

# Chamber Digest

February 2011

Volume 28 Issue 9



## Upcoming Events

- February 8:** Taste of Marshalltown, 5 - 7pm,  
Fisher Community Center
- February 11:** Chamber's Friday Forum, Noon,  
Fisher Community Center
- February 18 - 20:** Improve Home & Business  
Expo, Marshall Town Center
- February 25:** Chamber's Friday Forum, Noon  
Fisher Community Center

## In This Issue

- Member Spotlight - Animal Rescue League**  
Page 2
- New Members**  
Page 2
- Leadership / Reinvesting Members**  
Page 3
- Faces & Places**  
Page 4
- Convention & Visitors Bureau Tourism News**  
Pages 6 & 7
- Ribbon Cuttings**  
Page 8
- MEDIC Economic Development News**  
Page 10
- Business Directory**  
Pages 12 - 14
- Marshalltown Young Professionals**  
Page 15
- Business News**  
Page 16

## Improve Home and Business Expo

Spring is right around the corner and that means it's time for the Chamber's annual Home show. Renamed the Improve Home and Business Expo, this year's show will introduce new events and vendors to attendees.

"The Improve Home and Business Expo is a great way for businesses to promote their products and services," said Jeff Vance, Chamber Board Vice Chair of Membership Services. "We encourage businesses who may not have felt they fit into the 'home' category to participate in the show this year with the new format."

The Improve Home and Business Expo will run Friday, February 18 from 5:00 - 9:00 p.m., Saturday, February 19 from 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. and Sunday, February 20 from Noon - 5:00 p.m. at Marshall Town Center, located at 2500 South Center Street in Marshalltown.



### 2011 Improve Home & Business Expo

Friday, February 18: 5:00 - 9:00 p.m.  
Saturday, February 19: 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
Sunday, February 20: Noon - 5:00 p.m.  
Marshall Town Center  
2500 South Center Street - Marshalltown  
Open to the public

Participating businesses include (please note, list may not be complete):

- 1230 KFJB – Kix 101.1
- 1st Rate Real Estate
- A-One Geothermal
- B & G HVAC
- Baxter Oil Co./Geothermal Systems
- C.N.A. Company
- Concept by Iowa Hearing Aid Center
- Country Pine Mowers
- C's Landscape & Design
- Edward Jones – Reyes & Burns
- Fauna Nord & Shari Upah – Coldwell Banker
- Iowa Bath Systems
- Kapaun & Brown
- KDAO AM/FM/TV
- Members 1st Community Credit Union
- Met Life Home Loans
- Midwest Construction
- Myers Home Improvements
- New Horizons Realty
- Pro Cellular
- Rebath of Central Iowa
- RetroFoam of Iowa
- Schendel Pest Control
- Screenbuilders
- U.S. Energy Savers
- Waterbeck Spray Foam & Construction
- Wells Fargo Home Mortgage
- Window World

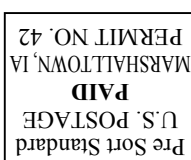
Space is still available, but filling up fast. Contact Lynn Olberding at the Chamber office at 641-753-6645 for more information or find registration materials online at the Chamber's website: [www.marshalltown.org](http://www.marshalltown.org).

*Continued on page 9.*

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Marshalltown Area Chamber of Commerce  
P.O. Box 1000  
Marshalltown, IA 50158



# MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

## Animal Rescue League (ARL) of Marshalltown

The Animal Rescue League of Marshalltown is a shelter for animals that are strays, lost, or abandoned. ARL's primary focus is on feeding, housing, and caring for these animals.

The ARL was founded in 1948 by a group of forward-thinking individuals who recognized the need for an agency that would be responsible for animal control while also providing shelter for the lost and homeless dogs and cats of Marshalltown and the surrounding areas. Over the past six decades, the shelter has undergone several transformations, including the latest remodeling project, which created space for 24 adoptable dogs, 20 adoptable cats, and an area to house animals waiting to be moved to adoption. ARL employs a staff of 10 individuals who share the same passion and vision the founders had more than 60 years ago.

In addition to providing adoption services, ARL also provides after-life care through cremation and has a pet cemetery located on the premises. ARL also maintains contracts with the City of Marshalltown, Marshall County, and other surrounding communities to provide animal control services and investigation of animal abuse reports.

