



AUGUST 2011

Chamber Update

SALUTE TO EDUCATORS



CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PHOTO

Salute to Educators luncheon is Aug. 16

Presented by Boehringer Ingelheim Vetmedica, Greater Iowa Credit Union, and Mary Greeley Medical Center

The 11th-Annual Salute to Educators luncheon is scheduled for Tuesday, Aug. 16, at Ames High School. The event celebrates the value of our area educators from Ames, Gilbert and United Community schools.

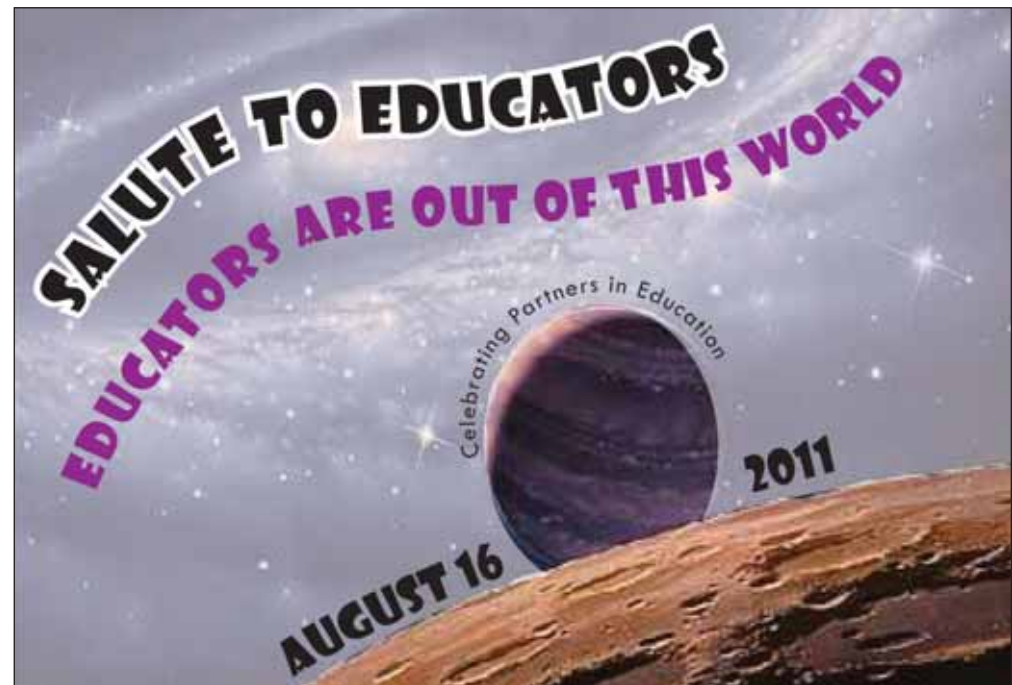
Goodie bags filled with items from area businesses will be given to more than 750 educators, administrators and staff at Ames, Gilbert, United, Ballard, Ames Christian and St. Cecilia schools. On hand will be Ames Chamber Board of Directors, the Education Con-

nections committee, and Young Professionals of Ames to facilitate the event along with Chamber staff.

This year's event theme is "Educators Are Out of this World." Event coordinators hope to remind educators that the Ames Chamber is a resource for them as well as a conduit in linking K-12 education and the business community.

The educators, including teachers, coaches, administration, school board and other faculty members, look forward to the event every year.

For more information about the Ames Chamber Education Connections committee or this event, please contact Crystal at crystal@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.



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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.

ANNUAL STEAK FRY

Thrill of the Grill is Sept. 6

Ames Chamber Annual Steak Fry and Leadership Ames Alumni Reunion
5 to 7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 6,
Iowa State Center Courtyard
Corporate Sponsor: First National Bank

Be a part of the tradition. Be a part of a special reunion. Ames Chamber members and their guests are invited to join the past board chairs of the Ames Chamber for a fun, casual (no ties allowed) grill-your-own Steak Fry, in conjunction with the Leadership Ames Alumni Reunion.

