

June 21, 2019



Friday Focus

Events Next Week

Tuesday, June 25th - Volunteer Social

Held at BNIM, 317 6th Ave., 4:30 PM

[Register](#)

Wednesday, June 26th - Downtown DIG

Held at Mainframe Studios, 900 Keo Way, 8:00 AM

[Register](#)

Thursday, June 27th - Ribbon Cutting

For the Renaissance Des Moines Savery, 401 Locust St., 5:00 PM

[Register](#)



[Visit the full calendar of events](#)

Golf



Inaugural Downtown Chamber Golf Tournament

Monday, September 16th

Hosted at Wakonda Club, 10:00 AM - 6:30 PM

Get in on early-bird pricing: [Register yourself or a foursome](#)

Limited Sponsorships Available - [Inquire about open Sponsorships](#)



Member Business Opportunities



BIG Dream Gathering

Monday, August 12 • 4:30pm - 6:00pm

This summer, the Downtown Chamber, along with FUSEdsm and the Des Moines West Side Chamber are working together to recognize and thank Des Moines' teachers. Please join us on August 12th for the BIG Dream Gathering, which will include a

mix of teachers, students, and businesses for an afternoon of inspiration, recognition, and socializing. In addition, businesses can also engage in the event in the following ways:

1. Have a business booth at the event (Limited space, issued on a first come, first serve basis)
2. Provide a door prize (seeking "post-secondary" items. This can include "dorm room" items, other college or career related items, or gift cards.)
3. Simply attend and enjoy the connections

[Click Here to Participate](#)

[More about the BIG Dream Gathering](#)

Questions? Contact [Nathan Svare](#) or [Amber Miller](#) for more details

Attention University of Iowa Alumni-Owned Businesses

The University of Iowa Center for Advancement Alumni Engagement team recently updated the "Iowa Alumni/Alumni-Owned Business" decal. They are excited to celebrate the entrepreneurial spirit of Hawkeyes across the state by sending these decals to alumni by sending out free "Iowa Alumni, Alumni-Owned Business" decals. If you are interested in receiving a decal to display in your business, please complete the following survey: <https://bit.ly/2Ku1YcE>



Notice from Polk County Health Department

Dear business/organization:

Meningitis is a very serious disease. Approximately 10 to 15% of people die from meningitis even with appropriate treatment. Of those who recover, up to 20% suffer from serious after-effects, such as permanent hearing loss, limb loss, or brain damage. Our preteens and teens have the highest rates of meningitis in the

United States. This is because the disease is spread person to person through the exchange of respiratory and throat secretions (saliva or spit) during close or lengthy contact. (coughing or kissing). Teens spend extended time together in close settings like school, sports events or practices.

The good news is there is a vaccine to protect them. The vaccine is 85 – 100% effective at preventing the meningitis infection. All seventh and 12th need proof of receiving the meningitis vaccine before the start of the 2019 – 2020 school year.

We want your employees, many of whom are parents, to know about the importance of getting their children immunized. And we want you, as their employer, to also understand the importance, because of the financial cost to employees, and the disruption it could cause in your workplace. Because it is a serious, life-threatening disease, an employee whose child contracts meningitis could be gone weeks from the office during the seven-10-day illness and recovery period to follow.

To help your business or organization get the word out about the importance of the meningitis vaccine, we have included the following:

- [Talking points](#) regarding the dangers of meningitis and the burden the disease can put on the family and the employer.
- [Information for a newsletter](#)
- Posters, graphics and web banners also available

Please feel free to reach out if you have any additional questions or need anything else!

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Helen Eddy

Impact



Welcome to Giselle San Elias Martinez

Giselle joins the Downtown Chamber this summer as an Intern, and among her projects, she'll be reaching out to members to ensure their directory information is current and accurate. She attends Lincoln High School and is participating in the Evelyn K. Davis Center's Summer Youth Experience Program. Giselle is a bright 15-year-old who has aspirations to go to college and be a biologist or vet.

Feel welcome to contact Giselle at Intern@DTchamber.com or by calling 515-297-6333 Ext. 3. Or stop by to meet her - she will be at the Downtown Chamber office Monday-Thursday until mid-August.



Central Iowa Makes History Repeating as National Titlist in the 2019 CIRT Design & Construction Competition

Last month, the Downtown Chamber invited students from the ACE mentoring program to practice their national competition presentation in front of a live audience of Downtown Chamber members from a mix of industries, including architecture, engineering, and construction. Attendees were invited to participate like judges and challenge the students with real-world questions about their project proposal. This mock-

presentation has been a tradition of the Downtown Chamber's DIG program for the past several years. Below is an excerpt from a recent press release:

In an unprecedented history-making performance, the ACE mentor team from Central Iowa again took home top honors for the second year in a row, being crowned National Champions in the thirteenth annual CIRT Design & Construction Competition.

