

THE CLARINDA CHAMBER CONNECTION

September-October 2026

71ST ANNUAL SOUTHWEST IOWA BAND JAMBOREE

The 71st Annual Southwest Iowa Band Jamboree, Clarinda's longest-running musical event, is scheduled for Saturday, October 3. The parade begins at 9 a.m. around the Clarinda Downtown square with over 45 bands from high school and middle school bands across Iowa, Missouri, and Nebraska. This event draws more than 2,000 students, parents, and spectators to Clarinda for the day-long festival.

Field activities begin at 12:45 p.m. at the Clarinda High School Football Stadium, starting with a flag-raising ceremony led by the American Legion Sergy Post No. 98. Admission is \$7 for adults and \$5 for students. Following the ceremony, parade awards will be announced.

The Clarinda High School Marching Band will then present their exhibition show, leading into the afternoon field competition. The event will conclude with an awards ceremony at approximately 6:00 p.m.

This year's Southwest Iowa Band Jamboree Chairperson is Katy Ridge, and Vice Chairperson is Julie Murren. The Southwest Iowa Band Jamboree is co-sponsored by the Clarinda Chamber of Commerce, the Clarinda Community Schools, and the City of Clarinda.



NEW MEMBERS

Keul Electric LLC – Joshua Keul
1903 Hickory Avenue
Corning, Iowa 50841
641-436-0012
www.keulelectricllc.com

Hot Diggity Dogs
Rhonda Campbell & Brent Degase
1215 North 16th Street
Clarinda, Iowa 51632
712-303-0712

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 12

Spirit on the Square Concert

SEPTEMBER 18

Clarinda Homecoming

SEPTEMBER 24-25

Citywide Clean-up Days

OCTOBER 3

Southwest Iowa Band Jamboree

OCTOBER 10-11

NVHM Cemetery Walk

OCTOBER 17

Clarinda Craft Carnival

OCTOBER 22-24

Pulley's Indoor Flea Market

OCTOBER 28-29

Partners in Exceptional Care Holiday Showcase

OCTOBER 31

Ghost Walk

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President.....Taylor Stansbury, Nordland Insurance Agency
First Vice President.....Adam Samuelson, Foreway Meat & Grocery
Second Vice President.....Luke Cox, Clarinda Community Schools
Associate Vice President.....Whitney Beery, Bank Iowa

BOARD MEMBERS

Amber Cabeen, First Interstate Bank
Julie Fast, PCSB Bank
Tammy Horn, Walker-Merrick-Billings Funeral Chapel
Courtney Morrison, Clarinda Flower Shop
Tessie Searl, Clarinda Regional Health Center
John Shelton, IAMO Communications
Baillie Shires, Hy-Vee Food & Drug Store
Cole Sunderman, Cornerstone Bank
Josh Wyman, Shore Motor Co.

Chamber Executive Director.....Elaine Farwell
Administrative Assistant.....Kari Taylor
Part-Time Assistant.....Kendra Samuelson

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Director's Corner

BY ELAINE FARWELL,
CLARINDA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



The Clarinda downtown square will be even more beautiful with the addition of new trees this month. Trees Forever has graciously purchased four Dwarf Korean lilac ornamental trees to replace trees that have become too large over the years. Special thanks to Trees Forever, the Clarinda Public Works Department staff, and Chamber Beautification Committee members for their assistance with this project.

One of the major roles of the Chamber of Commerce is to promote the Clarinda community and the many events that take place throughout the year. Two outstanding community events the 71st Annual Southwest Iowa Band Jamboree on October 3 and the 67th Annual Clarinda Craft Carnival on October 17 attract thousands of visitors to Clarinda each year.

The Southwest Iowa Band Jamboree has evolved into a treasured musical tradition for the Clarinda community. An event of this magnitude is a cooperative effort involving the City of Clarinda, Clarinda Community Schools, and the Clarinda Chamber of Commerce.

Special thanks to Chairperson Katy Ridge and Clarinda High School Band Director Kyle Grossnickle for their leadership and dedication in coordinating this successful event. Make plans now to attend Clarinda's longest-running musical tradition!

