



distinctly different

August 2020

Volume 38, Issue 2



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AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MARSHALLTOWN



Chamber event sponsorships still available

While COVID-19 continues to affect many businesses throughout the area, the Marshalltown Area Chamber of Commerce remains committed to sponsor events and programs in the upcoming year. Many of the events will look different than in the past, but will still offer sponsorship opportunities to our members. Please remember that your sponsorship is not a donation, but rather an opportunity to support these events and promote your business to a unique audience.

Tiger Appreciation Sponsorships

Each fall, the Chamber hosts Tiger Appreciation, an event that recognizes faculty and staff at Iowa Valley Community College District. This year, due to COVID-19 safety precautions, we will not be hosting a meeting with a speaker as we have done in the past, but rather we will be hand-serving an afternoon snack to all faculty and staff on August 19. This will allow us to communicate directly with each employee and show

our gratitude for providing educational opportunities to our community. Sponsorships begin at just \$60. Openings are also available for a Presenting Sponsor of this event at \$700.



Educator Appreciation Sponsorships

One of our favorite events each year is the kick-off to the school year for MCSD, Marshalltown Christian School, and St. Francis School with the Chamber's Educator Appreciation event. This year's event will not feature a breakfast for all educators, administrators, and support staff, but rather will feature baskets of "goodies" to each school on August 20 to honor of the hard work they put into making our elementary, middle, and high school students successful and wish them well as the school year begins. Sponsorships begin at \$100 and will allow your business to show support to our school staff members as they prepare for the 2020/2021 school year.



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MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

ASI Audiology

ASI Audiology is a family-owned business with a mission for over 40 years of "Improving the lives of those with hearing loss through quality service." Their standard of excellence in audiology enables them to provide patients with quality services and products. They offer the most advanced testing and comprehensive service support to achieve patients' optimal hearing and now have an office located in Marshalltown at 28 West Main Street.

Starr Banwell is ASI Audiology's Hearing Instrument Specialist. Banwell grew up in the Humboldt area and lives in Webster City with her husband Shawn and their son Ayden. She serves the Humboldt, Marshalltown, Ankeny, and Boone ASI Audiology Clinics. She loves to help people hear better. Her favorite thing about her job is hearing someone say they can finally hear their grandchildren speak to them again.



If you or a loved one require assistance with hearing health, they would love the opportunity to assist. Contact the Marshalltown office at 515-955-2985.



515-955-2985

ASI Audiology provides free hearing consultations and can speak with you or a loved one about hearing loss and/or the benefit of hearing aids. Learn more at asiaudiology.com.

New Chamber Members

The following businesses have invested in the greater community by joining the Marshalltown Area Chamber of Commerce.

Please support these businesses with your patronage.

The 918

Bob Jacobson, Owner
918 N. 4th Avenue, Marshalltown
641-750-9017

Marshalltown north side bar featuring pool tables, dart boards, and live bands.

ASI Audiology

Alison Ruggio, Chief Operations Officer
Starr Banwell, Hearing Practitioner
28 West Main Street, Marshalltown
www.asiaudiology.com
641-752-5805

Clinic that offers hearing aids and audiology services.

Continued on next page.

Appleberry Farm

With fall right around the corner, Appleberry Farm, located on West Main Street on the edge of Marshalltown, is preparing for the harvest season. Sweet corn is available now and early apple harvest will begin in mid-August.

Dave and Kelly Mason, owners of Appleberry Farm, are preparing for upcoming events and additions, including their Apple Wagon food trailer. Kelly says they want to offer food items year-round from the Apple Wagon. "We have had the food trailer for over a year and want people to know that it's here," said Kelly. "We make fried cheese curds, pickle fries, corn dogs, and cider donuts. We also have a commercial kitchen to make jellies and jams as well as homemade pies."

One popular item is Appleberry Farm's chocolate dipped strawberries. "The strawberries are available throughout the year and people really enjoy them," added Kelly. You can find the food trailer open most Fridays and Saturdays (except during winter months) parked at the Appleberry Farm location. You can also find it at area farmers markets and area events.

Appleberry Farm offers so much more than apples. Unique to their offerings is hand-crafted gift items, antiques, farm fresh eggs, pumpkins, gourds, caramel apples, and authentic apple cider. During the spring, they sell flowers and flowering baskets as well as flower and garden vegetable starts. In the summer months, you can find veggies including sweet corn, zucchinis, many varieties of peppers, tomatoes, summer squash, and cucumbers, among others. Fall brings 27 different varieties of apples, with the last harvest in mid-November. You can pick your own or you can purchase pre-picked apples. "We opened this business with one of the goals being to provide a place where families, singles, and groups can have fun. We wanted to create a relaxing atmosphere with good food and activities that folks of any age can enjoy," said Kelly.

