

# Chamber Digest

July 2009

Volume 27 Issue 2



## Upcoming Events

**July 3:** Chamber office closed

**July 15:** Business After Hours at Central Iowa Fair with Farmers Savings Bank

**August 14:** Educator Appreciation Breakfast

**August 20:** Chamber Ambassadors Golf Outing

**August 25:** Rural-Urban Dinner

Visit [www.marshalltown.org](http://www.marshalltown.org) for more Chamber events.

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## Chamber board celebrates successes at 111th Annual Meeting

The Chamber Board of Directors and staff celebrated the 111th Annual Meeting of the Marshalltown Area Chamber of Commerce on Thursday, June 25. The event featured a look back at highlights from the past year, as well as a look forward to the program of work for the upcoming year. Several Chamber members were recognized when the Chairman's Community Impact, Chamber Person of the Year and Young Professional of the Year awards were presented. The evening was capped off with keynote address by Margaret Hoover, a television and radio commentator on political topics and pop culture. Ms. Hoover spoke to the crowd about the current political climate in the United States and provided insight on how her great-grandfather President Herbert Hoover would view today's political and economic situation.

Outgoing board chairman, Ric Anderson reviewed some of the highlights of the last year, including twenty-six new Chamber members, the grand opening of the Marshalltown Public Library, successful trips to the state and national capitols, as well as a number of popular Chamber networking functions. Anderson also thanked the Chamber board members whose terms expired at the end of the 2008/2009 fiscal year: Doug Beals, Jacque Goodman, Bill Grade, Jim Gruening, and Bill Thiede.

Board chairman Paul Gregoire addressed the crowd, unveiling the Chamber's program of work for the 2009/2010 year. Highlights include working closely with the Marshalltown Community School District and Iowa Valley Community College District, as well as other educational entities to create a robust education system, an aggressive government affairs plan, and leading the "Renovate the Roundhouse" project. Gregoire also introduced the new Chamber board members: Parke Adamson, Joe Carter, Abie Chadderdon and Tony Harris.

Thank you to everyone who helped make 2008/2009 a successful year for the Marshalltown Area Chamber of Commerce!



Margaret Hoover

## Chamber executive committee announced

The 2009/2010 year kicked off on June 1 under the leadership of Chamber board chairman Paul Gregoire (Emerson Process Management/Fisher Division). Joining Gregoire on the Chamber's executive committee are Chair Elect Liz Zuercher (Marshalltown Medical & Surgical Center & Vice Chair of Government Affairs), Chair Elect-Elect John Hughes (McFarland Clinic & Vice Chair of Quality of Life), Past Chair Ric Anderson (Hy-Vee Food Store), Treasurer Kathy Baker (United Bank & Trust), Vice Chair of Membership Doug Joslin (Penn Mutual Life Insurance) and MEDIC Chair Dan Hassman (F & M Bank).



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# MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

## 2009 MMSC Celebrates 95 Years of Quality Healthcare



On March 30, 1913, the Evangelical Deaconess Society was founded in Marshalltown, Iowa by the Rev. Karl Rest. A month later the Wood Sanitarium, located on Main Street and Third Avenue in Marshalltown was purchased for fourteen thousand dollars. It was decided that the Sanitarium was not satisfactory for a hospital, but could be used for administration purposes and a new hospital was to be built. On the first Sunday in January, 1914, the hospital was dedicated to the service of humanity and the first patient was admitted to the Evangelical Deaconess Home and Hospital.

In 1916 and 1926, with growing demand, additions were added to the hospital. In 1969 the former Mercy and Evangelical Hospitals consolidated and became Marshalltown Area Community Hospital. In 1976 a seven million-dollar east wing was added to the hospital. In 1985 the Marshalltown Area Community Hospital changed its name to Marshalltown Medical & Surgical Center. And in 2007 the new \$6.7 million addition that houses the Cardiovascular Catheterization Lab and the MMSC Clinic, Marshalltown was completed.

Many things have changed in Marshalltown and in healthcare in the past 95 years, and the MMSC family takes great pride in its heritage and legacy. One thing has never changed – MMSC still excels in providing the highest quality medical care possible.

MMSC has a long history of providing quality healthcare at a reasonable price. MMSC focuses on high quality healthcare..it is the root of the hospitals mission statement. This commitment to quality includes an intense focus on patient safety, high patient satisfaction, and top performance on rigorous external reviews.

MMSC has always been a great community partner. Whether it is a community health event, sporting event, educational opportunity or economic development. MMSC is also know as a great place to work.

In 2008, for the third year in a row, MMSC was named a Community Value Five Start Hospital by Cleverley & Associates, a leading health care financial consulting firm. MMSC has also stayed very competitive due to the technological advances they take. Additions to the hospital in the last several years include a 64 slice CT scan, open bore MRI scanner, digital mammography, new high tech microscopes for cataract surgery and the Cardiovascular Catheterization Lab that opened in September of 2007. The facility, physicians and “cath lab” teams have saved many lives through speed of diagnosis and providing an avenue for quick intervention. People in the communities MMSC serves no longer have to travel out of town for cardiovascular care.

