



NOVEMBER 2011

Chamber Update

CITY ELECTIONS

Vote today to shape tomorrow

Tuesday, Nov. 8, is the day. It's time for Story County citizens to get to the polls and elect who will represent them in city government. In Ames, city officials are on the ballot along with the Ames Public Library renewal project.

No matter where you reside in Ames, everyone has at least four positions to vote for: one city council at-large representative and three hospital trustees. Also up for election are council positions for Ward 2 and Ward 4, and the public measure regarding the Ames Public Library to vote for or against the proposed expansion.

The polls will be open in Ames from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. For your convenience, same-day voter registration is available. All you need to bring with you is proof of residence and proof of identity.

Also, you can vote in person prior to the election at the



Story County Auditor's Office. Office hours are from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. The Auditor's Office is located in the Story County Administration Building, 900 Sixth Street, Nevada. For cities with polls opening at 7 a.m. on Election Day, the last day to vote absentee in person is Monday, Nov. 7, by 5 p.m.

Story County even gives you the option of requesting an absentee ballot by mail. You'll need to submit a signed Absentee Ballot Request to have a ballot mailed to you. However, the last day to request a ballot be mailed is Friday, Nov. 4, by 5 p.m.

For a complete list of candidates, polling locations, sample copies of the ballot and other voter information, please visit

Library question

In Ames, in addition to the candidates running on the ballot, there is one question that requires your attention as well:

Shall the following public measure be adopted?

"Shall the City of Ames, in Story County, Iowa, enter into a loan agreement and issue bonds in an amount not exceeding \$18,000,000 for the purpose of paying the cost, to that extent, of expanding, renovating and equipping the Ames Public Library?" (yes or no)

Story County's website at www.storycounty.com and click on "Auditor & Elections" or call (515) 382-7210.

Remember your vote today will shape Story County's tomorrow. Vote your voice, and join us at the polls on Tuesday, Nov. 8.



*It's fun. It's wacky. It's back.
It's just what you need when the cold settles in.
It's ...*

CHAMBER BOWL

REGISTER YOUR TEAM TODAY!

Friday, November 11, 2011
1:00 - 5:00 p.m.

perfect games

1320 Dickinson Avenue, Ames

\$100 entry for team of four includes:
Kingpin Pizza, 3 games of bowling, prizes awarded to top three teams,
and outstanding networking with over-the-top fun!

THANKS TO OUR WONDER-BOWL SPONSOR

MARY GREELEY MEDICAL CENTER
Specialized care. Personal touch.

REGISTER TODAY!
www.ameschamber.com

The mission of the Ames Chamber of Commerce is to provide our members services that strengthen the economic vitality in Ames and enhance the quality of life in our community.



2011 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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CONTACT US

The **Chamber Update** newsletter is published by the **Ames Chamber of Commerce**, 1601 Golden Aspen Drive, Suite 110, Ames, IA, 50010; phone: (515) 232-2310; www.ameschamber.com; fax: (515) 232-6716.

CHAMBER COMMITTEES

Chamber committees provide opportunities to get involved

Your input, participation and ideas are needed

The Chamber's task of working to improve the long-term economic vitality of its members and the community is accomplished through the ideas and projects that begin in committees of the Chamber. Each Chamber committee focuses on a different aspect of the community that affects business. We welcome your input and invite you to consider sharing your ideas and time by joining one of the Chamber committees:

Business improvement council

To provide support and resources for Ames Chamber businesses and organizations as they strive for continuous improvement is the mission of this committee. This committee's main charge is to develop, plan and facilitate professional development opportunities that are available to Chamber members. Monthly Business Improvement Forums, lunch and learn series and seminars are just part of the offerings this committee works on.

Meets on the second Thursday of every month at noon.

Chamber staff facilitator: Crystal Davis, crystal@ameschamber.com.

Education connections

Education is a vital component of



every community and is directly related to economic development, quality of life and the stability and growth of area post-secondary educational institutions. This committee seeks to strengthen the relationships between area businesses and local school districts and to help address local diversity issues and workforce concerns. The annual Salute to Educators celebratory luncheon recognizing area educators is just one example of this committee's work.

Meets on the first Wednesday of every month at noon.

Chamber staff facilitator: Crystal Davis, crystal@ameschamber.com.

