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Iowa's Public Roads System

Highway development in and around Marshalltown has been a high priority for many years. Our transportation priorities have been at the top of the agenda at the annual Washington Summit since we began traveling to Washington DC in the early 1990's. Our success has been evident as you drive on Highway 330, or travel on the many miles of the expanded Highway 30.

However our work is not complete. We continue to work on the completion of the four-lane expansion of Highway 30 between Marshalltown and Interstate 35 to the west, and as members of the Highway 30 Coalition we work to extend the four-lane development all the way to Illinois.

Iowa now faces some big decisions, including how it will fund the continuing development of Highway 30 as a key part of the industrial/commercial network. The State Legislature is now analyzing a report entitled "TIME 21". This report suggests an annual shortfall of dollars to meet Iowa's transportation needs of \$200 million. It offers many suggestions about how the State could raise the money necessary to meet this shortfall.

Most of us recognize the link between a strong transportation system and our economic health. The question will be whether we have the political will to find new revenue sources needed to build the highways and roads we need to grow the economy of Iowa.

To learn more about TIME 21 go to www.dot.state.ia.us/time21



Imagine 2011

The Imagine 2011 Idea Selection committee is hard at work sorting, sifting and selection the top 100 ideas from the nearly 1000 unduplicated ideas that have been submitted. The exciting part of all this work is that the public will be asked to participate in selecting the best 21 ideas from the Selection Committee list of 100.

The tentative date for the public input sessions is April 19, 2007. These sessions will be led by the Vernon Research Group from Cedar Rapids Iowa using an electronic random sampling process.

Watch for further details about how you can sign up to be a part of choosing the final 21 BIG IDEAS! Also, additional public input will be sought using the Internet thanks to the help of BDH Technology.

This Month | April 2007

Leadership	2
Young Professionals	7
MCVB.	8 & 9
Ambassadors	10
Marshall Town Center	11
Marshalltown CBD	12

Inside This Issue



**Marshalltown
Medical Clinic
hold ribbon
cutting ceremony**

Chamber

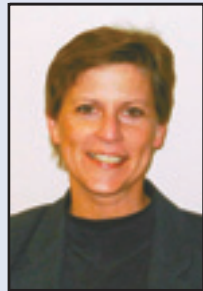


**Iowa State
USTA
Championship
held in
Marshalltown**

Convention & Visitors Bureau



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Chair



MCVB
Carol Hibbs
Chair



MEDIC
Leon Lamer
Chair

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e-mail: info@marshalltown.org

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Marshalltown Works

is a monthly publication of the Marshalltown Area Chamber of Commerce, Marshall Economic Development Impact Committee and Marshalltown Convention & Visitors Bureau who collaborate in creating opportunities for business, residents and visitors.

New Members

Following is a list of businesses that have invested in the greater community by joining the Marshalltown Area Chamber of Commerce. Please support these businesses when making purchases and business decisions.

Youth and Shelter Services

11 East State Street
Marshalltown, IA 50158
641-752-2300
David Hicks

Paul Koehler

2003 S. 3rd Avenue
Marshalltown, IA 50158
641-752-1344

30 Renewing Members

The renewing members printed in bold type marks those with memberships in increments of five years.

Accu-Tax (8 years)
Acme Printing Co., Inc. (5 years)
American Legion # 46 Golf Course & Lounge (26 years)
Anytime Fitness (2 years)
Binford House (4 years)
Central Iowa Machine, Inc. (3 years)
Cookies, Etc. (7 years)
Country Pine Mowers (11 years)
Downey & Gantz DDS PC (6 years)
Dynamic Broadband, Inc. (7 years)
Enterprise Rent A Car (11 years)
Jon Espenscheid (3 years)
Fareway Stores, Inc. (44 years)
Grandview Heights (12 years)
Hansen Sanitary Supply (15 years)
Iowa Bath Systems (5 years)
John Schrempf Pro Shop (3 years)
KCRM Radio 96.7 FM (4 years)
Logs to Lumber (3 years)
Marquart (8 years)
Marshalltown Jaycees (3 years)
Martha Ellen Tye Foundation (7 years)
MinuteMan, Inc. (12 years)
Morgan-Hauser Steel Inc. (12 years)
Professional Developers, Inc. (6 years)
ShIPLEY Custom Homes (6 years)
Staples, The Office Superstore (10 years)
Those Ink Guys (5 years)
Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church (3 years)
Wesley Retirement Services (2 years)

