

Chamber Digest

December 2009

Volume 27 Issue 7



Upcoming Events

November 26: Thanksgiving - Chamber office closed

December 2: Iowa Chamber Alliance Legislative Leadership Luncheon (Des Moines)

December 3: Business Leaders Government Affairs Luncheon (11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.)

December 16: Business After Hours (5:00 - 7:00 p.m., US Bank)

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Chamber announces 2010 Legislative priorities

Our ability to grow the economy of Iowa demands that our State leaders aggressively address the budget dilemma and return our State to sound government financial and regulatory policies.

The Chamber Board of Directors believe very strongly that if we are to grow, we must preserve our business foundation. Therefore we must keep Iowa's standing as a "Right-to-Work" state. A number of proposals have been offered that if adopted, would increase costs to businesses and to citizens and would, in our opinion, erode Iowa's business environment.

We strongly oppose measures like employee choice of doctor in the workers comp system that would increase the cost by an estimated 13%; forcing a prevailing wage onto government projects that would likely shut out smaller contractors and others from bidding on public projects as well as increasing the cost of these projects for taxpayers; or adding more mandates of coverage for health insurance that would increase the cost of premiums.

According to the Department of Revenue, Iowa's commercial/industrial property accounts for about 20% of the assessed taxable property value, but because of the rollback this same group pays about 31% of all property taxes. We support a complete reform of our property tax system. During the time a reform plan is being developed, we support freezing the residential property tax rollback at its current level.

We would like to see a simplified state income tax system. If eliminating federal deductibility is included, then it must be revenue

neutral for all tax brackets.

A top priority for the Chamber is the strengthening of our education system. Iowa is currently implementing a Core Curriculum. This curriculum must be aligned with comprehensive student assessments. Bold ideas must be explored if Iowa is to regain its standing as the nation's leader in education. Plans that lengthen the school day or call for year-round school should be considered, so the 21st Century learning skills can better be taught. Business must also be more active in working with school districts to make sure skills that businesses need are being taught.

Highway infrastructure is essential to Iowa's ability to grow its economy. It has been well documented that costs to maintain and expand our highway system have increased significantly. We therefore support a reasonable user fee increase that would allocate 60% of these new revenues to the primary highway system. Iowa's primary road system is about 8% of the miles of roads, but this system handles nearly 60% of the traffic.

For the complete list of 2010 legislative priorities, visit www.marshalltown.org.

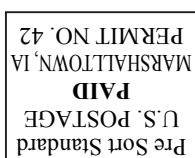
**2009 Business Leaders Government Affairs
Luncheon**

Thursday, December 3

11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Fisher Community Center Auditorium

For complete details, turn to page 5.



**Artix label here
This direction**

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

ServiceMaster of Marshalltown



*The clean you expect.
The service you deserve.®*

ServiceMaster of Marshalltown, Inc. has been a family-owned in the Marshalltown business community for 38 years. Opened in 1971 by Dick and Mary Lou Naughton, who ran and managed the business until their son and daughter-in-law, Rich and Micki Naughton joined the business. Rich and Micki moved back to Marshalltown in 1983 to begin working in the business, then purchased the business from Rich's parents later that year. Third generation Kris Naughton and his wife Shannon, began working for the business in the late 90's and are currently in the process of purchasing the business.

ServiceMaster of Marshalltown has 6 full-time and 10 part-time employees and specializes in residential and commercial cleaning. Services they offer include: upholstery, carpet, duct work, and hard surface floor cleaning; janitorial work; fire, smoke and water damage restoration; and more.

"We are an IICRC [Institute of Inspection, Cleaning and Restoration] certified firm," said Shannon Naughton. "Our technicians have the most current trainings and equipment to do the job right.

When the Naughtons are not busy with the family-owned business, they are involved in a number of community organizations including: Chamber Ambassadors, Oktoberfest, Rotary, MACS School Board, and the CIRSI Board.

When asked what the Naughtons like most about being business owners, they collectively answered, "Being able to take care of the customer personally. We don't have to get 'permission' to do the right thing, we have the decision making power to just get it done!"