Government affairs

The Chamber's Government Affairs Committee works diligently to identify and research legislative issues that affect the business community. They then update and educate Chamber members regarding these vital matters so that members will be aware of how legislation will impact their organizations. The committee keeps Chamber members' concerns in front of key government officials by keeping the lines of communication open with lawmakers and by

hosting monthly Legislative Luncheons. Also, candidate forums are planned for elections. These luncheons and forums give members the opportunity to meet candidates and public officials face-to-face. In addition, the Government Affairs Committee helps develop the Chamber's annual legislative survey and participates in Ames Day at the Capitol. We welcome any Chamber member with an interest in ensuring the business community has a strong voice in local, state and federal government to join this terrific group.

Meets on the first Friday of each month at noon.

Chamber staff facilitator: Angela Davidson, angela@ameschamber.com.

Membership affairs

Overseeing all organized recruitment efforts of the Chamber, this committee works to encourage Chamber member involvement through active and visible participation in Chamber events and activities. Business at Breakfast, Speed Networking, Business After Hours, and New Member Plus 5 & 0 Reception are just some of the events this committee helps develop and facilitate. This committee also calls on new members as well as existing membership to assess membership satisfaction.

Meets on the second Wednesday of each month at noon.

Chamber staff facilitator: Sarah Buss, sarah@ameschamber.com.

All employees of a Chamber member business can get involved in Chamber committees. You can join a committee at any time and participate for as long as you wish. Please call the Chamber office at (515) 232-2310 for more information.

YOUTH LEADERSHIP

Class II begins for Youth Leadership Ames

Presented by Boehringer Ingelheim Vetmedica Inc.; Young Professionals of Ames and Ames Chamber of Commerce



tion committee comprised of Gilbert and Ames school administrators, guidance counselors, and students; Leadership Ames Alumni; Young Professional of Ames board members; and a representative from the business community, reviewed applications and selected this year's class.

The first session for Youth Leadership Ames II was on Sept. 28, at the 4-H Center in Madrid. The youth were led through ice breaker and team building exercises. In the next few months, the youth will be learning about non-profit organizations, city government, health care, financial management, and leadership development. New for this year will be a joint session with the class members of Leadership Ames XXV.

Education Connections and Young Professionals of Ames, along with Boehringer Ingelheim Vetmedica, Inc., are pleased to announce this year's Youth Leadership Ames Class II:

Puneet Anantharam, Gilbert High School; Gabby Brewer, Ames High School; Noah Carter, Gilbert High School; Ali Demirci, Ames High School; Kelsey Dennis, Ames High School; Umar Farooq, Gilbert High School; Grant Fleener, Gilbert High School; Beth Lynch, Gilbert High School; Spencer Oh, Ames High School; Christina Paulson, Ames High School; Tara Sivaskandan, Ames High School; and Mikayla Sullivan, Ames High School.

For more information, please contact Crystal at crystal@ameschamber.com or call the Chamber office at (515) 232-2310.



CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PHOTOS

The first session of Youth Leadership Ames Class II focused on team-building exercises.

The Ames Chamber of Commerce Education Connections Committee and Young Professionals of Ames are excited to announce the second year of Youth Leadership Ames has begun. Following in the footsteps of the Chamber's successful Leadership Ames program, already in its 25th year, the Youth Leadership Ames program is designed to develop the community leadership potential of area high school students in the Chamber member school districts.

Gilbert and Ames High School sophomores were invited to complete an application to be eligible for participation during their junior year of high school (2011-12 school year). A selec-

ART



THE ART OF COMMUNITY

Celebrate the Art of Community

Ames is a creative place with culture around every corner, so to promote the style, diversity and beauty of our community, the Ames Chamber of Commerce has showcased

your artistic perspectives on what makes Ames your place to live, work and thrive.

Get a head start on your holiday shopping and give your loved ones a piece of Ames with a coffee mug,

postcard book or picture book featuring artwork by Ames residents. Stop by the Chamber office today to get your Art of Community, or call ahead to reserve your goodies at (515) 232-2310.

BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT FORUM

Choosing your networking strategy and networking group

7:30 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 17
Somerset Clubhouse
(2400 Aspen Road)

Employees of Ames Chamber businesses are invited to attend the next Business Improvement Forum at 7:30 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 17, at Somerset Clubhouse (2400 Aspen Road). The third topic in our series, *People to People Networking: It's Not What You Know, But Who You Know*, will focus on learning about which networking groups are in the Ames community, how to be involved, and how to effectively network in that particular community group.

