



You voted and the results are in...

Congratulations TO THIS YEAR'S HONOREES!

ADULT SHOES

- ★ Brown's Shoe Fit Co
Readers' Choice
- Famous Footwear
Honorable Mention
- Kohl's Department Store
Honorable Mention

APPLIANCE REPAIR

- ★ McCloskey Appliance
Readers' Choice
- Zilge's Appliance Center
Honorable Mention

APPLIANCE RETAILER

- ★ Zilges Appliance Center
Readers' Choice
- McCloskey Appliance
Honorable Mention
- Menards
Honorable Mention

ASSISTED LIVING

- ★ Country Meadow Place
Readers' Choice
- Apple Valley Assisted Living
Honorable Mention
- Homestead Assisted Living
Honorable Mention
- Kentucky Ridge Assisted Living
Honorable Mention

AUCTIONEER

- ★ Frank Fox Auctions
Readers' Choice
- Dan Low
Honorable Mention
- Rex Taylor
Honorable Mention

**AUDIOLOGIST/HEARING
AID PROVIDER**

- ★ Hearing Associates
Readers' Choice
- Beltone Hearing Center
Honorable Mention
- Miracle-Ear
Honorable Mention

AUTO BODY

- ★ Hawkeye Auto Body
Readers' Choice
- North Iowa Collision Center
Honorable Mention
- Star Auto Body
Honorable Mention

AUTO PARTS

- ★ O'Reilly Auto Parts
Readers' Choice
- Arnold Motor Supply
Honorable Mention
- NAPA Auto Parts - Motor Parts
& Equipment Corporation
Honorable Mention

AUTO SERVICE

- ★ Overdrive Auto
Readers' Choice
- Charlie's Auto Repair
Honorable Mention
- Glen's Tire Services
Honorable Mention
- Graham Tire
Honorable Mention

AUTOMATED CAR WASH

- ★ Fleet Farm
Readers' Choice
- Clear Lake Laser Wash
Honorable Mention

BAKERY

- ★ Hy-Vee
Readers' Choice
- Grandma Sugar's Cupcakery
Honorable Mention
- South Shore Donut Co
Honorable Mention
- Starboard Market
Honorable Mention

BANK

- ★ Clear Lake Bank & Trust
Readers' Choice
- First Citizens Bank
Honorable Mention

- US Bank
Honorable Mention

BANQUET FACILITY

- ★ Surf Ballroom and Museum
Readers' Choice
- Diamond Jo Worth Casino
Honorable Mention
- Prime and Wine
Honorable Mention
- The Music Man Square
Honorable Mention

BAR BURGER

- ★ The Boulder Tap House
Readers' Choice
- Burke's Bar
Honorable Mention
- Rookies Rockin' Sports Bar
Honorable Mention
- The Blue Heron
Honorable Mention

**BAR/LOUNGE TO
SOCIALIZE**

- ★ Rookies Rockin' Sports Bar
Readers' Choice
- Diamond Jo Worth Casino
Honorable Mention
- Surf Ballroom and Museum
Honorable Mention
- Tailgaters Sports Bar & Grill
Honorable Mention

BBQ

- ★ Rib Crib
Readers' Choice
- Bill's BBQ
Honorable Mention
- GG's Place LLC
Honorable Mention
- Pig Skin BBQ
Honorable Mention

BED & BREAKFAST

- ★ Decker House
Bed & Breakfast
Readers' Choice

- Cupola Inn Bed and Breakfast
Honorable Mention
- The Blue Belle Inn
Honorable Mention

BICYCLE SHOP

- ★ Lakeside Cyclery
Sales & Service
Readers' Choice
- Wayne's Ski & Cycle
Honorable Mention

BIRTHDAY PARTY

- ★ The Other Place
Readers' Choice
- Diamond Jo Worth Casino
Honorable Mention
- Rib Crib
Honorable Mention
- Surf Ballroom and Museum
Honorable Mention

BLOODY MARY

- ★ VFW - Clear Lake
Readers' Choice
- Bread & Buttercreme
Honorable Mention
- Lorado's Restaurant
Honorable Mention
- Rookies Rockin' Sports Bar
Honorable Mention

BOWLING ALLEY

- ★ Mystic Lanes
Readers' Choice
- Comet Bowl
Honorable Mention
- Super Bowl Forest City
Honorable Mention

BRAKE SERVICE

- ★ Glen's Tire Services
Readers' Choice
- Graham Tire
Honorable Mention
- Mason City Tire Service
Honorable Mention
- Overdrive Auto
Honorable Mention

BREAKFAST

- ★ Sevens Restaurant & Steakhouse
Readers' Choice
- GG's Place LLC
Honorable Mention
- LD's Filling Station Bar
Honorable Mention
- Village Court Family Restaurant
Honorable Mention

**BREAKFAST/BRUNCH
BUFFET**

- ★ LD's Filling Station Bar
Readers' Choice
- Bread & Buttercreme
Honorable Mention
- Diamond Jo Worth Casino
Honorable Mention
- Hy-Vee
Honorable Mention

BRIDAL

- ★ Bliss Bridal & Formalwear
Readers' Choice
- Fringe & Lace by Brittany
Honorable Mention
- The Bridal Theatre
Honorable Mention

CAKE

- ★ Hy-Vee
Readers' Choice
- Grandma Sugar's Cupcakery
Honorable Mention
- Starboard Market
Honorable Mention
- Sweet Tooth
Honorable Mention

CAMPER/RV DEALERSHIP

- ★ Lee's Campers Inc
Readers' Choice
- Walker Trailer Sales
Honorable Mention

CAR DETAILING

- ★ Hawkeye Auto Body
Readers' Choice
- Daley's Auto Detailing
Honorable Mention
- North Iowa Collision
Honorable Mention
- River City Glass & Detail
Honorable Mention

CARPET CLEANING

- ★ Steam Mobile
Readers' Choice
- Servpro
Honorable Mention

CARPET/FLOORING STORE

- ★ Mason City Tile & Marble
Readers' Choice
- Floor To Ceiling
Honorable Mention
- Flooring America
Honorable Mention
- Master Flooring
Honorable Mention

CATERING COMPANY

- ★ Hy-Vee
Readers' Choice
- Butchers Catering
Honorable Mention
- Pig Skin BBQ
Honorable Mention
- Starboard Market
Honorable Mention

CELL PHONE REPAIR

- ★ Discount Computer & Cell Phone Repair LLC
Readers' Choice
- Iowa Cell Phones and Repair
Honorable Mention
- US Cellular
Honorable Mention
- Verizon Wireless
Honorable Mention

CELL PHONE RETAILER

- ★ Verizon
Readers' Choice
- Iwireless
Honorable Mention
- US Cellular
Honorable Mention

CHICKEN

- ★ Pizza Ranch
Readers' Choice
- GG's Place LLC
Honorable Mention
- Gooblers Roost
Honorable Mention
- Mulligan's Bar & Grill
Honorable Mention

CHILD CARE FACILITY

- ★ Newman Daycare
Readers' Choice
- Charlie Brown Preschool & Child Care
Honorable Mention
- Little Angel's Child Care and Preschool
Honorable Mention
- Tugs Daycare & Preschool
Honorable Mention

CHILI

- ★ Wendy's
Readers' Choice
- GG's Place LLC
Honorable Mention
- Starboard Market
Honorable Mention
- The Other Place
Honorable Mention

CHINESE FOOD

- ★ Shao Ting Guo
Readers' Choice
- China Buffet
Honorable Mention
- Hy-Vee
Honorable Mention
- Wok 'n Roll
Honorable Mention

CHIROPRACTIC CARE

- ★ Mason City Chiropractic
Readers' Choice
- Active Family Chiropractic
Honorable Mention
- Haas Chiropractic Clinic
Honorable Mention

CINNAMON ROLLS

- ★ Cabin Coffee
Readers' Choice
- Bread & Buttercreme
Honorable Mention
- GG's Place LLC

- Honorable Mention*
- Pies & More
Honorable Mention

CLEANING SERVICE

- ★ Servpro
Readers' Choice
- Cindy's Cleaning
Honorable Mention

COFFEE HOUSE

- ★ Cabin Coffee Company
Readers' Choice
- Beanzy's
Honorable Mention
- Jitters Coffee Bar
Honorable Mention
- Starbucks
Honorable Mention

COMPUTER REPAIR

- ★ Discount Computer & Cell Phone Repair LLC
Readers' Choice
- Best Buy
Honorable Mention
- The Computer Guy
Honorable Mention
- TQ Technologies
Honorable Mention

CONVENIENCE STORE

- ★ Casey's
Readers' Choice
- Hy-Vee Gas
Honorable Mention
- Kwik Star Clear Lake
Honorable Mention
- Yes Way
Honorable Mention

COOKIES

- ★ Cookies Etc.
Readers' Choice
- Bread & Buttercreme
Honorable Mention
- Grandma Sugar's Cupcakery
Honorable Mention
- Starboard Market
Honorable Mention

CREDIT UNION

- ★ North Iowa Community Credit Union
Readers' Choice
- CENT Credit Union
Honorable Mention
- Iowa Heartland Credit Union
Honorable Mention

CUPCAKES

- ★ Grandma Sugar's Cupcakery
Readers' Choice
- Bread & Buttercreme

- Honorable Mention*
- Hy-Vee Bakery
Honorable Mention
- Sweet Tooth
Honorable Mention

DANCE STUDIO

- ★ Dancin' with Roxie
Readers' Choice
- Dance Arts Center
Honorable Mention
- Dance Unlimited
Honorable Mention

DANCING/NIGHTCLUB

- ★ Surf Ballroom and Museum
Readers' Choice
- Diamond Jo Worth Casino
Honorable Mention
- Rookies Rockin' Sports Bar
Honorable Mention
- Rumorz Bar & Grill
Honorable Mention

DELI

- ★ Starboard Market
Readers' Choice
- Back Yard Deli
Honorable Mention
- State Street Deli
Honorable Mention

DENTIST

- ★ Central Park Dentistry
Readers' Choice
- Dental Center of North Iowa
Honorable Mention
- Lake Dental Associates
Honorable Mention
- Nettleton Dental Group
Honorable Mention

DJ SERVICE

- ★ Kirk's DJ
Readers' Choice
- Harry O
Honorable Mention
- Ultimate Entertainment
Honorable Mention

DONUTS

- ★ South Shore Donut Co
Readers' Choice
- Bill's Family Foods
Honorable Mention
- Casey's General Store
Honorable Mention
- Hy-Vee
Honorable Mention

DRIVE THRU EATING

- ★ Taco Tico
Readers' Choice
- Culver's
Honorable Mention
- Taco John's
Honorable Mention
- Wendy's
Honorable Mention

ELECTRICIAN

- ★ Blazek Electric Inc
Readers' Choice
- Jacobson Electric
Honorable Mention
- Linahon Electric
Honorable Mention

EMPLOYMENT AGENCY

- ★ Express Employment Professionals
Readers' Choice
- Masterson Staffing Solutions
Honorable Mention
- QPS Employment Group
Honorable Mention

EXTENDED CARE FACILITY/NURSING HOMES

- ★ IOOF Home & Community Therapy Center
Readers' Choice
- Good Shepherd
Honorable Mention

EYE DOCTOR

- ★ North Iowa Eye Clinic
Readers' Choice
- Dr. Korthals & Associates
Honorable Mention
- Shopko Optical
Honorable Mention

FAMILY DOCTOR

- ★ Dr. John L. Boedeker, DO
Readers' Choice
- Dr. Analisa Haberman
Honorable Mention
- Dr. Joseph Behr
Honorable Mention
- Dr. Tracy Mixdorf
Honorable Mention

