To Whom It May Concern:

I am recommending Andy Johnson for the Business Record 40 under 40 Nomination. Andy is by far the most deserving person I have ever met, and an incredibly humble person who would never even think about accepting an honor like this on his own. He is literally the first person I ever think of when people start discussing volunteerism, philanthropy, selflessness and consummate professionalism.

I have known Andy for over a decade, and he still continues to amaze me with his selfless heart and his passion for helping others. Andy does a lot of work with high school and college aged kids in schools around the entire State of Iowa with Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) and Phi Beta Lambda (PBL), which are organizations that promote real-life scenarios and skills for kids to better prepare for a career in business or another professional environment.

Andy goes above and beyond regular judging of events, as he has volunteered countless hours driving around to high schools around the state to mentor students and give them one-on-one or small group feedback, answer questions, help with uncertainties such as prospective interviews, resume writing, appropriate professional dress code, and explaining the high expectations that the business world has once the students leave the security of home or school and step into “the real world.”

As someone who used to work with Andy on a daily basis, he regularly volunteers his time both at work and away from work (over 200 hours a year!!) helping coach little league teams, teach kids classes at church, fill in on the worship team at his church and the hours of practice that go into that each week, donate plasma and blood regularly, serve as Watch D.O.G. at the local elementary school (Dads of Great Students) where he reads to students, helps them with homework, and mentors them throughout the day. He also serves on civic councils and boards in his hometown and volunteers his time to cook meals throughout the year for the local fire department and police officers in recognition for their service to the city – when he isn’t volunteering for things like Meals from the Heartland, packaging food, or Habitat for Humanity, building houses.

Andy is such a giving and loving person who more than deserves this honor and will instantly brighten the day of anyone he comes in contact with. He does all of this while still spending time with his four children and wife of 10 years, and being there for them. Of course, he is an amazing father and husband as well. I don’t know how he finds the time to give of himself so much for so many people, but if there was only one award in the entire world for someone like this, I would nominate him a thousand times over as he is more than deserving. He would never admit what he does is anything special, but he just loves to serve others.

I hope that this finds your nomination committee and that you strongly consider Andy for this wonderful award so he can know just how special he is to so many Iowans of all ages.

Sincerely,

Jeramy Beathards