

Chamber-Main Street News and Knows

by Interim Director Jim Davies

A question that has been asked since the beginning of chamber time is, "Why should I join the chamber?" My question in return is, "Why not?"

What the chamber does:

1. We promote your business!

- Greater Franklin County Chamber website
- Chamber Buck Business Listing Brochures
- Digital Sign, Facebook, and E-Newsletter
- Ambassador Visits
- Member-only sponsorship opportunities
- Chamber members referred FIRST

2. We host business networking events.

- Quarterly Coffees
- Chamber After 5's
- Chamber Annual Appreciation Dinner

3. We promote, coordinate, and create events alongside other organizations.

- Coulter Fun Day
- Latimer Fun Day
- RadioOntheGo's 'Tuesdays on the Town'
- Franklin County Fair
- Sheffield's 'People in the Park'
- Halloween Howl
- Friday Uncorked
- REC's 'Light Up the Night'
- \$10,000 Holiday Raffle
- Spring, Summer, Fall & Holiday Open Houses

4. We offer development opportunities through our business partners.

- Iowa Economic Development Association
- Main Street America
- NIACC-Continuing Education Classes
- Educational Seminars/Workshops

5. We are your One-Stop professional services and reference center.

- State of Iowa Visitor and Welcome Center
- State and Local Maps
- Information on Community Events
- Chamber Member Listings
- Listing of Service Clubs and Organizations
- Rental/Landlord Listings
- Conference meeting room available

6. We help you make money--free marketing of events.

- Facebook
- Website community calendar
- Tuesday Newsday E-Newsletter
- Chamber bucks can be spent at any chamber business

7. We are your voice.

- Local City Council
- State & Federal Representative

8. We provide you with an opportunity to get involved.

- Chamber Board of Directors
- Economic Vitality Committee—Focuses on business retention and encouragement of new entrepreneurs and small business owners
- Design Committee—encourages and provides grants for the Main Street district's physical appearance respecting historic preservation
- Promotion Committee—creates community and retail sales events, building a positive image to attract local citizens and visitors
- Chamber Ambassadors—welcome and assist members to get involved, attends ribbon cuttings, and plans quarterly coffees
- Tourism Board—encourages tourism through the promotion of Franklin County as a destination for day and overnight visitors. Tourism grants available for marketing events.
- Main Street Hampton Committee—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 chamber

Let's work together to encourage and challenge one another to be the best that we can be, making our community the best it can be. If you are not already a member, please consider becoming one. If you would like to know more about Chamber/Main Street

and volunteer, please stop by the office at 5 First St. SW, Hampton or call the office at 641-456-5668. You can also call or text me on my cell phone at 641-425-4707.