FAMILY RESTAURANT

- ★ The Other Place
Readers' Choice
- Boulder Tap
Honorable Mention
- GG's Place LLC
Honorable Mention
- Pizza Ranch
Honorable Mention

FAMILY/FUN ENTERTAINMENT

- ★ Cinema West
Readers' Choice
- Mason City Family YMCA
Honorable Mention
- Roller City
Honorable Mention

FAST FOOD

- ★ Culver's
Readers' Choice
- Jimmy John's
Honorable Mention
- McDonald's
Honorable Mention
- Wendy's
Honorable Mention

FINANCIAL INVESTORS/PLANNERS

- ★ First Citizens Bank
Readers' Choice
- Edward Jones
Honorable Mention
- Lamont Financial Group
Honorable Mention
- Principal Financial Advisors
Honorable Mention

FISH FRY

- ★ Muskie Lounge
Readers' Choice
- Culver's
Honorable Mention
- GG's Place LLC
Honorable Mention
- Mulligan's Bar & Grill
Honorable Mention

FISHING GEAR/SUPPLIES

- ★ Mills Feet Farm
Readers' Choice
- Clear Lake Bait And Tackle
Honorable Mention

FITNESS CENTER

- ★ Ironhouse Gym
Readers' Choice
- Mason City Family YMCA
Honorable Mention
- NIP Fitness
Honorable Mention

FLORIST

- ★ Baker Floral Shop & Greenhouse
Readers' Choice
- Hy-Vee
Honorable Mention
- Otto's Oasis Floral
Honorable Mention
- Red Geranium
Honorable Mention

FRENCH FRIES

- ★ McDonald's
Readers' Choice
- Culver's
Honorable Mention
- GG's Place LLC
Honorable Mention
- Papa's American Cafe
Honorable Mention

FRESH FRUIT/VEGETABLES/PRODUCE

- ★ Hy-Vee
Readers' Choice
- Aldi
Honorable Mention
- Andersons
Honorable Mention
- Simply Nourished by BE WELLness
Honorable Mention

FRIENDLIEST BANK/CREDIT UNION TELLER

- ★ Clear Lake Bank & Trust
Readers' Choice
- CENT Credit Union
Honorable Mention
- First Citizens Bank
Honorable Mention
- North Iowa Community Credit Union
Honorable Mention

FRIENDLIEST BARTENDER STAFF

- ★ Fat Hill Brewing
Readers' Choice
- Diamond Jo Worth Casino
Honorable Mention
- Lake Time Brewery
Honorable Mention
- Rookies Rockin' Sports Bar
Honorable Mention

FRIENDLIEST TAVERN

- ★ Fat Hill Bewing
Readers' Choice
- Lake Time Brewery
Honorable Mention
- Rookies Rockin' Sports Bar
Honorable Mention

FUNERAL HOME

- ★ Hogan-Bremer-Moore Colonial Chapel
Readers' Choice
- Major Erickson
Honorable Mention
- Ward Van Slyke Colonial Chapel & Crematory
Honorable Mention

FURNITURE

- ★ Furniture and Mattress Outlet
Readers' Choice
- Brick Furniture
Honorable Mention
- McGregors Furniture
Honorable Mention
- Slumberland Furniture
Honorable Mention

GARAGE DOOR SALES/ SERVICE

- ★ Overhead Door Company of Mason City
Readers' Choice
- Menards
Honorable Mention
- River City Door Company
Honorable Mention

GIFT SHOP

- ★ Market 124
Readers' Choice
- Lake Lifestyle
Honorable Mention
- Oak Leaf Collectibles
Honorable Mention
- Real Deals
Honorable Mention

GOLF COURSE

- ★ Veterans Memorial Golf Club
Readers' Choice
- Bear Creek Golf Course
Honorable Mention
- Highland Golf Course
Honorable Mention
- Mason City Country Club
Honorable Mention

GOLF EQUIPMENT

- ★ North Iowa Golf Center
Readers' Choice
- Decker's
Honorable Mention

GREENHOUSE

- ★ Blackmore Nursery
Readers' Choice
- Hill's Garden
Honorable Mention
- Otto's Oasis
Honorable Mention
- Stillwater Greenhouse
Honorable Mention

GROCERY STORE

- ★ Hy-Vee
Readers' Choice
- Aldi
Honorable Mention
- Fareway
Honorable Mention

GUTTER SALES/ INSTALLATION

- ★ Midwest Construction Inc.
Readers' Choice
- Window World
Honorable Mention
- Young Construction
Honorable Mention

HAMBURGER

- ★ The Boulder Tap House
Readers' Choice
- GG's Place LLC
Honorable Mention
- Sevens Restaurant & Steakhouse
Honorable Mention
- The Blue Heron
Honorable Mention

HANDYMAN/CARPENTER

- ★ Northern Siding & Construction
Readers' Choice
- Home Care Solutions
Honorable Mention

HAPPY HOUR

- ★ Rookies Rockin' Sports Bar
Readers' Choice
- Applebee's Neighborhood Grill & Bar
Honorable Mention
- Papa's American Cafe
Honorable Mention

HARDWARE STORE

- ★ Kramer Ace Hareware
Readers' Choice
- Menards
Honorable Mention
- Mill's Fleet Farm
Honorable Mention

HEALTH & NATURAL FOODS

- ★ Simply Nourished by BE WELLness
Readers' Choice
- Hy-Vee Food Stores
Honorable Mention
- Ironhouse Gym
Honorable Mention

HEATING & COOLING

- ★ North Central Mechanical Services
Readers' Choice
- Mechanical Air Systems
Honorable Mention
- Schroeder Plumbing & Heating
Honorable Mention

HOME BUILDER

- ★ Rye Construction Co
Readers' Choice
- Butler Construction Inc
Honorable Mention
- Larry Elwood Construction
Honorable Mention

HOME DECOR

- ★ Real Deals on Home Decor + Boutique
Readers' Choice
- Hobby Lobby
Honorable Mention
- Lake Lifestyle
Honorable Mention

HOME HEALTH CARE

- ★ Cerro Gordo County Home Health Care
Readers' Choice
- Mercy Home Care
Honorable Mention

INSURANCE AGENCY

- ★ CLB&T Insurance and Financial Services, Inc.
Readers' Choice
- Nora Springs Insurance
Honorable Mention
- State Farm Agents
Honorable Mention
- Stephany Insurance
Honorable Mention

INTERNET PROVIDER

- ★ CL Tel
Readers' Choice
- Mediacom
Honorable Mention
- Router 12 Network
Honorable Mention
- WCTA
Honorable Mention

JEWELRY STORE

- ★ Grunwald & Kiger Fine Jewelers
Readers' Choice
- David Lee Jeweler
Honorable Mention
- Riddle's Jewelry
Honorable Mention
- Stadheim
Honorable Mention

KID FRIENDLY RESTAURANT

- ★ McDonald's
Readers' Choice
- GG's Place LLC
Honorable Mention
- Pizza Ranch

Honorable Mention

- Seven Stars Family Restaurant
Honorable Mention

KIDS ENTERTAINMENT

- ★ Roller City
Readers' Choice
- Cinema West
Honorable Mention
- Mason City Family YMCA
Honorable Mention
- North Iowa Youth Center
Honorable Mention

KIDS HAIRCUT

- ★ Great Clips
Readers' Choice
- Salon 220
Honorable Mention
- Studio B
Honorable Mention
- Upper Cut
Honorable Mention

LANDSCAPING

- ★ Natural Plus Nursery
Readers' Choice
- A+ Lawn Care and Landscape
Honorable Mention
- Blackmore Nursery & Garden Center
Honorable Mention

LATE NIGHT EATS

- ★ Perkins
Readers' Choice
- Applebee's Neighborhood Grill & Bar
Honorable Mention
- McDonald's
Honorable Mention
- Taco John's
Honorable Mention

LAW FIRM

- ★ Heiny McManigal Law Firm
Readers' Choice
- Brown, Kinsey, Funkhouser & Lander PLC
Honorable Mention
- Yunek Law Firm
Honorable Mention

LIQUOR STORE

- ★ Hy-Vee Wine & Spirits
Readers' Choice
- Lake Liquor
Honorable Mention
- Northside Liquor
Honorable Mention

LIVE MUSIC VENUE/ ESTABLISHMENT

- ★ Surf Ballroom and Museum
Readers' Choice
- Diamond Jo Worth Casino
Honorable Mention
- Lorado's Restaurant
Honorable Mention
- NIACC Performing Arts
Honorable Mention

LOCAL FUNDRAISING EVENT

- ★ Relay For Life Cerro Gordo County
Readers' Choice
- Festival of Trees
Honorable Mention
- JDRF Team Ollie
Honorable Mention

LOCAL HOTEL/MOTEL

- ★ Historic Park Inn
Readers' Choice
- Country Inn & Suites by Radisson, Mason City, IA
Honorable Mention
- Hampton Inn & Suites
Honorable Mention
- Holiday Inn Express
Honorable Mention

LOCAL MUSEUM

- ★ MacNider Museum
Readers' Choice
- Kinney Pioneer Museum
Honorable Mention
- The Surf Ballroom & Museum
Honorable Mention

LOCALLY OWNED RESTAURANT

- ★ Northwestern Steakhouse
Readers' Choice
- Cafe Mir
Honorable Mention
- GG's Place LLC
Honorable Mention
- Starboard Market
Honorable Mention

LUNCH

- ★ Starboard Market
Readers' Choice
- GG's Place LLC
Honorable Mention
- Hungry Mind
Honorable Mention
- State Street Deli
Honorable Mention

MANICURE

- ★ L&D #1 Nails
Readers' Choice
- Salon 220
Honorable Mention
- Tips and Toes
Honorable Mention
- Tony's Nails and Spa
Honorable Mention

MARGARITA

- ★ Las Palmas Mexican Restaurant
Readers' Choice
- Cancun Mexican Restaurant
Honorable Mention
- Plaza Mexico
Honorable Mention

MARTIAL ARTS INSTRUCTION

- ★ Kick USA Karate
Readers' Choice
- Black Belt Academy
Honorable Mention

MARTINI

- ★ Prime N Wine
Readers' Choice
- 1910 Lounge
Honorable Mention
- Bread & Buttercreme
Honorable Mention
- The Quarry Tapas Bar
Honorable Mention

MASSAGE/SPA

- ★ Salon 220
Readers' Choice
- Bare Sugar Body Spa
Honorable Mention
- Rhonda James- Mason City Chiropractic
Honorable Mention

MATTRESS/BED STORE

- ★ Furniture Mattress Outlet
Readers' Choice
- Ashley HomeStore
Honorable Mention
- Brick Furniture
Honorable Mention
- Slumberland
Honorable Mention

MEDICAL STAFF

- ★ Mercy Obstetrics and Gynecology
Readers' Choice
- Mercy Family Clinic
Honorable Mention
- Mercy Women's Health Center
Honorable Mention

MEDICAL SUPPLY

- ★ **Mercy Home Therapy Shoppe**
Readers' Choice
- **Hy-Vee Drugstore**
Honorable Mention
- **Quality Medical Services Inc**
Honorable Mention

MENS CLOTHING

- ★ **Moorman Clothiers**
Readers' Choice
- **Goodnature's Work Stop**
Honorable Mention
- **Kohls**
Honorable Mention
- **Mills Fleet Farm**
Honorable Mention

MEN'S HAIR CUT

- ★ **Color Couture**
Readers' Choice
- **Great Clips**
Honorable Mention
- **Salon 220**
Honorable Mention

