

Communicator

30-YEAR IOWA MAIN STREET COMMUNITY

Volume 41, Number 7

July 2016



A Note from the Director

Summer is finally here. The Chamber invites you to take part in all of our summer events so you can enjoy the weather with friends and family.

July kicks off with fireworks at the Southern Iowa Fairgrounds. Then join us on July 8th for our second Friday After Five. We will be featuring the local favorite rock bands, Small Town Superheroes and the Rich Webster Band. Enjoy the music while sitting in the park. We are excited to have the owners of Exile and Millstream joining us with their craft beer. We will still have domestics available as well. The Chamber is also excited to have multiple food trucks for you to dine from.

Join the Chamber every Thursday night before the Oskaloosa City Band for food and fun for the whole family.

We have a lot going on at the Chamber. If you would like to be involved please let me know. We would love to have some fresh faces and new ideas on our committees and remember, as always, my door is open, the coffee is hot, and I look forward to hearing from you!



- Valinn McReynolds

Oskaloosa Area Chamber & Development Group
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P: 672.2591 • F: 672.2047

www.oacdg.org • oskycofc@oacdg.org

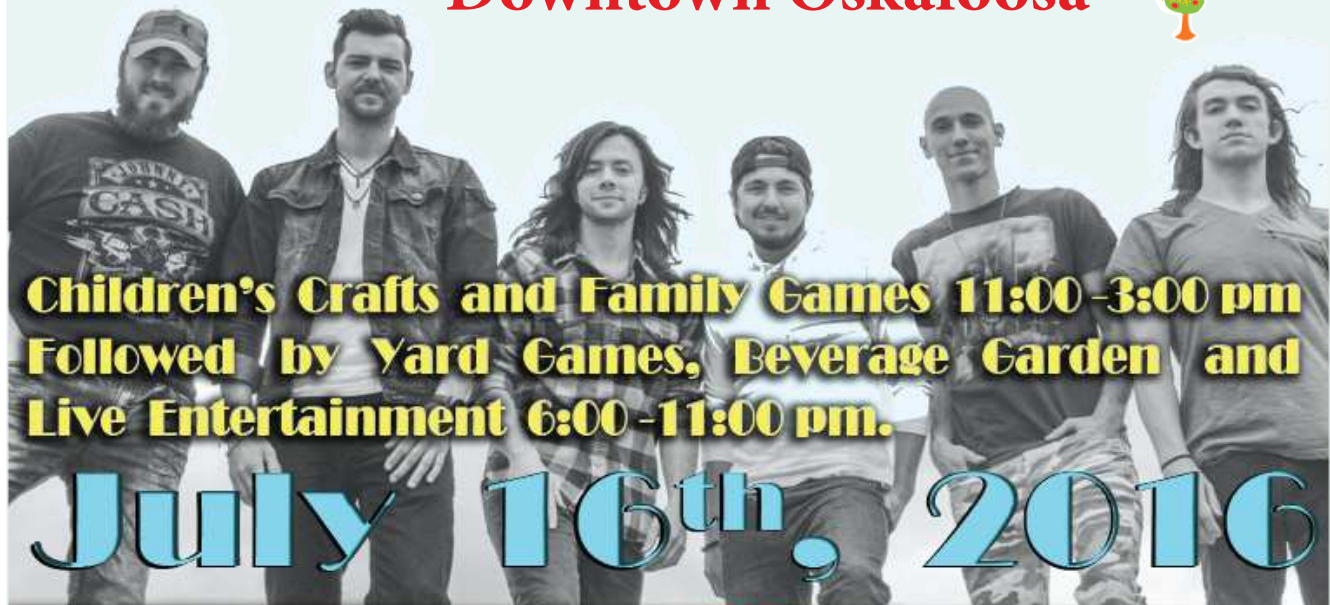
Valinn McReynolds, Chamber Director • Karen Hafner,
Main Street Director • Deann De Groot, Office Manager
• Deb Bruxvoort, Financial Manager • Tessa Veldhuizen,
Main Street Events Coordinator

Christmas in July

Featuring Country-Rock Band

BROSEPH E. LEE

Downtown Oskaloosa



Children's Crafts and Family Games 11:00 - 3:00 pm
Followed by Yard Games, Beverage Garden and
Live Entertainment 6:00 - 11:00 pm.

July 16th, 2016



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BirdsEyeDesign can design and print materials including but not limited to: **color/black and white copies, logos, brochures, newsletters, booklets, postcards, business cards, letterhead,**

Owner Jill Rutledge shares, "At BirdsEyeDesign, we create effective visual communication solutions, customized for you. A full-service design and print studio, we provide professional design and printing services handling all aspects of a project.

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4TH OF JULY

Leighton Celebration: July 1, 2016

Games, food vendors, live band, Six Pool, and a fantastic fireworks display!

