



## Friday Focus

### Events Next Week

#### **Downtown Council, April 2nd**

Held at Hy-Vee Fourth + Court, 420 Court Ave., 8:00am-9:00am

[Register](#)

#### **Ribbon Cutting for Gislason & Hunter, April 4th**

Held at 666 Walnut St., Suite 1710, 4:00pm - 6:00pm

[Register](#)



[Visit the full calendar of events](#)

### Signature Programs

#### **NEW!**

#### **City Connect**

#### **April 11th**

4:30pm - 5:30pm

Held at City Hall, 400 Robert D. Ray Dr., Des Moines

FREE to attend

The Downtown Chamber Advocacy Committee has been listening to members and is pleased to offer a new resource for our businesses to start, grow, and thrive.

City Connect offers a space for Downtown Chamber members to have easy access to multiple local leaders at once, and to communicate their needs and priorities. Attendees will be linked to the most helpful resources and people to assist them with their businesses.

Each session will feature representatives from City of Des Moines staff, Des Moines City Council, and Polk County Supervisors. Attendees will gain a brief overview of the current work and priorities for these groups, and then can take advantage of open round tables with the respective representatives to connect on a more individual basis.



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[Learn More and Register](#)

*This opportunity is only available to current members of the Downtown Chamber. Not a member? It's easy to join! [Online Membership Application](#)*



**CLICK HERE TO REGISTER**

## 2019 LEAP Series

The series also includes the fall *LEAP Summit*, date, speakers, and details to be announced at a later time.

*Series registration will be available until April 10th.*

### April 12th – Mindfulness for Productivity

*Presented by Kevin Pokorny, Pokorny Consulting*  
8:00am-9:30am

### May 10th – The Myth of Time Management

*Presented by Jill Olson, Results Group*  
11:30am-1:00pm

### June 14th – Implicit Bias

*Presented by Panelists*  
8:00am-9:30am

### July 12th – Are You Suffering From Imposter Syndrome?

*Presented by Lora Leigh Chrystal, Iowa State University*  
11:30am-1:00pm

### August 9th – What's Your Story? Understanding Your Personal Brand

*Presented by Whitney Warne & Emily Steele, Brand Launch*  
8:00am-9:30am

### September 13th – LEAPing Large: How Building Community Propelled Your Career

*Roundtables led by Past LEAP Speakers*  
11:30am-1:00pm

### October 11th – Negotiating Life

*Presented by Denise Forney, UnityPoint Health*  
8:00am-9:30am

### November 8th – Giving & Receiving Effective Feedback

*Presented by ATW Training & Consulting*  
11:30am-1:00pm



[Check out the new LEAP Blog!](#)

### Moving Beyond Mixers: Making Mentorship Meaningful

By La'Cee Conley, an intellectual property attorney at Brick Gentry Law, PLC in West Des Moines, Iowa.

#### ***Moving Beyond Mixers: Making Mentorship Meaningful***

So, you've signed up to be a mentor(ee)! What's next? Typically, mentor(ee) introductions get a jump-start with an arranged 'networking event' at some hip location where all the other mentor(ees) in the program also meet. For some, like me, networking events—even those designed for one on one interaction with a mentor(ee)—can prove to be a daunting task that is riddled with anxiety and the questions: "What value am I bringing to the table? What value will I get out of being here?" This article addresses an idea of facilitated networking and mentorship. It's an idea that there are narrowly-tailored action points that can help you not only obtain a mentor(ee) but to maintain a valuable relationship with them.

#### **So, You're a Mentor!**

1. *Clearly Communicate Your Assets.*

[Read More](#)

# Member Spotlight



## Who You Need to Know

**Mike Utley** is co-owner and operating manager at Americana. Mike has been in the hospitality industry all his adult life. He has a passion for this industry that has been seen by his patrons, his staff, and the community. In 2017 Mike won the Iowa Restaurant Associations Emerging Hospitality Leader of the Year.

## About the Company

**Opened in 2011**, Americana strives to bring both excellent food and memorable service to the Western Gateway area of downtown Des Moines. Americana celebrates classic American pop culture with a modern urban flair. Our menu has something for everyone from classic steak house to contemporary comfort dishes.

On a personal note Americana is about journeys in the lives of our customers and our staff. We pride ourselves on being able to lift people up. Whether it is to help them celebrate, or helping a server put themselves through nursing school. We care about each other the path each of us are on whether you are a customer or an employee.

## Uniqueness Factor

**We love being able a part of a memory** that will last a lifetime whether it be a rehearsal dinner, anniversary, family gathering, or a night out with friends. We genuinely want to make each experience at Americana is unique and memorable. We want to bring an energy that is both elegant yet comfortable; familiar yet exciting.