The 67th Annual Clarinda Craft Carnival is our largest community event, featuring more than 500 booths at five building locations. Chairperson Kerry Clark and the Craft Carnival Committee members: Isabelle Allen, Whitney Beery, Danae Davies, Teal Driscoll, Julie Fast, Craig Hill, Tammy Horn, Jennifer McCall, Heather Murphy, Taylor Stansbury, Suzi Stanton, Kristin Wagoner, and Amanda Welsch are to be commended for their dedication and volunteer spirit. Their hard work and commitment help make this special day possible for hundreds of exhibitors and thousands of attendees. The Craft Carnival truly is a special day for Clarinda!

The Chamber of Commerce was recently awarded a \$6,000 grant from the Clarinda Foundation toward the purchase of new Clarinda wayfinding signage. We are extremely thankful to the Clarinda Foundation Board of Directors for its tremendous generosity and continued support of our community.

Plans are already underway for another major Clarinda event! The 34th Annual Lighted Christmas Parade will be held Friday, November 27, beginning at 6 p.m. on the downtown square. This year's theme is "Hometown Holiday Glow." The parade is co-sponsored by the Clarinda Kiwanis Club and the Clarinda Chamber of Commerce.

A special thank-you goes to all of the community volunteers who are committed to assisting with our annual events. Their time, talent, and dedication are what make these celebrations possible.

Together, our community continues to create traditions, celebrate local talent, and make Clarinda a wonderful place to live, work, and visit.

Design and layout of The Chamber Connection provided by



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In the Spotlight

CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF GIVING THE CLARINDA FOUNDATION

For 40 years, the Clarinda Foundation has helped turn the generosity of local donors into meaningful opportunities for the Clarinda community. Founded in 1986 by community-minded individuals who believed in the power of giving back, the Foundation was created with a simple purpose: to strengthen our community by connecting generous people with needs and causes that make a difference locally.

Over four decades, that vision has grown into a lasting legacy of generosity. The Clarinda Foundation has awarded over \$3.5 million in grants and other support to local organizations, projects, scholarships and community initiatives. These gifts have supported education, recreation, healthcare, community development and many other efforts that make the Clarinda area a stronger place to live, work and raise a family.

At the heart of the Foundation's success are the people who give, serve, and make a difference. The Foundation's Share with Clarinda Fund is one example of what can happen when a community gives together. Each year, contributions to this fund provide grants to non-profit and government organizations for projects that create positive, lasting impacts for Clarinda-area residents and families.

As we celebrate our 40th anniversary, we are grateful for everyone who has been part of the Foundation's journey—from the founders and past board members who established its foundation to the donors, volunteers and community partners who continue to support its mission.

Forty years is a milestone worth celebrating, but it is also a reason to look ahead. Every gift to the Clarinda Foundation is an investment in the future of our community. Thank you to everyone who has helped make the past 40 years possible—and who will help us continue building an even stronger Clarinda for the next 40 years.





In the Spotlight

UPTOWN STYLES

Owner and cosmetologist Debra Hanson has been in the beauty industry for 29 years. After graduating from Joseph's College of Beauty in Lincoln, Nebraska, in 1998, Debra worked in Lincoln and Davenport before making Clarinda her home in 2001. After several years of renting a chair, she opened Uptown Styles with a vision of creating a welcoming salon offering quality services, current trends, and professional products.

In 2010, Elisha Davison joined Debra after graduating from Hairtech. Together, they provide services for the whole family, including haircuts, color and highlights, manicures – gel and dip nails, pedicures, waxing, formal hair, reflexology, Brazilian Blowouts, spray tans, and more.

Uptown Styles also offers a wide variety of retail products, including natural candles, oil diffusers, goat milk soaps and lotions, tallow, castor oil, natural skincare, and travel-size products. They carry many professional haircare brands, including Pureology, Kenra, Amika, Matrix, Ouidad, Surface, Redken, Total Results, Paul Mitchell, and Moroccanoil. Customers can also find Hempz lotions, OPI nail polish, and a selection of professional hair tools.