Rob Cooper, CEO said it best in his letter to the community in the 2008 Community Report. “I am proud to be part of the MMSC team, and even more proud that our community has benefited from their efforts. Our community hospital is successful because of the dedication of our employees, medical staff, volunteers, auxiliary, alumnae and our Board of Trustees, and because of the support of our community.

### 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.

#### **America's Best Value Inn**

Ray Narsi, Owner  
18 East Berle Road  
Marshalltown, IA 50158  
641-753-8181

*Americas Best Value Inn is the fastest-growing hotel chain in the country, increasing from two properties to over 800 locations and 50,000 guestrooms throughout North America in just nine years.*

#### **Hampton Inn & Suites**

Gary Robertson, General Manager  
Lori Gant, V.P. of Operations  
20 Iowa Avenue West  
Marshalltown, IA 50158  
641-753-6795

*Hampton Inn & Suites is Marshalltown's newest lodging facility. The property will celebrate its grand opening later this summer with 80 rooms and two conference rooms named after Marshalltown landmarks: Iowa River Room and Sand Lake Room.*

#### **Timber Creek Enterprise, Inc.**

Russ D. Paul, Owner/President  
2625 Timber Creek Raod  
Marshalltown, IA 50158  
641-753-5418

*Russ Paul, former owner of Poured Foundations, recently began a new business venture with Timber Creek Enterprise. Timber Creek Enterprise specializes in custom-made concrete countertops and foundation inspections. The countertops add a warm, unique touch to a new or remodeled kitchen or bath.*

Want more information on how YOU can become a member of the Marshalltown Area Chamber of Commerce?

Contact Lynn Olberding at 641-753-6645 or visit the “Become a Member” page on the Chamber website: [www.marshalltown.org](http://www.marshalltown.org).

# LEADERSHIP

**Chamber**  
Chair: Paul Gregoire



## Board of Directors

**Liz Zuercher**  
Chair Elect  
**John Hughes**  
Chair Elect-Elect  
**Ric Anderson**  
Past Chair  
**Kathy Baker**  
Treasurer

**Liz Zuercher**  
V.C. Government Affairs  
**Doug Joslin**  
V.C. Membership  
**John Hughes**  
V.C. Quality of Life  
**Dan Hassman**  
MEDIC Chair

**Parke Adamson**  
**Ellen Bergman**  
**Joe Carter**  
**Abie Chadderdon**  
**Tony Harris**  
**Nick Loney**  
**Fauna Nord**  
**Jeff Vance**

**Ex-Officio**  
**Gene Beach**  
City of Marshalltown  
**Bob Wenner**

**MCVB**  
Chair: Deanna Davis



## Board of Directors

**Bob Wenner**  
Vice Chair  
**Dennis Grabenbauer**  
Past Chair

**Kay Clark**  
**Jennifer Howard**  
**Joyce Miller**  
**Dan Moellers**  
**Gary Ross**  
**Chad Weir**  
**Liz Wilke**

## Staff

**Ken Anderson**  
President  
**Lynn Olberding**  
Director of Membership & Marketing  
**Sauna Banks**  
Administrative Assistant  
**Joel Akason**  
MEDIC President  
**Amy Mills**  
MEDIC Executive Assistant  
**Shannon Espenscheid**  
MCVB Director

709 South Center Street  
P.O. Box 1000  
Marshalltown, IA 50158  
Phone: 641-753-6645  
Fax: 641-752-8373  
Email:  
info@marshalltown.org

**MEDIC**  
Chair: Dan Hassman



## Board of Directors

**Jim Lowrance**  
Treasurer  
**Rob Cooper**  
Secretary  
**Bill Grabe**  
Past Chair

**Parke Adamson**  
**Gene Beach**  
**William Beohm**  
**Pat Brooks**  
**Douglas Gervich**  
**Sharon Greer**  
**Paul Gregoire**  
**John Hermanson**  
**Carol Hibbs**  
**Dean Kenagy**  
**Leon Lamer**  
**Mike Miller**  
**Loras Neuroth**  
**Mike Schlesinger**  
**Kevin Swartz**  
**Don Turbiville**  
**Kenn Vinson**  
**Glenn Ytzen**

