

the**DIGEST**

September 2026

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MARSHALLTOWN
AREA CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE

Thank You Sponsors of the Chamber Ambassadors Golf Outing!

The Annual Chamber Ambassadors Golf Outing took place at Elmwood Country Club on August 7th! We had a blast and it turned out to be a beautiful day! Thank you to everyone who participated, sponsored and donated prizes!

Presenting Sponsors: Emerson & Gregg Young Chevrolet of Marshalltown
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2026 Chamber Ambassadors Golf Outing



Workforce Tours

The Marshalltown Area Chamber of Commerce offers guided tours around our community to showcase local industries and businesses, housing options, and places to eat as well as many unique and fun activities. When you go on a tour of Marshalltown with the Chamber, you get a customized experience with a professional tour guide who brings firsthand experience with enthusiasm and authenticity. You will get exclusive access to local businesses, and you will learn some of the history of our town, as well as current and future projects.

This is a chance to learn more about the place you thought you already knew everything about! Tours are typically offered Monday – Friday during business hours. If you are interested in setting up a time to tour Marshalltown, you can reach out to Kate at kbowmaster@marshalltown.org.

Chamber Chat

every Sunday morning
6:30 a.m. on 92.9 KDAO FM
7:30 a.m. on 1190 KDAO AM

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.

13th Street District	3	Lennox Employees	
Alerus	57	Credit Union	42
Arby's Restaurant	36	LifeServe Blood Center	26
AssuredPartners	50	M. Gervich & Sons, Inc.	62
B & G HVAC	20	Main Street Dental	6
BDH Technology	23	Marshall County Farm Bureau	62
Brandenburg Tax & Accounting	19	Marshall County Supervisors	34
Brown's Shoe Fit Co.	19	Marshalltown Area United Way	58
Central Iowa Capital Advisors	36	Marshalltown Senior	
City of Marshalltown	34	Citizens Center	7
Consumers Energy	50	Marshalltown Water Works	45
Culver's of Marshalltown	24	McFarland Clinic	28
David Blom	2	Metronet	2
Domino's Pizza	43	Mosaic Church	7
Edward Jones-		Prairie Ridge Integrated	
Elisabeth Bieber	5	Behavioral Healthcare	1
Elmwood Country Club	61	Roseland, Mackey,	
Emerson	113	Harris Architects	24
Eyecare Associates	67	Select Physical Therapy	1
Hay Construction		ServiceMaster of Marshalltown	41
Services, Inc	30	Smiles In Motion	23
Healing Hands Chiropractic	10	Smokin' G's BBQ,	
Hermanson Orthodontics, P.C.	51	Restaurant and Catering	18
Hitchins & Thronson PLC	62	Strand's Flooring & Paint	50
Hoglund Bus Company Inc.	5	Structural Engineers P.C.	39
House of Compassion	5	Taco John's	50
Iowa Home Care	4	Thrivent Financial	8
Iowa River Hospice	26	Timber Creek Enterprise, Inc.	40
Iowa Valley Community		UnityPoint	
College District	34	Health Marshalltown	100
Iowa Veterans Home	38	US Bank	62
Kading Properties	7	Wolfe Ranch/Quakerdale	
Kimball & Beecher		Family Services	6
Family Dentistry	48		

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)

LEADERSHIP

MARSHALLTOWN AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



Board of Directors

Deb Wollam, Chair

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

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Ex-Officio

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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

Event & Tourism Coordinator

Jenna Dooley

Administrative Assistant



On August 11th, participants from the Leadership Marshalltown program over the last 4 years gathered together for networking & lunch.

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*)

Woodruff Construction Celebrates 70 Years of Building Iowa's Communities

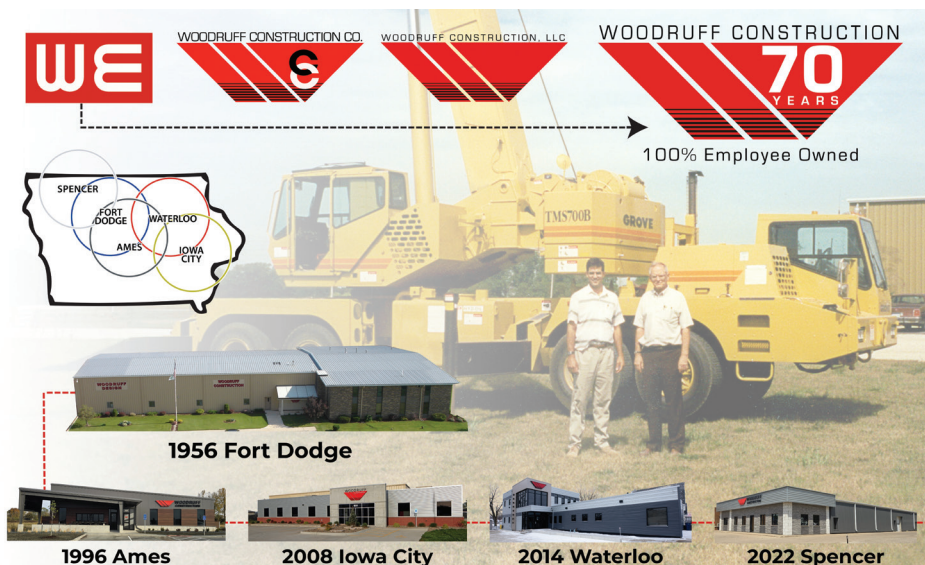
Woodruff Construction proudly celebrates its 70th anniversary in 2026, marking seven decades of delivering exceptional construction services, cultivating lasting relationships, and helping shape communities across Iowa.

