



# Class of 2010 Yearbook

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THIS IS WHERE WE PUT A LIST OF ALL THE STUFF IN THIS BOOK THING SO YOU CAN FIND IT. JUST CLICK AWAY.

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# Mission

Leadership Siouxland develops a broad based source of informed, civic oriented leaders who aspire to help direct the future of our community.

# Purpose

The purpose of Leadership Siouxland is to identify and train outstanding individuals representing diverse views and experience to assume leadership roles in economic, cultural, philanthropic and civic development for the tri-state area.

# Board of Directors

Executive Director – **Amanda Beller**  
Windows America, Class of 2000

**Cindy Brewer**  
Proctor & Gamble, Class of 2008

**Carrie Radloff**  
Tri-State Graduate Center, Class of 2005

President – **Toi Sullivan**  
FEH Associates Inc., Class of 2002

**Jeremy Craighead**  
Security National Bank, Class of 2006

**Chris Radloff**  
HippieBoy Design, Class of 2008

Vice-President – **Lisa Claeys**  
Sioux City Police Department, Class of 2005

**John Engel**  
Project Be The Change

**Ike Rayford**  
Class of 2009

Secretary – **Angel Wallace**  
City of Sioux City, Class of 2009

**Linnea Fletcher**  
Jackson Recovery, Class of 2005

**Angie Schneiderman**  
Berenstein Moore Law Firm, Class of 2009

Treasurer – **Brian Crichton**  
CMBA Architects, Class of 2002

**Gloria James**  
Sioux City Community Schools, Class of 1999

**Dawn Stansbury**  
Sioux City Community Schools, Class of 2007

**Tammie Pech**  
Siouxland American Red Cross, Class of 2007

**Matt Thomsen**  
Western Iowa Tech, Class of 2008



# Program Sessions

Orientation

Arts in Siouxland

Project Presentations

Economic Development

Non-Profits and Volunteerism

Graduation Banquet

Law Enforcement

Ethnic & Cultural Diversity

Education

Government & Politics





# Amanda Beller

*Executive Director, Leadership Siouxland*

I was lucky enough to relocate to Sioux City nearly 12 years ago from Lincoln, Nebraska. After a blind date (with my now-husband), the rest—as they say—is history!

Originally born in St. Joseph, Missouri, my mother was general manager of television stations, and we moved a lot! So, by high school graduation, I had attended 12 schools. All that moving was tough as a teenager, but now I see it made me become more flexible and taught me to meet new people.

I joke that my liberal arts background ruined me. I have many different interests... and so, I've been lucky enough to try many different things too!

With over 10 years in banking, it was interesting transitioning into sales management and training, then into marketing. I originally started with Norwest (now Wells Fargo) while in college in Lincoln. My last position in banking was with First Federal (now Vantus) and it was during this time I was able to participate in Leadership Siouxland.

I was thrilled with the Leadership program and immediately joined the curriculum committee. Shortly after, I was asked to join the Board.

From banking I went on to promote pop corn while working in marketing and PR at Jolly Time Pop Corn as Director of Marketing Communications.

While spending time writing about pop corn, I realized writing is a real passion for me. At that point I spent time doing freelancing. This writing was done with newspapers, entertainment guides and I also consulted on political campaigns writing and creating marketing materials. One of my favorite endeavors was time spent consulting with an agency based in Boston. The focus was creating collateral pieces and marketing aspects for higher education. It was a great opportunity to meet new people, travel and grow!

In addition, during this time I also enjoyed the opportunity to teach a number of different advertising, marketing and communication courses at USD and also Morningside College.

After all that excitement (and three children under the age of three), we needed some flexibility.

Having recently opened a small business (Lightning Car Wash in South Sioux City and Sergeant Bluff in 2001), we decided to plunge into a new business. We opened Windows America. It has been an exciting opportunity! I learn something new every day, get flexibility with family time (or more specifically hockey time), and along with my husband, work my tail off to make the business grow!

When the Leadership Executive Director position became available, I wanted to be a permanent part of this group I had been active with for so long. It is a wonderful program and I hope you appreciate it and find as much growth as I have—thanks to the program!



# Class of 2009-10



# Andrea Albrecht

*Recruitment Specialist, Western Iowa Technical Community College*

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aunge84@hotmail.com

Education: Bachelor of Arts Degree  
Contemporary Media & Journalism and Spanish

Master of Arts Degree  
School Counseling (currently studying)

Civic Involvement: Junior League of Sioux City





# Genny Arreola

*Community Education Coordinator, Western Iowa Technical Community College*

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Education: B.S., Spanish and Business Administration  
Morningside College, Sioux City, IA

Civic Involvement: Board Member, Siouxland Unidad Latina

I am a native Siouxlander. I am a 2005 Morningside College graduate. I received my Bachelor of Science, double majoring in Spanish and Business Administration with an emphasis in International Business. I currently work for Western Iowa Tech Community College at the Corporate College. I have been with the college since July 2007. My official title is the Community Education Coordinator. Some of my responsibilities include planning, coordinating, and delivering curriculum designed to enhance academic performance and quality of life. My target market is the community. I coordinate non-credit classes such as ballroom dancing, cooking, computer, and state mandated classes. My favorite courses to coordinate are the state mandated classes. They are very intricate because you are dealing with people's livelihood; however, they are the most rewarding. It is gratifying watching people get back on the right path for themselves and their families. Every day is different and never lacks excitement!

Currently, I remain very busy. I am on the board of Siouxland Unidad Latina, which mainly focuses on raising money for higher education scholarships and coordinating Hispanic cultural events. I am in the

process of attaining my MBA and plan to be done in February 2010. During my free time I enjoy spending time with my family and friends. I love going to Nebraska football games, but must admit my social life is nonexistent at the moment due to my full-time student and employee status.





# Joseph Bousquet

*185th Air Refueling Wing, Air National Guard*

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Education: B.S., Meteorology

Joe was born in Sioux City on June 4, 1978. He was the fifth of six children. Joe lived in the small town of Jackson, Nebraska until the age of five. His father was then transferred to Lincoln when the Burlington Northern Railroad scaled back its Sioux City operation. The Bousquet family found an acreage north of Lincoln, near another small town called Valparaiso. Joe spent those ten years in the country learning a variety of skills including mechanical repair, carpentry, animal husbandry, and all of the other pursuits boys are drawn to.

When Joe was 15, his father was transferred back to Sioux City. He lived on his uncle's dairy farm in South Sioux City, while he and his father built a house. Joe, in keeping with family tradition, attended Heelan High School and scored average grades. At Heelan High he met April, who was later to become a key figure in his life. During his teenage years, Joe spent plenty of time working on the farm and riding dirt bikes in the country. He got a part-time job loading trucks for Braunger Food Service and worked his way through high school.

Joe had a teacher at Heelan, who was a leader at the 185th Air Guard. This teacher encouraged him to talk to a recruiter. On the way to the pre-enlistment screening, Joe asked the recruiter which job would be the best if he wanted to be a pilot some day. The recruiter mentioned that mechanics get to see the pilots every day and that a little face time always helped. The military option looked good, so Joe enlisted as a mechanic. He graduated high school and shipped off to basic training mid-summer 1996. Eight months and sixteen haircuts later,

he came back to South Sioux City and enrolled in the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Joe did well in college, scoring high marks in pursuit of a B.S. in Meteorology. He also earned his private pilot license at the Sioux Gateway Airport. Summers were spent working at the Air Guard and wakeboarding on the Missouri River. The academic success and aviation license were deliberate steps toward his dream: Joe wanted to fly the F-16 fighter jet for the Air Guard. He applied, interviewed, and was accepted as a pilot candidate with one caveat: the Guard was converting to the KC-135, a large cargo and refueling aircraft.

April was by now Joe's wife. While Joe was pursuing his goals, April pursued her main goal as well (Joe). After graduating from college the newlywed couple went to Columbus, Mississippi for a year of Undergraduate Pilot Training. A few short training courses followed pilot training and the couple ended up back in Sioux City. April found a house in a nice neighborhood on the north side of town.

If you look at them today, you will likely find April cooking breakfast for five-year-old Natalie and three-year-old Jack. She then drops Natalie off at school and heads to the gym with Jack. Joe is either at the Air Guard, in some distant country, or toiling away on that nice old house on Blackstone Avenue.

He has traveled the world from Japan to Kyrgyzstan and seen many places people call paradise; however, it is family, friends and the best job in town that always bring him back. He strives to make Siouxland a place his children and their children will be proud to call home.





# Patrick Breyfogle

*Supervisor, K-9 Unit, Sioux City Police Department*

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Education: Bachelor's, Criminal Justice  
Morningside College, Sioux City, IA

My name is Pat Breyfogle. I was born at old St Joseph's Hospital in 1964 and graduated from Heelan High in 1983. I received a bachelors degree in Criminal Justice from Morningside College in 1988. I have been involved in law enforcement the majority of my adult life. I was a Woodbury County Correctional Officer from 1985-1987 at which time I joined the Sioux City Police Department. I was promoted to Sergeant in 1999 and currently supervise the department's K-9 unit. I have also served in the past as a K-9 handler, investigator, the Sergeant in charge of the Special Investigations Division and the Sergeant in charge of the ASAP unit.