## Ex-Officio

**Marvin Wade**  
**Dick Hierstein**  
**Mark Smith**  
**Steve Soddors**  
**Karen Squires**  
**Tim Wynes**

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

## Thank You Reinvesting Members

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

Action Auto Parts	23	Iowa River Hospice	9
Adams, Deane	21	<b>Iowa Wholesale</b>	<b>35</b>
Adland Engraving	21	Iowa Valley Cont. Education	17
AmericInn	12	<b>JBS Swift</b>	<b>50</b>
Animal Clinic – The Vet	21	Jensen Ford	42
Apgar Photography	98	Johnson, Sudenga et. al	36
Augustine Company	21	<b>Kapaun &amp; Brown</b>	<b>35</b>
B & G HVAC	3	<b>Ken Wise Buick-GMC-Honda</b>	<b>50</b>
Baker, Dean	49	Ken Wise Chrysler-Dodge-Jeep	44
Bank of the West	17	<b>Kenn's Transmission</b>	<b>25</b>
Bishop Consulting	13	K-Mart	26
<b>Blink Electric</b>	<b>50</b>	Koehler Insurance	38
<b>Bowman &amp; Miller</b>	<b>45</b>	L.E. Myers	49
Brycon	33	<b>Landon-Landon</b>	<b>45</b>
Buena Vista University	22	<b>Lennox Manufacturing</b>	<b>40</b>
Cecil's	22	<b>Lennox Emp. Credit Union</b>	<b>25</b>
CGA	38	Life Investors	4
CIRSI	28	Lowe's Flowers	32
City of Marshalltown	17	<b>M. Gervich</b>	<b>45</b>
Clemons	34	Man's Best Friend	22
CM Berg	11	<b>Marshall Co. Abstract</b>	<b>25</b>
Comfort Keepers	2	Marshall Co. Arts & Culture	4
Collison, Dr. John DDS	28	<b>Marshall Co. Farm Bureau</b>	<b>45</b>
Community Y	32	Marshall Co. Supervisors	17
<b>Concrete Inc</b>	<b>45</b>	Marshall Town Center	32
Con-Struct	36	Marshalltown Broadcasting	34
Consumer's Energy	33	Marshalltown Chiropractic	12
Diamond Vogel	16	Marshalltown Comm. College	17
Domino's Pizza	26	Marshalltown Comm. Schools	17
<b>Earl May</b>	<b>45</b>	MMSC	83
Electric Supply	32	<b>Marshalltown OB/GYN</b>	<b>40</b>
Elmwood Country Club	44	Marshalltown Orthopaedics	33
Emerson Process Management	92	Marshalltown Sewing Center	17
Ethington	16	Marshalltown Water Works	28
Evans Abstract	32	Martin Marietta Aggregates	32
Excel Medical	19	McFarland Clinic	21
<b>Flooring Gallery</b>	<b>5</b>	McGregor's Furniture	46
Gethmann Const.	44	McRill-Stowell-Christiansen	22
Colene Grecian, DDS	1	Medicap Pharmacy	26
H & F Distributing	33	Members First	21
<b>Hanson Directory</b>	<b>25</b>	Meskwaki Bingo-Casino-Hotel	11
Hawkeye Stages	17	<b>Mid-Iowa Workshop</b>	<b>25</b>
Headliner Salon-Spa-Gifts	28	Nagle Signs	23
Helfer Auto	56	Nauman-Madsen Insurance	19
Hermanson Orthodontics	34	<b>Nikkel &amp; Assoc</b>	<b>5</b>
Home Rental Center	26	Ottillie Seed	49
Hy-Vee	46	PCA	49
In Stitches	8	Penn Mutual Life Insurance	8
		Pennysaver	38
		Plaza Family Dental	31

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# FACES & PLACES

**Faces & Places** is a new feature in the Chamber Digest. Each month this column will feature information about Marshalltown Area Chamber of Commerce members and volunteers. **Faces & Places** is a great way to utilize your Chamber membership.

Submissions may include grand openings, management changes, employee promotions, moves, expansions, major developments and award recognition. Submissions may include a photograph, if provided in a JPEG format.

Due to space limitations, each item for **Faces & Places** should be no more than three sentences in length. The editor reserves the right to determine what is newsworthy and included in the column. Items that will not be accepted include: email changes, seminars or special event promotions that would be better addressed through advertising venues.

To submit your news, email [lolberding@marshalltown.org](mailto:lolberding@marshalltown.org) and put **Faces & Places** in the subject line, or mail information to **Faces & Places**, P.O. Box 1000, Marshalltown, IA 50158. Submissions must be received by the 10th of the month for inclusion in the following month's Chamber Digest.

## MCBD to host Richi Lee live in concert July 17

Marshalltown's Main Street organization is proud to host Richi Lee's concert tribute to Buddy Holly on the Marshall County Courthouse Square, July 17 from 5:30 to 10:00 p.m. In conjunction with the concert, there will be a classic car show from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. with trophies awarded in four divisions. Be there for a great time in downtown Marshalltown!

There are many great events in downtown Marshalltown this summer! Don't miss this event or any others on tap! Get "up close and personal" by being a Main Street volunteer. Call Wanda Evans at 641-844-2001 for more information.

Copies of the Chamber's Annual Report were distributed at the 111th Chamber Annual Meeting on June 25. If you missed the event and would like to see a copy of the report, please stop by the Chamber office or email [lolberding@marshalltown.org](mailto:lolberding@marshalltown.org).

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## Manpower releases employment survey



Manpower

U.S. employers plan to keep their staffing levels relatively stable during Quarter 3 2009, according to the seasonally adjusted results of the latest Manpower Employment Outlook Survey, conducted quarterly by Manpower Inc. Based on additional data, the Outlook for Quarter 2 2009 was revised to -2 percent, the same as Quarter 3 2009, to account for seasonal variations.