Over the past 70 years, Woodruff Construction's growth has been driven by a commitment to strong client relationships, skilled employees, an industry-leading safety culture, and a dedication to continuous improvement. While the company has expanded its geographic reach and capabilities to a total of five regions across the state, its core values have remained unchanged.

Woodruff's history reflects a legacy of leadership and innovation. The company proudly carried forward Leonard Woodruff's entrepreneurial spirit through two generations of family leadership before transitioning to 100% employee ownership in 2020. Today, every employee-owner shares in the company's success, reinforcing a culture of accountability, collaboration, and long-term thinking.

As Woodruff Construction celebrates this milestone anniversary, the company recognizes the clients, trade partners, employees, and communities that have contributed to its success over the past seven decades. The company's history is the foundation of who they are today, and they honor the legacy established by Leonard Woodruff and Jack Evans while continuing to evolve, innovate, and invest in the future.

Throughout 2026, Woodruff Construction will commemorate its 70th anniversary by celebrating the people, projects, and partnerships that have defined its history and continue to shape its future.



Congrats!

BrownWinick recently celebrated its 75th anniversary with clients, partners, and community members, marking a milestone in the firm's history while looking ahead to its next chapter.

The celebration also recognized a historic leadership transition with Cindy Lande serving as BrownWinick's first-ever woman Managing Partner.



Chamber Chat - Sundays
6:30 a.m. on 92.9 KDAO FM
7:30 a.m. on 1190 KDAO AM

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Other Services:

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CHAMBER AMBASSADORS VISITS



On July 28th the Chamber Ambassadors made a Courtesy Call visit to **Jensen Ford**! The dealership has proudly served Central Iowa for over 55 years, first under the guidance of Kevin and Kendall Jensen, and now in the hands of the next generation. On March 1, 2020, Christin and her husband Joe officially took ownership. They are continuing the Jensen legacy built on honesty, integrity, and putting customers first. Jensen Ford (2805 South Center Street, Marshalltown)
Contact: 641-352-7422/jensenford.com



Friday, August 21st **Franklin Field** celebrated their Grand Opening with a ribbon cutting! Legendary Bobcat coaches Lew Kearney, Charlie Smith, and Stan Wooster serve as ribbon cutters. For generations, they coached, mentored, and inspired Bobcat athletes, leaving a lasting legacy on Franklin Field and in our community.

The event at Franklin Field also hosted a MHS Bobcat football scrimmage that evening.



On Saturday, August 22nd the Grand Opening of the **Emerson bridge & Ann C. Keyser Trailhead** was celebrated with a ribbon cutting! The Emerson bridge was the final piece of the Linn Creek District come to life, creating a new connection to the Ann C. Keyser Trailhead.

The Emerson bridge unlocks more opportunity to explore and experience this vibrant part of our community making access to local business along the trail a breeze!



Our Chamber Ambassadors stopped by **GNB Bank** on July 28th for a courtesy call! As a locally and employee-owned community bank, GNB Bank has proudly served families, businesses, and agriculture for more than 91 years. Since opening its Marshalltown branch in 2012, GNB Bank has been committed to providing friendly, personalized service from people you know and trust. Whether you're looking for checking and savings accounts, loans, trust services, insurance, or investment solutions, the team at GNB Bank is ready to help. GNB Bank (2504 S. 2nd Street, Marshalltown) Contact: 641-753-4040/gnbbank.com

 **MARSHALLTOWN**
AREA CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE

**Celebrating
5 years with the
Chamber!**

CONGRATS!

**John Hall
President & CEO**



If you would like to schedule a visit with the Chamber Ambassadors contact Vice President Sarah Smith.
ssmith@marshalltown.org/641-753-6645



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**To view images from past ribbon cuttings & courtesy calls visit our website at
www.marshalltown.org/ribbon-cuttings-courtesy-calls**



**July 2026 Caffeinated Conversations
hosted by Taylor's Maid-Rite**



**August 2026 Caffeinated Conversations
hosted by Guiding Star Marshalltown**



A message from the ISU Small Business Development Center:

Let's talk about artificial intelligence...

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is no longer just for big corporations—it's transforming how small businesses operate, market, and manage finances. By integrating AI tools, entrepreneurs can save time, reduce costs, and make smarter decisions.