On Saturday and Sunday, we offer our Bombshell Brunch; including over 40 breakfast and lunch items from classic biscuits and gravy to our grilled cheese bar there is a something for everyone! Pair it with our endless Bloody Mary and Mimosa bar and make your weekend breakfast an unforgettable experience! Voted as the Best Brunch in Des Moines by CityView readers in 2018, and Best American Food and Best Brunch/Breakfast in 2019!

We also offer a variety of options for private areas in the restaurant. Perfect for wedding rehearsal dinners, business dinners, birthday and graduation parties, baby showers, and many more. There are no rental fees and we can accommodate up to 180 guests.

## Location & Hours

We are located at **1312 Locust Street**.

With beautiful view of the Pappjohn Sculpture park, the former building of the historic Chrysler dealership.

### We are open

M-Th from 11am-10pm

Friday from 11am-10:30pm

Saturday from 9am-3pm (Brunch hours) 4:00pm-10:30pm

Sunday from 9am-3 pm (Brunch hours) 4:00pm-10:00pm

## Get Social

**We are on Yelp, Facebook, and Instagram**

Facebook is Americana. Also we officially hit 10,000 followers last month!

-Instagram handle is @americanadsm

We use the #MyAmericana

## What Everyone Should Know

**Americana offers something for everyone** whether it be lunch or dinner. We also run a few specials every week. On Sunday nights we do our Burger Sunday which gives guest a choice of six gourmet burgers and a side for \$7. We follow up with our Monday Night Special of our homemade Winner Winner Chicken Dinner. Which includes our fried chicken, white cheddar mash with gravy, cole slaw, and biscuit with honey butter- all endless for \$15. On Champagne Fridays we offer a variety of



Champagne cocktails for \$4 and offer ½ price for bottles.

We were also in a wedding expo (our first) on March 17<sup>th</sup> at The Tea Room. We have been increasingly hosting more wedding rehearsal dinners and would like to continue to do more.



## Partnership Perk

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

### Small Business Resources Hub

The Greater Des Moines Partnership has launched a new [Small Business Resources Hub](#) to help small businesses grow. The Hub provides a one-stop-shop for small businesses to find resources relating to legal, accounting, finance, marketing, networking, staffing and hiring and more. The creation of The Hub was the result of research-based decision-making that helped determine how to most effectively serve small businesses in Greater Des Moines (DSM).

The Hub provides a wealth of resources and helps build on DSM's status as a great place to grow a small business, including technology companies that would be considered high growth-startup companies.

"DSM USA has been recognized by multiple national publications as a great place to start and grow a business," said Jay Byers, CEO of the Greater Des Moines Partnership. "The Small Business Resources Hub will help continue to strengthen and grow the small business and startup ecosystem in the region."

The Hub is easy to use, with categories organized based on research to help determine what is most useful for small businesses and how they can best find those resources. The Small Business Resources Hub can be accessed at <https://www.dsmpartnership.com/growing-business-here/business-resources/small-business-resources>.

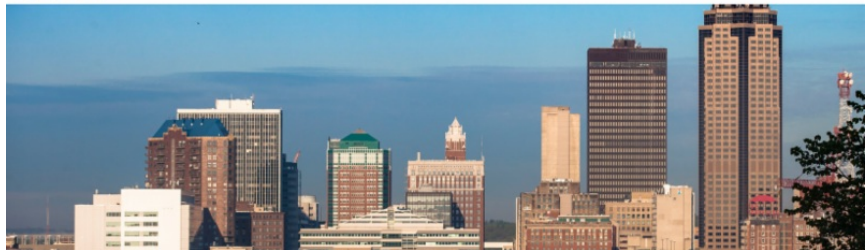
## New Website

**Our website has a new look, more resources, and new features!**

Explore at  
[www.DTchamber.com](http://www.DTchamber.com)



[BUSINESS DIRECTORY](#) [EVENTS & PROGRAMS](#) [MEMBERSHIP](#) [ABOUT US](#) [RESOURCES](#) [LIBRARY](#)



## New Address

**Your Downtown Chamber Moved to Gravitite!**

*Our new address is:*  
**500 Locust St., Des Moines, IA 50309**



## Platinum Members



McLaughlin Investment



## GOLD Members

All Makes

Americana

Des Moines Marriott Downtown

Netbringer

Principal Charity Classic

Storey Kenworthy

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### 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



**DOWNTOWN  
CHAMBER**

betterment and sustained  
growth and success of  
Downtown Des Moines.



**CHAMBER OF THE YEAR  
2018**

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[www.DTchamber.com](http://www.DTchamber.com)

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