

Ottumwa's

# CHAMBER LINK

*Linking the community with our members.*

Vol. 3 No. 2

Publication of Ottumwa Area Chamber of Commerce

February 2017



**March 3, 4 & 5, 2017**  
**Bridge View Center**

Friday	3 pm to 7 pm
Saturday	10 am to 7 pm
Sunday	11 am to 3 pm

Presented by...



OTTUMWA

[ AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ]



Daily Admission  
\$5 Adult  
\$4 Ages 6 to 12  
FREE 5 and under

Weekend Pass  
\$8 Adult  
\$4 Ages 6 to 12  
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## Upcoming Community Events Calendar

Feb. 6 . . . . .Ottumwa Public Library Music & Movement Mondays!	Feb. 22 . . . . .Ottumwa Public Library Songs & Stories with Sara Martindale
Feb. 8 . . . . .Ottumwa Public Library Songs & Stories with Sara Martindale	Feb. 22 . . . . .Ottumwa Public Library Drop in Crafternoon for Kids
Feb. 8 . . . . .Ottumwa Public Library Drop in Crafternoon for Kids	Feb. 23 . . . . .Ottumwa Public Library Nonfiction Book Club
Feb. 8 . . . . .Ottumwa Public Library Reader's Ink Book Club	Feb. 23 . . . . .Felt Succulent Planter Workshop
Feb. 10 . . . . .Chocolate Lovers	Feb. 24 . . . . .Wine and Canvas
Feb. 10 . . . . .Ottumwa Public Library Preschool Story Time	Feb. 24 . . . . .Indian Hills JazzFest: Opening Concert
Feb. 10 . . . . .Coffee & Canvas: Walking in Love	Feb. 24 . . . . .Ottumwa Public Library Preschool Story Time
Feb. 11 . . . . .Coffee & Canvas: Walking in Love	Feb. 24-25 . . . . .Ottumwa Community Players Presents Love Letters
Feb. 11 . . . . .Grant Wood's Birthday Soup Smorgasbord	Feb. 24 . . . . .Ron White
Feb. 11 . . . . .Pella Opera House hosts Wine & Canvas	Feb. 25 . . . . .Indian Hills Jazzfest: H.S. Jazz Band Competition
Feb. 13 . . . . .Ottumwa Public Library Music & Movement Mondays!	Feb. 25 . . . . .Pella Opera House hosts Cookies & Canvas
Feb. 14 . . . . .Ottumwa Public Library Teen Writing Club	Feb. 25 . . . . .Ottumwa Public Library Adult Coloring Party
Feb. 15 . . . . .Ottumwa Public Library Songs & Stories with Sara Martindale	Feb. 27 . . . . .Recent Art Work of David Fleming
Feb. 15 . . . . .Ottumwa Public Library Drop in Crafternoon for Kids	Feb. 27 . . . . .Ottumwa Public Library Curious Kids Science Club
Feb. 15 . . . . .The Heart Gallery of Iowa	Feb. 27 . . . . .Ottumwa Public Library Music & Movement Mondays!
Feb. 15 . . . . .Ottumwa Public Library Lego Club	Feb. 28 . . . . .Ottumwa Public Library Reminisce Society
Feb. 16 . . . . .Southern Iowa Career Fair	Feb. 28 . . . . .Ottumwa Public Library Teen Writing Club
Feb. 16 . . . . .Ottumwa Public Library Speculative Literature Book Club	Mar. 1 . . . . .Ottumwa Public Library Songs & Stories with Sara Martindale
Feb. 17 . . . . .Ottumwa Public Library Preschool Story Time	Mar. 2 . . . . .The Texas Tenors
Feb. 17 . . . . .Preschool Nature Explorers Class: Sun, Moon & Stars	Mar. 3-5 . . . . .Southern Iowa Living Expo
Feb. 18 . . . . .Ottumwa Public Library Board Game Day	Mar. 3 . . . . .Ottumwa Public Library Preschool Story Time
Feb. 19 . . . . .Indian Hills Sunday Cabaret	Mar. 4 . . . . .Appalachian Spring
Feb. 21 . . . . .Ottumwa Public Library Family Movie Night	Mar. 6 . . . . .Frank and Vinny

For additional details, visit [www.greaterottumwacvb.org](http://www.greaterottumwacvb.org). Receive similar event information via email every two weeks by signing up at [www.Explore-Ottumwa.com/newsletter/](http://www.Explore-Ottumwa.com/newsletter/) to obtain the e-newsletter Bravo Wapello County.



