# Keep Iowa Beautiful

Spring 2019

# GOVERNOR REYNOLDS PROCLAIMS APRIL AS KEEP IOWA BEAUTIFUL MONTH



Now, therefore, I, Kim Reynolds, Governor of the State of Iowa, do hereby proclaim April 2019 as KEEP IOWA BEAUTIFUL MONTH and encourage all citizens to embrace KIB programs by undertaking personal and organizational efforts that will enhance the beauty of our State.

Chris Kramer, Director of the Department of Cultural Affairs; Helen Lowman, President & CEO of Keep America Beautiful; Gov. Kim Reynolds; Gerry Schnepf, KIB Executive Director and Reo Menning, Chair of KIB Board of Directors.

Governor Kim Reynolds signed a proclamation making April Keep Iowa Month, but what does it really mean for our State? It means that our residents and governing bodies recognize and commit to bringing cultural and economic vitality into communities through improvement and enhancement programs. Honoring these efforts help build a stronger Iowa. But for individual Iowans it means that your efforts, too, can play an effective role in living out this proclamation. Pick up litter when you see it, organize a volunteer clean-up group to tackle unsightly areas of your community, be a beautification advocate and work with your city officials and organizations to find grants that fund improvement projects. Big or small, you can proclaim your love for Iowa! Let us know what you are doing in your community!

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#### "COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT & CLEAN UP IDEAS"

is a KIB brochure and available at www.KeeplowaBeautiful.com/volunteer Print your own copy for free.





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# TIME FOR CHANGE

"Change" is a word that often causes discomfort to many of us. We tend to like stability and "calm water". The truth is, that change is around us all the time. In many cases it can be exhilarating, positive and fun as well as rewarding.

It is time for another change for yours truly. At the end of May I'm planning to change directions. Have helped start and have been with Keep Iowa Beautiful for almost 20 years. It has been truly rewarding to me and I hope to those we have touched over the years.



By Gerry Schnepf Executive Director

You will notice that I don't use a word that I have come to dislike – that is "retirement"! It carries the connotation that you are resigning from active life. My life has always and will continue to be involved

with making this world a better place to live. There is no retiring in the picture – by the way my wife Pat likes that idea! She is hoping that I'm not underfoot. The person that really needs to be thanked is the love of my life – the person that has tolerated my whims, traveled with me all over the place and listened to countless presentations always with encouragement.

The legacy of the Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation established along with Governor Robert D. Ray and Robert Buckmaster from Waterloo is a source of pride. The legacy of Keep Iowa Beautiful established again with the leadership of Robert D. Ray and a great friend, Donald F. Lamberti from Ankeny. People like Robert D. Ray, Robert Buckmaster and Don Lamberti are exceptional people with vision that is always focused on others and a better life for all.

I believe that Iowa is a better place because of the work of Keep Iowa Beautiful, the Board, past chairs and the great staff and consultants that help to guide its success. There is a great deal to do, but we are on the road to getting it done.

Lastly – the real lowa treasure that individually we love, but, most people don't really view putting them together are the small towns, parks, natural assets and the connector for all - a system of trails. Those assets when fully embraced by lowa can make lowa one of the most attractive states in the nation for individuals and families to visit. We can't build oceans or mountains, but we can recognize the role these assets can play in lowa's future. We can build a recreational and quality of life state by linking and connecting the cities and parks with a network of trails that can become the envy of the nation. The financial return is high! Make it happen!!!!

It is time to move on to other challenges.

### SPRINGTIME—GREAT TIME TO ENTER KIB'S PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST

Have already taken a photo of your favorite place in lowa? If you have not, springtime is a great time to grab your camera and take that shot and enter Keep lowa Beautiful's 10th Photography Contest aimed at raising awareness of lowa's rural and urban beauty. This photo contest offers both amateur and experienced photographers an opportunity to tell lowa's story in a fun, engaging way during your favorite season.