"When we account for ongoing calibration of the data, employer attitudes about hiring remain essentially unchanged compared to the previous quarter," said Jeffrey A. Joerres, Chairman and CEO of Manpower Inc. "While the numbers may not be as optimistic as we would like, it is positive to see no further deterioration."

More than 28,000 employers were surveyed about their hiring plans for Quarter 3 2009. Fifteen percent anticipate an increase in their staff levels, while 13 percent expect a decrease in their payrolls. Sixty-seven percent of employers surveyed expect no change in their July – September hiring plans, and 5 percent of employers indicated they were undecided about their hiring intentions.

"The data shows continued hesitancy among employers," said Jonas Prising, president of the Americas for Manpower Inc. "They are treading slowly and watching with guarded optimism, hoping a few quarters of stability will be the precursor to the recovery."

The national survey data shows employers in seven of the 13 sectors surveyed expect hiring to remain relatively stable in Q3 2009 as compared to Q2 2009. Employers in Construction and Wholesale & Retail Trade anticipate moderate increases, while Non-Durable Goods Manufacturing and Leisure & Hospitality employers expect a slight increase in hiring activity compared to the second quarter.

Employers in two sectors surveyed, Education & Health Services and Government, anticipate a slight decrease in hiring compared to three months ago. Employers in Durable Goods Manufacturing; Transportation & Utilities; Information; Financial Activities; Professional & Business Services; and Other Services sector employers will keep hiring levels relatively stable for the third quarter.

All regions have a weaker Outlook compared to one year ago at this time. Employer optimism about hiring is relatively stable in the South, Northeast and Midwest.

The complete results and visuals from the U.S. National Manpower Employment Outlook Survey as well as survey results for the 201 MSAs are available for viewing and downloading at [www.us.manpower.com/meos](http://www.us.manpower.com/meos).

**CPA**

**Roger F. Hackman,**

**CPA, P.C.**

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Consulting Services  
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Marshalltown, IA 50158

**(641) 752-3024**

Fax (641) 753-3942

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# BUSINESS NEWS

## Ambassadors Golf Outing

The Annual Ambassadors Golf Outing is scheduled for Thursday, August 20 at Elmwood Country Club. The day starts with a 1:30 shot gun start (please note change in start time) and will end with a banquet where flight winners will be announced.

If your business would like to be the presenting sponsor of this year's golf outing, please contact Lynn at the Chamber office. The Clubhouse Sponsor for this year's event is the Hampton Inn & Suites. Hole sponsorships are available again this year for \$75 per business. If your business is interested in sponsoring a hole, please fill out the Golf Outing flyer and return to the Chamber office.

Get ready for fun at the Annual Chamber Ambassadors Golf Outing on Thursday, August 20! Register online at [www.marshalltown.org](http://www.marshalltown.org).



**Annual Chamber Ambassadors Golf Outing  
Thursday, August 20**

**1:30 Shot-gun start (please note change in start time)**

**7:00 banquet meal**

**\$80 per golfer if registered by July 31.**

## Increase your online visibility

Research shows that over half of professionals search the web when looking to relocate or find a business. The Chamber's website's most viewed pages are the Online Business Directory, where all Chamber members are listed, and the relocation information. As a Chamber member, you receive a "Basic" listing on the Business Directory. That means your business is listed under one category (i.e. Electrical Contractor) with your complete business information: phone number, fax number, address and business representatives.

For as little as \$120 per year, your business can upgrade your online listing to include multiple categories, searchable key words, web link and email links. Being connected to a strong website like the Chamber's gives your website more power when online visitors search for your business on a search engine like Google.

This is a great time to increase your online visibility and promote your business. Let the Chamber help! Contact Lynn Olberding at the Chamber office for more information and discuss options at 641-753-6645.

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# CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU

For the time and a description of the events below, log on to the MCVB website's Calendar of Events at [www.VisitMarshalltown.com](http://www.VisitMarshalltown.com)

## July 2009

Event	Date	Location
Bingo	Tuesdays	Senior Citizens Center
Farmers Market	Wed. & Sat.	108 N. 2nd Avenue
Nature's Story Hour	July 1	GrimesFarm & Conservation
Dan Wardell Visits	July 1	Public Library
Municipal Band Concerts	July 2	Courthouse Square
4th of July Fireworks	July 4	Central IA Fairgrounds
Municipal Band Concert	July 4	Central IA Fairgrounds
Kids' Nutrition Camp	July 9	Hy-Vee
Municipal Band Concert	July 9	Courthouse Square
Grimes Farm Run	July 11	Grimes Farm
Textile & Fiber Art Fair	July 11	Fisher Community Center
Kids' Nutrition Camp	July 14	Hy-Vee
Senior Expo 2009	July 14	Art & Cultural Center
Central Iowa Fair	July 15-18	Central IA Fairgrounds
Nature's Story Hour	July 15	GrimesFarm & Conservation
Kids' Nutrition Camp	July 16	Hy-Vee
Municipal Band Concert	July 16	Central IA Fairgrounds
Market Daze	July 17-18	Main Street
Classic Vehicle Show	July 17	Main Street
Richie Lee concert	July 17	Main Street
Fire Dept Fundraiser	July 18	Ferguson
Linn Creek Arts Festival	July 19	Fisher Community Center
"Iowa Prairie Network"	July 20	Fisher Community Center
Walk to Health	July 22	Hy-Vee
Healthy Skin from Within	July 24	Hy-Vee Aisles
Relay for Life	July 25-26	MHS Track
Mid-IA Antique Power Show	July 31-Aug 2	8 Miles West of Marshalltown