Debra and Elisha are passionate about continuing their education and keeping up with the ever-changing beauty industry. As moms and farm wives, they are proud to be part of the Clarinda community and are incredibly thankful for the many clients who have become friends throughout the years.

Thank you to our wonderful clients and community for 20 years of support! We look forward to many more years of serving you at Uptown Styles Salon.





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NEW CHAMBER BOARD OF DIRECTOR

Tessie Searl serves as the Director of Human Resources at Clarinda Regional Health Center, where she is dedicated to supporting the employees who make exceptional patient care possible. She oversees recruitment, onboarding, employee relations, professional development, and workplace initiatives, with a strong focus on building relationships and creating a positive employee experience. Tessie is also passionate about investing in the future of healthcare by exposing younger generations to career opportunities through youth programs, healthcare career camps, and partnerships with Clarinda Community Schools. She enjoys helping students discover the many rewarding career paths available in healthcare while contributing to the future healthcare workforce in the community.



Outside of work, Tessie and her husband, Colby, enjoy spending time outdoors, staying active, and keeping up with their two boys, Knox and Kreed. Family and community are especially important to Tessie, and she is proud to give back to the community where she and Colby are raising their family. She is grateful for the opportunity to make a difference through her work at CRHC and to help strengthen the community she is proud to call home.

CLARINDA HOMECOMING CELEBRATION

CHS Homecoming festivities will take place on Friday, September 18, with the Homecoming Parade kicking off at 2:00 p.m. around the downtown square. Immediately after the parade, the Pep Rally and Coronation Ceremony take place, also held downtown.

The Clarinda Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors and staff will once again join in the parade celebration. Local businesses are encouraged to get involved by entering a float! To participate, please contact Clarinda High School at 712-542-5167.

Cheer on the Clarinda Varsity Football Team as they take on Chariton at 7:00 p.m.

Go Cardinals!

GHOST WALK

The Clarinda Ghost Walk will be held on Saturday, October 31, at 10:00 a.m. at the Clarinda Community Trail, located at 1140 East Main Street. This family-friendly event features local businesses and organizations handing out trick-or-treats along the walking trail, offering a fun and safe Halloween experience.

Businesses and organizations interested in participating are encouraged to contact Carson Riedel, Parks and Recreation Director at the Clarinda Lied Center, at 712-542-3841.



67TH ANNUAL CLARINDA CRAFT CARNIVAL

Mark Your Calendars for the 67th Annual Clarinda Craft Carnival!

Presented by the Clarinda Chamber of Commerce, the Clarinda Craft Carnival returns on Saturday, October 17, bringing with it a full day of handmade creativity and small-town charm!

Recognized as Iowa's Largest Handmade Craft Show, this event features over 500 booths from more than 225 talented crafters across Iowa, as well as Illinois, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, and Wisconsin. Booths will be located at:

- Clarinda Academy Gymnasium
- Clarinda High School Gymnasium
- Clarinda Lied Center Gymnasium
- Page County Fairgrounds – Cow Palace & Wibholm Hall

Event Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Admission: \$5 for adults | Free for children 10 and under

Free shuttle service will be available between all venues. Concessions will also be offered at each location.

Thousands of visitors travel to Clarinda each year for this exciting event. Planning for the carnival began in February, and it would not have been possible without the incredible efforts of our dedicated volunteers for serving on the Craft Carnival Committee: Chairperson Kerry Clark, Isabelle Allen, Whitney Beery, Danae Davies, Teal Driscoll, Elaine Farwell, Julie Fast, Craig Hill, Tammy Horn, Jennifer McCall, Heather Murphy, Taylor Stansbury, Suzi Stanton, Kristin Wagoner, and Amanda Welsch.

NEW CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PART-TIME OFFICE ASSISTANT

Hi, I am Kendra Samuelson. I am originally from Sioux City, IA, where I graduated from Briar Cliff University, but I have lived all around Iowa and in Nebraska. My family and I moved to Clarinda almost 3 years ago and we have absolutely fallen in love with the community. My husband, Adam, is the Fareway Grocery Manager and we have three children Emma (11), Olivia (9), and Henry (4).

