

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, May 11

Location: Markley and Blythe
7 W State Street

Hosted By:



Thank you to 98.7 KISS Country/103.7 The Fox for highlighting Business After Hours on its stations!

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North Iowa Band Festival

Mark your calendars! The 84th **North Iowa Band Festival** is almost here! The **Band Festival** committee has planned another fun-filled Memorial Day weekend, full of music and entertainment in Downtown Mason City to honor 84 years of this beloved North Iowa tradition! This year's theme is "All-American Band Festival".



In the spirit of celebrating local musicians, the *John Adams Middle School Band* will kick off the weekend on Thursday night, followed by a performance from the *Mason City Municipal Band*.

On Friday, the talented *Mason City High School Orchestra* is scheduled at 5PM at the Principal Performing Arts Pavilion. The *Mason City High School Jazz Band* will play at 6PM on the Main Stage, followed by *Elton and Billy – The Tribute* at 7PM. This dueling piano duo will showcase all of the favorites from legendary piano men Elton John and Billy Joel!

Saturday's entertainment begins with The Stu Nevermann Run at 8AM, followed by the BIG parade at 10AM that runs down East State Street from North Penn to the High School. Then, the state champion MCHS Danzers will perform at 12:45PM in front of the Main Stage before the Awards Ceremony at 1:30PM. The instrument petting zoo will be held from 2-4PM along with balloon creations and spin art. At 2:30PM, the Bill Riley Talent Show will be held on the Main Stage, a first for the **North Iowa Band Festival**! This show will serve as the area's first of the summer, and the winner will go on to compete at the Iowa State Fair in August.

Saturday evening's Main Stage performances begin at 5:30PM with local band *The Sweet Nuthins*. Fans of NBC's "The Voice" will be in for a treat this year when *Morgan Myles* takes the main stage with her country flare at 7PM. Myles recently placed third on Season 22 of the popular singing competition show. She was also the only female singer to boast the accomplishment of making it to the top five finalists!

DRUM MAJOR SPONSORS



BAND MASTER SPONSORS



FLAG CORPS SPONSORS

Alliant Energy • Casey's • CENT Credit Union • Holiday Inn Express & Suites Mason City
MercyOne North Iowa Medical Center • NIACC • POET Biorefining Hanlontown
Rieman Music • Thrivent-Todd Leet

New Members

**FAIRWAY INDEPENDENT
MORTGAGE CORPORATION**
Amanda Kaufman, Mortgage Loan
Originator
Mason City, IA 50401
641-430-9343
Amanda.kaufman@fairwaymc.com
www.home.com

This mortgage company has members nationwide and funded over \$42 billion in mortgage loans in 2022 ranking them the 5th largest mortgage lender in the country. National Strength - Hometown Service.

SPRECHER LAW OFFICE
Cameron Sprecher, Attorney
18 2nd Street NE
Mason City, IA 50401
641-812-2503
cameron@sprecherlawoffice.com
www.sprecherlawoffice.com

Sprecher Law Office provides Family Law, Custody, and General Practice to Mason City and the surrounding communities.

**SCHOOLEY MITCHELL OF NORTH
IOWA**
Scott Deetz, Business Optimization
Specialist
411 20th PI SW
Mason City, IA 50401
319-536-9727
Scott.deetz@schooleymitchell.com
www.Schooleymitchell.com

Schooley Mitchell helps businesses reduce costs and become more profitable. Their clients average 28% in savings. The only fees they collect come from a portion of savings delivered. Process is risk free.



From the President

It's come to be one of my favorite moments: Memorial Day Weekend, Saturday, at precisely 10AM, we'll hear that familiar rhythm drumming through the air, followed by the notes everyone in Mason City knows by heart. I'm humming it now, are you? "76 trombones led the big parade..."

I have a new appreciation for the lasting impact of *The Music Man* after seeing it on Broadway this past summer. But even the magic of Broadway (and Hugh Jackman) couldn't quite capture the true spirit and pride this community has for its musical heritage and for our **North Iowa Band Festival**. After all, I know I'm not the only one who tears up as our Mason City High School students start marching down State Street.