MEXICAN

- ★ **Las Palmas Mexican Restaurant**
Readers' Choice
- **Cancun**
Honorable Mention
- **Pastime Gardens**
Honorable Mention
- **Plaza Mexico**
Honorable Mention

MICRO BREWERY/CRAFT BEER HOUSE

- ★ **Lake Time Brewery**
Readers' Choice
- **Fat Hill Brewing**
Honorable Mention
- **Mason City Brewery**
Honorable Mention
- **Worth Brewing Company**
Honorable Mention

MIXED DRINKS

- ★ **VFW Clear Lake**
Readers' Choice
- **1910 Lounge**
Honorable Mention
- **Prime N Wine**
Honorable Mention
- **Rookies Rockin' Sport Bar**
Honorable Mention

MORTGAGE PROVIDER

- ★ **First Citizens Bank**
Readers' Choice
- **Clear Lake Bank & Trust Company**

Honorable Mention

- **North Iowa Community Credit Union**
Honorable Mention

MOST TIP WORTHY (BEST SERVICE)

- ★ **Northwestern Steakhouse**
Readers' Choice
- **Cafe Mir**
Honorable Mention
- **GG's Place LLC**
Honorable Mention
- **Starboard Market**
Honorable Mention

MOTORCYCLE DEALERSHIP

- ★ **Harley-Davidson of Mason City**
Readers' Choice
- **Mason City Honda**
Honorable Mention
- **Mason City Powersports**
Honorable Mention

NEW AUTO DEALERSHIP

- ★ **Pritchard's**
Readers' Choice
- **Hosmer Honda**
Honorable Mention
- **Mason City Motor Company**
Honorable Mention
- **Schukei Chevrolet**
Honorable Mention

NI FALL EVENT (SEPT/OCT/NOV)

- ★ **Clear Lake Harvest Festival**
Readers' Choice
- **Autumn Artistry, Osage**
Honorable Mention
- **Friday Night Prep Football**
Honorable Mention
- **Humane Society of North Iowa**
- Doggy Dip**
Honorable Mention

NI SPRING EVENTS (MARCH/APRIL/MAY)

- ★ **North Iowa Band Festival**
Readers' Choice
- **City Wide Garage Sale**
Honorable Mention
- **Home & Landscape Show**
Honorable Mention
- **Relay for Life of Cerro Gordo County**
Honorable Mention

NI SUMMER EVENT (JUNE/JULY/AUG)

- ★ **Clear Lake 4th of July**
Readers' Choice
- **Friday Night Live (Mason City)**
Honorable Mention
- **North Iowa Fair**
Honorable Mention
- **Thursdays on Main (Clear Lake)**
Honorable Mention

NI WINTER EVENTS (DEC/JAN/FEB)

- ★ **Christmas by the Lake**
Readers' Choice
- **Color the Wind Kite Festival**
Honorable Mention
- **Festival of Trees**
Honorable Mention
- **Surf Ballroom Winter Dance Party**
Honorable Mention

NORTH IOWA MOVIE THEATRE

- ★ **Cinema West**
Readers' Choice
- **Lake Theatre**
Honorable Mention
- **Mills Theatre**
Honorable Mention
- **Windsor Theatre**
Honorable Mention

OB/GYN

- ★ **Dr. Mark LeDuc**
Readers' Choice
- **Dr. Charles A. Debrah, MD**
Honorable Mention
- **Dr. Faust Mercy OBGYN**
Honorable Mention
- **Dr. Thoo Tan**
Honorable Mention

OIL CHANGE

- ★ **Charlie's Auto Repair**
Readers' Choice
- **Glen's Tire Services**
Honorable Mention
- **Graham Tire**
Honorable Mention
- **Mason City Tire Services**
Honorable Mention

ONION RINGS

- ★ **The Other Place**
Readers' Choice
- **GG's Place LLC**
Honorable Mention
- **Ritz & Things**
Honorable Mention

OPTICAL/FRAMES/LENSES

- ★ **Shopko Mason City Optical**

Center

- Readers' Choice*
- **Clear View Eye Clinic**
Honorable Mention
- **Dr. Korthals and Associates**
Honorable Mention

ORTHODONTIST

- ★ **Demro Orthodontics**
Readers' Choice
- **Alpha Orthodontics**
Honorable Mention

OUTDOOR EATERY

- ★ **The Quarry**
Readers' Choice
- **GeJo's by the Lake**
Honorable Mention
- **Starboard Market**
Honorable Mention
- **The Landing**
Honorable Mention

OUTDOOR/SPORTING GOODS STORE

- ★ **Mills Fleet Farm**
Readers' Choice
- **Decker Sporting Goods**
Honorable Mention
- **Double Lung Archery Inc.**
Honorable Mention
- **Wayne's Ski & Cycle**
Honorable Mention

PAINT/WALLPAPER

- ★ **Woodford Lumber & Home Co**
Readers' Choice
- **Menard's**
Honorable Mention
- **Sherwin-Williams Paint Store**
Honorable Mention

PEDIATRICIAN

- ★ **Dr. Tate Lage**
Readers' Choice
- **Dr. Hashim Eldadah**
Honorable Mention
- **Dr. Jafar Shaikh**
Honorable Mention
- **Petra Lamfers, APRN**
Honorable Mention

PEDICURE

- ★ **Salon 220**
Readers' Choice
- **L&D #1 Nails**
Honorable Mention
- **Tips & Toes**
Honorable Mention
- **Tony's Nails and Spa**
Honorable Mention

PERFORMING ARTS VENUE

- ★ **NIACC Performing Arts**
Readers' Choice
- **Stebens Children's Theatre**
Honorable Mention
- **Surf Ballroom and Museum**
Honorable Mention

PET BOARDING

- ★ **FrrrBabiez**
Readers' Choice
- **Doggy Motel and Spa**
Honorable Mention
- **Garner Pet Resort**
Honorable Mention
- **Precious Paws**
Honorable Mention

PET GROOMING

- ★ **Mohawk Grooming**
Readers' Choice
- **Mary Kay Grooming Station**
Honorable Mention
- **Petco**
Honorable Mention

PHARMACY

- ★ **Hy-Vee**
Readers' Choice
- **CVS Pharmacy**
Honorable Mention
- **Mercy Family Pharmacy**
Honorable Mention
- **Walgreens**
Honorable Mention

PHOTOGRAPHER

- ★ **Brittany Mueller Photography**
Readers' Choice
- **Best Impressions Photography**
Honorable Mention
- **Images Photography**
Honorable Mention
- **Love & Luck Photography**
Honorable Mention

PHYSICAL THERAPY

- ★ **Mercy Rehabilitation/Healthworks**
Readers' Choice
- **Athletico**
Honorable Mention
- **100F Home & Community Therapy Center**
Honorable Mention

PIZZA EATERY

- ★ **The Other Place**
Readers' Choice
- **Azzolina's Hole in the Wall**
Honorable Mention
- **Café Mir**

Honorable Mention

- **Godfathers**
Honorable Mention

PLACE FOR A FROZEN TREAT

- ★ **The Viking**
Readers' Choice
- **Birdsall's Ice Cream Co**
Honorable Mention
- **Culver's**
Honorable Mention
- **Dairy Queen**
Honorable Mention

PLACE FOR BUSINESS LUNCH

- ★ **The Quarry**
Readers' Choice
- **Papa's American Cafe**
Honorable Mention
- **Starboard Market**
Honorable Mention
- **State Street Deli**
Honorable Mention

PLACE FOR MEETING SINGLES

- ★ **Diamond Jo Worth Casino**
Readers' Choice
- **Rookies Rockin' Sports Bar**
Honorable Mention
- **Tailgaters Sports Bar & Grill**
Honorable Mention
- **The Surf Ballroom & Museum**
Honorable Mention

PLACE TO BUY MEAT

- ★ **Fareway**
Readers' Choice
- **Hy-Vee**
Honorable Mention
- **Louie's Custom Meats and More**
Honorable Mention
- **Simply Nourished by BE WELLness**
Honorable Mention

PLANTS AND FLOWERS

- ★ **Red Geranium**
Readers' Choice
- **Baker Foral Shop & Greenhouse**
Honorable Mention
- **Blackmore Nursery & Garden Center**
Honorable Mention
- **Otto's Oasis**
Honorable Mention

PLUMBING

★ North Central Mechanical Services

Readers' Choice

• Hank's Plumbing

Honorable Mention

• Schroeder Plumbing & Heating

Honorable Mention

PREOWNED AUTO DEALER

★ Pritchard's Auto

Readers' Choice

• Hosmer Honda

Honorable Mention

• Mason City Ford Chrysler

Honorable Mention

• Schukei Chevrolet

Honorable Mention

PRESCHOOL

★ Newman Daycare

Readers' Choice

• Charlie Brown Preschool & Childcare

Honorable Mention

• Sugar Plum Preschool

Honorable Mention

• Tugs Daycare & Preschool

Honorable Mention

REAL ESTATE OFFICE

★ Century 21 Preferred

Readers' Choice

• Hildebrand Real Estate

Honorable Mention

• Knudston Real Estate

Honorable Mention

REHABILITATION FACILITY

★ IOOF Home & Community Therapy Center

Readers' Choice

• Athletico

Honorable Mention

• Mercy Rehabilitation/Healthworks

Honorable Mention

REMODELING CONTRACTOR

★ Young Construction

Readers' Choice

• Larry Elwood Construction

Honorable Mention

RESALE (CONSIGNMENT) SHOP

★ Affordables Thrift Store

Readers' Choice

• Tried & True

Honorable Mention

• Village General Store

Honorable Mention

RESTAURANT FOR TAKE OUT/TO GO EATS

★ The Other Place

Readers' Choice

• Café Mir

Honorable Mention

• GG's Place LLC

Honorable Mention

• Starboard Market

Honorable Mention

RESTAURANT MOST LIKELY TO RECOMMEND TO A TOURIST

★ Northwestern Steakhouse

Readers' Choice

• Cafe Mir

Honorable Mention

• Starboard Market

Honorable Mention

RESTAURANT WORTH A DRIVE (NORTH IOWA, NON MASON CITY)

★ Cafe Mir

Readers' Choice

• Northwestern Steakhouse

Honorable Mention

• Starboard Market

Honorable Mention

• Telluwut Grille House & Pub

Honorable Mention

RIBS

★ Bill's BBQ

Readers' Choice

• GG's Place LLC

Honorable Mention

• Pig Skin BBQ

Honorable Mention

• Rib Crib

Honorable Mention

ROMANTIC RESTAURANT

★ Northwestern Steakhouse

Readers' Choice

• 1910 Grille

Honorable Mention

• Café Mir

Honorable Mention

• Prime N Wine

Honorable Mention

ROOFING CONTRACTOR

★ Young Construction

Readers' Choice

• Midwest Construction Inc.

Honorable Mention

• NSC Northern Siding

Construction

Honorable Mention

SALAD BAR

★ Hy-Vee

Readers' Choice

• GG's Place LLC

Honorable Mention

• Pizza Ranch

Honorable Mention

• Starboard Market

Honorable Mention

SEAFOOD

★ Prime N Wine

Readers' Choice

• Mulligan's Bar & Grill

Honorable Mention

• Sevens Restaurant & Steakhouse

Honorable Mention

• The Quarry

Honorable Mention

SELECTION OF BEER AT A BAR

★ The Boulder Tap House - Mason City

Readers' Choice

• Fat Hill Brewing

Honorable Mention

• Rookies Rockin' Sports Bar

Honorable Mention

SHOOT POOL

★ Rookies Rockin Sports Bar

Readers' Choice

• Burke's Bar

Honorable Mention

• Homers Sports Bar & Grille

Honorable Mention

• Ransom's

Honorable Mention

SIDING

★ Young Construction

Readers' Choice

• Midwest Construction Inc.

