



## Monday, January 30, 2012 - Weekly Email Update

### Inside this issue:

- [Annual Dinner | Thursday, February 2 | 5:00 p.m. | Scheman Building, Iowa State Center](#)
- [County Government Restructuring Committee seeks your input](#)
- [Ames Day at the Capitol](#)
- [Business Improvement Forum | Thursday, February 16 | 7:30 a.m. | Somerset Clubhouse](#)
- [Applications available for the Ames Main Street Farmers' Market](#)
- [City of Ames boards and commissions deadline is Friday](#)
- [Have you pledged your support for the Blue Zones Project?](#)
- [Campustown Action Association](#)
- [Young Professionals of Ames](#)
- [Advertise your sales and specials on the Chamber website](#)

## Annual Dinner | Thursday, February 2 | 5:00 p.m. | Scheman Building, Iowa State Center

### BREAKING NEWS: The Annual Dinner is here!

Don't forget this Thursday is the night we've all been waiting for! The Annual Dinner - brought to you by the Ames Chamber of Commerce and Global Reach Internet Productions - will start with a drink and hors d'oeuvres reception at 5:00 p.m.

Chamber members will enjoy great networking; a sit-down dinner; awards ceremony and re-cap of a wonderful 2011 year; followed by newsworthy keynote speaker *Politico's* Mike Allen and dessert reception where you can meet Allen and enjoy to-die-for desserts.



#### Evening agenda:

5:00 – 6:00pm, Drinks & Hors d'oeuvres Reception

6:00 – 7:30pm, Sit-down Dinner

7:30 – 9:00pm, Awards Ceremony & Keynote Speaker, *Politico's* Mike Allen

9:00 pm, Dessert Reception with Mike Allen

For a bio on speaker Mike Allen (chief political correspondent for *Politico*), [please click here](#).

For more information on the 2012 Annual Dinner, please call the Chamber office at 232-2310.

#### Special thanks to our Newsworthy Sponsors:

Breaking News Sponsor: Global Reach Internet Productions

Platinum Sponsors: Boehringer Ingelheim Vetmedica, Inc.; Mary Greeley Medical Center; Nyemaster Goode, P.C.

Silver Sponsors: Becker Underwood; First National Bank; Grandon Funeral and Cremation Care; ISU Athletic Department; LWB; Story Construction; South Story Bank & Trust

## County Government Restructuring Committee seeks your input

### Public meeting sessions scheduled to gather ideas from citizens

The Government Restructuring Committee, appointed by the Story County Board of Supervisors in May 2011, will be holding public meeting sessions throughout Story County. The Government Restructuring Committee was given the charge to "explore the structure and function of Story County government as allowed by Iowa Code 331."

The Government Restructuring Committee is hosting public sessions to provide an opportunity for the public to provide input and comments related to the charge given by the Board of Supervisors. The Committee is considering the following points and questions:

- Are changes needed in Story County government and in all Iowa county structure?
- In what areas is change needed in Story County? Is that change needed statewide or is it local to Story County's government structure?
- How can these changes be accomplished?

**The meetings will be held as follows – all meetings will be held from 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm:**

- **Thursday, February 2, 2012** – Dakins Community Center, 107 E Main, Zearing
- **Monday, March 5, 2012** – Ames City Hall – Council Chambers, 515 Clark Avenue, Ames (Please note that this last session will be televised live on local cable access Channel 12 and opportunities for "call-in" to the session will be available.)



**Please plan to attend a meeting and share your thoughts regarding Story County's government structure.**

*For additional information, please contact Leanne Lawrie Harter with Story County Planning and Development at (515)382-7245.*

## Ames Day at the Capitol

### Save the Date for March 26!

Join us for the 2012 Ames Day at the Capitol on Monday, March 26, when we bring the Ames community face-to-face with the legislators making decisions impacting our businesses. The day's agenda includes an Ames community showcase in the Capitol Rotunda with lunch provided for Chamber members and all legislators from Hickory Park.

There is no cost to attend the Day at the Capitol activities, but a registration is required. Please register by visiting the [Chamber's website](#) or by contacting Angela Davidson ([angela@ameschamber.com](mailto:angela@ameschamber.com)).

**Interested in having your business on display?** Ames Day at the Capitol is an excellent opportunity for you to catch the attention of our elected officials and thank them for their service to our state. Participate as an **Advocacy Sponsor** for \$500 and receive: a display booth in the Capitol Rotunda, promotion before the event, photo follow-up, and signage at the event. For additional information, please contact Angela Davidson.



## Business Improvement Forum | Thursday, February 16 | 7:30 a.m. | Somerset Clubhouse

### Personal Finance Playbook

Take advantage of your Chamber member benefits and join us for our first Business Improvement Forum session of 2012!

#### **Personal Finance Playbook**

Presented by Justin Bennett, Strong Tower Consulting

Thursday, February 16

7:30 - 8:30 a.m.

Somerset Clubhouse (2400 Aspen Road)

Free to Chamber members, and continental breakfast is provided.

[Click here to register](#), or contact Crystal at [crystal@ameschamber.com](mailto:crystal@ameschamber.com).



