

July 2021

GREATER BURLINGTON PARTNERSHIP NEWSLETTER VOL. 101 NO. 7

# The **PARTNERSHIP**





## INFRASTRUCTURE Always a Good Investment

by Della Schmidt

Federal, state and local governments are considering funding for new infrastructure projects. Historically, infrastructure has always been a good investment.

The Highway 61 Coalition has been advocating for years to secure a 4-lane corridor from Keokuk to Dubuque. Much work has already been done, but there are key segments that remain unfinished. When Southeast Iowa is being considered for future manufacturing sites, the Highway 61 corridor is always a significant factor in the decisions. Access to river, rail, and a good highway system is vital for the economic opportunities companies are looking for when considering locating to Southeast Iowa, as well as sustaining existing industry.

Silgan Containers, located in both Burlington and Fort Madison, relies on good infrastructure for both supply and finished product. During peak production, the Burlington location alone averages 90 trucks a day coming and going from their facility. With quality highways, Silgan Containers production can stay at high performance. The Iowa Fertilizer Company, located in Wever, generates 25,000+ trucks annually, with 90% traveling northbound. In recent months three new companies have relocated and expanded into Des Moines County, with additional prospects likely. These are just a few examples of how investing in roads and bridges feeds economic development. Imagine what would happen if Greater Burlington were served by both a 4-lane

Highway 61 corridor AND a 4-lane Highway 34 corridor from Illinois. Improvements to county roads, replacing Cascade Bridge, addressing needed maintenance on local streets in Burlington/West Burlington, upgrading sewer and water lines – these are all projects that will assist in keeping Greater Burlington a great place to work, live, and visit.

Infrastructure investment opportunities are not limited to roads and bridges. 2020 underscored the critical need for broadband expansion and adequate bandwidth. Employers and employees have discovered that work from home is not only feasible in many cases, but also highly desirable. Retail and service businesses have discovered new ways to market and deliver products that will be sustained in the post-pandemic economy. If Southeast Iowa is to be competitive in the future, more investment in broadband must be made.

Local and county leaders will soon make decisions on where to spend federal American Rescue Plan Act funds. There are limitations set by the federal government regarding how the money can be spent, but there has never been an opportunity like this one.

The Greater Burlington Partnership will continue to engage with local elected officials regarding this unprecedented opportunity for infrastructure investment.



**Barb Gerst**  
Director of Finance  
319-208-0044  
[bgerst@greaterburlington.com](mailto:bgerst@greaterburlington.com)



**Chris Gram**  
Program Coordinator  
319-752-8731  
[cgram@greaterburlington.com](mailto:cgram@greaterburlington.com)



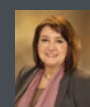
**Cindy Henry**  
Member & Guest Services Manager  
319-208-0052  
[chenry@greaterburlington.com](mailto:chenry@greaterburlington.com)



**Jeremy Hess**  
Dir. of Economic Development  
319-208-0050  
[jhess@greaterburlington.com](mailto:jhess@greaterburlington.com)



**Chelsea Lerud**  
Convention & Visitors Bureau  
Exec. Dir. 319-208-0045  
[clerud@greaterburlington.com](mailto:clerud@greaterburlington.com)



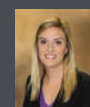
**Brenda Levitt**  
Graphic Designer  
319-208-0047  
[blevitt@greaterburlington.com](mailto:blevitt@greaterburlington.com)



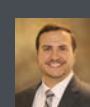
**Rachel Lindeen**  
Talent Development &  
Government Relations Director  
319-208-0046  
[rlindeen@greaterburlington.com](mailto:rlindeen@greaterburlington.com)



**Amy Moyner**  
Downtown Partners, Inc.  
Exec. Dir. 319-208-0056  
[amoyner@greaterburlington.com](mailto:amoyner@greaterburlington.com)



**Emily Pattee**  
Events Manager  
319-208-0040  
[epattee@greaterburlington.com](mailto:epattee@greaterburlington.com)



**Dustin Roth**  
Marketing & Communications Dir.  
319-208-0048  
[droth@greaterburlington.com](mailto:droth@greaterburlington.com)



**Della Schmidt**  
President & CEO  
319-208-0043  
[dschmidt@greaterburlington.com](mailto:dschmidt@greaterburlington.com)



**Marisol White**  
Administrative Assistant  
319-208-0042  
[mwhite@greaterburlington.com](mailto:mwhite@greaterburlington.com)



Represents a Partnering for the Future III Initiative.