Honorable Mention

• NSC Northern Siding

Honorable Mention

• Window World

Honorable Mention

SKIN CARE/AESTHETICS FACILITY

★ Salon 220

Readers' Choice

• Mercy Dermatology Center

Honorable Mention

SNOW REMOVAL

★ Larry Elwood Construction

Readers' Choice

• Snow Construction

Honorable Mention

SPORT BAR & GRILL

★ The Other Place

Readers' Choice

• Papa's American Café

Honorable Mention

• Rookies Rockin' Sports Bar

Honorable Mention

• The Boulder Tap House

Honorable Mention

STEAK

★ Northwestern Steakhouse

Readers' Choice

• Cafe Mir

Honorable Mention

• Diamond Jo Worth Casino

Honorable Mention

• The Half Moon

Honorable Mention

TACOS

★ Mr. Taco

Readers' Choice

• GG's Place LLC

Honorable Mention

• Pastime Gardens

Honorable Mention

• Taco Tico

Honorable Mention

TANNING SALON

★ Oasis Tan

Readers' Choice

• Sun Tan City

Honorable Mention

TENDERLOINS

★ The Other Place

Readers' Choice

• GG's Place LLC

Honorable Mention

• Mulligan's Bar & Grill

Honorable Mention

• Suzie Q Cafe

Honorable Mention

TIRES

★ Graham Tire Co

Readers' Choice

• Glen's Tire Service

Honorable Mention

• Mason City Tire Services

Honorable Mention

• Mills Fleet Farm

Honorable Mention

TRAVEL AGENT

★ Destination Travel Services

Readers' Choice

• Four Season Travel

Honorable Mention

• True Travels LLC

Honorable Mention

TREE SERVICE

★ Blanchard Tree Services

Readers' Choice

• Cutting Edge Tree Services

Honorable Mention

• Keeling Tree Service

Honorable Mention

TUXEDO RENTAL

★ Moorman Clothiers

Readers' Choice

• Bliss

Honorable Mention

• Fringe & Lace by Brittany

Honorable Mention

• Mara Bridal Charles City

Honorable Mention

UNIQUE GIFTS

★ Market 124

Readers' Choice

• Lake Lifestyle

Honorable Mention

• Oak Leaf Collectibles

Honorable Mention

• Real Deals On Home Décor

Honorable Mention

VARIETY OF APPETIZERS

★ The Boulder Tap House

Readers' Choice

• Applebee's Neighborhood Grill & Bar

Honorable Mention

• Café Mir

Honorable Mention

• The Other Place

Honorable Mention

VETERINARY SERVICES

★ Mason City Pet Clinic

Readers' Choice

• Animal Medical Hospital

Honorable Mention

• Brookview Animal Hospital

Honorable Mention

WEDDING RECEPTION LOCATION

★ Diamond Oak Events

Readers' Choice

• Diamond Jo Worth Casino

Honorable Mention

• Rustic Acres LLC

Honorable Mention

• Surf Ballroom and Museum

Honorable Mention

WINDOW/DOOR RETAILER

★ Window World of Mason City

Readers' Choice

• Midwest Construction Inc.

Honorable Mention

WINE SELECTION

★ Hy-Vee

Readers' Choice

• K & B Emporium

Honorable Mention

• Simply Nourished by BE WELLness

Honorable Mention

WINGS

★ Buffalo Wild Wings

Readers' Choice

• Rib Crib

Honorable Mention

• The Boulder Tap House

Honorable Mention

• The Other Place

Honorable Mention

WOMAN'S HAIR SALON

★ Color Couture Salon

Readers' Choice

• Reflections

Honorable Mention

• Salon 220

Honorable Mention

• Studio B Clear Lake

Honorable Mention

WOMENS CLOTHING

★ Maurices

Readers' Choice

• Real Deals On Home Décor

Honorable Mention

WOMEN'S NIGHT OUT

★ Fat Hill Brewing

Readers' Choice

• 1910 Grille

Honorable Mention

• Diamond Jo

Honorable Mention

• Rookies Rockin' Sports Bar

Honorable Mention

WRECKER/TOWING SERVICE

★ Katz Tow and Transport

Readers' Choice</

Muskie Lounge

★ Readers' Choice: Fish Fry

The Muskie Lounge in Ventura was named the restaurant with the best Fish Fry by voters in the 2019 Readers' Choice awards. "This is our first time winning this. We're ecstatic!," says LuAnn Hejlik, owner of the lakeside classic with her husband Craig. "We want to thank everyone who voted for us. We definitely appreciate our customers." She also credits their great staff for helping make this spot a favorite summer tradition. The Muskie Lounge has been in business for 44 years. It's the only restaurant with indoor seating right on the Clear Lake water's

edge. A patio over the water is open for drinks, and boaters can pull up to the dock. The famous fish fry dinner, offered every night of the week, features five pieces of walleye, baked potato, coleslaw, and dinner roll. Hejlik says other favorites are the Muskie shrimp and the burgers. The Muskie Lounge opens for the season sometime in early May. Before Memorial Day weekend, dinner starts at 4:30 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday. After the holiday weekend, the Muskie opens at 11:30 a.m. on weekends and 4:30 p.m. every weekday.

VFW Clear Lake

★ Readers' Choice: Bloody Mary • Mixed Drinks

The Clear Lake VFW holds on to its title as North Iowa's favorite spot for a Bloody Mary and Mixed Drinks, in the 2019 Readers' Choice awards. The Bunker at VFW Post 4868 features themed Bloody Mary drinks for its Sunday Funday, according to manager Vonnice Amosson. The spicy concoctions come with skewers of different types of food items, to fit that week's theme. The mixed drinks are popular in part be-

cause of "good, reasonable prices," Amosson says. "People aren't paying big-city prices here. When they get the tab, they say, 'Wow, that's it?'" Tacos on Thursday is a big draw every week. The bar has daily Happy Hour specials. VFW Post 4868 has been a Clear Lake organization since the 1940s. The post's current building opened in 2006 at the corner of Main Avenue and South 3rd Street, across from City Park.

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GLOBE GAZETTE

THANK YOU

We'd like to take this opportunity to thank all of the Globe Gazette and globegazette.com readers who cast their vote for the 2019 Readers' Choice winners. We encourage you to visit these businesses, as well as ALL of the fine businesses in North Iowa.

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THANK YOU for Voting us Readers' Choice:

Best Rehabilitation Facility

Best Long Term Care Facility/Nursing Home

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Congratulations to the IOOF team for being recognized as the Readers' Choice best rehabilitation facility once again. All your dedication and hard work has helped provide the best service to our community.

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Furniture Mattress Outlet

★ Readers' Choice: Furniture • Mattress/Bed Store

Furniture Mattress Outlet, known for offering quality furniture and mattresses at affordable prices, took First Place honors in Readers' Choice Awards again this year.

Tim Latham said he's grateful that North Iowa continues to choose the store as the best place to buy furniture. "We have a large store, about 25,000 square feet, but I think the reason people like us is the guys work really hard at customer service and there is no high pressure to buy," he said.

The locally-owned store continues to add more selection, and Latham said there is an ever-increasing variety of fabrics customers can choose from.

Latham said, "We want to thank everyone for helping us to continue to serve them with great furniture and prices."

The Mason City store at 506 4th Street SW opened in 2002. Latham said, "We took an old building and over the years remodeled it. And made it one of the nicer-looking buildings in the area. It has that old warehouse look and feeling."

The strong sales staff at Furniture Mattress Outlet is what keeps the store popular with

customers, according to Latham. The sales employees are paid by salary and do not work on commission. "Plus, eventually they're going to own the store, so they have a strong desire to make things work," he said. "They go way above, they know the product, and they don't have to worry about commission. That makes a lot of difference. They take interest in all customers, not just those that purchase furniture."

Randy Klemesrud has worked with Latham for 36 years, starting at the former Latham Furniture, and the rest of the employees are relatives of Klemesrud. That includes his son Jack, and Jack's brothers-in-law Ryan and Dan.

The store offers free delivery and financing to customers. "We not only deliver, we bring it in and set it up for you, and we service what we sell," Latham said.

Furniture Mattress Outlet carries nearly 30 brands of living room, dining room, home office, and bedroom furniture, such as Ashley, Lane, England, Broyhill, Best, Coaster, and more. Mattress companies include Symbol, Spring Air, and Englander. The store also offers a full line of accessories for every room.



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Ironhouse Gym

★ Readers' Choice: Fitness Center

Mason City's Ironhouse Gym is North Iowa's most popular Fitness Center. The co-ed fitness center, located at 1805 S. Carolina Ave., took top honors in those categories in the Globe Gazette Readers' Choice 2019 awards.

"We want to thank everybody for their votes," said Bob Vasquez, co-owner with his wife Sheila. "We've been open 27 years, and we are honored to have received this recognition. Thank you to all past, present, and future customers."

The 6,000-square-foot facility offers top-of-the-line StarTrac treadmills, Precor elliptical machines, Life Fitness cross-trainers, Life Fitness recumbent bicycles, Stairmasters, Matrix upright bikes, free weights, Selectorized machines, Hammer Strength, and more. "We offer the lowest prices in town on our fitness membership," Vasquez said. "It's our way of giving back to the community. We make it very affordable for everyone to join our facility." Flexible membership packages are available to suit all levels of athlete and help anyone achieve fitness goals. Student, senior, and corporate rates are offered.

Ironhouse Gym welcomes any age, with

members currently ranging from teenagers to seniors into their 80s. "We have seniors here consistently throughout the week. It's a social thing, also."

Male and female certified personal trainers are available by appointment. Members can drop in anytime 24 hours a day, seven days a week, with cameras and surveillance to keep them safe.

Ironhouse Gym also sells nutritional supplements at the lowest prices in the area, Vasquez said. "Everything is 'buy one, get one 50 percent off' - and that's mix and match. We started this back in 2017 and decided to make it our ongoing policy."

The gym carries proteins, weight gainers, men's and women's vitamins, diet and energy products, protein bars, pre-workout and post-workout powders for men and women, testosterone boosters, creatines, aminos, meal replacements, and more. Ironhouse Gym membership is not required to buy supplements. They also ship nationwide daily.

Supplement store hours are 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Thursday; 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday; and 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. Saturday.



Mason City, IA

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Clear Lake Chamber of Commerce

★ Readers' Choice: NI Summer Event • NI Fall Event • NI Winter Event

Two of Clear Lake's biggest events will celebrate milestone anniversaries this year. Clear Lake Area Chamber of Commerce's Harvest Festival, which wins the 2019 Readers' Choice award for best North Iowa Fall Event, will be 15 years old. Christmas By the Lake will mark its 25th year and takes top honors once again for best North Iowa Winter Event.

And of course Clear Lake's Fourth of July, which wins for best North Iowa Summer Event, has been celebrated as the place to be on Independence Day for over a century!

The area's premier summer event runs from Wednesday, July 3, through Sunday, July 7. The Fourth, which annually draws tens of thousands of visitors, is on a Thursday this year. Entertainment for the five days includes Evans United Shows carnival with midway and amusement rides; bingo tent; Family Fun Day events; huge lakeside arts and craft market; live music nightly in the bandshell; a traditional Independence Day parade down Main Avenue; and the biggest and best fireworks display in the area over the lake.

Featured evening bands lined up so far will

include Arch Allies, The Trip, and Strait Run, with more to be announced. Wrist Band Days for the carnival will be on Friday & Sunday.