A little known fact about ServiceMaster? They have 24/7 on-call emergency services and offer Green Clean service. They are also Green Seal certified.



"We have been family owned for three generations and pride ourselves on quality service 100% of the time. Customer satisfaction is what keeps us going!" said Shannon.

For more information on ServiceMaster of Marshalltown, visit them 7at 07 Maytag Road, call them at 641-752-3956, email svmstr@marshallnet.com or find them online at www.servicemasterclean.com.

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.

American General Finance Services

Shelly Fuller, Branch Manager
2501 South Center Street
Marshalltown, IA 50158
641-753-5573

American General Financial Services offers personal loans, mortgages, debt consolidation loans and more.

AVON - Independent Sales Representative

Sharon R. Olson
1948 North Underwood Avenue
Marshalltown, IA 50158
641-751-0169

Independent AVON Sales Representative Sharon R. Olson offers a variety of AVON products and direct personal delivery.

El Portal, Inc.

Stephen Yepez, Manager
1716 South Center Street
Marshalltown, IA 50158
641-752-0011

El Portal is a full service restaurant, offering a variety of Mexican cuisine. Open for lunch and dinner, seven days a week.

Legends American Grill

Dan Moellers, Owner
2902 South Center Street
Marshalltown, IA 50158
641-752-1237

Legends American Grill offers a diverse menu of American classics, like hamburgers, chicken and steaks. Party/meeting room available for large groups or events.

Mary Greeley Medical Center/Marshalltown Dialysis Center

Irina Bassis
3210 South 2nd Street
Marshalltown, IA 50158
641-752-1819

The dialysis center features state-of-the-art equipment and a highly trained staff of registered nurses, patient care technicians, registered dieticians and social workers.

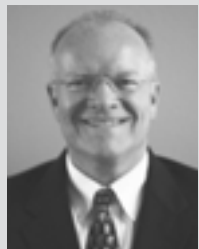
Tradehome Shoes

Maximo Castillo, Manager
2500 South Center Street, Suite 225
Marshalltown, IA 50158
641-752-6026

Tradehome Shoes is a retail shoe store, offering a variety of brands and styles for men, women and children, including work wear and athletic footwear.

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

MCVB
Chair: Deanna Davis



Board of Directors

Bob Wenner
Vice Chair
Dennis Grabenbauer
Past Chair
Liz Wilke
Secretary

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

Staff

Ken Anderson
President
Lynn Olberding
Director of Membership & Marketing
Sauna Banks
Administrative Assistant
Sharon Olson
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

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.

MEDIC
Chair: Dan Hassman



Board of Directors

Don Turbiville
Chair Elect
Jim Lowrance
Treasurer
Rob Cooper
Secretary
Bill Grabe
Past Chair

Gene Beach
Pat Brooks
Douglas Gervich
Sharon Greer
Paul Gregoire
Brian Heithoff
Mike Miller
Loras Neuroth
Mike Schlesinger
Kevin Swartz

Ex-Officio
State Representative
Mark Smith
State Senator
Steve Soddors

Thank You Reinvesting Members

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



1st Rate Real Estate	6
Alliant Energy	40
Central Iowa Fair	5
Enterprise Rent-A-Car	13
Hammer Medical Supply	2
Hartwig Plumbing & Heating	51
Interface Sealing Solutions, Inc.	14
Jiffy Convenience Store	17
KDAO AM/FM/TV	31
Man's Best Friend	22
Marshall Co. Conservation Bd.	2
Marshall Co. Historical Society	3
Mtown Area Catholic School	2
Odds & Ends	5
Salvation Army	12
Stroh Corporation	2

Thank you for supporting the
Marshalltown Area Chamber of
Commerce!

Don't forget to purchase
Area Dollars for your
friends, family and
coworkers!
They are great gifts - always
the perfect fit!

www.marshalltown.org Statistics

	Oct 09	YTD Total	Avg/Month
Unique Visitors	2,713	29,510	2,951
Number of Visits	4,519	46,076	4,608
Page Views	17,963	210,713	21,071
Hits	93,797	1,046,334	104,633

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.