Post your 2009 events on the MCVB self-posting calendar at [www.visitmarshalltown.com](http://www.visitmarshalltown.com)

## July 2009

Date	Group	Location
July 2	Vision Users Group	Best Western Regency Inn
July 10	IA League of the Cities	Best Western Regency Inn
July 10-11	MSA 16 Inch Districts	South 6th Street Complex
July 11	Classy Chassy Cruisers	Touring Marshalltown
July 11	BC Class of 1964	Best Western Regency Inn
July 15-17	ABE Institute	Best Western Regency Inn
July 17 & 18	Central IA Day Lily Society	Best Western Regency Inn
July 17-18	MSA Women's City Tourney	South 6th Street Complex
July 24-25	MSA 14 Inch Districts	South 6th Street Complex
July 25	Melbourne Alumni	Best Western Regency Inn
July 26 & 27	USPCA	Best Western Regency Inn
July 28 & 29	Commission of Vets Affairs	Best Western Regency Inn
July 30	Fraternal Congress Insurance	Best Western Regency Inn

## MCVB Events Calendar

If you haven't been to the Marshalltown Convention & Visitors Bureau website to look at the events calendar you may be missing out. The MCVB offers an events calendar for Marshalltown and its surrounding communities. The calendar is self posting, which means that you can add your event to the calendar at any time. Simply log onto our website at [www.visitmarshalltown.com](http://www.visitmarshalltown.com), click on the events calendar in the upper right hand corner of the screen and follow the instructions for posting an event. The MCVB calendar is a great way to promote your upcoming event or to see what fun events and programs are happening in our community.

## Central Iowa Fair

Make plans to attend this year's Central Iowa Fair, July 15-18. This year's theme is "Time to Shine" and celebrate the 104th fair. Activities are held at various times. Contests and competitions open to all ages. A week of 4-H livestock shows and judging. There are also many activities for the public to enjoy.

For complete details of the 104th Central Iowa Fair visit [www.centraliowafair.com](http://www.centraliowafair.com).



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**Valerie Vajgrt ★ Julie Blazek**  
**Kristin Polley ★ Martha Garcia**  
**Janet Miller ★ G. Ward Miller ★ Ginny Nielson**  
**Jane Chizek ★ Melody Bennett**  
**Phil Henning ★ Moises Garcia**  
**Beth Barrett ★ Joan Johnson**

# CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU

## July 4th Fireworks at the Central Iowa Fairgrounds

The Central Iowa Fairgrounds will host Marshalltown's Fourth of July events this year. Entertainment, food, beverage garden and kids activities will be set up on the grounds. Fireworks will start at dusk, but come early for the family fun! Karaoke will start off the day's events at 3pm followed by Keith Lambert - The Accordion Man, the World Famous Cloggers, Carl Giannetto as Elvis Presley and Linda Johnson. The Marshalltown Municipal Band will play until the first firework is shot off. There will be something for everyone at this year's July 4th Fireworks celebration.

## Plan your staycation in Marshalltown

Plan to stay around Marshalltown on July 17, 18 and 19 for a weekend of family fun. July 17 starts out with Market Daze. Incredible deals can be found on Main Street throughout the day on Friday and Saturday. Friday afternoon classic vehicles will flood downtown Marshalltown for a car show complete with Buddy Holly's Cricket Mobile. The evening will conclude with Richie Lee performing live his tribute to Buddy Holly. Saturday July 18 is Kid's Day at the Central Iowa Fair. Activities for all ages will be going on throughout the day. Plan to visit the Fisher Community Center and the Linn Creek Arts Festival on Sunday from 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Over 50 professional artists will be on display and selling their works including glass, ceramics, photography, jewelry sculpture, woodworking, painting and more. The festival will also include entertainment from World Port, wine tasting, various foods and kids activities. Mark your calendars now. You won't want to miss this weekend!



Go to [www.visitmarshalltown.com](http://www.visitmarshalltown.com) for a list of upcoming events, dining and lodging options, attractions and more!

### www.marshalltown.org Statistics

	May 09	YTD Total	Avg/Month
Unique Visitors	2,854	15,007	3,001
Number of Visits	4,256	23,014	4,603
Page Views	17,952	122,748	24,550
Hits	97,725	544,291	108,858

Don't forget to check the chamber website for business directory information, event photos, program information and calendar of events. Contact Lynn Olberding at the Chamber office for more information.