Marshalltown Job Fair 2007 coming April 4

The free Job Fair 2007, held in Babe Harder Gymnasium on the Marshalltown Community College campus, 3700 S. Center St., is coming Wednesday, April 4, 10 am to 2 pm. More than 70 companies will have representatives who are anxious to talk to attendees about the job or educational opportunities they have available.

“Job Fair 2007 is a golden opportunity for anyone looking for a job,” says Jim Merritt, Assistant Dean of the Career and Employment Center, “Where else can you talk with 70 employers all in one room? People should plan to take advantage of all the free resources that will be available that day - workshops, resume critiquing, an employer panel to discuss hiring practices, and a bank of computers where individuals can fill out applications on-line.”

In addition to the workshops there will be a Resume Critiquing table in the Gym where individuals can bring a prepared resume to get advice on updating it, organization of it, and many additional tips will be shared. Bring your prepared resume and let a professional look it over - it is free.

Businesses and educational institutions that



will have booths at Job Fair 2007 include: AARP; Ace Precision Castings, LLC; Advocare; AFLAC; Alliant Energy; Avon; Boys and Girls Home; Brite-Way Electric; Broadlawns Medical Center; Buena Vista University; Cedar Rapids/Iowa City Technology Corridor; ChildServe; CIRSI; Cline Tool & Service Co.; Community Nursing; Culver's; Drake University; ECC; Emerson Process Management/Fisher; Grinnell College; Grinnell Mutual Reinsurance Company; Grinnell Regional Medical Center; Hawkeye Renewables LLC; Iowa Health Des Moines; ISU-Office of Equal Opportunity & Diversity

and Outreach; Iowa Veterans Home; Jackson Hewitt Tax Service; KDAO AM/FM/TV; Lennox; Manatts Inc.; Marshall County Sheriff's Office; Marshalltown Broadcasting Inc.; MCC; Marshalltown Company; MMSC; Marshalltown Police Dept.; Mechdyne/Fakespace/VRCO; Mediacom; Meskwaki; Monsanto; Nikkel & Associates, Inc.; OfficeTeam; Peterson Contractors; Pilgrim Heights Camp & Retreat Center; PRC, Inc; Premier Office Equipment; Primerica; Sauer Danfoss; Securitas Security Services USA; Skiff Medical; State of Iowa & IJH; Swift & Company; Temp Associates; Ultimate Nursing Service of IA, Inc.; Union Pacific Railroad; Upper Iowa University; USA Staffing; USAF/DOD; US Army; US Bank; US Cellular; US Marines; VA Central Iowa Health Care System; Van Wyk Freight Lines, Inc.; Wal-Mart; Workforce; and Youth & Shelter Services.

For more information regarding the Job Fair 2007 or other career and employment services offered on the MCC campus, contact Jim Merritt, or Sandy Supianoski, in the Career and Employment Center at 641-752-7106, ext. 346 or ext. 344.

www.everydaychampions.org

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Premier Office Equipment host Business After Hours

Premier Office Equipment, 1510 East Olive St., will be hosting the Chamber's Business After Hours on April 18th from 5:00-7:00 p.m. Come see the latest in office equipment technology, tour our facility and learn how Premier has helped many clients improve office productivity and efficiency.

