



Monday, March 8, 2010 - Weekly Email Update

Click here to sponsor an Ames Chamber event in 2010!

Join these Ames Chamber networks:



Follow Ames' newest initiative [GOOGLE FIBER](#) and nominate Ames at <http://tinyurl.com/googlefiberAMES!>



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Thanks to a partnership between the Ames Chamber of Commerce and NationJob.com, members can post all local jobs FREE! Contact [Cindy](#) at 232-5060 for more information.

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Upcoming Ribbon Cuttings

March 25 | [Professional Home Ames](#) | 11:00 a.m. | 600 5th Street

April 1 | [Bartholomew Chiropractic](#) | 11:00 a.m. | 2721 Stange Road, Ste 101

April 7 | [Tom Randall Real Estate](#) | 11:00a.m. | 207 South Third Street

If your business has a reason to celebrate — from a grand opening or relocation to an anniversary or change in ownership — draw some attention with a Ribbon Cutting by bringing Chamber members and media to you! Contact Cindy (232-2310) to schedule a Ribbon Cutting of your own!

Photo: Lee's Cellular and More, March 2010



Professional Development Series-Sales Communication Essentials

2010 BUSINESS SKILLS Series

Professional Development Series (lunch and learn)
March 9, 11:30am, Somerset Clubhouse (2400 Aspen Rd.)

Food Sponsor: Happy Joe's Pizza

Learn to tailor your sales message, sell with power, and develop effective communication strategies at our first lunch and learn session of 2010!

Presented by Teresa Propes, ActionCOACH

Professional Development Series sessions (lunch and learn) are \$15 for Chamber members and \$25 for non-members, and include lunch. Please register for this event by [clicking here](#).

Take advantage of your Chamber membership and SAVE by registering for the entire lunch and learn series package (\$35 savings for members!). \$100 for members (9 sessions) or \$225 for non-members (9 sessions). Register for the entire series by [clicking here](#).



Business Improvement Forum, Thursday, March 11, 7:30am, ISU Foundation

2010 BUSINESS SKILLS Series

Thursday, March 11, 7:30am

Iowa State University Foundation, 2505 University Blvd.

Food and Beverage Sponsor - West Ames Hy-Vee

Customer Awareness: Your Business Lifeline

Presented by Dave Prochaska, Story Construction Company

Employees of Ames Chamber businesses are invited to attend our second Business Improvement Forum of 2010 on Thursday, March 11, where we will discuss **Customer Awareness: Your Business Lifeline**, as part of the 2010 BUSINESS SKILLS Professional Development Series.

Business Improvement Forums are open to Chamber members only and are free. Continental breakfast is provided. Please RSVP by Wednesday, March 10, [by clicking here](#), or by calling Crystal at 232-2310.



Photo: February Business Improvement Forum

Legislative Lunch: Friday, March 26, 11:45am-1:00pm, Hickory Hall

Save the last Friday of this month for a legislative lunch with a slightly different focus. Story County is governed in part by three full-time Supervisors elected for four-year terms. They are responsible for policies, budgets, tax levies and economic development for the county, but many people don't know what exactly goes in to those decisions and processes. Supervisors Wayne Clinton, Jane Halliburton, and James Strohmman will be our panelists and will be happy to take your questions.

All Ames Chamber legislative lunch events are a great opportunity to hear from and speak with your elected officials about the issues that matter most to you. Make sure you make time in your schedule to be a part of this very informative lunch forum!

This Legislative Lunch is open to Chamber members and is \$5/person (includes lunch). Please RSVP by 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 24th. Register to attend [here](#).

Thank you to this month's sponsors:

Ames Home Builders Association

Becker Underwood

Converse Conditioned Air

Mary Greeley Medical Center

Nelson Electric

State Farm Insurance – Pat Brown Agency



SPECIAL THANKS TO THE 2010 TAKING LEADERSHIP SPONSORS:

Converse Conditioned Air

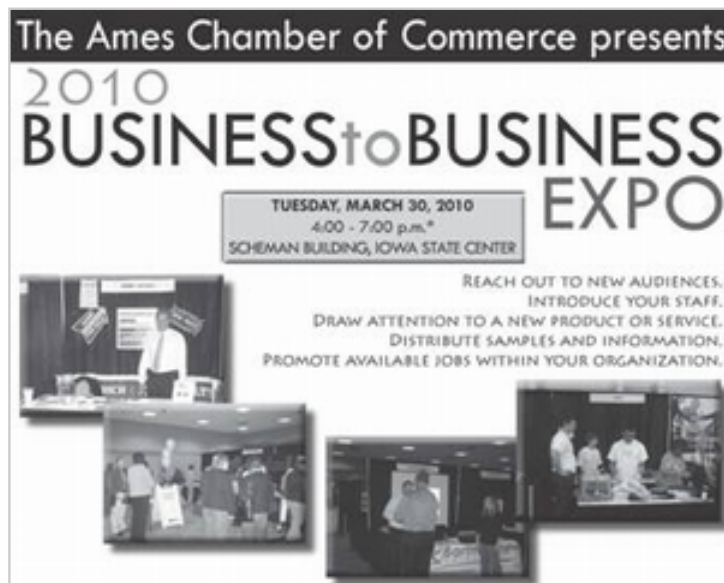
Mary Greeley Medical Center

Business to Business Expo: Tuesday, March 30, 4:00pm-7:00pm, Iowa State Center

The 2010 Business-to-Business Expo is just around the corner and is going to be bigger than ever!

