

ONAWA CHAMBER OF  
COMMERCE  
707 IOWA AVE  
ONAWA, IA 51040  
712-423-1801

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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



# Chamber News

NOVEMBER 2023

## 2023 Christmas Events

Due to the construction downtown, Santa will not be coming to town to turn on the lights on this year.

Saturday, December 2nd the Chamber will host a free movie at the Iowa Theater at 1:00 p.m. Remember, the movie is FREE but you have to buy your own snacks. We are so happy the Theater is back open so we can offer this again.

Due to many conflicts for Saturday, December 9th the kids craft day has been canceled. A free craft to take home will be passed out at the free movie. We are also working on Santa being at the free movie afterwards to talk to the kids. Watch Facebook and your e-mail for the updated plans.

The Chamber is asking all businesses to get in the Holiday spirit and decorate their store front windows, outside of their business and/or the inside of their business. Seeing businesses decorated will get people more in the Holiday spirit and to shop locally.

The Chamber will be giving away Chamber Bucks again this year for the Holiday's. While you are out shopping locally, write your name and phone number on the drawing slips and put it in the box at the businesses. If you would like a box in your businesses, please let Jenn Collison know at 712-423-1801 or e-mail [chamber@onawa.com](mailto:chamber@onawa.com) for a box to be dropped off. The drawing will start on Friday, November 24th and end Friday, December 15th.

**Don't forget to send your kids to Kids Club every Wednesday 3:30—5:00 p.m. at the Onawa Public Library. There will not be Kids Club on Thursday, November 22nd due to the Thanksgiving Holiday.**



Saturday, November 25, 2023 is Small Business Saturday. This is a day to celebrate and support small businesses and all they do for their communities. This year, we know that small businesses need our support now more than ever as they navigate, retool and pivot from the effects of the of the construction going on in Onawa.

Fun facts about shopping local to keep in mind.

Buying local keeps 4 times the money in our local economy compared to buying from out of town.

Local businesses support local events, sporting events and charities 250% more than big corporations.

Keep this in mind this Holiday season when shopping. Stay local and support small businesses!!!!

## Christmas in November

Christmas in November is happening again this year at the Loess Hills Historical Museum. The Board of Directors are working hard to make this event happen so please take the time to go see all their hard work.

The Museum will be opening to tour the trees on November 11th and 12th and November 18th and 19th from 1:00 p.m.—4:00 p.m. Coffee and treats will be provided while viewing the trees.

The Board of Directors would like as many trees as possible be set up. If you or your business would like to put a tree on display, they will be open Saturday, November 4th and Sunday, November 5th from 1:00 p.m.—4:00 p.m. to everyone. If those times do not work you can call Karen Barnett at 712-420-5374, Ken Mertes at 712-212-2966 or the museum at 712-212-9090 to set up another time.

## Feast & Flowers Event

On Saturday November 18th, 2023 “Feast and Flowers” is back at Botanica Bee and Downtown Coffee & Cream! Start the evening with an hour of private shopping, refreshments, and appetizers at Botanica Bee! Next you can enjoy a variety of delicious seasonal soups, breads, and desserts at Downtown Coffee & Cream before our flower workshop begins. Our Home Baked menu will include some of your favorites along with new holiday goodies you are sure to love! Finally...time to be creative! As always, Lana Brown from Botanica Bee will be providing hands on instruction and detailed design tips for you to create the perfect fall floral centerpiece for your Thanksgiving table! All of the high quality materials are hand selected and sure to make your centerpiece beautiful and unique.

This workshop is limited to 20 participants. Tickets are \$85. This includes everything you need for a cozy and creative evening out! All of your supplies, instruction, and materials for your finished centerpiece and all of your food and drinks throughout the entire evening are also included! Sign up with this link today!

<https://botanicabeeco.com/pages/flowers>.

## WEST MONONA SCHOOL FOUNDATION TRIVIA NIGHT

The West Monona School Foundation Fall Trivia Night is scheduled for Saturday, November 4, 2023 at the Onawa Community Center. Doors open at 6:00 p.m. and questions start at 7:00 p.m.

Grab your friends, a few snacks, and something to drink and come out to the Fall Trivia Night for 10 rounds of fun! Teams up to 8 players for \$100 a team.

All proceeds go to support our new teacher mini grant program. Find the information to register at [www.wmschoolfoundation.com](http://www.wmschoolfoundation.com).

### Friends of Pleasant View Annual Harvest Auction

On Thursday, November 2, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. Friends of Pleasant View Care Center will be holding their Annual Harvest Auction. Auction items have been donated by community members and residents which include baked goods and their famous Carmel corn.

Hornick Methodist Church women will be selling their homemade apple pies. The auction will be held in the Education Center at Pleasant View Care Center, 200 Shannon Drive in Whiting.

## Chamber Board Members

Starting in January 2024 we have one Board Member up to renew their three year term and one open seat to fill. Curtis Sturgill, Morton Buildings, has fulfilled a three year term and has accepted another three year term. Rob Meyer, Bank Frist, has successfully completed his 3—3 year terms and will be missed. A voting ballot to accept Curtis Sturgill for another three year term and to vote for the new Board Member will be in this newsletter.

### **THERE WILL BE NO WRITE-IN'S ON THE BALLOTT FORM!!!**

Please call or email the Chamber Office if you have any questions 712-423-1801 or [chamber@onawa.com](mailto:chamber@onawa.com). Please e-mail your ballots in or you can mail them to 707 Iowa Ave.

### Friends of the Onawa Public Library Basket Auction

The Friends of the Onawa Public Library will be hosting a basket auction again this year to help raise funds for further upkeep of the Library. The next projects for spring 2024 include a pollinator informational sign, story walk, and musical garden.

Donations can be dropped off in November before November 27th. This is not limited to just baskets. If you want to donate a wreath or even a center piece for a table, we will gladly accept those. Viewing of items will start on November 27th—December 13th at the Onawa Public Library. Bid on-line, call or stop in to the Library December 14th—December 16th. Bidding will close on December 16th at 3:00 p.m.

### Ann Hanigan Kotz Author to visit Onawa Public Library

On Thursday, November 30th at 4:00 p.m. you will want to come to the Onawa Public Library and meet author Ann Hanigan Kotz. Ann is the author of *Son's & Daughters*. This novel is about love, loss, violence and identity.

## **Calendar of Events for November 2023**

- November 2 Chamber Board Meeting at noon at the Onawa Public Library.  
Pleasant View Care Center Harvest Auction 6:00 p.m.
- November 3 First Christian Church Thanksgiving Dinner 5:00 p.m.—7:00 p.m.
- November 4 West Monona Trivia Night at 6:00 p.m. at the Onawa Community Center.
- November 5 Daylight Savings Time. Fall back 1 hour.
- November 7 Election Day.
- November 10 Chamber Coffee hosted by the Monona County Veteran's Museum 9:30-10:30 a.m.
- November 11 Happy Veteran's Day!
- November 11 & 12 Christmas in November at the Monona County Historical Museum.
- November 14 Onawa City Council Meeting at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall.
- November 18 & 19 Christmas in November at the Monona County Historical Museum.
- November 18 Feast & Flowers event at Downtown Coffee & Cream and Botanica Bee 5 pm.
- November 23 Happy Thanksgiving.  
Burgess People Care Thanksgiving Dinner 11:30—1:00 p.m. at the Frist Christian Church.
- November 24 Chamber Holiday drawing starts.
- November 25 Small Business Saturday.
- November 28 Onawa City Council Meeting at 7:00 p.m.
- November 30 Ann Hanigan Kotz Author visit at the Onawa Public Library 4 pm.