

ONAWA CHAMBER OF  
COMMERCE  
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712-423-1801

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- President: Curtis Sturgill, Morton Buildings
- Vice President: Nick Holverson, Hoffman Agency
- Jenn Collison, Director
- Katie Ramm, Burgess Health Center
- Lori Beck
- Bryana Beneda, Minnihan Law Firm
- Jen Andresen-Shilling, Family Focus Chiropractic
- Elizabeth Sturgill, Monona County Fair
- Kenzie Moreno, Frannie's Café
- Amy McDermott, Onawa Public Library



# Chamber News

APRIL 2024

## Administrative Professional's Day

Administrative Professional Day is Wednesday, April 24, 2024. With everyone's busy schedule, we have decided to not do a lunch again this year and offer to deliver special treats to your professionals. Attached are the packages we have to offer from our local businesses. Please select which package(s) you would like and have the form back to the Chamber by Monday, April 15th at noon. Your items will be delivered on April 24th. Payment will be due at the time of delivery. Chamber bucks also make great gifts for your professionals and helps promote shopping local. What a better way to say "Thank you" than with a special treat and Chamber bucks.

## 2024 Monona County Visitor Guide

The 2024 Monona County Visitor Guide is hot off the press. There are copies around Onawa and the County to be picked up. If you would like copies at your business or just want a copy for yourself, let me know. Lots of new information in this year's guide. Thank you to Charles Persinger, Monona County Economic Development Director, for working with the Chamber on this project again this year.

## Downtown Construction Information

Construction of downtown will resume on Monday, April 1, 2024. The frontage road from 8th to 10th will be closed until further notice. They will start with curb, gutter and sidewalk replacement. They will be working from West to East to start off with.

I know this is a dreaded time for everyone but this phase should be quick, weather permitting, and our downtown will look amazing. I will keep everyone posted as I know information via e-mail, [www.onawachamber.com](http://www.onawachamber.com) and Facebook. Thank you for your patience on this and the end is in sight!

## Sisson Roofing & Construction joins the Chamber

Sisson Roofing & Construction from Missouri Valley has joined the Onawa Chamber. They do roofing, siding, custom and semi custom windows. Offer great financing plans, rates and low payments.

Visit their new website, [www.sissonconstruction.net](http://www.sissonconstruction.net), for more information. Mention that you are a Onawa Chamber Member when you call and get a free quote. Welcome to the Chamber!!!!

# CHAMBER ANNUAL DINNER

The Annual Chamber Dinner was held Friday, March 1st at Blackbird Bend Casino. There were 123 people in attendance. Lots of laughs were had by the entertainment. Jason from 1 Piano, 2 Much Fun kept everyone entertained and involved. Amy McDermott, Onawa Public Library Director, was welcomed to the Board as she was elected on January 1, 2024.

Curtis Sturgill, 2023-2024 President, talked about the achievements the Chamber made in 2023 and what is in store for 2024.

Plans are underway for the 2024 Annual Chamber Dinner already. Any suggestions on food, location and entertainment are greatly appreciated. Give Jenn Collison a call at 712-423-1801 or e-mail [chamber@onawa.com](mailto:chamber@onawa.com) as we are always looking for suggestions.

Thank you to everyone who attended and we look forward to another great year!



## Monona County Reads Program

Support our County Libraries, get involved in their First Annual Monona County Reads Program! The book for the first program is “The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society.” There are copies available at the Onawa Public Library to check out and read.

There will be a progressive meal on Sunday, April 7th. You must call any Library in Monona County to pre-register for your free meal by March 25th. See the full schedule below. Bring a friend, a spouse or whomever might be interested and support the Monona County Library Association. Monona County Reads is a joint effort brought to you by Onawa, Mapleton, Soldier, Ute and Whiting Public Libraries.

Schedule for the day of April 7, 2024.

1. Hors d’oeuvres will be hosted in Mapleton at 12:30 p.m.
2. Salad will be hosted in Ute at 1:15 p.m.
3. Soup will be hosted in Solider at 1:45 p.m.
4. Main Course will be hosted in Onawa at 2:30 p.m.
5. Dessert will be hosted in Whiting at 3:30 p.m.
6. Anyone interested can return to Onawa for a viewing of the movie at 4:30 p.m.

### Onawa Public Library welcomes two author visits to Onawa.

On Thursday, April 25th Catherine Richmond will be visiting the Onawa Public Library at 4:00 p.m. Catherine will be discussing her book **The Shelter of Each Other**. It is set in our very own Preparation Canyon. Welcome to 1850s Preparation, Iowa, where a man desperate to belong and a woman wanting to escape, join forces for peace.

On Tuesday April 30th at 5:30 p.m. the Onawa Public Library welcomes Linda McCann. Linda is the author of **Rosie the Riveters of Iowa**. "Rosie the Riveter" was the nickname given to women who worked in factories during World War II. Nationwide, hundreds of factories were converted from their normal production into making something for the war effort. The men had gone to fight the war, so the women stepped up and worked in the factories. They not only worked as riveters, but also welders, drill-press and lathe operators, inspectors, and especially anything dealing with small parts. It was found by the factories women handled the intricate work better than men. over one hundred factories in Iowa hired women to turn out items for the war. Airplanes, tanks, ammunition, and all kinds of parts were produced in Iowa. Many Rosies stayed in Iowa to work; while others went further from home. This book includes more than twenty personal remembrances from these Iowa Rosies.

These programs are open to the public. Come and enjoy a cup of coffee, cookie and listen to these wonderful authors talk about their books and lives.

## Fiesta Foods now Sunshine Foods

After 50 years of serving Onawa, Mike Vaughn has retired and sold the store to Sunshine Foods. Sunshine Foods is a family-owned company based out of South Dakota with 17 stores in South Dakota, Minnesota and Iowa. The owners of Sunshine Foods are very community oriented and they can't wait to be a part of Onawa.

Watch for details on a ribbon cutting and Chamber Coffee soon. Welcome to Onawa!

## Calendar of Events for April 2024

- | April 4 Chamber Board Meeting at Noon at the Onawa Public Library.
- | April 6 Legislative Coffee 10 a.m. at the Onawa Public Library.
- | April 9 Onawa City Council meeting at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall.
- | April 13 Spartan Green Gala 5:30 p.m. at the Onawa Country Club.
- | April 15 Deadline to get Administrative Professional Day orders in.
- | April 22 Earth Day.
- | April 23 Onawa City Council meeting at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall.
- | April 24 Happy Administrative Professional's Day.
- | April 25 Catherine Richmond author visit at the Onawa Library 4:00 p.m.
- | April 30 Linda McCann author visit at the Onawa Library 5:30 p.m.