

FYI



Boulders Inn & Suites of Lake View

FYI Mar. 2010

The New Boulders Inn & Suites under construction on the north shore of Black Hawk Lake is scheduled to open on May 1st or before if the weather cooperates. This 32-room motel will feature lake side views, plenty of parking for your boat & trailer, a continental



breakfast, fitness room, and all the amenities to make your stay a pleasure.

The City of Lake View worked with local and area investors to make this facility a reality. Watch for the grand opening of this new addition to Sac County's lodging options. Over 200 reservations have already been made. Visit the website at www.bouldersinnlakeview.com.

Pelican Fest

The first festival of 2010 is planned for April 11th at Lake View. The pelicans will be in mass on the lake with viewing stations at various lakefront locations from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Lunch will be available at the Legion building where a 4-H Bake Sale and Silent Auction will also take place. Children's games will be held at the shelter house in Speaker Park and Educational seminars will be held at the

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2010 Census

Why should you fill out the census form when you receive it? Your answers are important—not only to yourself but to your community and your state. Census results are used to decide the number of representatives each state has in the U.S. Congress. More than \$400 billion in federal funds for 215 programs will be tied to data collected in the 2010 Census. Healthcare, economic development grants, energy assistance, transportation projects, and education and job-training programs all depend on the numbers.

A complete count of people living in the United States is constitutionally mandated every decade and participation is required by law, yet thousands of Iowans are missed. In 2000 more than 14,000 residents went uncounted in Iowa, amounting to a loss of millions over the 10-year-life of each census. Rural residents are among those at greatest risk for going uncounted, a fearsome reality for states like Iowa already struck hard by tough economic times.

So take just a few minutes and fill out your Census Form when you receive it in the mail. Your answers are confidential and the Census Bureau cannot give out information that identifies you or your household. It's important!

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Virtual Spec Building Video Online

With a lack of vacant industrial buildings to lure companies to locate to the Western Iowa Advantage (WIAD) region, the economic developers developed a novel solution—a Virtual Spec Building program. In association with Ayars & Ayars, LLC, a design/build firm with offices in Omaha & Lincoln, NE and funded in part with a grant provided by Iowa Department of Economic Development, the group developed both a metal building and a concrete tilt up proposal in a video form that is linked to their websites, as well as the Western Iowa Advantage website.



The concept is simple. The animated version of the interior and exterior of a building are shown in video form and places the building on a specific parcel of property so a prospect can determine if a building like this or with modifications to the plans can fit their needs. Buildings can be constructed in as little as 6 months, from design to completion of construction. To see the computer renderings of the building, go to www.saccountyiowa.com, put your cursor on Economic Development then scroll down to Virtual Spec Building video 1 or 2. The videos are also on the Western Iowa Advantage site at www.westerniowaadvantage.com where you click on the Virtual Spec Building article.

Businesswomen

The American public's attitude toward female business owners hasn't changed much in recent decades with 94% saying women want only to contribute to family income & not grow a business. But some female entrepreneurs argue the perception doesn't match reality. They say women want to develop their businesses just as much as men do and are still the primary caregiver for the family and make time for other priorities.

Women own one-third of all small businesses in America and employ 23 million people.

Community Assessment

If the image of a community or "First Impression" is favorable the result will be significant positive impacts on that area and its residents—building both pride and respect while supporting economic growth.

If that image is negative it fosters thoughts of disrespect and avoidance. It hurts the community socio-economically and it impacts the residents with a feeling of low self esteem and little worth.

Planning your Summer Vacation ?

Come spend it with us in Sac County!

Know your goals. Want to unwind in a carefree setting? There's nothing like lazing in a canoe on the Raccoon River or in your favorite boat on Black Hawk Lake or just sunning yourself on a beach. Biking and hiking are great for active travelers—try our 33-mile Sauk Rail Trail. Play a round at one of our golf courses and there's even mini golf.

Keep time in mind. Build in extra time - you don't have to hurry in our rush hour traffic. You'll have lodging at either motel or campgrounds; food at one of our county's great restaurants or grill your own after you shop at the local grocery store; leave some time for spontaneous discoveries by visiting one of our local museums or unique shops, travel a route to discover the Barn Quilts, or just enjoy the wildlife. You'll have plenty of time to spend with friends and family.

Don't overspend. Stressing over money is guaranteed vacation –wrecker. Spend some time in Sac County, Western Iowa or even the whole state. Your money stretches farther & you're guaranteed "Iowa hospitality."

US 20 Update



Watch this spring for some action on US 20 as paving will be going on all the way from Moorland to Iowa Highway 4. For a little more than a year, bulldozers have been clearing the way for a new four-lane between Moorland in Webster County and Iowa Highway 4 west of Rockwell City in Calhoun County, creating a new freeway-style interchange north of Moorland. This paving should be done by the end of 2010 according to Tony Lazarowicz, DOT District 3 Engineer. "According to our current plans the four-lane piece between Iowa Highway 4 and Sac County Road N14 will open for traffic by the end of 2012. The section between N14 (one mile east of Sac City) and US Highway 71 is expected to open the following year."

When that work is done, Correctionville in Woodbury County will become the project's focus. According to Lazarowicz, the current plan is to make the highway a five-lane route through that city. That configuration would provide two lanes of traffic in each direction with a turning lane in the middle. Bypassing the city was considered but was ruled out because of the high costs—just one of bridges needed for a bypass would cost an estimated \$10 million.