Oskaloosa Celebration: July 3, 2016

Celebration activities will be held at the Southern Iowa Fairgrounds. Gates open at 6 PM for free seating to see the Transaurus. The League of Heroes will be present to take pictures from 7-9 PM. Games, food and fireworks display for all to enjoy the evening of July 3.

Oskaloosa Main Street Receives \$390,000 Facade Grant

Awards totaling \$19.6 million were announced for 59 communities across the state. The Iowa Economic Development Authority (IEDA) awarded the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds to support 59 community investment projects. The federally funded grants were awarded for community facilities, infrastructure improvements, downtown revitalization and single family owner-occupied housing rehabilitation.

The purpose of the Iowa Economic Development Authority downtown revitalization grant program is to provide funding assistance to cities to help rehabilitate deteriorating properties in a blighted area. The State recognizes a benefit to helping cities revitalize their mixed-use downtown areas and that meets one HUD's national objectives—the rejuvenation of slum and blight areas. The general theory is that if the State and the City can provide some funding to clean up the façades in a blighted district: 1) the area will look nicer and be more attractive for businesses and residents, and 2) the property owners will be more interested in making additional improvements to their property because they won't have had to spend so much on exterior rehab.

Area 15 Regional Planner Brad Grefe shared, "To qualify for inclusion in the project a property has to be designated as a "blighted" property. The City and Oskaloosa Main Street sat down with Area 15 RPC staff to determine just where the boundaries should be. A project's "fundability" is based off of its ability to meet the national objective. Fixing 16 buildings in the entire downtown area wouldn't have the impact that fixing 16 buildings in 3 blocks would, so that's how the target area was chosen. This also allows the City to remain eligible for future funding rounds should they choose to pursue that option."

Here is a sample of a transformative proposal in the project. Curtis Architecture & Design will be working on final designs the remainder of this year with construction expected to start and be completed in 2017. The designs/colors are not final yet and still have to go through the SHPO review prior to approval, however, these building facades will be sure to enhance Oskaloosa Main Street.




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STORE HOURS: MON.-FRI. 8-9; SAT. 9-6; SUN. 10-5



Diplomats

Oskaloosa Area Chamber

Business Before Hours

Please join the Diplomats for Business Before Hours on Saturday, July 23 at the Southern Iowa Fair Pavilion. Pancakes, sausages and beverages will be served beginning at 6:30 am with Buyers Auction starting at 8 am. Chamber members are encouraged to join the OACDG Diplomats and the Southern Iowa Fair Board at the event to thank all those involved in making the fair a success!



Mahaska Young Professionals

Social hour for July will take place on July 7 at 5:30 PM at the Cellar Peanut Pub. On Saturday, July 30 the Mahaska Young Professionals will be having a Disc Golf and BBQ. Mark your calendars for these events!

Oskaloosa Main Street Presents: Sweet Corn Serenade

Food, Craft, & Product Vendors.....Noon—9:00 pm
Sweet Corn & Beef Burgers.....4:00pm—Until we run out
 Beef burgers by Mahaska County Cattleman's Association. Meal—\$5
Kid's Activities.....4:00 pm
 Fun with YMCA, Community 1st Train rides, Balloons by Terrific Tom, Giant Slide, and Farm Bureau Agriculture Exhibit!
Hawkeye Pedal Pull (ages 3-11).....6:00 pm
 Registration 5:30-6 pm only! Sponsors: McKim Tractors & Beck's Hybrids
Pie Baking Contest (Register at 5 at Bandstand).....5:30-7:30 pm
 Two pies, one for contest and one to sell (fruit pie only, no cream pies).
Mitch Goudy (Country music singer, writer, guitarist)...5:30-7:30 pm
 Sponsored by Bank Iowa of Oskaloosa
Municipal Band.....8:00 pm

THURSDAY JULY 28, 2016

NOON-9:00 PM

DOWNTOWN OSKALOOSA



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Art on the Square 2016



Renee Brostrom Egan with the winning Silent Auction Poster at Art on the Square. Can you find the hidden landmark?



Art on the Square 2016 brought out many artists and customers!



Above: Award of Excellence winners included Jodi DeJong, Ken Allsup, Donna Muhs and Rich Herrmann.



Pictured left: Best of show two-dimensional was awarded to Brandi Powell. Best of show three-dimensional was awarded to Sergiy Nagorny

“We Want You!”



Want to get involved? The Chamber has opportunities for you to get involved.

Commerce Committee- Second Thursday of each month at noon @ Chamber

Friday after Five Committee- Third Friday of each month at noon @ Chamber

Please contact Valinn if you are interested at vmcreynolds@oacd.org or 641-672-2591.

Ridiculous Days July 21, 22, 23



Many participating businesses with deals you will not want to miss. Shop local!

