



theDIGEST

October 2026

Volume 44, Issue 4



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MARSHALLTOWN AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



MARSHALLTOWN
AREA CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE

PRESENTED BY EMERSON
& IMON COMMUNICATIONS

MEMBER APPRECIATION LUNCHEON

October 22, 2026
11:00 AM - 1:00 PM
34 W. Main Street

The Chamber is excited to welcome members to the 2026 Member Appreciation Luncheon, presented by Emerson & ImOn Communications! The event is a special opportunity for our members to enjoy a delicious lunch provided by Smokin' G's BBQ, check out the Chamber office, and connect with the Chamber staff about the work happening behind the scenes to support our local business community.

Most importantly, the luncheon is our way of saying "Thank You!" to our valued Chamber members for their continued support, involvement and investment in the Chamber. We appreciate the businesses and organizations that make our work possible and are proud to celebrate the partnerships that help strengthen our business community.

RSVP is encouraged but not required. Please email Jenna Dooley at jdooley@marshalltown.org. We look forward to connecting with our members on October 22nd!

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

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Thank You Sponsors of the 2026 Educator Appreciation Events!

Our Annual Educator Appreciation events took place back in August, and we were proud to celebrate the incredible educators and school staff who make a difference in our community every day!

Chamber staff, along with representatives from Bowman & Miller PC and Pinnacle Bank, distributed appreciation gifts to faculty and staff at Marshalltown Community School District, Marshalltown Christian School, St. Francis Catholic School, and Marshalltown Community College/Iowa Valley Community College District.

A huge thank you to our generous sponsors who helped make this celebration possible!

Presenting Sponsors:

Community Choice Credit Union & Gregg Young Chevrolet of Marshalltown

Gold Sponsors:

1st Rate Real Estate, Bowman & Miller PC, First Interstate Bank, and Pinnacle Bank

Silver Sponsors:

Iowa Valley Community College District, ITC Midwest, M. Gervich & Sons, Marshalltown YMCA-YWCA, McFarland Clinic, and Taylor's Maid-Rite

And a special thank you to **Scooter's Coffee in Marshalltown** and **Lillie Mae Chocolates** for partnering with us to provide delicious treats for our local educators!

We are grateful to everyone who helped us recognize and show appreciation for the educators and school staff who serve our community.



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

Chamber Bucks FAQ

How do I purchase Chamber Bucks?

Chamber Bucks can be purchased at the Marshalltown Area Chamber of Commerce office located at 34 W. Main Street.

Chamber Bucks come in \$5, \$10, and \$25 increments. We accept cash, check, or credit card for payment. Need to place a large order? You can pre-order Chamber Bucks by contacting the Chamber office (office@marshalltown.org or 641-753-6645).

Where can I use my Chamber Bucks?

Chamber Bucks can be used at most businesses or organizations that are a member of the Marshalltown Area Chamber of Commerce. In addition to redeeming Chamber Bucks at retail locations, you can use them to pay a utility bill or donate to a local charity/non-profit! Contact our office for an updated copy of the Chamber Bucks Redemption list.

How do I use my Chamber Bucks?

Chamber Bucks are treated like cash. Simply hand the Chamber Bucks over to the business or organization that you are redeeming them and that's it!

I am a Chamber member business/organization.

How do I accept Chamber Bucks?

All Marshalltown Area Chamber of Commerce members can accept Chamber Bucks just like they would cash/check.

1. If the payment is more than the amount of the bill, simply give the customer change.
2. Be sure to stamp or otherwise clearly endorse the back of the check so that your organization name is clearly visible.
3. Deposit Chamber Bucks checks along with other checks and cash in your normal bank deposit. The full amount of the Chamber Bucks check will be credited to your account.

It's that simple!

Don't see your question answered here? Contact the Chamber

Office for more information.