The farm is planning to host the popular Sweet Corn Days – August 8 – 9. The event features great food, including Spring Valley Sweet Corn served on site or to-go, craft vendors, baked goods, fresh produce, and family fun activities each day. Sweet Corn Days is free to attend. Hours are Saturday, 11:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. and Sunday Noon – 6:00 p.m. Check out Appleberry Farm's Facebook page for information on this and other upcoming events.

Curbside pickup is also available for all items. For more information, call 641-752-8443, visit the farm at 2402 West Main Street in Marshalltown, follow them on Facebook, or visit their website: appleberryfarm.com.



New Chamber Members

The following businesses have invested in the greater community by joining the Marshalltown Area Chamber of Commerce.

Please support these businesses with your patronage.

Beck's Hybrids

Andrew Nickell, Site Manager
1462 Sanford Avenue, Marshalltown
515-817-1445

Beck's Hybrids seed company provides high-yielding corn, soybeans, wheat, and elite alfalfa to farmers in across the United States.

Country Candies

Alma Kurtz, Owner
3230 Hwy T47, Montour
641-898-7312

Country Candies offers homemade, fresh baked breads, and Kolaches, as well as homemade jams, candies and many gift items.

Haverhill Social Club

Emily Ewoldt, Owner
210 1st Street, Haverhill
641-475-3321

A tavern offering good food and a variety of beverages with a fun atmosphere.

La Carreta Mexican Grill

Alfonso Medina, Owner
308 Iowa Avenue East, Marshalltown
641-752-9427

Mexican restaurant with a bar, outdoor patio, and street taco stand, also offering vegan & vegetarian options.

The Rhodes Bar

Mike Gerhart, Owner
114 S. Main Street, Rhodes
641-493-2012

Small town bar with big time fun. Open daily ad available for private parties.

Wild Cleaners and Junk Removal

Matt Wilder, Owner
116 North 2nd Street, Marshalltown
641-758-9149

Rental and foreclosure cleaning, carpet removal, landfill-hauling, and rental preparation for the next tenant. Free estimates.

Thank You Reinvesting Chamber Members

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

Action Auto Parts	34	Marshall County Farm Bureau	56
Adland's	32	Marshall County ISU Extension	27
Ann's Alterations	5	Marshalltown Alarm	7
Assistance League	3	Marshalltown Aviation	46
Bantz Chiropractic Center	10	M. Community Theatre	22
Beane, Dr. Joel	23	M. Sewing Center	28
Bowman & Miller, P.C.	56	Mary Rund	13
Calvin Rockett	8	McAtee Tire & Service Center	35
Central IA Residential Services	39	Moler Sanitation	8
China Buffet	5	Morgan-Hauser Steel Inc.	24
Dr. David Clark D.D.S.	37	Nikkel & Associates, Inc.	16
Concrete Inc.	56	Northwestern Mutual -	
Consumers Energy	44	Krough & Leth	31
Dank's Lazer Engraving	5	NuCara Pharmacy	8
Dave Wright Buick	61	OPA Grill LLC	1
Electric Supply	43	Pilgrim Height	13
Evans Abstract Company	43	RACOM Corporation	40
Eyecare Associates	61	S & S Autobody & Frame	6
Farm Credit Services	9	Shomo-Madsen Insurance	49
First Congregational Church	16	Sign Creations	20
First United Methodist Church	22	Simms Construction	8
GNB Bank	8	State Farm - Phyllis Mazour	25
Grimes, et all	56	Stover Controls	60
Hermanson Orthodontics, P.C.	45	Structural Engineers P.C.	33
Home Federal Savings Bank	51	Sub City	20
Home Rental Center	37	Thompson's True Value	10
Inner Peace Health Services	2	Times-Republican	59
Iowa River Hospice	20	United Way	52
Jensen Ford-Lincoln, Inc.	53	Van-Wall Equipment, Inc.	4
Kapaun & Brown, Inc.	46	Vaughn's Pub	16
Kenn's Transmission	36	Venture Management & Realty	17
Kwik Star	26	Wausau Homes	2
Marshall County Abstract	36	Woodruff Construction, LLC	3

Chamber Chat

every Sunday morning

6:30 a.m. on 99.5 KDAO FM

7:30 a.m. on 1190 KDAO AM

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MARSHALLTOWN



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Nearly \$900 raised for art supplies to support YSS of Marshall County

During the month of June, in honor of their 16th anniversary, the Arts & Culture Alliance partnered with YSS of Marshall County to raise funds for art supplies to support art therapy through their foster care and therapy services. Since March, YSS has seen a 75% increase in therapy cases due to an increase in anxiety, stress and fear from COVID-19. The goal was to raise \$316 for art supplies during the month of June and the community's support far exceed our goal by raising nearly \$900.