**SUBSCRIPTIONS:** Price is \$24, which is included in annual events fees. Non-members: \$4 per issue. Periodicals postage paid at Burlington, Iowa.  
**POSTMASTER:** The Partnership is published monthly by the Greater Burlington Partnership 610 North Fourth Street, Suite 200, Burlington, Iowa 52601.  
**POSTMASTER:** send address changes to Greater Burlington Partnership (USPS 001-692) 610 North Fourth Street, Suite 200, Burlington, Iowa 52601.

# ON THE COVER

## Annual Dinner Award Winners

Annually, the Greater Burlington Partnership has the privilege of honoring numerous individuals, organizations, and businesses at the Annual Dinner. Normally announced in January, the awards announcement and presentation were postponed until an in-person event could be held. The Greater Burlington Partnership announced the Annual Community Awards May 20 at Barn on the Ridge. The Annual Awards recognize businesses and individuals who have made a positive impact in Greater Burlington.

Chamber of Commerce and community members were in attendance to congratulate the award recipients. Award videos can be found at [Youtube.com/c/GreaterBurlington](https://www.youtube.com/c/GreaterBurlington).

**1** - Community Impact Award – Great River Health  
Accepting the award L to R: Matt Wenzel, Dr. Michael McCoy, Melissa Jones, Tomi Hagan, Jeremy Alexander, and Christin Pritchard

**2** - Best Renovation to a Facility – Farney's  
Accepting the award: Rich Adams



**3** - Project of the Year – Blaul Lofts  
Accepting the award: Joe Erenberger

**4** - Downtown Distinction Award – Janine Clover

**5** - Spirit of Philanthropy Award – Ken Schwenker (posthumously)  
Accepting the award: Diane Schwenker and Kathy Schwenker

**6** - Business Persons of the Year – David Kroll and Mike O'Neil

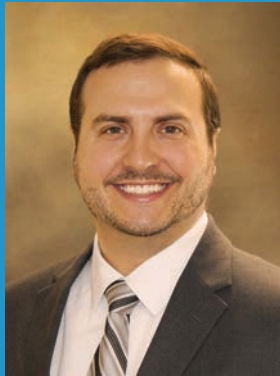
**7** - Young Professional of the Year – Eva Castillo

**8** - Chair of the Board Award – Greater Burlington Partnership Staff  
Accepting the award L to R: Dustin Roth, Marisol White, Rachel Lindeen, Della Schmidt, Emily Pattee, Brenda Levitt, Amy Moyner, Chelsea Lerud, Chris Gram, Barb Gerst, and Cindy Henry  
Not pictured: Jeremy Hess

# Success in BUSINESS

DISCOVER NEW BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

## GrowthZone Info Hub



Presented by: Dustin Roth, Marketing & Communications Director, Greater Burlington Partnership

**PROGRAM OBJECTIVES:** Attendees will be introduced to GrowthZone Info Hub, the new online center that enables Chamber members to access key information and easily engage with the organization. Learn how to update your business and contact information as well as customize your company Chamber Directory listing with photos, videos, promote hot deals and coupons (and more!). Attendees will also learn how these things will integrate with the new Partnership website.

**When:** Tuesday, July 29, 12 - 1 PM

**Cost:** FREE benefit of Chamber of Commerce membership

**Who should attend:** Chamber of Commerce member Key Contact and/or Marketing Contact

**Where:** Virtual Auditorium

**ABOUT DUSTIN ROTH:** Dustin has a wealth of experience in marketing and has worked with many businesses throughout Greater Burlington. Dustin's background is in video production and he has won many awards in that field. As Marketing & Communications Director for the organization, he plans and oversees the strategies to promote the Partnership via various communication mediums. He also manages the marketing budget, directs public relations campaigns, press releases, media requests, and the videography guru.

Dustin grew up in Burlington, where he currently resides with his wife and three great kids. He enjoys spending time with his family, playing softball in the summer, woodworking, the Cubs, and generally building and creating things.

\* More information and registration at [GreaterBurlington.com](http://GreaterBurlington.com).