"This is a great way for 'lowa lovers' to share what they like about lowa," said Gerry Schnepf, KIB Executive Director. "First place will receive \$50, second place \$40 and third \$30." Each winner will also receive a one-year subscription Our lowa magazine.

The deadline is December 13, 2019 and entries must be submitted as high resolution JPEG electronically to bjackson@keepiowabeautiful.com. \$5 entry fee, contest rules and payment can be made at https://www. keepiowabeautiful.com/photography-contest-entry/





Storm Near Parkersburg

# **SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED**

Five high school students were honored at the State Capitol on March 28th. Four Byers Environmental Scholarships were presented to graduating high school students that will be continuing their education in environmental studies/architecture/planning at an Iowa College or University. And a fifth scholarship in honor of William J. Fultz was presented to a senior planning on studying communications, public relations and/or marketing at an Iowa institution. Those receiving the 2019 scholarships were:

**Riley Flint of Hampton** majoring in environmental science at Buena Vista University.

**Kyle Guenther of Bellevue** majoring in architecture at Iowa State University.

**Gracie Luchtenburg of Marion** majoring in city planning or elementary education at the University of Iowa.



Pictured (L-R) Gerry Schnepf, KIB Executive Director; Kyle Geunther; Riley Flint; Morgan Johnston; Gracie Luchtenburg; Alanah Wright; Reo Menning, KIB Board Chair and Chris Kramer, representing Gov. Reynolds.

Alanah Wright of Harlan majoring in environmental science and environmental studies at Iowa Western Community College.

Morgan Johnston of Lenox majoring in marketing at Iowa State University.

# 2019 IOWA COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTEERISM AWARDS

The awards were presented to recipients on March 28th at the State Capitol in the Governor's Office by Chris Kramer, Director of the Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs and Reo Menning, Chair of the KIB Board of Directors.

"The KIB award program is designed to recognize people and organizations that have gone the extra mile to help build stronger lowa communities," said Reo Menning, Chair of the KIB Board of Directors. "A more attractive community improves the economic vitality and cultural climate of where we live and work."

#### Donald F. Lamberti Hometown Pride Vision Award: Miriam Erickson Brown

Miram Erickson Brown is being presented with the 2019 Donald F. Lamberti Hometown Pride Vision Award for your many years of service as KIB president and board member making Iowa a stronger and better place to live and work.



(L-R) Gerry Schnepf, KIB Executive Director; Don Lamberti, KIB founding board member; Miriam Erickson Brown; Chris Kramer, representing Gov. Reynolds and Reo Menning, KIB Chair of Board of Directors.

Miriam's commitment to her local community is evident by her service on many local boards including, Susan G. Komen Iowa, Des Moines Civic Center, Keep Iowa Beautiful, and Youth Homes of Mid-America. She is a member of Iowa Partnership for Economic Progress (IPEP). Miriam's concern to treat our earth well, and especially to leave Iowa a cleaner and more beautiful state for generations to come, made her involvement in the Governor's Comprehensive Recycling Planning Task Force a welcome challenge.

### **2019 IOWA COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTEERISM AWARDS**

#### **Robert D. Ray Community Award for Excellence: Percival**

The Keep Iowa Beautiful Board of Directors has selected the Community of Percival to receive the Keep Iowa Beautiful Robert D. Ray Award of Excellence. Following the devastation of a 500-year flood, the local citizens created a vision, and with hard work and dedication developed grant writing and fundraising skills to complete dozens of projects with the help of many volunteers making this community of 87 a stronger and better place to live and work. In addition, they are the first unincorporated community to receive this honor.

(The community is currently experiencing their second devastating 500-year flood in 8 years. The award will be presented at a later date.)



#### **Corporate Award: Ohnward Bancshares, Inc.**

The Keep Iowa Beautiful Corporate Award is presented to Ohnward Bancshares, Inc. and the Maquoketa State Bank for their outstanding corporate citizenship and financial commitments to local community enhancement projects and encouraging / supporting employees to be involved in leadership roles in local committees for community improvements. Their efforts are helping to make Iowa the number one place to live and work.