I love event/party planning, reading, cats, creating art, and spending time with my family. I am president of the PTA at Clarinda Elementary and enjoy having that connection with my children's school and the community. When I am not working at Clarinda Chamber, I also work at Mini Miners-Special Activity Program as an Assistant Program Lead, working with preschool aged children. I am excited to work at Clarinda Chamber, because I get to use my creativity and organization all in one place!





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CHAMBER BOARD OF DIRECTOR NOMINATIONS DUE

All Chamber members are encouraged to submit nominees to serve on the Chamber Board of Directors (2027-2030 term). Please have individual names to the Nomination Committee for consideration by Friday, September 11.

The Nominating Committee consists of Chamber President, Taylor Stansbury – Nordland Insurance Agency; Whitney Beery – Bank Iowa; Beckie Finch – NAPA/JB Parts & Supply; Tammy Horn – Walker-Merrick-Billings Funeral Chapel; and Adam Samuelson – Fareway Meat & Grocery.

LEADERSHIP CLARINDA KICKS OF SEPTEMBER 17TH

Leadership Clarinda will kick off its newest leadership development class on Thursday, September 17, at 8:30 a.m. at the Clarinda Lied Public Library.

Leadership Clarinda is designed to identify emerging leaders and prepare them for roles of public influence and decision-making. The program also focuses on strengthening professional and workplace skills that contribute to both individual and community success.

This year's class brings together professionals, business owners, community leaders and public servants from a variety of backgrounds throughout the Clarinda area. Participants include:

- Alec Wyman — Shore Motor Company, Sales/Marketing
- Isabelle Allen — FMTC (Farmers Mutual Telephone Company), Marketing Integration Leader
- Katie Anderson — Bank Iowa, Branch Manager
- Sara Lawrence — Oswald Crow Agency, Insurance Producer
- Taylor Stansbury — Nordland Insurance Agency, Agent/Business Manager
- Jema McKinnon — McKinnon Tax Solutions, LLC, Owner
- Paula Gray — City of Clarinda, Clerk Treasurer
- Skylar Nicholas — PCSB Bank, Loan Officer
- Kendra Samuelson — Clarinda PTA, President
- Steve Churchill — East River Ag, Business Owner/Farmer
- Madelyn Pulliam — Natural Resource Conservation Service, Working Lands Project Coordinator

By bringing together individuals from different industries and areas of community involvement, Leadership Clarinda provides an opportunity for participants to build relationships, develop leadership skills and gain a broader understanding of the community they serve.

The program looks forward to welcoming the 2026 Leadership Clarinda class as they begin their journey toward stronger leadership and continued community involvement.

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SPIRIT ON THE SQUARE FREE CONCERT

The Spirit on the Square Committee invites the Clarinda community to come together for a special free concert on the square featuring the band Igniteus.

Join us on Saturday, September 12th, from 7-9 p.m. on the south side of the downtown square for an evening of music, fellowship, and community spirit. This special event, titled "Igniteus Worship: For His Purpose," is an opportunity to gather with friends, neighbors, and family and enjoy an evening together in downtown Clarinda.

Music will be provided by Igniteus, and the committee is excited to bring live music to the square. Root beer floats and water will be available for purchase, and everyone is encouraged to bring a lawn chair and make themselves comfortable.

The Spirit on the Square Committee hopes this concert will be the beginning of more opportunities to bring musicians and live entertainment to downtown Clarinda in the future. By coming out and supporting this event, you can help demonstrate that our community enjoys gathering together and enjoying music right here on our beautiful square.

Please mark your calendar, invite your family and friends, grab your lawn chairs, and come enjoy a free evening of music and fellowship in downtown Clarinda!

CHAMBER OPEN HOUSES/BUSINESS AFTER HOURS

Please contact the Clarinda Chamber of Commerce if you would like to host an Open House. This is a great opportunity to invite the community and other area businesses to your business. The Clarinda Chamber's Ambassadors would be willing to assist in serving and welcoming your guests.

