system at Champaign-Urbana campus.

Dr. Wilson is eager to visit Mason City for the first time and have the opportunity to meet North Iowans and share how she rose through the ranks to lead a Big Ten University.

Tickets are \$10 each for employees of Chamber member businesses and \$20 for non-members. Register online at [masoncityia.com](http://masoncityia.com) or contact Noah Harris ([nharris@masoncityia.com](mailto:nharris@masoncityia.com)) at the Chamber for more information.



Dr. Barbara J. Wilson  
University of Iowa

Sponsored by:



## Membership Renewals

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

### *Fifty Plus Years*

**Blazek Electric, Inc. (57)**

### *Forty Plus Years*

**Casey's General Store (48)**

### *Thirty Plus Years*

**SKYBLUE by CL Tel (35)**

**North Iowa Community Credit Union (35)**

**Fullerton Funeral Home (35)**

**Heritage Care & Rehabilitation Center (31)**

**Heartland Asphalt, Inc. (30)**

### *Twenty Plus Years*

**Brick Furniture (29)**

**Moorman Clothiers (29)**

**D & D Printing & Custom Signs (27)**

**Child & Adult Care Food Program (27)**

**Basic Birder (25)**

### *Fifteen Plus Years*

**Comprehensive Systems, Inc. (19)**

**Main Street Mason City (19)**

**Pritchard Family Auto Stores (17)**

### *Ten Plus Years*

**Audibel Hearing Centers of North Iowa (14)**

**Absolute Waste Removal (12)**

**Bisbee Income Tax & Accounting Service (11)**

**Turning Leaf Counseling (11)**

**True Travels, LLC (10)**

**Masterson Staffing Solutions (10)**

### *Five Plus Years*

**Sweet Tooth (9)**

**Hoover's Hatchery (8)**

**Ag Ventures Alliance (8)**

**Child & Adolescent Integrated Health (7)**

**Diamond Oak, LLC dba Diamond Oak Events (7)**

**Farm Bureau Financial Services - Trent Adams (7)**

**Scenic View Auto (6)**



## Membership Renewals (cont.)

### *Five Plus Years (cont)*

Dance Arts Centre (6)  
North Iowa Women's Self-Defense  
Initiative (5)  
Z'Mariks Noodle Cafe (5)

### *One Plus Years*

Sukup Manufacturing Co. (4)  
Larson Red Zone Sports (4)  
North Iowa Fresh, LLC (3)  
First Security Bank & Trust (3)  
ServiceMaster by Rice (3)  
Allstate - Mark Christopher Agency  
(1)

## The Music Man on Broadway

The Chamber, Visit Mason City, and The Music Man Square recently partnered with The Group Travel Guy to provide a trip to New York City to see *The Music Man* on Broadway starring Hugh Jackman and Sutton Foster. The response was so overwhelming, the trip filled in just a few days, so plans were made for a second trip to accommodate the waiting list. With that trip full as well, the Chamber is considering offering a third trip to the Big Apple!

The itinerary would remain the same, but would offer dates in early-mid August at a similar price point.

The Chamber is compiling a list of those interested to see if there will be enough passengers for a third trip. Email Allyson Krull (akrull@masoncityia.com) or call the Chamber (641.423.5724) to be added to the list.

## Klempnauer Award - Performing Arts Pavilion Committee

The Klempnauer Award was named for Dan Klempnauer, a long-time volunteer and festival supporter, and is intended to honor an unsung hero who volunteers for the festival. The Band Festival committee selected the members of the Performing Arts Pavilion Committee as this year's recipient in gratitude for the effort and hard work they put in since 1999 to build a new performance venue for the festival and the Mason City Municipal Band.

The Performing Arts Pavilion Committee was formed by Al Zook in 1999 by volunteers with a vision to build an acoustically-superior performance pavilion. After years of dreaming, fundraising, searching for a site, and planning, the Principal® Pavilion was dedicated last fall.