L to R: Rep. Norlin Mommsen (R-DeWitt); Sen. Chris Cournoyer (R-LeClaire); Gerry Schnepf, executive director of Keep Iowa Beautiful;

Reo Menning, Chair KIB Board of Trustees; Al Tubbs, chairman and CEO of Ohnward Bancshares, Inc.; Kendra Beck, chief operating officer at Ohnward Bancshares, Inc.; Kevin Burns, president and CEO of Maquoketa State Bank; Chris Kramer, director of the Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs representing Gov. Reynolds; Sen. Carrie Koelker (R-Dyersville); and Rep. Mary Wolfe (D-Clinton).

#### Organizational Award: IDOT Living Roadway Trust Fund

The 2019 Organizational Award is presented to the Iowa Department of Transportation and the Living Roadways Trust Fund for the grant integrated roadside vegetative management program making Iowa's roadsides visually interesting and making Iowa and it's communities a more attractive place to live and work.



# **YEOMAN TOOLS TO STATE PARKS**

In recognition of the 100th Anniversary of Iowa's State Parks, Keep Iowa Beautiful has partnered with Iowa tool manufacturer, Yeoman & Company, to provide grants of up to \$200 worth of Yeoman Tools to assist Park Friend Groups in clean up and beautification park projects.

As Iowa's State Parks prepare to celebrate their 100th Anniversary in 2020, Yeoman & Company has presented 10 state parks with grants.

Lake Darling State Park Lake Wapello State Park Maquoketa Caves State Park Mines of Spain Palisades-Kepler State Park Pilot Knob State Park Pine Lake State Park Stone State Park Stone State Park (butterfly garden) Waubonsie State Park



Yeoman Tools have been manufactured by Yeoman & Company in Monticello, Iowa for nearly 90 years. William F. Yeoman founded the company in 1929 and his grandson, Tom Yeoman, President & CEO, now leads the company that manufactures nearly 400 standard and custom quality tools.

# DIAMOND VOGEL AND KEEP IOWA BEAUTIFUL 2019 GRANT AWARDS

Diamond Vogel and Keep Iowa Beautiful announced the grant awards for the 2019 Paint Iowa Beautiful program. The program provides free paint to a wide variety of public service projects throughout Iowa. This is the second year Diamond Vogel agreed to expand the paint allocation to include Iowa's 70 state parks. 2020 will mark the 100th anniversary of Iowa's state park system.

"Governor Reynolds has signed a proclamation designating April as Keep lowa Beautiful month and we are pleased to do our part by awarding paint to 104 community projects in lowa," said Doug Vogel, Vice-President, Marketing, of the lowa based company. "The partnership with Keep lowa Beautiful allows Diamond Vogel to assist and work with the many local volunteers that

help build communities, making lowa the number one state in the nation to live."

Gerald Schnepf, Executive Director of Keep Iowa Beautiful added, "The Paint Iowa Beautiful program helps us increase our assistance to neighborhoods, communities, historic projects and other public service organizations in improving the attractiveness and beauty of our home areas. These projects definitely improve the beauty of Iowa, its countryside and its communities."

In the 16-year partnership with KIB, Diamond Vogel has awarded over 10,488 gallons of paint for 887 community projects in Iowa.



City or County	Organization	Areas to be painted	
Ackley	Ackley Heritage Center	1800 house and schoolhouse	
Algona	City of Algona	Mural in downtown pocket park	
Alta	Buena Vista County Fair	Grandstand and ticket booth	
Ankeny	Crocker Elementary PTO	U.S. map game in school yard	
Auburn	Auburn Hometown Pride	Reiman Park Gazebo	
Belle Plaine	Preston's Historic District	Roadside Museum buildings	
Belmond	lowa Specialty Hospital	Clinic waiting and exam rooms	
Benton County	Benton County Conservation	Benton County Parks	
Bondurant	Community Foundation	School bus barn	
Boone	County Convention Bureau	Caboose Visitor Center	
Britt	Hancock County Ag Society	Building/Show Ring and Barns	
Burr Oak	Laura Ingalls Wilder Museum	Exterior of museum building	