Leadership Ames, the premier lead-

ership development program of the Ames Chamber, is celebrating its 25th year in 2011-12. To kick off this special 25th year, members of a Leadership Ames Class 24 community service project team are bringing together Leadership Ames alumni to reminisce and celebrate. As part of the festivities, guests will be invited to make a donation to the Leadership Ames Endowment Fund, part of the Story County Community Foundation. The endowment fund was established by class members of Leadership Ames Class 22, to provide seed money for future Leadership Ames

community service projects. A short program at 6 p.m. will include honoring the Past Chairs of the Ames Chamber and highlights of past Leadership Ames classes.

The dinner event is \$25 per person and includes steak, salad, baked beans, dessert, beer and non-alcoholic beverages (a vegetarian option is available upon request). Register online at www.ameschamber.com no later than Tuesday, Aug. 31. For more information, please contact Crystal at (515) 232-2310 or crystal@ameschamber.com. Don't miss out on the event of the season.

GOLF DAY

Golf Day is finally here

Friday, Aug. 5, 2011, Ames Golf & Country Club, 11 a.m., lunch served 12:15 p.m. Shotgun start

The 2011 Annual Ames Chamber Gold Day has finally arrived! Since being rescheduled due to June rain, the Chamber hopes to see some veteran swings on the golf course. A special thanks goes to all our sponsors and golfers for supporting this Chamber event. If you have questions or for more information on becoming a volunteer, please contact Crystal Davis at (515) 232-2310.



Come join us for

The THRILL of the GRILL

Ames Chamber Annual Steak Fry & Leadership Ames Alumni Reunion
Tuesday, September 6, 2011
5:00 - 7:00 p.m.
Iowa State Center Courtyard
(rain or shine!)

Thanks to our corporate sponsor First National Bank

In conjunction with **LEADERSHIP AMES ALUMNI REUNION**, celebrating **25** years of leadership development and civic & community awareness!

You and your guests are invited to join the Past Chairs of the Ames Chamber for a fun, casual (no ties allowed) grill-your-own **Steak Fry**, in conjunction with the **Leadership Ames Alumni Reunion!** Don't miss out on this great networking event where you can make new contacts, catch up with old Chamber friends, and reunite with your Leadership Ames classmates! **IT'S THE PLACE TO BE!**

\$25 per person

REGISTRATION

Please register **on-line** at www.ameschamber.com by Tuesday, August 31.

Please call the Chamber office at 232-2310 for further information.

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS



Straw Poll is this month

Mark your calendars. The Iowa Straw Poll will host potential 2012 presidential candidates this month at the Iowa State Center. The Republican Party of Iowa has announced the Iowa Straw Poll will be Saturday, Aug. 13. The Iowa GOP also announced they will cohost a primetime debate with Fox News, which is scheduled for Thursday, Aug. 11.

The Iowa Straw Poll is unlike any political forum anywhere else in the nation. The poll is nonbinding and has no official effect on the presidential primaries. In the past, however, it has been used as a measuring stick to narrow GOP candidacies prior to the primaries. A strong showing for one particular candidate can propel him or her onto the national scene which builds momentum



for their campaign and shows off their grass roots operation. Since its founding, the winner of the Straw Poll has gone on to win the Republican nomination two out of five times and the Iowa Caucus three out of five times.

Participation is easy. Straw Poll voters must be 18 years old, be a legal resident of Iowa (bring your ID), and must obtain a ticket to the fundraising dinner. Tickets can be purchased from the Iowa GOP but many presidential candidate headquarters often give them to supporters.

The poll takes place among attendees of the fundraising dinner, which benefits the Republican Party of Iowa. Before the vote, each candidate makes a short speech to the attendees. Voting is open to all Iowans who meet the requirements stated above; non-Republicans are allowed to participate as well. Once attendees vote, their hands are stamped, or their thumbs dipped in ink, so that only one vote can be cast by each participant.

The best way to describe the Iowa

Straw Poll is a family-oriented campaigning circus. Each potential candidate takes a parcel of Iowa State Center grass, pitches a tent, serves food and meets with Iowans and their families. Straw Poll activities often include inflatable playground equipment, speeches from prominent individuals and live music. Do not be afraid if an Uncle Sam mascot, man on stilts, or even Elvis walks in front of your car!

Iowans have the opportunity to participate in the most prominent pre-Caucus event that is nationally recognized. The Straw Poll provides a unique opportunity for Iowa citizens to voice their opinions to Presidential hopefuls. For more information on the Iowa Straw Poll, visit the Iowa GOP website, www.iowagop.org.