The three finalists had survived a grueling preliminary round that saw a record-setting 64 entries, to vie against each other in the final presentation round during the ACE Mentor of America's 25th Anniversary Celebration and All-Affiliates Conference, at the National Harbor, MD Gaylord Resort Hotel, on May 14, 2019. A distinguished panel of judges was headed by Thomas Gilbane, Jr. (Gilbane Building Company) included: Denise Ramsey (Haskell Company); Tim Faerber (HNTB Corporation); Tom Donnelly (BrightView Landscaping Development); and Scott Seltz (ENR). At the gala dinner, before some 400 guests, CIRT President, Mark A. Casso, Esq., NAC, announced the order of finish as follows:

- *First Place and a prize of \$5,000 went to: **ACE Mentor Program of Central Iowa**: for their Play Ground/Scape entry: "Unboxed;"*
- *Second Place and a prize of \$3,000 went to: **ACE Mentor Program of Greater New York (Team 30)** for their Alleviate Urban Transportation Congestion entry: "Crosstown;" and*
- *Third Place and a prize of \$2,000 went to: **ACE Mentor Program of Hawaii** for their Community Health Clinic entry: "War Natatorium Health Clinic."*

[Read the Full Press release here](#)

Partnership Perk

As a Member of the Downtown Chamber, you are automatically a Member of Greater Des Moines Partnership.

Top Tips for Emergency Preparedness During Flooding Season

Make a Plan

Be proactive and make a plan for what to do if there is a crisis situation. At home, talk to your loved ones about evacuation, finding shelter, reunification location and more to make sure you all know the right steps in an emergency. At work, think through how business would operate if the office no longer existed. Once this is established, practice, and review the plan periodically and keep the plan somewhere obvious so that it is easy to reference.

Protect Your Assets

Check around your home and office and seal any cracks, check the sump pump and battery backup, ensure you have a back flow on you main waste drain, consider watertight shields or other barriers to keep water from seeping in through doorways, and examine the slope of your property to ensure the drainage leads water away from the building. Check all office space and storage areas to ensure items are on shelves and not just sitting on the floor.

Stay Informed

Tune in to the news. The National Weather Service, Polk County Emergency Management, and your own city are also great resources for information in these situations. Make sure you have phone numbers for family and coworkers. Consider establishing a protocol for sharing updates at specific times, both to offer reassurance and ensure good communication with your team or with your loved ones.

Insurance Review and Inventory

Conduct an annual comprehensive home, life, auto and flood insurance review to make sure you are covered from an asset standpoint. Speaking of assets, take an inventory your household belongs and place all important items such as photos and videos into a safety deposit box or a safe place. At the office, add a review of your lease agreement to that list so that you are aware of where the burden falls should there be an incident.

Next Steps

Now that you have a basic plan, expand it and apply it to other areas of your life like work or school. You can also get trained in first aid, CRP, Stop the Bleed or other programs so you're involved and prepared. Lastly, pay it forward by challenging a family member, friend or neighbor to be prepared in an emergency. It could save a life!

Make sure to visit the [Polk County website](#) to sign up for [Code Red](#) and Complete a Smart911 profile. Find these tips useful? Find more business tools and information by visiting the [Business Resources page](#).

Data Hub

The Partnership's DSM USA Research, Stats and Data Hub is a statistical dashboard filled with rich information within the region. Users will find leading indicators along with research and data trends needed to make strategic business decisions. The site offers current economic, demographic and workforce information sourced from official government data on the five-county Des Moines USA and six nearby counties.

All of the research is accessible free of charge, and is presented in an easy-to-use format. Charts and data can be captured and used in other presentations.

The Data Hub is another way that Chamber Members are able to tap into information and resources available through The Partnership's regional network.

Additional graphs and resources are available at www.datadsmusa.com.

Volunteer Openings

It's ribbon-cutting season! The Ambassadors are seeking additional volunteers to help out and attend at ribbon cutting events.

If you're interested in being part of an energetic team that supports new and expanding businesses, let us know!

To inquire or participate on this committee, contact [Melanie Suljic](#) (Ambassadors Chair).



Downtown Chamber Office

Located inside Gravitite

500 Locust St., Suite 101, Des Moines, IA 50309

515-297-6333

We invite you to stop by anytime to visit and share with us how the Downtown Chamber can help your business.

Pictured: Jennifer Chittenden (Downtown Chamber) with special Gravitare resident, Hercules.



Website

Be sure to check out your Member Directory listing.

Need it updated? Easy. Just login to your Member Portal. [Contact Chamber staff](#) if you need assistance.

Explore at www.DTchamber.com



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Platinum Members



McLaughlin Investment



GOLD Members

All Makes

Americana

Des Moines Marriott Downtown

Netbringer

Principal Charity Classic

Storey Kenworthy



Mission:

The Des Moines Downtown Chamber of Commerce is a provider of information and resources for the downtown community through knowledge sharing, the fostering of civility, and understanding of economic issues in the service of the betterment and sustained growth and success of Downtown Des Moines.



**CHAMBER OF THE YEAR
2018**

Des Moines Downtown Chamber of Commerce | 515-297-6333 | director@dtchamber.com
www.DTchamber.com

STAY CONNECTED

