

► WORKFORCE Update | Brad Meier, President/CEO

Owatonna Back on the Map -Workforce Center Reopen

Through funding directly appropriated through the Minnesota Legislature, Owatonna rejoins the ranks of other cities our size with the reopening of the Workforce Center. The center closed three years ago because of lack of funding for the location. Owatonna was the only city with 20,000+ population without a Workforce Center.

Through Chamber and business lobby, and the work of Senator John Jasinski and Representative John Petersburg, \$275,000 for 2 years is coming from the state workforce fund to this space. Services provided out of the Owatonna site will include:

Meet the New Workforce Coordinator



Megan Horton will be joining as the Youth Career Planner in Steele County.

For the past seven years, Megan has worked at Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southern Minnesota in Owatonna, most recently as the Community Outreach Director. In this role, she recruited youth and volunteers for the program, provided youth college and career exploration opportunities

and coordinated the Federated Challenge Scholarship.

Megan lives in Faribault with her husband, Matt and their two sons, William, age 4 and Henry, age 2. She is originally from Shakopee and has a bachelor's degree in Communications from the University of Wisconsin- La Crosse. Outside of work she enjoys going on adventures with her family, cooking, and traveling.



Job Fair

41 Businesses set up a booth at the Job Fair on August 7th at the Four Seasons Centre hosted by KOWZ and the Owatonna Chamber. Close to 100 individuals attended the job fair.

Economic Development updates

Cranes tower downtown Owatonna as multiple projects come out of the ground. One crane worked on lifting material for the new Pearl Apartment and the other lifting steel beam for the hotel redevelopment project.



The streetscape work of the City moves into the 200 block of N. Cedar. Watch it all on the live feed at Owatonna.org (click the BuildingOwatonna logo)



► Owatonna High School Construction Progress

Site preparation work continues on the new Owatonna High School building on 18th Street. The building is on track to open for school in fall of 2023.



2021

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- ▶ **Kelly Boomgarden, Chair & Tourism Rep**
Country Inn & Suites-Owatonna
- ▶ **Nathan Dotson, Past Chair**
Dotson Woodworking
- ▶ **Todd Trout, Vice Chair**
US Bank
- ▶ **Syd Briggs, Treasurer**
Steele Waseca-Cooperative Electric
- ▶ **Deb Gillard, At-Large**
RE/MAX Venture
- ▶ **Doug Betti**
Viracon
- ▶ **Brian Deml**
Deml Heating & Air Conditioning, LLC
- ▶ **Randy Doyal**
Al-Corn Clean Fuel
- ▶ **Mike Herman**
Driessen Water, Inc.
- ▶ **Taylor Herman**
Profinium
- ▶ **Doug Meier**
Christian Bros. Cabinets
- ▶ **Scott Mohs**
Mohs Contracting, Inc.
- ▶ **Tom Peterson**
Climate By Design International
- ▶ **Rich Pettet**
Rich's Window Cleaning
- ▶ **Paul Smith**
Federated Insurance
- ▶ **Wayne Starman, Ex-Officio**
Cash Wise Foods



Visit Owatonna featured on 'Discover Minnesota with Roshini'

WCCO Radio host Roshini Rajkumar interviewed Jerry Ganfield, Kevin Raney and Karen Pehrson for the "Discover Minnesota with Roshini" program that appeared on Facebook back in July. Roshini Rajkumar is a host on of WCCO radio that takes her viewers on a "virtual" trip to discover some of Minnesota's best kept secrets. The two segments welcomed visitors to "Step Back in Time" with the unique historical group tour attractions like the Orphanage Museum, National Farmer's Bank, and the Village of Yesteryear along with ways to stay, play and live in Owatonna. We also saw a large increase in Visit Owatonna analytics - Users increased by 54%, new users increased by 45% and the sessions and number of sessions also increased by 56% since June.



Roshini Rajkumar has a great following with over 25K followers and over 30 episodes. Small Town Huge Opportunity Segment had 2,600 views | 16 likes | 4 comments. Step Back in Time Segment had 3,800 views | 28 likes | 8 comments.

Scan the QR Code to watch and share the two segments on your Facebook page

Episode 27



Episode 28



Thank You to All of the 2021 Golf Sponsors!



Thank you to all of our sponsors and golfers who made this day a success!