During my life I have worked a variety of part-time jobs including the YMCA, Nickels Unlimited, Verzani Printing, the Hilton Inn, ShopKo, detasseling and a summer working at the amusement park in Okoboji. (The only time that I lived away from Sioux City) I was also a part-time D.J. at KMNS and KSUX, where I was known as Will Murphy.

I married an East High grad in 1995. We got married the night of the Heelan-East football game which upset a lot of family and friends. We have two daughters, ages 7 and 10. Their activities take up the majority of our spare time.

My past hobbies basically centered around the outdoors but after nearly having a friend die after getting sick in the Boundary Waters wilderness and shattering my arm while rafting in the Grand Canyon, I am now into motels and fantasy football.

Having been born and raised in Sioux City and working for the police department for over half of my life, I am proud be from Siouxland. I often deal with problems that others don't recognize. I am interested in programs for the youth that can help them develop some good role models and start their lives down a positive path.





# Alexandria Carter

*Hawkeye Adjustment*

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Education: Bachelor's, Business Administration,  
University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls, IA

Civic Involvement: Junior League of Sioux City,  
First United Methodist Church

My name is Alexandria Carter, but everyone calls me Alex. I was born in Great Falls, MT and lived there for six years till we moved to Mexico, MO. I lived there for 4 years before we moved to Sioux City, IA. I have lived here most of the time since; I did have a brief stay in St. Cloud, MN.

I went to North High School and graduated in 2002. I then went to college at the University of Northern Iowa and majored in Business Administration. I graduated from college in 2006 and moved to St. Cloud, MN where I worked for a year as a Customer Service Manager for Shopko. After Shopko I moved back to Sioux City and started working for Hawkeye Adjustment Services.

In my free time I like to hang out with friends and family. I also have a one year old puppy named Sophie and she loves to play and rough house, the only problem with that is she is a Mastiff and weighs just over 100 pounds. She takes a lot of my time and I couldn't be happier.





# Dustin Courey

*Great West Casualty*

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Education: Bachelors  
University of Briar Cliff, Sioux City, IA

- I was born in North Carolina; I was a military brat until my parents divorced when I was 6 years old.
- My mom, brother and I moved back to Sioux City where both my mother and father were born. I have been here ever since.
- I attended high school at East High School. I have an associate's degree from Western Iowa Tech in Business. I have a Bachelors degree from the University of Briar Cliff.
- Right out of College I started working in the trucking industry for Direct Transit Inc. after three years I decided to move on.
- I started working for IBP/Tyson in 1996 and worked there until 2006.
- In 2006 I started working for Great West in the Safety Dept. I plan to work for Great West until I retire. They are an excellent company and I can't see myself leaving them.
- My job involves some travel and I get to meet a lot of different people from many walks of life. The majority of the people I deal with are entrepreneurs and can be stubborn when an outside safety rep makes recommendations. It is fun and challenging trying to make things work with my customers.
- I have a wonderful wife who is the glue of our family. The job that I love would not be possible without her love, support and understanding.
- I have 2 daughters ages 9 and 11, we are 100% into soccer and it consumes a lot of our free time.
- In the summer we like to boat either on the river or at a couple different lakes. This is what we do for fun all summer long.
- Our favorite pet is our dog named BEAR! He is huge; he comes in at about four pounds dripping wet. He is a Yorkie and we love him.
- I am not sure what the future holds but I have a lot of ambition.
- I see myself one day being a leader in some capacity at GWCC, which is part of the reason I'm with you all in this class.
- I'll finish with the setback; I recently applied for a promotion within my company. I came in a close second to someone more qualified. I have taken it in stride but will not miss out on another opportunity in the future for the same reason. I will make sure in the future I am leaps and bounds ahead of the competition.





# James Cunningham

*Property Crimes Unit, Sioux City Police Department*

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Education: University of Nebraska

I was born in Phoenix, AZ in 1966. My family moved to South Sioux City when I was around four years old. I attended the South Sioux City schools and the University of Nebraska. I moved back to South Sioux while applying for jobs in law enforcement. While waiting, I worked construction building houses.

I joined the Sioux City Police Department in 1994. I have had a chance to work in different areas within the department. I have worked all three shifts. I also worked in the community policing unit and investigations. I was promoted to sergeant in 2003 and am currently assigned as the sergeant in charge of the property crimes unit. My most vivid memory will stick with me the rest of my life. It was a case involving Adam Moss murdering seven people in one day. I was assigned as an investigator at that time. I was one of the first detectives to walk through the home and see the mother and her five children deceased. I will never forget that day.

On a much happier note, I was married in 1996 to my wife, Carrie. We have two lovely daughters. Ally just turned thirteen and Erin is ten. The other member of the family is Max, our West Highland Terrier. He is the most spoiled of them all. We spend a lot of summer in Watertown, SD. We have a boat that we keep on Lake Kampeska. The girls are busy with soccer and

volleyball. My free time is spent fishing and playing golf. The whole family are Husker and Dallas Cowboy fans, so this a great time of year.





# Christopher Groves

*Training Coordinator, Sioux City Police Department*

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Education: Associate Degree, Police Science,  
Western Iowa Technical Community College

Bachelor's in Criminal Justice Administration  
Bellevue University

I was born in Sioux City in 1970 and grew up on an acreage just east of Sioux City. I attended Sergeant Bluff-Luton schools and graduated in 1989. After high school I attended Western Iowa Tech Community College majoring in Police Science. I graduated with an associate degree in 1991. During this time, I started my career in Law Enforcement. In 1990, I was hired as a correctional officer at the Woodbury County Jail. I worked there until 1994, at which time I was hired as a police officer for the City of Sioux City. Shortly after starting with the city, I returned to college and received a bachelor degree in Criminal Justice Administration in 1997 from Bellevue University. I have worked a variety of assignments with the police department including uniform patrol, ASAP (drunk driving unit), and investigations. I was promoted to sergeant in 2007. I supervised the ASAP unit for a year and then was transferred to my current assignment as the training coordinator for the department. I am currently the lead firearms instructor and the commander of the hostage negotiations team.

I have been married for 15 years to Stephanie, a 2005 graduate of Leadership Siouxland. We have a 13 year old daughter, Ashlyn and a 9 year old son, Conner.

In my free time, I enjoy being outdoors. My hobbies include golf, fishing, and hunting. I am an avid Michigan Wolverines football fan!





# Annette Hamilton

*Chief Operating Officer and Vice President, Ho-Chunk, Inc.*

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Education: Bachelor's, Business Administration  
Washburn University, Topeka, KS

Master's, Business Administration  
University of Minnesota

Annette Hamilton currently serves as the Chief Operating Officer and Vice President, at Ho-Chunk, Inc., which is the economic development arm for the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska. She is responsible for leading HCI's sixteen companies on a daily basis encompassing a variety of industries including: Government Contracting, Telecommunications, Distribution and Logistics, Marketing and Advertising, and Retail. She has worked at Ho-Chunk, Inc since 2001.

Annette is a graduate of Washburn University of Topeka, KS with a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration with an emphasis in Accounting and earned a Master's Degree in Business Administration specializing in Economic Development from the University of Minnesota.

Prior to working for HCI, Annette was employed as a Manager of Financial Reporting for Gateway, Inc. She has also worked for Wohlenberg Ritzman & Co, LLP, Yankton, SD; WinnaVegas Casino, Sloan, IA; Minnesota

American Indian Chamber of Commerce, St. Paul, MN; 3M, St. Paul, MN; and Koch Industries, Wichita, KS.

Since starting with HCI, their revenue has increased over \$150 million and devoted time and attention to making the reservation a better place to live and work. She is committed to her role of Economic Development for Indian Country and at HCI. Annette is an enrolled member of the Kickapoo Tribe of Kansas and has a daughter that is an enrolled member of the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska.





# Jennifer Eck Hamman

*Youth and Aquatics Coordinator, Siouxland Red Cross*

Business Address: Sioux City, IA

Education: Broadcasting  
Iowa Central Community College, Fort Dodge, IA

B.A., Mass Communications  
Buena Vista University, Storm Lake, IA

Civic Involvement: Pastor Parish Committee,  
Wesley United Methodist Church

My name is Jennifer Hamman and I currently live in Sioux City. My husband Mike and I are hoping to close on a house in Kingsley by Oct. 16th. So I will once again be moving to a small community. I am originally from Dakota City, IA and graduated from Humboldt High School in 1994. I graduated from Iowa Central Community College (Fort Dodge, IA) in 1996 with a degree in broadcasting. I also graduated from Buena Vista University (Storm Lake, IA) in 1999 with a bachelor of arts in Mass Communication. While attending college I worked for three different radio stations. I began in Humboldt at KHBT and also worked at the same time for KVFD in Fort Dodge. In 1996 I started as a part time board operator for KAYL in Storm Lake and worked there until 1999.

After graduating from Buena Vista I traveled to Maine to work at an all girls' summer camp and met a lot of wonderful people. While there I enjoyed exploring Maine. I fell in love with kayaking and had the chance to go white water rafting. I can't wait to go back some day and explore the national parks.