In spite of ARL's efforts to help as many animals as possible, their work relies heavily on their partnerships with donors in the community. Many people don't realize that ARL of Marshalltown is a private organization whose primary funding comes from donations and fundraisers. The adoption fees do not cover all expenses incurred by the ARL when pets are adopted.



Executive Director, Heidi Drager credited the success of the ARL of Marshalltown to a community "full of generous, animal-loving people". She further added, "Our shelter thrives because of the strong support from those people. We could not do all the good we do without that support."

Drager credits the Marshalltown Area Chamber of Commerce for helping ARL to reach more people, promote fundraising events, and provide some great opportunities for networking and catching up with old friends through their "Business After Hours" program each month.

"We have big plans for the Animal Rescue League", says Drager. Plans in the upcoming months include rebuilding the stray holding area to create a more healthful environment, expanding outreach programs to reach more children, and creating new programs to help people understand the importance of humane treatment of animals.



Also in the works are programs being developed to increase animal enrichment and to help make their stay with ARL more enjoyable.

The ARL of Marshalltown provides adoption services primarily for cats and dogs; however, they occasionally receive smaller animals such as ferrets, guinea pigs, rabbits, or birds.

To learn more about the Animal Rescue League, visit their website at [www.arlmarshalltown.com](http://www.arlmarshalltown.com) or call 641-753-9046. The ARL is located at 1921 Taylor Avenue in Marshalltown.



### 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.

#### Gym Digs

Lynnette Liston, Owner  
905 North 3rd Avenue, PO Box 1862  
Marshalltown, IA 50158  
641-752-3422

*Gym Digs is a fitness center, specializing in activewear, exercise and dance apparel, gymnastic leotards and dance costumes.*

#### Storey Kenworthy Office Products & Interiors

Francis Kinion  
City Centre Building, 16 East Main Street, Suite 120  
Marshalltown, IA 50158  
641-752-9245

*Storey Kenworthy is a full-service office supply provider, including office interiors, printing and promotional items.*

Would your business like to be featured as a Member Spotlight in the Chamber Digest? Email [lolberding@marshalltown.org](mailto:lolberding@marshalltown.org) for details. Members drawn at random.

# LEADERSHIP

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**Board of Directors**

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**Abie Chadderdon**  
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**Susan Untiedt**

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City of Marshalltown  
**Brian Burnside**  
MMSC  
**Dr. Chris Duree**  
IVCCD  
**Denny Grabenbauer**  
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**Dr. Marvin Wade**  
MCSD  
**Liz Wilke**  
MCVB

**MCVB**  
Chair: Bob Wenner



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**Jennifer Howard**  
**Dan Moellers**  
**Fauna Nord**  
**Gary Robertson**  
**Gary Ross**  
**Chad Weir**

## Staff

**Ken Anderson**  
President  
**Lynn Olberding**  
Director of Membership & Marketing  
**Megan Bantz**  
Administrative Assistant  
**Joel Akason**  
MEDIC President  
**Kenn Vinson**  
MEDIC Business Manager  
**Shannon Espenscheid**  
MCVB Director  
**Sauna Banks**  
Administrative Assistant  
  
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: Don Turbiville



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Chamber Chair  
  
**Gene Beach**  
**Pat Brooks**  
**Paul Gregoire**  
**Brian Heithoff**  
**Mike Miller**  
**Loras Neuroth**  
**Mike Schlesinger**  
**Kevin Swartz**  
**David Vollmar**

## Ex-Officio

**State Representative**  
**Mark Smith**  
**State Senator**  
**Steve Sadders**

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.