Business After Hours

December 16, 2009

5:00 - 7:00 p.m.
U.S. Bank
123 West Main Street

January 2010

TBD
Glenwood Place
2907 South 6th Street

February 2010

TBD
Business to Business Showcase:
Taste of Marshalltown
Fisher Community Center

March 2010

TBD
Best Western Regency Inn
3303 South Center 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!

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 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.

Adland Engraving now offers Budget Truck Rental

Budget Truck Rental has awarded a local dealership to Adland Engraving, 307 Riverside. Budget Truck has 2,800 locations nationwide with a fleet of 30,000 late model trucks. They also offer moving supplies, accessories, tow dollies and car carriers. Budget Truck Rental offers competitive rates for local use and one-way trips. Reservations can be made online or by calling the local office.

Dave and Judy Adland, the new local Budget Truck dealers, can be reached at 641-753-3163 Monday through Saturday.

Chamber members invited to Leinenkugel Night

The staff of the Junction Bar & Grille invite all Chamber members to Leinenkugel Night, Thursday, December 3 beginning at 6:00 p.m.



Purchase any Leinenkugel product and enter to win a Leinenkugel mountain bike and weekend at the famous Leinenkugel Lodge in Chipewewa Falls, Wisconsin.

Chamber members will have a chance to sample a number of Leinenkugel products and some of the Junction Bar & Grille's new menu items.

Chamber Business After Hours
Wednesday, December 16 from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.
US Bank
123 West Main Street - Marshalltown

Koehler Insurance



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*100% Locally Owned
& Very Proud of It!*



Bobby Shomo
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Kendall Shomo
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Deb Ewoldt
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Agent



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www.Koehlerinsurance.net

BUSINESS NEWS

Government Affairs Luncheon

The third annual Business Leaders Government Affairs Luncheon is scheduled for Thursday, December 3. It will be held at 11:30 a.m. in the auditorium of the Fisher Community Center.

John Gilliland, Senior Vice President for Government Affairs for the Iowa Association of Business and Industry, David Roederer, Executive Director of the Iowa Chamber Alliance and Doug Loon, Regional Vice President for the U.S. Chamber of Commerce will each present information about the upcoming legislative session and current updates on federal legislation.

“This is a great opportunity for Chamber members and business leaders to get first-hand information about the many issues that affect our ability to do business,” said Reed Riskedahl, chairman of the Chamber’s Government Affairs committee.

The luncheon is open to Chamber members and reservations are required. Register online at www.marshalltown.org/chamber/events.php. Cost is \$10 per person.



Dave Roederer, Executive Director for the Iowa Chamber Alliance, speaks to a group gathered for last year’s Business Leaders Government Affairs luncheon. This year’s event will provide a look at current federal proposed legislation, as well as a prediction of the 2010 Iowa General Assembly.

Social Media 101

The Chamber recently hosted Social Media 101, a training to introduce members to the benefits of social media tools like Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn. The Chamber would like to publicly thank Andrew Southern (Mechdyne) and Kristen Monroe (Ultimate Web Design) for their assistance in facilitating the training.

In early 2010, the Chamber will host a second Social Media training, diving a little deeper into these tools and offer Chamber members an opportunity to share success stories on how these tools are working for them.

Watch for more information coming in 2010!

Chamber offers social networking

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

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 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.



Find us on
Facebook

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

You can also become a “fan” of the Marshalltown Area Chamber of Commerce. Request to be added to the group or become a fan today!