Marketing: Personalized Customer Engagement

AI enables small businesses to deliver personalized marketing campaigns that resonate with individual customers. For example, platforms like Mailchimp use AI to analyze customer behavior and automatically send targeted emails based on purchase history or browsing patterns. This increases engagement and conversion rates without requiring a full-time marketing team.

Financial Management: Smarter Budgeting and Forecasting

AI-powered financial tools like QuickBooks or Xero can automate bookkeeping, detect anomalies, and generate predictive cash flow reports. A small retail shop, for instance, can use AI to forecast seasonal sales trends and adjust inventory and staffing accordingly helping avoid overstock or understaffing during peak times.

Operations: Streamlined Inventory Management

AI can optimize supply chains and inventory levels by analyzing sales data and predicting future demand. A local bakery might use an AI tool to track ingredient usage and automatically reorder supplies before they run out, reducing waste and ensuring consistent product availability.

By embracing AI, small business owners can work smarter—not harder. These tools are increasingly affordable and user-friendly, making it easier than ever to stay competitive in a fast-changing market. Positively, utilizing AI in a small business need not be an all or nothing proposition. Start small. Pick one facet of business where AI support could be beneficial to the business, works in your budget and has staff buy-in. Then, learn and grow!

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



**August 2026 Business After Hours
hosted by Mariscos El Capitan 2.0**



www.marshalltown.org Statistics

	July '26	Avg/Month	YTD Total
Unique Visitors	26,144	19,207	134,449
Number of Visits	45,791	35,565	248,953
Page Views	306,650	244,779	1,713,453
Hits	890,386	751,596	5,261,173

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.



OKTEMBERFEST

MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 25 TH	SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 26 TH	SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 27 TH
7:00 PM THE HYPE	12:00-1:30 PM MARY RUNYAN BAND	11:00-12:00 PM COMMUNITY WORSHIP SERVICE
	1:30-3:00 PM BASEMENT BAND	12:30-1:30 PM MHS MARIACHI BAND AND GRUPO DE BAILE FOLKLÓRICO
	3:00-4:30 PM REZ	1:30-3:00 PM OPEN
	4:30-6:00 PM COMMUNITY BAND	

7:00 PM
EXIT 185

THREE DAYS OF GREAT MUSIC, COMMUNITY & FAMILY FUN!

Save the Date!

Fall Ladies Night Out is November 5th

Chamber Members can sign up to participate by contacting Brittany Sichra, Chamber Event & Tourism Coordinator (bsichra@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.



IOWA ALL BREEDS JEEP SHOW & 4X4 EVENT

SEPT. 11TH - 13TH

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SEE LEGENDARY YL-37!



3

DAYS OF FUN!!
SORRY, NO SXs



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SEE AN ARMY TANK IN ACTION!



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INFORMATION:

IOWAJEEPSHOWINFO@GMAIL.COM
OR CALL LARRY REINSCH AT 515-708-0080



PRE-REGISTRATION

ENCOURAGED BUT NOT REQUIRED!



LOOK FOR MORE:



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.

CONGRATS!

**Celebrating 3
years with the
Chamber!**



**Kate Bowermaster
Workforce Development Director**



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Gary Schaudt

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**13TH STREET DISTRICT
HARVEST
MARKET**

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2026

N 13TH STREET & WEST END PARK 223 N 13TH ST. MARSHALLTOWN, IA

MARKET 5:00-7:30P

MUSICAL PERFORMANCES 5:00-9:00P

13th Street District Harvest Market will feature 30+ unique vendors, food trucks, fun family activities, and live musical performances featuring Not Quite Brothers as well as acoustic stages with a line-up of regional performers. Join us in the 13th Street District!



Chamber member benefit tip

Did you know a benefit to Chamber membership is that you are able to “brag” about your business or organization in The Digest? 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. If you have Marshalltown area news to brag about, submit it to Sarah Smith via email at ssmith@marshalltown.org.



CHAMBERNEWS

Upcoming Chamber Events

September 17 - 4:00 - 6:00 PM

Business After Hours at **Lillie Mae Chocolates**

September 22 - 7:30 - 9:00 AM

Caffeinated Conversations at **Alerus**

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

Ladies Night Out

Chamber Bucks are available year-round and make great gifts!

To order call or email

641-753-6645/office@marshalltown.org

Economic Statistics

Employment – Marshall County - May (Source: Iowa Workforce Development)	2026	2025
Labor force	19,770	19,830
Unemployed	960	1,200
Percent unemployed	4.9	6.1
Total employment	18,800	18,630
Marshall County Construction - June (Source: Marshalltown Building Department)	2026	2025
Building permits	8	15
New Residential Construction	\$0	\$0
Residential Addition/Remodeling	\$13,920	\$50,474
New Commercial/Industrial Const.	\$2,843	\$0
Commercial/Industrial Remodeling	\$163,547	\$6,380,828
Housing Sales Data - June (Source: Mid-Iowa Regional Board of Realtors)	2026	2025
Single family home sales	66	40
Median sale price	\$191,950	\$166,000



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
Processor



Scott Simpson
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Carla Nordstrom
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