Animal Rescue League	3
Bergman CPA	1
Center Associates	19
Chase Insurance Services	24
Country Pine Mowers	14
Culligan Water Conditioning	14
Dairy Queen, Center Street	8
Dejardin, Conrad	13
Edward Jones - Reyes & Burns	3
Energy Shield	1
Roger Hackman, CPA, P.C.	7
<b>Harthun, Floyd</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Interface Sealing Solutions</b>	<b>15</b>
Iowa Bath Systems	8
Isle of Green	16
KRTI Radio 106.7 FM	16
Koehler, Paul	4
Kwik Star #607	16
<b>Lillie Mae Chocolates</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Linn Valley Apartments, Inc.</b>	<b>15</b>
MAMA DiGrado's	4
Marshall Co. Conservation	3
Marshalltown Board of Realtors	19
Marshalltown Packaging Co.	17
<b>Martha-Ellen Tye Foundation</b>	<b>10</b>
Maxim Advertising	3
Mid-Iowa Community Action,	8
Midwest Construction	2
<b>Morgan-Hauser Steel Inc.</b>	<b>15</b>
Pizza Hut Delivery	18
Pro Cellular	1
RHarts Greenlawn, Inc.	1
River Oaks, LP	12
Screenbuilders	1
<b>Sears of Marshalltown</b>	<b>10</b>
SportsPlus	11
Steiner & Associates PC	7
Trinity Lutheran Church	6
Willard's Furs and Fashions	92



www.marshalltown.org

## Business After Hours

**February 8, 2011**

5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Taste of Marshalltown  
Fisher Community Center  
709 South Center Street

*Featuring food and beverages  
from Chamber member businesses*

**March 24, 2011**

4:00 - 6:30 p.m.

Marshalltown Broadcasting  
(KFJB, KIX 101.1)  
123 West Main Street

**April 12, 2011**

5:00 - 7:00

Child Abuse Prevention Services  
and Big Brothers Big Sisters  
811 East Main Street

**May 2011**

Five Star Real Estate Group  
2110 South Center Street

**June 2011**

Available for sponsorship

**July 14, 2011**

5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Central Iowa Fair  
1308 East Olive Street

**Book your 2011 Business After  
Hours event now!**

**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!**

# FACES & PLACES

**Faces & Places** is a monthly 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 six 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.

## Olberding receives professional designation from U.S. Chamber of Commerce

Lynn Olberding, IOM, Director of Membership & Marketing, of the Marshalltown Area Chamber of Commerce has received the designation of IOM (Institute for Organization Management) from the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. This professional development program of the U.S. Chamber is a comprehensive course of study consisting of four annual sessions focusing on professional growth and development for association, chamber, and other nonprofit professionals.

"Institute graduates are recognized across the country as leaders in their communities," said Raymond P. Towle, IOM, CAE, the U.S. Chamber's vice president of Institute for Organization Management. "These individuals have the knowledge, skills, and dedication to achieve professional and organizational success in the dynamic association and chamber industries."

Since 1921, Institute has attracted association and chamber professionals from across the country to its five university sites. During the four years, most Institute participants attend the one-week sessions at the same site, building valuable relationships with others in the industry. Through a combination of required courses and electives, Institute participants are able to enhance their own organizational management skills and add new fuel to their organizations, making them run more efficiently and effectively.

"Institute provides the most comprehensive professional development available in our profession," said James A. Chavez, IOM, President and CEO of the Clarksville Area Chamber of Commerce and chairman of the Institute Board of Trustees. "The program allows attendees to share today's best practices in an ever changing economic environment."

Graduates of Institute receive the IOM recognition, signifying completion of 96 hours of course instruction in nonprofit management.

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## State Legislators



**Senator Tim L. Kapucian**  
Republican, District 20

**Standing Committee Assignments**

- Agriculture
- Appropriations
- Natural Resources and Environment
- Transportation (Ranking Member)

Transportation, Infrastructure, and Capitals  
Appropriations Subcommittee (Ranking Member)

Legislative Email: [tim.kapucian@legis.state.ia.us](mailto:tim.kapucian@legis.state.ia.us)  
Home Email: [tkgrainandlvstk@hotmail.com](mailto:tkgrainandlvstk@hotmail.com)  
Home Phone: 319.442.5337  
Home Address: 1275 - 69th St, Keystone IA, 52249



**Senator Steven J. Soddors**  
Democrat, District 22

**Standing Committee Assignments**

- Economic Growth/Rebuild Iowa (Chair)
- Education
- Government Oversight (Vice Chair)
- Judiciary
- State Government
- Veterans Affairs

Legislative Email: [steve.soddors@legis.state.ia.us](mailto:steve.soddors@legis.state.ia.us)  
Home Phone: 641.483.2383  
Home Address: Box 723, 202 Fifth Ave SE, State Center IA, 50247

## 2011 Des Moines Summit & Legislative Day

**Tuesday, March 1**

Cost is \$15 per person, including transportation  
and lunch.