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.



www.everydaychampions.org

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

December 2009 Calendar of Events

Event	Date	Location
Bingo	Tuesdays	Senior Citizens Center
Storytime	Tues. & Fri.	Public Library
Downtown Tot-Town	T, Th & F	Veterans Coliseum
Nature's Story Hour	Dec 2	GrimesFarm & Conservation
"Completely Restored"	Dec 3	Public Library
Handel's Messiah	Dec 6	First United Methodist
Art Trek	Dec 7	Central IA Art Association
Greenleaf M. Woodbury	Dec 10	Historical Museum
Basketball Tournament	Dec 12-13	Marshalltown Comm College
oTALKu	Dec 15	Public Library
Book Discussion Group	Dec 17	Community Y
MCVB Closed at Noon	Dec 24	
Christmas Day	Dec 25	
Improv Workshop	Dec 26-29	Martha Ellen Tye Playhouse
An Evening of Improv	Dec 30-31	Martha Ellen Tye Playhouse

Post your 2010 events FREE on our self-posting calendar at www.visitmarshalltown.com

December 2009 Meetings & Conventions

Group	Date	Location
Blue Wave Invitational Swim Meet	Dec 5	Community Y
Blue Wave Invitational Swim Meet	Dec 19	Community Y

Special deals on MCVB website

The MCVB has added a "Special Deals" coupon link to their website. Visitors and community members can find the coupons posted at www.visitmarshalltown.com.

The special deals coupon page is a PDF document with an active link to each businesses website. Any Marshall County business can participate in our Special Deals coupon page. The coupons must be good for 3 months, (January 1, 2010 - March 31, 2010.)

If a business would like to offer a special deal, please call the MCVB office at 641-753-6645. For ideas on what other local businesses are offering, please log onto www.visitmarshalltown.com.

Mark our calendar

As you are planning for 2010 the Marshalltown Convention & Visitors Bureau would like to remind you to post your events on their self-posting community calendar. They encourage everyone to post events at www.visitmarshalltown.com at least three months before the event date. Posting an event three months in advance allows everyone to talk about your event with friends and make plans to attend the event. Community members and visitors to Marshalltown look to our website and community calendar when planning day or overnight trips to Marshalltown. The calendar is also used by businesses to build an event listing in their newsletter. Think of all the free publicity an event can get.

The Calendar of Events is only online so new events can be added at any time and changes can be made to events as it is needed. If events are unable to be posted three months in advance, events can be posted at any time.

Using the self posting calendar is easy, simply log onto the MCVB website at www.visitmarshalltown.com. There you will click on the calendar tab, scroll to the bottom of the page and click on the add entry. A pop up window comes up and events can be entered. It will take 24 hours for your event to be posted on the calendar. Questions? Call the Marshalltown Convention & Visitors Bureau office at 641-753-6645.

IRAs - WHICH TYPE IS APPROPRIATE FOR YOU?

Traditional IRAs? Roth IRAs? SEP-IRAs? SIMPLE-IRAs? Which one is appropriate for you?

Individual Retirement Accounts can be imperative to building financial confidence in retirement.

Talk to your SagePoint Financial Representative. We'll review your retirement plans...provide you information...and help you create a program that's appropriate for you.

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Securities offered through SagePoint Financial, Inc., a registered broker-dealer, member FINRA, SIPC. Investment advisory services offered through Kileen D. Rezac, RIA, a registered investment advisor, not affiliated with SagePoint Financial, Inc.

Kileen D. Rezac, CFP
Branch Office Manager
25 S. Center
Marshalltown, IA 50158
641-752-2041/800-369-1588



641-753-6645
www.visitmarshalltown.com
cvb@marshalltown.org

CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU

Merry Marshalltown CDs are going fast!

Merry Marshalltown CD's make a great gift or stocking stuffer for that hard to buy person. Everyone loves holiday music. The Marshalltown Convention & Visitors Bureau has worked with local producers and talent to put together two wonderful holiday CD's. Enjoy the sounds of Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree performed by Major Day and Jingle Bells performed by the Marshalltown Men's Choir Barbershop Quartet. There are a total of 20 holiday songs recorded by local Marshalltown artists.



Merry Marshalltown Volumes I and II are available for \$10 or \$7 each and are on sale in various downtown locations as well as the Marshalltown Area Chamber of Commerce office and Marshall Town Center. You can listen to a sample of the CD on the MCVB website at www.visitmarshalltown.com.