Please RSVP by Wednesday, Nov. 16, by registering on our website at www.ameschamber.com or calling Crystal at (515) 232-2310. Business Improvement Forums are open to Ames Chamber members only and are free to attend. Continental breakfast is provided.



CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PHOTO

Attendees at the September Business Improvement Forum listen to Keith Hobson, of FOX Engineering, as he shares about what his company does.

November calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 Noon: Edu. Connections (C)	3	4 Noon: YPA and Chamber Seminar (ISU Memorial Union)	5 <i>ISU vs. Kansas</i>
6 <i>Daylight Saving Time ends</i>	7	8 ELECTION DAY Polls open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.	9	10 Noon: Membership Committee (C) 5 p.m.: BAH (Moorman Clothiers)	11 Noon: Bus. Improv. Council (C) 1 p.m.: Chamber Bowl (Perfect Games) 5 p.m.: YPA FAW (Perfect Games) <i>Veterans Day</i>	12
13	14	15 <i>Leadership Ames</i>	16	17 7:30 a.m.: Business Improv. Forum (Somerset Club-house)	18 <i>ISU vs. Oklahoma State</i>	19 4 p.m.: Snow Magic on Main (MSCD)
20 1 p.m.: Holiday Open Houses (MSCD)	21	22	23	24 <i>Happy Thanksgiving! Chamber closed</i>	25 SHOP AMES GROW AMES! <i>Chamber closed</i>	26 <i>ISU at Oklahoma</i>
27	28	29	30 <i>Youth Leadership Ames</i>			

AEDC: Ames Economic Development Commission **BAH:** Business After Hours **CAA:** Campustown Action Association **C:** Chamber Office **FAW:** Friday After Work **L&L:** Lunch and Learn
R/C: Ribbon Cutting **YPA:** Young Professionals of Ames **YLA:** Youth Leadership Ames

Fall into great Chamber networking, free food and drinks at
Business After Hours hosted by:



Thursday, November 10, 2011
 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.
 Moorman Clothiers
 226 Main Street
 Ames, IA 50010

Thanks to our co-sponsors: Ames Silversmithing, Emerhoffs Footwear & Chocolaterie Stam

YPA NOVEMBER NEWS



CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PHOTO

YPs helped the United Way with maintenance work, cleaning and organizing their food shelter.

YPs volunteer for United Way

YPA volunteered at the United Way's Day of Caring. They were partnered with a local shelter where they spent the morning cleaning, doing maintenance work and organizing their food shelter.

YPA Kids Zone

YPA partnered with local organizations to host the YPA Kids Zone at the Ames Main Street Farmers' Market which began June 25 and ended Sept. 24. Each week, YPA volunteers hosted a booth at the Farmers' Market with activities to help promote healthy living for kids and families. The activities were well-received with an average of 70 kids visiting the booth each week. Thank you to our YPA volunteers and partner organizations for great activities and helping make this year's Kids Zone a big success.

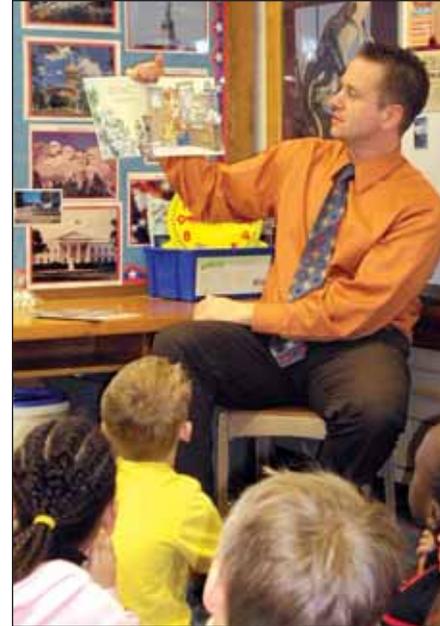


CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PHOTO

The YPA Kids Zone ran from June 25 to Sept. 24.

YPs read to more than 600 children

During the week of Oct. 17 through Oct. 21, YPA volunteers read to more than 600 area pre-schoolers and kindergarteners through the YPA Read With Me Program. YPA also donated more than 600 books so each



CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PHOTO

YPs read to more than 600 preschoolers and kindergarteners during the week of Oct. 17.

student could take one home with them. A little bit of our time and talent creates a huge reward of seeing the excitement these young students have for reading.

