

May 2022

Volume 39, Issue 11



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Young professionals group now known as Connect Marshalltown

The Marshalltown Area Chamber of Commerce is excited to announce a new name and logo for the area's young professionals group, now known as Connect Marshalltown. The new name of Connect Marshalltown is designed to be all encompassing and inclusive to the community. The goal of

the group is to connect and grow ideas about Marshalltown in a relaxed social setting.

"The idea of Connect Marshalltown came out of wanting more inclusion from the community than the young professionals name provided," said Kyle Hall, Workforce Development Coordinator with the Chamber. "By changing the name to Connect Marshalltown, it is inviting more of the community to come together,



connect and share ideas and thoughts on how to continue to better our community."

"Young professional groups have been around for decades, locally we wanted to take a different approach to be more inclusive and help a broader group of the community connect," said John Hall, President & CEO of the Marshalltown Area Chamber of Commerce. "Kyle's vision to take this group to the next level is exactly how this idea of Connect Marshalltown was born, and I'm looking forward to seeing what this group can become."



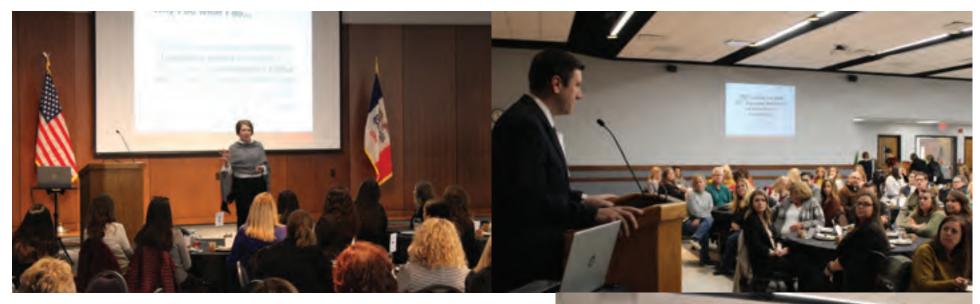
Group meets monthly

The group meets monthly for social gatherings at local bars, restaurants and other meeting places on the first Wednesday of each month. The next gathering is scheduled for May 4 from 4:30-6:00 p.m. at Fiddle & Whistle Irish Pub at 20 W. Main Street. The event is open to anyone looking to connect.

For more information on Connect Marshalltown or future events with the group, contact Kyle Hall at khall@marshalltown.org or 641-753-6645.

Marshalltown Area Chamber of Commerce P.O. Box 1000 Marshalltown, IA 50158 Pre Sort Standard U.S. POSTAGE PAID MARSHALLTOWU, IA PERMIT NO. 42

4th Annual Women in Business Luncheon



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The 4th Annual Women in Business Luncheon took place on March 25, 2022 at Iowa Valley Continuing Education Dejardin Hall. Keynote speaker during the luncheon was State Representative Shannon Latham, co-owner of Latham Hi-Tech Seeds.

Latham spoke about her passion for presenting ideas to help grow their family business and also touched on important work being done this session in the Legislature.

The 2022 Woman in Business Award was presented to Erin McGregor, president of McGregors Furniture and Mattress.

Thank you to all who attended this annual event!







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.

Elite Auto Detailing LLC

Alberto Mesa-Ordaz, Owner 106 W. Anson St., Marshalltown 641-758-5590

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Chamber seeks businesses to help with Why Marshalltown Lunch & Learn events

The Marshalltown Area Chamber of Commerce in part with Connect Marshalltown is planning a series of Lunch & Learn events called, Why Marshalltown. These lunch & learn events will aim to connect summer interns to the reasons why they should live, work, and play in Marshalltown. The goal of these events will be to provide the attendees with valuable information in bettering their career while learning more about all the great things Marshalltown has to offer.

The Why Marshalltown Lunch & Learn events will be hosted during the summer month, exact dates and locations to be determined.

If you are interested in hosting or leading/speaking at a seminar, please reach out to Kyle Hall, Workforce Development Coordinator, at khall@marshalltown.org for more information.

E-billing reminder

The Chamber has switched to e-billing for membership dues, so remember to check your email for your dues billing (and check your spam/junk folder as well). For more information on your Chamber membership, contact Membership Director Sarah Smith at ssmith@marshalltown.org.