Premier Office Equipment was founded in January of 2000 by 4 local business people with the goal of providing "Superior Customer Service Through Local People" to business clients in Marshalltown and the surrounding communities. Since that time, we have helped over 1,200 clients with a wide variety of office equipment and service needs, while providing the highest level of customer service available in the area. As Marshalltown's only locally owned office equipment dealership, Premier Office Equipment provides products such as copiers, high speed network printers, multi-functional devices, scanning systems and shredders. In addition, we have a Supply Department specifically designed to help clients with cartridges for printers, fax machines and copiers, regardless of manufacturer. We are an Authorized Dealer for Sharp Electronics Corporation, but provide on-site service and support for HP products and many Canon systems as well.

Since 2000, Premier has grown to 16 employees and we now cover 11 counties in Central Iowa. Our staff has over 175 combined years of experience in the office equipment industry and we continually invest in staff training and development to assist our clients with the latest in cutting edge technology. We also pledge to the following principles:

- We will do everything within our power to ensure our client's satisfaction. As our client, you deserve our highest level of service. No exceptions. No excuses.
- We will provide you with local support, local inventory and local billing. There will always be a local voice to help you with your equipment, service and supply needs.
- We will give back to the local communities we serve. You can rest assured that your dollars will be reinvested in our communities, helping our economy grow.

Nick Grossman and Roger Wilkens are 2 of the founding members of Premier. Nick is responsible for Sales in Marshalltown and brings over 20 years of expertise in technology to our clients. Roger is Premier's Service Manager and dedicated to helping our client's stay up and running with their office equipment.

Premier is much more than just a copier company. One of the most exciting technology developments is the introduction of a new line of Sharp multi-function systems which offer low cost, high quality color output and high speed network scanning. In addition, there are many finishing options such as booklet making and hole punching to allow any size business reduce expenses associated with outsourcing or printing to inkjets or smaller laser printers. High speed scanning works together with Document Management software to allow businesses the ability to archive and retrieve images in a quick and easy manner.

Stop by on the 18th and see the Premier difference!




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ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Business Retention and Expansion with Synchronist

Marshall Economic Development Impact Committee (MEDIC) is implementing the Synchronist Business Information System, a tool that communities across the country are using to conduct informational interviews with local industries. This system will allow MEDIC to better analyze community trends and provide services that will be of the most benefit to local companies.

The Synchronist System is a structured business information system designed for collection, management, analysis, and reporting of the business data impacting the community's economy. It is a web-based application built on pioneering research by Blane, Canada Ltd., a recognized authority on economic development marketing and business retention.

This system gives a new view of existing companies based on the future economic security these companies represent. Communities around the United States and Canada are looking at their existing business base as a portfolio. The value of the portfolio is the sum total of the value the individual companies bring to the community. Like a stock portfolio or a real estate portfolio, the first step to manage the existing business base as a portfolio is to assess each company and their business

practices.

The Synchronist System consists of a 45-question survey that is forward-looking, which tries to determine where the company may be going in the future. The data is then entered into a software program that analyzes the information yielding information on four critical topics: a company's value to the community; its risk of leaving or downsizing; its growth potential; and its satisfaction with the community. Synchronist can also serve as a contact management system for follow-up activities.

In addition to providing more than 250 reports, after a period of time it helps identify community-wide trends. All information collected is strictly confidential and is reported only in a combined form. No sensitive company information is collected.

As the cornerstones of each community, established businesses provide jobs and tax revenue important to economic stability. MEDIC's use of Synchronist Business Information System will provide an efficient way to conduct an annual business retention call program, help keep businesses viable, and help identify expansion opportunities and potential companies that need assistance.