I have sold advertising for a radio station and a newspaper. I worked in retail selling shoes and tires. In 2003 I was asked by a friend here in Sioux City if I would be interested in running Joy Hollow the Girl Scout's camp just north of Sioux City. At first I was reluctant, but then decided it would be a nice change

from retail. I ended up running the summer camp from 2003 to 2007 and met a lot of girls that I still have contact with today. I was hired full time in November 2003 by the Sioux Trails Girl Scout Council and made Sioux City my permanent home early in 2004.

I honestly thought that when I moved here in 2004 I would only be here for a short period of time. I hadn't found that job yet where I thought I want to work here for more than a year. It ended up that I was with the Girl Scouts for over five years. I met so many wonderful volunteers and made connections with people in the community. Last November I made a career change to another non profit organization and was hired at the American Red Cross. I am the Youth and Aquatics Coordinator. I visit the schools and teach kindergarten children about washing their hands with a program called Scrubby Bear. I also teach fourth graders about first aid, fire safety and water safety. I am also in charge of scheduling all of the lifeguarding and water safety instructor classes.

I am also a member of the Wesley United Methodist Church in Sioux City. I have been a Sunday school teacher, volunteered during Bible school and am part of the Pastor Parish Committee. I have met a lot of great people at my church and made some great friends.

In my spare time I love to watch movies, read and research my family's genealogy. I am in charge of planning the ECK family reunion every two years. We usually have 60 – 100 people who attend our two day reunion. Lots of memories of the family's past are shared and it is wonderful to see everyone smiling as the memories are shared. I also love to travel. A couple of my favorite places to visit are Nashville and Savannah, GA.





# Rodney Hanson

*Senior Project Engineer, Olsson Associates*

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Education: BS in Environmental and Civil Engineering,  
University of Iowa

I grew up in Sioux City and graduated from West High School. I then moved to Iowa City where I earned my Civil Engineering degree. After Iowa City, I began my career in Illinois working for the Department of Transportation. My career path then lead me to Omaha and from there I made my way back to Sioux City. I have been back for six years and really enjoy “being home”. My job allows me many opportunities to be part of the growth and development of the Siouxland area.

While at the University of Iowa I met my wife. She currently teaches chemistry at North High School. In our spare time, we enjoy traveling. On many of our trips we stay active with outdoor activities. Recent trips include kayaking, snow skiing, mountain biking, and hiking. My other hobbies include golf and co-ed volleyball. And my passion is attending Hawkeye football games in the fall.





# Niki Heck

*Junior League/Manager, Adventure Staffing*

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Sioux City, IA

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Education: Bachelors Degree  
Briar Cliff University, Sioux City, IA

Civic Involvement: Junior League



My name is Niki Heck. I was born in Sioux City and grew up in the country outside of Climbing Hill, IA. Most of my memories from childhood are of playing with my sister and brother and creating our own fun, when you live in the country you are stuck with each other and don't have a neighborhood to run.

I graduated from Woodbury Central High School in Merville and then went to Briar Cliff where I received my Bachelor's degree. While in college I realized that I needed a career that would give me the opportunity to interact with a lot of people.

I currently work at Adventure Staffing in Sioux City managing the clerical division. I work with many companies in Siouxland to provide them great employees. I love the fact that my job is different every single day and that I get to interact with and help many different people. Prior to this I worked at Opportunities Unlimited for close to eight years and completed all areas of

human resources for them. Yes, there is a theme to my employment choices. I am passionate about being able to make a positive impact on people and helping them achieve their goals.

In my free time I enjoy being with my friends and family doing whatever comes along. I also enjoy trying new things and taking on new challenges. I find that if I am not learning something new (no matter what it is) I get bored.

I am looking forward to the new opportunities and experiences that Leadership Siouxland will offer.



# Greg Hoffman

*Business Development, Security National Bank*

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Education: South Dakota State University

Civic Involvement: Sioux City Growth Organization

Originally an Iowa farm boy from Estherville, IA, I attended South Dakota State University where I played college football. I have been married for eight years to my wonderful wife Angela and raise two rambunctious boys, Jacob-5 and Ryan-4. Being only 17 months apart they are the best of friends and the worst of enemies within any five second period. Angela and I still have no idea what we did or talked about before the boys...

We moved to back Sioux City approximately 5 years ago from Phoenix, AZ after a brief stint in Siouxland during 2003. Why come back to Sioux City? With our family in the Okoboji/Estherville area and we wanted to be close to home but also far enough away that they wouldn't always visit!

Angela is an amazing kindergarten teacher in the Sergeant Bluff-Luton School District. I have no idea how she does this, but she says that after eleven years with me she has developed an astounding amount of patience. I work in Business Development for Security National Bank and am very proud to work for such a well respected and valued company.



I am very active with the Sioux City Growth Organization and everything it entails. I love being a part of something positive and working with young professionals who choose to make a difference instead of standing around and complaining about what is and is not happening in Siouxland.

A few of my favorite things:

- Iowa Hawkeye Football
- Playing golf (or at least attempting to)
- Wrestling with my boys before they become bigger than me
- Enjoying fun times with great friends
- MLB Spring Training in Phoenix
- Talking with my dad while driving through the cattle pasture

My advice to the world is to become an EDUCATED VOTER and then VOTE. Vote for school boards, city councils, county seats, state and federal governments! Please do not allow someone else make decisions that directly affect your life and not have a say about it.



# Roger Howard

*Security Forces Commander, 185th Air Refueling Wing*

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Education: Bachelor of Science, Criminal Justice  
Wayne State College

First Lieutenant Roger J. Howard is the Security Forces Commander for the 185th Air Refueling Wing, Iowa Air National Guard, Col Bud Day Field, Sioux City, Iowa. He is responsible for ensuring Security Forces Squadron is organized, manned, equipped, trained, and ready to accomplish their assigned state and federal missions. He serves as principal advisor to the 185th Air Refueling Wing Commander and Mission Support Group on Security Forces issues.

Roger was born December 29, 1972, in North Kingstown, Rhode Island. He graduated from Washington High School, Cherokee, Iowa in December 1990. He began his military career in 1991 as a Torpedoman's Mate in the Navy assigned to the USS Helena (SSN 725) fast-attack nuclear submarine, Pearl Harbor Naval Base, Hawaii. Roger was honorably discharged from active duty in 1995 after completing his initial commitment. He enlisted with the 185th Air Refueling Wing, Iowa Air National Guard, Sioux City, Iowa in 1998. He earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice from Wayne State College, NE in 2000. While serving in the Air Guard as a traditional guardsman, Roger started his civilian career in law enforcement

with the Des Moines Police Department in Des Moines, Iowa as a Uniformed Patrol Officer from 2001 to 2005. He separated the police department as a Senior Police Officer after accepting a position with the 185th Air Refueling wing in 2005 as the Security Forces Operations Officer. He was honorably discharged from the Enlisted Corps and Commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in 2006. He accepted the position of Wing Antiterrorism Officer in May 2007 before becoming the Security Forces Commander in November 2007. Roger has been deployed to numerous overseas locations faithfully serving his country.

Roger is married to the former Catherine J. Blanshan of Warroad, Minnesota. They have three children, (Caitlyn, Joel, and Eavan) and live in Sioux City, Iowa.





# Karrie Jaacks

*Business Development Director, Neumann Monson Wictor Architects*

Business Address: 701 Douglas Street  
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Business Phone: (712) 255-3610

E-Mail: [kkjaacks@nmwarchitects.com](mailto:kkjaacks@nmwarchitects.com)

Education: B.S., Interior Design  
Wayne State College, Wayne, NE

Civic Involvement: Ambassador for the Sioux City Chamber of Commerce

I was born and raised in Kingsley, IA where my parents still reside. Upon graduating from high school, I went to Iowa State University without a real career goal in mind. Having taken a drafting class in high school that I really enjoyed, that career path always stuck with me so I came back to Sioux City to attend Western Iowa Tech, enrolling in the Architectural Drafting program. From there, I went on to Wayne State College to obtain a degree in Interior Design. After graduation, I worked in Spencer, IA as a drafter for several months before returning to Sioux City for a position as an Interior Designer. Two years ago I was hired by Neumann Monson Wictor Architects as a CAD Technician and have since become their Marketing Director. I am blessed to work for such a great company and with a great team of co-workers.

I enjoy spending time with my fiancée Marty, friends and family. If I am not shopping, you will find me attempting to be a runner, golfing, or anything else athletic that I am not good at. I always say, try something at least once and if you like it, then you have found a new hobby and if you don't, then at least you can say that you have tried.





# John Kayl

*Investigation Bureau, Sioux City Police Department*

Business Address: 601 Douglas Street  
Sioux City, IA 51101-1200

Business Phone: (712) 279-6147

E-Mail: [jkayl@sioux-city.org](mailto:jkayl@sioux-city.org)

Education: Electrician, WITCC

Civic Involvement: Coach

I was born and raised in the Jackson NE area on a family farm. After graduating from Heelan High School I met my wife Lynett and married at the ripe old age of 19. My wife is a registered nurse at Mercy Hospital and has been for over 25 years. We have four children ranging in ages 13 to 29. After we were married we purchased a farm in Newcastle NE and lived there for approximately 6 years. Like many farmer of the 80s we struggled and then started over, which brought us back to Sioux City. During this time I attended WIT and received a diploma as an Electrician. In 1993 I tested with the SCPD and was hired.