Committee members include:



Robin Anderson



Scott Bell



Bob Fisher



Dr. Darrell Fisher



Dennis Higgins



John Klemas

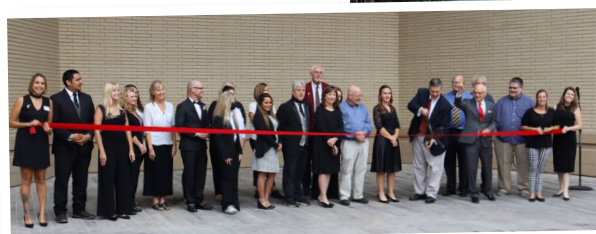


Russ Kramer

Unfortunately, committee members Al Zook, Gil Lettow, Rich Dean, and Vance Baird passed away before the project was completed.

"We're looking forward to hosting some of the Band Festival performances in the new pavilion—beginning with the Middle School Band Concert on Thursday night," said committee member Robin Anderson. Committee member and Municipal Band Director Russ Kramer agreed. "The architects involved musicians in all aspects of the design, and used the services of an acoustical engineer to ensure the sound quality will be the best possible—both in the outside and inside performance stages. This pavilion is a wonderful tribute to Mason City's musical heritage," he said.

Congratulations to all the members of the Performing Arts Pavilion Committee on this well-deserved recognition.



## Matt Curtis Named 2022 Entrepreneur of the Year

The Iowa Small Business Development Center named Matt Curtis, owner of Wayne's Ski & Cycle, the 2022 Neal Smith Entrepreneur of the Year recipient at a special ceremony at the Iowa State Capitol last month.

The prestigious award honors an Iowa entrepreneur who has been in business a minimum of three years and has been assisted by an Iowa Small Business Development Center. Brook Boehmler, Director of the Mason City SBDC, nominated Matt for this recognition. The award was established with a dual purpose—to honor long-time U.S. Congressman Neal Smith for being instrumental in establishing the Small Business Development Center program, and to recognize Iowa's entrepreneurs, who are the driving force behind Iowa's economic growth.



Matt has operated Wayne's since 2004 and is a former recipient of the Chamber's "Boss of the Year" award. Matt's ability to identify and meet the evolving needs of his customers has made Wayne's Ski & Cycle a community mainstay.

## Wellness Seminar - April 21

The 2022 **Wellness Seminar** will be held from 9:30-11:30AM on Thursday, April 21 in the Band Festival Room at the Commerce Center.

Penny McCaslin, Population Health Coordinator at CG Public Health, will lead the 2022 **Wellness Seminar: The News on Nicotine Addiction**. Penny will highlight a variety of topics related to tobacco prevention, including marketing and advertising by tobacco companies, and the dangers of tobacco use in the workplace.

As the Iowa Department of Public Health Community Partnership Grant coordinator, Penny assists people of all ages, races, and demographics by linking tobacco users to quit resources, providing technical assistance to businesses, and training clinic providers on referral interventions. As a founding member of the newly formed North Iowa Addiction Prevention Alliance (NIAPA), a coalition with roots that have been focused on tobacco for more than 20 years, she helps lead the fight for smoke/vape free environments and youth prevention initiatives. She works alongside members from area organizations, schools, law enforcement, and the private sector, to facilitate discussions that can affect policy, systems, and even our communities' culture regarding addictive substance use.

This **Wellness Seminar** serves to educate and inform people of all backgrounds on the dangers of tobacco and vaping use, as well as increase awareness of the signs of nicotine use in the workplace.

Tickets to the seminar are \$10 for Chamber members, \$15 for non-members. Contact Noah (nharris@masoncityia.com | 641.423.5724) at the Chamber to register.



Penny McCaslin  
CG Public Health

Sponsored by:



## CEO Conversations Recap

Doug Morse, healthcare consultant and value investor, recently led the discussion at **CEO Conversations** to a full board room of Chamber members. Morse touched on a variety of topics related to leadership and employee development, based on his many years of experience as a business leader.