Lunch and Learn

On Oct. 18, Ben McDougal, of Global Reach, conducted a social media Lunch and Learn for YPA. McDougal discussed ways to use LinkedIn to build one's career and business. The Lunch and Learn was held at Global Reach, located at 2321 N. Loop Drive in the Iowa State University Research Park.

YPA has partnered with the Ames Chamber for this year's Fall Leadership Symposium which will be on Friday, Nov. 4, at the Iowa State University Memorial Union. Gale Mote will speak at this year's event about teambuilding and accountability.



YPA 2010-11

Annual Sponsors

Ace Community Credit Union
Ames Chamber of Commerce
Ames Community Bank
First National Bank
Global Reach Internet Productions
Green Hills Health Care
Hunziker & Associates, Realtors
ISU Masters of Business
Administration Program
Mary Greeley Medical Center

YPA Dine and Dash

YPs dined and dashed at this year's YPA Dine and Dash Progressive Dinner on Oct. 27.

Three wonderful hosts in Ames laid out delicious food for attendees to sample while mingling with other Young Professionals. It was the perfect way to celebrate fall and make new friends.

Friday after Work

On Oct. 14, YPs gathered at Dublin Bay for Friday After Work (FAW). November's FAW will be held on the Friday, Nov. 11, at Perfect Games (1320 Dickinson Ave.), where appetizers will be provided. Members and nonmembers are welcome to join in on the fun.

FAW events are regularly held on the second Friday of each month. Check out our website at www.ypames.com for all upcoming events.

There's still time to sign up for the 2011 YPA leadership symposium

**Maximizing Team Performance:
The Leader's Role**
Noon to 4:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 4
Memorial Union Gallery
(2229 Lincoln Way)

The Young Professionals of Ames and the Ames Chamber Business Improvement Council are pleased to jointly offer this exciting opportunity to hear speaker Gale Mote. Young Professionals of Ames and Chamber members are invited to register now for this leadership symposium focusing on team performance and the leader's role.

During this symposium you will discover more about:

- Human motivation.
- Leadership behaviors.
- How to create a culture of accountability.

- Build high performance teams.
- Eliminate job misery.

The symposium is \$35 for Chamber members (includes lunch). Please register at www.ameschamber.com. YPA members get in free (includes lunch). Please register at www.ypaames.com. For more information, please call the Chamber office at (515) 232-2310.

Gale Mote

When people come to Mote's presentations and workshops, they usually leave with one key question: "Where does she get that energy?"

For more than 20 years, Mote has been designing and delivering motivational workshops and training classes for all types of industry and organizations. Her firm, Gale Mote Associates, specializes in high performance work

cultures, core interpersonal skills training, and organizational development consulting. Her sessions are creative, energizing, participant-centered and get results. Prior to starting her own company in 1990, she worked for various manufacturing enterprises including Del Monte, Square D Corporation, Quaker Oats and Norand Corporation.

Mote is certified in production and inventory management by the Association for Operations Management. She has been twice honored by the YWCA Tribute to Women of Achievement, and in 2005, she was awarded the Advanced Entrepreneur Award from Women Entrepreneurs in Cedar Rapids. The United States

Commerce Association awarded her "Best of Cedar Rapids for Industrial and Labor Consulting" in 2009. Mote is a summa cum laude graduate of Coe College with multiple degrees in business, economics and education. She holds a masters in business administration degree from the University of Iowa.

2011 Young Professional of Ames Leadership Symposium

**MAXIMIZING TEAM PERFORMANCE:
THE LEADER'S ROLE**

PRESENTED BY: GALE MOTE

NOVEMBER 4TH, 2011

MEMORIAL UNION GALLERY
2229 LINCOLN WAY | AMES, IA 50011

12-4:30 (LUNCH PROVIDED)

FREE W/ YPA MEMBERSHIP
\$35.00 CHAMBER MEMBERS

REGISTER
YPA Members: www.ypaames.rainsongpro.com
Chamber Members: www.ameschamber.com

A Collaboration Between the Young Professionals of Ames & the Ames Chamber of Commerce Business Improvement Council.

Yp *young professionals of ames*

UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITY
AMES
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

RIBBON CUTTINGS



CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PHOTO

Somerset Veterinary is Ames' newest veterinary hospital, located at 2721 Stange Road, Suite 108. Dr. Charles L. Felz, DMV, is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and 8 a.m. to noon with 24-hour emergency service available. Call to make an appointment for your pet today at (515) 292-0400.



CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PHOTO

Day Chiropractic's Dr. Lisa Day celebrated her 10th year in business with a ribbon cutting at 1302 XB Place, Suite 101 (Westport Station). Dr. Day wants to help you get the most out of your body and health. At Day Chiropractic, their goal is restoring balance and overall health ... naturally. Call Dr. Day today at (515) 233-9464.



CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PHOTO

Ballard High School and the Ballard Community School District hosted the Ames Chamber of Commerce executives to officially mark the grand opening of their new high school at the 2011 Homecoming Ceremony with a ribbon cutting. The new school is located at 701 Ballard Drive. Call Principal John Ronca for a tour at (515) 597-2971.



CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PHOTO

Orange Leaf opened for business at 637 Lincoln Way, Suite 102, on Aug. 4, providing self-serve frozen yogurt. Enjoy 16 different flavors as well as 36 different toppings. After you dish up this healthy treat and toppings, weigh your cup and pay as little as \$0.45 per ounce. Stop in and visit Rachel Rademacher and her friendly staff.



CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PHOTO

AmesNewsOnline.com and The Ames Bulletin Board The Ames Bulletin Board celebrated 60 years of publication. Publishing free events and community information, the magazine now hosts the Ames Convention and Visitors Bureau's Ames Area Official Visitors Guide. Stop by and visit Lauris Olson at 326 Fifth St. today.



CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PHOTO

Youth and Shelter Services dedicated the Phase II lower level of the Family Life Center which houses the Foster Care/Adoption Center, Donation Room, Transitional Living Program and AMP Foster Care Youth Council. Contact Roberta Millinsky at (515) 233-3141 for more information.



KHOI Radio celebrated the opening of its new office, studio and launching of its new capital funds campaign. KHOI is a local community-based radio station located at 410 Douglas Ave. Contact Ursula at 2834rossrd@gmail.com for more information.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PHOTO

AMES CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AMBASSADORS

Kim Behrendt, Wells Fargo Bank
Clarissa Wing, Wells Fargo Bank
Ross Buffington, Exchange State Bank
Kristi Carlberg, Dentistry at Somerset
Ritchie Chieves, Hampton Inn/Holiday Inn/Holiday Inn Express
John Coder, Ames Community Bank
Tom Drenthe, Main Street Cultural District
Barry Green, Ames Community Bank
John Greving, Ames Tribune
Brad Sargent, Marshalltown Broadcasting Inc.
Abby Hausmann, The Blood Center of Iowa
Lauris Olson, Ames Bulletin Board/AmesNewsOnline.com
David Orth, Special Olympics Iowa

Tom Randall, Tom Randall Real Estate Team
Tim Rasmussen, Alfred's Carpet and Decorating
Mary Beth Scott, Ames Tribune
Michael Sills, Mediacom
Terry Stark, Chocolaterie Stam
Mark Doyle, Mark Doyle State Farm Agency
Mandy Fjelland, Finesse Spa Salon
Kirt Till, Thrivent Financial
Sharon, Holst, Hunziker and Associates
Ben Handsaker, Buford's Steak House and barbecue
Angie Selby, Springer Professional Home Services
Adam Steil, Great Western Bank
Tara Ethington, Marshalltown

Broadcasting Inc.
Steve Bock, RE/MAX Real Estate Center
Adam Boeding, First American Bank
Paula Brown, First American Bank
Stacy Dreyer, First National Bank
Kendra Eibs, Sam's Club
Linda Gibbs, Greater Iowa Credit Union
Casey Rath, First National Bank
Traci Jennings, RE/MAX Real Estate Center
Matt Julich, Bear Marketing
Amy Juhnke, Lutheran Services in Iowa
Sara Lehman, First National Bank
Joy Leister, Valley Bank
Lloyd Flanders, RE/MAX Real Estate Center
Jeff Ratcliff, Executive Express
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Kevin Geis, Valley Bank
MaryBeth Buchele, Health Naturally

CHAMBER Gold MEMBERS

Thank you to the following members who have donated 10 percent more than their annual dues for the Chamber projects.