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# Come On Downtown JEFFERSON ST FARMERS MARKET

The region's largest farmers market takes place every **Thursday from 4:30 - 7 PM** in the 300 - 500 blocks of Jefferson Street. For information about weekly market activities, visit Jefferson St Farmers Market on Facebook or contact Downtown Partners, Inc.

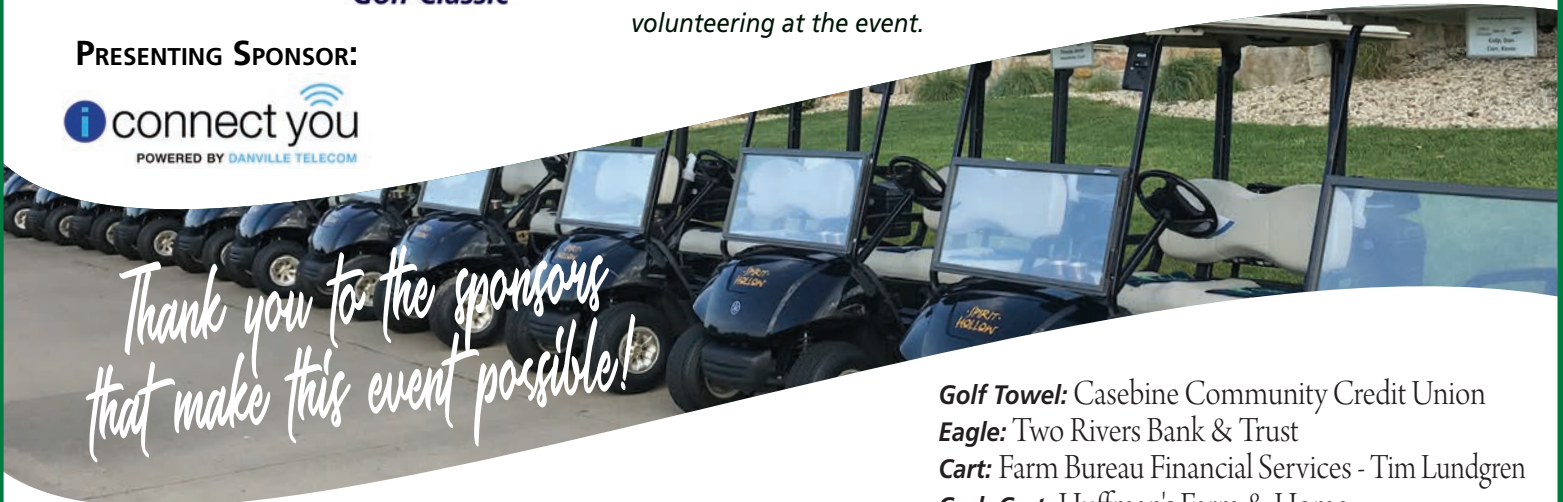
July's Jefferson St Farmers Market is supported by:



## CHAMBER GOLF CLASSIC Thursday, August 19, 2021 | Spirit Hollow, 10 AM

Contact Emily Pattee for information on available sponsorships or for volunteering at the event.

PRESENTING SPONSOR:



*Thank you to the sponsors that make this event possible!*

**Golf Towel:** Casebine Community Credit Union  
**Eagle:** Two Rivers Bank & Trust  
**Cart:** Farm Bureau Financial Services - Tim Lundgren  
**Cash Cart:** Huffman's Farm & Home

**Birdie:** Afinitas; Alliant Credit Union; Anderson, Roberts, Porth, Wallace & Stewart LLP; Aspelmeier, Fisch, Power, Engberg & Helling; Berthel Fisher; Big River Resources, LLC; Great River Entertainment; Great River Health; Great Western Bank; Menke & Company; Merit Construction; MidWestOne Bank; Silgan Containers; Summer Street Animal Clinic; U.S. Bank, N.A.