MCVB Attends Iowa Tourism Conference

The Marshalltown Convention & Visitors Bureau Director, Shannon Espenscheid and MCVB Assistant, Shauna Banks recently attended the Iowa Tourism Conference at the Meskwaki Bingo Casino Hotel. In addition to gathering great ideas and networking with various tour and travel professionals, MCVB gained valuable insight into the impact of tourism in our state. Did you know that Iowa tourism is a \$6.4 billion dollars industry? This is according to the Travel Industry Association's 2008 report. Of this number \$66.36 million dollars is spent in Marshall County. What does this mean for Marshalltown?

This means that there is a lot of money being spent in Iowa on tourism and we need to take advantage of it. The average travel party spends \$257.93 a day on travel in Iowa. They are looking for unique places to eat, shop and tour. Hey, we have all of those. We have great places to eat from the relaxed sit down atmosphere of The Tremont on Main to the fun old fashioned counter service of Taylor's Maid-Rite. Visitors can get some great deals at the fashionable department stores in the mall or go antique shopping downtown. Where else but in Marshalltown can you visit a 12 level tree house or play in chocolate?!

The Marshalltown Convention & Visitors Bureau is committed to expanding tourism and travel in Marshalltown.

For more information on Iowa tourism, log on to www.travelfederationofiowa.com.

Information on Marshalltown attractions can be found on www.visitmarshalltown.com.



Open 11 am - 11 pm daily

TRY OUR SOUP & SANDWICH FEATURES FOR LUNCH OR DINNER!
A Quick Meal That Is Reasonably Priced!

LUNCH **Only** **\$5⁹⁵**

DINNER **Only** **\$7⁹⁵**

Try Our New "Sizzling" Dinner Menu \$10⁹⁵

Pizza & Appetizers Until 11 pm!



REGENCY INN
3303 S. Center St.
Marshalltown
752-6108

Every Thursday At Lunch Enjoy our Carving Station

AMBASSADORS VISITS



The Chamber Ambassadors and community representatives congratulated Gary Robertson, manager of the Hampton Inn & Suites (20 Iowa Avenue West) on their ribbon cutting on October 22.



Jason Scafferri, owner/operator of Rainbow International was congratulated by the Chamber Ambassadors on October 27, during a ribbon cutting for the grand opening of the business.



The staff of Legends American Grill (2902 South Center Street) hosted a ribbon cutting with the Chamber Ambassadors on October 27. The restaurant is owned by local entrepreneur Dan Moellers.



Celebrating the recent remodeling and addition of a dining area at Glenwood Place (2907 South 6th Street), manager Mike Cummings cuts the ribbon while the Chamber Ambassadors and Glenwood Place employees look on during the November 10 visit to the residential facility.

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 online at www.marshalltown.org.



Owners Tom and Aimee Snyder celebrate the 70th anniversary of Lillie Mae Chocolates (23 West Main Street) on November 10, with a courtesy call from the Chamber Ambassadors.



The next planning session for the 2010 Washington D.C. Summit is scheduled for 9:00 a.m. on Friday, December 4 at the Fisher Community Center.

ServiceMASTER
Clean

*The clean you expect
The service you deserve*

Marshall Co. – 752-3956

Tama Co. – 484-5950

Serving locally since 1971

Let us clean your:

- Fire & Water Damage
- Carpet
- Upholstery
- Furnace Ducts
- Janitorial
- Commercial Restoration

Todd Thimesch awarded 2009 Small Business Award

On Monday, November 16, the Chamber Board of Directors, staff, Chamber Ambassadors and community members congratulated Todd Thimesch as he was awarded the 2009 Small Business Award.

Board Chairman Paul Gregoire commented, “Todd’s commitment to the community is seen through his support of athletic and community events, and the quality customer service that he and his staff are known for.”

The criteria for this year’s award were: Nominee/Business must be a member of the Chamber; Nominee/Business must be a small business/business owner, with no more than 25 employees; Nominee must demonstrate a commitment to the Chamber and community; Nominee/Business must exhibit some aspect that sets them apart from their competition.