## Be Our Guest

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

April 1	River City Chorus <i>Rod Been</i>
April 8	Value Investing Valets <i>Terry Schumaker</i>
April 15	Mason City Earth Day <i>Missy Nicholson</i>
April 22	United Way <i>Angelina Perez</i>
April 29	League of Women Voters North Iowa <i>Jennifer Ramaeker</i>

## Visitor Center welcomes new team member

There's a new friendly face at the front desk of the Visitor Information Center. Shelley Hurst started in her new role as Visitor Services Coordinator on March 1, 2022. Prior to joining the team at Visit Mason City, Hurst worked in higher education at Drake University, Mercy College of Health Sciences, Purdue University Global, and NIACC. She also spent some time at Principal Financial Group in Mason City. Hurst enjoys being involved in the community and attending the variety of events going on in North Iowa. She says it's a privilege to showcase to visitors what Mason City has to offer during their visit and is looking forward to helping with RAGBRAI this summer.



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## FY21-22 Tourism Marketing Grants awarded

Visit Mason City offers a Tourism Marketing Grant to events, conventions, tournaments and facilities that attract visitors to Mason City. This grant can be used to offset costs for marketing initiatives targeted to visitors who live outside a 90-mile radius of Mason City.

Funds were awarded to 12 recipients of the FY21-22 grant program:

- **Charles H. MacNider Art Museum** for *radio advertising and DOT signage*
- **DW Productions, LLC** for *print, digital, and social media advertising*
- **Friends of the 457** for *advertising and print materials*
- **Healthy Harvest of North Iowa** for *social media advertising*
- **Iowa Geocachers Organization** for *print materials*
- **Iowa Independent Film Festival** for *digital advertising*
- **Iowa State Pedal Pull Association** for *print materials*
- **Kinney Pioneer Museum** for *website development*
- **North Iowa Fights** for *advertising and print materials*
- **River City Steak Challenge** for *advertising and print materials*
- **Sukup Manufacturing Co.** for *shuttle transportation*
- **Surf Ballroom & Museum** for *brochure development*

Detailed program information and an application form for the next round of grants are available at [VisitMasonCityIowa.com/tourism-marketing-grant](https://www.VisitMasonCityIowa.com/tourism-marketing-grant).



# 2022 INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Main Street Mason City's mission is to enhance, promote and preserve Downtown Mason City for the benefit of the entire community. Support from strong community partnerships is essential to the success of Main Street Mason City's efforts to continue our mission, maintain free community events, promote a vigorous business environment and preserve our unique architectural heritage.



Name:

Business:

Phone:

Email:

Select your desired sponsor level below. Then select the corresponding number of events you want to sponsor to the right.

☐

## LEVEL 7 | \$5,000+

- Everything from the levels below
- Major sponsor of ALL Main St. Mason City events for 2022
- 6 tickets to St. Paddy's Day Bar Hop
- 6 tickets to Jingle Mingle Bar Crawl
- 2 tickets to the Haunted Historic Building Tour

☐

## LEVEL 6 | \$4,000

- Everything from the levels below
- Select eight (8) events to the right to sponsor
- 6 drink tickets for each Friday Night Live

☐

## LEVEL 5 | \$3,000

- Everything from the levels below
- Select six (6) events to the right to sponsor
- Logo on MSMC T-shirt
- Radio/Newspaper/Ad mentions

☐

## LEVEL 4 | \$2,000

- Everything from the levels below
- Select four (4) events to the right to sponsor
- Logo on MSMC T-shirt
- Radio/Newspaper/Ad mentions

☐

## LEVEL 3 | \$1,000

- Everything from the levels below
- Select two (2) events to the right to sponsor
- Banner up at the chosen events

☐

## LEVEL 2 | \$500

- Everything from the levels below
- Select one (1) event to the right to sponsor
- Name listed on promo items for the chosen event

☐

## FRIEND OF MAIN STREET | \$50+

- A general investment to Main Street Mason City
- Name listed in program for annual meeting, newsletter and shared on social media

☐

## IN-KIND GOODS/SERVICES

I would like to provide in-kind goods/services to meet a sponsorship level. We will contact you with our needs!

