

Chamber-Main Street News and Knows  
by Interim Director Jim Davies

The Hampton Area Chamber of Commerce was founded as a non-profit in June of 1950 and is still the legal name. Doing business as the Greater Franklin County Chamber of Commerce (GFCCC) was added in 2011 with a focus on benefiting the entire Franklin County businesses and families.

GFCCC is also a Main Street Iowa Community. Hampton has been a Main Street Community since 1991. Chamber and Main Street merged in 2010. The philosophy of the Main Street Iowa Program is to improve the social and economic well-being of Iowa's communities by assisting selected communities to capitalize on the unique identity, assets, and character of their historic commercial district.

The mission of the Chamber and Main Street is to support economic growth by improving the quality of life and business climate in the Franklin County area. This is accomplished through the efforts of Franklin County Tourism and four committees: Economic Vitality, Organization, Promotion, and Design.

A new sub-committee called Main Street Hampton Committee, made up of 7-10 people, is being organized to guide the implementation of the local Main Street program allowing the Chamber board to focus on the county-wide mission of the GFCCC. New volunteers, current volunteers, and past volunteers please consider sharing your experience by joining this committee. Call or text me at 641-425-4707.

The Design Committee has been busy approving Building Improvement Grants. The Design Committee will be working with the Hampton Historic Preservation Commission on updating park benches and the placement of two or three additional permanent benches in Bandshell Park.

The GFCCC annual dinner has been scheduled for Saturday, March 22, at the Hampton Country Club.

The next Tourism Board meeting is Thursday, February 13 at 4:30 pm at Center 1. Several grant applications have been received for many upcoming events to be held.



A Main Street Iowa Community <sup>TM</sup>

**the Chamber**

**Greater Franklin County**

**hamptoniowa.org**