(office@marshalltown.org or 641-753-6645)

Thank You Reinvesting Chamber Members

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

Action Auto Parts/Krantmans	40	Jim Lowrance	5
Animal Medical Clinic, P.C.	39	Joel Greer	3
Collison Par 3 Golf Course	3	Lennox Industries	97
Con-Struct, Inc.	53	Marshalltown Central	
Evans Abstract Company	49	Business District	39
Grounded	1	Marshalltown YMCA-YWCA	49
H & F Distributing		Rainbow Car Wash-Anson St.	40
Company, Inc.	50	Real Deals - Marshalltown	5
Happy Tails Pet Grooming	12	Shomo-Madsen Insurance	55
Holiday Inn Express & Suites - Marshalltown	6	Starnes TV & Appliance	37
Home Rental Center & Sales Co.	43	Subway	34
ImOn Communications	2	Tannin, Inc.	8
ITC Midwest	4	TIG: The Integration Group	15
JBS Swift & Company	67	Times-Republican	65
Jensen Ford	59	Trending Media (KFJB/KXIA)	51
		Wausau Homes	8
		Wolfe Clinic P.C.	34



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**Chamber Bucks are great gifts and a perfect way to
THINK LOCAL FIRST!**

Purchase Chamber Bucks year round from the Chamber office (34 W. Main Street)



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Amanda Accola, Vice Chair

Aimee Deimerly-Snyder, Treasurer

Zach Stahlin, Past Chair

Michelle Burgess

Mark Doland

John Gervich

Kevin Harken

Carol Hibbs

Heather Knebel

Joe Mach

Robert Maharry

Damon Morrison

Luisa Ortega

Kristin Polley

Carol Webb

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Dr. Anne Howsare Boysen, IVCCD

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President & CEO

Sarah Smith

Vice President

Dylan Does

Tourism Director

Kate Bowermaster

Workforce Development Director

Alex Ferneau

Marshall County Economic

Development Director

Jake Buchanan

Tama County Economic

Development Director

Brittany Sichra

Tourism & Community Event Coordinator

Jenna Dooley

Member Event & Administrative Coordinator

Social Scoop Marketing Roundtable

The Social Scoop is sponsored by our 2026-2027 Think Local First Sponsors!

Leading Sponsor: **Central Iowa Capital Advisors - Gary Schaudt**

Champion Sponsors: **A&M Cleaning Services, Pinnacle Bank, and ServiceMaster of Marshalltown**

The Social Scoop is your monthly power hour for all things social media and marketing! Whether you're a seasoned business owner, an up-and-coming marketing pro, or just starting to explore the world of social media for your business or brand—this is your go-to space. Events take place on the 3rd Friday of each month at 9 AM at the Chamber office (34 W. Main Street).

Questions? Contact Sarah Smith - ssmith@marshalltown.org



The Chamber office is located at 34 W. Main Street in downtown Marshalltown.

Please remit payment to:
P.O. Box 1000, Marshalltown

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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.



(we just have to *brag a little*)

Congrats!

Pinnacle Bank is pleased to announce the promotion of Erin Krough to Vice President/Senior Retail Officer/BSA Officer/Deposit Compliance Officer. Krough joined the staff of Pinnacle Bank in late 2019 as a Personal Banker/Customer Service Representative. In 2020, she took on consumer lending and in 2022 she was promoted to AVP/Deposit Operations Manager. She was then moved to the operations department in 2024 as AVP/Deposit Compliance Officer/BSA Analyst/Operations Processor. Her wealth of knowledge has played a crucial role in improving efficiency and productivity along with providing the highest level of personalized customer service using her banking expertise. In addition to her current deposit compliance duties, she will be responsible for overseeing branch operations, ensuring regulatory compliance and consistency between branches, and delivering exceptional customer service. This includes leading, coaching, and developing the retail department. She also serves on the compliance, event planning, and marketing committees at the bank.



Pinnacle Bank is pleased to announce the promotion of Toni Kielly to Vice President/Treasury Management Officer. Kielly joined the staff of Pinnacle Bank in June of 2024 as an Assistant Vice President/Senior Personal Banker. In addition to her current personal banker duties, she will be responsible for driving revenue growth by developing and delivering treasury management and trust-related solutions. This includes driving deposit growth through business development, community engagement, and relationship management. She will also serve on the bank's ALCO committee. In her new role, she will continue to deliver the same excellent customer service that has made such a positive impact on our customers.