☐

## PROVIDE VOLUNTEERS/GOODS

Contact my business to provide volunteers, supplies, goods, services and/or prizes. **List the events below.\***

☐

## ANNUAL MEETING/B.A.H.

Thursday, February 24

☐

## ST. PADDY'S DAY BAR HOP

Saturday, March 12

☐

## MAIN STREET DISTRICT CLEAN-UP DAYS

- ☐ Spring 2022
- ☐ Fall 2022

☐

## FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE

- ☐ Friday, June 17
- ☐ Friday, July 15
- ☐ Friday, August 19

☐

## BREW TO BREW BIKE RIDE

Saturday, September 17

☐

## MUTT STRUTT & SCULPTURE WALK

October 2022

☐

## HAUNTED HISTORIC BUILDING TOUR

Friday, October 28

☐

## RUN WITH RUDOLPH

Saturday, November 26

☐

## HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Saturday, November 26

☐

## TREE LIGHTING

Saturday, November 26

☐

## JINGLE MINGLE JAMMIE CRAWL

Saturday, December 10

☐

## SKATE WITH SANTA

December 2022

☐

## DONATE TO:

- ☐ PATRIOTIC HOLIDAY FLAG FUND
- ☐ DOWNTOWN CHRISTMAS LIGHT FUND

\*List events you will provide volunteers, supplies, goods, services and/or prizes for.



APRIL 2022

## THE NORTH IOWA CORRIDOR TAKES ACTION ON HOUSING NEEDS AS A KEY ECONOMIC PRIORITY

**A NEW NON-PROFIT CORPORATION HAS BEEN FORMED IN MASON CITY** to address the area's significant need for housing.

The North Iowa Housing Development Corporation is an off-shoot of the existing North Iowa Corridor Economic Development Corporation. Chad Schreck, president and CEO of the Corridor, said the new group is one of the first actions to come out of a recent study and survey conducted to find out people's thoughts on housing needs and wants.

"North Iowa Corridor focuses more directly on business, but housing becomes an important component of that," he said. "Businesses could contribute and invest funds through the new corporation, so they don't have to work directly on housing. It's a cool public-private partnership opportunity."

The North Iowa Housing Development Corp. answers the question of who will take the lead and carry out the action plan developed following the survey. It also can serve as the applicant for public grant opportunities addressing housing needs.

"The big thing is just the need - a significant need for housing," Schreck said. Lack of affordable housing affects current residents, as well as the opportunities for growth and the employment picture for businesses.

The Mason City Housing Initiative report was prepared with McClure's Community Development consulting team to help local leaders understand the current need and future demands on housing availability. It examines the area's demographics; includes public input on a housing survey; outlines the challenges; and proposes strategies to encourage housing development here.

Study of the city's demographics "identified affordability as one of the top challenges Mason City homebuyers and renters face in attaining newly constructed housing units," according to the report. Public input on the survey voiced issues including frustration with shortage of rentals, lack of available contractors, a desire for a greater mix of housing types, and high demand for senior housing options.

In addition to affordability, the study examines future demand and development opportunity as challenges facing Mason City. It identifies likely areas for development, both new construction and revitalization of existing housing.

The report comes up with a "Call to Action: Housing Development Strategy and Best Practices." The primary goal is to "expand the inventory of quality, attainable housing units."

### **Strategies outlined to enact this goal include:**

1. Increase diversity of housing options.
2. Residential improvements should follow infrastructure improvements.
3. Further expand code enforcement to clean neighborhoods.
4. Target new development of affordable/workforce units on infill lots (vacant lots in existing neighborhoods).
5. Need to expand/attract availability of contractors. For instance, by expanding NIACC's Building Trades Certificate program, offering incentives for local contractors, and garnering support of community groups with vested interest in growing the availability of labor.
6. Create community development corporation to fill the gap in affordable housing development.
7. Seek alternative incentives to support the development of workforce housing, such as Iowa's existing Workforce Housing Tax Credits.
8. Review/update city ordinance to allow for cottage courts and tiny housing, where necessary.
9. Seek ways to revise city review process and permit fees.