Register online:

[www.marshalltown.org/chamber/events.php](http://www.marshalltown.org/chamber/events.php)



**State Representative Lance J. Horbach**  
Republican, District 40

**Standing Committee Assignments**

- Commerce
- Labor (Chair)
- Local Government

Justice System Appropriations Subcommittee

Legislative Email: [lance.horbach@legis.state.ia.us](mailto:lance.horbach@legis.state.ia.us)  
Home Phone: 641.484.2348  
Home Address: 1014 Oakland Drive, Tama IA, 52339



**State Representative Mark D. Smith**  
Democrat, District 43

**Standing Committee Assignments**

- Administration and Rules
- Environmental Protection
- Ethics
- Human Resources
- Judiciary

Legislative Email: [mark.smith@legis.state.ia.us](mailto:mark.smith@legis.state.ia.us)  
Home Phone: 641.750.9278  
Home Address: 816 Roberts Terrace, Marshalltown IA, 50158



**State Representative Annette Sweeney**  
Republican, District 44

**Standing Committee Assignments**

- Agriculture (Chair)
- Education
- Natural Resources
- Veterans Affairs

Agriculture and Natural Resources  
Appropriations Subcommittee

Legislative Email: [annette.sweeney@legis.state.ia.us](mailto:annette.sweeney@legis.state.ia.us)  
Home Address: 21547 Hwy S27, Alden IA, 50006  
Capitol Phone: 515.281.3221

For more information on the 2011 Iowa General Assembly, visit  
[www.legis.iowa.gov](http://www.legis.iowa.gov).

# 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)

## February 2011 Calendar of Events

Event	Date	Location
Bingo	Tuesdays	Senior Citizens Center
Duplicate Bridge	Wednesdays	Senior Citizens Center
Storytime	Tues/Fri	Public Library
Nature Story Hour	Feb 2	GrimesFarm & Conservation
Meyer Artist Reception	Feb 4	Fisher Community Center
"Charlotte's Web"	Feb 4-6	Orpheum Theater Center
Kids Open Studio	Feb 5	FCC Art Studio
Magazine Giveaway	Feb 5	Public Library
Belgian Waffle Brunch	Feb 5	Knights of Columbus Hall
Souper Bowl Sunday	Feb 6	Downtown Stores
Brown Bag Bunch	Feb 8	GrimesFarm & Conservation
Photo Contest Reception	Feb 9	GrimesFarm & Conservation
Bingo	Feb 10	Central Iowa Fairgrounds
"Almost, Maine"	Feb 11-13	Martha Ellen Tye Playhouse
"Dirty Dancing"	Feb 11-13	Orpheum Theater Center
Indoor Racing	Feb 12	Central IA Fairgrounds
Kids Open Studio	Feb 12	FCC Art Studio
Uncle Ike Nature Program	Feb 12	GrimesFarm & Conservation
Olde Tyme Hymn Sing	Feb 13	First Presbyterian Church
<b>Happy Valentine's Day</b>	<b>Feb 14</b>	
Nature Story Hour	Feb 16	GrimesFarm & Conservation
Lincoln/Hawkeye State	Feb 17	Public Library
"Almost, Maine"	Feb 18-19	Martha Ellen Tye Playhouse
"Ghost"	Feb 18-20	Orpheum Theater Center
Book Sale	Feb 19-20	Public Library
Kids Open Studio	Feb 19	FCC Art Gallery
Woodworking for Wildlife	Feb 19	GrimesFarm & Conservation
2011 Bridal Expo	Feb 20	Best Western Regency Inn
Deer Antler Scoring	Feb 22	GrimesFarm & Conservation
Bingo	Feb 24	Central Iowa Fairgrounds
"Casablanca"	Feb 25-27	Orpheum Theater Center

Post your 2011 events FREE on the MCVB self-posting calendar at [www.visitmarshalltown.com](http://www.visitmarshalltown.com)

## February 2011 Meetings & Conventions

Group	Date	Location
MHS Championship Reunion	Feb 4	MHS Roundhouse
Boys H.S. State Swim Meet	Feb 12	Community Y
AAU Volleyball Tournament	Feb 26	Community Y
Hy-Vee My Y Triathlon	Feb 26	Community Y
IA Amateur Softball Assn.	Feb 26	Best Western Regency Inn
MOBI	Feb 26-27	Lenihan and Miller Schools

## Food safety course offered by ISU Marshall County Extension

If you are a food service provider, it's your job to ensure that the food you serve is safe.