Harvest Festival celebrates 15 years on Saturday, Oct. 5. North Iowa is invited to stroll among Main Avenue shops while enjoying wine samplings and seasonal fun including the homemade salsa contest, grape stomp competition, pumpkin roll relay, and waiter race. The streetscape also offers seminars and artist demonstrations, fall decor and produce, a huge farmers' market, vendors, trolley rides, food, and live jazz music.

Souvenir bags for Harvest Festival go on sale August 1 at the Chamber office, 205 Main Avenue, or online at clearlakeiowa.com. In addition to a souvenir wine glass, the goody bag is full of other surprises and chances to win great prizes, such as two round trip tickets aboard Air Choice One to Chicago, \$500 in Clear Lake Chamber Bucks, just to name a few.

Christmas By the Lake has fans beyond North Iowa, as this winter tradition has won several tourism awards for best holiday festival. This year's event on Dec. 6 through 8 will

mark the festival's 25th year.

Saturday's events include horse-drawn carriage and Main Street Trolley rides, craft show, crowning of prince and princess, petting zoo and pony rides, s'mores for kids, Christmas Karaoke, entertainment at the Arts Center, visits with Santa, matinee at the Lake Theatre, and strolling Dickens characters. The evening ends with a lighted parade and fireworks over the lake.

Sunday includes the Polar Bear Dip at City Beach, Kids' Treasure Hunt, and a free family matinee at Lake Theater. The weekend also includes a holiday concert at the Surf Ballroom and the Festival of Trees from Friday to Sunday at One Vision.

These three blockbuster events represent only part of Clear Lake's year-round entertainment. Visit clearlakeiowa.com to find out

about the continuing activities that make the town famous as an event capital.

There is something special going on nearly every weekend of the summer. Plus, hang out with friends and family at Thursdays on Main, which starts at 6 p.m. each week, June through August. Downtown stores stay open late, and shoppers can enjoy live music and featured entertainment, children's activities, vendors, and a movie in the park.



June 6th - August 29th
Excludes July 4th

April 27th

October 5th

December 7th - 8th

July 3rd - July 7th

June 8th

THINGS TO DO IN CLEAR LAKE 2019

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The Other Place

★ Readers' Choice: Birthday Party • Family Restaurant
Onion Rings • Pizza Eatery • Sport Bar & Grill • Tenderloins
Restaurant for take out/to go eats

The Other Place in Clear Lake draws hungry customers from around North Iowa, obvious from the full parking lot almost every noon and night. The family restaurant won eight of the food categories in the 2019 Readers' Choice awards.

The OP, as everyone calls it, was chosen as best Sports Bar and Grill; Family Restaurant; Pizza Eatery; Restaurant for Take-Out; and Birthday Party location. It also won for the best Onion Rings, Tenderloins, and Variety of Appetizers. Other OP favorites, Wings and Chili, received honorable mentions.

"It's awesome! We're really excited to get best Sports Bar and Grill," says Kali Wilkinson event planner at the OP. "Our environment is for families, so all ages are welcome. And we're so busy, it's nice to get the best for take-out, because that means we're so timely. We can also do take-out for businesses and parties."

She says the onion rings and tenderloins are hand-breaded and everything is made from scratch. "Our cooks work really hard to make sure it's all perfect."

When summer arrives, the restaurant opens up its deck and party building to greatly expand capacity. Wilkinson says their team is revitalizing the popular Wednesday motorcycle night this season.

"We're calling it 'Bands On Tap.' We'll feature live music every Wednesday and different food options in buffet style," she says. "We'll also feature beers from a different local brewery every single week, with samples available."

Although it's a great reason for a Wednesday night ride, Wilkinson points out, "You don't have to have a motorcycle to come. Anyone can come sit out there and eat and listen to music."

The OP also will offer more live music on weekends this summer. "We're getting emails from all over, from bands wanting to come," Wilkinson says. "We'll open up the outdoor building and have the same menu and drinks as inside."

Watch the Facebook page "The Other Place - Clear Lake, IA" for alerts about who's playing each week, as well as menu specials. Owned by Brian Hagenow and Chuck Larson, the OP opened in 1979.

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Newman Childcare and Preschool

★ Readers' Choice: Child Care Facility • Preschool

It's commonly said that there are 2,000 days between the birth of a child and the first day of kindergarten.

"We know those days have a profound impact on their physical and mental well-being, readiness to learn, and ability to become productive citizens," says Kathy Lloyd, director of Newman Childcare and Preschool in Mason City. "That's why we know at Newman Childcare that every day matters."

The Newman center won top honors in Readers' Choice for both the Child Care Facility and Preschool categories this year.

"Everybody here is really honored to have that respect from the community," Lloyd says. "As soon as you enter Newman Childcare and Preschool, you'll feel why families have trusted us for over 30 years."

The center's mission is "to provide peace of mind to parents through offering quality childcare and by enhancing the life experiences of children." The childcare and preschool facility is licensed by the Iowa Department of Human Services for 330 children. It also holds a four-star rating from the DHS voluntary Quality Rating System (QRS).

Childcare programs are offered for Infant Care (six weeks to two years old); Toddlers (two years to kindergarten); Before and After School (up to 12 years); and a Summer Program (first grade to age 12). The Preschool program is open for children three to five years old. Lloyd says they have a waiting list for all areas.

Within those programs, children are grouped by developmental stages, according to Lloyd, so staff can meet the needs of all individuals according to their own readiness. The center employs 55 trained staff. "What makes us special is our people," she says.

The center is open five days a week from 6:15 a.m. to 6 p.m., except major holidays. Children are offered nutritious meals and snacks following Federal Food Program guidelines.

Newman Childcare and Preschool has been serving the community since 1986, including more than 4,000 children with working parents who have benefited from this care. The center moved into its current building in 2006, adjacent to the Newman Catholic Schools.



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TO PROVIDE PEACE OF MIND TO
PARENTS THROUGH OFFERING
QUALITY CHILDCARE AND
BY ENHANCING THE LIFE
EXPERIENCE OF CHILDREN.**



Hawkeye Auto Body

★ Readers' Choice: Auto Body • Car Detailing

Hawkeye Auto Body of Mason City remains the number one choice of voters in the 2018 Readers' Choice categories of Auto Body Repairs & Auto Detailing. "Thanks to everyone who voted for us as their first choice in the Auto Body & Auto Detailing categories," said Ryan Knoll. "That's a testimony to all the employees for the service and quality that they provide."

Hawkeye Auto Body has served the North Iowa community for almost 42 years. The shop's reputation is built on a commitment to their customers. Jerry Knoll started the company, and his son Ryan has worked there more than 20 years.

Hawkeye Auto Body strengthens its commitment to customer service and safety by having achieved Assured Performance Certification. This designation means the shop meets quality standards set by that manufacturer's making sure they have the correct equipment & training necessary to repair that vehicles from several major manufacturers. "Assured Performance only certifies a certain number of shops and it takes a lot of time and commitment on our part," Ryan said. "When people come to us, they'll know we are recognized as a certified shop to work

on that manufacturer's vehicles."

Along with those manufacture certifications; the shop is also required to be certified in welding several different types of metals. Many of the newer vehicles are going to aluminum sheet metal and box sides, which requires us to use special riveters and welders to repair your vehicle back to OEM (Original Equipment Manufacturer) specifications. Ryan added, "This gives us the ability to work on virtually any vehicle and any type of material," Hawkeye also has the equipment and training to weld almost any type of plastic that is and vehicles today.

The Knoll family has built the shop's reputation on commitment to their customers. They understand the frustration and vulnerability associated with the repair process, according to Jerry. "Our goal is to not only restore your vehicle back to manufacturer's specifications, but also your piece of mind that it has been repaired properly. We are committed to getting you back to your normal routine safely, and as quickly as possible. We appreciate the trust and confidence you place in our family owned business."

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Fareway

★ Readers' Choice: Place to Buy Meat

The managers of Fareway Stores in Mason City and Clear Lake want to thank North Iowa for voting them the “Best Place to Buy Meat” in the Globe Gazette Readers’ Choice awards.

“We’re honored again to receive this award,” said Adam Jeppeson of the Mason City meat department and that was echoed by Ryan Fasbender of the meat department in Clear Lake.

Our successes are many at the meat counters at the Fareway stores in Mason City and Clear Lake. We are proud to provide our customers with:

- Full service meat counter with a well – trained experienced crew
- Supporting many Iowa and local Midwest farmers and suppliers
- Staying true to our “Best At Fresh” approach
- Ability to supply high quality meats without preservatives or added solutions at affordable prices
- Fresh never frozen fish options that change weekly.
- Every package is made to order

- New updated meat cases and electronics for a more visual experience.

Like all Fareway stores, Mason City and Clear Lake locations offer the full-service butcher counter. Fareway market experts make the experience by providing made-to-order, fresh cuts of meat for customers daily. The expansion of fresh seafood and artisan cheeses provide more options than ever before. Each package at the meat counter is individually handled and wrapped to customer specifications.

The Mason City Fareway has been around since 1949, and the Clear Lake store opened in 1970. But the Fareway chain goes back even further.

Fareway’s mission includes treating customers like family and taking pride in remarkably clean stores, personalized meat counter and carryout service, efficient shopping, and low, competitive prices. In addition, the company values its dedicated employees and works to support and partner with local businesses, communities and farmers. Fareway prides its self on being closed on Sundays. We believe our customers, employees, and business part-

ners deserve a day at home with their families – free from the fast-paced life we all live the other six days a week.

Fareway contributes to the communities its employees live in and serve by donating both time and resources to local charitable organizations. Reinvesting in local communities and encouraging economic and community development is an important piece of Fareway’s history and future.

The company also cares about using eco-friendly practices and currently reclaims and reuses heat generated by stores’ refrigeration compressors. Each year, more than 12,500 tons of cardboard, 400 tons of plastic shrink wrap, and 4.5 million plastic grocery sacks are recycled.

This past year has come with changes. We have a fresh new logo that now says “Fareway Meat & Grocery”.

Our dress code has changed to a more modern, comfortable feel with our new polo shirts. We have expanded our fresh produce section and enlarged our gluten free area. We still have changes coming watch for the introduction of our NEW APP. And as always like and follow us on Facebook and don’t miss a sale.



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Rookies and Sevens

★ Readers' Choice - Rookies: Bar/Lounge to Socialize • Happy Hour • Shoot Pool
★ Readers' Choice - Sevens: Breakfast

Whether you're a morning person or a night person, Sevens Restaurant and Steakhouse and Rookies Rockin' Sports Bar are favorites for North Iowans.

The adjoining businesses on Main Avenue in Clear Lake are owned by brothers Al and Mike Hejna. The shared kitchen is open seven days a week for breakfast, lunch, and dinner.

Sevens has been voted best spot for Breakfast in the 2019 Readers' Choice awards, with honorable mentions in the Hamburger and Seafood categories.

"We're real proud of that choice as best breakfast place," Al says. "We focus on quality and taste. When the food comes to your table, it's hot and it's prepared right. And we serve big portions, so you get your money's worth. We want you to come back!"

Monday through Friday, the Lakeside Special includes two eggs, a choice of meat, and toast for \$3.97. A bottomless cup of coffee costs only 77 cents. The breakfast menu also includes a variety of omelettes, pancakes, and other specialties. Al knows it's good. "I eat breakfast there almost seven days a week."

Sevens also serves lunch seven days a week and dinner on Tuesdays through Saturdays.

Rookies took top honors for best Bar/Lounge to Socialize, Happy Hour, and place to Shoot Pool. It also earned a host of honorable mentions: Bar Burger, Bloody Mary, Dancing/Nightclub, Friendliest Bartender Staff, Friendliest Tavern, Mixed Drinks, Place for Meeting Singles, Selection of Beer at a Bar, Sport Bar and Grill, and Women's Night Out.