"We've already jumped on the new corporation," Schreck noted. "We've also submitted a grant application to the Iowa Economic Development Authority for a project at the old YWCA building to convert 10 apartment units."

#### **CHAD SCHRECK**

PRESIDENT & CEO

[cschreck@northiowacorridor.com](mailto:cschreck@northiowacorridor.com)

#### **SHAUN ARNESON**

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MANAGEMENT

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WORKFORCE SPECIALIST

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MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS  
COORDINATOR

[jmartin@northiowacorridor.com](mailto:jmartin@northiowacorridor.com)





**PAPPAJOHN**  
ENTREPRENEURIAL  
**CENTER**

**The Entrepreneurial Edge**

*A NIACC John Pappajohn Entrepreneurial Center Publication*

## **Applications Now Open for the Annual John Pappajohn Iowa Entrepreneurial Venture Competition**

The 2022 John Pappajohn Iowa Entrepreneurial Venture Competition application portal is now open. The seventeenth annual statewide competition will award \$100,000 in cash prizes to Iowa startups and entrepreneurial ventures.

The \$100,000 in seed funding includes a \$50,000 contribution from John and Mary Pappajohn, matched by \$50,000 from the Iowa Economic Development Authority (IEDA). The goal of this competition is to support Iowa's entrepreneurial ecosystem by assisting entrepreneurs.

Iowa businesses that have been in operation for four years or less, or are not yet cash flow positive, are eligible to apply. This competition is open to businesses including, but not limited to, technology, bio-technology, green technologies, medical, advanced manufacturing, agriculture, engineering, and education industries.

The deadline for first round submissions is May 16, second round submissions for select applicants is July 18, with final awards announced on September 15, 2022.

Participants will be judged first on their written submissions, and, those who advance to the final round of the competition, will give a formal presentation to a panel of judges. First place will be awarded \$40,000, second place \$25,000, and third place \$15,000. Awards for other honorable mention categories will total up to \$20,000.

The competition is a collaborative project of the Iowa John Pappajohn Entrepreneurial Centers located at Drake University, Iowa State University, North Iowa Area Community College, the University of Iowa, and the University of Northern Iowa. The Iowa Economic Development Authority provides funding to bring the total prize package to \$100,000.

For additional information about the competition or to apply, visit [www.pappajohncompetition.com](http://www.pappajohncompetition.com).

### **PAPPAJOHN CENTER STAFF**

Candace Karsjens, Director

Brook Boehmler, SBDC Director

Kelley O'Rourke, School Partnership Entrepreneurial Coordinator

Joyce Martin, Marketing & Communication Coordinator

Anthony Riesen, Innovation Workspace Coordinator

Mary Spitz, Administrative Assistant



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

## Premier Members

Thank you to the Premier Members who have gone above and beyond in their support of the Chamber programs, events, and the *North Iowa Band Festival*. These members have made commitments to Investor Packages or supported the many events, sponsorships, and marketing opportunities of the Chamber.

### GOLD \$6,000+

Cargill Protein  
Clear Lake Bank & Trust Co.  
CURRIES  
First Citizens Bank  
Holiday Inn Express and Suites -  
Mason City  
Jane Fischer and Associates LLC  
MercyOne North Iowa Medical  
Center  
POET Biorefining - Hanlontown

### SILVER \$3,000-\$5,999

Bergland + Cram Architects  
CENT Credit Union  
Century 21 Preferred  
First Security Bank & Trust  
REG Mason City, LLC

### BRONZE \$1,000-\$2,999

98.7 Kiss Country / 103.7 The Fox/  
KIOU 107.3 / KCHA 95.9  
Country Meadow Place  
Farmers State Bank  
Henkel Construction Co.  
NSB Bank  
Sukup Manufacturing Co.  
Thrivent - Todd Leet



## Golf Outing - June 16

Registration for the 2022 **Chamber Golf Outing** is open!