O T T U M W A

[ AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ]

## Ottumwa Area Chamber of Commerce

217 E. Main St.

Ottumwa, IA 52501

Phone: 641-682-3465 | Fax: 641-682-3466

[www.ottumwachamber.org](http://www.ottumwachamber.org)[www.facebook.com/ottumwachamber](https://www.facebook.com/ottumwachamber)Connie Wilson, Executive Director | 641-814-5901 | [conniewilson@ottumwaiowa.com](mailto:conniewilson@ottumwaiowa.com)Brenda Sieren, Executive Assistant | 641-814-5900 | [brendas@ottumwaiowa.com](mailto:brendas@ottumwaiowa.com)Brandie McWilliams, Administrative Assistant | 641-814-5908 | [brandie@ottumwaiowa.com](mailto:brandie@ottumwaiowa.com)

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Store Hours: Albia  
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Saturday 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
Sunday Closed

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Store Hours: Ottumwa  
Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.  
Saturday 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
Sunday 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

# High Blood Pressure and Hearing Loss

Everyone knows high blood pressure, also known as hypertension, can lead to a variety of serious health problems including cardiovascular disease and stroke. But many people are surprised to discover that this common condition can also cause hearing loss, and in some cases, that hearing loss is a warning sign that could save your life.

Blood pressure refers to the measure of the force of the blood pushing against your arteries and veins. High blood pressure (hypertension) occurs when that force is too high and begins harming the heart and blood vessels. Specifically, blood pressure is considered high when the upper number is higher than 120 and the lower number higher than 80.

## Hypertension's Effect on Hearing

When your blood pressure is high, the blood vessels throughout your body are at risk for damage, including the delicate blood vessels in your ears. Studies have found a significant correlation between high blood pressure and hearing loss in the general population. In addition, high blood pressure seems to accelerate age-related hearing loss by restricting



blood flow to the inner ear and to the regions of the brain involved with hearing.

If you have been diagnosed with hypertension, you should follow your doctor's orders to get the condition under control. In addition to improving your overall health, lowering your blood pressure should prevent additional hearing loss.

## Sudden Hearing Loss as a Symptom

Sudden hearing loss could be a sign of an impending stroke. The American Heart Association published study that establishes a relationship between sudden sensorineural hearing loss (SSNHL) and stroke. Unlike the gradual hearing loss associated with aging or noise-induced hearing loss, SSNHL is marked by a rapid onset of hearing loss. For example, one day you may hear just fine, and a few days later you may not be hearing the TV anymore.

If you or a loved one experience

sudden hearing loss, you should consider that a medical emergency. Have your hearing checked and visit a doctor immediately, as this symptom might be signaling an imminent stroke.

## Hearing Tests and Medical Check Ups are Vital

Hearing loss and high blood pressure often go hand in hand, and recognizing the connection could save your hearing – or your life. If you or a loved one have been diagnosed with high blood pressure, hearing screenings are a must. In addition, if you have experienced hearing loss, don't assume that hearing loss is just part of the natural aging process. Get your blood pressure tested.

Concept by Iowa Hearing Aid Centers is a family-owned business dedicated to improving and maintaining the hearing health of our patients. With 22 locations across Iowa, all of our clinics offer hearing screenings and top of the line technology administered by our attentive team of certified hearing health experts. Sign up for a FREE hearing screening or contact us today to learn more about how Concept can help you take care of your hearing needs.