Special thank you to our Title Sponsor, Culligan ULTRAPURE



Congratulations to the Gold Metal winning team: Jeff Hanson, Joe Effertz, Luke Schmidt and Jason Eyberg!

4th Annual Hole Sponsor award went to HomeTown Credit Union.

Deck Sponsor: Riverland Community College

Golf Cart Sponsors: Culligan ULTRAPURE & SERVPRO of Mankato/Owatonna

Putting Green Sponsor: Community Bank Owatonna

19th Hole Sponsor: Profinium, Inc.

Hole In One Sponsor: Thrivent Financial- Nick Lewis

Pin Flag Sponsor: Mohs Contracting, Inc./Mohs Homes

Grand Prize Sponsor: Fastenal

Team Ruler Sponsor: Alexander Lumber

Dinner Sponsor: Senator John Jasinski, Struss CPAs, P.C. & Wells Fargo Home Mortgage-Kara Williamson

Refreshment Sponsors: ABC Seamless of SE MN, Cash Wise Foods, Graif Clothing, McCarthy Plumbing and Heating, ServiceMaser by Ayotte, Edward Jones-Josh Cosens and West Bank

Dessert Sponsor: Black Forest, North Risk Partners-TPS Insurance Agency, State Farm Insurance -Plemel Agency and Timberdale Trace



Hole 1-18 Sponsors: Hy-Vee Food Stores, United Prairie Bank, HomeTown Credit Union, Reagan Outdoor Advertising, Home Federal Savings Bank, South Central Minnesota SHRM, Owatonna County Club, Fareway Meat & Grocery, Minnesota Secured Title, KOWZ & KRUE Radio, Benedictine Living Community-Owatonna, Doherty Staffing Solutions, Steele-Waseca Co-op Electric, Wenger Corporation, Spark Plug Chargers, Inc., Federated Insurance, U.S. Bank and Bremer Bank

Field Game Sponsors: Brown Insurance Group, LLC (X2), Fischer Sports & Specialty Apparel, MMP (Modern Metal Products), Carroll Seating Company, Irish Eyes Studio (X2) and Edward Jones - Josh Cosens

In Kind Sponsor: SignPro/Auto Trim Design of Owatonna & Lowe's

Thank you to Owatonna County Club staff for hosting the event! Thank you to Young Professionals for being at the refreshment station and to talk about Young Professionals Group!

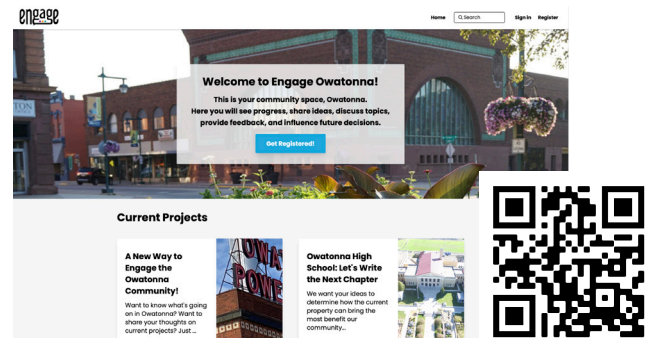
Thank you Golf Committee:

Chris Laughlin, Doherty Staffing Solutions; Josh Meillier, Alexander Lumber Company; Nick Lewis, Thrivent Financial; Laura Brady, Spherion Staffing Services; Kara Williamson, Wells Fargo Home Mortgage; Wayne Starman, Cash Wise Foods; Lori Lair, Carroll Seating Company; Stephanie Olson, Mayo Clinic Heath System - Owatonna; Julia Seykora, Owatonna Country Club; Jason Eyberg, West Bank and Jason Hayden, Fareway Meat & Grocery.



engage **OWATONNA** LET'S TALK!

Have Ideas for Change? Not Sure Who to Tell?
The new EngageOwatonna.com is set up to give you another way to constructively voice your opinions. A quick registration (email) and you're off. Right now you can give input on current school site, downtown Owatonna and Diversity/Inclusion. Check it out today.



► **CHAMBER SPOTLIGHT**

Mohs Contracting **Building Stronger**



In 2006, Scott Mohs started the Mohs Construction Company in Owatonna, MN, specializing in roofing and siding. Over the years, the company has grown in success and size. In 2013, Scott created their full-service general contracting group that focuses on commercial construction—Mohs Contracting, Inc. At the core of Mohs Contracting's success is a highly experienced team who puts their expertise and skills to work completing projects across the region. In addition, Scott started Mohs Homes for the residential market with services including new construction, renovations and additions.