If your business is interested in featuring a Business After-Hours event, please contact the Clarinda Chamber office. This event is a social time for all Chamber members and their employees to relax and have fun. For more information, please contact the Chamber office at 542-2166.



1201 S. Glenn Miller Ave
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September

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7  Labor Day	8	9 Executive Meeting 12 p.m. @ J's Pizza	10	11	12 Spirit on the Square Music Concert - 7-9 p.m. Downtown
13	14	15 Craft Carnival Meeting 4 p.m. @ Chamber	16 Chamber Board Meeting 8 a.m. @ Chamber	17 Band Jamboree Full Committee Meeting 4 p.m. @ Chamber	18 CHS Homecoming Parade - 2 p.m.	19
20	21	22 Ambassadors Meeting 10 a.m. @ Chamber 	23	24 Citywide Clean-up Days 7 a.m.-3:30 p.m.	25 Citywide Clean-up Days 7 a.m.-3:30 p.m.	26
27	28	29	30			



October

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3 71st Southwest Iowa Band Jamboree 9 a.m. - Parade 12:45 p.m. - Field
4	5	6 Band Jamboree Review Meeting 4 p.m. Chamber Office	7	8	9	10 15th Annual NVHM Clarinda Cemetery Walk 3 - 5:30 p.m. Cardinal Fund Event
11 15th Annual NVHM Clarinda Cemetery Walk 3 - 5:30 p.m. 	12  Indigenous Peoples' & Columbus Day	13 CRP Meeting 12 p.m. Chamber Office	14 Executive Meeting 12 p.m. @ Ice House	15	16	17  67th Annual Clarinda Craft Carnival 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
18	19	20	21 Chamber Board Meeting 8 a.m. @ Chamber	22 Pulley's Indoor Flea Market Noon-5 p.m.	23 Pulley's Indoor Flea Market 8 a.m.-4 p.m.	24 Pulley's Indoor Flea Market 8 a.m.-4 p.m.
25	26	27 Ambassadors Meeting 10 a.m. @ Chamber Craft Carnival Review 4 p.m. @ J. Bruner's	28 Partners in Exceptional Care Holiday Showcase	29 Partners in Exceptional Care Holiday Showcase	30	31 Ghost Walk @ Clarinda City Park 



2nd ANNUAL 9/11 RIDE TO REMEMBER MEMORIAL BICYCLE RIDE

CLARINDA'S AMERICAN LEGION SERGY POST 98 IS HOSTING A 9-MILE GUIDED GROUP BICYCLE RIDE WITHIN THE CLARINDA CITY LIMITS, ENDING AT THE CLARINDA FIRE STATION WITH DRINKS AND SNACKS.



**CLARINDA AMERICAN
LEGION SERGY POST 98**

**SEPTEMBER 11
4 P.M.**

**SIGN-IN/UP AT LEGION
BUILDING 3-4 P.M.**

\$10 ENTRY FEE

ALL PROCEEDS WILL BENEFIT THE CLARINDA FIRE DEPARTMENT.



Worship

FOR HIS PURPOSE

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12TH
7-9 PM

 **LOCATION: SOUTH SIDE OF
THE DOWNTOWN SQUARE**

**MUSIC PROVIDED BY
THE BAND IGNITEUS**

**ROOT BEER FLOATS AND
WATER WILL BE AVAILABLE
FOR PURCHASE**



Come enjoy an evening in
DOWNTOWN CLARINDA!



♪ **BRING YOUR
LAWN CHAIRS!** ♪

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Clarinda's Longest Standing Musical Tradition

71st Annual
Southwest Iowa
Band Jamboree

October 3rd 2026

Parade

Time

9:00 A.M.

Place

DOWNTOWN
SQUARE

*Field
Competition*

Time

12:45 P.M.

Place

CLARINDA
HIGH SCHOOL

712.542.2166



clarinda.org/band-jamboree/

BAND DAY

Breakfast

Saturday October 3rd

Serving From 7:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.



