



For Immediate Release: August 5, 2020

Contact:

Kativa Weitzel, Program Director
Mason City Chamber of Commerce
641.423.5724
kweitzel@masoncityia.com

Iowa Secretary of Agriculture to Speak at Ag Breakfast

MASON CITY, IA – Iowa Secretary of Agriculture Mike Naig will serve as the keynote speaker at the Chamber of Commerce 38th Annual Ag Breakfast. The event is scheduled at 8AM on Thursday, August 13 at the Commerce Center. The secretary is expected to focus his comments on the impact of the pandemic on Iowa’s agricultural economy.

The COVID-19 situation in Iowa has been constantly evolving, forcing agricultural businesses into a constant state of adaptation. Livestock producers, supply chains, meat processing facilities, grain suppliers, and market auctioneers are determined to keep shelves stocked and bellies full despite daily challenges.

Naig learned the value of hard work as he grew up helping his dad run their crop and livestock farm. Before becoming Secretary, Naig was active in agribusiness, serving in public policy roles for state and national trade associations and in private industry. He served as the Iowa Deputy Secretary of Agriculture under Bill Northey. His experience working alongside Northey showed him the importance of being accessible to Iowans to better represent their interests and be responsive to their needs.

The format of the Ag Breakfast and program has been modified to accommodate physical distancing and safety measures. The well-loved tradition of made-to-order omelets will be replaced by a pre-packaged snack, and attendance will be limited to 50. An interactive Zoom Webinar link, will be provided to participants wishing to attend virtually.

Traditionally, the Ag Breakfast is scheduled during Agriculture Week in March, but it was postponed due to the rise of the COVID-19 virus. The August 13 event is subject to change or cancellation depending upon future community conditions.

The Mason City Area Chamber of Commerce is a membership-based organization with a mission to promote progressive community and economic development to benefit Chamber members and the North Iowa region.

###