Thank You Reinvesting Chamber Members

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

Alliant Energy	53	Marshalltown Sewing Center
Anderson Funeral Homes	9	Midnight Ballroom
Dr. Joel Beane	25	My Dinosaur Dreams
First United Methodist Church	24	Northwestern Mutual Financial
GNB Bank	10	Krough & Leth
Great Western Dining	7	Optical Center
Guiding Star Marshalltown	2	Pentz Appliance & TV
Healing Hands Chiropractic	6	Pinnacle Bank
Ingold Group, LLC	4	Restore Church
Journey Church	24	ServiceMaster by Rice
Kibbey Lofts/Van Gogh's	3	Sign Creations
Luethje Auto Sales	10	Steiner & Associates PC
Marshall County ISU Extension	29	Super Shine Car Wash
Marshalltown Alarm Inc	9	Superior Cleaning, Inc.
Marshalltown Comm. Theatre	24	

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Abigail Pelzer
Todd Steinkamp
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John Hall President & CEO

Andrew Potter

Tourism Director

Sarah Smith

Membership Director

Kyle Hall

Workforce Development Coordinator

Stacy Roberts

Administrative Assistant

Small Business Administration (SBA) loans

Let's talk about the Small Business Administration (SBA) 7(a) loan...

The pandemic elevated the SBA to a whole new level of activity, as the agency supported Payroll Protection Loans, COVID Economic Injury Disaster Loans, special grants such as the Restaurant Revitalization Program, and Shuttered Venue Operation Grants. These programs have now expired for issuance, and the agency is processing forgiveness and/or repayment of these government funds. Many of you may have accessed the program funds with the help of your commercial lender or through SBA directly.

Did you know that the Small Business Administration (SBA) is an independent agency of the federal government chartered in 1953? The charge of the

agency is to help Americans start, build and grow businesses. The SBA extends services based upon a business's size within its industry. Generally speaking over 90% of Iowa businesses are considered small businesses.

Positively, now that the pandemic is waning, there are still opportunities for the Small Business Administration to support capital needs of small businesses. One of SBA's most popular loan programs is the 7(a). This loan program can be utilized to provide short and long term working capital, to refinance current business debt and to purchase furniture, fixture and supplies. Most importantly, the SBA works with local Marshalltown lenders to process and approve loans indemnified by the SBA. The 7(a) program can be a great financing option for new and seasoned businessowners alike. Check out the specifics of the loan program at sba.

gov. If you do not have a working relationship with a commercial lender, there is no time like the present to introduce yourself and learn how Marshalltown lenders can support your business, while working with the SBA.

ISU SBDC is here to work with you. Our services are free and confidential. How can we help? Let's get a conversation going. We can be reached through a click or a call. The fastest method to connect with us is to visit iowasbdc.org, select the request counseling button, complete the electronic form and choose Iowa State as your center of choice. Call us at 515-296-7828 or, ask a Chamber official how to reach us and they will point you in our direction.

Enjoy today-Sheri Benson, CBA, CGBP, ISU SBDC business counselor

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MARSHALLTOWNNEWS

(we just have to brag a little)

Erin McGregor receives 2022 Woman in Business Award

Erin McGregor, president of McGregors Furniture and Mattress, was presented the 2022 Woman in Business Award during the Marshalltown Area Chamber of Commerce Women in Business Luncheon held at Iowa Valley Continuing Education on March 25.

Presenting McGregor with the award was good friend and fellow Chamber Board member Todd Steinkamp of Trending Media. Steinkamp credited McGregor for her resilience after the 2018 tornado and 2020 derecho and her support as a "pillar of our community."

Steinkamp said his respect level for McGregor is high especially, "when I think about everything this woman has been through and overcame and continues to do for her business and for Marshalltown."



Erin McGregor of McGregors Furniture and Mattress is the recipient of the 2022 Woman in Business Award from the Marshalltown Area Chamber of Commerce. Pictured with Erin is award presenter Todd Steinkamp of Trending Media, left, and Chamber President and CEO John Hall.

If you have Marshalltown area news to brag about, submit it to The Digest via email to office@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.

Congratulations!



