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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Chamber Award Banquet happens March 10; Neff to emcee

Fairfield (IOWA) – Reservations are now being accepted for the Fairfield Area Chamber of Commerce’s Annual Awards Banquet Presented by MidWestOne Bank, happening the evening of March 10 at Best Western Fairfield Inn. Longtime Fairfield resident Dave Neff will emcee the evening and award presenters and Chamber Board members Terry Baker and Jane Anne Harl return to name winners.

The evening will include a cocktail reception, plated dinner and program led by Neff and featuring the naming of business and community award winners in more than ten award categories, including the Libertyville Savings Bank Citizen of the Year award. Tickets are \$30 and available now at FairfieldAwards.Eventbrite.com or by contacting the Chamber at 641-472-2111 or chamber@fairfieldiowa.com.

Chamber Executive Director Brent Willett portrayed the evening as an opportunity for the community to celebrate “a vibrant business sector and community structure determined to improve upon itself each and every year.”

“Every award we’ll hand out March 10 is designed to recognize investment and innovation on the part of Fairfield business and community institutions,” he said. “Be it capital improvements, resource redeployment, new media, or lifelong accomplishment, the Chamber’s Annual Banquet is about celebrating progress in this community.”

Neff, 2010’s Fairfield Holiday Lighting Ceremony honoree, comes to the podium a past citizen of the year honoree and Fairfield institution.

“Dave’s Mr. Fairfield as far as I’m concerned,” said Willett. “He’s a very rare breed of successful businessman, dedicated philanthropist and community booster with one heck of an engaging personality,” he added. “He’ll keep us on schedule- I know that- and entertained.”

The Chamber will also name a 2011 Libertyville Savings Bank Citizen of the Year, which is awarded each year to Fairfield’s most outstanding citizen. In 2010, Jefferson County Park Naturalist Therese Cummiskey was honored. Past winners of the prestigious honor determine the honoree each year.

Aside from the awards, other Banquet programming will include a report on the City of Fairfield from Mayor Ed Malloy, remarks from Fairfield Economic Development Association President Pat Doyle and a photo slideshow of winners.

Award nominations are being accepted by the Chamber through February 18 in the following categories:

- Libertyville Savings Bank Citizen of the Year
 - Outstanding Fairfield citizen
- Cambridge Impact Award
 - Recognizing a longtime Chamber member who has made outstanding contributions to the Chamber and the community
- Progress Award
 - Business improvement or New Young Business of the year
- SunnyBrook Assisted Living, Inc. New Young Business Awards
 - Recognizing those businesses who entered their first year of existence in 2010 and who made marked improvements to their space of operation or product delivery
- Business Improvement Awards
 - Recognizing those businesses which made marked improvements to their space of operation in the last year
- Community Improvement Awards
 - Recognizing those community projects which made marked improvements to their theatre of operation in the last year
- Hawthorne Direct Interactive Media Award
 - Web site/blog of the year
- Non-Profit of the Year Award
 - Non-profit organization having made the strongest contribution to the Fairfield community in the past year.
- Rising Star Award
 - Chamber member in its second or third year which has made outstanding early contributions to the Fairfield Area Chamber of Commerce
- President’s Award
 - Recognizing one outstanding contributor to the Fairfield Chamber of Commerce in 2010

The Annual Banquet, which begins with a cocktail hour and includes dinner, has sold out for the past several years, and reservations are required. Reservations are \$30 and are available by

visiting FairfieldAwards.Eventbrite.com or contacting the Chamber by phone at 641-472-2111 or chamber@fairfieldiowa.com. Eight-person table reservations are also available for \$300.

For more information on the Annual Banquet, visit FairfieldIowa.com.

The Fairfield Area Chamber of Commerce is a non-profit organization dedicated to the advocacy of its more than 350 member partners. The Chamber produces dozens of community events year-round and works with local, state, regional and national partners to improve the Fairfield's business environment and quality of life. The Chamber's 204 West Broadway offices also house the offices of the Fairfield Economic Development Association.