**Hole:** Carl A. Nelson & Company; Century 21 Property Professionals; CPA Associates, P.C.; Farmers & Merchants Bank & Trust; Klingner and Associates, P.C.; L.J. Roth Restoration Service; Pritchard Broadcasting; QPS Employment Group; Servpro of Burlington; Sunnybrook Assisted Living & Memory Care; Team Staffing Solutions, Inc.; The Cellular Connection

**Available Sponsorships offering a variety of marketing and advertising benefits:** Eagle (1 - includes team of four), Social Hour (1 - includes team of four), Lunch Sponsor (1 - includes team of four), Hole Sponsor (4), Driving Range (1), Tee Box (14), Contest (6)



## Margaret Hansen Community Impact Fund Receives \$44,745 donation from Sue Catherine Harris Trust

The Community Foundation of Des Moines County created the Community Impact Fund soon after inception in 2006. The purpose was to enable donors to make investments which would enhance the overall quality of life in Des Moines County in areas such as life-long learning and community development. The mission is met through annual awards to qualified causes as determined by the foundation's board of directors. In 2015, the fund reached the \$75,000 level with many \$100-\$1000 contributions from businesses and individuals and was renamed

the Margaret Hansen Community Impact Fund to honor Margaret's many years as Executive Director of CFDMC.

The new funds were received in April from the Hutchinson Community Foundation from the Sue Catherine Harris Trust Designated Fund. Sue Harris owned Harris Enterprises who owned the Hawkeye for some years. The \$44,745 donation is the largest amount received to date, taking the fund to a new level of \$230,450. The best news is this increases the available grants funds by 23%.

**There are a variety of funds to donate to. Find a charity that fits your passion, or have a fund tailored to your charitable interest. Visit [CFDMC.org](http://CFDMC.org) or call 319-753-6929 for more information.**

# Marketing Know-How Series

**REGISTER NOW!**

**Thursday, July 15, 8 - 11:30 AM**

**Topic:** Marketing Beyond Trolling for New Customers: Building a Brand

**Who should attend:** Business leaders interested in expanding their marketing strategy to include elements such as long-term brand/image, workforce recruitment, employee pride, diversity and inclusion, etc.

**Location:** Greater Burlington Partnership

**Cost:** \$75 Chamber member (\$125 all others)

**Tuesday, September 14, 8 - 9:30 AM**

**Topic:** Marketing on a Shoe-String Budget

**Who should attend:** Entrepreneurs, small business owners and anyone interested in budget friendly marketing ideas.

**Location:** Greater Burlington Partnership

**Cost:** \$25 Chamber member (\$40 all others)

To register or for more information, call 319-752-6365

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## Great Leaders, Today and Tomorrow

The program offers amazing experiences while engaging with the community and strengthening leadership skills. A strong community has strong leaders. Each year the Chamber of Commerce offers Greater Burlington Leadership, a professional development series designed to strengthen leadership skills within the community.

***Apply at [GreaterBurlington.com/Leadership](http://GreaterBurlington.com/Leadership) by July 31***



# A Very Vintage Market

July 17, 9 AM - 3 PM | Downtown Burlington



A one-day outdoor extravaganza, A Very Vintage Market is a place for shoppers and vendors to share their passion to reuse, remake and restyle. The market features over 100 high-quality vendors with antique and vintage décor, repurposed, reimaged, or upcycled items, handcrafted goods, architectural salvage, primitive and farmhouse accents, as well as local eats.



Presenting Sponsor:



Map Sponsor: Hopefully Yours

Media Sponsor: Titan Broadcasting

Entertainment Sponsor: The Collective Food Hub



## Meet Daniele Ebert - Downtown Partners, Inc. Intern

Daniele Ebert is the new intern for Downtown Partners, Inc. She has lived in Burlington for most of her life and is an incoming junior at Burlington High School. In school, Daniele is involved in Student Council, National Honor Society, Speech and Debate, Cross Country, and the Grayhound Ambassadors Program. Outside of school, she enjoys reading, listening to music, and spending time with her family and new puppy. After high school, Daniele is planning on getting a Bachelor's Degree, followed by a Law Degree to practice law as either a criminal or juvenile defense attorney.

# Vacation in your own backyard

Many times grumblings are heard throughout the community that there is nothing to do in the area. Now that may have been the case for 2020 (for good reason), but no one will be bored in 2021! Summer is here and the calendar is filling up quickly with all of the community events and festivals. Be sure to stay tapped into Friday Facts and the Greater Burlington Partnership online calendar to keep up with what is going on.

Greater Burlington is chock full of amazing adventures for the family to go on. The water parks and community pools are open, play a round of mini golf at Kenny's Roller Ranch, soak in a day of history with Des Moines County Historical Society museums, go for a hike through one of the beautiful city or county parks, take in the action at Community Field with the Burlington Bees or catch a race at 34 Raceway. The local restaurant and drinkery scene allows one to easily eat their way through town with amazing meals the whole way.