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IMPACT COMMITTEE

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Economic Statistics

	January 2007	YTD
Employment		
Marshall Co. Residents in labor Force	20,760	20,760
Percent Unemployed	4.5%	4.5%
Total Employment (residents)	19,820	19,820
Marshalltown Construction		
	January 2007	YTD
Building Permits	7	18
Residential Dwelling Units	2	2
New Residential Construction Value	\$317,000	\$317,000
Residential Addition/Remodeling Valuation	\$22,000	\$22,000
New Commercial/Industrial Permits	1	1
New Commercial/Industrial Valuation	\$13,000	\$13,000
Remodeling Commercial/Industrial Valuation	\$21,000	\$21,000
Housing		
	January 2007	YTD
Home Sales, Single Family Dwelling	18	18
Average Sale Price	\$84,367	\$84,367
Median Sale Price	\$75,000	\$75,000

Visit www.marshalltownworks.com for additional statistics

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Do you know a young professional in the community that might be interested in the Marshalltown Young Professionals? Please contact Amy Pieper at the Chamber, 641-753-6645, for more information.

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Jane Chizek ★ Rick Beasley ★ Sherry Beasley
Melody Bennett ★ Phil Henning
Moises Garcia ★ David Gooding
Beth Barrett ★ Joan Johnson

New Chamber members invited to informational breakfast

New Chamber members and representatives are invited to an information breakfast at 7:30 am on Wednesday, April 4 at the Fisher Community Center.

Come learn about Chamber programs and

priorities and how to make your Chamber membership work for you. Contact Amy Pieper at the Chamber office for more information, 641-753-6645 or e-mail pieper@marshalltown.org.

38th Annual Scholastic Recognition Banquet

The Marshalltown Area Chamber of Commerce will honor the top five percent of the graduating seniors in Marshall County on Thursday, April 26 at Elmwood County Club.

This year will mark the 38th Annual Scholastic Recognition Banquet, and the Chamber is asking member firms to

participate by sponsoring a student. This sponsorship includes meals, flowers, and a framed certificate for the students.

Plan to be a part of this annual recognition event by contacting the Chamber office, 641-753-6645, by Wednesday, April 18.

Chamber Board Nominees to be announced

The election notice announcing the nominees for a three-year term on the Chamber Board of Directors will be mailed the week of March 26, 2007.

The nominating committee, led by Chair-Elect Bill Thiede, is preparing a slate of five candidates to replace retiring directors Clark Wideman, Denny Hass, Alyce Quastad, Dawn Williams and

Martha Garcia.

The term of the newly elected directors will begin June 1, 2007.

In addition to the election of new directors, the board will hold its annual planning retreat in late April, and a date for the annual meeting will also be set in the near future.

Listen Weekly to Chamber Chat

Sunday Mornings

6:30 am on 99.5 KDAO FM

7:30 am on 1190 KDAO AM

Keep up with the latest Chamber, MCVB and MEDIC News.



YOUNG PROFESSIONALS

Meet the Marshalltown Young Professionals



Name: Lynn Olberding
Employer: Marshall Town Center
Job Title: Marketing Manager
Years with employer: 5
Years in Marshalltown: 5
Hometown: Clarion, Iowa
Spouse: Jason
Community Involvement: Marshalltown Young Professionals, YP Connect Chair, YP Executive Board member, Chamber Marketing committee member, IVL Steering Committee, IVL 2005 graduate

What brought you to and has kept you in Marshalltown? Jason took a position with Fisher Controls after college and I was living/working in Storm Lake at the time. The 2 ½ hour commute each weekend was too much and we decided to make Marshalltown our “home”. We really like that Marshalltown is such a warm community. Marshalltown is somewhat of a “diamond in the rough” and I wish more people realized what great things Marshalltown has to offer!

What is your favorite thing about living in Marshalltown? I’ve been very fortunate to get involved in this community and meet a lot of interesting people that have become some of my closest friends. We also really like that Marshalltown has great amenities like the jogging/bike trail, shopping, 9-screen movie theatre and some great restaurants!

What’s your favorite local specialty? It’s hard to beat caramel apples at Lillie Mae’s!

How long have you been involved in MYP? A little over two years. I was fortunate to be part of the committee that helped establish MYP.

Why did you get involved in MYP? To do social things with other young professionals, take part in professional development opportunities and grow my leadership skills.