LUNCH AND LEARN

'Here's how I do it: Customer relationship standards' is topic

11:30 a.m. Thursday, Aug. 23
Somerset Clubhouse, 2400
Aspen Road

Chamber members and non-members are invited to attend a lunch and learn, "Here's How I Do It: Customer Relationship Standards," on Tuesday, Aug. 23. This session is part of the "Customer Relation-

ships: People and Technology Networked Together" professional development series.

Registration is just \$15 for Chamber members (\$25 for nonmembers) and includes lunch. Register for this event on our website, at www.ameschamber.com, or call Crystal at (515) 232-2310.

Please register by Wednesday, Aug. 22.

BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT FORUM

Leadership style in customer relationships

7:30 a.m. Thursday, Aug. 18,
Somerset Clubhouse, 2400
Aspen Road

Employees of Ames Chamber businesses are invited to attend our next Business Improvement Forum at 7:30 a.m. on Thursday, Aug. 18, at Somerset Clubhouse, 2400 Aspen Road. We will discuss how leadership style influences levels of motivation and how a leader is a visionary in customer relationships, providing the necessary first step in improving outstanding customer service. Please RSVP by Wednesday, Aug. 17, by registering on our website at www.ameschamber.com



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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 Gold MEMBERS

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

Greater Iowa Credit Union ISUNET

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

Welcome, new Ames Chamber members

Mayhem Comics and Collectables was founded in 1990 to give Ames something to do. Dave and Rob wanted a clean, brightly-lit place where comic and game fans and collectors could feel at home. Grown into two large, well-stocked stores that still haven't lost their small-store feeling and service, Mayhem puts the collecting experience into a whole new light. Visit them at 2532 Lincoln Way, or give them a call at (515) 292-3510.

Laverne Apartments, located at 919 S. 16th St., is made up of

62, two- and three-bedroom apartments. These homes come with washers and dryers in every unit, underground parking, air conditioning, garbage disposals, dishwashers and microwaves. This property is regulated by the IRS under the Section 42 Housing Program to ensure lower rents. Please call Brittany at (515) 233-3100 for more information or to schedule a showing if you are interested.

Iowa Beverage Systems' office, warehouse and distribution center are located in Des Moines. From its

central Iowa location, it provides service to more than 1,500 licensed customers with the best brands in the beer industry. The management team has more than 100 years of beer industry experience and is committed to its brands, customers and employees. Iowa Beverage Systems offers challenging and rewarding positions in accounting, delivery, warehousing, fleet and facility maintenance, management, marketing, promotions, sales, and customer service. They are located at 2115 NE 58th Ave. Des Moines, IA, 50313.

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 Im-

provement 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).

BUSINESS AT BREAKFAST

Come give your 'shameless plug'

7:30 a.m. Thursday, Aug. 25, Sylvan Learning Center, 4720 Mortensen Road, Suite 101

Join us to give a two-minute "shameless plug" about your organization while handing out business cards, brochures and any other

promotional materials that describe your business or organization. If you've never attended before, make this month your first.

We purposely keep this event small to ensure great one-on-one interaction with fellow Chamber members, so your RSVP is very important. Please contact

the Chamber no later than noon on Tuesday, Aug. 23, to attend. You may register with ease online at www.ameschamber.com or by calling Sarah at the Chamber office (515) 232-2310. The event and continental breakfast are free, but you must RSVP to participate. See you at breakfast.

August calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3 11:30 a.m.: YPA Board Meeting (C) Noon: Education Connections (Sylvan)	4	5 Noon: Golf Day (AGCC)	6 8 a.m.: Ames Main Street Farmers' Market (400 Block Main St.)
7	8 Noon: YPA Leadership and Professional Development (C)	9	10 Noon: YPA Membership and Social (C) 4 p.m.: CAA Exec Meeting (Haila)	11 Noon: Membership Committee (C)	12 Noon: Business Improvement Council (C)	13 8 a.m.: Ames Main Street Farmers' Market (400 Block Main St.) <i>Iowa Straw Poll (Iowa State Center)</i>
14	15	16 11:45 a.m.: Salute to Educators (by invite only)	17	18 7:30 a.m.: Bus Improv Forum (Somerset) 4 p.m.: CAA General Meeting (Legends)	19	20 8 a.m.: Ames Main Street Farmers' Market (400 Block Main St.)
21	22 <i>ISU Fall Semester begins</i>	23 Noon: Lunch and Learn (Somerset)	24	25 7:30 a.m.: Business @ Breakfast (Sylvan Learning Center)	26	27 8 a.m.: Ames Main Street Farmers' Market (400 Block Main St.)
28	29	30	31 <i>Register for the Steak Fry!</i>			