"In 24 years of business, we've had the late crowd, the place where singles and couples go out," Al says. "The age range is diverse." DJs play music on Friday and Saturday nights. The upstairs bar features country music on Saturday nights.

Happy Hour runs Monday through Friday at Rookies. The Friday focus from 4 to 6 p.m. is dollar bottles, draws, and well drinks, with 50-cent wings from 5 to 7 p.m. "It kicks off their weekend," Al says, noting there are specials throughout the weekend as well.

Rookies caters to shooting pool by providing the best tables. "We're the only bar in North Iowa with Diamond tables, top of the line," Al

says. "We have four tables and offer free pool on Tuesdays and Sundays."

Coming this spring, the Hejna brothers are opening a new and different bar named TAP'd

a few doors down the street in the former Bikers Bar. "It will be a tap house cocktail lounge, with 24 beers on tap, specializing in Iowa and local beers."



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CHOICE FOR**



**THANK YOU FOR
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FOR BREAKFAST!
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HAMBURGER • SEAFOOD**

Bar/Lounge to Socialize • Happy Hour • Shoot Pool

Honorable Mention

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Women's Night Out • Bar Burger • Bloody Mary • Mixed Drinks



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Central Park Dentistry

★ Readers' Choice: Dentist

We would like to thank our patients for voting for Central Park Dentistry as 2019 Readers' Choice Dentist. Our whole team is humbled by your loyalty, and excited to be honored with this award now for over 10 years in a row! We see this award as a testament of our outstanding customer service, solid community involvement, and excellent patient care.

At Central Park Dentistry, the positive energy is palpable as soon as you walk in the door. Our team is eager to assist you with your needs! We are always welcoming new patients, young and old. Our loyal patients will tell you that our team develops connected relationships with each patient. Our patients also enjoy the fun-filled atmosphere in our office.

The customer service at Central Park Dentistry is second to none! We realize dental care can be stressful for many reasons. Our clinical team and doctors work to get to know you, your dental history and how we can improve your health and experience. For many patients, it can be using proven techniques to reduce anxiety. For others, they desire to

be more educated in their personal care and choices. Our front office team is trained to help you understand your insurance benefits and to help you afford the care you need. Everyone at Central Park Dentistry strives to be an educator and advocate for patients to understand the benefits of great oral health!

Central Park Dentistry strives to be a partner in our community. This year alone, we educated over 750 local school children in Mason City, Rockwell and Sheffield. All the children had a fun presentation and received a bag of personal hygiene items. We participate actively in local causes by attending, donating, and volunteering. Our doctors have been active in the North Iowa Free Dental Clinic.

We provide a great mix of modern technology and treatment, along with time-proven techniques. In office, we now have the ability to make 3D xrays of the teeth and jaw, when needed, for a more exact diagnosis. We all use 3D technology to aid treatment especially root canal therapy. Dr. Lala can use this to remove impacted wisdom teeth with precision.

We use an ITERO digital scanner for the doctors to create 3D models of the patient's

teeth and bite. Digital scanning eliminates impressions, making the treatment easier, faster and more accurate. Dr. Hansen can use the ITERO to educate patients on their personal bite issues and the outcome of future Invisalign treatment in a matter of minutes. Drs. Lala and Hansen use these technologies to provide dental implants to patients who need missing teeth replaced.

Dr. Jennifer Thackery joined us 4 years ago and has been a "perfect fit". Dr. Thackery is skilled in utilizing technology and creating comprehensive treatment plans. Most importantly, she's able to communicate treatment options in a way people trust.

We had two home grown doctors join our team in 2017. We are proud to have Dr. Patrick Kolker of Clear Lake and Dr. Brianna Brayton of Meservey. Both have trained at the University of Iowa. They have brought new techniques and new energy to our whole team. We know you will enjoy getting to know them both! We look forward to creating the best dental experience for your entire family.

Again, thank you for this honor and your trust. *Remember, You Will Leave With A Smile!*



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Medical Supply: MercyOne Mason
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OB/GYN: Mark LeDuc, DO,
MercyOne North Iowa Obstetrics &
Gynecology

Pediatrician: Tate Lage, DO,
MercyOne Clear Lake Pediatric &
Adolescent Care

Physical Therapy: MercyOne
North Iowa Occupational Health



**All MercyOne colleagues are part of the winning team to
provide quality health care services to you and your family!**

SERVPRO

★ Readers' Choice: Cleaning Service

SERVPRO of Mason City is the area's top pick for Cleaning Services in the 2019 Readers' Choice awards.

Owned by Keith and Holly Messenger since October 2017, SERVPRO of Mason City offers professional response to property damage emergencies. Clients include insurance companies seeking superior and timely restoration services, as well as commercial and residential property owners who require routine cleaning services.

"It is very rewarding to be recognized for our team's hard work and efforts. Our goal is to continue to offer the best service and support possible to our customers and the local community," Keith Messenger says. "The community has always been very supportive of our franchise, and it shows through awards like this one."

Before taking over ownership of the local SERVPRO franchise, Keith owned ProClean Professional Cleaning Services for 10 years. SERVPRO of Mason City was originally opened in 2007 by Tom and Sue Teggatz. Keith has lived in the North Iowa area for the last 20 years, and his wife Holly grew

up here. The family makes their home on a Mason City acreage.

SERVPRO of Mason City is capable of cleaning and restoring a fire, mold or water-damaged building and its contents, including: wall, ceiling and floor surfaces; furniture; fabric; fixtures and more. They also offer cleaning and restoration of special items, such as: HVAC duct systems; building exteriors; electronic equipment, including computers; and documents that have sustained water damage.

Founded in 1967, the SERVPRO franchise system is a national leader of cleanup and restoration services, with time-tested techniques and proprietary cleaning products.

The local business recently added on to its facilities with a 10,000-square-foot addition. It includes a cleaning room to process clients' contents damaged by disaster, a classroom for staff training and meetings, and more.

Join SERVPRO of Mason City for a day of free family fun in June, to celebrate the new ownership and expansion. There will be a ribbon cutting at 4 p.m. on Friday, June 14, and an open house from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Saturday, June 15. The community is invited to tour the facility; enjoy grilled food and refreshments from Hy-Vee; and listen to live broadcasting from 93.9 KIA-FM and 106.1 KLSS.

Kids's activities and games will include bouncy houses and slide from the North Iowa Youth Center. Check out a fire truck from Mason City Fire Department and police car

from Mason City Police Department. Have fun taking pictures at the SERVPRO of Mason City photo booth and tag them using #SERVPROmasoncity.

For more information on the services offered by SERVPRO of Mason City, call 641-424-3382. You can also find the business online at www.servpromasoncity.com or on Facebook.



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North Central Mechanical Services

★ Readers' Choice: Heating & Cooling • Plumbing

North Central Mechanical Services continues to be North Iowa's top choice for Heating and Air Conditioning services in the 2019 Readers' Choice awards, and this year it added a win in the Plumbing category.

"Winning the award multiple times is a honor, and we definitely appreciate the local support," according to owner Nathan Bartels. He pledges that North Central Mechanical Services will continue to do everything possible to maintain its high level of service and quick response times.

He attributes the customer loyalty to the company's great team of staff and their effectiveness in prompt and efficient service. "Our dedicated employees are what make our business stand out."

The Mason City business provides a wide range of services for residential and commercial settings, both new construction and maintenance of existing systems. In addition to heating, air conditioning, and plumbing, the company works on geothermal systems, backflow testing, duct cleaning, ventilation, boiler systems, sheet metal fabrication, and more.

As well as residential, the company services

a full line of commercial products. It also is a dealer for Trane, Lennox, Franklin, Water-Furnace geothermal, and Central Boiler wood burner furnaces.

North Central Mechanical Services continues to be highly involved with internship programs at North Iowa Area Community College, to encourage the growth of more technicians in the field across all the mechanical trades. Bartels says the company generally hires at least two interns every year.

Its technicians have master and journeyman certifications including: HVAC, Plumbing, Hydronics, Refrigeration and Special Electricians Certification, Boiler Operator 1 training certification, Iowa Backflow Assembly & Test certification, SAVE certification for all your energy company rebates, North American Technician Excellence (NATE) certification, and Fujitsu training, along with many specialized factory training classes for specific manufacturers' equipment.

Bartels started the company in 2010 out of his home. North Central Mechanical Services has moved twice since then to accommodate the growth in business. Now at 2601 15th

Street SW, the company employs 15 people. Bartels says they strive to be timely on estimates and notes that the company has 24-hour service, so there's always someone to take

care of emergencies.

For a quote on commercial or residential work, give North Central Mechanical Services a call at 641-424-4828.



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| BAKERY | PRODUCE |

It began in 1930 as the story of two men and one gigantic leap of faith...

When Charles Hyde and David Vredenburg opened their first store in Beaconsfield, Iowa in 1930, the Great Depression was just taking hold. But they had faith in themselves, faith in each other, and faith in the fundamental principles that guided their business – friendliness, helpfulness, honesty, dedication and respect.

Hy-Vee of Mason City first opened its doors on April 28, 1965. Now over 50 years later, we've grown from a single store to 3 large stores, and those fundamental principles Hyde and Vredenburg believed so strongly in, still guide the way Hy-Vee does business today. We are proud to offer quality groceries and merchandise plus a wide variety of services to the residents of north central Iowa.



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Midwest Construction

★ Readers' Choice: Gutter Sales/Installation

Midwest Construction in Mason City is the best place in North Iowa for gutter sales and installation, according to the 2019 Readers' Choice results. The family-owned company, which started in 1958, also received honorable mentions for the categories of Roofing Contractor, Siding, and Window/Door Retailer.

Company founder Alex P. Despenas coined the slogan, "Quality Products and Quality Installation," and that pledge still drives the business today. Paul Despenas, Vice President of Marketing, says Midwest Construction focuses on the exterior of homes: windows, siding, sunrooms, roofing, doors, patio doors, and gutter systems.

"Homeowners can rest at ease because Midwest Construction has done the research to bring your home the finest, longest lasting exterior products that deliver energy savings," he says. "Our well-trained crews use the latest in air and water management techniques along with the best materials available in our industry to ensure your home's integrity."

Despenas says your exterior home improvement project will be done in a timely, professional manner, with daily clean-up of the site. All crews are insured for your peace of mind and comfort.

Midwest Construction has two showrooms, one in Mason City and the other in Grimes, featuring full-size sunrooms, fully-functioning window displays, and samples of all products. The company received a Better Business Bureau Integrity Award in 2015.

Despenas says, "We would like to thank our past customers for their business and for voting for Midwest Construction in this year's Readers' Choice."



Thank You **FOR VOTING US** READER'S CHOICE **GUTTER SALES/INSTALLATION**

We are so grateful to be a part of this wonderful community & we thank you for your valued business!

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North Iowa Community Credit Union

★ Readers' Choice: Credit Union

North Iowa Community Credit Union (NICCU) based out of Mason City was voted the best local credit union in the 2019 Readers' Choice awards.

Scott Shipman, President and CEO of 36 years, says "Unlike a bank, we're a not-for-profit institution, run by a volunteer board of directors, and we're member-owned." Profits at NICCU go back to members in the form of higher interest on savings accounts, lower interest on loans, and reduced fees. Members are encouraged to provide input, get involved through the annual meeting, and vote for the Board of Directors.