Mohs Contracting currently works in the housing, commercial, municipal, healthcare, and education industries. Their services include general contracting, design/build, construction management, value engineering and trade contracting.

An important aspect to a company is its company culture, and Mohs Contracting knows this. At Mohs, the culture focuses on the clients—as well as the team—having an exceptional experience and desirable end results. There is always a quality first mentality that proves time and

time again to foster strong customer relationships and employee retention.

One fantastic aspect of employee recognition at Mohs Construction is the STRIVE Program. This program regularly recognizes valued employees and makes sure their hard work is appreciated and acknowledged. The goal is for everyone in the company to become better individuals, employees and co-workers. Scott and his team STRIVE for safety, teamwork, responsibility, inspiration, values and efficiency. Going above and beyond in service is simply part of the package you receive when building with Mohs Contracting.

You can find more information about Mohs Contracting on their website at <https://www.mohscontracting.com/>, by phone at (507) 446-0023, or in-person at their location at 1330 State Ave. NW, Owatonna, MN 55060.



► **Carrin Kath, LLC**

Carrin Kath
130 E Vine ST, Owatonna
507-330-7013
crrin@carrinkath.com



► **Pizza Ranch**

Tony Madsen
142 W Broadway ST, Owatonna
507-446-9990
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► **Connors Plumbing & Heating**

Peggy Hildebrandt
407 5th AVE SE, Waseca
507-835-2540
brian@callconnors.com



► **Super 8 Motel**

Anand Patel
1150 W Frontage RD, Owatonna
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Super8owatonna@gmail.com



► **Happy Tails Pet Store**

Barry Benjamin
6750 West Frontage RD, STE 434
Medford, MN 55049
507-363-1596
happytailspetstore@yahoo.com



Principal Financial

Geoff Stamp
202 W Bridge ST
STE 203 Owatonna
507-774-9221
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► **Media Core**

Josh Langmade
2660 Superior DR NW,
STE 104, Rochester
651-564-2169
josh@mediacoremarketing.com



► **CHAMBER** Update



Events Director Ready to Take the Lead!

Welcome to the team Julia Seykora who started her full-time Events Director position on August 9th. Julie comes with seven years of event sales experience from the Owatonna Country Club. Julia and her family make their home in Owatonna. You will see her at our monthly networking events, Young Professionals, Owatonna Community Leadership Academy and upcoming signature events. You can reach her at jseykora@owatonna.org.

► **DOWNTOWN THURSDAY** Update | Kismet Richardson, Summer Intern

The final Downtown Thursday of 2021 was a success, complete with a fantastic performance by Street Talk!

Keep an eye out for information concerning 2022's Downtown Thursdays next summer!





► OCLA New Class of 2021 – 2022 Announced

Congratulations to eighteen eager business leaders who will start their journey in September! Welcome:

l-r: Tamora Klemmensen; Michael Johnston, Allina Hospital; Ed Hoffman, City of Owatonna; Doug Voss, Fame Award Signs and Specialties; Alli Flath, Hometown Credit Union; Brenton Shavers, Owatonna Public Schools; Tom Worhach, UnitedWay of Steele County; Annie Granlund, Owatonna People's Press; Meghan Malchow, RE/MAX Venture; Shannon Cliff, Mayo Clinic Health System – Owatonna; Christian Fenstermacher, Owatonna Public Utilities; Tanya Greseth, Trinity Lutheran Church; Amanda Heaser, Home Federal Savings Bank; Jenna Tuma, Owatonna Park & Recreation; Kody Ebner, Fastenal; Jodie Smith, Mayo Clinic Health System-Owatonna; Bret Mottl, Federated Insurance Company. Not pictured: Jeff Hall, Edward Jones-Jeff Hall.



September 28
5:30 – 7:00 PM

Sponsor: Spherion Staffing
Location: 134 E Vine ST STE 1, Owatonna



Chamber Pack Deadline

Supply 550 copies of your promotional insert by for November/December mailing; \$150 by **October 27th.**

October 26
5:30 – 7:00 PM

Sponsor: Sputtering Components, Inc.
Location: 375 Alexander DR, Owatonna



◀◀ Watch for Updates on Social Media & Owatonna.org ▶▶



AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & TOURISM

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Hours: Monday-Friday, 8 AM-5 PM

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