This year's Grand Marshal and Klemptner Award recipients love(d) **Band Festival** as much as I do. The celebration we know today is possible because of their hard work. Our Grand Marshals, Ruth Miller and Rosie Hussey, spent so many years at the helm of this festival. It's exciting to know that Ruth will once again lead the Big Parade with help from Rosie's family (unfortunately, Rosie passed away just last month). Ruth recalls trying to find the brightest suits to wear on **Band Festival** weekend so people could spot her in an emergency. We hope she'll find something colorful to wear once again, but no one will have any problem spotting her in the lead convertible!

If you know our Klemptner recipient, Bill Stangler, you might think of him as a tough guy. But ask him about his favorite **Band Festival** memories and you'll see his eyes light up with joy. He's pretty sure he hasn't missed a festival and had a hard time thinking of just ONE moment that is his favorite. We're thankful he hasn't missed a festival too – but I hope this year he can take a break and spend some time enjoying this honor.

So please help me celebrate our honorees AND our musical heritage as we gear up for the 84th **North Iowa Band Festival**. And if you hear me humming or whistling, feel free to join in – I'm sure you know the tune.



Colleen Frein
President & CEO

Leadership Seminar - May 3

Aaron Putze will teach attendees how to harness the power of relationships at the Chamber's Leadership Workshop "It's Always Personal" from 1-4PM on Wednesday, May 3.

Putze is a 28-year veteran of the communications profession, earning degrees in communications and public relations from the University of Northern Iowa and a supervisory leadership certificate from Drake University. A popular speaker and work-life coach, Putze's the author of two books and connects with audiences throughout the country about the power of trust, positivity, and relationships.



Putze's fast-paced and heartfelt storytelling combined with compelling visuals and practical and actionable insights will motivate and inspire! In addition to being entertained, participants will walk away with actionable intel to help grow personally and professionally.

Registration is \$40 for Chamber members and \$50 for non-members. Thank you to Chevron Renewable Energy Group for sponsoring this leadership development session. Call Allyson at the Chamber to register (641.423.5724).



Renewable Energy Group

Workshop Sponsor

DEI Speaker Series - May 23

The Chamber's next DEI Training series is a virtual session from Noon-1PM on Tuesday, May 23 with Brenda Clark Hamilton. Brenda is a nationally-recognized conference speaker with a sense of humor, in-depth knowledge, and high energy; and she is skilled at keeping audiences engaged. Her presentation on "The Five Generations Workplace" will help attendees recognize and appreciate the unique perspectives of their 5G colleagues.

Gen X, Millennials, Baby Boomers, Radio Babies, and Gen Z are the five generations of colleagues working side by side each day. This engaging, interactive program is designed to increase understanding of, and respect for, the different perspectives that each generation might bring to the workplace, based upon their shared life experiences.

All participants must register through the Chamber's website to receive the webinar link. There is no charge for Chamber members who are Certified Inclusive Employers. To learn more about **Building COMMUNITY** and becoming a Certified Inclusive Employer, contact the Chamber at 641-423-5724.



Brenda Clark Hamilton



Session Sponsor

Breaking Glass - June 8

Breaking Glass featuring Rowena Crosbie of Tero International will be held from 8:30-10AM on Thursday, June 8.

Rowena Crosbie is President of Tero International and co-author of *Your Invisible Toolbox*. Since 1993, Tero International has earned a distinguished reputation as a premier research and corporate training company. Tero was once again named the Best Training Company in 2021 and has been included on the "Best Of List" by The Des Moines Business Record in their annual Reader's Poll every year since the category was introduced in 2007.

Rowena's commitment to help people challenge the way they think, combined with her strong communication skills, ignites a passion in her listeners which endures long after her presentations are over. Her ability to inspire audiences has consistently earned her reviews as a top-rated speaker and trainer. The design of her programs takes the wisdom of many years of research from the philosophical to the practical for her listeners. People who leave her sessions, leave with useful tools to become the very best they can be in both their personal and professional lives.

The **Breaking Glass Leadership Series** 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 employees of Chamber member businesses and \$20 for non-members.



Rowena Crosbie
Tero International



Session Sponsor

New Members (cont.)

MASON CITY MATTRESS - MATTRESS BY APPOINTMENT

Johnathan Morrison, Owner
2512 4th St SW, Bay 1
Mason City, IA 50401
641-450-9721
mbanorthiowa@gmail.com

Mattress By Appointment helps the people of North Iowa save 50-80% on their brand new mattress!