Consumers are more aware today about food safety and foodborne illnesses than they were a decade ago. Help is here. Iowa State University Extension offers food safety training classes for food service professionals throughout the year.

ServSafe is an eight-hour certification course for all foodservice employees, especially managers, and includes a national exam for certification. In Marshall County, the next class will be from 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Thursday, February 3, at the Marshall County Extension office at 2608 South 2nd Street in Marshalltown. To register or for information on other classes, contact Jody Gatewood, Nutrition and Health Program specialist, at 515-669-7825 or [jodyg@iastate.edu](mailto:jodyg@iastate.edu).



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



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**Kristin Polley ★ Martha Garcia**  
**Janet Miller ★ G. Ward Miller**  
**Jane Chizek ★ Melody Bennett**  
**Phil Henning ★ Moises Garcia**  
**Joan Johnson ★ Robin Runge**  
**Connie Mogard ★ Cortney Watson**

# CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU

## Marshalltown's Annual Events

Each year Marshalltown hosts various festivals and events. Check out all of the community events on MCVB's website: [www.visitmarshalltown.com](http://www.visitmarshalltown.com). Be sure to mark your calendar and attend one or all of the events listed below:



May 7	Garden Extravaganza	Main Street Marshalltown
June 4	Hispanic Heritage Festival	Main Street Marshalltown
June 16-19	State Center Rose Festival	State Center
June 24-25	State BBQ Championships	Riverview Park
July 4	Fourth of July Celebration	Central Iowa Fairgrounds
July 13-17	Central Iowa Fair	Central Iowa Fairgrounds
July 17	Linn Creek Arts Festival	Fisher Community Center
July 23	Classic Car Show	Main Street Marshalltown
Aug 5-7	Mid-Iowa Antique Power	Hwy 30 & Jessup Ave.
August 6	Central Iowa Music Festival	Main Street Marshalltown
Aug	Meskwaki Pow Pow	Tama
Sept 22-25	Oktemberfest	Main Street Marshalltown
Oct 6	Art Walk	Main Street Marshalltown
Nov 19	Holiday Stroll	Main Street Marshalltown

Please use the MCVB's self posting calendar at [www.visitmarshalltown.com](http://www.visitmarshalltown.com) to advertise an upcoming event or see what other events are happening in and around Marshalltown.

## Marshalltown Chosen to Host 2011 Travel Iowa Marketplace

The planning committee and event organizers for the Travel Iowa Marketplace just announced that Marshalltown will host the September 29, 2011 event. The Marshalltown Convention & Visitors Bureau and Iowa Valley Continuing Education/MCC worked together in submitting the proposal.

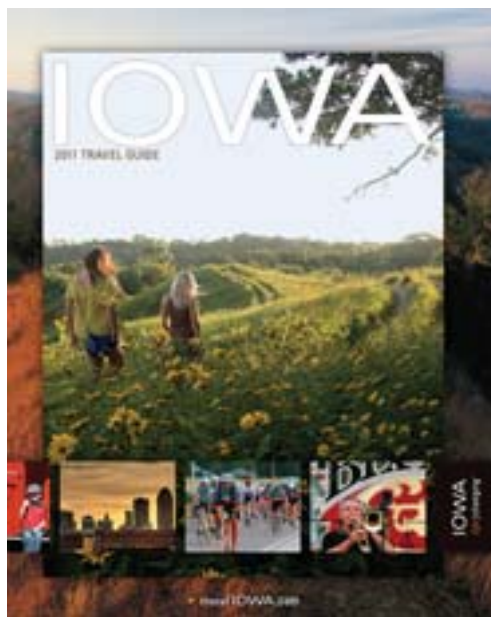
The event draws group travel planners from Iowa and surrounding states to attend workshops, roundtable discussions and a travel industry trade show. The workshops and discussions will take place on the Iowa Valley campus while the trade show will be held in the Student Activity Center. This will be the first large scale trade show to be held in the facility.

In addition to the Marketplace, tour planners will also be given a familiarization tour. The Marshalltown Convention & Visitors Bureau will be putting together an itinerary featuring attractions in and around Marshalltown.