Along with my wife I am currently working on my bachelor degree (misery loves company) and should finish sometime before I collect social security. With the Police Department I have served as a School Liaison Officer, Investigator with the Crimes Against Persons Division, Field Training Officer, Sergeant with the K-9 Unit, Watch II Sergeant, and I am currently a Sergeant in the Investigation Bureau. I have been the Dad coach in a variety of sports and enjoy spending time with my family at our river cabin near Ponca, NE.





# Brad Keenan

*Great West Casualty Company*

Business Address: 1100 West 29th Street  
South Sioux City, NE 68776

Business Phone: (402) 494-7843

E-Mail: b.keenan@gwccnet.com

Education: B.S., Computer Science  
Mankato State University, Mankato, MN

I was born on December of 1966 in Rochester, MN. The youngest of three, I have one older brother and an older sister. Rochester was my home until 1972 when my family moved to Mankato, MN where we lived a few miles out of town on five acres. Growing up we had a dog, many cats, a couple of horses over the years and even some cows that my brother raised for 4-H. Fishing was an important part of my youth. We took a fishing vacation every summer during my childhood to a lake in central Minnesota. Later, my parents bought a cabin on a lake in North-central Minnesota.

I graduated from Mankato East High School in 1985. In the fall of 1989, I graduated with a Bachelors Degree in Computer Science from Mankato State University. I worked at a Woolworths Department store in Mankato starting during the last half of my senior year in high school and all through college. Initially I washed dishes in their restaurant, later becoming a stock clerk, and then a sales associate in the electronics and sporting goods department. Later, I became a check out supervisor and manager of the electronics department.

After college, I went to work for Berkley Information Services (BIS) in Luverne, MN as a computer programmer. I worked for BIS from 1990 to 1998 when I accepted a job as a Systems Support Programmer Analyst at Great West Casualty

Company in South Sioux City, NE. While in Luverne, I became involved with the local theatre group. I set up and ran the lights for many of their shows and helped with set construction.

In the summer of 1999 I married Carol Schwader. I met her while working in Luverne. Carol is originally from Howard, SD. We bought a house in Sioux City in 1999. In 2007, we built a house in McCook Lake, SD where we live today. We have two boys, Liam who is seven and Aiden who is three.

I stay fit playing with my sons and being in TaeKwonDo with my wife and oldest son. I also enjoy golf but have had little time for it the past two years.





# Vitay Keokenchanh

*Goodwill Industries*

Business Address: 3100 West Fourth Street  
Sioux City, IA 51103

Business Phone: (712) 258-4511

E-Mail: keokenchanhv@cableone.net

Education: Bachelor's Degree

I am one of five boys in my family. I have two older brothers and two younger. I was originally born in Thailand in the month of December 1978. My parents came over to the United States of America when I was a little baby, maybe when I was six months to a year old. We lived in Columbus, OH until I was about six or seven years old. My family moved to the Sioux City area ever since then. We've made Sergeant Bluff, IA our home since I can remember.

I attended Sergeant Bluff-Luton school district my whole life and graduated there in 1997. After graduation I had to make a decision whether to attend college or get a job. I elected to find a job and soon realized that I cannot be making \$7 an hour for the rest of my life. I sat down and really analyzed my life and what I wanted to do. I knew I had to get a college degree to stay competitive in the market. I was accepted into Briar Cliff and with hard work and dedication, I managed to graduate with a Bachelor's Degree from a well respected college.

Graduation came and gone, now on to finding a real job. I have held three other jobs before my current position at Goodwill Industries. I have been at Goodwill for about 2½ years now and plan on retiring there. I am married

and have two wonderful boys.  
I enjoy golfing as a hobby and spending time with my family.





# Courtney Koch

*Cannon Moss Brygger Architects*

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Suite 200  
Sioux City, IA 51101

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Education: Master's in Architecture  
University of Nebraska, Lincoln

I moved to Siouxland after receiving my Master's Degree in Architecture in 2004 from the University of Nebraska in Lincoln. I am a born and raised Nebraskan who bleeds Husker red (but don't hold that against me!!) I crossed the border for work and am currently employed at Cannon Moss Brygger and Associates, along with my husband, Brent, who is also an Architect.

Brent and I live in Morningside with our six year old Black Lab, Bailey. We just finished remodeling our home which kept us busy for the last few years and now we're setting our sights on new projects. In the summer we spend our time at the lake water skiing, camping and fishing. In the fall we're cheering on our favorite football teams. We've enjoyed the last five years in Siouxland and hope to raise a family here in the years to come!





# Treyia Lee-Chavis

*Sioux City Public Museum*

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Sioux City, IA 51104

Business Phone: (712) 279-6174

E-Mail: [tchavis@sioux-city.org](mailto:tchavis@sioux-city.org)

Education: Bachelors, Education  
Wayne State College, Wayne, NE

Masters, Education  
Wayne State College, Wayne, NE

Civic Involvement: Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church  
Alpha Kappa Alpha  
NAACP  
Junior League of Sioux City  
Missouri River Historical District Board Member

Treyia M. Lee-Chavis is a native of Sioux City, IA. She and her spouse Dr. Lorenzo Chavis of Petersburg, VA, who is a Pharmaceutical Representative, have a beautiful dog named Princess who is an active Corker Spaniel. Treyia is the daughter of Rudy and Flora Lee Jr., also natives of Sioux City, IA.

Treyia has earned her Bachelors and Masters degree from Wayne State College in Wayne, NE in the Field of Education. She is employed at the Sioux City Public Museum along with Council on Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence, Iowa Accountability Audit.

Treyia is a member of Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church, pastored by the Dr. Rev. Floyd E. Brown, and active in varies ministries. Treyia was awarded one of forty people in the Sioux City Community under forty for making a difference in Sioux land in 2001. She is a National member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc., NAACP, member of Jr. League of Sioux City, IA, Director of the Missouri River Historical District Board and a business owner of The Glass Slipper Bridal Boutique.





# Michaele Lewis

*Credit Analyst, Commercial Loan Department, US Bank*

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Sioux City, IA

Business Phone: (712) 277-0693

E-Mail: [michaele.lewis@usbank.com](mailto:michaele.lewis@usbank.com)

Education: B.A., General Studies  
University of Northern Iowa

Civic Involvement: Downtown Rotary  
Special Events and CIT Committee, United Way  
Children's Museum of Siouxland  
Center for Siouxland Board Member

I moved with my family to Sioux City, from Denison, IA, during the summer of 1991. After graduating from North High I went to the University of Northern Iowa and majored in General Studies. I also have minors in Business, Writing, and History. I lived and worked in the Ames/Des Moines area for a few years after college before moving back to Sioux City in 2001.

My husband, Zach, is also a North High and UNI grad, but we didn't meet until after college when we both were working and living in Sioux City. Zach is a police officer for Sioux City and his current assignment is East High School's School Resource Officer. We have a three year old son, Jackson, our daughter, Makinley, was born March 2010. Even though the majority of my free time is spent in the "Mommy" role right now, and loving every second, I also enjoy scrapbooking and reading.

During the summer our family tries to spend as many weekends boating on the Missouri River in our pontoon. The majority of my free time is spent in the "Mommy" role right now and I love every second. Jackson and I sing, read books, play games, work on his sport skills, and snuggle while watching a variety of kids' shows.

When I first moved back to Sioux City, I worked for non-profits doing development, marketing, and organizing events. I worked for Center for Siouxland, Orpheum Theatre Preservation Project, and Sioux Trails Girl Scout Council. Even though the Orpheum is beautiful my favorite event that I organized was the Girl Scout mall lock-in. Keeping 2,500 girls entertained for ten hours straight was a fun challenge.

I have worked for U.S. Bank for five years at the downtown branch as a Credit Analyst in the Commercial Loan Department. My primary job responsibilities entail analyzing financial data and preparing written reports for credit approval. Even though I enjoy the relationships I have formed with my larger customers, I really enjoy working with the farmers from the Siouxland area. Currently, I am the Development Network President for the Western Iowa/South Dakota Chapter of U.S. Bank. The Development Network offers programs to U.S. Bank employees for professional, personal, and community development. We have helped build houses for Habitat for Humanity, raised over \$3,000 of food for Center for Siouxland's food pantry, raised \$2,500 for U.S. Bank employees that were victims of the 2008 floods in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and this year we are doing a holiday party for the Jackson Recovery daycare program at their Sanctuary Apartments.

I am a member of Downtown Rotary, a volunteer for United Way of Siouxland (Special Events Committee and CIT Committee), a volunteer for the Children's Museum of Siouxland. and a board member for the Center of Siouxland.