Founded in 1956, NICCU now has more than 13,000 members throughout their service area. It's a community membership credit union for North Iowa residents. You can apply to be a member if you live or work in Cerro Gordo, Franklin, Hancock, Winnebago, Worth, or Wright counties, or have a family member who already is a member of NICCU.

NICCU is a full-service financial institution providing a wide variety of checking and

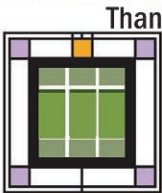
savings options, online banking, and loan services, including mortgage/home equity. NICCU also invests in educating people about money matters, including a strong youth program. Groups can arrange a financial visit to the Credit Union, and teachers invite NICCU into classrooms to talk with students on finance topics.

With two locations in Mason City and approximately 28 staff members, NICCU belongs to a Privileged Status ATM Network and is also a Shared Branching Co-Op, meaning members can access their accounts at any of 5,000 partner locations across the country.

"The credit union philosophy worldwide is 'people helping people,'" Shipman says. NICCU actively involved and supports its local communities. Every month, two employees are chosen to decide on where to spread "Random Acts of Kindness" in the form of staff volunteering time or donating money to local causes.

"See what our community can do for you," Shipman says.

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2019 Readers' Choice Spring Event

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Memorial Day Weekend, May 23-27, 2019

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Schedule subject to change

Thursday, May 23

6PM John Adams Middle School Band Concert (Plaza)
6:45PM Municipal Band Concert (Plaza)
6-8PM Carnival open (Middle School Night)

Friday, May 24

4-7PM Stu Nevermann Run packet pickup (Aquatic Center)
5PM Carnival/Concessions/Marketplace open
5PM MCHS Orchestra Concert (Plaza)
6PM MCHS Jazz Band (Main Stage)
7:30PM The Dueling Pianos of Andy Anderson & Mike Leeds (Main Stage)

Saturday, May 25

8AM Stu Nevermann Run (Aquatic Center)
10AM Parade & Marching Band Competition
12PM Carnival/Concessions/Marketplace open
1:30PM Mohawk Danzers Performance (Main Stage)
2PM NIACC Extreme Makeover Announcement (Main Stage)
2PM Awards Ceremony (Main Stage)
3-5PM Instrument Petting Zoo (Try out musical instruments on the Plaza!)
5PM Paul Weitzel & The Hats (Main Stage)
7:30PM Brat Pack Radio (Main Stage)

Sunday, May 26

9AM Outdoor Worship Service (Trinity Lutheran Church)
11AM-5PM Marketplace open
12PM-8PM Carnival/Concessions open (Wristband Day)

Monday, May 27

12PM-6PM Carnival/Concessions open (Wristband Day)

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Cerro Gordo County Department of Public Health

★ Readers' Choice: Home Health Care

The Cerro Gordo County Department of Public Health has been voted the best provider of Home Health Care in the 2019 Readers' Choice awards.

"It's a great honor," says Kara Ruge, marketing and public information officer for the agency based in Mason City. "We serve the residents of Cerro Gordo County, helping them stay in their homes as long as possible. We have a great home care team that goes above and beyond to meet all clients' needs."

Valerie Conklin, service manager for the Home Health Care division, says, "We make the effort to treat each patient as an individual. We consider their preferences, needs, and wants. Our goal while we're in the home is to assess the patient's needs and do whatever we can to make them comfortable, including nursing care, personal care, and therapies."

The agency's ten trained home care aides support persons who need assistance to remain in their own homes or those who are recovering from recent injury, illness, or surgery. The agency

sees a great variety of clients, according to Conklin. "Some have been with us for a very long time. But we also do short-term acute care after an illness or injury."

Aides receive many hours of training when hired and continue with monthly training updates. Services are tailored to individual needs, which might include help with bathing and personal care; meal planning and grocery shopping; household chores; or therapy.

Five registered nurses also are on staff. They coordinate with doctors to plan all services required by the client and supervise the home health aides. Skilled nursing services might include drawing blood for lab tests, managing medications, caring for a wound, or educating the individual and their family about a health condition.

The cost of home care aide and nursing services may be covered by Medicare, Medicaid, Veterans Affairs, private insurance, grants, or a sliding scale.

Ruge wants families in search of

home care to know that they have options. "You can pick which Home Health Care service you want. You have a choice."

Former client Marvin Haley says he's grateful for the agency's assistance. "I never thought I would need triple-bypass surgery. And I never thought I would need home care services. But I did. After my heart surgery, a registered nurse from the Cerro Gordo County Department of Public Health came to my house to help with my wound care. She also helped me figure out all of the new medications I had to take. This was all new to me and it was a little overwhelming. I felt so much better to have an experienced Public Health nurse take care of me in my home — where I wanted to be. With the caring help of a registered nurse with the Cerro Gordo Department of Public Health, I was back to my full-time job and my farming job in just a few weeks. Thank you, Public Health, for giving me the comfort of having excellent care in my own home!"



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Cafe Mir

★ Readers' Choice: Restaurant Worth a Drive

Cafe Mir (pronounced like 'mere') is a highly Mediterranean inspired, North Iowa farm produce driven restaurant.

It's located across from the Island Park & beside the Winnebago River in Fertile, IA.

Doesn't that sound exotic?

It's owned & operated by two Frederick cousins, both born & raised in the area, neither of whom owns a lighthouse.

Cafe Mir has many things. Among these things are wood-fired vegetables & Neopoli-

tan-style pizzas.

Fine local meat. Salads! And sometimes lasagna, for instance. Midwestern beer & European wine.

Not to mention a world-famous dish-washer.

It's a fun place. Unless you don't want it to be. Then it's very, very serious.

(Upcoming project starting April 3rd: Wednesday Pizza Nights at Fat Hill Brewing in Mason City!)



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Woodford Lumber and Home

★ Readers' Choice: Paint/Wallpaper

A trusted name for 150 years. Woodford Lumber and Home Company has met North Iowa customer needs since just after the Civil War, through The Depression, two world wars and into the 21st century.

The "foundation" for this longtime relationship - providing quality materials, expertise and new products to ensure the best customer experience.

Benjamin Moore Paint is one of the more recent examples of meeting changing customer needs. As customers became more aware of some health issues related to materials in their home, Benjamin Moore was pioneering eco-friendly paint with its zero-VOC Natura paint. "We're proud to say that it's family-friendly," said Woodford Lumber and Home Manager Darle Hoshaw.

In fact, Hoshaw said there are customers who are now so loyal to the brand that they will drive 30-40 miles to get their paint at the Benjamin Moore Signature Store at Woodford Lumber and Home located in downtown Clear Lake. It truly is "paint like no other."

Because Woodford Lumber and Home attained Benjamin Moore Signature Store status,

customers enjoy an unparalleled retail experience. Unlike the big box stores, trained color consultants provide personalized, unrushed service to help each customer find the right paint and color for their project. Computerized color matching software and paint tinting ensures that customers can also match existing paint colors.

"We partnered with Benjamin Moore paint because of its outstanding reputation for superior quality and performance," Hoshaw said. "This is the paint that professional painters, architects and interior designers recommend because of the vibrant colors, extraordinary application and longevity. And do-it-yourselfers also like Benjamin Moore paints because of its 'one coat will do it' characteristic."

Benjamin Moore has consistently ranked at the top in national customer satisfaction paint surveys conducted by J.D. Powers, a global information services company. Founded in 1883, it is one of the country's leading manufacturers of premium quality residential, commercial and industrial paints and other coatings. Benjamin Moore paint is only available at independently owned stores.

Woodford Lumber and Home, located at 210 North 4th Street, is a full-service lumberyard and retail center with name brand windows, cabinets, countertops, doors, hardware, decking materials, dock materials, millwork and paint. Experienced staff design new construction or remodeling plans. A cabinetry showroom and the signature paint store area help customers envision their home improvement dreams.

Woodford Lumber and Home, Clear Lake's oldest business, is celebrating its 150th anniversary this year. It was just a few years after the Civil War ended that Truman Woodford heard about a promising new settlement on the shores of a beautiful lake.

So in 1869, he journeyed from Milwaukee, Wisconsin to Clear Lake, Iowa to start the Woodford lumber company. At that time, all lumber and supplies had to be brought from Cedar Falls by horse drawn wagon. There was a local lumber mill, however, and a shingle factory. Three other lumber yards were here at the beginning - Fletcher and Sons and Day Brothers. The coming of the railroad and the beginning of the camp meetings started the

growth and prosperity of the town and laid the foundation for its reputation as a summer resort.

"While its roots are firmly planted in the past, the members of the firm have their eyes turned toward the future and have a deep interest in the progress and welfare of the town," according to an article about Woodford Lumber in Clear Lake's Sesquicentennial newspaper.

"This lumber company and the community have grown up together. The men who developed the one had an active part in making the other progress," according to the Sesquicentennial writer.

The sixth generation of the Woodford family continues to own the business.



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Country Meadow Place

★ Readers' Choice: Assisted Living

The Construction is nearly complete. Country Meadow Place, the 2019 Readers' Choice for Assisted Living in North Iowa, is growing. The Mason City retirement community, specializing in care for those with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias, will open their expansion in May. The over 21,000 square foot addition will include 20 Assisted Living apartments and a variety of useful common areas to meet North Iowa demand.

The community is located at 17396 Kingbird Avenue on the west edge of Mason City, in a country-like setting where the Old County Home used to sit. "We are at 100 percent occupancy now and working off a wait list. We saw the need for more senior living opportunities in North Iowa," said Kim Boyd, manager since October 2014.

The addition will add 1- and 2-bedroom apartments and common areas for residents who want assistance. Country Meadow Place currently offers 1-bedroom and studio apartments for assisted living and memory care in a completely secure community, providing safety for residents. Since completing an extensive remodeling project to the existing building, Country Meadow Place has established itself as a leader in providing Memory Care to North Iowa seniors over the past several years.

"It's a great honor that the area voted us as best of the best," Boyd said. "We also were awarded 'Best Assisted Living in North Iowa' by SeniorAdvisor.com for the past three years as well as the Iowa Assisted Living Association Best Assisted Living Award in 2018. It's all about quality of life and giving them pur-

pose and meaning. We roll out the red carpet for our residents."

One of the advantages of living there is the blend of assisted living with memory care, so couples can live together in an apartment. "We can have one person with dementia and their spouse who only needs assisted living," said Boyd. "In many places, they would have to live separately on different floors."

Specially trained memory care staff is available 24 hours a day. Residents receive monitoring by a Registered Nurse and participate in stimulating planned or spontaneous activities.

The community finds many ways to show individual attention to their residents. The Dare to Dream program focuses on helping someone realize an unfulfilled dream. For instance, Boyd said they recently worked with a local pilot who took a Resident that use to be a Pilot flying again.

"LifeShare" was launched to enhance communication between the families of residents and the staff. This Internet-based program gives families access to their loved one's daily activities and allows staff to securely send positive messages, pictures, or videos to families. It also provides a way for families to talk to caregivers or send messages to share with the resident. For instance, Boyd said the Life Enrichment Coordinator might take pictures of a resident engaged in a meaningful activity, to share on LifeShare. "A resident's family may call and ask them what they did today, but the Resident might not remember. This way their family can see the activities they participated in that day," she explained.

The new addition will have a new Therapy

room. Northern Iowa Therapy comes daily to offer Physical, Occupational, and Speech Therapy. Live 2 B Healthy offers senior exercise with a certified instructor, and staff from Athletico Physical Therapy comes twice a week to lead exercise. The community also offers massage therapy and music therapy. There is a spa room, featuring a big spa tub, hot towels, dim lighting, and music to foster comfort and relaxation. Weekly salon hours are available.