# DIAMOND VOGEL AND KEEP IOWA BEAUTIFUL 2019 GRANT AWARDS



Carlisle   Carlisle   Carlisle   City of New Albin   Fire Department Building     Dedar Rapids   Ushers Ferry Historic Village   Telephone Cooperative   Newell   Fire Department and City   Fire Station and City Allin     Chardno   Lucas County Fair Association   Overhow barn   Newell   Neweln   Centre for Arts & Artists   Mural     Chardno   Churdan   Churdan   Churdan   Durdan   County Allian   Park Sand Rezeabal   Campo Care building     Calaron   Clarence   Clarence   Hanwerl   Hornes in Calino   Osborne   Claydon County	Oite en Osumba	Ourse in sting	Annes to be resisted			
Cedar Rapids   Ubsters Ferry Historic Wilage   Telephone Cooperative   Newela   Fire Department and City   Fire Station and City Hall     Charlon   Lucis County Far Association   Overflow barn   Newela   Park and Resreation Board   Maral     Churdan   Churdan   City Hall and Past Office   Nors Springs   Parks and Resreation Board   Day Care building     Clarino   Clarino Phide   Homes's In Clarino   Obtome   Clay of Oaka Iowa   Bauliding, Bridge & stand   Obtome   Clay of Oaka Iowa   Bauliong, Bridge & stand   Obtome   Clay of Oaka Iowa   Community Center     Collax   Colark Main Street   Ban Cullir Ogied Restoration   Parks Restoration   Parks Restoration   Clay of Carning   Community Center   Park   Clay of Carning   Community Center     Collark   Carnet Anney FIPO   School Maintenance Bus Bann   Pochonatis Hometwow Pride   Main Street Wall A1     Correctorwille   Maintenance Bus Bann   Pochonatis Hometwow Pride   Main Street Wall A1     Correctorwille   Maintenance Bus Bann   Pochonatis Hometwow Pride   Maintenance   Bann Street Wall A1     Correctorwille <td>City or County</td> <td>Organization</td> <td>Areas to be painted</td> <td>Moville</td> <td>Woodbury County Fair</td> <td>2 hog barns &amp; 1 restroom</td>	City or County	Organization	Areas to be painted	Moville	Woodbury County Fair	2 hog barns & 1 restroom
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Churdan   Churdan   City Hall and Post Office   Norwalk   Norwalk   Norwalk Hometorm Pride   Day Care building     Clarion   Clarion Pick   Five crosswalks   Carlon   City of Celvein   Camport, Comproved Ashwer & Shw     Colfax   City of Colfax lowa   Building, Bridges & stand   Oskanos   Calvano Nuth, Community, Center     Coltax   City of Colfax Kam Street   Ban Quilt Project   Paimer   Paimer Foreson   Community, Center     Columbus Junction   Park/Recreation Commission   School Maintenance Bus Ban   Poschontas   Posch		· · · · ·				
Clarence   Clarence Main Street   Five crosswalks   Oelwein   City of Oelwein   Campground shower & shu     Colfax   Coffax (wa   Building, Bridge & stand   Ostaloosa   Uowa Fair & Exposition   4-H & FA animal barros     Colfax   Coffax Main Street   Barn Quilt Project   Pairs   Exposition   4-H & FA animal barros     Columbus Junction   Columbus Junction   Columbus Junction   Columbus Junction   Comming   Crosswalks     Correctionville   Off Correctionville   Microsofte   Pairs   Pairs   Pairs   Comm Building/Fires Vall     Correctionville   Off Correctionville   Microsofte   Pairs   Pocahontas   Forestontas   Forestonta						
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Corning   City of Corning   Crosswalks   Polk County   BoysGirls Clubs of Central IA   E.T. Meredith Jr. Club build     Cornectionville   City of Correctionville   Mercantile & Shoppe   Priarie City   Park better, restroom 8. M     Decorah   Seed Savers Exchange Inc.   Historic Fences   Riceville   Wapsi-Great Western Trail   Four-Six recycled doors     Des Moines   Blank Park Zoo   Night Eyes Displays   Rolfe   Golf course-maintenance     Des Moines   Betterment Committee   Park picnic tables/bandstand   Stoux Rapids Area Historical Heater floor     Dubuque   City of Dubuque   Storm drains   Stoux Rapids Area Historical Heater floor     Durant   Downtown Revitalization   Park benches, fence & lamp   Stouckton, City of Water plant, City Hall & Sh     Dysart   Vision Dysart   Stored strains   Stouckton, City of Water plant, City Hall & Sh     Eagle Grove   Verious homes   Street surface   Stouckton, City of Water Plant, City Hall & Sh     Earagut   City of Taragut   Park Starown Awarer City of Water   200 Block of Greene Stree     Grana Mound   Home Town Pride   Balrk stand & pump house   Wail Library<				Pierson	City of Pierson	Comm Building/Fire Station
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Des Moines   Blank Park Zoo   Night Eyes Displays   Rolfe	Correctionville			Prairie City	City of Prairie City	Park shelter, restroom & kiosks
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Montrose Montrose Riverfront, Inc. Planters & picnic tables Ventura McIntosh Woods State Park Park Open Shelter	Montrose	Montrose Riverfront, Inc.	Planters & picnic tables			
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# **Building Stronger Communities – Developing Sustainable Futures**