"We were blown away by the incredible support of the community towards this amazing cause. It is an honor to partner with such an amazing local organization who has a significant impact on our youth in Marshall County. Since this was such a huge success, we are already thinking about making it an annual occurrence." said Alliance Executive Director, Amber Danielson.

YSS's Achieving Maximum Potential (AMP) program participants are excited to utilize a portion of the funds for an opportunity to shop for their own art supplies to be used during their activity time with YSS. This is an opportunity some of them normally don't have a chance to experience. Program Participant Josie says, "being artistic to me means that I can be creative and make a change."

Many of the youth in AMP, are experiencing new homes or school settings due to foster placement and having an artistic outlet can be a safe way to express their emotions. Due to YSS's rapid growth in behavioral health, they will be hiring an additional in-home counselor and anticipate the art supplies to be utilized in-home and in-office.

YSS of Marshall County Director, David Hicks, says, "art is an important contributor to the well-being of communities. It is a powerful tool to develop a person's sense of self, to be a creative learner, and to connect with others. YSS believes in positive youth development and to create opportunities where our young people are heard and respected. Art is a great medium to tell their story. YSS of Marshall County will use the art created by our youth to adorn the hallways and offices of our workspace for years to come."

The mission of YSS is to provide prevention, education, treatment and residential services to children, youth and families; to advocate on their behalf; and to help them solve problems, grow and be self-sufficient, responsible, contributing members of society.

The Arts & Culture Alliance, a non-profit organization, was created in 2004 to cultivate a community of arts and culture by supporting, promoting and enriching existing opportunities and by seeking new possibilities. Both YSS and the Arts & Culture Alliance are proud members of the Chamber.



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MARSHALLTOWN NEWS

(we just have to *brag a little*)

JBS USA Invests \$2.7 Million in Marshalltown...

JBS USA announced plans to donate \$2.7 million to help Marshalltown respond to needs resulting from the coronavirus pandemic and invest in the community's future. JBS USA is working with local leaders to identify where the funds can best help meet immediate and longer-term community needs. All projects will be determined by the end of the year.

"We are proud to be part of the Marshalltown community, and we recognize our responsibility to do more than just produce food during this critical time in our country," said Todd Carl, General Manager, JBS Marshalltown. "We want to partner closely with the community to make meaningful and lasting investments that will benefit our team members, their families and our neighbors now and in the future."

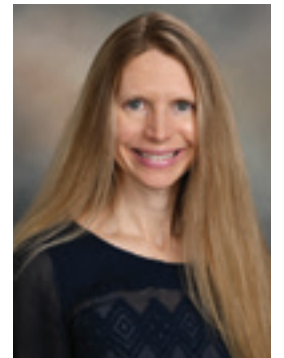
"As Marshalltown's largest employer, JBS has once again stepped up to make Marshalltown stronger," said Marshalltown Mayor Joel Greer. "Not only has JBS invested significant resources in protecting the workplace for its hard-working staff, it is also now contributing to make Marshalltown, more than ever, the place to work, live, learn and play."

Hometown Strong is a national \$50 million initiative that adds to commitments JBS USA has made this year to protect employees and ensure their job security amid the global pandemic. Hometown Strong is one of the largest community investment programs of its kind in the country.

Welcome to...

McFarland Clinic is pleased to announce that **Katherine Lutyens, PAC** joined McFarland Clinic's Family Medicine department.

Katherine earned her Bachelor of Science in Biology from Western Illinois University. She went on to receive her Doctor of Physical Therapy from St. Ambrose University. She went on to get her Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies from Midwestern University. As a Family Medicine provider, Katherine will provide services including care for short-term and long-term, complex illnesses, immunizations, physical exams, preventative care, minor surgeries, obstetrics, routine care for women, special procedures, and treatment of minor injuries.



If you have Marshalltown area news to brag about, submit it to The Digest via email to lolberding@marshalltown.org or via mail to P.O. Box 1000, Marshalltown, IA 50158. Grand openings, management changes, employee promotions, moves, organization name changes, expansions, accomplishments, awards, and major developments all qualify. Space is limited, so please keep submissions to a maximum of six sentences. Photos should be sent in JPEG format. The editor reserves the right to determine what is included. All information in this section is supplied by Chamber member businesses and organizations; it is not an endorsement by the Chamber.