Get out and explore. Be a visitor in your own backyard this summer. Challenge yourself to find something new in the community and check it out. You never know what gem you might find around the corner.



## Enjoy Your Summer Riding Greater Burlington's Trails

### Flint River Trail

**319-753-8260 | [flintrivertrail.org](http://flintrivertrail.org)**

The Flint River Trail system is a joint system between Des Moines County Conservation and the City of Burlington. Approximately twelve miles are complete, connecting Big Hollow Recreation Area to Starr's Cave Park & Preserve. This section includes designated off-road trails consisting of a lime chip surface, with the remaining miles on existing roadways. Three miles of trail are also complete along the riverfront, beginning at the Port of Burlington and continuing behind CNH Industrial America.

### North Gorge Trail

**9831 Golf Course Road, Burlington | 319-753-8117**

**[Facebook.com/North-Gorge-Trail-System-1484640071831308/](https://www.facebook.com/North-Gorge-Trail-System-1484640071831308/)**

North Gorge Trail is a single-track, multi-use recreational trail system, used by mountain bikers and walkers of all ages and abilities.



5 & V Outdoor Movie Night  
Fifth & Valley Sts. | Downtown Burlington



**Cars**  
SATURDAY, JULY 31

Presented by



Presented by



**The Lorax**  
FRIDAY, August 6

Looking for a fun way to spend summer evenings with friends and family? Grab a lawn chair and head down to the 5&V – downtown Burlington’s outdoor cinema! Movies will be shown on the side of Drake Hardware & Software at 5th and Valley Streets this summer. There’s no admission for the events, though donations are accepted. The movies will start at dusk, but be sure to come down early for games and activities – and to pick out a choice spot. There will be snack and drink vendors on hand, too.

*Check the Downtown Burlington, Iowa page on Facebook for updates in case of inclement weather.*

*Thanks to Drake Hardware and Software and Elks Lodge #84 for making the 5 & V Downtown Cinema possible.*

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## YP Lunch & Learn



### Burlington Capitol Theater

JULY 9, 12 PM

This is a favorite event for many YP's because of how unique it is. The Snake Alley Festival of Film showcases the best short films from around the world. Tadd Good will inform YP's not only about SNAFF but film festivals all across Iowa.

**Sponsored by Klingner & Associates, P.C.**

RSVP through the YP Facebook event or [youngprofessionals@greaterburlington.com](mailto:youngprofessionals@greaterburlington.com). First event is complimentary for prospective members.

## YP 505 Social

### Martini's Grille Patio

JULY 28, 5:05 PM

Enjoy delicious appetizers and socialize with friends new and old.

RSVP needed for food count; email [youngprofessionals@greaterburlington.com](mailto:youngprofessionals@greaterburlington.com) or put "going" on the Facebook event page.

**Sponsored by: C-Cat, Inc.**



### The YP Leadership Council Welcomes Denise Fullenkamp

Denise Fullenkamp has been in YP for almost 2 years and is employed by Great Western Bank. "I'm excited to help plan projects and figure out ways to improve those projects."

~ Denise

Please email [youngprofessionals@greaterburlington.com](mailto:youngprofessionals@greaterburlington.com) if interested with a short paragraph on why you would be a great addition to the council!



## YP SPOTLIGHT Jade Sorensen

Employer: U.S. Army

Hometown: Burlington

YP Member: 2 Years

**Why did you join YP?** I decided to join YP to get involved and gain a new perspective of the community I grew up in. I wanted to meet professionals like myself who strive to make Burlington a great place to work and live.

**Which community organizations/events do you volunteer for?** I volunteer for Burlington Paint-A-Thon, STEM Outreach at SCC and local schools, 30 under 30 Speakers Bureau, and a member of the 2020 Greater Burlington Leadership Class.

### What do you enjoy most about Greater Burlington?

I enjoy the history of Greater Burlington the most, especially the downtown architecture, the world class features like Snake Alley and the riverfront, and the stories of people who proudly grew up in the area.

**Unique about me:** I love to travel! I have been to over 15 different countries in the past six years and am anxiously waiting to reschedule two trips due to the recent times.