RIBBON CUTTINGS



CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PHOTO

Mainstream Living Inc. introduced its new Snoezelen program, which will be the only one of its kind in the state of Iowa. Mainstream Living started in 1975 as a community-based program for individuals with intellectual disabilities. Today, Mainstream Living serves more than 500 people with disabilities in central Iowa and employs 500 people. For more information, contact Tricia Crain at (515) 232-8448.



CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PHOTO

Sylvan Learning Center announced its new location at 4720 Mortensen Road, Suite 101 in Ames. Jen Webb and her staff have been in Ames for 12 years. They offer supplemental educational services to students — preschool through adult. Programs include all levels of reading, math, study skills, college and ACT prep, and homework support. Visit them at their new location or give them a call at (515) 956-3366.



CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PHOTO

The Ames Main Street Farmers' Market celebrated its opening day with a great turnout despite the rain. Located on the 400 block of Main Street, the brand-new market will run from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. every Saturday through Sept. 24. Not only will you find fresh, Iowa-grown fruits, vegetables, meats, plants, flowers, breads, baked goods, arts and crafts, but you will also get to enjoy prepared foods, live entertainment, and a Kids Zone in Tom Evans Plaza. For more information, visit www.amesmainstreetfarmersmarket.com.

RIBBON CUTTINGS



CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PHOTO

Ames on the Half Shell celebrated the start of its eighth season. This summer concert series features music, food and drinks in Bandshell Park in Ames. The events take place from 5 to 8 p.m. Fridays, June 3 to July 22.



CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PHOTO

Quality One Commercial Cleaning Inc. celebrated its new front office addition and its "Best of Story County" win. They have been in business since 1995 serving the Story County and surrounding areas with commercial janitorial, floors, tile grout, carpet and window cleaning services. Call Bobbi to set up an appointment today at (515) 232-7272.



UPCOMING RIBBON CUTTINGS:

If you have a new business, relocation, expansion or business anniversary, let the Chamber celebrate with you! Contact the Chamber offices at (515) 232-2310 to schedule a ribbon cutting of your own.

AMES CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AMBASSADORS

Kim Behrendt, Wells Fargo Bank
Steve Bock, RE/MAX Real Estate Center

Clarissa Wing, Wells Fargo Bank
Adam Boeding, First American Bank
Ross Buffington, Exchange State Bank
Paula Brown, First American Bank
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Kendra Eibs, Sam's Club
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Tom Drenthe, Main Street Cultural District

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AmesNewsOnline.com

Joy Leister, Valley Bank
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Tom Randall, Tom Randall Real Estate Team

Jeff Ratcliff, Executive Express
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Cindy Schwickerath, Heartland Technology Solutions

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Tom Elston, Bickford Living of Ames

Mark Doyle, Mark Doyle State Farm Agency

Samantha Goodman, Bickford Living of Ames

Mandy Fjelland, Finesse Spa Salon
Jan Williams, Heartland Senior Services

Kirt Till, Thrivent Financial
Vince Sabatino, Virtual Rabbit
Sharon Holst, Hunziker and Associates

Sheryl Cusick, The Gateway Hotel and Conference Center

Ben Handsaker, Bufords Steak House and Barbecue

Lynn Scarlett, United Way Story County

Angie Selby, Springer Professional Home Services

Stacey Harrison, US Bank
Adam Steil, Great Western Bank

Emily Bayliss, Sign Pro

YPA NEWS

YPA Kids' Zone a huge hit with Market-goers

8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays through Sept. 24, Tom Evans Plaza

Each Saturday this summer, YPA is partnering with local organizations to host the YPA Kids' Zone at the new Ames Main Street Farmers' Market, located on the 400 block of Main Street. The Market began June 25 and will continue through Sept. 24. Each week, YPA volunteers have a booth at the Farmers' Market in Tom Evans Plaza set up with activities to help promote healthy living for kids and families. Stop by the Ames Main Street Farmers' Market each Saturday this summer to join in the fun.