NEW ENERGY FREEDOM

James Foster
9 N Federal Ave
Mason City, IA 50401
717-314-9774
jwfoster@newenergyblue.com
www.newenergyblue.com

New Energy Freedom turns biomass into green energy, and green energy turns into cleaner air and water.

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.

- | | |
|--------|--|
| May 4 | Oak Leaf
Mike Tickal |
| May 5 | Henkel Construction
Kent Brcka |
| May 12 | Kinney Pioneer Museum
Karen Byrne |
| May 19 | North Iowa Landlord Association
Brian Huntley |
| May 26 | Band Festival
Noah Harris |

Membership Renewals

Congratulations to the Chamber members celebrating membership anniversaries in May.

Seventy Plus Years

Consolidated Energy Company
(71)

Sixty Plus Years

Central Park Dentistry (64)

Fifty Plus Years

Electronic Engineering Company
(58)

Express Employment Professionals
(51)

Forty Five Plus Years

Harley Davidson of Mason City
(48)

Huber Supply Co. (46)

Hy-Vee West (46)

Thirty Plus Years

Kingland (33)

Kraft Heinz (32)

La'James College of Hairstyling
(32)

Midwest Construction & Supply
(32)

Waste Management of Northern Iowa (31)

Target (31)

Mason City Family YMCA (31)

Twenty Five Plus Years

First Baptist Church (27)

Country Club Stables (27)

Church & Dwight Co., Inc. (25)

Staples (25)

Twenty Plus Years

Homestead Assisted Living (23)

Linahon Electric, Inc. (22)

NISS Excavation & Rock Quarry
(21)

Cargill Protein (21)

Decker House Bed & Breakfast
(21)

Schroeder Concrete (20)

Golf Outing Registration

Start thinking sunshine! Registration is officially open for the 2023 **Chamber Golf Outing**. This year's event is scheduled for Thursday, June 15 at Highland Park Golf Course in Mason City.

Make plans to register a team of four for this friendly networking golf tournament. Registration for a golf team is \$400 for Chamber members.

Not a golfer? No problem! Consider sponsoring a hole for \$350. Hole sponsors get the opportunity to set up a booth at a hole of their choice and connect with more than 140 golfers during the day! But hurry, these slots fill up fast!

A rain date is set for Thursday, June 22 in the case of inclement weather.

Tournament
Sponsor:



Global Familiarization Trips

CROATIA: November 4-12, 2023

From its mild year-round climate, rich cultural heritage, and stylishly cosmopolitan appeal, Croatia is the best-kept secret in the Adriatic! Croatia features a virtually unrivaled ancient heritage boasting intriguing architecture that has been preserved for hundreds of years. Rovinj, Opatija, and Split are just a few of the many fascinating cities on tour.

Trip cost: \$3,349 per person + taxes (double occupancy)

Single supplement: \$699

Optional Dubrovnik Extension: \$699 (double occupancy)



PERU: March 11-20, 2024

Explore the many incredible sights and culinary delights the country has to offer. Trip highlights include Lima, the Sacred Valley of the Incas, Local Andean Cultures, Ollantaytambo Ruins, Machu Picchu, Cuzco, Lake Titicaca, Uros Floating Islands, and more!

Trip cost: \$4,329* per person (double occupancy)

Single supplement: \$600

*Early bird rate if booked by August 11, 2023.



Pricing for tours include roundtrip airfare from Minneapolis, hotel accommodations, guides, some meals, and sightseeing on itineraries.

Contact Allyson at the Chamber for more information or to register (akrull@masoncityia.com | 641.423.5724).

College Connections Registrations

The Chamber is looking for college interns in the North Iowa area! Businesses are invited to enroll summer interns in **College Connections**, a program designed to connect young workers to the community and to each other. Each \$100 sponsor of this program may register up to 5 interns in the program. Non-sponsor member businesses can enroll their interns for \$25 per participant.



College Connections provides a series of social and educational activities every Thursday June 1-July 27, 2023. Chamber members serve as speakers on a variety of topics relevant to college students and new graduates including networking, personality styles, cost of living & labor market, resumes, and more! In addition to a few scheduled social activities, a list of popular area recreational activities is provided for participants to pursue outside of the program's regular meeting times. To register an intern for the program, please contact Allyson at the Chamber (akrull@masoncityia.com | 641.423.5724)

Thank you to the 2023 **College Connections** Sponsors!