What would you say to people who are considering joining MYP? It’s a great way to meet people! I would encourage anyone considering the possibility of joining an organization to give MYP a try – come to an event and see what it’s all about.

What do you think is the most important aspect of MYP? I think the every aspect of MYP is important – social, professional development, connecting young people to each other and to the community. I have to say my favorite events while being involved in MYP are the social events. We have a great time last year at the Mystery Dinner Theatre and also the progressive dinner this past January. It’s a great organization if you’re single because you can meet lots of new people, but it’s also good for couples who want to enjoy a night out with other young couples.

What other activities are you involved with in the community? I teach piano lessons to 9 wonderful students and play volleyball through Park & Rec.

Go to www.marshalltownyp.com for more information about the Marshalltown Young Professionals!

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Cleaniac Fact

Untrimmed weeds and grasses that are left to grow along the curb to a height exceeding ten inches are in violation of Marshalltown City Code (Sec 21-59)



Mr. G's Easter Sunday Buffet April 8, 2007 10:45 a.m.-2 p.m.

- Baron of Beef-Chef Carved Ham-Baked Chicken
- Whipped Potatoes & Gravy • Sage Dressing
- Candied Yams • Buttered Corn
- Glazed Carrots • Green Bean Casserole
- Array Of Fresh Homemade Salads
- Homemade Wheat & White Rolls & Butter
- Assorted Desserts
- Beverage Included
- \$11.95 Adults
- \$5.95 Children (9 & Under)



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Reservations Suggested

Iowa State USTA Championships make Marshalltown their destination

The Marshalltown Convention & Visitors Bureau recently awarded a \$1,000 grant to Marshalltown Area Tumbling & Trampoline (MAT) to host the 2007 U.S. Tumbling Association (USTA) Iowa State Tumbling & Trampoline Championships in Marshalltown April 21-22.

Tumblers from 38 clubs across Iowa, and one in Nebraska will compete and attempt to qualify for USTA Nationals. This is the only qualifying meet in Iowa and a great opportunity for Marshalltown to welcome world-class athletes.

Event organizer Ron Brooks estimates that this event will bring a total of 5,000-7,000 visitors to the community. The meet will be held at Marshalltown High School.



MCVB Announces Grant Awards

Since 1993, the MCVB Grant Program has funded over \$130,000 in projects relating to tourism and community development. The program is a competitive tool to attract meetings, conventions and tournaments to Marshalltown.

- Recent recipients of MCVB grant awards include:
- Ninth Annual Iowa State BBQ Championship
 - IA Chapter of the American Assoc. of University Women
 - NJCAA Region XI Baseball Tournament
 - Central Iowa Fair
 - 2007 National 16" Softball Tournament
 - Iowa Rehab Association



TOURISM

“The Curse” on schedule for Summer 2007 production

Producers of the film “The Curse” recently visited Marshalltown to discuss the major motion picture to be filmed here. Xaypani Baccam, Marshalltown native and one of the film’s producers, spoke highly of the community and of the production company’s intentions to film here during the summer of 2007.

Recent changes in the film’s script, additional investors, and the producers’ desire to secure a Hollywood star in the leading roles caused the recent delays in filming. The budget for the project is now \$3 million.

In addition, recent legislation at the Iowa State House will provide tax incentives for film productions in Iowa. This new legislation has led to increased interest from investors in the film.

Baccam re-affirmed his commitment to Marshalltown and says he “looks forward to working with his friends and neighbors from Marshalltown in the coming months.”