After the Correctionville work is done, crews will start building a four-lane route at Merville. The new highway section would eventually connect with the four-lane section at US Hwy. 71.

US 20 crosses Iowa between Dubuque and Sioux City. It is being widened to four lanes in a process that has dragged on for about 40 years. Just 42 miles to design and program then US 20 will become Iowa's second east-west four-lane route serving business, industry, and the leisure traveler on a safe, modern roadway.

This year's winter weather has wreaked havoc on Iowa's roads. With the TIME 21 study two years ago it was noted that the Iowa DOT is short \$267 million per year to maintain its roads and bridges. This amount will only continue to increase with the cost of construction. The DOT depends heavily on federal funding for their projects and a new federal highway bill has delayed once again—leaving the Iowa DOT questioning how much will be available for the next 5 year plan. The Iowa DOT recently pulled \$12 million from their budget for pothole repairs.

Highway associations, city and county officials and engineers attended a "Transportation Day at the Capitol" on Jan. 27th promoting increased funding for Iowa's roads and bridges.

Sac Co. Endowment Foundation Grants

Grant applications requested this year totaled \$ 428,050. The Sac Co. Endowment Foundation was able to grant \$94,950 to various projects around the county. Thank you to everyone who completed an application.

The following were awarded grants for 2010:

- ♣ City of Auburn—Museum Project \$4,525
- ♣ City of Lake View—playground equipment Crescent Beach \$8,000
- ♣ Odebolt Museum—\$2,000
- ♣ City of Odebolt—green space project—\$12,000
- ♣ City of Sac City—playground \$6,000
- ♣ City of Schaller—play equipment \$6,000
- ♣ City of Schaller—pool \$5,000
- ♣ City of Wall Lake— pool project \$7,500
- ♣ City of Wall Lake—park project \$15,000
- ♣ Invest Early—streetscape fixtures \$1,000
- ♣ Sac Comm. Center—roof project \$8,500
- ♣ Sac City Museum—sidewalks in historic village \$3,925
- ♣ Sac Co. Conservation—sidewalks & parking \$ 7,500
- ♣ Sac Co. Fair Board—Handicap accessibility to Grandstand \$8,000

All projects must be completed within one year of the agreements signed. Watch for progress on these new projects throughout the county.

2010 Midstates Community & Economic Development Conf.

The "Power of Partnerships" is the theme for this year's Midstates Conference which will be held on Wed., Mar., 31 from 8 am to 4 pm at the Marina Inn in South Sioux City, NE.

Breakout Sessions include many topics ranging from building sustainable regional food systems to entrepreneurs; specialty crops to housing programs; recycling efforts to branding small communities and building partnership as well as expanding businesses. The special keynote speaker is Michael Wagner of the White Rabbit Group which helps organizations and communities strengthen their unique brand. Learn how community leaders and business owners can co-create branding success.

Registration fee is \$35 per person if received by Friday, Mar. 19th or \$45 after that date. Registration information is available on line at www.extension.iastate.edu/woodbury.

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"Things are always popping in Sac County!"



2010 SMART Conference

Sponsored by the Iowa Utility Association & the Iowa Department of Economic Development, the 2010 SMART Conference will be held on Thursday, May 6 at the Polk County Convention Complex in Des Moines.

Conference highlights include:

- ✦ Location Branding
- ✦ Local Government Financing Options
- ✦ Virtual Spec Buildings
- ✦ Rockstar Networks
- ✦ The Thrill & Threat of Social Media
- ✦ Three Workforce Development Workshops
- ✦ Local Case Studies and Much, Much More

There will be more workshops and a robust lineup of top-notch speakers to inform, equip and challenge attendees to examine their communities through new perspectives!

For early registration log on to www.iowasmartconf.com.

If successful people have one common trait, it's an utter lack of cynicism. The world owes them nothing. They go out and find what they need without asking for permission; they're driven, talented, and work through negatives by focusing on the positives.

-- Mike Zimmerman

Disaster in Sac County

The Obama Administration declared 13 Iowa counties a national disaster following the ice storm and blizzards of Jan 20-27. More declarations may be made as disaster assessments are completed. Local cities and the county are working with the EMA Director on clean up efforts. FEMA has extended the deadline to April 20th for brush clean up. For more information, contact Jim Bullock at 712-660-0185 or sacesa@mchsi.com

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Pelican Fest cont.....

Lake View Museum. Live birds from SOAR will be at the Open Shelter in Speaker Park and there will be the Release

of Rehabilitated Birds at the Open Shelter at 1:15 p.m. There will also be horse drawn wagon rides to and from various festival sites courtesy of Merle Oxley.

The ISU Extension will have an exhibit in the Legion Building as well. Sponsors of the event are various Lake View businesses and organizations.

For more information, contact Toni Foval-North at 712-657-2279.



Iowa Gets \$1.6 million in Biofuel Grants

Eight Iowa biorefineries will be receiving a total of more than \$1.6 million in grants to promote the production of advance biofuels according to U.S. Senator Tom Harkin.

On Mar. 12th, the Senator announced that Western Iowa Energy in Sac County received more than \$298,000 while Renewable Energy Group of Story County received more than \$727,000. Other grants for more than \$200,000 went to Western Dubuque Biodiesel in Dubuque County, and Washington County's Iowa Renewable Energy. Central Iowa Energy in Jasper County received \$114,000 and smaller grants go to three other companies.