Community Profile Magazine

It's hard to believe, but advertising sales are well underway for the 2024-25 edition of the "This Is North Iowa" Community Profile magazine. More than 120 Chamber members have already reserved ad space in this biennial publication. This comprehensive magazine contains a host of local data including economic statistics, census information, workforce characteristics, and cost-of-living indices for Mason City, Clear Lake, and Cerro Gordo County.

The Chamber, North Iowa Corridor EDC, Visit Mason City, Main Street Mason City and other partners will be using these guides for professional & executive recruitment, presentations to economic development prospects, visitor information, and consumer relocation packets.

Sales Representative Michael Holmes is well-known to Chamber members. This is the seventh time he has assisted the Chamber staff with this important project. Michael will be available to reserve ad space through mid-June. Contact him at the Chamber office (641.423.5724) to make an appointment or reach him on his cell phone at 815.871.2631.



Membership Renewals (cont.)

Fifteen Plus Years

State Farm Insurance - Kristy Marquis (19)
Pizza Ranch (19)
Lady of the Lake (19)
Furniture/Mattress Outlet (17)
Fox Auction Company (17)
Pilgrim Place (16)

Ten Plus Years

Cutting Edge Tree Services (14)
Clear Lake Bank & Trust Co. (13)
Financial Architects (13)
Greater Iowa Youth For Christ (12)
Splash Multisport & Custom (12)
King Construction & Overhead Door, Inc. (12)
Blanchard Tree Service (12)
T & R Custom Tops (11)
Window World of Mason City (11)
J & J Machining (11)
Country Landscapes, Inc (10)
Waldorf University (10)

Five Plus Years

River City Society for Historic Preservation (9)
YohnCo (8)
Active Family Chiropractic LLC (8)
DealerBuilt (7)
Cardinal Cleaning (7)
Airgas USA, LLC (6)
Best Impressions Photography (5)
Monroe Plaza South (5)
North Iowa Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) (5)

One Plus Years

Anthony Djuren Photography (4)
Premier Sprayfoam & Coatings (3)
Barbers Premiere Carpet Cleaning and Home Services (3)
Tommy's Express Car Wash (3)
Brian's One Stop Auto Shop (2)
Cor-Tech LLC (2)
Mark Lemon (1)
Rebecca Gisel (1)
Metronet Inc (1)
River City Dump Trailer Rentals (1)
Mason City Farmers Market (1)

*Join Visit Mason City as we celebrate
National Tourism Week, National Bike Month,
and the many NEW outdoor recreation
developments in and around Mason City!*



**MONDAY,
MAY 8TH**

5:30 PM-8:00 PM

Fat Hill Brewing

17 North Federal Avenue
Mason City, Iowa

**BIKE NORTH IOWA DEVELOPMENTS
HIGH LINE TRAIL | PRAIRIE LAND TRAIL
WINNEBAGO RIVER KAYAK LAUNCH
AND MORE!**



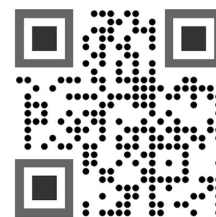
Training: Get Your Local Business on Google Search and Maps

Showing up when customers are searching online is more important than ever. Ensure customers can find accurate, updated information about your local business on Google Search and Google Maps, no matter which device they use. In this workshop, you will learn how to create and manage a Google Business Profile from start to finish.



May 23, 2023 | 9 AM-10:30 AM

North Iowa Regional Commerce Center
9 N. Federal Avenue, Mason City



Register online at mainstreetmasoncity.com/events

#GrowWithGoogle



Grow with Google

mainstreetmasoncity.com



MAY 2023

NORTH IOWA CORRIDOR LOAN FUNDS AVAILABLE TO SUPPORT LOCAL BUSINESS

THE NORTH IOWA CORRIDOR has two revolving loan funds available to businesses in Cerro Gordo County that invest in our communities to create economic opportunity or quality of life.

The Small Business Revolving Loan Fund is available to new and existing businesses to provide gap financing to small and emerging businesses in the area. This loan is available to all business sectors, including those in the retail, entertainment, and hospitality industries.