Oskaloosa Independence Day Celebration

Sponsored by Musco Sports Lighting, Southern Iowa Fair, Oskaloosa Herald, KBOE-KMZN Radio, Doug's 4-Wheelers and Oskaloosa Area Chamber & Development Group.

Sunday, July 3rd, 2016

Location: Southern Iowa Fairgrounds In Oskaloosa

Gates Open At 6:00 p.m. for FREE Seating

TRANSAURUS

**Metal Fire Breathing
Jurassic Dinosaur that has a
craving for eating anything it
can get his claws on.**

The League of Hero's
Before the fireworks display, meet
**The Dark Knight, Super Girl
and Captain America.**
They will be available
from 7-9pm for pictures.



Food:
Hy-Vee Catering
will be grilling up a variety of meats with sides and drinks for purchase.
Sno-Biz will be serving mini-cups.

Oversized Games:
Provided by Mahaska Drug- Sponsored by Oskaloosa Herald.
-Jenga, Yatzee, Corn Holes, Bowling, Memory
...to name a few



Yard of the Week is now Underway for 2016

- 1) Submit a photo of a well-groomed yard to vmcreynolds@oacdg.org, mail or drop it off at 124 N. Market, Oskaloosa, Iowa.
- 2) The Oskaloosa Herald will run a feature article on the yard and the person behind its masterpiece. All Yard of the Weeks will be posted on the Chamber Facebook page.
- 3) The Chamber will put a sign in the yard designating it as "Yard of the Week".
- 4) The sign will remain in your yard for the week.
- 5) All winners of Yard of the Week will be entered into a Grand Prize Drawing.
- 6) Event will run through late October.



Join us for the 61st Annual 4H & FFA BBQ



**Thursday, July 21, 2016
5:00-6:00 pm in the Pavilion**

Meal includes: Hamburger or pork burger, chips, fruit, mac-n-cheese, cookie, and beverage

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Ticket admits one.



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Tickets can be purchased at the door for \$5.00.

Be sure to stop by the Mahaska County Agricultural & Rural Development booth in the Varied Industries building during the Southern Iowa Fair July 18-23. For a full list of scheduled events visit www.southerniowafair.com.



2016 SUMMER THEATRE CAMP

PreK Superheroes 4-5 years old July 6, 7, 8

Fairy Tail Super-Fight! K-12 July 11-15

Performer's Journey-6-12 July 11-15

• Daily Film Project K-12 July 18-22

• Theatre Production-K-12 July 25-29, August 1-5



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WanderLunch,
Contact: Heather D. Nelson
1716 Lacey Drive
Oskaloosa IA 52577
Phone: 641-295-3907

WanderLunch food truck provides a new spin on an old classic-grilled cheese sandwiches. Keep up with this mobile food unit on social media to find out where it's parked and weekly specials.

Pilot Parklet Coming to Oskaloosa

You will be seeing something new outside of Hunter's Café July 11-23, a parklet for outdoor dining. I am sure you are asking, what is a parklet?

A parklet is a sidewalk extension, usually extending two parking space lengths, that uses non permanent material. It combines elements such as seating, trees, flowers, shrubs, umbrellas, bike parking or lighting that reflects the unique character and needs of the location. The idea of a parklet is to provide space for people to sit, relax and enjoy the city around them, especially where narrow sidewalks would otherwise preclude such activities.

The parklet at Hunter's will be located in front of the café. You will be able to enjoy your blended coffees, iced teas, carrot walnut sandwich and quiches outside; surrounded by lush greens and under cool umbrellas!

A parklet beautifies our city by adding open green space. Plus, it is a great opportunity for people who work in an office all day to enjoy the outdoors. Spending time outdoors can boost your creativity and focus, improve your mood and give you valuable Vitamin D! You will be able to sit, eat and fellowship with your friends or read a book while sipping your coffee.

Outdoor spaces, such as parklets, enhance our community. I encourage you to go to Hunter's Café during these two weeks of the pilot parklet. Take your lunch to go al fresco and give Shirley, Frank and Kory honest feedback. If you love it, encourage other restaurants to look into hosting a pilot parklet.

References: San Francisco Great Streets Project



Ann M. Smith
Community Wellness Coordinator

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Oskaloosa Area Chamber & Development Group

Are you a Chamber member?
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This publication is sent to all OACDGM members as well as inserted in the Shopper to all homes in the county!

BANDSTAND AND BIKES



JULY 8, 2016
5:00 - 10:00 PM
DOWNTOWN OSKALOOSA

Ride your bike to downtown Oskaloosa and enjoy live music, delicious food, beverage garden including craft beer, kids activities and more! Overnight packages available contact the Chamber to hear about our all inclusive packages. 641-672-2591

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