The Chamber's popular summer networking event, the 2022 **Golf Outing**, will be hosted at the Mason City Country Club on June 16, with registration at 8AM and a shotgun start at 9AM. Lunch, dinner, and green fees are included with registration and are taken on a first-come, first-served basis.

Hole sponsorships are available for \$350. Golfers will have the opportunity to vote on the best hole sponsor, and the sponsor with the most votes will be awarded a complimentary team at next year's outing!

In the event of rain, an alternative date has been set for the following Thursday, June 23, 2022.



To register a team or sponsor a hole, complete and return the enclosed form or contact Noah at [nharris@masoncityia.com](mailto:nharris@masoncityia.com).

Tournament Sponsor:



## 40th Annual Ag Breakfast Recap

The 40th Annual **Ag Breakfast** was a successful event as 200 business leaders and farmers gathered for made-to-order omelets and networking on National Ag Day. Dan Robison, Dean of Iowa State University's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, gave a compelling keynote speech on Iowa's role as a world food source, updates on Iowa State University's agriculture initiatives, and a forecast on the future of agriculture in Iowa. Robison also fielded questions from attendees.

Special thanks to Kevin Pope for the fantastic venue and hospitality, the Agribusiness Committee members for their hard work planning and executing the event, and to the event sponsors Clear Lake Bank & Trust, First Security Bank, Holiday Inn Express & Suites, and Iowa Corn.



Dean Robison made remarks about the future of Iowa agriculture.



Attendees enjoyed early morning networking and breakfast.



Volunteers served up made-to-order omelets

## College Connections Begins in June

The Chamber is now accepting registrations for **College Connections**, which will begin June 2 and run through July 28.

**College Connections**, the Chamber's intern networking program, provides a series of social and educational activities for area interns on a weekly schedule throughout the summer. Interns will learn about personality styles, managing credit, networking skills, and more. In addition to the scheduled meetings, a list of popular area recreational activities is provided to participants to explore on their own time.



Businesses are encouraged to enroll summer interns in this program to help connect young workers to the community and to each other. Each \$100 sponsor may register up to 5 interns in the program. If a business does not wish to be a sponsor, the cost per intern is \$25. Contact Noah at [nharris@masoncityia.com](mailto:nharris@masoncityia.com) to register.

## Harris Receives Scholarship

Iowa Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives (IACC) is a non-profit association of local chamber of commerce professionals representing communities of all sizes throughout Iowa. IACC supports professional development as a means to strengthen the industry as well as local communities. Each year IACC offers scholarships to state, regional, and national association conferences and programs for continuing education.

Chamber Program Director Noah Harris was recently awarded a scholarship for the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Institute for Organization Management program in Tucson, Arizona next January. Institute is a four-year professional development program of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation.



Noah Harris  
Program Director

## Marketing/Events Internship

The Chamber is seeking a part-time marketing/events intern for the summer of 2022, with employment starting as early as late April. This internship offers a flexible schedule, great experiences, and opportunities to meet helpful contacts in the North Iowa business community. Job duties are geared toward students majoring in public relations, business, journalism, events, and communications. Interns will work 12-20 hours per week.

Responsibilities include assisting with Chamber events such as the **North Iowa Band Festival**, **College Connections**, the annual **Golf Outing**, **Moonlight Bike Ride**, and other programs. The intern will also assist with marketing and communications, managing social media sites and website content.

Contact Allyson Krull ([akrull@masoncityia.com](mailto:akrull@masoncityia.com)) for additional details.

## Wellness

### CG Public Health Offers Health Screenings with InBody Analyzer

CG Public Health has an opportunity for area businesses to offer a glimpse of overall health status to employees using a body analyzer that can be rented and brought on-site to businesses.

The InBody 570 Analyzer is a professional scale that measures body composition, analyzing body fat percentage and mass, lean mass and how it's distributed in the body, inflammatory status, weight, BMI, and estimated resting metabolic rate.

Why participate in a body composition scan?