## Ambassadors Corner

### 2017 Officers

- Mike Dunlap, President**
- Blaire Seims, Vice President**
- Mike Sprau, Treasurer**
- Rose Bean, Secretary**
- Cindy Morrow, Tailtwister**



**Anderson Building/Hotel Ottumwa Apts. at 117/119 E. Main St.**



**Dusty Stewart, Edward Jones Investments, new office at 1255 N. Elm**

## SUPER BOWL

L O S H F L N L S E B F S E D  
 F P S R Y A L I L C F Y T L A  
 M N R C E A N G K V A H O A X  
 G Z G E B M A S W Y L K I D S  
 N A K T G G R G M O C N R Y X  
 Z D O X A A Q O I F O C T X K  
 O O O G J U M A F Q N E A Z W  
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 Y O Q Q L M W F F T T D S S P  
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 V F C X A I C H E T F O V Y H

SUPER  
 BOWL  
 COMMERCIALS  
 FALCONS  
 FANS  
 FOOTBALL  
 GAGA  
 HALFTIME  
 HOUSTON  
 LADY  
 PATRIOTS  
 PERFORMERS  
 PLAYERS  
 PREGAME  
 STADIUM  
 TEAMS

# Home Health Care Services From Ottumwa Regional Health Center

Ottumwa Regional Health Care offers high quality continuum of care to help you stay in your home. There are many reasons why people may need healthcare at home. Some are recovering from surgery or have chronic conditions requiring ongoing care. Others need therapies or assistance with activities of daily living. Most people just want to be able to stay in their homes,

surrounded by family and friends because nothing is better than the comfort of home. We work with your medical provider to ensure smooth coordination of care and our services are provided by compassionate, licensed and insured healthcare professionals who receive 24 hour a day clinical support along with comprehensive training and ongoing

education. We have registered nurses, physical therapists, occupational therapists, medical social workers and home health aides who will help you remain safe at home and avoid unnecessary hospitalizations. We can help you manage conditions at home such as cardiac, wound and orthopedic issues as well as respiratory illnesses and neurological disease, and much



**OTTUMWA  
REGIONAL  
HEALTH CENTER**

more. Not only is home health care preferred by most people, it's also an affordable choice. Our services are covered by Medicare, Medicaid, Workers

Compensation, VA Medical Benefits and most private insurance companies. Contact us today at 641-684-3136 for more information.

## New Member Bio

### Hill Productions is all about making clients more successful

Hill Productions & Media Group, Inc. is a full service integrated marketing and consulting firm serving clients globally right from our own backyard!

With a headquarters in Bloomfield and a satellite office in downtown Nashville, TN, HPMG was originally an entertainment industry focused company, but two years ago expanded to serve all industries.

Since that time the company has seen rapid expansion with a team of highly trained professionals offering business consulting, digital and integrated marketing, creative services, website development, branding, and more.

The company is focused on identifying thoughtful and innovative solutions for clients from start-ups to multi-million dollar entities.



Leading the company is CEO and Creative Director Justin Hill who explains "Our business is about making our clients more successful. We believe in caring about those we serve and providing them the best possible service with results that truly make a difference. Our standard of excellence is second to none in the Midwest and makes us nationally competitive. We don't have ego, we don't have agendas, we have straightforward answers; because it's only good if it works."

## Chamber welcomes new members

**Hill Productions  
& Media Group, Inc.**

402 Goode St.  
Bloomfield, IA 52537  
Justin Hill, CEO  
641-664-1216

www.hillproductionsandmediagroup.com

**Keck/Garrett Rentals**

2442 N. Court St.  
Ottumwa, IA  
52501  
Teresa Keck  
641-799-6644

## 2017 SAVE THE DATES

• SUGGESTED DONATION (\$5) • CHECK OUR FACEBOOK PAGE FOR UPDATES

<p><b>FEBRUARY 16</b> 5:30 PM @ BOOKING INNOVATION CENTER 111 E. MAIN ST. SOUP FROM MARKET ON MAIN SCOOP: CAFETERIA ALLEY PRESENTED BY BRAD LITTLE, CEO LEGACY FOUNDATION</p>	<p><b>MARCH 16</b> 5:30 PM @ MAIN STREET OTTUMWA 107 E. MAIN (OLD PROMPT) SOUP FROM APPALOOSA BARRIS SCOOP: PROGRAM ON FACADE MASTER PLAN ROUND II</p>
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217 EAST MAIN STREET, OTTUMWA IA • 641 799 3404  
WWW.MAINSTREETOTTUMWA.COM

# Elements of the Quick Pitch

The annual Southern Iowa Career Fair will be held on February 16th at the Hellyer Student Life Center on Indian Hills Main Campus in Ottumwa. Approximately 100 employers attended last year's Career Fair with open positions in a variety of fields. Learn about the employers that will be attending by following us on Facebook!