Welcome!

Marshalltown Christian School is pleased to announce the addition of Cody Beckham as a new member of the MCS Board of Trustees. One reason Beckham chose to join the MCS Board "is because helping children to know God in everyday learning is one of the greatest gifts one can bestow."

Beckham and his family attend Mosaic Church where he serves on the Hospitality Team and has been a part of a group working through a new book that has not yet been released titled *The Kingdom Prayer Armory* "where the main purpose is to provide tools to slow prayer down in a good way making prayer steadier, purposeful, and focused."

A University of Iowa graduate with a Bachelor of Arts in Global Social Entrepreneurial Leadership, Beckham currently serves as President/CEO of MIW, Inc.

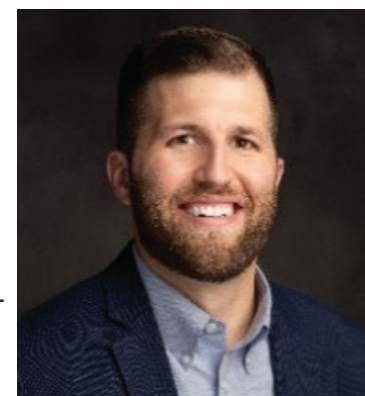
"Christian education can be one of the most impactful and compassionate ministries in God's church," said Beckham.



Marshalltown Christian School recently welcomed Tyler Peschong to its Board of Trustees. "I am a big believer that our job as parents is to help set the foundation for our children to thrive when they spread their wings. Having a Christian education is a pivotal part of the foundation that both my wife and I aspire to have for our children," said Peschong.

The Peschong family attends New Hope Christian Church where Peschong is active in facilitating and leading a men's discipleship group and has assisted with young adult groups over the last five years. A native of Marshalltown, Peschong graduated from Southwest Minnesota State University and is a State Farm Insurance Agent in Marshalltown.

"There is a yearning for truth from our young people, and I believe Christian education is a place where they can find truth and deepen their relationship with Christ," said Peschong.





CHAMBER AMBASSADORS VISITS



Chamber Ambassadors helped **Iowa Valley Business and Community Solutions** launch its new CDL Training Program with a ribbon cutting!

Iowa Valley Business and Community Solutions offers CDL training designed to get you prepared, licensed, and on the road. Students can start classes this September and be road-ready with their CDL by November.



On August 25th the Chamber Ambassadors did a Courtesy Call visit at **Anderson Funeral Homes**! Known as Anderson Funeral Homes since 2012 the business has a rich history that dates back to 1881. Today their knowledgeable staff continues to be passionate about providing families guidance and support during the funeral planning process and well after the funeral. They take pride in honoring your loved one's life while helping you beginning your grief journey.

Anderson Funeral Homes
405 W. Main Street, Marshalltown
641-753-5511
andersonfhs.com



The Chamber Ambassadors stopped by **Big Acai Downtown Marshalltown**! Their bowls are completely customizable, you choose your base of vegan sorbet and then load it up with your favorite delicious toppings! Big Acai also offers, fresh fruit bowls, smoothies, toast, vanilla chia seed pudding parfaits, and even more breakfast and lunch options will be coming soon!

Big Acai
26 E. Main Street, Marshalltown
marshalltown@bigacaiowl.com
www.bigacaiowl.com/orderonline



The Chamber Ambassadors had a courtesy call visit with **Real Deals - Marshalltown, IA!** Real Deals offer unique home decor at affordable prices and a boutique with the latest fashion & accessories! Locally owned right here in downtown Marshalltown stop into Real Deals to find great gifts, freshen up your wardrobe, or snag the latest seasonal and everyday decor!