- **Motivation & Knowledge:** To identify where you need to focus your fitness and nutrition goals.
- **Injury Treatment and Prevention:** Results help identify what areas of the body need special focus.
- **Monitoring Progress:** Help identify how the body is changing in response to a change in diet or activity levels.
- **Health Uses:** Learn what weight range is appropriate for you; appropriate fat and muscle composition of your body; hydration level of the body.

Contact Kelli Gerdes ([kgerdes@cghealth.com](mailto:kgerdes@cghealth.com)) to find out more information on how to rent the body analyzer for businesses.





# Chamber Leadership

## Executive Committee

Jane Fischer, Board Chairperson  
*Jane Fischer & Associates, LLC*  
Evan Raulie, Chair Elect  
*Smithfield*  
Andy Meyer, Past Chairperson  
*Bergland+Cram Architects*  
Danielle Pace, Treasurer  
*Clear Lake Bank & Trust Co.*  
Jeff Gribben, Small Business  
Division Vice President  
*First Citizens Bank*  
Bill Phillips, Government Affairs  
Division Vice President  
*Henkel Construction Company*  
Jessica Tierney, Workforce & Leadership  
Division Vice President  
*Tierney Properties*  
Todd Leet, Community & Membership  
Division Vice President  
*Thrivent - Todd Leet*

## Board of Directors

Kyle Bermel, *Metalcraft, Inc.*  
Fouad Daoud, *WHKS Engineers, Surveyors,  
and Planners*  
Michael Davis, *IOOF Home & Community  
Therapy Center*  
Chris Jessen, *Heartland Asphalt, Inc.*  
Andrew Johnston, *Laird Law Firm*  
Matt Koch, *Sukup Manufacturing*  
Matt Leibrand, *Stoney Creek Hospitality Corp.*  
Dr. Paul Manternach, *MercyOne North Iowa  
Medical Center*  
Phil Meekins, *CURRIES*  
Tiffany Nonnweiler, *First Citizens Bank*  
Jessica Reith, *Cargill Protein*  
Katy Showalter, *Window World of Mason City*  
Katie Wold, *Three on the Tree*  
Dan Young, *Young Construction of North Iowa*  
Valerie Zahorski-Schmidt, *NIACC*

## Staff

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This is a Mason City Chamber of Commerce Publication.  
Mason City, Iowa 50401 641.423.5724

Publications are monthly for \$20 per year by the Mason City  
Chamber of Commerce, 9 N Federal Ave, Mason City, IA 50401-  
3250. Second Class postage paid at Mason City, IA. Postmaster:  
send address changes to The Chamber, 9 N Federal Ave, Mason  
City, IA 50401-3250.



## Upcoming Events

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### Professional Development

Thursday  
**April 21**

**Wellness Seminar** | 9:30-11:30AM  
Band Festival Room, Commerce Center | 9 N Federal Ave

Wednesday  
**April 27**

**Breaking Glass** with Dr. Barbara Wilson | 11:30AM-1PM  
Third Floor Event Room, Commerce Center | 9 N Federal Ave

### Networking Events

Thursday  
**April 21**

**Business After Hours** sponsored by Wright on the Park |  
4-6PM  
Historic Park Inn Hotel | 15 W State Street, Mason City

### Get Involved/Committee Meetings

Tuesday  
**April 5**

**Ambassador Meeting** | Noon-1PM  
Third Floor Event Room, Commerce Center | 9 N Federal Ave

Friday  
**April 8**

**Band Festival Committee Meeting** | Noon-1PM  
Band Festival Room, Commerce Center | 9 N Federal Ave

Wednesday  
**April 13**

**Agribusiness Committee Meeting** | 8-9AM  
Third Floor Event Room, Commerce Center | 9 N Federal Ave

**Program Committee Meeting** | Noon-1PM  
Board Room, Commerce Center | 9 N Federal Ave

Tuesday  
**April 19**

**Wellness Committee Meeting** | 3-4PM  
Farrer Room, Commerce Center | 9 N Federal Ave

## May 2022

**May 5 | Business After Hours** hosted by Mint Springs Dentistry  
**May 26-30 | 83rd Annual North Iowa Band Festival**