Marek Jablonski has joined RACOM as a summer intern. He is a student at Iowa State University studying Computer Engineering. He grew up in Marshalltown, graduating from MHS in the spring of 2021. He's well known for the Christmas light show he runs every year outside his parents' residence. Other interests include working on a breadboard computer, playing percussion in band, and being a member of the PrISUm solar car team.

Smokin' G's BBQ Restaurant has had the privilege of having MHS student, Creighton Henley, intern for a semester. He came to Smokin' G's with a fantastic work ethic and culinary skills. He has a love for BBQ and plans for a future in the service industry.

CLEANIAC clean-up week

The 2022 CLEANIAC clean-up week will be May 1 - May 7, with the big day on Saturday, May 7. We know that Saturday is the day before Mother's Day, but what Mom doesn't want a clean Marshalltown?! If you want to get a group together to help clean a space or area, send us a message on Facebook and we'll help find you an area. Or if you want to do it on your own, just do it! Take a walk around your neighborhood--or favorite spot--with a trash bag and pick up litter.

Community Shred Day

United Bank & Trust, in partnership with the Marshalltown Area Chamber of Commerce and the Marshall County Landfill, offers community residents the opportunity to bring their sensitive documents to the bank to be securely shredded at their upcoming Community Shred Day on Saturday, April 30 from 9a.m.-11a.m.

Free to the community and a great way to dispose confidential paperwork. Five box limit, please.

It will be held in the parking lot of United Bank & Trust at 2101 S. Center St, Marshalltown.



CHAMBER AMBASSADORS **VISITS**



The Chamber Ambassadors held a ribbon cutting on March 22, 2022 to mark the opening of the Americans and the Holocaust exhibit at the Marshalltown Public Library. The exhibit runs until May 5.



The Chamber Ambassadors held a ribbon cutting to help **Stepping Stones** Christian Bookstore celebrate 12 years in business on Main Street in Marshalltown on March 22, 2022.



The Chamber Ambassadors made a courtesy call stop at My Town Nutrition at 209 N. 13th St. on March 22, 2022.



The Chamber Ambassadors held a ribbon cutting on March 29, 2022 for El Cantarito Bar and Grill, located at 903 W. Lincoln Way.

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

Thank You Ambassadors!





CHAMBERNEWS

The Chamber Ambassadors held a ribbon cutting to celebrate the latest phase of **Crosby Park of Marshalltown** on April 12, 2022.



The Chamber Ambassadors helped celebrate the opening of **Elite Auto Detailing LLC** on April 12, 2022. The business is located at 106 W. Anson St.

If you would like to schedule a visit with the Chamber Ambassadors contact Membership Director Sarah Smith at the Chamber ssmith@marshalltown.org or 641-753-6645.

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Binford House Opens to the **Public for Luncheons**

Marshalltown residents and visitors will have a new option for dining on Wednesdays. The Historic Binford House, known for its elegant, turn-of-the-century ambiance, tasty food, and courteous service, will be serving luncheons to the public every other Wednesday beginning May 11.

"We are excited to welcome people to the beautiful, historic Binford House with these special Wednesday luncheons," commented Ce Hubbard, President of the Marshalltown Federation of Women's Clubs, which owns and operates the house. "One of our goals with these luncheons is to include people who have never, or rarely, been inside the house, so they can be more aware of what a community gem it is. We encourage people to consider meeting their friends, family, business associates, or organization groups here over luncheon."

The Binford House is located at 110 N. 2nd Avenue in Marshalltown Guests will be seated beginning at 11:30 a.m., and luncheons will be served at 11:45 a.m. Patrons may choose between two featured entrées, which will vary each Wednesday.

Binford House caterer Leona Wallen says she has enjoyed developing the menus for the luncheons. "We're planning to feature some of my most popular dishes, as well as celebrate events on the calendar. For example, we're using a patriotic theme for the Wednesday nearest July 4," Wallen said.

The luncheons are now scheduled for May 11 and 25, June 8 and 22, and July 6 and 20. Menus are published in advance, and can be found on the Binford Facebook page at binfordhousemarshalltown or in brochures available from Binford board members. All meals cost \$20 and include side dishes, beverage, and dessert. Guests are welcome to bring their favorite wine to accompany their luncheon.

Seating is limited, and reservations are required no later than the Friday preceding each luncheon. People can make reservations by calling 641-753-5450 with their entrée choices. Payment will be accepted at the door the day of the luncheon in cash or by check only. Meals are also available for take-out, and can be picked up between 12:15 p.m. and 12:30 p.m.