#### ***Personal Finance Playbook: What is financial wellness and what are the benefits to me and my employees?***

Physical wellness has been a very hot topic in the past decade, and now it is time to consider how financial wellness can greatly impact your employees and your bottom line. Whether you have a team of 5 or 500, reducing financial stress and worries of your team will significantly increase productivity while boosting morale.

## Applications available for the Ames Main Street Farmers' Market

### We love to feature area growers and producers!

You could share your products with hundreds of people passionate about supporting their community and buying local. Anyone interested in vending full- or part-time during the Ames Main Street Farmers' Market should download an application form that will be reviewed by the Market Advisory Board. **First application cut-off date is Saturday, February 18, 2012.** Applications submitted after this date will still be considered.

[Learn about requirements and download the form to become a vendor here.](#)

Not a farmer but know someone who would be a great addition to the Market? Pass along the information and help spread the word! We love to feature area growers and producers!

Contact the Market Manager, Tom Drenthe (232-2310), with any questions about the Market or for more information. We look forward to your participation this full six-month growing season! Starting May 5, 2012 and running through October 27, this year's market will be bigger and better so join the fun!

**Thank you to the sponsors who make this happen:** Ames Chamber of Commerce, Main Street Cultural District, Ames Convention & Visitor's Bureau, Iowa State University, Wheatsfield Cooperative, Innova Ideas & Services, 1430 KASI, 105.1 New Rock, The Tribune, The Sun, AmesNewsOnline.com, Ames Bulletin Board



## City of Ames boards and commissions deadline is Friday

### Deadline is this Friday, February 3 by 5:00 p.m.

The City of Ames has many boards and commissions that form an important extension of our local government. The members of these boards and commissions are not part of the City staff; rather, they are non-elected residents of Ames who are interested in the welfare of the community and want to volunteer their time and talents.

Terms of office on most of the City's boards and commissions begin each year on April 1. And, most generally, these terms are for three years. A list of upcoming vacancies may be found on the [City's website](#). There, you will find applications or you may also obtain application packets at the City Clerk's Office (515 Clark Ave.) or the Ames Public Library (515 Douglas Ave.). Applications should be returned to the City Clerk's Office **by 5:00 p.m. on February 3, 2012**, in order for interested persons to be considered for appointment this coming year.



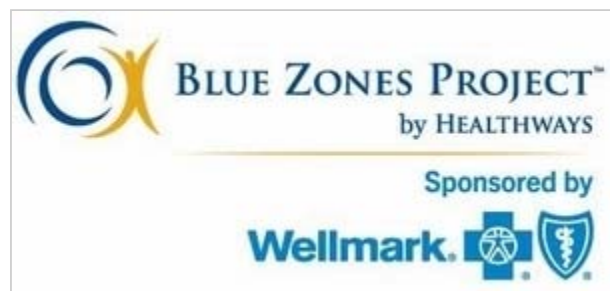
## Have you pledged your support for the Blue Zones Project?

### Ames could become one of the healthiest cities in Iowa

Put Ames on the map and pledge your support to be a recognized Blue Zone!

As part of the Governor's Healthiest State initiative, Wellmark and Healthways will be choosing a total of 10 cities to be demonstration cities to become healthier communities. They will infuse a good deal of technical assistance to aid this effort.

Mayor Ann Campbell has been providing the initial leadership to this important project but she is seeking the assistance of one and all in making Ames one of the Blue Zones communities. As leaders of the Ames business community, the Chamber strongly encourages you to take a moment and lend a hand.



Currently there is an enthusiastic task force working to finalize the application, but the competition is stiff.

One of the yardsticks for judging community support is having a large cross section of people register their support. This can be done easily by going to [www.bluezonesproject.com](http://www.bluezonesproject.com) and registering to support Ames.

Please take a few minutes and help Ames by doing this. And please share this request with yours colleagues, employees, and friends today!

## Campustown Action Association

### General Meeting | Thursday, February 16 | 4:00 p.m. | Welch Ave. Station

The next general CAA meeting will be held on **Thursday, February 16, 4 p.m. at Welch Ave. Station (207 Welch Ave.)**. Everyone is welcome to attend!



*The Campustown Action Association is an affiliate of the Ames Chamber of Commerce. This group of business owners and community members meets monthly to work toward Campustown beautification, events and business improvement. Other key focuses are a strengthened involvement with Iowa State University, parking strategies and overall Campustown UNITY.*

## Young Professionals of Ames

### Join YPA in 2012!

You can now join the more than 100 fascinating, involved, diverse individuals who make up the Young Professionals of Ames membership! Joining online is quick and easy!

We are a dues based organization where dues help to support:

- Monthly Lunch & Learns
- Annual Leadership Symposium
- Read With Me Program
- Monthly Friday After Work
- And many events and activities throughout the year



**Click here to join!**

## Advertise your sales and specials on the Chamber website

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

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

That's it! We'll have your coupon(s) on our website within 24 hours of your e-mail on business days.



Join these Ames Chamber networks: Join these YPA networks:



---

2012 Inner Circle Sponsors:



---

© 2012 Ames Chamber of Commerce  
1601 Golden Aspen Drive | Suite 110 | Ames, Iowa 50010 | Tel: 515.232.2310 | Fax: 515.232.6716