With a networking event like a job fair, the most important thing you can have is the ability to pitch yourself. A quick pitch is a short presentation (60-90 seconds) about yourself that you give to employers in order to



gain their interest. A strong pitch gives you a good building block for future conversations. A good quick pitch has six elements, so let's go through them.

The First Element is to know what it is that you want to share. Keep it to your professional experience. Focus on your career history: prior employers, job titles, education, etc. Pick out the best things in that history and sell yourself.

For the Second Element, think about your goals. This should be tailored to the company you're speaking to. There will be different industries involved in a job fair, different jobs, and completely different career paths. Know what the company is hiring for, and know how they can help you achieve a personal goal. This will help you determine if the company will be a good fit.

The Third Element is the highlights of your work history. Talk about ways in which you've been awesome. Have you ever been promoted? Given an extra

raise or extra duties? Brag about that now.

The Fourth Element is to identify what people need to know about you. Think about what personal characteristics you have that will help you get a job. Some examples may be that you're motivated, dependable, personable, passionate, or a great leader.

The Fifth Element is the clincher, the thesis statement of your quick pitch. This is the sentence of your quick pitch that you want the employer to remember when you walk away from the table.

And finally the Sixth Element is a question to the employer about how you can become the best candidate for the position. Some examples could be "Are there things I can learn to make myself a better candidate?" or "Are there classes I can take to improve my skills for this job?"

For more information about the Quick Pitch or other successful strategies for a Job Fair, contact IowaWORKS-Southern Iowa for information about a Job Fair prep class on February 10th by calling (641) 684-5401 or emailing [michealcockrum@iwd.iowa.gov](mailto:michealcockrum@iwd.iowa.gov).

## Financial Partners announces new financial representative

Robert J. Kramer of Financial Partners, Inc is proud to announce that Blake A. Smith has joined the team and is ready to serve your financial needs. As a licensed, registered representative Blake can assist you with your retirement, financial, and insurance planning.

Kramer said "I am excited to have Blake join our team as his goals align with our dedication to make a profound, positive impact in the lives of our clients and their families."

Smith, an Ottumwa native has a diverse professional background giving him a wealth of experience and knowledge. When asked what inspired him to make a career change Smith responded "I discovered early in life that my passion is helping others achieve their dreams and goals. As an independent financial advisor I have the opportunity to play a major role in helping others by providing customized options to meet their diverse objectives. Working with Financial Partners, Inc is an amazing opportunity. Learning from Bob, who has amassed years of wisdom in the financial industry, is a great benefit to me as a young entrepreneur."

Blake is accepting new clients as of January 2017, and would enjoy the opportunity to discuss FPI's holistic approach to investing. Blake currently resides in Ottumwa with his wife, Katherine and is active within organizations in the community.

Financial Partners Inc, was founded in 2000 with the mission to provide intelligent and trustworthy financial services. Offering intelligent choices and exceptional service Financial Partners, Inc. is located at 2116 N. Court St. Ottumwa, IA 52501-1304.

Mr. Smith may be reached at (641) 684-0368.

Securities offered through Sigma Financial Corporation. Member FINRA/SIPC. Financial Partners, Inc. is independent of Sigma Financial Corporation.



**Blake A. Smith**

# Ottumwa Pro Balloon Races 2017 Scheduled

Dear Business Owners,

2017 marks 40 years of the OTTUMWA PRO BALLOON RACES. Dates for the 2017 Ottumwa Pro Balloon Races are July 12th through 16th. The balloons will be in Ottumwa Friday the 14th through Sunday the 16th.

