

# 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.KeepIowaBeautiful.com/volunteer](http://www.KeepIowaBeautiful.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.

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 Iowa 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 Iowa can make Iowa 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 Iowa'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.



By Gerry Schnepf  
Executive Director

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

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

"This is a great way for 'Iowa lovers' to share what they like about Iowa," 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 Iowa magazine.

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



Waterloo



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.

**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.



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

# 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 Iowa 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**

Miriam 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.

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.



(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.



# 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 its 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 Iowa Beautiful month and we are pleased to do our part by awarding paint to 104 community projects in Iowa," said Doug Vogel, Vice-President, Marketing, of the Iowa based company. "The partnership with Keep Iowa Beautiful allows Diamond Vogel to assist and work with the many local volunteers that help build communities, making Iowa 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	Iowa 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



City or County	Organization	Areas to be painted
Carlisle	Carlisle Hometown Pride	Carlisle City Hall
Cedar Rapids	Ushers Ferry Historic Village	Telephone Cooperative
Chariton	Lucas County Fair Association	Overflow barn
Cherokee	Hanover Historical Society	Machine shed
Churdan	Churdan	City Hall and Post Office
Clarence	Clarence Main Street	Five crosswalks
Clarion	Clarion Pride	Homes in Clarion
Colfax	City of Colfax Iowa	Building, Bridges & stand
Colfax	Colfax Main Street	Barn Quilt Project
Columbus Junction	Park/Recreation Commission	Swinging Bridge Restoration
Columbus Junction	Columbus Roundy PTO	School Maintenance Bus Barn
Corning	City of Corning	Crosswalks
Correctionville	City of Correctionville	Mercantile & Shoppe
Decorah	Seed Savers Exchange Inc.	Historic Fences
Des Moines	Blank Park Zoo	Night Eyes Displays
Des Moines County	Friends of County Conservation	Old Zion School
Drakesville	Betterment Committee	Park picnic tables/bandstand
Dubuque	City of Dubuque	Storm drains
Durant	Downtown Revitalization	Park benches, fence & lamp
Dysart	Vision Dysart	Street surface
Eagle Grove	Veterans Memorial Tower	Cement elevator tower
Essex	Shenandoah/Essex Police	Various homes
Exira	Economic Development	Salon & American Legion Post
Farragut	City of Farragut	Park Playground & Main Street
Forest City	Park and Recreation	Park shower house
Forest City	Winnebago Historical Society	Heritage Park/Mansion Museum
Galva	Economic Development Corp.	Main Street exteriors and mural
Gilmore City	Gilmore City Hometown Pride	Main Street City Gazebo
Grand Mound	Home Town Pride	Ball Park stand & pump house
Guthrie Center	County Fair Foundation	Shower, tables & displays
Havelock	Hometown Pride Committee	City Hall Door & Fire Dept Door
Hopkinton	City of Hopkinton	Library
Ida Grove	Ida Grove Public Library	Library
Indianola	Chamber of Commerce	Murals
Indianola	Keep Indianola Beautiful	Salem Court Alley
Iowa County	Iowa County Conservation	Round House at Lake Iowa Park
Jasper County	Jasper County Conservation	Ashton Observatory
Jefferson	Jefferson Park and Recreation	Russell Park Shelter
Kellogg	Hometown Pride Committee	Park cabin decks
Livermore	City of Livermore	Park shelter house
Manning	Hausbarn-Heritage Park	Craftsman-style farm house
Manson	Economic Development/C of C	Main Street facades/exteriors
Mason City	Mason City Chamber of Comm	Interactive sidewalk paintings
Mason City	North Iowa Fair Association	Fair grounds buildings
Milo	Milo Hometown Pride	Buildings on Main Street
Missouri Valley	Chamber of Commerce	Building exterior
Missouri Valley	City of Missouri Valley	Picnic Tables in the city park
Montrose	Montrose Riverfront, Inc.	Planters & picnic tables
Moorland	Moorland Park Board	Community Center
City or County	Organization	Areas to be painted