“Todd is truly passionate about the Marshalltown community,” wrote one nominee. “He gives back, both financially and with his time, to a number of organizations. Todd is a cheerleader for the community.”



Todd Thimesch (center), owner of The Sports Page was named the 2009 Chamber Small Business Award winner. Pictured are Thimesch, his wife Amy, and representatives from the Chamber Board of Directors, Chamber Ambassadors, Marshall Town Center Management staff, Marshalltown Community School District and Marshalltown City officials.

the
Chamber
Marshalltown, Iowa

Have you visited the Chamber website lately?
Go online to
www.marshalltown.org for
the online directory,
Chamber news
and upcoming events.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

MEDIC five-year campaign begins

MEDIC is kicking-off a new five-year strategic plan and fund-raising campaign. Nearing the end of the current five-year strategy that focused on business attraction, retention, expansion and entrepreneurial opportunities, MEDIC has prepared a similar, new five-year strategy that advances Marshall County through the combined strengths of people working together for the betterment of our county.

Key points of the plan include job retention/creation, attraction of new capital investment, a comprehensive existing industry program and contact with parent companies and site selectors. MEDIC will continue to market the industrial sites and existing buildings to give Marshall County the chance to compete for capital-intensive, large job creation projects and MEDIC will play a supportive role in creating a unified vision for growth in Marshall County.

MEDIC has begun a five-year fund-raising campaign to secure funds so it can realize this plan and continue growth for the county.

Marshall County has potential for great economic prosperity and MEDIC will continue to position Marshall County for success in the midst of our world-wide competition.

Vinson joins MEDIC; Mills retires

Kenn Vinson, former Alliant Energy representative, who retired from the company earlier this year, has joined Marshall Economic Development Impact Committee (MEDIC) as business manager. He will assist with the existing business and industry program, support Joel Akason, MEDIC President, on economic development projects, and serve as the primary support position for the day-to-day details of implementing activities of MEDIC.

Amy Mills, MEDIC assistant, will retire at the end of November after working with the Marshalltown Convention and Visitors Bureau, Marshalltown Area Chamber of Commerce and MEDIC for the past 13 years.

Amy said, "I have enjoyed working for MEDIC, the Chamber and MCVB and I am grateful for the opportunities that were provided to me over the years. While I look forward to enjoying my retirement, I will miss working with my friends and colleagues."

The staff of the Chamber and MCVB welcome Kenn Vinson to the team!

Amy Mills will be missed by her colleagues, all of whom wish her the best of luck in her retirement.



Kenn Vinson
Business Manager



Amy Mills
Admin. Assistant

Economic Statistics

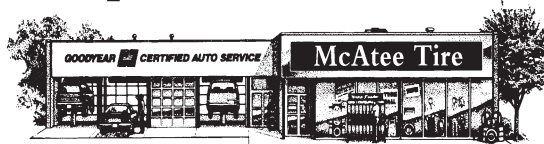
September	2009	2008
Employment – Marshall County		
Labor force	20,470	20,570
Unemployed	1,430	940
Percent unemployed	7.0	4.6
Total employment	19,040	19,620
Marshalltown Construction		
Building permits	11	20
Residential dwelling units	2	2
New residential construction valuation	\$223,000	\$312,000
Residential addition/remodeling valuation	\$24,000	\$97,000
New commercial/industrial permits	1	1
New commercial/industrial valuation	\$44,000	\$457,000
Remodeling commercial/industrial valuation	\$106,000	\$2,381,000
Marshall County Construction		
Building permits	7	
New Residential Dwelling Units	2	
New Residential Construction Value	\$495,000	
Residential addition/remodeling valuation	\$118,000	
New commercial/industrial permits	1	
New commercial/industrial valuation	\$15,000	
Housing		
Single family home sales	49	46
Average sale price	\$104,552	\$115,804
Median sale price	\$88,000	\$96,450

For additional economic development information, please visit www.marshalltownworks.com. It is a great resource for current demographic information about Marshalltown, Marshall County and the state of Iowa.