This year's event will again take place in the Greater Ottumwa Park. There will be activities for all ages, a craft show, Car Cruzin', Hogs-4-Dogs Bike event, Kiddie Tractor Pull, Chili Cook-off, bands, beer garden and many events that you have come to know and love with the balloon festival. We will also be adding some new events!!

Again this year we are asking for your continued, wonderful support. This is the longest running weekend hot air balloon event in the state of Iowa. We are asking for the local business's help to make this special event take place!!

Sponsoring a balloon provides your business with high visibility during our event:

- Repeated acknowledgement on the field by race announcers
- Sponsor recognition on event t-shirt
- Sponsor recognition on our website: [www.ottumwaproballoonraces.com](http://www.ottumwaproballoonraces.com)
- A sponsor banner on the balloon basket
- Recognition in the media

The Ottumwa Pro Balloon Race is a self-sustaining event which means that all sponsorship money goes towards the expenses of the event. This allows the event to remain free to the public. Any additional funds raised will be distributed to a variety of non-profit charities.

This year we would like to bring 40 balloons to Ottumwa to celebrate our 40th year. We are asking you to support our continued efforts to bring this quality, family event to our community by sponsoring a balloon. Contact Holly Dommer at 799-0308 or Anjila Collins at 777-6554.



**OTTUMWA** 20  
PRO BALLOON RACES 17

*Thank you for your time,*  
**The Ottumwa Pro Balloon Race Board**

## 2nd Thursday Member Mixer

The Ottumwa Area Chamber of Commerce and our Ambassadors would like to invite you to our "2nd Thursday Member Mixer" on February 9th at 4:30 – 7:30 p.m. The event is co-hosted by Greater Ottumwa Convention & Visitors Bureau at Bridge View Center.

This will be an outstanding opportunity to meet and greet with other chamber members.

You are invited to join us for a fun, new event sponsored by your Ottumwa Area Chamber of Commerce! We know you will enjoy great food and drink, as well as have a great time socializing, networking and learning more about our ever growing and changing Ottumwa Area Chamber of Commerce and its members!



### Invitation to Local Businesses to Attend an Important and Informational Presentation!

If you are a business that does or has the capability to perform tool and die work, welding, electrical and/or component work, *just to name a few options*; we want to meet with you!

Indian Hills Community College and the Ottumwa Area Chamber of Commerce are partnering with RELCO (a locomotive manufacturing company based in Albia), to discover regional manufacturers and/or fabricators to provide parts and services to assist in their supply chain.

If you are interested in growing your business, diversifying or learning about opportunities to increase your bottom line, we invite you to attend this meeting.

**When:** Wednesday, February 15 from 5:30 to 7:30pm  
**Where:** IHCC REC (Regional Entrepreneurship Center) 15330 Truman St. (Airport region, across from Job Corps)  
**Why:** To learn about your business growth opportunities  
**Cost:** \$0  
**Value:** Priceless

*Note: There will be a light dinner provided, please RSVP Shannon Stevens at 641-683-5312 at least the day before.*

What is a DBE program? The Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program was created to provide a level playing field for small, minority- and- women –owned companies wanting to do business with TxDOT and other agencies receiving federal funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation.

### The Ottumwa Symphony Orchestra presents Appalachian Spring

Appalachian Spring will be held on Saturday, March 4, 2017 at 7:30 p.m. at the Indian Hills Dining Room with Dr. William LaRue Jones, Conductor

The Symphony Strings will compose for this concert and be the featured soloist. In will be presented prior to the talented quilters. A video barns and buildings in rural settings will be shown.



feature works by American principal cellist, Donna Nelson, will keep with the theme, a quilt show concert by some of the areas' most presentation of quilt blocks seen on settings along with video of pastoral

Come and enjoy the evening as the orchestra takes you back to a time when a quiet evening might include women visiting about the events of the day as they hand stitch beautiful quilt blocks together.



