



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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LAKE MILLS BUSINESS CHOSEN FOR STATEWIDE SBDC AWARD

5 Alarm Brewing Company, Lake Mills, chosen for Small Business of the Month Award

AMES, Iowa – America's SBDC Iowa (SBDC) is pleased to announce that 5 Alarm Brewing Company in Lake Mills, is the winner of the SBDC's statewide Business of the Month Award.

The growing interest in Iowa craft beer has created an opportunity for community taprooms. Jim Boehmer joined forces with fellow firefighters Ross Hanson, Nathan Ostrander, and Jason Peterson to open the 5 Alarm Brewing Company and bring a microbrewery and taproom to downtown Lake Mills, IA. The 5 Alarm Brewing Company officially opened in December 2017.

Jim Boehmer and his three co-owners purchased a building in downtown Lake Mills and extensively rehabbed it. Their location in the established business district is part of the ongoing work to create an entertainment district and revitalize Lake Mills. Like many craft breweries, the 5 Alarm Brewing taproom does not serve food, but encourages customers to bring in food from downtown restaurants or have it delivered. 5 Alarm Brewing also partners with other local businesses for events and promotions, and supports local musicians and artists.

Jim Boehmer worked with Brook Boehmler of the North Iowa Area SBDC, the Pappajohn Center, and the Lake Mills Development Corporation, to make sure they had as much information and guidance as possible to see this company go from their vision to their reality. Brook said "We are excited to see what the future holds for them and are so glad they involved all our entities to assist them in getting their new business off the ground!" The brewery has been very busy since opening in late 2017 and shows no signs of slowing down, but rather growing and becoming better in 2018.

For more information on 5 Alarm Brewing Company, please visit their Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/5-Alarm-Brewing-Co-308907589563456/>.

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Funded in part through a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration, America's SBDC Iowa has 15 regional assistance centers located strategically across the state. Since program inception in 1981, the SBDC has helped Iowa businesses and entrepreneurs through no fee, confidential, customized, professional business counseling and practical, affordable training workshops.

For more information on America's SBDC Iowa programs or services, call (515) 294-2030 or visit www.iowasbdc.org, <https://www.facebook.com/AmericasSBDCIowa>, or <https://twitter.com/IowaSBDC>.

Press Contacts:

Tricia Janes, America's SBDC Iowa, 515-294-2030, triciaj@iastate.edu

Brook Boehmler, North Iowa Area SBDC, 641-422-4342, brook.boehmler@niacc.edu

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