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CHAMBER AMBASSADORS VISITS



The Chamber Ambassador Cruise took place on June 23. The Chamber Ambassadors and Deputy Fire Chief Chris Cross of the Marshalltown Fire Department went for a fun cruise down Main Street to show support to our local downtown businesses through this pandemic. Thank you to all who participated!



Visit www.marshalltown.org for all the latest Chamber news and upcoming events.

Thank You Ambassadors!

AREA CHAMBER
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On July 7, 2020 the Chamber Ambassadors held a ribbon cutting at **Elim Children's Center** (302 West Church Street) for their new playground, funded in part by the **Community Foundation of Marshall County**.



The Chamber Ambassadors held a ribbon cutting on July 14, 2020 at **Brit Marie's Country Boutique** (13 West Main Street, Suite 102) to celebrate the opening of the new store front.



Big 8 Tyre Center (102 East State Street) joined the Chamber Ambassadors during a courtesy call to celebrate their newly remodeled facility.



Membership Hack: Taking it back to the basics

With all of the virtual meetings taking place nowadays, it might be nice to take it back to the basics with a little bit of mail marketing. That's right – direct mail pieces. These can be a breath of fresh air with bright fun colors and something customers can hold in their hands.

Did you know that as a member of the Chamber, you can put in a request for printing of mailing labels? Call the Chamber and for \$30, we will print all Chamber members' addresses onto mailing labels for you to mail your direct marketing piece. This averages around 450 contacts. We can also customize label printing by industry type so your marketing piece gets to the correct demographic for your business offerings.

With today's everchanging economic climate, watching costs is at the forefront of everyone's minds, so think about printing a fun postcard. Four postcards can fit onto one sheet and save in printing and postage costs.

Call the Chamber at 641-753-6645 to make this request or email Sarah at smarckres@marshalltown.org.

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www.marshalltown.org Statistics

	June '20	Avg/Month	YTD Total
Unique Visitors	6,500	9,452	56,714
Number of Visits	14,638	21,347	128,079
Page Views	200,677	191,582	1,149,493
Hits	453,264	428,075	2,568,450

The Marshalltown Area Chamber of Commerce's website traffic is strong. The website includes information about the Chamber's departments: government affairs/advocacy, economic development, education and workforce, membership services, and quality of life and tourism. Be sure to check it for business news, legislative updates, event photos, program information, job postings, and the Community Calendar.



We welcome Sheri Benson with the Iowa State University Small Business Development Center. Sheri will be helping businesses get started, create new jobs, and prepare to grow. Schedule an appointment with Sheri by calling the Chamber office at 641-753-6645



Find Marshalltown Area Jobs
www.marshalltown.org/jobs

Carlos Jeer named Economic Development Director

The Marshalltown Area Chamber of Commerce is excited to announce the addition of Carlos Jeer to the Chamber staff in the role of Economic Development Director. Jeer will begin his duties with the Chamber on August 10.

Jeer, who has experience in fundraising, advocacy, and legislative outreach, also worked for the St. Louis Regional Chamber with their Public Policy and Investor Relations teams. During his time at the St. Louis Regional Chamber, he created blueprints for a workforce development initiative that sought to teach coding to students in elementary, middle, and high schools.

His passion to see the region thrive has drawn Jeer to Marshalltown. "This is a tremendous opportunity; the Marshalltown area is poised for exponential growth, and I am excited for everyone to come together to see the region prosper," he said. As he readies to join the Marshalltown Area Chamber of Commerce, he adds, "It is what we accomplish now through economic development, that will prepare current and future generations for success."



"We are thrilled that Carlos will be joining us soon," said Chamber President & CEO Lynn Olberding. "He brings excitement, enthusiasm, and passion to the organization, and will be a tremendous asset to the community."

The Chamber's economic development plans focuses on business retention and expansion, business recruitment, housing, and workforce development.

Carlos was born and raised in Honduras to his father, an architect, and his mother, a lawyer. Growing up, his days were filled with sporting activities, family, and friends. He attended Lindenwood University, in St. Charles, Missouri, where he triple-majored in Economics, Political Science, and Public Administration.