# Megan Meyer

*St. Luke's Regional Medical Center (Children's Miracle Network)*

Business Address: 2720 Stone Park Boulevard  
Sioux City, IA 51104

Business Phone: (712) 279-3295

E-Mail: meyer3@stlukes.org

Education: MBA, Bellevue University, Bellevue, NE  
BS, Bellevue University, Bellevue, NE

Civic Involvement: Junior Achievement Board Member  
Sioux City Growth Organization  
Siouxland Youth Chorus, past Board Member  
Friends of Latham Park, past member  
Sioux City Press Club, past member

I was born in Omaha and lived there a couple years, before moving to Anthon, Iowa and then to Sioux City. We moved here two weeks before I started kindergarten at Whittier Elementary School in Morningside. I still like to go back to Whittier to see a few of my teachers who are still there – but find it funny how much smaller the school seems to me, guess that's what growing up will do to a person!

I attended East High School and headed to University of Iowa where I studied marketing, graphic design and photography, eventually graduating from Bellevue University with a Bachelors in Science, Marketing Management. Shortly after graduation, I entered the non-profit world in Siouxland, during which time I decided to continue my education and obtained a Master's of Business Administration, also from Bellevue University.

With nearly 10 years of experience in the non-profit world here in Sioux City, my time is now spent working to enhance pediatric healthcare in Siouxland by running Children's Miracle Network at St. Luke's Regional Medical Center. I enjoy working with generous donors, families, businesses, schools and organizations by fundraising to help the kids!

My husband, Justin, and I own and operate Photography by Meyer, a creative outlet for both of us. We enjoy meeting a wide variety of people at the various weddings, events and photo sessions we photograph. It has been a true blessing to be part of some of the most special days of our clients' lives!

I treasure the time I can spend with my husband and our two-year-old son, Ethan, who like mom and dad, likes to play with his camera too!





# Jonathon Murad

## *Iowa Workforce Development*

Business Address: 2508 4th Street  
Sioux City, IA 51101

Business Phone: (712) 233-9030, ext. 1007

E-Mail: [Jonathan.Murad@iwd.iowa.gov](mailto:Jonathan.Murad@iwd.iowa.gov)

Education: Bachelor Degree, Management of Human Resources  
Bellevue University

Civic Involvement: Sioux City Growth Organization,  
SHRM, Employers Council of Iowa,  
YP Iowa Job Ambassador

Jon Murad is a Business Marketing Specialist with Iowa Workforce Development; he joined the agency in August of 2008. Before coming to work for IWD, Jon worked at Diversified Staffing Specialists for three years as a Client Relations Manager.

Jon is a native of Siouxland, graduating from East High in 1999 and earning both an Associates' Degree at Western Iowa Tech and a Bachelors' Degree in Management of Human Resources from Bellevue University.

Jon married Heather in 2006 and together they are raising a son Jacob (the best little boy in the whole wide world) who was born in 2007.

Jon currently serves as a Board Member for Sioux City Growth Organization and as a Job Ambassador for the Siouxland Region for YP Iowa's Job Ambassador program. He is the Local Chairperson for Employers' Council of Iowa and also serves on the Career Coaching Committee of the local SHRM group.

In his spare time Jon can be found target shooting at the Hawkeye Gun Club, playing with Jacob or preparing food over a hot grill, cold drink in hand with friends.





# Mandi Parker

*Recreation Supervisor, City of Sioux City Parks & Recreation*

Business Address: 401 Gordon Drive  
Sioux City, IA

Business Phone: (712) 279-6162

E-Mail: [mparker@sioux-city.org](mailto:mparker@sioux-city.org)

Education: Liesure Youth and Human Services  
University of Northern Iowa

Civic Involvement: Special Olympics Iowa  
Iowa Parks and Recreation Association  
SCGO

I work as the Parks and Recreation Supervisor for the City of Sioux City. I graduated from the University of Northern Iowa in 2005 with a degree in Leisure Youth and Human Services, with an emphasis in Therapeutic Recreation. In the fall of 2005 I completed an internship at Link Associates in Des Moines and then became a Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist. I served as the Leisure Services Manager and Volunteer Coordinator for Link Associates from 2005-2008. I accepted my current position with Sioux City Parks and Recreation in April of 2009.

I have been a Special Olympics Iowa volunteer for many years. Through Special Olympics I have had the opportunity to coach different sports, served as a committee member for the West Central Chapter, and I was the head coach for the 2006 Men's volleyball team for National Games in Ames Iowa.

I grew up in LeMars and all of my family still lives in the area, so that is what brought us to Sioux City. My husband, Ryan works for Hy-Vee in South Sioux City. We have recently purchased a home in Sioux City and are in the process of several updating projects.

I am currently a member of the Iowa Parks and Recreation Association and of SCGO. I look forward to learning more about Sioux City and all it has to offer.

If you are looking for activities for yourself/spouse/children I might be able to help! Ask me about programs that Sioux City Parks and Recreation offers!





# Kathy Perret

Northwest Area Education Agency

Business Address: 1520 Morningside Avenue,  
Sioux City, IA 51106

Business Phone: (712) 222-6370

E-Mail: kperret@nwaea.com

Education: Bachelor of Science, Elementary Education  
Iowa State University

Masters of Arts, Teaching  
Morningside College

Civic Involvement: Board Member Leadership Siouxland  
Board Member Mary Elizabeth Day Care Center  
Citizen Representative Sioux City Community  
School District Advisory Committee  
Board Member Iowa Staff Development Council  
Past President Siouxland Reading Council

## 1. What jobs has Kathy Perret held in her lifetime?

- Corn De-tasseler and Bean Walker
- Hotel Domestic Engineer
- Court Administrator Secretary
- 4th and 5th Grade Teacher
- High School Drama Director
- Instructional Coach and School Improvement Consultant
- Educational Research Reviewer

- Actress in plays, musical, and made for TV movie
- ALL OF THE ABOVE

## 2. What does Kathy Perret like to do in her free time?

- Spend time with family and friends
- Spend time at Lake Okoboji
- Read
- Shop
- Travel
- Attend plays and musicals

- Update computer skills (a self taught excel junkie)
- ALL OF THE ABOVE

## 3. What are Kathy's favorite travel spots?

- New York City
- Washington DC
- Denver, CO
- Chicago, IL
- San Antonio, TX
- Lake Okoboji, IA
- Anywhere with a LAKE and/or MOUNTAIN!
- Cedar Rapids, IA – to visit her sister, brother-in-law, and their children
- Her deck with a good book
- ALL OF THE ABOVE

## 4. Schools I have attended and/or taught (or worked with) at:

- Attended: Lincoln Elementary, Sioux City, IA
- Attended: Hoover Junior High, Sioux City, IA
- Attended: North High School, Sioux City, IA
- Attended: Iowa State University, Ames, IA
- Attended: William Penn University, Oskaloosa, IA
- Attended and taught at: Morningside College, Sioux City, IA



- Taught at: St. Rose of Lima Elementary School, Denison, IA
- Taught at: Woodbury Central, Merville, IA
- Taught at: Riverview Elementary School, Sioux City, IA
- Worked with a wide variety of schools in the Northwest AEA Region in the areas of School Improvement, Literacy, and English as a Second Language
- ALL OF THE ABOVE

## 5. What is Kathy Perret most proud of?

- Her education
- Her niece and three nephews
- Her passion and sense of life long learning
- Her commitment to the educational well-being of all students
- Her acting days both at Lamb Theater and a small part in the United Flight 232 movie
- ALL OF THE ABOVE

*Disclaimer: No validity or reliability data is available for the assessment above. Data does not yield a proficiency score.*



# Craig Posson

*Great West Casualty Company*

Business Address: 1100 West 29th Street, South Sioux City, NE 68776

Business Phone: (402) 494-7738

E-Mail: softballcrank25@msn.com

Education: Bachelor of Science, Business Administration  
University of Kansas

Juris Doctorate  
Washburn University

Civic Involvement: Board Member, St. Michael's School

I was born and raised in Norton, KS, a small town of about 3,000 people. It is located 12 miles from the Nebraska border and about 100 miles from the Colorado border. I held various summer jobs throughout my time in Norton, from being a paperboy to working for my father in his heating and air conditioning contractor business.

I played baseball, football, golf and was on the wrestling team. I earned a football and baseball scholarship for college. I played sports in college for two years and then transferred to Kansas University to "get serious" about my education. This is a decision that I now regret. I wish I would have continued to play sports until the end of my undergraduate career. I went to law school at Washburn University and worked while I was in school at a law firm in Topeka, KS.

My first "real" job was with IBP, Inc. in Dakota City, NE as in-house counsel in 1995. During my interview, the person conducting the interview was concerned that I would not like Siouxland and asked me to explain why I would like the area. I indicated that I grew up in a town of 3,000 people and there wasn't really

anything to do. I said that Siouxland has a professional baseball team, a nice mall, seemingly plenty of things to do and was just as big or bigger than Topeka, Kansas where I was moving from. I was right about most of the things I told the interviewer that day, except one. I said that the climate was about the same. I was wrong. It is much colder in Siouxland than I was used to, but it is not uninviting.

I met my wife, Elizabeth Twohig, at IBP. We were married in 1997. By 1998, I was bored with my job at IBP and we moved to Garden City, KS for a job for me in private practice. My wife missed Siouxland and the promises made by my boss never came to light, so I looked for and found a job back in Siouxland. In 2000, I took a job with the failed SOSINC Communications. When I first started with SOSINC the excitement about the up and coming business was high and everything was great. In a year, the business was a bust. Even though this was a major setback in my career and in life, I learned a great deal about myself, business, the media, and politics. It also made me even more determined to succeed in business and personally.