**Right: MCVB Director Shannon Espenscheid attends the 2010 Travel Iowa Marketplace. The 2011 event will be held in Marshalltown on September 29. Iowa Valley Continuing Education and the MCC Student Activity Center will be utilized.**



## 2011 Iowa Travel Guide Available



The Iowa Travel Guide is available to order online from [www.traveliowa.com](http://www.traveliowa.com) or by phone at 800-345-IOWA. All Iowa Welcome Centers stock the guide as well. An online version of the updated guide is available at [www.traveliowa.com](http://www.traveliowa.com).

The four-color, 184-page guide is Iowa's comprehensive trip-planning publication, with listings from more than 700 attractions, 750 hotels, 220 bed and breakfasts and 350 campgrounds. Nearly 50 listings have been added including the Glenn Miller Birthplace Museum in Clarinda, the Orpheum Theatre Center in Marshalltown and Cedar Ridge Winery and Distillery in Swisher.

"People continue to value their travel and the break from routine it provides," said Shawna Lode, manager of the Iowa Tourism Office. "But we know they're also looking for affordable destinations. The 2011 Travel Guide provides a wealth of choices for people as they begin to make travel plans."

Travelers are encouraged to connect with the Iowa Tourism Office on Twitter (@Travel\_Iowa) and Facebook ([www.facebook.com/IowaTourism](http://www.facebook.com/IowaTourism)) as well as upload Iowa vacation photos to the Travel Iowa Flickr Pool ([www.flickr.com/groups/traveliowa](http://www.flickr.com/groups/traveliowa)).

Tourism is a \$6.1 billion industry in Iowa, employing more than 63,000 people statewide and generating more than \$312 million in state taxes. The Iowa Tourism Office is part of the Iowa Department of Economic Development. For more information about Iowa tourism, visit [www.traveliowa.com](http://www.traveliowa.com), call 800.345.IOWA or stop at any Iowa Welcome Center.

# AMBASSADORS VISITS



Mark and Fauna Nord, owners of Let'S Dance ballroom dance studio, 236 North 13th Street, prepare to cut the ribbon during their grand opening celebration on January 7.

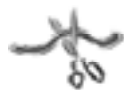


United Bank and Trust President Kathy Baker and staff pose with the Chamber Ambassadors during a courtesy call visit on January 11. The bank is located at 2101 South Center Street.



Jay Merryman, Branch Manager of Wells Fargo Advisors (14 East Southridge Road) and advisors Jim Hunt and Roger Kaput were visited by the Chamber Ambassadors on January 11 for a courtesy call.

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.

Contact 641-753-6645 or lolberding@marshalltown.org.

**the Chamber**  
Marshalltown, Iowa

View past issues of the Chamber Digest, ribbon cutting and courtesy call photos and much more online at [www.marshalltown.org](http://www.marshalltown.org).

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# BUSINESS NEWS

## Improve Home and Business Expo

*Continued from page 1.*

In addition to the Home and Business Expo, a special Home-Based Business Gift Mart is planned for Saturday, February 19 from 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Participating vendors in this one-day event include Avon, Mary Kay, The Pampered Chef, Partylite Candles, Premier Designs Jewelry and Tastefully Simple. Space is still available for this one-day event. Home-based businesses interested in participating should contact Lynn Olberding at the Chamber office.

"We are also excited to partner with the Central Iowa Art Association again this year," Vance said. "They will have an artist on hand to do face painting on Saturday afternoon, as well as some other possible activities planned."

If your organization would like to be involved in the 2011 Improve Home and Business Expo, contact the Chamber office at 641-753-6645.

Admittance to the expo is free of charge and the event is open to the public.



## www.marshalltown.org Statistics

	Dec 10	Avg/Month	YTD Total
Unique Visitors	1,953	2,350	28,205
Number of Visits	2,808	3,741	44,894
Page Views	14,000	15,110	181,324
Hits	80,461	93,500	1,121,996

The Chamber's website traffic continues to be strong. Is now the time to consider upgrading your listing and increasing your online visibility?

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.

## 2011 Washington DC Summit

The next planning meeting for the 2011 Washington DC Summit is scheduled for 9:00 a.m. on Friday, February 4 at the Fisher Community Center.