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- 6/30 Beef Barley Soup & French Dip Sandwich
- 7/1 Cream of Pork & Potato Soup & Club Melt
- 7/2 Chicken Dumpling Soup & Chicken Tender Melt
- 7/3 Italian Sausage Soup & Meatball Sandwich
- 7/4 Vegetable Beef Soup & Pub Sandwich
- 7/5 Chunky Potato & Ham Soup & BBQ Pork Sandwich
- 7/6 Chicken & Wild Rice Soup & Crispy Chicken & Ranch Wrap
- 7/7 Crab Alfredo Soup & Chicken Parmesan Sandwich
- 7/8 Beef Noodle Soup & Roast Beef & Swiss Ciabatta

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# AMBASSADORS VISITS



The Chamber Ambassadors celebrated the grand opening of the Iowa River Hospice Home (502 Plaza Heights Road) on May 26, with Executive Director Marilee Lawler, volunteers and staff.



Ken and Sarah Hesmer gave the Chamber Ambassadors a tour of Action Auto Parts (100 South 18th Avenue) on Tuesday, June 9, during a courtesy call, celebrating the business's more than 20 years as a Chamber member.



The Chamber Ambassadors visited one of Marshalltown's icons Taylor's Maid-Rite during a courtesy call on June 9. The business is located at 106 South 3rd Avenue and specializes in maid-rite sandwiches and malts.



View past issues of the Chamber Digest online at [www.marshalltown.org](http://www.marshalltown.org).



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Request a Ribbon Cutting or Courtesy Call at your location. The Ambassadors are the goodwill arm of the Chamber. Their scheduled time for courtesy calls and ribbon cuttings are at 4:30 p.m. and 4:45 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month.



Please contact the Chamber office if you would like to schedule a visit at your business.

Contact 641-753-6645 or [lolberding@marshalltown.org](mailto:lolberding@marshalltown.org).

# BUSINESS NEWS

## Thank You Reinvesting Members

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

Continued from Page 3.

Plumb Supply	11
Primary Health	1
R.S. Stover	49
RACOM	29
Raymon	21
Roseland, Mackey, Harris	7
Ryerson	22
Sage Point Financial	19
Scott Mfg.	24
ServiceMaster	24
Smiles in Motion	6
Strand's	33
Structural Engineers	22
<b>Swanco</b>	<b>45</b>
Taco John's	33
Taylor's Maid-Rite	49
Times-Republican	48
Triad Real Estate	29
Ultimate Web Design	3
United Way	41
<b>Vogel Family Funeral Homes</b>	<b>50</b>
Wachovia	31
Weidner Const.	31
Wolfe Clinic	17
Zeno's	47

## Business After Hours

**July 15, 2009**

5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Central Iowa Fair with  
Farmers Savings Bank  
1308 East Olive Street

**August 2009**

TBD

Flooring Gallery  
3110 South 6th Street

**September 10, 2009**

5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

U.S. Bank  
123 West Main Street

**Dates are already filling up for 2010. Contact Lynn Olberding at the Chamber office to schedule a Business After Hours event at your business.**

**These events are great ways to promote your business!**

## Thanks with Franks

It was another great year for the Thanks with Franks event in downtown Marshalltown. The Thanks with Franks committee would like to thank the community for their support and turn-out for this event and to the participating merchants who gave out 8,000 hot dogs.



Winners in the Times-Republican's hot dog eating contest were Mark Williams (Men's division, 10 hot dogs and buns) pictured second from left, and Donna Hinojosa (Women's division, 8 hot dogs and buns), far right.

### Winners

#### Best Tasting Dog


- 1st place - New Hope Christian Church
- 2nd place - The Bath & Kitchen Shop
- 3rd place - County Insurance & Financial

#### Best Theme Dog

- 1st Place - The Perfect Setting
- 2nd Place - Home Federal
- 3rd Place - Farmers Savings Bank

**People's Choice Award** (by votes) went to New Hope Christian Church.

The Chamber, MEDIC and MCVB offices will be closed on Friday, July 3.



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# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

## Micropolitan analysis reports

### Marshalltown's economic strength

Policom Corporation, an independent economic research firm which specializes in analyzing local and state economies, recently released a report which compares the economic strength of both metropolitan and micropolitan areas across the United States. This report is very positive for the Marshalltown micropolitan area.

The report ranks the economic strength of the Marshalltown area as 121st of the 574 micropolitan areas in the United States. This puts Marshalltown at the 21st percentile for economic strength for micropolitan areas nationwide. The state of Iowa has 15 designated micropolitan areas and Marshalltown ranks as one of the top micropolitans in Iowa.

Micropolitan statistical areas must have an urbanized core area of at least 10,000 population but less than 50,000 population and they must be at least one county. These areas were once looked upon as quasi rural areas. The micropolitan area designation was created by the US Census Bureau in 2003 and like the better-known metropolitan area, a micropolitan area is a geographic entity used for statistical purposes based on counties and county-equivalents.

The economic strength ratings are based on how the micropolitan economy has performed. Factors analyzed include earnings, jobs, wages, personal income and income maintenance (welfare) dependency levels, as well as construction and retail information. The formulas used to determine economic strength measure how the economy has behaved, not what has caused it to perform.