After being without a job for almost a year, I took a job with Great West Casualty Company in their Bloomington, IN office. I took the job with Great West because there was a chance of moving back to Siouxland in the future. After just one year an opportunity presented itself and I was able to move back to Siouxland. I have been here since.

My son Jacob, was born at St. Luke's in 2001. He is the payback for all the grief I gave my parents.

I enjoy most sports. I used to play softball at the Floyd complex until I recently retired. I am an avid golfer. I'm trying to teach my son to golf. He is six, so I have to learn patience when dealing with him. I also enjoy riding my motorcycle. I am a huge college football and basketball fan.





# Deric Redmond

*RBC Wealth Management*

Business Address: 522 4th Street, Suite 310, Sioux City, IA 51102

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E-Mail: [deric.redmond@rbc.com](mailto:deric.redmond@rbc.com)

Education: Bachelor of Arts, Briar Cliff University

Civic Involvement: Sierra Club (Northwest Iowa Chapter), Exec. Comm.  
United Way of Siouxland, Finance Committee Vol.  
SUX Triathlon Club, Treasurer

3 jobs I have had in my life:

1. Teacher
2. Home builder
3. Ski Patrol

3 places I have lived:

1. Freedom, NH
2. Kingstown, RI
3. San Diego, CA

3 Schools I've attended

1. Regis University
2. University of Iowa
3. Briar Cliff College

3 professional goals:

1. Retire with RBC Wealth Management

2. Chairman's Council

3. To have a management role with RBC

3 personal goals:

1. Complete an Ironman
2. Learn to play the guitar
3. Retire on a sailboat

3 Organizations I belong to:

1. United Way of Siouxland
2. Sierra Club
3. Siouxland Triathlon Club

3 places I have visited:

1. Netherlands
2. Costa Rica
3. France

3 places I'd like to visit:

1. Australia
2. Ozarks
3. Savannah, GA

3 accomplishments I'm proud of:

1. Passing the Series 7 exam
2. Ironman Kansas
3. My family

3 things I believe

1. I believe we can keep going long after we can't
2. I believe that we have the right to be angry; but not the right to be cruel
3. I believe in a Value Added Tax

3 ways I'm still young:

1. I still enjoy go-carts
2. I'm a BIG fan of Halloween
3. I still wet the bed (kidding)

3 ways I am already old:

1. I've already had a case of gout!!!
2. I'm usually in bed by 9:30.
3. I wet the bed (kidding... seriously)

3 things I like about myself:

1. 20-15 vision



2. Left-handed

3. Morning person

3 things I hate about myself:

1. Inability to multi-task
2. Memory...or did I say that already?
3. Tobacco

3 things I'm thinking right now:

1. Will the South Pacific ever catch a break
2. Is this a proper bio format
3. Was that red light camera just a practice flash this morning

3 things that scare me:

1. Losing my parents
2. Merging onto I-29 southbound just north of the train bridge. Wowza!!!
3. Never having kids



# Sharon Robertson

*Human Resource Director, Siouxland Community Health Center*

Business Address: 1021 Nebraska Street  
Sioux City, IA 51105

Business Phone: (712) 202-1012

E-Mail: srobertson@yahoo.com

Education: Bachelors – Business Administration with  
HR Emphasis and Mass Communication  
University of South Dakota

Enrolled – Masters of Human Resources  
Briar Cliff University

Civic Involvement: Pick a year and then ask me! I love to be involved.

I was born in Sioux City in 1966. However, my residency lasted five whole days. I was a “passing-through” delivery while my parents were on their way home from Mount Rushmore with my much older siblings. I returned to Sioux City in 1986 – that was my first real whiff of Sioux City. I told myself over 23 years ago driving North on I-29 that there was no way I was going to stay.

I’m still here. Siouxland is where I call home. And, I love it!

My partner and I have two daughters who were born at St. Lukes. One graduated from West and the other from Sgt. Bluff. Our oldest will be graduating from Arizona State University in December and her younger sister is on her way to a successful college adventure with ASU as well. Both have babies of their own.

I’m the Human Resource Director for Siouxland Community Health Center. It’s an ever-growing organization – unfortunately, for all the wrong reasons. Before that I was the HRD for WinnaVegas Casino for way too many years. Here’s your tip of the day: You have a better chance at winning and a healthier payout on the .50 slots. Trust me. Other than that I am clueless about gambling. I prefer healthcare. I’m ‘betting’ that’s pretty obvious when you meet my partner, who’s a Podiatrist & PA-C.



As I’m sure you’ve guess, Phoenix AZ is my preferred place to visit and vacation. Grandparents and grandkids should not be so far apart.

I’m an avid motorcycle rider. I’ve had my own bike for three years. If I could ride it through snow and be immune to the freezing temperatures I would ride it 365 days a year. I have yet to venture on a ride to Phoenix. Black Hills and Wisconsin are great rides with amazing scenery.

I’m also a glutton for punishment. I’m enrolled in Briar Cliff’s HRM program. Who knows how long that’ll take me. Probably longer than I’d like.

I love what I do and strive to see the whole picture before it’s even developed.

If you remember one thing from this E-Harmony-like blurb, remember this, “Can’t never did nothin’.” That, my new-found friend, is a personal quote.



# Emma Rooney

*Marketing Manager, Argosy Casino*

Business Address: 100 Larsen Park Road  
P.O. Box 3775  
Sioux City, IA 51101

Business Phone: (712) 294-5688

E-Mail: Emma.Rooney@pngaming.com

Education: Criminal Justice and Psychology  
University of South Dakota

I was born May 2, 1974 in Sioux City, IA. I have one older brother Cory, an older sister Amie, and a younger sister Patty (and yes I suffer from middle child syndrome). I attended Sacred Heart Catholic School and Bishop Heelan High School. I graduated from the University of South Dakota in 1997. I double majored in Criminal Justice and Psychology and am an alumni of the Gamma Phi Beta Sorority.

I currently live in McCook Lake, SD with my husband and three-pound yorkie, C.C.. I am the Marketing Manager at Argosy Casino Sioux City where I oversee the marketing department, player development, and guest services. I have been employed at Argosy Casino for the past eight years.





# Deena Townley

*Heidman Law Firm*

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Sioux City, IA 51102

Business Phone: (712) 222-4109

E-Mail: Deena.Townley@heidmanlaw.com

Education: Bachelor's of Science, Criminal Justice  
Appalachian State University

Juris Doctor  
University of South Dakota

Civic Involvement: St. Michael's Catholic Church  
Holy Cross Schools

I was born in Greensboro, NC and divided my childhood years between there and Pearisburg, VA. I graduated from Appalachian State University in Boone, NC with a Bachelor's of Science Degree in Criminal Justice in 1992.

My first occupation was in law enforcement, joining the Virginia State Police in 1993. I initially worked as a State Trooper in Chesapeake, Virginia. I patrolled four interstates and participated in undercover operations for the BCI arm of the State Police. I subsequently transitioned into a Fraud and Forgery Investigator for the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles in Norfolk, VA. As a Fraud Investigator, I worked with the FBI and other federal and state agencies investigating automobile and identity theft conspiracies. I have also served as a Contract Investigator for Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

I attended law school at the University of South Dakota and graduated in 2007. The hardest part of law school was juggling three kids, a part-time job, and, well, law school! While in law school, I was an active member of the Moot Court Board, serving as their Business Manager and representing the University in four national moot court tournaments.

I have been an associate attorney with the Heidman Law Firm since 2007. My current practice area primarily includes insurance defense litigation, commercial litigation, and criminal law.

I am currently an active member of St. Michael's Catholic Church in Sioux City and volunteer for Holy Cross Schools. I am a lector at Mass, SCRIP seller, and classroom volunteer for all three of my children. I am also a former member and secretary of the St. Michael Parish Council.

My husband, Ted, and I have three children, Lawson, Evan, and Meredith. In addition to spending time with my family, I enjoy reading, "martini summits" with friends, taking my Newfoundland dog for walks, and Notre Dame football.





# Tonya Vakulskas

*Community Education Coordinator, Western Iowa Technical Community College*

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Civic Involvement: PTA Past President  
Siouxland Youth Hockey House League Coordinator  
Member of Greater Sioux City Board of Realtors  
Member of National Association of Realtors

Hello! My name is Tonya Vakulskas and I'm very excited to be a part of the Leadership Siouxland 09/10 class. As a lifelong resident of the area, I'm proud to call Siouxland my home.

I previously worked in banking, marketing, sales and advertising for a number of years and in 2004, I became a REALTOR® and began my real estate career at United Real Estate Solutions, Inc. Residential real estate is my passion and I truly believe that if you love what you do you will be a success. I am consistently in the top producing 10%-15% of all agents in the local MLS and thrive in this ever changing industry. I was awarded the Bronze production award in 2004, the Diamond production award in 2006 and 2007 and the Platinum production award in 2005 and 2008.