Serving:

**Biscuits & Gravy
Egg Casserole
Juice & Coffee**



**FREE WILL
DONATION**

*ALL PROCEEDS GO TO LIED
CENTER KIDS PROGRAMS*

**AMERICAN LEGION SERGY POST 98
NORTHWEST SIDE OF THE SQUARE**

WEST OF WELLHAUSEN REAL ESTATE AND CONSULTING



VISIT

**THE
GLENN MILLER
BIRTHPLACE
MUSEUM**

**FREE
ENTRY**

During Clarinda's
71st Annual Band
Jamboree

Saturday, October 3, 2026

122 W Clark Street, Clarinda
11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

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music, and legacy
of Alton Glenn Miller

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Clarinda 15th Annual Cemetery Walk

**Saturday
and Sunday
October
10th & 11th**

\$10.00

***per person
(children free)***

Young and old, hard-working and intelligent... meet women and men who settled the Nodaway Valley and those who fought for Iowa in the War Between the States. Like us, they found ways to make a difference. The common thread is their final resting place.

Find out more at the
**15th Annual Clarinda Cemetery Walk
starting at 3:00 p.m.**

Final presentations begin at 5:30 p.m.

Donations benefit the Nodaway Valley Historical Museum.
Parking is available on the south side of Walnut Street.

Rained out Location is the NVHM at 1600 South 16th Street Clarinda



Clarinda Craft Carnival

Saturday, October 17, 2026

8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Clarinda, Iowa



Iowa's Largest Handmade Craft Show

More than 500 booths!

**Free Shuttles & Parking at
Each Location:**

Page County Fairgrounds
Clarinda Academy
Clarinda High School
Clarinda Lied Center

\$5 Admission

10 & Under Free



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PuVey's



Event Center

Pulley's Indoor Flea Market

505 E Glenn Miller Dr, Clarinda, IA 51632

October 22nd - 24th, 2026



Event Hours:

- **Thursday, October 22nd : 12:00 - 5:00 PM**
- **Friday October 23rd : 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM**
- **Saturday October 24th : 8:00 - 4:00 PM**

Booth Rental:

- 10' x 10' space (bring your own tables): \$30
- 10' x 10' space with 2 tables provided: \$50

LUNCH AVAILABLE ON-SITE!

Check In:

- Wednesday, Oct 21st: 12:00 - 5:00 PM
- Thursday, Oct 22nd : 8:00 - 12 PM



Reserve Your Spot Today!

Contact: Shilia - 712-542-7668 | Kim - 515-202-8991

CLARINDA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE HOLIDAY EVENTS 2026

SUPPORT LOCAL HOLIDAY CAMPAIGN - NOV. 9 - DEC. 13

- Chamber members asked to donate \$100 in gift certificates or Clarinda Dollars (\$10 increments)
- Shoppers earn 1 entry per \$10 spent (up to 10 per transaction)
- Double entries on:
 - Hometown Holiday Open House - November 19
 - Black Friday - November 27
 - Small Business Saturday - November 28
- Customers drop completed slips in the red mailbox outside the Chamber office
- Winners announced each Monday with the grand prize drawing on Monday, December 14

HOMETOWN HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE - THURSDAY, NOV. 19

- 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. at your business
- Free opportunity to:
 - Showcase new holiday merchandise
 - Offer customer incentives
- Customers earn double registration slips (up to 20) for the Support Local Holiday campaign
- Marketing brochures will be printed and distributed to all participating businesses

34TH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARADE - FRIDAY, NOV. 27

- Co-sponsored by the Clarinda Chamber of Commerce and the Kiwanis Club
- Parade begins at 6 p.m.
- 2026 Theme: "Hometown Holiday Glow"
- Snow/Rain Date: Nov. 28

19TH ANNUAL TASTE OF CLARINDA - THURSDAY, DEC. 3

- Taste of Clarinda runs from 4 to 6 p.m.
- Chamber members can enter a recipe for \$35
- Includes 300 printed recipe cards for your business to hand out with food samples
- Attendees sample food and collect free recipes from each participating business

CLARINDA CHAMBER HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE - THURSDAY, DEC. 10

- Chamber Office (115 East Main Street) from 2-4 p.m.
- Refreshments Provided
- A thank you to members and volunteers - All are welcome to attend!