## Greater Burlington Young Professionals

A professional and social group for individuals between the ages of 21 - 40.

**2021 Gold Sponsor: CNH Industrial**



# This Building Is Not Empty ... It Is Full Of Opportunities Imagine Your Success In Downtown Burlington

Downtown Partners, Inc's Economic Vitality and Design Committees have created a poster program for the Main Street District. The poster will be displayed in store fronts to draw the attention of entrepreneurs and inform them which spaces are available for lease. The opportunities and possibilities are endless in Downtown Burlington.

If you're dreaming of the next great business, a space may be available to make those dreams come true.

A complete list of available locations will be available on GreaterBurlington.com coming later this year. Contact Amy Moyner for additional information.

## DOWNTOWN PARTNERS, INC. RECEIVES 2021 NATIONAL MAIN STREET ACCREDITATION

Downtown Partners, Inc. has been designated as an accredited Main Street™ program for meeting rigorous performance standards. Each year, Main Street America and its partners announce the list of accredited programs to recognize their exceptional commitment to preservation-based economic development and community revitalization through the Main Street Approach™.

“We are proud to recognize this year’s 889 nationally accredited Main Street programs that have worked tirelessly to advance economic vitality and quality of life in their downtowns and commercial districts,” said Patrice Frey, President & CEO of Main Street America. “During an incredibly challenging year, these programs demonstrated the power of the Main Street movement to drive impressive local recovery efforts, champion small businesses, and foster vibrant downtown districts. I am inspired by their hard work and confident that these accredited communities will continue to help their downtowns flourish in the next stages of recovery.”



Downtown Partners, Inc. Board of Directors with Kathy La Plante, Main Street America.

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Marvin Thomson, President/CEO, mthomson@brokersifs.com

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For information on Chamber of Commerce membership, contact Cindy Henry.



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**EVENTS CALENDAR**  
June 2021

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	1	2	3

SEARCH ALL EVENTS  
SUBMIT AN EVENT

**GREATER BURLINGTON ONLINE EVENTS CALENDAR**  
*Submit an event!*

Does your business or organization have an event you would like to let the community know about? Fill out a quick web form about it and the event will be featured on Greater Burlington Partnership's events calendar at GreaterBurlington.com.

# July Events

**1, 8, 15, 22, 29**

Jefferson St Farmers Market  
Jefferson St, 4:30 - 7 PM  
GreaterBurlington.com

**1 - 4, 6, 10 - 11, 14, 16, 18, 21, 23 - 25, 29, 31**

Burlington Bees Baseball  
Community Field  
Sat 6:30 PM; Sun 2 PM  
GoBees.com

**3, 10, 17, 24, 30**

Dirt Track Racing  
34 Raceway, times vary  
34Raceway.com

**4**

4th of July Celebration  
West Burlington, 6:30 AM - 11 PM  
WestBurlington.org

**4, 11, 18, 25**

Burlington Municipal Band  
Crapo Park Band Shell, 7:30 PM  
MuniBand.org

**9**

YP Lunch & Learn  
Capitol Theater, 12 PM  
GreaterBurlington.com

**9**

Donnie Baker  
Capitol Theater, 8 PM  
BurlingtonCapitolTheater.com

**10**

Symphonic Blast  
Crapo Park Band Shell, 8 PM  
SEISO.us

**15**

Cruise Night  
Jefferson St, 5 - 8 PM

**15, 23**

Cruise Night  
Downtown Burlington, 5 - 8 PM

**17**

A Very Vintage Market  
Downtown Burlington, 9 AM - 3 PM  
GreaterBurlington.com

**23**

Friday Fest at BRE Summer Concert Series  
Burlington Riverfront, 5 PM  
BurlingtonRiverfront.com

**24**

BRE Summer Concert Series  
featuring Winger with  
Blackfoot & LP33  
Burlington Riverfront, 6 PM  
BurlingtonRiverfront.com

**28**

YP 5:05 Social  
Martini's Grille, 5:05 PM  
GreaterBurlington.com

**29**

Success in Business  
Virtual, 12 PM  
GreaterBurlington.com

**31**

Partnership Night at the Bees  
Community Field, 6:30 PM  
GreaterBurlington.com

**31**

5&V Outdoor Cinema - Cars  
Fifth & Valley Streets, Dusk  
GreaterBurlington.com

## SAVE the DATE

### AUGUST

5, 12, 19, 26, 30 - Jefferson St.  
Farmers Market  
Downtown Burlington, 4:30 - 7:30 PM