I have three young boys which include: twins, Jesse and Kelsey, age 10 and an 8½ year old, Jakey. I am a strong believer in parent involvement in the schools and was the PTA President at Nodland/Sunnyside during the 07/08 and 08/09 school years. I am married to Jeff Vakulskas, who also owns a

local business, and we both feel that Siouxland offers great professional opportunities and is fun and safe place to raise a family.

I look forward to learning more about the community and am excited about the good things that the Leadership Siouxland program will offer this coming year!!





# Kellee Van Bruggen

*Transportation Planner, SIMPCO*

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Education: Bachelor of Science,  
Community and Regional Planning  
Iowa State University

Civic Involvement: Junior League

I graduated from Iowa State University in May of 2007 with a Bachelor's of Science degree in Community and Regional Planning with an emphasis in Transportation and Housing. I became interested in transportation when I was participating in the Rome Study Abroad program and my classes were focused on transportation and sustainability. My group's main project was to develop a way-finding system for tourists based on a new subway line through the city. The study was then passed along to, ATAC, which is Rome's transit system. When I returned to Ames, I interned at the Center for Transportation Research and Education (CTRE) and researched different methods of how ethanol can be processed and the effect transporting the product has on secondary roads. I moved to the Siouxland area in October 2007 where I started my professional career with the Siouxland Interstate Metropolitan Planning Council (SIMPCO) as a transportation planner.

As a transportation planner at SIMPCO, I have done a variety of jobs since starting two years ago. I have developed maps for various plans, have assisted

in writing plans, learned how to conduct traffic counts, written applications for funding, and a variety of other activities. My greatest accomplishment thus far was developing, writing, and completing the Regional Planning Area's Long Range Transportation Plan which covers the counties of Plymouth, Cherokee, Woodbury, Ida and Monona. The Long Range Transportation Plan is a 230 page document that outlines the region's needs over the next 25 years and develops ideas and solutions for the region.

I got married in May 2008 to my husband, James, whom I met at Iowa State. James currently works as the Executive Director of the Taxpayers Research Council. We have one dog, Cutler, and enjoy taking him to the dog park and playing his favorite game of fetch. I enjoy photography and art when I have the opportunity. I also try to attend at least one Nebraska Husker football game a season with my dad since it has been a long standing tradition for us. I have just joined Junior League and became an active member in December.





# Sam Wagner

*Economic Development Specialist, City of Sioux City*

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Education: M.A., Political Science  
Northeastern University, Boston, MA

B.A., Politics & Government  
University of Puget Sound, Tacoma, WA

Civic Involvement: Board Member, Downtown Partners

I was born in Portland, Oregon on New Year's Day, which my mother was in no way happy about because she wanted the tax break for the previous year. I was raised in the small lumber town of Hoquiam, Washington on the picturesque Olympic Peninsula. My back yard was a forest and my school friends were the children of log truck drivers, tree fellers, and shake rats. My father taught me how to play the drums at age 4, and I still play (only not as well). I also became a young competitive cyclist, honing my bike handling skills by dodging log trucks on quiet county roads.

I decided to forego a life of millwork for college at the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma, Washington. But since you can never take the Hoquiam out of the boy, I had the biggest pickup truck on campus. I studied political science, and despite every effort I graduated in 1995. My first job out of college was selling cell phones in a kiosk inside Sam's Club. I was a rotten salesman and learned quickly that I better go to graduate school. Thankfully, I managed to get into

Northeastern University in Boston, Massachusetts where I completed my Masters degree in 1999.

I moved back to Washington after graduate school to pursue a career in the public sector. I worked at the Washington State Office of Minority and Women's Business Enterprises where I managed a loan subsidy program. During that time, the loan program tripled in size and became a centerpiece of the governor's economic development program. It's still something I'm proud of. Afterwards, I took a job in the county executive's office in Pierce County, Washington in 2006 as an economic development specialist. I also served on the Tacoma Tall Ships Organization board which produces the tri-annual Tall Ships Festival, a maritime event that draws over 300,000 people to the Tacoma waterfront. But budgets being what they are, I found myself in the job market in 2008. I seized the opportunity to come to Sioux City as an economic development specialist for the City in early 2009.

I am married to my college sweetheart Robin and have three children (Jack-5, Olivia-2, Grace-1) and two cats. I enjoy running, cycling, brewing my own beer, and all things music. Before I became a mild mannered economic developer, I played drums in several bands through the years, recording a couple of albums and playing the Seattle club scene in my younger days. I also enjoy watching Formula One racing and I watch an unholy amount of BBC America and Sci-Fi Channel programming. My proudest moment that didn't involve the birth of my children was winning the award for outstanding representative at the YMCA Youth & Government mock legislature as a high school senior. Though I've had successes since then none were so surprising and satisfying.

I have two claims to fame that both involve Seattle grunge icons. First, I delivered pizza to Nirvana in Aberdeen, Washington about two months before they became rock stars. Oh, and the bass player's mother used to cut my hair. Second, when I recorded drum tracks at a Seattle studio a few years back I learned that Chris Cornell had wanted to do his vocals for the first Audioslave record on the same day. Yes, I inconvenienced Chris Cornell.





# Steele Welcher

*Residence Life Manager, Western Iowa Technical Community College*

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Education: BA, Political Science  
Morningside College

JD  
University of South Dakota School of Law

Steele is a 2005 graduate of Morningside College. Upon graduation, Steele attended the University of South Dakota School of Law where he earned a J.D. and was admitted to practice law in the state of Iowa. During his seven years pursuing higher education degrees, Steele spent a considerable amount of time working for the Residence Life/Greek Life programs of both institutions. He decided he enjoyed the manner in which he financed his education more than the career his education qualified him to pursue. Steele is the Residence Life Manager at Western Iowa Tech Community College.

Steele enjoys current events, bicycling, automobiles, coffee, area restaurants, and the local music scene.





# Renee Welte

*Wells Dairy Inc.*

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Business Phone: (712) 546-4000

E-Mail: [rswelte@bluebunny.com](mailto:rswelte@bluebunny.com)

Education: Briar Cliff College

I was born in 1963 at St. Joe's hospital in Sioux City IA. I was taken home to a farm outside of Danbury IA. (about 50 miles southeast of Sioux City) Working on a farm is a great way to build that Midwest work ethic.

We often took trips to Sioux City to deliver livestock to the Stockyards. We did most of our major shopping in Sioux City and of course went to the Farm show and Home show yearly. I played sports in High School and am a proud, Maple Valley Ram. We would love playing the "city" teams due to the challenge of winning against such large schools. I believe these types of challenges lead my participation in state tournaments for both softball and track. I received a scholarship to play softball at the collegiate level.

A college education was important to me. My father has a four-year degree and my mother is a RN. I ended up going to several local colleges (Westmar, USD) before graduating from Briar Cliff College.

During college I started in the "official" working world. I worked with handicapped adults in Vermillion. I worked there for several years before moving to Sioux City to work at Goodwill Industries. I held many positions during my nine years there ending as the Director of Industrial Resources. I left the position to return to college full time and complete my degree. I also

worked full time but in a position less demanding at MCI.

After I received my degree I recruited for the college for several years before I accepted a position with the largest employer of Siouxland, Gateway 2000. I worked at Gateway for ten years. I loved the company, the work and the people. What a great experience we had offered to us during that time. Being in HR provided me with a unique view of a company on the grow and decline. I had chosen Gateway because I wanted to work for the local company that I felt was the "employer of choice".

True to my vision, when I left Gateway my goal was to go to the local "employer of choice". This vision lead me to my current employer, Wells Dairy Inc. Once again, I feel very lucky to have found a wonderful place to work.

On a more personal note, I have a network of friends who are truly, life savers. My parents and siblings live locally and we are close. I believe the quality of these relationships are the true measure of success.

One of my favorite sayings is "I want to become the person my dog thinks I am." I have several dogs and cats and this statement is very true.

I have saved the most important part of my bio for last. Of all the blessings I have in this world the highest is my son. There is no clearer mirror than the face of your child. Daily, I want to be able to look into that mirror and be "ok" with the reflection. Honestly, I care about the future of Siouxland, mostly because it is his future!





# Jill Wooster

*Siouxland Division Director, March of Dimes*

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Business Phone: (712) 277-3370

E-Mail: woosterfannon@aol.com

Education: Western Iowa Technical Community College

Jill Wooster was born April 13, 1975 in Sioux Falls, SD to John and Judy (Haltermann) Wooster. She has one older sister, one younger sister and one younger brother. Her family moved to Mapleton, IA shortly after she was born where she resided until graduating from Maple Valley Community High School in 1993. During her school years she was involved in Girl Scouts, 4-H, band, choir, cheerleading, volleyball, yearbook committee, and Business Professionals of America. Following graduation, she joined the Hoffman Insurance Agency until July 1995 when she began working at the *Sioux City Journal* and taking classes at Western Iowa Tech which led to her moving to Sioux City. During her six years at the *Journal* she received two promotions to become the Circulation Accounting Team Leader and also met the father of her children.

Jill's career path went in a different direction following the birth of her second child in June 2001. Jill spent the next year enjoying quality time with her children, doing some home daycare and attending MOMS Club and MOPS meetings.