## Ottumwa Area Chamber of Commerce "Chamber Bucks" is right for you!!

The "Chamber Bucks" are checks. A business receiving a Chamber Buck check simply deposits it like any other check. Funds to cover every check issued are maintained in a dedicated account. A business can feel secure in knowing the full value of the check is guaranteed, therefore there is no risk in accepting them. If a customer uses only a portion of the Chamber Buck value, the business, according to store policy, can either give cash back OR issue a store credit/gift card for the balance.

This is an exclusive benefit for Chamber member businesses only. If you are a current Chamber member and sell goods or services, you are eligible. When patrons purchase Chamber Bucks they will receive a list of participating businesses. This list will also be posted on the Ottumwa Area Chamber of Commerce website, [www.ottumwachamber.org](http://www.ottumwachamber.org). The Chamber Bucks program is a FREE program for our members; the Chamber realizes the importance of keeping money local.

Anyone can purchase Chamber Bucks at the Ottumwa Chamber office from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday-Friday, by phone or complete our online order form under the Programs and Events tab. Chamber Bucks are sold in different denominations, up to \$50 per Chamber Buck. For more information about Chamber Bucks, please call the Ottumwa Area Chamber of Commerce.

# How to Manage a Family Business

A popular American tradition is the Family Business. It gives spouses, parents and children, and others to share a dream that can continue to grow and prosper generation after generation.

Without proper planning and management, family businesses can be the source of contention, acrimony, and even irreparable harm to once-loving relationships. That's why it's important for aspiring entrepreneurs to fully understand the pros and cons of going into business with their children, others, and in-laws. The needs of the business may not always be compatible with family harmony, resulting in a situation that handled improperly can jeopardize the survival of both the family relationships and the future of the business.

When bringing family members into a business for the first time, especially if the family members are investors or join in a startup situation, SCORE strongly recommends the business owner to put the business relationship in writing. Family members sometimes buy into the

excitement of a business startup without a clear idea of their role once the business is underway. The document can take the form of an expanded "Operating Agreement" inclusive of a succession plan. The contents of the operating agreement should be reviewed with all family members active in the business. It is imperative the document be reviewed on an annual business with changes and revisions reflecting continued involvement of the family members with the business including changes in roles and responsibilities.

While some experts advise against hiring family members, that sacrifices one of the great benefits of a family business, countless small businesses would never have survived without dedicated family members. In an ongoing family business, it's important to treat family members fairly, but avoid favoritism. Pay scales, promotions, work schedules, criticism and praise should be evenhanded between family and non-family employees. In most business's non-family employees quickly



learn if the family members are pulling their fair share of the load. A written review of each member should be a key step to ensure expectations are clear and performance is viewed objectively. Long term unaddressed performance short falls can easily lead to major surprises, resentment, and anger that can seriously damage family relationships as well as the business.

Don't be the employer of last resort for every distant relation who calls: base employment on the skills or knowledge they can bring to the business. Many astute business owners whose kids one day will be joining the business make them get three to five years business experience elsewhere to help them get perspective of how the business world works outside of a family

setting.

Problems and difference of opinion are common in a family business, so it's important to keep lines of communication clear. Weekly meetings to assess progress, air differences, and resolve disputes work well for many family business's.

Just as sole entrepreneurs and non-related partners need to separate their business and personal lives: owners of family businesses need to prevent work-related issues from dominating family activities. While it may be difficult to totally confine shop-talk to the workplace, make it a standing rule not to discuss work and business issues at social gatherings or at designated "family times" where the focus should be on subjects other than the family business.

## Membership Renewals

### Ottumwa Area Chamber of Commerce

Al Martin Real Estate & Auction Co., Inc.  
Alcohol & Drug Dependency Services of Southeast Iowa  
Alpha Media LLC - Fairfield  
American Home Finding Association  
Anderson, Larkin & Co., P.C.  
Associates in Dermatology P.L.C.  
Berthel Fisher & Co. - Ken Venables, Investment Advisor Rep.  
Champion Bowl  
City of Ottumwa  
Coldwell Banker  
Community 1st Credit Union  
Crescent Electric Supply Company  
D.P. Plumbing Plus  
Domino's  
Douds Stone LLC  
Dr Pepper Snapple Group