"We have a full-size bus and a van for everything from outings to doctor's appointments," Boyd said. "It might be visiting regional sites like the Little Brown Church or the Northwood Casino, or just driving around Clear Lake on a nice day and stopping for ice cream."

Residents rent their apartments and bring their own furnishings to make it home like. They receive three home-cooked meals and snacks; laundry and housekeeping; life enriching activities; 24-hour call pendant; and use of the building amenities. Boyd noted that the community can offer quite a bit more through individual service plans, depending on the person's needs.

Once the new addition is open, residents in assisted living will rent apartments by the month. They can choose to customize services to meet their needs, adding on assistance, like having staff manage their medications or assist with showers, according to Boyd. The new apartments will be larger and include a full-size refrigerator and microwave. The addition will include a new dining room, common area lounge, private dining/library, therapy/exercise

area, and more.

A core philosophy of Country Meadow Place is "Embracing Every Moment." Boyd said it's about "finding that sparkle in every day and making memories matter."

She and her staff are grateful for the vote of confidence from North Iowa. "Residents and family are often thanking us for what we do," Boyd said. "It gives us pause. When they say thank you, it kind of hits the heart." We're rolling out the Red Carpet for you with our award-winning team, including 24-hour care, and engaging activities to Embrace Every Moment. Country Meadow Place, where it's "your" choice, so make us your "First Choice."

Country Meadow Place is currently taking reservations for the new addition. Contact Kim Boyd at 641-423-7722 or Tony Buhr, Community Relations Coordinator at 641-425-0372 or email Kim at manager@countrymeadowplace.com for questions.



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Hearing Associates

★ Readers' Choice: Audiologist/Hearing Aid Provider

“Hearing loss is an invisible condition that has a phenomenal impact on the activities of daily living,” said Stuart Trembath, owner and audiologist at Hearing Associates in Mason City.

“It can be a huge barrier to enjoying conversation with other people. Our goal is to provide care as best we can for the patients, so they can overcome the obstacle that hearing loss provides for them,” Trembath said. “And more than just that person, but also the people around the individual that are so important.”

Alex Crippin, Director of Operations, said the team focuses on service. “People come to us not just because we are knowledgeable about hearing loss and hearing devices, but because we care,” Crippin said. “We’re here to help people hear better. A hearing device is not the cure-all, but it sure can help, and we can help them through that transition.”

Hearing Associates opened 30 years ago in Mason City. Now with nine other locations in Iowa and Minnesota, the business has a long-standing referral relationship with the medical community, particularly the Mason City Clinic Ear-Nose-Throat (ENT) practice.

Crippin said the audiologists at Hearing Associates all hold master’s or doctorate degrees. They use a wide variety of tests to detect hearing loss in patients of all ages. The staff also can evaluate balance issues and tinnitus (ringing in ears).

Hearing loss is impacting Baby Boomers more than any previous generation, Trembath said. “In the World War II generation, hearing loss was caused by noise from the war or was factory related. For boomers, it’s mostly recreational use like music, motorcycles, and snowmobiles. When they were in the work-place, there were noise restrictions in industry. And children now have much higher hearing loss due to video gaming and headphones.”

“Studies show that a person’s ability to hear has many implications. Adults with untreated hearing loss are significantly more likely to develop dementia, experience depression, and have a history of falling,” Crippin said.

If needed, Hearing Associates helps patients choose hearing devices from some of the leading manufacturers in the industry. “Because we all have unique hearing ability, hearing devices are not ‘one size fits all,’” he said. “Not every

hearing device from a single manufacturer works for every patient.”

When a patient is fit with the correct hearing device, Hearing Associates offers classes for new users, to help them transition back to the hearing world. “It helps people realize they are not alone, and it gives them a chance to talk with others going through the same thing,” Crippin said. “We also invite the families to come, to help them re-build communication strategies together, since the individual may have become more isolated due to the hearing loss.”

Crippin said today’s digital hearing devices have much better capabilities and are beginning to link up with other electronics. “A lot of them have Bluetooth wireless technology, sort of like a headset for your phone, so they can stream music or pair up with a TV,” he said. Many public venues now

offer hearing loops, devices that transmit audio signals directly to a user’s hearing device.

Learn more about hearing loss, hearing devices, and how Hearing Associates can help at www.hearingassociatesmc.com.

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South Shore Donut Co.

★ Readers' Choice: Donuts

The best donuts in North Iowa come from a cottage-themed shop tucked away on South Shore Drive in Clear Lake. The South Shore Donut Co. won the 2019 Readers' Choice award for Donuts, with an honorable mention in the Bakery category.

South Shore Donut Co. creates more than 70 different flavors and varieties of gourmet donuts and pastries. The shop at 1205 South Shore Drive offers 12 to 15 flavors in the bakery case every day, with cake donuts, raised and glazed donuts, cream-filled long johns, raspberry bismarks, and pastries. Owners Whitney and John Mixdorf opened the business in 2017.

"We switched to doing mini cake donuts this year, after people starting requesting them," John says. "You can still pre-order the regular size. And we're always adding new flavors."

The DoCo (the company's nickname) now makes edible cookie dough. Another new treat is cookie sandwiches made with Michael's Cookies, a Clear Lake brand, and frosting flavors or edible cookie dough in the middle.

Daily lunch menu includes loose meat sandwiches, hot dogs, and "The Mixwich," a hollowed-out hoagie toasted from the inside and stuffed with hot or cold sandwich fillings.



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Veterans Memorial Golf Club

★ Readers' Choice: Golf Course

The Veterans Memorial Golf Club in Clear Lake won the title of best Golf Course in the 2019 Readers' Choice awards.

This is the second big recognition the club has received in recent years. It won "Course of the Year" from the Iowa Golf Association in 2014.

Michael Oimoen, in his sixth year as director of golf at the club, says, "We've just got a good thing going here. We've got great staff both inside and outside. Jeremy Amosson does a super job as grounds superintendent, and our board is easy to work with."

The nine-hole course, opened in 1922, was purchased by the Clear Lake Chamber

of Commerce in 1945. The City of Clear Lake has owned the land since 2011, and the club is operated by a non-profit organization.

Oimoen says they try to open the course for the season by April. The club house offers burgers, brats, and hot dogs, with a small bar for drinks. The deck, remodeled last year with a roof and televisions, is a popular spot.

The club has a junior golf program open to kids ages 5 to 15 on Fridays in the summer. The ladies league plays every Wednesday morning and the men's league is on Thursdays.



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And pride in a job well done.

That's what drives CL Tel. Since its founding, CL Tel has endeavored to serve the area with technology that makes all of our lives easier.

"We want North Iowa communities and their businesses to thrive," said CL Tel General Manager Tom Lovell said. "We're firm believers that our region deserves the same advanced technology as any urban area. By offering the latest technologies, supported by our team's local responsiveness, we strive to exceed the service offered in a metro area."

CL Tel was first in the area to offer Gigabit Internet speeds – 100 times faster than the average Internet connection – in December 2015. CL Tel also was one of the early fiber optics providers. Fiber optics provide the broadband infrastructure that is essential to North Iowa's economic success," Lovell said. It's a far more secure connection with virtually unlimited capacity for data, voice, and video services, particularly when compared to cellular, wireless, and cable services.

Clear Lake and Ventura will be 100% Gigabit communities with the completion of the final construction of a fiber optic network this summer, making them part of a small group nationwide which can leverage high speed infrastructure to drive business innovation.

In addition to the latest technology, CL Tel

staff provide the expertise for robust customer service. "While competitors try to cut costs, we're all about boots on the ground to help our customers," Lovell said. "Our people provide a great combination of long-time expertise and fresh innovation to meet our changing customer needs."

In 2017, CL Tel was awarded the national Smart Rural Community Showcase Award by the NTCA for providing advanced communications services that have helped "drive economic and community strength" in several North Iowa communities.

NTCA – the Rural Broadband Association – cited CL Tel's deployment of advanced broadband technologies and collaboration with local leaders as keys to helping communities be "vibrant places in which to live and do business." The technology has been leveraged to enable innovation in the areas of economic development and commerce, education, agriculture, health care, government services, security and energy use.

High-speed broadband Internet is now a key requirement used by site selectors in the very competitive landscape of industrial recruitment.



CL Tel's fiber infrastructure has been instrumental in recruiting and maintaining numerous major Clear Lake businesses. Plus, requests by several large Mason City employers led CL Tel's subsidiary, SkyBlue Solutions, to build a fiber network in Mason City's industrial park and later in downtown Mason City.

CL Tel is a full-service high-speed Internet, security, phone and digital TV provider for residents and businesses in Clear Lake and Ventura. Subsidiary SkyBlue Solutions provides advanced communications services to businesses in Mason City and other North Iowa communities. Advanced communications services and network redundancy are managed by a 24/7/365 Network Operations Center and backed by local support.

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Dancin' With Roxie

★ Readers' Choice: Dance Studio

Dancin With Roxie is North Iowa's premiere studio for dancers of all ages, body types and experience levels who have a passion for dance. "We offer fun, energetic, top notch instruction for ballet, tap, jazz, lyrical, advanced technique, hip hop, cheer/pom, contemporary, tumbling, beginning age intro to dance, and we also have a multi-national championship award winning competition team." Explains Owner, Roxanna Johnson. "We take great pride in the reputation that we have built for more than a decade. We're known for providing a quality education, our strong values and ties to the community, having fun, and being the best."

"Our ability to help dancers find their inner passion for the art of dance is key to our program. Once you find that passion, the possibilities are endless. No matter what level you are starting at, we can get you where you want to be. Our schedule is very a la carte. You can take as many or as few classes as you wish, or have time for. Along with dance instruction we take great care to make sure that our dancers are inspiring others and being great friends. Once you step through our studio doors, you are among friends!"

Dancin' With Roxie has a growing list of dancers who have gone on to become successful collegiate and professional level dancers. Classes starting at just \$40 per month. Fall and summer session enrollment opens soon, many classes will fill to capacity. Join our important updates mailing list to be the first to know about registration dates and performances. To join that list or for more information on the programs offered at DWR call 641-430-5003, email dancinwithroxie@hotmail.com, or visit www.dancingwithroxie.com.

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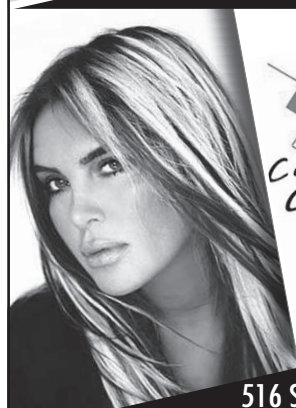
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Boulder Tap House

★ Readers' Choice: Bar Burger • Hamburger
Variety of Appetizers • Selection of Beer at a Bar

Boulder Tap House won 2019 Readers' Choice top votes for Bar Burger, Best Selection of Beer at a Bar, Variety of Appetizers, and Hamburger.

That pretty much covers their slogan, "Burgers, beer, wings, and friends - the way it should be."

Thanking customers for their endorsement, Tom Mason, general manager, said, "It's a family-owned business based out of St. Cloud, MN. They like the community here. We try to keep everything as local as we can, with vendors."

The company owns 40 restaurants, but Ma-

son City was the first one opened in Iowa three years ago. A second Boulder Tap House now is in Ames. The restaurant here employs about 65 people.

He described the Boulder Tap House atmosphere as "a sports bar, but family-friendly."

"We specialize in craft beer and craft burgers," Mason said. "We have have the best selection of beer, with the most wide variety to hit all the preferences of our customers. On our hamburgers, we try for unique combinations, not just the ordinary. And service is a top priority. We make sure we're talking to guests and make them feel like regulars."

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