Marshalltown has made consistent progress in the past six years on the economic strength analysis report and has moved up from ranking 350th in 2004 to 194th in 2006 to the present 121st. This is objective proof of progress being made and of positive comparisons with state and national communities.

For additional information, go to [www.policom.com/microrank.htm](http://www.policom.com/microrank.htm).

### Iowa's 15 Micropolitans 2009 Rankings

(The lower the number the higher the ranking)

	2009	2006	2004
Burlington	110	148	292
Muscatine	118	302	419
Marshalltown	121	194	350
Clinton	149	187	287
Fort Dodge	187	170	253
Mason City	203	189	210
Pella	239	285	215
Fort Madison-Keokuk	287	399	517
Spencer	297	303	225
Spirit Lake	340	259	151
Ottumwa	344	268	417
Boone	381	411	405
Newton	385	416	325
Storm Lake	460	514	440
Oskaloosa	497	556	506

### Economic Statistics

April	2009	2008
<b>Employment – Marshall County</b>		
Labor force	20,300	20,390
Unemployed	1,240	890
Percent unemployed	6.1	4.3
Total employment	19,060	19,510
<b>Marshalltown Construction</b>		
Building permits	15	22
Residential dwelling units	0	3
New residential construction value	0	\$727,000
Residential addition/remodeling value	\$79,000	\$76,900
New commercial/industrial permits	0	4
New commercial/industrial value	0	\$66,000
Remodeling commercial/industrial value	\$596,000	\$4,540,000
<b>Marshall County Construction</b>		
Building permits	4	
<b>Housing</b>		
Single family home sales	29	28
Average sale price	\$108,472	\$102,759
Median sale price	\$95,900	\$78,000



For additional economic development information, please visit [www.marshalltownworks.com](http://www.marshalltownworks.com).

# www.everydaychampions.org

## 2009 Legislative Session Report Card

Senate Majority Leader Michael Gronstal predicted during the session that the Legislature would approve a string of labor-backed bills on topics including medical care options and the collection of fees from nonmembers. Gronstal also said Democratic legislative leaders have been working closely with Gov. Chet Culver as they craft the measures to increase the likelihood he will support the changes. Gronstal said the measures would reverse decades of public policy that tilted Iowa against unions.

Thanks to the pressure you helped put on legislators, your Chamber in partnership with our partners ICA, PDI and ABI were able to keep most of the anti-business issues from passing.

Issue	Chamber Position	Outcome
Fair Share – Allow unions to collect fees from non-union workers.	Strongly opposed	HF555 was filed but no action taken
Employee Choice of Doctor – Allows employees to choose their doctor in a workers comp injury	Strongly opposed	HF795 and SF155 were filed, but no action was taken
Prevailing Wage – Sets the wage rate for government contracted projects at the County prevailing wage	Strongly opposed	HF333 was defeated in House and the Senate did not act on the bill Smith – Voted yes Sweeney – Voted no Horbach – Voted no
Open-scope Collective Bargaining – A revision of public employee laws by adding items that can be negotiated as part of the union contract	Strongly opposed	HF821 was filed but no action was taken
Private cause of Action – Allows individuals to hire their own attorney to bring lawsuits alleging various types of “consumer fraud”	Opposed to the original bill, but it was revised to a more acceptable version	Bill passed and was signed by the Governor Smith – Voted yes Sweeney – Voted yes Horbach – Voted yes Sodders – Voted yes
Historic Tax Credits – Increased the historic preservation tax credit from \$20 million to \$30 million annually to spur downtown development	Supported	Bill passed and was signed by the Governor Smith – Voted yes Sweeney – Did not vote Horbach – Voted yes Sodders – Voted yes
Research & Dev. Tax Credits Kept R & D tax credits intact as an economic development tool but placed a \$185 million cap on the total amount of the credits	Supported without the cap, but did accept the cap to keep the incentive in place	Bill passed and was signed by the Governor Smith – Voted yes Sweeney – Voted no Horbach – Voted no Sodders – Voted yes

## Culver Pledges to Push Union Agenda Again

Following the adjournment of the General Assembly, Governor Culver expressed frustration that even though a number of pro-labor bills had passed this year, the bigger more radical Union Agenda items had not. He said, “I pledge to do everything I can to make sure those laws become a reality next legislative session” when asked about prevailing wage, expanded government union bargaining powers, right to work, and workers’ compensation choice of doctor.

Comments made by Senator Sodders and Representative Smith during the session about what the Governor stated would lead us to believe they support these issues. Ultimately it does come down to the specifics of each individual bill before an individual vote is cast, so we need to continue our work to make sure our elected officials understand the position of the business community on these important issues.

