Western Iowa Development Association

# **COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER**





# A WARM WIDA WELCOME **PENNY'S LANDING**

-A Hidden Gem in Treynor, IA

# Tucked just outside the charming town of Treynor, Iowa, Penny's Landing offers a serene escape as part of the Palace Event Center. With its eleven thoughtfully designed guest rooms, this hidden getaway blends rustic tranquility





with modern comfortsmaking it ideal for family reunions, wedding guests, corporate retreats, or simply a peaceful night away.

We are excited to welcome Penny's Landing to our WIDA community. Cnt'd page 2.

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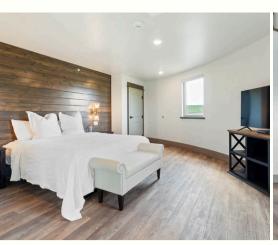


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### A STAY TO REMEMBER



Step inside and leave the farmland behindour guest house welcomes you with tall ceilings, abundant natural light, and a cozy atmosphere that feels like home. Each room is outfitted with the amenities today's traveler expects, including:

- · Complimentary high-speed Wi-Fi
- In-room refrigerators and microwaves
- Hairdryers
- Irons and ironing boards
- · Access to an ice machine
- · Fresh water taps at every sink



Whether you're planning a group event or a quiet retreat, Penny's Landing offers the space, comfort, and character to make your stay unforgettable.



### **Total Rooms: 11**

**\** Phone: (712) 242-7490

🔯 Photo Credit: J. Selander Photography

### **ROOM OPTIONS:**

### Standard Rooms (8 total)

Spacious and inviting, these are far from ordinary. Each features two king-size beds, soaring 10-foot ceilings, and plenty of natural light-perfect for restful nights and relaxed mornings.

### Junior Suites (2 total)

Ideal for families or small groups, our junior suites include a king-size bed and a full-size sleeper sofa in a charming lofted space.

### Penny's Premier Suite (1 only)

Treat yourself to our signature suite, complete with a king bed and two full-size sleeper sofas, a private living room, kitchenette, and a loft gaming area-perfect for family card nights or a cozy weekend in.







### IOWA COMMUNICATIONS **ALLIANCE SELECTS 2025** SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

May 5, 2025 Press Release Media Contact Dave Duncan, CEO

The Iowa Communications Alliance (ICA) has selected Irelynd McCarthy and Rachel Ogden as the recipients of the 2025 ICA Scholarships.

Irelynd McCarthy is a senior at Exira-EHK High School in Elk Horn, IA. In the Fall, she plans to attend Drake University to study Business. Irelynd's father, Jimmy, works as a Technician at Marne Elk Horn.

Rachel Ogden is a senior at Moulton-Udell High School in Moulton, IA. In the Fall, she plans to attend the University of Iowa to study Sport and Recreation Management. Rachel's mother, Sarah, is the Customer Experience Manager at Farmers Mutual Communications in Moulton.

To be eligible for the ICA Scholarship, the individual must be either a graduating high school senior or a current fulltime undergraduate student who will be continuing their undergraduate education in the 2025-2026 academic year. Students must also have a parent, grandparent, or guardian currently employed by or serving as a director at an ICA telecommunications provider member company.

Both Irelynd and Rachel will receive a \$2,500 scholarship to support their education in the 2025-2026 school year.

The Iowa Communications Alliance is the nation's largest state-based association of community-based broadband providers. Its 250+ members provide and enable highquality, state-of-the-art communications services to lowans, leading the state to be among the nation's leaders in fiber-optic deployment.

ICA firmly believes that broadband communications is the tool and industry capable of growing and transforming lowa. Our association is the advocate, catalyst, educator, and resource for lowa's community-based broadband providers. We exist to ensure that our members play a crucial role in shaping a connected, empowered, and prosperous future for all residents of lowa.



Left to Right: Jill Madsen, Marne Elk Horn Communications COO. Jimmy McCarthy, Father of Recipient, Recipient Irelynd McCarthy and Scholarship Committee Member Kim Steffens.















Find Your Fire







### DO YOU HAVE AN UPCOMING **COMMUNITY EVENT?**

Contact Stacie at

westerniowadevelopment@outlook.com





The world is waiting



enjoy everything these vibrant markets have to

### Macedonia Market

Starts May 29

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2nd & 4th Thursdays, 5:30-7:30 PM

10am - 2pm

Local vendors, group text communication

### Avoca Main Street Farmers Market

June - September

Wednesdays, 5-7 PM

Local produce, baked goods, crafts, food trucks, live entertainment, library programs

### Treynor Summer Farmers Market

May 13 - June 24

Tuesdays, 5:30-7:30 PM

Weekly themed events, food trucks, face painting, music

### Crescent Farmers Market

Saturday (Bi-weekly), 9 AM - 12 PM

**Ongoing** 

**Crescent City Park** 

Family-friendly community gathering

### Farmers Market Council Bluffs

Thursday, May 16th - Sept 26th

4:30pm - 7:30pm

Located in Bayliss Park, Council Bluffs

### Logan - One Farm Year-Round Market Open all year

217 East 7th Street, Logan, IA

Come shop fresh, eat local, and support small businesses!