Edward Jones - Amber Carroll office  
Elliott Oil Company  
Fareway Stores  
Firestone Complete Auto Care  
Floor To Ceiling Store  
Gardner-Collier Jewelry  
Gaumer, Emanuel, Carpenter & Goldsmith, P.C.  
Good Samaritan Society  
Greiner Implement Company  
Harrison, Moreland, Webber & Simplot, P.C.  
Hindman/Person Heating & Air Conditioning  
Ideal Ready Mix Co., Inc.  
Indian Hills Community College  
IowaWorks Southern Iowa  
JBS  
Krafka Law Firm

KYOU TV  
Lifetime Wellness Chiropractic  
Loktronics Security Corp.  
Mann's Ottumwa LLC  
Mast Vinyl Windows  
McCune and Reed Insurance  
McGregors Furniture  
Millennium Surfaces  
NOEL Insurance  
Norris Asphalt Paving Co.  
Orsborn, Milani, Mitchell & Goedken LLP  
Ostrander Flowers & Greenhouses  
Ottumwa 8 Theatre  
Ottumwa Courier  
Ottumwa Printing, Inc.  
Ottumwa Pro Balloon Race  
Ottumwa Water & Hydro  
Pipestone Veterinary Services

Plumb Supply Company  
Reece Funeral Home  
Rominger Insurance Agency  
South Ottumwa Savings Bank  
South Side Drug  
Super 8  
TD&T CPAs and Advisors, PC  
Tennyson Enterprises  
The Optical Shoppe  
US Bank  
Vista Woods Care Center  
Wacker Biosolutions  
Walter A. Zlogar, Inc.  
Wells Fargo  
Wolfe Eye Clinic  
YMCA of Ottumwa

Thirteenth Annual  
**DIVERSITY CONFERENCE**  
 hosted by Indian Hills Community College  
 MARCH 10, 2017

St. John Auditorium  
 IHCC Ottumwa Campus

9 am - 3:30 pm  
 Registration opens 8 am



**DON BARTLETTI**

*"The Roads Most Travelled:  
 Migration for Survival"*

Migration for survival is as old as civilization, unstoppable as the wind, and frequently misunderstood. For the past 35 years, photojournalist Don Bartletti has focused on those for whom migration across the U.S. southern border cannot be distanced or dispassionate. He witnessed the real-life circumstances and life-changing decisions that define some of the causes and consequences of illegal immigration. And in the process, he recorded courage, fear, joy, hate, success, and failure, just as it happened – raw and unscripted. Join us for an incredible opening keynote address by Bartletti as he shares touching pictures and real-life stories of the people and the families he has gotten to know throughout his time as a photojournalist, including the decisions made by them and how it resulted in migration for survival.

**JOAN BECKER**

*"SENTENCED TO LIFE:  
 The Mark Becker Story -  
 Mental Illness, Tragedy &  
 Transformation"*



Joan Becker is an author and advocate for individuals with mental illness. On a summer day in 2009, Joan's son, Mark Becker, shot and killed one of their community's most beloved figures – Aplington-Parkersburg head football coach Ed Thomas. But the tragedy really began years before – with a mental health system that failed her family. Their family's story includes a tragedy beyond measure, but Joan knows this doesn't have to happen to you. She and her husband believe God wants them to share their family's story about Mark and the experience their family had of coping with Paranoid Schizophrenia in the hope that it will help other families, caregivers, and professionals understand how they can make a difference in moving forward and improving our mental health system.

Conference registration fees:

Early Bird Registration: **\$30** - Regular Registration: **\$40**

Early Bird Student Registration: **\$5\*** - Student Regular Registration: **\$10**

Lunch is included with all registrations.

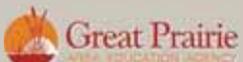
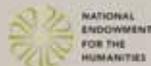
Early Bird Registration closes March 1, 2017 at 11:59 PM CST

\*Comes with a redeemable \$5 coupon, given at conference check-in for all IHCC student Early Bird Registrations. Coupon can be used at any IHCC dining facility through the end of Spring 2017 term.

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