



Owner of 'The Salon' named Main Street Volunteer of the Year

Frank Randall, owner of *The Salon* in downtown Ames, has been named the Main Street Cultural District (MSCD) 2015 Volunteer of the Year. He will be honored at the Chamber of Commerce awards lunch on January 14.

“Frank has dedicated dozens of hours to making downtown Ames a better place for the entire community,” said Cindy Hicks, Executive Director of the MSCD. “While we have many great volunteers downtown, Frank is definitely a shining star.”

Randall, who serves as the 2015 Design Committee Chair for the MSCD, does a little bit of everything in downtown Ames.

“I had a concerned business owner call me earlier this year about cigarette butts not being disposed of properly,” said Hicks. “The next thing I know, Frank is out there taking care of the problem.”

From planting flowers to weeding flower beds, to changing hundreds of bulbs in holiday decorations, to working for events such as Bike Night, Randall is often seen in the downtown area volunteering his time.

“Something may not be his responsibility, but if it makes downtown a better place, Frank makes it his responsibility,” said Hicks. “Main Street is truly blessed to have such a dedicated man on its team.”

One of the “responsibilities” Randall decided to tackle is getting the lighting along the tops of the buildings in downtown Ames replaced. Last year the lights were dark during the holiday season and that just didn’t seem right to Frank.

“He probably spent over 100 hours of his own time researching lighting options,” said Hicks. “He has worked tirelessly to get those lights replaced.”

There is currently a fund-raising effort underway to raise the \$80,000 needed to replace the old dilapidated lights with new energy efficient LED lighting.

“When he sees this project complete, I am sure he will be on to the next project,” said Hicks. “He never seems to get tired of making downtown beautiful.”