Renewable Energy Group Inc.
Furman Corporation
Wilson Toyota Scion of Ames
Jami Larson
Starbucks Coffee
Adam's Moving
Ames Education Foundation
Hunziker Property Management
Pazzesco Pasta and Chophouse

Because of contributions from members like these, the Ames Chamber can maintain a level of excellence in the services we provide. All of our Gold Members will be recognized with a Gold Member decal and at our Annual Event.

Ames Chamber and AEDC staff

- **Dan Culhane**
President and CEO
- **Ron Hallenbeck**
Vice President, Existing Business and Industry
- **Seana Perkins**
Vice President of Business Development and Marketing
- **Crystal Davis**
Director of Professional and Community Development
- **Amy Mogren**
Director of Finance and Administration
- **Sarah Buss**
Director of Membership Development and Affiliate Programming
- **Kristine Keil**
Director of Communications and Organizational Programming
- **Angela Davison**
Director of Government Affairs

Welcome, new Ames Chamber members

B Fabulous BBQ and Catering opened in November 2010 by Deanna and Billy Faubus. They specialize in smoked meats, picnic sides and all the food is made from scratch. This small restaurant is located in Huxley and is open Monday through Friday. B Fabulous BBQ also caters for groups of 10-500. Visit their website at www.bfabbbq.com or call them at (515) 597-8256.

Serve Pro of Ames specializes in restoring property after flood, fire or mold damage. Their motto is "restoring property is less expensive than replacing property." Call Jake, Jeff or Jamie at (515) 233-4544 for an experienced, trained and professional clean-up or restoration expert. They are located at 2229 229th Place, Suite C, in west Ames.

Davis Brown Law Firm takes pride in offering a broad range of legal services to a diverse client base. Firm clients include: individuals, private and public businesses, multi-national corporations, not-for-profit groups, the state and its agencies and political subdivisions, hospitals, and regulated industries. The firm's clients conduct business on a local, state, national and international basis. Call Brian Torresi at (515) 288-2500 if you are in need of legal services today.

Hurd's Hound Haven, an inclusive royal treatment dog resort and salon, located at 3275 400th St., Roland, is a state of the art getaway for your dog. The home of Ames' only self-contained Mobile Grooming Salon wants to show you the newest and most convenient way to give your dog the care and attention they deserve. Call to make an appointment today at (515) 388-4662.

Ames Rental Association (ARA) is a professional association for landlords and property managers in the greater Ames area. The ARA offers an avenue for landlords to screen potential tenants. They have partnered with Tenant Data Services in providing applicant screening services to the rental industry. To find out more, visit their website at www.amesrentalassociation.org.

WOI, ABC Channel 5 can be traced back to its roots in radio at Iowa State College (now Iowa State University) in Ames more than 80 years ago. On April 28, 1922, WOI-AM signed on as the first radio station in central Iowa and one of the first in the country. Today, ABC5, along with the ABC Television Network, broadcast a variety of news, information, sports and entertainment programming. From special live coverage of ISU athletics to ABC World News Tonight, there's something for everyone. ABC5 News alone broadcasts more than 19 hours of local news, sports and weather each week.

Iowa Department of Transportation In 1974, the Legislature created the Iowa Transportation Commission, consisting of seven members. Members are appointed by the governor, are subject to Senate confirmation and no more than four persons can represent the same political party. Serving four-year terms, members are responsible for periodically reviewing programs of the department and making all major investment policy decisions. For more than a century, the IHC and Iowa DOT have promoted the growth and betterment of Iowa's transportation system. Still headquartered in Ames, the agency continues to serve the transportation needs of Iowa and its citizens.

Join the Chamber!

Make new connections, promote your business, take advantage of professional development programs and more when you join the Ames Chamber of Commerce. Contact Membership Director Sarah Buss at (515) 232-2310 for more information on how you or your organization can become a Chamber member.

When you join, here are some of the many benefits you can take advantage of right away!

- **Post coupons on our Web site for FREE.**

- **Attend monthly Business After Hours, Business at Breakfasts, Business Improvement Forums, Speed Networking and more for FREE.**

- **Take advantage of reasonably priced ways to promote your business such as ribbon cuttings, mailing labels and membership mailer, just to name a few.**

- **Discounted Young Professionals of Ames membership (ages 21 to 40).**

MAIN STREET CULTURAL DISTRICT

Snow Magic on Main: Holiday Tree Lighting and much more

Snow Magic will offer community events spanning three weeks, Nov. 19 through Dec. 3. Kicking-off Saturday evening, Nov. 19, will be the official Tree Lighting in Tom Evans Plaza. Live music from the Central Iowa symphony Brass Quintet and the Ames Choral Society will be playing while Mayor Ann Campbell lights the tree. In addition, the Festival of Trees will be on display at the Octagon Center for the Arts.