Jill accepted a part-time position at the March of Dimes in December 2002. She found it a great opportunity to get out of the house a little and loved working for a non-profit whose mission is to give all babies a healthy start in life. Jill was moved by the stories of tiny little babies having to fight so hard to live and counted her blessings that she had two healthy children. Jill felt great compassion

for the families having to deal with such trials but found an even stronger passion for the mission when her niece Ava was born three weeks premature.

Jill visited many times during Ava's 13 day stay in the St. Luke's NICU - knowing that NICU's were originally set up by the March of Dimes, knowing that the nurses at St. Luke's were training to care for those special babies through funding provided by a March of Dimes community grant, and knowing that the March of Dimes funded the research to create the surfactant therapy that Ava was receiving to help her lungs develop so that she would be able to breathe on her own. Jill became the Siouxland Division Director six months later in an effort to make a difference so that others won't have to go through such an experience. She enjoys working with the family and corporate teams in the March for Babies but her favorite event is the Signature Chefs Auction in the fall because it is a fun and unique event that combines fabulous fine cuisine with the mission of saving babies.

Jill has two daughters named Allyson and Emmalee that keep her on her toes. They are 8 and almost 11 - both going on 14. Anything one does, they both want to do and they want to do it all. Most evenings are filled with running between activities and doing homework. Jill tries to give her kids the opportunities to try different activities but takes great pleasure in the nights they get to just hang out together watching a movie or playing a game. She's no longer rocking them to sleep since she can barely carry them up the stairs; she's now teaching them to cook to reap the benefits of breakfast in bed. They are the reason she gets out of bed in the morning - literally. They start school at 7:45 and Jill doesn't have to be at work until 9:00. Jill is not a great morning person and finds it difficult to get three people up and ready that early but is very happy that the girls haven't had one tardy yet this year. Jill is most proud of how kind and generous her daughters are (most of the time - nobody's perfect) and her favorite routine in checking in on the girls after they have gone to sleep.





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274-8733

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Boys and Girls Home & Family Services  
293-4700

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Professional Services Group  
239-4004

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185 ARW National Guard  
Deceased Oct. 96

**MARIETTA H. BRANDT**

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232-2000

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277-7765

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255-0684

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St. Luke's Regional Medical Center  
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Blue Cross & Blue Shield  
279-6488

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Mercy Medical Center  
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Eidsmoe, Heidman, et. al  
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279-6360

**TIM RUBEL**

Northwest Iowa Labor Council  
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**MARIA RUNDQUIST**

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185th FG Iowa Air National Guard



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Heidman Law Firm

**D.G. CRIBBS**

Siouxland Aging Services  
279-6900

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Mid-American

**CHARLENE ELLIS**

Crittenton Center/Stella Sanford  
Child Care Center  
258-4321

**DAN FLEMING**

IBP/Tyson

**TOM FLEMING**

IBP/Tyson

**KEITH GILSDORF**

Morningside College

**TERRY GLADE**

Ruble, Mamura, Moss, Brygger  
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**MARTY GOLUB**

United Way of Siouxland

**MIKE GORS**

Sioux City Journal  
293-4224

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Traffic Safety Services Inc.  
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279-6852

**MICHELE HAUPT**

City of Sioux City  
279-6303

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Western Iowa Tech Community College  
274-6400

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Nation's Bank

**JANE M. KEAIRNS**

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**RONDA KEENAN**

St. Luke's Regional Medical Center  
279-3555

**ROSE-MARIE**

**KLEINWOLTERINK**  
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276-3704

**KEVIN LLOYD**

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**MONETTE RAE NEVILLE**

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Iowa Air National Guard

**B.J. SCHNEIDERMAN**

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**JOEL STEENHOVEN**

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494-1100/494-2073

**ROSEY STRONCK**

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Boys & Girls Home & Family Services  
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**VIKKI WISE**

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# Alumni Class of 1995-96

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277-1500

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239-7030

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279-6147

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Grandview

**LORI A. BURKETT**  
St. Luke's Regional Medical Center

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City of Sioux City

**JAMES R. CLARK, JR.**  
Sioux City Fire Department  
279-6314

**TOM CONSIDINE**  
Iowa Air Guard  
Deceased

**SHARLENE E. DREFS**  
Marian Health Center  
279-2010

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277-0361

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494-8563

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ANDERSON**  
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**NANCY METCALF**

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State of Iowa, Iowa Division of Criminal Investigation  
252-0507

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St. Luke's Regional Medical Center

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494-4185/252-1133

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185th ARW Iowa Air Guard  
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LeGrand & Company  
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**AARON KRAFT**

City of Sioux City  
279-6227

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BPI

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Alzheimer's Association

**DEBORAH J. PETERSON**

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**DEE A. POLAK**

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KPTH

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Gelita, USA  
943-0310

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Great West Casualty  
494-7230

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185th ARW Iowa Air National Guard  
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Berenstein Law Firm

**MARGARET SANDERS**

Council on Sexual Assault  
and Domestic Violence  
277-0131

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494-7413

**BROOKE (SIMMONS) GOODWIN**

Deceased, 2008

**MAJOR NEIL A. STOCKFLETH**

USDA National Resources Conservation  
& Iowa Air National Guard  
943-6727

**JOEL M. WEYAND**

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**JEFF WRIGHT**

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Sioux City Education Association  
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**DEANNA BUTCHER**  
St. Luke's Health System  
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Burke Engineering Sales  
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Pioneer Bank

**EMMA HEWITT**  
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494-7228

**MARVIN D. JOHNSON**  
Great West Casualty  
494-7214

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Henjes, Conner, Williams,  
& Grimsley, LLP  
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**SARAH J. KUEHL KLEBER**  
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Sioux City Community School District/  
NorthStar Consulting  
279-6074

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Gelita, USA  
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**MICHAEL W. SCHUH**  
Sterling, Delperdang & Co., P.C.  
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185th ARW Iowa Air National Guard  
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Wells Fargo Bank

**TOI A. SULLIVAN**  
FEH Associates Inc. Architects-Engineers  
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**JANET K. VORCE**

**RUSSELL L. WERMERS**  
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Sioux City Public Museum  
279-6174



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**NANCY BAKER-PENCE**

Sioux City Community School District  
780-0003

**LISA BURKHOLDER**

M+  
252-4014

**ROBERT CARRUTH**

Sioux City Journal  
293-4320

**ROBERT COACHER**

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274-8733, ext. 2214

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279-6256

**KEVIN GRIEME**

Siouxland District Health Department  
279-6119

**STACY HARMELINK**

St. Luke's Regional Medical Center  
279-7963

**MISTY (HARNISCH) MILLER**

MidAmerican  
277-7797

**BRETT HEGARTY**

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**ANN HOEPPNER**

Electric Engineering  
258-5234

**LORI HOLLINGSHEAD**

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277-0762

**JAREN JOHNSON**

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279-2139

**KENT KOLBE**

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**TAMMY LEE**

Siouxland Area Chapter,  
American Red Cross  
252-4081

**MARK LEWIS**

Sioux City Journal  
293-4251

**LISA MAX**

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279-5802

**TONY MCDERMOTT**

185th ARW Iowa Air National Guard  
233-0607

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District Education Association  
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**JOAN PEYER**

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**MARK ROOS**

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185th ARW Iowa Air National Guard  
233-0648

**SHAWN STRECK**

185th ARW Iowa Air National Guard  
233-0751

**RENEE WOBB**

*The Globe*  
233-7574

**TRISH WIELAND**

LINGENFOLTER  
Briar Cliff University



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City of Sioux City  
279-6276

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Argosy Casino-Sioux City  
294-5686

**ROBIN BOLLINGER**  
Jackson Recovery Centers  
234-2383

**JERRY COLLINS**  
185th ARW Iowa Air National Guard  
233-0609

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City of Sioux City

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**KYLE HUESER**  
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274-8733

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Tyson Foods  
235-2534

**KAREN KENTER BLUMBERG**  
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**ROSALYND KOOB**  
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494-7471

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494-7842

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274-8214

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U.S. Bank  
277-0701

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239-1232

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**BELLA PADILLA**  
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**SUE PETERSEN**  
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**HEATHER RUBEL**  
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279-6669

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**KURT SPARKMAN**  
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**JENNIFER STUBBS**  
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**JON TIMMIS**  
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**MEL WILIAMS**  
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**PAM WOOLRIDGE PEREZ**  
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279-2475

**CHRISTINE CASE**

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274-8733

**LISA CLAEYS**

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279-6390

**TOM EVERETT**

Sioux City Fire Department  
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**LINNEA FLETCHER**

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234-2376

**STEPHANIE GROVES**

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# Acknowledgements



# Acknowledgements

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# In Remembrance

The Board would also like to thank the family of Donald and Darlene Bermel (Lonnie and Lori Bermel) for the generous donation and establishment of the Donald and Darlene Bermel Scholarship Fund, after Donald passed in March 2007. Donald and Darlene's love of others and their passion to help others will continue on long into the future.

*(Donald and Darlene's son Lonnie was a 2001 Leadership graduate, a longtime Board Member and was president of the Board ending his term in 2006.)*