Real Deals-Marshalltown
122 E. Main Street
marshalltown.realdeals.net



Marshalltown Community College officially broke ground on our brand-new student residence life facilities!

This new development is all about elevating the student experience and creating a vibrant place for our campus community to live, learn, and grow.



Shoe Sensation celebrated their Grand Opening event with a ribbon cutting! Shoe Sensation now open at the Shops at Marshalltown offers brands like Hey Dude, Adidas, Brooks, Nike, New Balance, Sketchers, Crocs, and more! Stop in and visit them at their new location!

Shoe Sensation
2500 S. Center Street

Workforce Wake-Up was a success!

At the end of August we hosted the Workforce Wake-Up Caffeinated by Scooter's Coffee! Ali Payne with AP Consulting, our keynote speaker, talked about how leading with purpose, strengthening employee engagement, and attracting and retaining top talent can drive better business results. Thank you to our Workforce Program Event Sponsors: Emerson, MARSHALLTOWN, and Scooter's Coffee Marshalltown.



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A message from the ISU Small Business Development Center:

Let's talk about scams and your business...

According to the Better Business Bureau two-thirds of small businesses have been scammed at least once. The Federal Trade Commission (FTC), states that the parties who are scamming businesses tend to be someone the business trusts, create a sense of urgency, use intimidation and fear, and use untraceable payment methods.

Fortunately for us, scammers don't want to work too hard and have a general set of tricks. What should we look for? We should keep an eye out for fake invoices, unordered supplies or inventory, directory listing and advertising scams, utility company imposters, government agency imposters, tech support imposters, social engineering, phishing, ransomware, business promotion or coaching scams, changing online reviews, credit card processing equipment and phony check scams. Whew...that's a lot of opportunities to deceive!

What's a business owner to do? As always, the best defense is a good offense. Train and dialogue with employees often. Help them to identify potential threats. Verify invoices and payments. Be tech savvy or know someone who can help cover this base. Know who you are dealing with. This brochure created by the FTC is a great learning resource. Scams and Your Small Business (ftc.gov)

Finally, notify the FTC FTC fraud reporting and the Iowa Attorney General Iowa fraud reporting if you have been scammed and get the word out.

ISU SBDC is here to work with you. Our services are without cost 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

www.marshalltown.org Statistics

	August '26	Avg/Month	YTD Total
Unique Visitors	21,391	19,480	155,840
Number of Visits	32,348	35,163	281,301
Page Views	179,892	236,668	1,893,345
Hits	672,876	741,756	5,934,049

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.

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 or questions on your Chamber membership billing, contact our office at office@marshalltown.org.

Thank you to this incredible group of volunteers: our Chamber Ambassadors!

Each month, the following individuals give their own time to visit Chamber member businesses and organizations to say "thank you".

We'd like to take this opportunity to thank them!

Doug Beals Cindy Brodin Guadalupe Gomez Pat Gulbranson Joe Hannam
Denny Hass Andrea Jordan Jaymee Mann Jenny Meling Dan Moellers
Kris Naughton Michelle Roseburrough Mary Rund Gary Schaudt
Roger Schoell Andy Schwandt Sandy Short Brittany Titcomb Kevin Vaughn Tom Wahl

The best American-made tool company, MARSHALLTOWN, is hosting the Iowa Regional Bricklayer 500 on October 1st

Marshalltown will become the center of Iowa's masonry industry on October 1, 2026, when the SPEC MIX BRICKLAYER 500 Iowa Regional brings skilled masons, apprentices, students and industry professionals together for a full day of competition, education and hands-on experiences.

Celebrating the 25th anniversary of the SPEC MIX BRICKLAYER 500, the event showcases the speed, precision and craftsmanship of professional masons in a competition often described as one of the most exciting events in the masonry industry. Best of all, all events are open to

the public, giving visitors a chance to see some of Iowa's best bricklayers in action.

Activities begin at 8:00 a.m. with several educational opportunities. Masonry Education sessions will introduce students to products and tools used in the trade, with producers and suppliers providing firsthand insight into the industry. Attendees can also participate in the "Be a Bricklayer" experience, a hands-on opportunity to learn how to spread mortar and lay bricks alongside experienced masons.