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Economic Statistics			
Employment – Marshall County - May			
(Source: Iowa Workforce Development)			
Labor force	2020	2019	
	18,080	17,540	
Unemployed	1,950	570	
Percent unemployed	10.8	3.2	
Total employment	16,120	16,970	
Marshall County Construction - May			
(Source: Marshalltown Building Department)			
Building permits	2020	2019	
	18	34	
New Residential Construction	\$12,000	\$349,000	
Residential Addition/Remodeling	\$59,000	\$98,000	
New Commercial/Industrial Const.	\$300,000	\$161,000	
Commercial/Industrial Remodeling	\$11,000	\$262,000	
Housing Sales Data - June			
(Source: Mid-Iowa Regional Board of Realtors)			
Single family home sales	2020	2019	
	41	41	
Average sale price	\$129,905	\$138,100	
Median sale price	\$129,900	\$125,000	

Need an employee?
Looking for an employer?
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www.marshalltown.org/jobs

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Blessing of the Bikes moved to September 19



The 25th Annual Blessing of the Bikes will now be held on September 19, after being rescheduled from May. The event will feature a blessing of motorcycles and is held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Riverview Park in Marshalltown. Admission is \$10 to the event.

Tower offers great views of area

Mildred's Tower at Grimes Farm and Conservation Center sits atop a hill on the property and offers sweeping views of the area. Take a walk from the Conservation Center to the tower and see for yourself. Grimes Farm is a great area for hiking trails, biking trails and other activities to do while social distancing.



For a list of Summer events and things to do visit our website!
marshalltown.org/events

State 16 inch softball tournament in Marshalltown July 31-August 2

Hundreds of people will participate in the USA Softball men's 16" state tournament from July 31-August 2 at the South Sixth Street Softball Complex in Marshalltown.

More than 20 teams will participate in the event, which is hosted by the Marshalltown Softball Association.

Tourism grants available, next deadline is October 1

Each fiscal year the Marshalltown Area Chamber of Chamber Tourism sets aside a predetermined amount of its budget to be applied toward grants which are awarded on a quarterly basis. The office offers grants for marketing purposes to help increase potential overnight tourism in Marshalltown. Grants can be for marketing for local meetings, conventions, sporting events and tournaments or for capital improvement funding.

The next quarterly deadline for these grants will be October 1, 2020. For more information or the application materials contact Tourism Director Andrew Potter at 641-753-6645 or email at apotter@marshalltown.org.

Richie Lee & the Fabulous 50s hit the Central Iowa Fairgrounds on August 2

If you're a fan of the oldies, you might want to get ready to visit the Central Iowa Fairgrounds on August 2.

The Des Moines-based band Richie Lee & the Fabulous 50s will play as part of the summer concert series at the fairgrounds from 3 to 6 p.m. that Sunday. The show is free and open to the public. The band performs songs at the roots of the history of Rock 'n Roll in a high-energy show. They specialize in classic songs from artists such as Buddy Holly, Ritchie Valens, Elvis Presley, Ricky Nelson, Roy Orbison, Eddie Cochran, The Beatles and The Beach Boys.



Summer concert series at Central Iowa Fairgrounds

July 26- Grand Marshall

August 2- Richie Lee & the Fabulous 50s

Future concerts to be announced



Iowa Valley Leadership Kick-off set for September 17-18

The Iowa Valley Leadership class of 2020-2021 will kick-off September 17-18. This session of the Iowa Valley Leadership (IVL) program may look different, including in-person and virtual experiences and applications are being accepted through August 14.

Participants will learn about local issues and resources available in Marshalltown, as well as have to interact with community leaders. There are opportunities for participants to become further committed to involvement in community activities. Participants will also develop a network of friends and professionals.

The Iowa Valley Leadership class of 2020-2021 meets each month September through May. The course is co-sponsored by the Marshalltown Area Chamber of Commerce and Iowa Valley Continuing Education.

For more information and to apply visit our website: www.marshalltown.org/work/iowa-valley-leadership



AUGUST/SEPTEMBER

August 6: Chamber Ambassador Golf Outing

August 19: Tiger Appreciation

August 21: Educator Appreciation
Presented by Independent Insurance Services

September 17: Business After Hours at Pinnacle Bank

September 17-18: Iowa Valley Leadership Kick-Off

For an up-to-date list of events please visit www.marshalltown.org/work/chamber-calendar/

upcoming
EVENTS



Pat Hageman
Agent



Mama Mitchell-Butler
Agent-CSA



Lance Horbach
Agent



Tyler Siegle
Agent



Paul Beals
Agent



Mark Rohde
Agent



Austin Blum
Agent



Rich Mohan
Agent



Doug Joslin
Agent



Bonnie Ort
Processor



Robin Angstrom
Agent-CSA



Dana Kowley
Agent-CSA



Carla Nordstrom
Agent-CSA



Kathy Minkal
Administrative Assistant



Jasmin Cisneros
Administrative Assistant



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Matt Roetigord
Information Systems



Kristi Carlson
Office Manager



Vivian Ceron
Agent-CSA



Heather Harus
Agent-CSA



Samantha Garrison
Agent-CSA



LeAndrea Abel
Administrative Assistant