Moville	Woodbury County Fair	2 hog barns & 1 restroom
New Albin	City of New Albin	Fire Department Building
Newell	Fire Department and City	Fire Station and City Hall
Newton	Centre for Arts & Artists	Mural
Nora Springs	Parks and Recreation Board	Park Picnic Shelter
Norwalk	Norwalk Hometown Pride	Day Care building
Oelwein	City of Oelwein	Campground shower & shelter
Osborne	Clayton County Conservation	Milwaukee Caboose
Oskaloosa	Iowa Fair & Exposition	4-H & FFA animal barns
Palmer	Palmer Hometown Pride	Community Center
Pierson	City of Pierson	Comm Building/Fire Station
Pocahontas	Pocahontas Hometown Pride	Main Street Wall Art
Polk County	Boys/Girls Clubs of Central IA	E.T. Meredith Jr. Club building
Prairie City	City of Prairie City	Park shelter, restroom & kiosks
Riceville	Wapsi-Great Western Trail	Four-Six recycled doors
Rolfe	Rolfe Hometown Pride	Golf course--maintenance shed
Sac City	Sac City Hometown Pride	Warehouse
Sheldon	Prairie Arts Council	Historical Park
Sioux Rapids	Sioux Rapids Area Historical	Historical theater floor
Spencer	Park & Recreation Department	School House picnic tables
Stockton	Stockton, City of	Water plant, City Hall & Shelter
Swea City	North Kossuth	Softball Field Dugouts
Terril	Terril Public Library	Terril Memorial Building
Walker	City of Walker	200 Block of Greene Street
Wall Lake	East Sac County Schools	Play Country playground
Walnut	Community Center	West Gym
Wapello	Wapello Hometown Pride	Basketball court
Waverly	Waverly Leisure Services	Golf Course wooden bridges
Westside	City of Westside	Maintenance Building
Winneshiek County	County Conservation	Historic Farmstead
Woodbine	Woodbine Main Street	Community building
Worthington	City of Worthington	Community Center & City Hall

## 100th Anniversary State Parks Awards

Grinnell	Friends of Rock Creek State Park	Informational sign posts
Hamburg (Rural)	Friends of Waubonsie State Park	Picnic tables, benches, shelters
Harpers Ferry	Friends of Yellow River State Forest	Visitors Headquarters
Harpers Ferry	Friends of Yellow River State Forest	Office building near cabin
Lee & Van Buren Counties	Friends of Shimek State Forest Equestrian Trails, Inc. (FOS)	Picnic tables & wooden posts
Madrid	Ledges State Park	Bathroom & check in building
McGregor	Friends of Pikes Peak State Park	Peak Inn, benches, planters, fire rings, board walk areas, tables
Mount Vernon, Linn County	Friends of Palisades-Kepler State Park	Pit vault latrines and restrooms
Sioux City	Friends of Stone Park	Stone lodge & water tower
Ventura	McIntosh Woods State Park	Park Open Shelter
Waterloo	George Wyth State Park	Tables, shelters and benches



# HOMETOWN PRIDE COACHES CORNER

*Building Stronger Communities – Developing Sustainable Futures*

## Hometown Pride — Fremont County-Percival

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

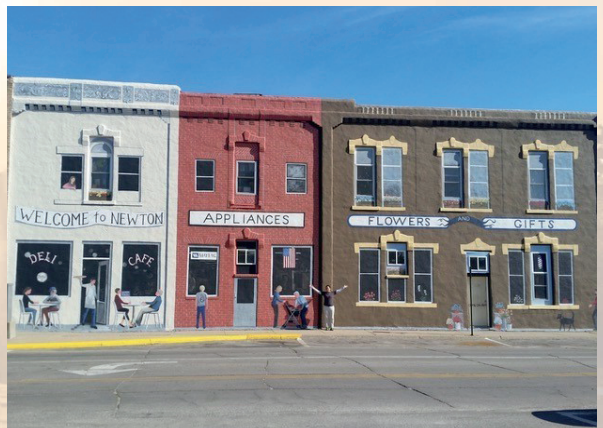
The spirit of the residents of Bartlett, Percival and Hamburg was nearly destroyed after the “500 year flood” of 2011. They felt isolated and forgotten. Joining Fremont County Hometown Pride in November 2013 enabled those who chose to stay to focus on rebuilding their communities and building a network 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/>



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