The dates for this year's Summit are April 5 - 7. To be included in the Summit planning, please contact the Chamber office.



Have you visited the Chamber website lately?  
Go online to [www.marshalltown.org](http://www.marshalltown.org) for the online directory, Chamber news and upcoming events.

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[24778-v3-335] IM-46-1205

# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

## Akason Leaves for St. Paul Post



**Joel Akason**

Joel Akason, President of the Marshall Economic Development Impact Committee (MEDIC), will be leaving the position February 11 for the position of Executive Director of the Capital City Partnership in St. Paul, Minnesota. For the past five years, Akason has led the economic development efforts for Marshalltown and Marshall County. Those efforts included retention and expansion of existing businesses and industries, attraction of businesses to the area and the encouragement of entrepreneurial ventures within Marshalltown and Marshall County. During his tenure there have been many success stories, most notably the Emerson Global Data Recovery Center, Emerson Innovation Center, JBS regional distribution center, Mechdyne

technical center expansion, the attraction of Cretex Concrete Products and many other smaller but important projects, representing tens of millions of dollars of investment.

“The City of Marshalltown and surrounding area have been fortunate to have the services of Joel over the last five years,” said MEDIC Board Chair, Don Turbiville. “We wish Joel the best of luck and look forward to finding his replacement and continuing the hard work of the MEDIC organization.”

“Community success doesn’t just happen on its own, it takes motivated people who are dedicated to seeing projects through. Joel has been one of those people for Marshalltown,” said City of Marshalltown Housing and Community Development Director Michelle Spohnheimer. “It has been his excitement and perseverance that have resulted in so many great projects the past five years. Marshalltown will miss Joel but we can all be thankful for the time he spent here and the positive direction he helped our community move.”

In his role as Executive Director for the Capital City Partnership, Akason will be responsible for the groups efforts to create jobs by retaining and promoting the expansion of existing St. Paul businesses, creating an awareness that St. Paul is an attractive option for companies contemplating a move within the region and state and promoting the growth of new start-up companies in St. Paul. He will also collaborate with a new Minneapolis – St. Paul regional economic development partnership that is aimed at marketing a broader 13 county metro area.

The Chamber, MCVB and MEDIC staff members would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank Joel for his guidance, leadership and friendship over the last five years. The staff also looks forward to the new chapter in the organization’s book as Joel’s replacement is hired and begins working on projects to continue to move Marshalltown and the surrounding area forward. Akason’s drive, enthusiasm and forward-looking vision will be greatly missed. The St. Paul opportunity is a good move for the Akasons and we wish Joel and his family the best in their new venture.

## Economic Statistics

November	2010	2009
Employment – Marshall County		
Labor force	20,320	20,450
Unemployed	1,390	1,330
Percent unemployed	6.9	7.5
Total employment	18,920	18,920
Marshalltown Construction		
Building permits	12	5
Residential dwelling units	0	0
New residential construction valuation	\$0	\$0
Residential addition/remodeling valuation	\$62,000	\$24,000
New commercial/industrial permits	0	0
New commercial/industrial valuation	\$0	\$0
Remodeling commercial/industrial	\$240,000	\$44,000
Marshall County Construction		
Building permits	3	1
New Residential Dwelling Units	3	1
New Residential Construction Value	\$430,000	\$203,000
Residential addition/remodeling valuation	\$5,000	\$0
New commercial/industrial permits	0	0
New commercial/industrial valuation	\$0	\$0
Housing		
Single family home sales	28	31
Average sale price	\$108,004	\$88,482
Median sale price	\$87,500	\$88,900



**For additional economic development information, please visit**  
[www.marshalltownworks.com](http://www.marshalltownworks.com).  
**It is a great resource for current demographic information about Marshalltown, Marshall County and the state of Iowa.**



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**CLU, LUTCF**  
**641-752-1400**

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# BUSINESS NEWS

## Wind Energy Conference

An all-day regional conference on wind energy will be held on February 3 at the Recreational Center in Melbourne.

The morning session will focus on wind energy concepts, regulations surrounding tax rebates and incentives, and the renewable energy grant program. Participants will have the opportunity to discuss their wind energy concerns with different speakers.

The afternoon session will include discussions on how to put your wind energy project together, discussions with utility company representatives and early adopters on challenges faced and benefits derived.