6 - 5 & V Outdoor Cinema - *The Lorax*  
5 & V Outdoor Cinema  
5th and Valley Streets, Dusk

18 - All Teachers Reception, 3 PM

19 - Chamber of Commerce Golf Classic  
Spirit Hollow, 10 AM



## Area Recyclers

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## 2021 Des Moines County Fair

The best days of summer are spent at the Des Moines County Fair. They're back with more food, fun and farm animals. The newest thing to hit the fair in 2021 is the Carpool Cinema. Come experience the drive-in all over again. Tiny Town is making its first appearance for the under 5 crowd, too. The best part is it's free admission, free parking and free family fun, all at the Des Moines County Fair.

Check out the whole schedule of events at [DesMoinesCountyFair.com](http://DesMoinesCountyFair.com).

## Vintage Kid Toy Shoppe & Sweets Grand Opening

Located within Burlington Vintage & Co, The Vintage Kid Toy Shoppe is a step back in time, filled with toys and activities for an unplugged childhood. Toys are kid tested and kid approved to ensure optimal fun: Legos by the pound, sling shots, puppets, space toys and throw-back specials - plus a selection of favorite candies. Head to the basement to check out the Vintage Kid Train Museum, owned and operated by - you guessed it - kids!

Have a special request? Call or email and the Shoppe will do their best to get the item you're looking for.

Head downtown on July 3 - 10, 10 AM - 4 PM and celebrate an old-fashioned childhood at Burlington Vintage & Co.!

## 34 Raceway - Weekly Racing

Hear that roar on 34? That's the sound of family fun and fast dirt track racing at the premier place to race in Southeast Iowa. July 3, 4 - 10 PM, at 34 Raceway: Lucas Oil MLRA. Adult grandstand admission is \$20; students/seniors \$18 and kids 10 and under are admitted free with paid adult admission. Pit passes are \$35. Pits open at 3 PM, grandstand at 4 PM; hot laps at 6:15 PM and racing follows.

Visit [34Raceway.com](http://34Raceway.com) for more information.

## Burlington Riverfront Entertainment Summer Concert Series- July 23 - 24

Round 2 of 4 for the BRE Summer Concert Series is July 23 - 24 hosted on the Burlington Riverfront. The July series is presented by Frank Millard & Company. July 23 is FREE with bands Decade of Decadence and New TRICK starting at 6 PM; gates open at 5 PM. On Saturday, July 24 Blackfoot will open for Winger at 7 PM; gates open at 6 PM. LP33 will play on the side stage before and after the main stage acts. Tickets to the Winger and Blackfoot concert are just \$35; VIP passes for sale on the grounds at \$10. Come down to enjoy food, ice cold beer, and great live entertainment on the Burlington Riverfront.

For tickets and the full schedule of events for the BRE Summer Concert Series, visit [BurlingtonRiverfront.com](http://BurlingtonRiverfront.com).

## Midwest Realty Group is Growing

Midwest Realty Group has a lot of exciting news! Expansion of the company has resulted in a new physical office location, including a design center, addition of a new partner and two new staff members. Joining Ryan Nagrocki, President, are John Mercer, Vice President, Stephanie Nagrocki, Office Manager and Kelly Wolkenhauer, Designer. Phase 2 of the Westfield Condos project has begun as well as building several single family homes. Located at 205 S Gear Ave Ste 2 in West Burlington, Midwest Realty Group specializes in residential and commercial construction utilizing multiple building methods.

For more information, check out the website at [MidwestHomeBuilder.com](http://MidwestHomeBuilder.com) or call 319-237-1139.

Submit member information, to Brenda Levitt

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## Partnership Night at the Bees - JULY 31

The Greater Burlington Partnership is excited to partner with the Burlington Bees again this year! Enjoy all the action on July 31 at Community Field when the Burlington Bees take on the Normal, IL CornBelts. The game will be followed by fireworks. Game begins at 6:30 PM.

GO BEES! Pre-order tickets are \$4 each when buying 10+ tickets. Burlington Bees staff will contact Chamber of Commerce members by phone or call the Bees directly for tickets at 319-754-5705.



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