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## ATTORNEYS AT LAW

### CARTWRIGHT, DRUKER & RYDEN

Rex J. Ryden  
John F. Veldey  
Joel T.S. Greer  
Sharon Soorholtz Greer  
Melinda G. Young  
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641-752-5467, [www.cdrlaw.com](http://www.cdrlaw.com)

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James C. Ellefson  
Douglas W. Beals  
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Norma J. Meade  
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Benjamin J. Stansberry

26 S. 1st Avenue  
Suite 302  
Marshalltown  
641-752-4271  
[www.marshalltownlaw.com](http://www.marshalltownlaw.com)

## ATTORNEYS AT LAW

### JOHNSON, SUDENGA, LATHAM, PEGLOW, O'HARE

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Marshalltown  
752-8800

## AUTOMOTIVE

### ARNOLD MOTOR SUPPLY

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752-5225

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## CITY

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753-5236

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Would you like to have your Chamber Business listed? Contact your Times-Republican Sales Representative to have your Chamber Business Listed on this Chamber Directory.

# YOUNG PROFESSIONALS

## MYP announces strategic plan

In May, the members of the Marshalltown Young Professionals executive committee held a planning retreat to discuss the goals of the organization for the next three years. Below is a sampling of the group's priorities:

- Grow MYP membership to 100 paid members, with 50% of membership considered "active" (attending half of all events).
- Receive statewide recognition for being a "model" young professional organization.
- Help develop, recruit and retain Marshall County skilled workforce.
- Be a resource for MEDIC and other entities working to recruit new businesses and professionals to Marshalltown.

## Upcoming Events

July 1	Noon	Social Lunch at Tremont Sports Cafe
July 8	Noon	Social/Professional Dev. Committee Mtg.
July 10	7pm	Nite at the Races (Marshalltown Speedway)
July 15	8am	MYP Exec Mtg. (Fisher Comm. Center)
July 15	Noon	Lunch & Learn at Vogel Funeral Home
July 23	5 - 7pm	Thirsty Thursday (Jax)
August 5	6pm	Legends & Trivia Night (Legends)
August 12	Noon	YPCConnect Mtg.

## Do you spend more time planning your vacation than your financial future?

When you plan your vacation, you probably spend time visiting a travel agent, booking your flight and hotel, even consulting sightseeing guides. But, how much time do you spend planning something much more important--your financial future?

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Branch Office Manager  
25 S. Center St.  
Marshalltown, IA 50158  
641-752-2041  
800-369-1588



## Are you ready to join MYP?

Do you want to meet new people? Want to be more involved in the community? Would you like to have access to professional development opportunities? Maybe it's time to join the Marshalltown Young Professionals. The Marshalltown Young Professionals (MYP) organization was founded in 2005 and work to promote an environment that attracts and retains young professionals in the community. MYP also creates opportunities for individuals to interact with other people in Marshalltown. The organization's mission is to inform, connect, refer business and engage members in the growth and success of our community through social gatherings, facilitating professional development opportunities and welcoming new young professionals to the Marshalltown area. We are looking for individuals who have a desire to participate in Marshalltown Young Professionals events and to help promote the growth and strengthening of our community. If you are one of those individuals, contact the Chamber office at 753-6645, email [info@marshalltownyp.com](mailto:info@marshalltownyp.com) or visit the MYP website at [www.marshalltownyp.com](http://www.marshalltownyp.com). Cost for membership is just \$45 per year (for employees of Chamber member businesses).



  
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# BUSINESS NEWS

## Chamber offers social networking

The Marshalltown Area Chamber of Commerce recently added another feature to the list of membership benefits: Facebook.com.

Founded in 2004, Facebook.com offers millions of users opportunities to connect and network with friends and colleagues from across the county and around the globe. The Chamber recently created a "Marshalltown Area Chamber of Commerce" group on Facebook.com, allowing Chamber members to share ideas, ask question, engage in discussions and network online.

To utilize this membership benefit, you must have a Facebook account.

Facebook accounts are free of charge. Once you have an account, search for "Marshalltown Area



Find us on  
Facebook

Chamber of Commerce" and ask to be added to the group. This is a great way to stay in touch with other business professionals in the community.

The Marshalltown Young Professionals also have an online group on Facebook.com. All MYP members who have a Facebook account are encouraged to join the "Marshalltown Young Professionals" group.

Both groups are utilizing the Discussion Board feature of Facebook to identify and discuss issues impacting your business.

## Follow the Chamber and MYP on Twitter

Log on to Twitter.com to create an account and receive updates on what the Chamber and Marshalltown YP are doing.



## Chamber wants to hear from you

As the Chamber unveils its 2009/2010 program of work, Chamber staff and the Board of Directors are asking for your input on some programming ideas for 2009/2010. Please take a few moments to complete this short survey online: [http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=t7Dek1\\_2fFI-ZysOC6Z2Bgqag\\_3d\\_3d](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=t7Dek1_2fFI-ZysOC6Z2Bgqag_3d_3d). All participating businesses will be entered to win a chance at free table space/sponsorship at the November Business-to-Business Showcase, simply for answering the eight question survey.

Responses must be received by August 15 for a chance to win the B2B table sponsorship. All responses are confidential.

For your copy of the 2008/2009 Chamber Annual Report, please stop by the Chamber office Monday - Thursday 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Friday 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. or by emailing [lolberding@marshalltown.org](mailto:lolberding@marshalltown.org). Reports are provided free of charge to all Chamber members.



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