The Binford House, built in 1874, is listed on the National Register of Historic Places in recognition of its Victorian Italianate architecture. The house was the girlhood home of Jessica Binford, who is recognized in the Iowa Women's Hall of Fame for her work on behalf of children and immigrants at Hull House in Chicago.

In addition to the Wednesday luncheons, the Historic Binford House provides a unique and welcoming venue for events, celebrations, and social occasions throughout the year, and is open to the public by arrangement. Contact 641-753-5450 to schedule an event or for additional information.



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March '22 Avg/Month **YTD Total** Unique Visitors 9,713 8,790 26,370 Number of Visits 27,829 24,761 74,283 Page Views 360,256 314,614 943,842 Hits 675,780 569,109 1,707,326

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.



TOURISM

Sports tourism brings in millions of dollars to Marshalltown

Whether it be swimming, tumbling, volleyball, softball, tennis, basketball or any other sport, sports tourism is big business for Marshalltown.

The economic impact is in the several millions of dollars range each year, according to Chamber Tourism Director Andrew Potter

"With our wide range of sports facilities and central location in the state, Marshalltown is a prime spot to host both youth and adult sports tournaments as well as big high school level events," he said.

Recent big tournaments included state youth swimming, state 6th grade volleyball, tumbling and more. And be on the lookout for big adult softball tournaments and tennis tournaments this summer that attract visitors from throughout the state and even out of state.

"We continue to work with these groups to help ensure successful events to keep the sports tourism momentum going in Marshalltown," Potter said. "Many of these tournaments fill our hotels and restaurants and also give a boost to our retail sector."

According to an economic impact calculator utilized by the Chamber, sport tournaments in the months of March and April brought in an estimated \$500,000 of economic impact to Marshalltown.

"We have some beautiful facilities to host these tournaments and oftentimes if they come here once they will want to continue to choose Marshalltown as a place to host these events," Potter said.





Sign up for 'This Week in Marshalltown' weekly events newsletter

Don't miss out on upcoming community events! Sign up for the weekly event email newsletter "This Week in Marshalltown" and receive a listing of upcoming events via email each Monday. To sign up for the newsletter contact Tourism Director Andrew Potter at apotter@marshalltown.org. You can also contact Andrew if you have an event you want promoted and listed on our online Community Calendar.



CHAMBERNEWS



The Central Iowa Fairgrounds held an egg drop from a helicopter for the community on April 9, 2022. Hundreds of area children took part in the event.

Job Posting

Did you know that included with your membership you can post jobs to the Chamber website for free? Posting jobs with the Chamber is simple, email office@marshalltown.org for a template.

Job postings are available to for the public and members to view on our website, www.marshalltown.org under the Work in Marshalltown tab.





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Upcoming Chamber Events

Business After Hours

Historic Binford House *Thursday, April 28 from 4:30-6:30*

Connect Marshalltown

Fiddle & Whistle Pub Wednesday, May 4 from 4:30-6:00

Business After Hours

Wandering Creek Golf Club Tuesday, May 17 from 4:30-6:30

Connect Marshalltown

American Legion Golf Course Wednesday, June 1 from 4:30-6:00







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CHAMBER**NEWS**

Economic Statistics			
Employment – Marshall County - February	2022	2021	
(Source: Iowa Workforce Development)			
Labor force	17,920	17,480	
Unemployed	1,600	1,430	
Percent unemployed	8.9	8.2	
Total employment	16,320	16,050	
Marshall County Construction - February	2022	2021	
(Source: Marshalltown Building Department)			
Building permits	6	32	
New Residential Construction	\$0	\$0	
Residential Addition/Remodeling	\$10,640	\$79,000	
New Commercial/Industrial Const.	\$677,340	\$4,597,000	
Commercial/Industrial Remodeling	\$249,883	\$1,648,000	
Housing Sales Data - March	2022	2021	
(Source: Mid-Iowa Regional Board of Realtors)			
Single family home sales	30	27	
Average sale price	\$144,645	\$125,033	
Median sale price	\$131,450	\$100,000	

Chamber Chat - Sundays 6:30 a.m. on 99.5 KDAO FM 7:30 a.m. on 1190 KDAO AM