The YPA Kids Zone is always in need of volunteers for many of the Saturdays for the Ames Main Street Farmers' Market events. You can sign up for volunteer shifts on the YPA website (www.ypames.com).

YPA All-Member Social: Luau theme

Sixty YPA members enjoyed an evening of pure family-friendly summer fun at Emma McCarthy Lee Park on Thursday, June 23. There was music, great food (grilled by our YPA Board members), and fun outdoor games. It was a great kickoff to the summer and an enjoyable event to meet other YPA members.

YPA Game night

At this annual event, Young Professionals enjoyed a casual get together at the Wessex Clubhouse with games, pizza,



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snacks and fun. No one knew just how fun Banagrams could be.

FAW at Buffalo Wild Wings

As always, Young Professionals gathered for Friday After Work at Buffalo Wild Wings in May. This is a great time to network and socialize with fellow Young Professionals of Ames. FAW events are regularly held on the second Friday of each month.

All Young Professionals are welcome to join.

Leadership and Professional Development

On June 16, YPA hosted a Dining Etiquette Lunch and Learn at Ge Angelo's Italian Restaurant. Twenty-five attendees heard the presentation by Jan



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

Brown, house mother at ISU's Alpha Gamma Rho fraternity. YPA'ers were able to practice their newly acquired etiquette techniques while enjoying a delicious lunch and networking afterward.

Governor Branstad to speak to YPA

The Leadership and Professional Development Committee has secured Gov.

Terry Branstad to speak at the December Lunch and Learn! The date of this Lunch and Learn will be Thursday, Dec. 8, with the location yet to be finalized. We encourage the YPA Board to attend this Lunch and Learn if possible, as it should be well attended by our membership.



Branstad

MAIN STREET CULTURAL DISTRICT

Sunny skies bring smiles at Fourth of July parade

The Main Street Cultural District would like to thank the Ames community for bringing their warm smiles downtown on a sunny Fourth of July. All who participated in the parade, as well as the thousands of attendees, truly made the Fourth of July in the District a success. The day began with the City of Ames Pancake Breakfast and Bill Riley Talent Search and ended with a fun-filled parade and festival.

More than 10,000 onlookers waving American flags lined the parade route as candy and smiles were thrown their way. Nearly 100 parade entries took part, including the Ames High School Drum Line, local scouting troops, the Heartland Senior Center, as well as a number of other local organizational floats and vehicles. The parade was kicked off with a fly-over and then led by honorary Grand Marshal, ISU President Geoffroy. Following Geoffroy was Mayor Ann Campbell.

Even though the hundreds of walkers, riders and parade performers ran out of candy, they were still smiling and soaking up the rays at the end of the parade. More than 50 volunteers helped plan and execute the Fourth of July in the District. With so many people celebrating the Fourth in Ames by participating or on looking, we are reminded of how terrific our community really is.

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CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PHOTO

Among the Bill Riley Talent search participants were senior division winners, from left, Ester Chrisala, third-place; Ashley Sitzmen, second place; and Majorie Gast, first place.



CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PHOTO

Bill Riley Talent Search winners from the sprout division include, left to right, Siobin Choi, fifth place; Lily Delany, fourth place; Joscelyn Buss, third place; Hayley Coder, second place; and Lily Gast, first place.

Following the parade was the Fourth of July festival, which included entertainment by the talented Steve Clark, prepared food including Battles Barbecue, three bounce houses, kids' games and a variety of booths put on by local businesses and organizations.

A special congratulation goes out to all the Bill Riley winners:

- In the senior division, the first place winner was Majorie Gast, followed by Ashley Sitzmen in second place and Ester Chrisala in third place.

- In the sprout division, Lily Gast brought home the title followed by Hayley Coder in second place, Joscelyn Buss in third place, Lily Delany in fourth place, and Siobin Choi in fifth place.