# Hometown Pride — Fremont County-Percival

The Methodist Church in Nebraska City served a free meal to 61 displaced lowans due to the flood tonight. Thank you for the fellowship opportunity and for the prayers in addition to the meal!

The spirit of the residents of Bartlett, Percival and Hamburg was nearly destroyed after the "500 year flood" of 2011. They felt isolated and forgotten. Joining Fremont County Hometown Pride in November 2013 enabled those who chose to stay to focus on rebuilding their communities and building a network of friends through some county-wide projects. Now, the Spring Flood of 2019 is setting new records with its damage and destruction. However this year these victims are receiving a vast amount of support from the rest of their fellow Fremont County Hometown Pride communities. Volunteers showed up without being asked to help sandbag and move personal possessions, truck loads of supplies are being donated and delivered daily,



hot meals are being provided allowing displaced families and neighbors to reunite. The spirit of "one for all and all for one" is shining strong. This time residents know that they are not alone. Their new friends from across the County will be there to help them clean up and rebuild their lives, homes, businesses and communities.

# Hometown Pride — Jasper County-Newton

It is amazing what murals can do for your community. This is a mural restored by Newton Hometown Pride in 2017. 95% of what you are looking at is painted onto the side of the building. On the white building the middle upstairs window is the only actual feature— everything else is paint on the side of a blank wall. This is a very prominent location on First Avenue in Newton, and really enhances the streetscape. Note restoration artist Halle Siepman standing between the orange and brown buildings with her arms upraised. All of the other people are painted on.

The success of Newton's downtown murals has caused other Jasper County Hometown Pride communities to pursue mural projects. Prairie City has two downtown murals scheduled for summer of 2019, and Mingo hopes to complete a mural along the Chichaqua Valley Trail this summer.



# Hometown Pride — Pocahontas Co

Pocahontas County Hometown Pride Committees recently received \$22,502 in grant awards from the Pocahontas County Foundation during the Foundation's Annual Awards Event. These grant funds will be used to assist the Hometown Pride Committees in completing new community projects in 2019.





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# HOMETOWN PRIDE COACHES CORNER (cont.)

# Hometown Pride — Sac County-Odebolt

The popcorn crib building has had several Sac County Barn Quilt Signs added to it by the Odebolt Hometown Pride Committee with

an information sign across the street for visitors to read and learn more about them.

The Iowa Rural Schools Museum is part of the Heritage Square in downtown Odebolt. http://www.iowaruralschoolsmuseum.net/



report littering **1-888-No LITTR** [665-4887] Keep Iowa Beautiful www.keepiowabeautiful.com