Members of the design community can take part in AIA sessions, with



IOWA REGIONAL

MARSHALLTOWN, IA | OCTOBER 1, 2026

EVENT SCHEDULE

ALL EVENTS OPEN TO PUBLIC

8:00 AM

MASONRY EDUCATION

Students will have the opportunity to learn about product & tools of the masonry trade from producers and suppliers.

"BE A BRICKLAYER"

Hands on opportunity to learn how to spread mortar & lay bricks from experienced masons.

AIA SESSIONS

The design community has the opportunity to earn up to 2 hours of professional development (AIA/HSW) credit for attending nano-learning sessions with the vendors.

10:00 AM

JR BRICKLAYER

Apprentice students get in on the action & test their skills against their peers.

11:00 AM

BRICKLAYER 500

Competition determines which mason can build the highest 26-foot-long brick wall, with the best craftsmanship, in only 60-minutes.





the opportunity to earn up to two hours of professional development credit by attending vendor nano-learning sessions.

At 10:00 a.m., the next generation takes center stage during the Jr. Bricklayer competition. Apprentice students will put their developing skills to the test while competing alongside their peers.

The day's featured event begins at 11:00 a.m. with the SPEC MIX BRICKLAYER 500. Competitors will have just 60 minutes to construct the highest 26-foot-long brick wall possible while meeting the competition's craftsmanship standards. The regional event will determine who earns the opportunity to represent Iowa at the national competition in Las Vegas.

For spectators, the Iowa Regional offers a unique opportunity to experience a skilled trade as both craftsmanship and competition. With education, hands-on activities and some of Iowa's top masons racing against the clock, Marshalltown will be the place to find out: Who is Iowa's best bricklayer?

This event is open to the public. Event is hosted at MARSHALLTOWN (104 South 8th Avenue, Marshalltown).



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Save the Date!

Fall Ladies Night Out is November 5th

Chamber Members can sign up to participate by contacting Jenna Dooley, Chamber Member Events & Administrative Coordinator (jdooley@marshalltown.org). Ladies Night Out will take place at participating Chamber member businesses on Thursday, November 5th from 4-7 PM!

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 the Chamber office at office@marshalltown.org.

"Always here for you."

#Marshalltown Strong

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CHAMBERNEWS

Economic Statistics

Employment – Marshall County - June	2026	2025
(Source: Iowa Workforce Development)		
Labor force	19,980	20,245
Unemployed	970	1,253
Percent unemployed	4.9	6.2
Total employment	19,000	18,992

Marshall County Construction - July	2026	2025
(Source: Marshalltown Building Department)		
Building permits	17	15
New Residential Construction	\$906,330	\$0
Residential Addition/Remodeling	\$45,030	\$85,385
New Commercial/Industrial Const.	\$0	\$0
Commercial/Industrial Remodeling	\$204,520	\$5,847

Housing Sales Data - July	2026	2025
(Source: Mid-Iowa Regional Board of Realtors)		
Single family home sales	49	47
Median sale price	\$176,000	\$169,900

Upcoming Chamber Events

October 15th - 7:30 - 9:00 AM

Caffeinated Conversations at **Pinnacle Bank**

October 20th - 4:30 - 6:30 PM

Business After Hours at **UnityPoint Health Marshalltown**

October 22nd - 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Member Appreciation Luncheon at the Chamber office

November 5th - 4:00-7:00 PM

Ladies Night Out at participating member businesses

November 28th

Small Business Saturday



Marna Mitchell-Butler
Agent-CSA



Ryan Larmore
Agent



Pat Hageman
Agent



Paul Beals
Agent



Tyler Slagle
Agent



Mark Rohde
Agent



Rich Mohon
Agent



Heather Hanus
Agent-CSA



Jeni Chavarria
Administrative Assistant



Bonnie Ohrt
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Agent-CSA



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