For the time and a description of the events below, log on to the MCVB website’s Calendar of Events... www.VisitMarshalltown.com

April 2007

Event	Date	Location
Bingo	Tuesdays	Senior Citizens Center
StoryTime	Tues. & Fri.	Public Library
Frostbuster Special	April 1	Marshalltown Speedway
Souper Steak Supper	April 2	Salvation Army
Annuals for your Garden	April 3	Fisher Community Center
Nature Story Hour	April 4	GrimesFarm & Conservation Center
Women & Breast Cancer	April 4	IA Valley Continuing Education
Card Party	April 9	Community Y
IA State Cribbage Tournament	April 15	American Legion
Nature Story Hour	April 18	GrimesFarm & Conservation Center
Carol Welsman	April 23	MHS/Community Auditorium
Piano Gala	April 24	Fisher Community Center
Community-wide Garage Sale	April 28	Conrad
Dog Show	April 28	Central Iowa Fairground
Stork’s Nest Fundraiser	April 28	Earl May Garden Center

April 2007

Meetings, Conventions, & Events	Location
American Association of University Women	Fisher Community Center
Marshalltown Area Tumbling & Trampoline	MHS Roundhouse
American Legion Third District Conference	Iowa Veteran’s Home



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CHAMBER

Chamber Ambassadors Courtesy Calls and Ribbon Cuttings

The Ambassadors are the goodwill arm of the Chamber.

Their scheduled time for courtesy calls and ribbon cuttings is at 4:30 and 4:45 on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month.

Please contact the Chamber office if you would like to schedule a visit, 641-753-6645.

View the Chamber Newsletter on-line at www.marshalltown.org



Marshalltown Medical Clinic celebrated opening their new office, 309 East Church Street with a ribbon cutting ceremony on February 27.



Chamber Ambassadors visited Tom Swessinger, manager of Ewer's Shoe Store, 16 West Main Street, at their March 13 courtesy call.



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BUSINESS



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Upcoming Events

Easter Bunny Visits Marshall Town Center

Children of all ages will enjoy visiting the Easter Bunny at Marshall Town Center. Photo packages available, starting at \$9.99.

- March 31 Easter Bunny Arrival Noon
- Cookies with the Bunny from Noon – 12:30pm
- Easter Bunny Visits Noon – 8pm
- April 1 Easter Bunny Visits Noon – 5pm
- April 2 - 5 Easter Bunny Visits 4 – 8 pm
- April 6 & 7 Easter Bunny Visits 10am – 8pm
- April 8 Mall closed

April 21
Spring Community Fair, Earth Day Display, RC Flyers Display, Model Railroad Display

Spring Community Fair

Community Awareness and entertainment will be the focus of the Spring Community Fair at Marshall Town Center on Saturday, April 21. Local non-profit groups will be on hand to answer questions and hand out literature about the services and opportunities offered throughout the Marshalltown Area.

Are you a member of a non-profit organization? Would your organization benefit from this event?

For more information or to be included in tis year’s Spring Community Fair, contact the Mall Office at 752-6200.

Mom’s Day

Mother’s Day is Sunday, May 13. Not sure what to get Mom this year? How about a Marshall Town Center gift card? They are available in any amount between \$20 and \$500 and good at all mall stores that accept Discover Card. Give Mom a shopping spree at Marshall Town Center this Mother’s Day!

Healthy Marshalltown
Asset of the Month - April - Asset #9
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GARDEN EXTRAVAGANZA



Downtown Marshalltown
Saturday, May 5th
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demonstrations
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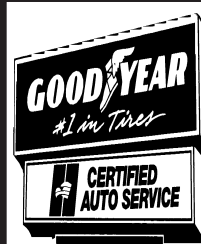
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2007 Chamber Spring Home Show a Success



Team members from 1st Rate Real Estate at their 2007 Home Show Booth

The 2007 Home Show was held at Marshall Town Center on March 16, 17, & 18. A total of 50 business participated in this year's show. A big thank you to Bath & Body Works, Coach House Gifts, GNC Nutrition, Marshalltown Convention and Visitors Bureau, Mastercuts, Maurices, Pretzelmaker, and US Bank for providing items for the exhibitor packets.

Thank you also to Terry McAnulty, Richard Dolan and the entire maintenance and housekeeping crew, and Greg Sloviak, Lynn Olberding, and the Mall Office staff for all of their help in making this year's show run smoothly.



How' Gan Electric displayed home security systems during the 2007 Show



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