In addition to having the opportunity to show off your business to the Ames community, this year Ames Chamber members can also use this Expo to advertise jobs and recruit new employees! This is one energy-filled event that will be packed with opportunities to expand your network, your resources, and maybe even your career!

Reserve your booth **today!** The Business-to-Business Expo helps you reach out to new audiences, introduce your staff, draw attention to a new product or service, distribute samples and information, and promote available jobs (full and part-time) within your organization. Don't pass up this opportunity to get your name out in front of businesses, the public and job-seekers! The event is free and open to the public, but only Ames Chamber members can exhibit. Booth space is limited, so [sign](#) up to reserve your booth today. For more information, call [Cindy](#) (232-2310).



Business After Hours, Thursday, April 15, 5:00pm-7:00pm, Lutheran Services in Iowa, 1323 Northwestern Ave.

**April showers bring May flowers!
Celebrate spring while networking at the
April Business After Hours,
5:00-7:00pm, April 15,
at Lutheran Services in Iowa.**

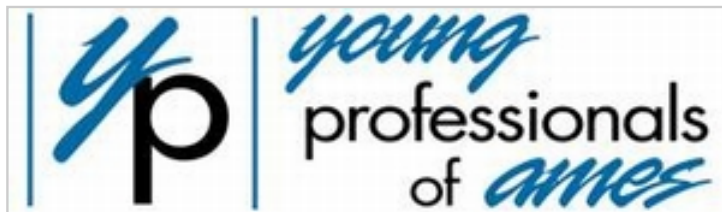


Young Professionals of Ames (YPA)

Young Professionals of Ames is an affiliate organization of the Ames Chamber of Commerce.

Your Road Map to Financial Success - YPA Financial Symposium

*Friday,
March 12, 2010
12:30 - 4:30 p.m.
ISU Foundation, Lepke
Room*



Wondering if you're budgeting correctly, investing appropriately, or saving enough for a retirement in the Bahamas or simply your next furniture purchase?

Attend this FREE YPA Financial Symposium* and learn effective ways to budget, strategies for reducing debt and improving your credit score, how to choose the right investment(s) for you, and how to plan for retirement.

The symposium will be workshop-style with many interactive components. You will leave with a "Financial Road Map" which will include handouts, worksheets, and information compiled throughout the day.

Session topics will include:

1. **You, Inc.:** How to effectively run your budget | Stacy Dreyer, Business Development Officer, First National Bank Ames
2. **Strategies for reducing debt and improving your credit score** | Barb Wollan, Family Resource Management Specialist, Iowa State University Extension
3. **Are you on the path to a lifetime of financial Security?** | Chad Copley, Managing Director, Northwestern Mutual Financial Network
4. **Planning for Retirement: A roadmap for Generation X & Y** | Laura West, Certified Financial Planner™, West Financial Advisors LLC

Space is limited to the first 50 people who register so [sign-up today!](#) Registration and lunch will begin at 12:30; the presentations will begin at 1:00 p.m. Your registration includes lunch and packet materials.

*This Symposium is in place of the March Lunch & Learn.

Murder of a Millionaire - Murder Mystery Party

Friday, March 26, 2010

6:00 - 10:00 p.m.

**Gateway Hotel &
Conference Center**

***You may be an heir to
the estate.***

Your presence is requested at Mystery Manor for an evening filled with murder and mystery in order to commemorate the death of the late millionaire, Rick A. Rochester.

Among Rick's dying wishes, he wanted his will reading to be a party thrown in his honor to gather together those most important in his life. Between Rick's eccentric ex-wife to his spying servants and the provocative pool boy, it seems that everyone has a chance of inheriting a piece of this millionaire's estate.

As one of Rick's closest confidants or family members, it is your help that is needed to piece together the mystifying death of Mr. Rochester, and to avoid being the victim of yet another murder as you attend his will reading.

Use caution in considering your involvement in this gathering, for as likely as it is that you will walk away with a great deal of inheritance, you are also just as likely not to walk out at all!

The reading of Rick Rochester will be held on Friday, March 26, 2010

Please be sure to arrive promptly at 6:00 p.m.

Mystery Manor is located at 2100 Green Hills Drive, Ames.

Any questions, please email [Megan](#).

[To ensure your chance in securing the inheritance, register today!](#)

Advertise your sales and specials on the Chamber website!

Post your own coupon(s) for free – it's as easy as 1-2-3:

1. E-mail your coupon(s) (must be .jpeg or .pdf format) to megan@ameschamber.com.
2. Provide a beginning and expiration date.
3. Submit up to three coupon(s) at a time.

That's all you need to do! We'll have your coupon(s) on our Web site within 24 hours of your e-mail on business days.

[Click here for Chamber coupons!](#)

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