To qualify for funding, applicant businesses must have a presence in Cerro Gordo County, employ fewer than 50 employees, produce less than \$1 million in gross annual sales and meet additional established criteria. The loan fund will not compete with traditional business financing sources and loans are limited to \$10,000 per applicant business.

Chad Schreck, President & CEO of the North Iowa Corridor, said, "The Corridor hopes that these funds will spur growth in small business start-ups, as well as provide existing small businesses with the assistance they may need to grow to the next level."

The second funding resource is the Corridor Revolving Loan Fund. The loan fund serves as a gap financing resource for growing primary sector businesses, and has recently been opened up to assist in quality of life and housing type projects that serve significant community needs. It is not intended to compete with other available sources of funding, but rather to provide money necessary to leverage those resources.

Schreck said the fund has been used to leverage existing industry growth as well as to assist in the attraction of new business to North Iowa, including Sunny Fresh Foods, Inc., now Cargill Kitchen Solutions, which today employs close to 350 people in Mason City.

He added that without the generous contributions of the original seeders of the fund and sound management, this resource would not be possible.

"The contributors to this fund made an investment in the betterment of North Iowa, and the excellent management of a series of highly capable committee members have positioned the Corridor RLF to be an excellent asset to help grow our communities," Schreck said.

For more information on either loan fund, please contact Schreck at cschreck@northiowacorridor.com or 641-423-0315.

SAVE THE DATE

Join the North Iowa Corridor for our 2023 Annual Meeting JUNE 22 at the Surf Ballroom in Clear Lake. Learn more about the organization's activities over the past year, as well as some of the exciting developments we are working on for the year ahead.

For more information or to RSVP, please email us at admin@northiowacorridor.com.

CHAD SCHRECK

PRESIDENT & CEO

cschreck@northiowacorridor.com

SHAUN ARNESON

VP, EXISTING BUSINESS & PROJECT MANAGEMENT

sarneson@northiowacorridor.com



North Iowa Entrepreneurs Compete in the Venture School Launch Day Competition

The NIACC John Pappajohn Entrepreneurial Center hosted the Venture School Launch Day competition on Wednesday April 12, 2023. The Spring 2023 Venture School cohort competed in person after attending classes virtually for 7 weeks of training, customer discovery, and developing their business model alongside local entrepreneur coaches. The competition was judged by a panel of three judges: Stacy Doughan, Clear Lake Area Chamber of Commerce; Natalie Plagge, Clear Lake Bank & Trust; Zack Smith, The Stock Cropper. The following prizes were awarded:

First Place – Molly Angstman, Three Bells Books; Mason City, IA. Awarded \$2000 prize. Three Bells Books is a community-focused indie bookshop-in-planning located in downtown Mason City.

Second Place – Mary Jo Vrba, Mags & Lu; Mason City, IA. Awarded \$1500 prize. Mags & Lu is a pet service business including pet boarding, dog daycare, and other additional services.

Third Place – Oscar Madong, Retrofit Electric; Lake Mills, IA. Awarded \$1000 prize. Retrofit Electric is a company that retrofits existing gasoline vehicles to electric.

Honorable Mention – Dustin Buck, Buck Wild Racing; Forest City, IA. Awarded \$500 prize. Buck Wild Racing manufactures kart components for both consumers and businesses for the go-kart racing industry.

The University of Iowa Venture School is a premier statewide program for entrepreneurs. Venture School emphasizes real-world entrepreneurship and innovation based on leading edge curriculum. Eligible teams may continue on to compete for cash awards at the state level during the Venture School Launch Day at EntreFEST in Iowa City on June 8-9, 2023. To apply for the Fall 2023 cohort, visit www.venture-school.com and select the Mason City cohort in the dropdown menu.



Venture School Spring 2023 Cohort
Back Row L to R: Mary Jo Vrba, Dustin Buck, Chloe Anderson, Molly Angstman. Front Row L to R: Oscar Madong, Lance Studer, Lori Finch, Kayla Nagel.