The rest of the evening will include a special visit from Santa, horse-drawn wagon rides, kiddie train rides; face painting, special events in many shops and much more. The community gingerbread house building contest is back in its second year and once again encourages the community to watch builders in action and vote for their favorite.

Sunday, Nov. 20, many downtown shops will host their annual Holiday Open Houses from 1 to 5 p.m. To get around in style, horse-drawn wagon rides will be available from 1 to 4 p.m. Santa will make a special appearance and then head over to the Octagon to spend time meeting with kids at the Festival of Trees.

Saturday, Dec. 3, will offer the much anticipated Snowball Drop, back for the third year. One thousand ping-pong balls

Snow Magic

Saturday, Nov. 19

- **4 to 7 p.m.** Visits from Santa, the Festival of Trees, horse-drawn wagon rides, train rides, and much more.
- **5:30 p.m.** Lighting of the Holiday Tree at Tom Evans Plaza.

will be dropped in Tom Evans Plaza offering coupons, discounts and prizes for children and adults alike.

The Main Street Cultural Districts extends a big thank you to Ames Electric Services — Smart Energy for sponsoring the three-week event and to Bank of the West for sponsoring the Snowball Drop.

For all the details about the holiday happenings, please visit www.mainstreetculturaldistrict.com or call the office at (515) 233-3472.

Downtown Gives Back for the Holidays

Downtown Ames businesses want to give back to the community, and they need your help.

Downtown businesses will be participating in a community-oriented drive to provide necessary items to people in the Ames area. The four key aspects of the drive include: food, warmth, education and shelter.

Continued on following page



CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PHOTO

Among the many events happening during Snow Magic will be, clockwise from top, gingerbread house building, a visit from Santa Claus, and a holiday train for kiddie rides.

Continued from previous page

Participating downtown businesses will collect donated canned foods, coats, mittens, hats, and children's books in drop boxes, shopping carts, and more to collect donations. They will also help to provide shelter by collecting money to support the Good Neighbor Emergency Fund.

A full list of participating businesses and locations may be found at www.mainstreetculturaldistrict.com.

Downtown Sit Down

New pieces of art have been popping up along Main Street in the form of downtown benches.

Six of 18 benches have received a makeover, sponsored by local businesses and artists. The painted benches are located in Tom Evans Plaza and on the corner of Main Street and Kellogg Avenue.

The Downtown Sit Down concept is to bring color and design to existing city benches in downtown Ames, and to increase the longevity of the benches. The mission of the MSCD is to advance and promote downtown as the destination district in the heart of the Ames Commu-

nity. This is one more reason downtown is called a Cultural District; local artists and organizations working together to showcase arts and culture for all to enjoy.

Sponsorships for each bench are available for \$1,000 and while sponsorships so far have been primarily area businesses, private citizens are welcome to sponsor a bench to show support for Main Street and are welcome to honor a loved one at their bench. A huge thank you goes out to the sponsors of each bench pictured as well as Sign Pro for donating the paint. Thank you for your continued commitment to rejuvenate our downtown. For more information on sponsoring a bench, please contact Tom Drenthe at the MSCD office at (515) 233-3472.

About Us:

The Main Street Cultural District was established on January 1, 2004. Its mission is to advance and promote downtown as the destination district in the heart of the Ames community. To keep updated on MSCD happenings, become a fan of the Main Street Cultural District on Facebook, bookmark www.mainstreetculturaldistrict.com and contact our office at (515) 233-3472. MSCD is an affiliate organization of the Ames Chamber of Commerce.

By artist Mike Gilger, sponsored by Gilger Designs.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PHOTO



By artist West Johnson, sponsored by Stoltze and Stoltze Family Dentistry.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PHOTO



By artist Noelle Gibbons, sponsored by Chamber of Commerce.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PHOTO



By artist Jane Batey, sponsored by Ames Foundation.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PHOTO



By artist Jeanine Strodtman, sponsored by Ames Silversmithing.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PHOTO



By artist Noelle Gibbons, sponsored by Café Diem.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PHOTO