Registration fees are \$30 per participant if received along with the registration form two (2) days ahead of the workshop. Late registrations are \$40 per participant provided space is available. Registration fee includes lunch. Full refunds will only be issued for cancellation requests received by 5:00 p.m. two days in advance of the conference date. For directions and questions, please contact the Marshall County Extension Office at 641-752 - 1551.

**Taste of Marshalltown Business After Hours**  
Tuesday, February 8 (5:00 - 7:00 p.m.)  
Fisher Community Center - 709 South Center Street

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Have you considered hosting a Business After Hours event? It's a great way to get Chamber members into your business and showcase what you do! 2011 dates available!



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# BUSINESS DIRECTORY

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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

## Upcoming MYP Events

### February

2	Social Lunch at Mama DiGrado's	Noon
5	Progressive dinner	6 - 9 pm
11	MYP Lunch & Learn & Friday Forum	Noon

### March

2	Social Lunch at HyVee	Noon
16	MYP Lunch & Learn: TBD	Noon
17	St. Patrick's Day Happy Hour at Legends	4 - 6 pm

### April

6	Social Lunch at Junction Bar & Grill	Noon
20	MYP Lunch & Learn: TBD	Noon

### May

4	Social Lunch at Haven	Noon
18	MYP Lunch & Learn: TBD	Noon

Please note: All dates/times/topics are subject to change.

### Do you know a young professional in the community that may be interested in the Marshalltown Young Professionals?

Employees of Chamber member businesses can join MYP now for just \$25!

Now is a great time to get involved! You won't want to miss all of the great events planned for 2011.

For more information, please contact Lynn Olberding at the Chamber office, 641-753-6645



## MYP Member Spotlight: Stacey McKim

**Name:** Stacey McKim

**Employer:** Marshalltown Public Library

**Hometown:** Altoona, IA

**What does your job entail?** I'm in the head of the library's reference department, where anyone can ask any kind of research or informational question – every day is completely different! I also select the adult non-fiction books, graphic novels, and reference materials for the library, and I attempt to be the IT person when anything breaks.

**How long have you been employed at your current employer?** 4.5 years

**What was your first job?** Adventureland games employee (think Skee-Ball, Ring Toss, guessing people's ages and weights...)

**What's the last book you read:** Titus Groan by Mervyn Peake, which was fantastic

**Why are you involved in MYP?** I appreciate learning more about local businesses and organizations at the Lunch and Learns, and I support MYP's mission to make Marshalltown an attractive place for young people to live.

**What other community organization are you involved in?** I'm a member of the Arts & Culture Alliance and the Central Iowa Art Association.

I also created the posters for the Marshalltown Zombie Walks!

**What's one of the best things about living/working in Marshalltown?** The cheese quesadillas at El portal, and being near my family in the Des Moines and Ames areas.

**What's something about you most people don't know?** I studied abroad in Nottingham, England (the home of Robin Hood) for my junior year of college.



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# BUSINESS NEWS

## 2nd Annual Taste of Marshalltown Business After Hours

The Chamber is excited to host the 2nd Annual Taste of Marshalltown Business After Hours on Tuesday, February 8 at the Fisher Community Center. The event will take place from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Participating vendors include (list may not be complete): Best Western Regency Inn (Junction Bar & Grille), Haven, Hy-Vee, John Ernest Vineyard & Winery, Legends American Grill, Morning Glory Bakery, and Smokin' G's BBQ Catering. Additional spots are available for food-related Chamber member businesses.

"The Taste of Marshalltown event is all about having a good time and making some new contacts," said Chamber Board Vice Chair for Membership Services, Jeff Vance. "It's a way for our local Chamber member grocery stores, caterers, restaurants, food and wine distributors and other food vendors to talk about the products and services they can provide to local businesses and individual consumers. It's an event you won't want to miss!"



### Taste of Marshalltown

Tuesday, February 8

5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Fisher Community Center Auditorium

709 South Center Street - Marshalltown

Open to all employees of Chamber member businesses. Not open to the public.



Ulises Cisneros  
Agent-CSA



Tyler Stralin  
Agent



Pat Hageman  
Agent



Lance Horbach  
Agent



Paul Beals  
Agent



Lorin Neuroth  
Agent



Mark Rohde  
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