A big thanks goes to the businesses that made Fourth of July in the District possible. Sponsors of the Fourth of July parade include First National Bank, Hy-Vee Drugstore, and Iowa State University. Primary Festival sponsors included Ames Electric Services and www.amesnews.com. The day was also supported by the Ames Community Grant Program.

Thursday nights are alive Downtown

Main Street Cultural District businesses have joined together to give the community even

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more reasons to spend Thursday evenings downtown. Many of the shops stay open until 8 p.m. each Thursday, many of whom hold special events. Thursday night is also a great time to spot street musicians on Main Street as they play to passing shoppers or perform live at local eateries.

Fall Kicks off with MusicWalk: Thursday, Sept. 15

Soon the Main Street Cultural District will march to the beats of several drummers.

The Cultural District will host the fifth-annual MusicWalk from 5 to 8 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 15. Inside many shops, the public can enjoy free live music of all types from jazz to folk to rock featuring the best local Iowa musicians. There will also be dancers and other live performances throughout the District. Onlookers are invited to participate in some of the entertainment and, of course, dancing is welcome.

Snow Magic is looking for volunteers

Nov. 18 marks the kick-off of Snow Magic with the official Tree Lighting in Tom Evans Plaza. The evening includes live holiday music, visits from Santa, the Festival of Trees, carolers, special events in many shops and much more. Holiday fun will continue Downtown through the first weekend in December. Anyone interested in volunteering for this fun event is asked to please contact the Cultural District office (515) 233-3472 or email events@mainstreetcultural-district.com.

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CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PHOTO

The fifth-annual MusicWalk will be from 5 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 15.



CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PHOTO

The Farmers' Market is being joined by two new vendors: Good Seed Farm and Olson's Family Farm

The Farmers' Market blossoms with activity

The month of August is sure to bring continued success to the new Ames Main Street Farmers' Market, especially with the arrival of some of our exciting new vendors. Local vendors who recently joined the market include: Good Seed Farm with beef and a variety of vegetables, and Olson's Family Farm with sweet corn and eggs. One of the Market's extremely popular part-time vendors: Tall Tree Gluten Free Baked Goods, decided to convert to full-time vendor status, so they will be at the market every week through September.

The Ames Public Library's Bookmobile will make appearances at the Market at 11 a.m. on both Aug. 6 and 20 in Tom Evans Plaza. The book-

mobile offers a chance for children to check out, return and request items on board. The bookmobile staff will also share story times that include books, music and more, followed by a related craft activity.

Also in Tom Evans Plaza is the Young Professionals of Ames Kids Zone. YPA will be partnering with a different nonprofit organization each week to provide fun and educational activities for kids of all ages. Some highlights for the month are balloon animals on the Aug. 6, and making crafty school supplies on Aug. 13.

Main Street walking tours offered

On Saturday, Aug. 13, the Ames Historical Society will offer the second of three Main Street Historical Walking Tours in conjunction



CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PHOTO

The Farmers' Market has food, flowers, fun and entertainment for everybody.

with the Ames Main Street Farmers' Market. The tour will be at 10 a.m., beginning in Tom Evans Plaza. The tour is free to the public and will showcase some of the areas oldest buildings and the history behind them.

A full schedule of entertainment is sure to keep both morning and afternoon at the market a great escape. Performances by the Porch Stompers, Big Joe and Jen, and Planetpassenger are just some of the live acts that will hit the market throughout August. For a full schedule of live entertainment, check out the district's online calendar of events or the Ames Main Street Farmers' Market entertainment page at www.amesmainstreetfarmersmarket.com.

The market is located on the 400 block of Main Street and is open from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. each Saturday through Sept. 24. For more fun from the market, visit our Facebook page or follow us on Twitter.

Special thanks to the Main sponsors who have made this new, dynamic market possible: Iowa State University, U.S. Bank, Wheatsfield Cooperative and marketing sponsor Innova Ideas and Services. Thanks also to the generous media sponsors: www.amesnewsonline.com, The Tribune, KASI/KCCQ Radio, and The Sun. The Ames Main Street Farmers' Market is also supported by the Ames Community Grant Program, facilitated by the Convention and Visitors Bureau.

The Main Street Cultural District was established on Jan. 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 MainStreetCulturalDistrict.com and contact our office at 233-3472. MSCD is an affiliate organization of the Ames Chamber of Commerce.