"Your Hometown Tire and Auto Service Center"

McAtee
Tire & Service Center, Inc.



205 E. Linn St.
Marshalltown
752-7511

BUSINESS NEWS

MHS dedicates new electronic sign donated by Class of 1969

A new electronic sign at Marshalltown High School purchased by the Class of 1969 was dedicated Friday, October 23, in a ceremony on the corner of Olive Street and Second Avenue.

The sign was purchased through fundraising efforts of the Class of 1969 to commemorate their 40th class reunion. Through their efforts the sign was purchased and installed at no cost to the school district.

At the dedication MHS Principal Bonnie Lowry thanked the Class of 1969 for their generous gift, as well as the Planning and Zoning Committee and the City Council of Marshalltown, Joe Weaver from Concrete Inc., Dick Jamell of Dick's Concrete, Gordon Miller and Nagle Signs, Dave Schulze of TSP, Rich Bryngelson for the brick laying, Sam Nicholas of Nikkel Associates for the electrical work, and Rick Simpson of MCSD Buildings and Grounds for being the District's contact person.



The Marshalltown High School Class of 1969, stand in front of the new electronic sign they donated to the school district during the recent dedication ceremony.

Numerous members of the class were on hand to mark the dedication and enjoyed a rendition of the Bobcat fight song - accompanied by members of the MHS marching band - as the sign was turned on.

To get the latest news from Marshalltown Schools delivered right to your inbox email Jason Staker, MCSD Communications Director, at jstaker@marshalltown.k12.ia.us and sign up today!

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Each year, the Chamber sells more than \$130,000 in Area Dollars (Chamber Bucks) to residents, businesses and visitors. That's \$130,000 that is spent with Chamber member businesses!

This holiday season, the Chamber is sponsoring a special promotion for anyone who purchases \$50 or more in Area Dollars between December 1 and December 24 and your business can participate! Just drop off coupons, discounts or special offers to the Chamber office to be handed out to Area Dollars purchasers. These discounts can be for the person purchasing Area Dollars as a gift or for the recipient to use when they redeem Area Dollars at your business!

Some suggestions of discounts and special offers: 20% entire purchase of regular-priced merchandise when you redeem your Area Dollars; \$5 off your purchase of \$20 or more; free soda with the purchase of a lunch entree; free ornament when you spend \$50 or more.

To participate, simply fill out the form enclosed in your Chamber Digest or contact the Chamber office. Available to Chamber members only.

Are you interested in owning/operating a Cabin Coffee franchise? Come to an information meeting on Monday, December 14 from 5:00 - 6:00 p.m. at the Chamber office. Find out what opportunities are available in this growing franchise business. To sign up call 641-425-0431.

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YOUNG PROFESSIONALS

Upcoming Events

December 9 YPConnect Meeting at Fisher Comm. Center (Noon)

December 16 Lunch & Learn (Noon)

Topic: CEO Roundtable with Tony Harris, JBS Swift

2010

January 5: Social Lunch (Noon, location TBD)

January 12: Social/Professional Development Meeting (Noon)

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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 or visit the MYP website at www.marshalltownyp.com. Cost for membership is just \$45 per year (for employees of Chamber member businesses).



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BUSINESS NEWS

Business to Business Showcase a success!

The Chamber hosted the annual fall Business to Business Showcase at the Fisher Community Center on November 12, with key sponsor Hy-Vee.

During the event, students from The Bottoms Up Smoothie Stop (BUSS) were recognized for their recent business grand opening. The students were presented "Entrepreneurial Spirit" awards.

Students that were recognized were: Jorge Andrade, Tia Burton, Cheyenne Krough, Christian Rayl and Kyle Taylor.



Participating Businesses

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 Buena Vista University
 The BUSS/Marshalltown Learning Academy
 C's Landscape & Design
 Coldwell Banker Premier Real Estate - Fauna Nord & Shari Upah
 Excel Medical
 Independent Insurance Services
 Iowa Wholesale Supply
 Iowa Valley Continuing Ed/Workforce Development
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