UPCOMING EVENTS

TechTalk Summit: Innovations in Digital Marketing

Wednesday, May 10

7:30am - 9:00am

Free seminar led by three expert speakers

Register at bit.ly/techtalk-summit

TechTalk: Technology & Workplace Safety

Tuesday, May 23

5:00pm - 7:00pm

Sponsored by Riskill & Popp Excavating

Register at pappajohncenter.com/events

NIACC Pappajohn Center & SBDC Staff

Candi Karsjens, *Director*

Brook Boehmler, *North Iowa Area SBDC Director*

Ashley Page, *Director of Entrepreneurship Programs*

Kelley O'Rourke, *School Partnership Coordinator*

Joyce Martin, *Marketing & Community Relations Mgr.*

Mary Spitz, *Administrative Assistant*

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.

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

Chevron Renewable Energy Group
Curries

First Security Bank & Trust

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

98.7 Kiss Country / 103.7 The Fox /
KIOW 107.3 / KCHA 95.9

Bergland + Cram Architects

Century 21 Preferred

Farmers State Bank

Henkel Construction Co.

North Iowa Area Community
College

Pritchard Companies

Smithfield

Sukup Manufacturing Co

Thrivent - Todd Leet

Moonlight Bike Ride

Save the date for the 2023 *Moonlight Bike Ride*, scheduled for Friday, August 19.

After last year's cancellation due to extreme weather, we are looking forward to the *Moonlight Bike Ride* more than ever! The Chamber's Worksite Wellness committee understands that it is critical for worksites to prioritize the health and well-being of their staff. By doing so, quality of life is improved both at work and at home! Participants may enter as an individual or team of four. This is just one of the many initiatives created to motivate North Iowans to lead healthier, happier lives.

For more information or to register, contact Noah Harris at the Chamber at 641.423.5724 or nharris@masoncityia.com.



Wellness Seminar Recap

The 2023 *Wellness Seminar*: Stress and Burnout in the Workplace was held on Thursday, April 20 at the Commerce Center.

Participants learned about a variety of stressors, including the differences between acute and chronic stresses. Demi Johnson covered ways to mitigate and handle stress in the workplace, recognize when coworkers are stressed or burnt out, and more. The *Wellness Seminar* was presented by Iowa State University Extension and Outreach in partnership with the State of Iowa Department of Health and Human Rights.

The *Wellness Seminar* was presented by the Chamber's Worksite Wellness Committee and sponsored by Clear Lake Bank and Trust.



Groundbreaking



HIGH LINE TRAIL

Ribbon Cutting

NEW MEMBER Crest Services



Leadership North Iowa Project

This year's **Leadership North Iowa** students selected a project focused on food insecurity in North Iowa. The group was approached by a new non-profit organization, North Iowa Mutual Aid, to assist with a community fridge program. The students met for weeks discussing how a community fridge would work, collecting input from area partners, researching best practices, and fundraising. Their original plan to have a separate, 24-hour structure to house a fridge-shifted mid-session to focus on a centralized indoor location at an existing business. Many great conversations took place around the community and while the need is acknowledged, there is currently no confirmed location.

As the **LNI** group wraps up their time together, they have prepared a list of contacts, information, and best practices to provide to the North Iowa Mutual Aid staff and volunteers as they continue their mission to add community fridges to North Iowa. Once a location is confirmed, funds raised by the group will be used to purchase a fridge. The class will also distribute funds to two well-known local organizations who work in reducing food insecurity – Community Kitchen of North Iowa and Hawkeye Harvest Food Bank. If a business or organization is interested in hosting a fridge, please reach out directly to North Iowa Mutual Aid or contact the Chamber.

Civics Bee Recap

The 2nd Annual **North Iowa Civics Bee** was held on Tuesday, April 25.

20 middle school students from Mason City competed in the event. The first two rounds consisted of multiple choice questions about civics, and then the top five finalists continued on to answer questions from judges about civics projects. Congratulations to the top three students, Madeline Cornish (1st), Julia Hines (2nd), and Allison Long (3rd)! These students will move on to compete at the Iowa Civics Bee during the Iowa State Fair.



Sen. Joni Ernst addresses the students



The judging panel included Todd Leet (Thrivent), Jaime Copley (Sukup Manufacturing), and Aaron Burnett (City of Mason City)



20 finalists from John Adams Middle School and Newman Catholic School competed in this year's event



Colleen Frein, President & CEO of the Chamber, awards Madeline Cornish with the 1st Place trophy

Wellness

Join the Community Health Center for a day of walking for mental health awareness on Thursday, May 18 in Downtown Mason City! Walk, learn more, find sources, spread awareness, and show support!

This event is free and open to all! Come as you are! Although there is no dress code, North Iowans are encouraged to wear GREEN on May 18th which is recognized as "Wear Green Day" - a day meant to raise community awareness and create conversation to stop the stigmas associated with mental illness.

The schedule will go as follows:

11AM - Food Vendors, Resource Tables and Walking Path open to the public.

11:45AM - Short Oration, Group Photo, and Community Laps (as a large group)

Until 1PM - Food Vendors, Resource Tables, and Walking Path remain open.

For more information on the Iowa Healthiest State initiative and the Make It Ok campaign, you can visit www.iowahealthieststate.com.



Chamber Leadership

Executive Committee

Evan Raulie, Board Chairperson
Smithfield
Dr. Paul Manternach, Chair Elect
MercyOne North Iowa Medical Center
Jane Fischer, Past Chairperson
Jane Fischer & Associates, LLC
Danielle Pace, Treasurer
Clear Lake Bank & Trust Co.
Kyle Bermel, Small Business
Division Vice President
Metalcraft, Inc.
Phil Meekins, Government Affairs
Division Vice President
CURRIES
Jessica Tierney, Workforce & Leadership
Division Vice President
Tierney Properties
Todd Leet, Community & Membership
Division Vice President
Thrivent - Todd Leet

Board of Directors

Michael Davis, *IOOF Home & Community
Therapy Center*
Jeremy Holman, *Kraft Heinz*
Chris Jessen, *Heartland Asphalt, Inc.*
Janet Johnson, *One Vision*
Matt Koch, *Sukup Manufacturing*
Dr. Michelle LaCoste, *Animal Medical Hospital*
Matt Leibrand, *Stoney Creek Hospitality Corp.*
Kevin Meyer, *First Citizens Bank*
Amber Morud, *Charlie Brown Preschool &
Child Care*
Jessica Reith, *Cargill Protein*
Jenna Sheriff, *Jane Fischer & Associates*
Katy Showalter, *Window World of Mason City*
Luke Weiss, *Hoover's Hatchery*
Valerie Zahorski-Schmidt, *NIACC*

Staff

Colleen Frein, MBA IOM
President & Chief Executive Officer
cfrein@masoncityia.com
Allyson Krull, IOM
Vice President
akrull@masoncityia.com
Noah Harris
Program & Marketing Director
nharris@masoncityia.com
Jeremiah Frein
Membership Director
jeremiah@masoncityia.com
Isaac Bartz
Service & Operations Associate
chamber@masoncityia.com

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Mason City, Iowa 50401 641.423.5724

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City, IA 50401-3250.



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(USPS 060-350)

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<<Company Name>>
<<Address 1>>
<<Address 2>>
<<City>>, <<State/Province>> <<Postal Code>>

Upcoming Events

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Professional Development

Wednesday May 3	Leadership Workshop: It's Always Personal 1-4PM Anderson Event Room, Commerce Center 9 N Federal Ave
Tuesday May 23	DEI Speaker Series: Brenda Clark Hamilton 12-1PM Presented virtually via Zoom

Networking Events

Thursday May 11	Business After Hours: Markley and Blythe 4-6PM Markley and Blythe, 7 W State Street
Thursday-Monday May 25-29	North Iowa Band Festival Downtown Mason City Visit www.nibandfest.com for a detailed schedule of events!



Get Involved/Committee Meetings

Tuesday May 2	Ambassador Meeting Noon-1PM Commerce Center, 9 N Federal Ave
Monday May 8	Wellness Committee Meeting 1-2PM Farrer Room, Commerce Center 9 N Federal Ave
Wednesday May 10	Agribusiness Committee Meeting 8-9AM Anderson Event Room, Commerce Center 9 N Federal Ave Program Committee Meeting Noon-1PM Board Room, Commerce Center 9 N Federal Ave
Friday May 12	Band Festival Committee Meeting Noon-1PM Band Festival Room, Commerce Center 9 N Federal Ave

June 2023

June 1 | **Business After Hours** hosted by Raymond James
June 8 | **Breaking Glass** featuring Rowena Crosbie
June 15 | **Chamber Golf Outing**