# UNDER WOOD & WALNUT

We are thrilled to announce Underwood and Walnut, Iowa as WIDA's newest City Sponsors.

These sponsorships, along with all of our City Sponsors, underlines the importance of our mission at the Western Iowa Development Association. Your generosity is greatly appreciated as we strive to achieve new milestones and create a positive influence on our rural western Iowa communities.





## COLLINS

CONSULTING INC.













### **PowerTech**

Keeping the Lights On and Giving Back

PowerTech has been a proud part of our community since 2016, providing reliable electrical services for both homes and businesses. Whether you need help with a quick repair, a generator installation, or emergency electrical work, PowerTech is here-day or night. Their team is available 24/7, so you're never left without help when you need it most.

Back in 2016, the company had just eight employees. Since then, PowerTech has grown a lot, expanding their services and helping more people





than ever before. Today, they do everything from basic electrical repairs to full generator installations and facility upkeep.

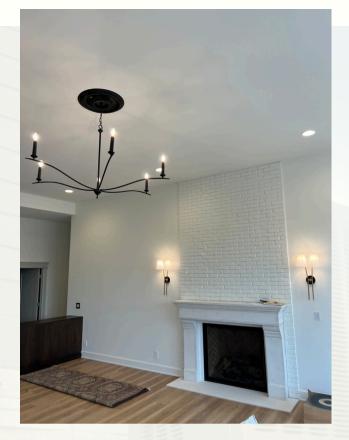
One of their most popular services is generator sales. Both residential and commercial customers trust PowerTech to install generators that keep things running when the power goes out. It's especially important during storms or other unexpected situations—and that peace of mind is what keeps customers coming back.











### What's New in 2025?

PowerTech is always looking for ways to better serve the community. This year, they're excited to roll out a few new programs:

PowerTech's Charitable Giving initiative, called the **PowerTech Cares Program**, provides free essential electrical services to families in need. Each month, one family or individual is selected to receive services like inspections, upgrades, or surge protection to improve home safety.





Community members are encouraged to nominate those facing financial hardship and electrical issues. These programs are just part of PowerTech's mission to not only provide excellent service but to make a positive impact on the community.

### **Giving Back Matters**

PowerTech doesn't just work in the communitythey give back to it, too.

Through their internal group called the "Power to Give" committee, they organize ways to donate, volunteer, and support local organizations. A team of five employees helps plan events, set goals, and figure out how they can best give back each month. They've supported several causes, helped at community events, and even hosted some of their own. It's all about making a difference beyond the job site.







**Find Your Fire** 













**PowerTech** Phone: (712) 256-8702

Full-service electrical contractor for residential and commercial clients offering 24/7 emergency service.

#### **About** Few Facts PowerTech:

- Available for service 24/7
- Voted Best Generator Installation of 2024 by Kohler Generators
- Named Best of Omaha 2025 for Electrical Services
- Honored with the Council Bluffs Chamber Best Business Award
- finding Always ways support the local community

### Helpful Tip from PowerTech:

business. you own PowerTech recommends thinking things through from all sides. Make sure you run things efficiently, and when giving back, support causes that really fit your business values.

Want to Support PowerTech? The best way to simple-give them a call! Whether you need a quote, a repair, or just have a question, one of their friendly technicians is happy to help. PowerTech is always here to serve, and they look forward to helping you now and in the future.







### Amanda Lebeck

walnutcommunitycenter@gmail.com

walnutcommunitycenter.org | walnutantiqueshow.com

Center (712)784-2727 Walnut Antique Show (712)784-3710

415 Antique City Drive Walnut, Iowa 51577







Stay up to date with our news and announcements!

Facebook.com/BevsPorch Instagram:BevsPorch51559

114 Third Street Neola, Iowa









### Completely Useless & **POINTLESS FACTS**

- The number of dimples on a regulation golf ball is 336.
- More people fear spiders than they do death.
- There are over 150 different dialects of English spoken throughout the world, 30 in the U.S. alone.
- The King of Hearts is the only king in a deck of cards without a mustache.
- · The inventor of Pringles is buried in a Pringles can.
- · More Monopoly money is printed in a year than real money throughout the United States.
- Rubber bands last longer when refrigerated.
- · The footprints made on the Moon can last up to 100 million years.
- A piece of paper can be folded in half no more than 7 times.
- Human eyeballs grow very little after birth.



**CONNECT WITH US** 









































FREE ADMISSION - RAIN OR SHINE!

ANTIQUES, UPCYCLED, VINTAGE, COLLECTIBLES, PRIMITIVES DIRECT SALE FOOD VENDORS

### VENDORS NEEDED

CONTACT MACKENZIE SHELTON AT JUNKWOODIOWA@GMAIL.COM

### lowa-themed TRIVIA QUESTIONS

Q1: Which famous U.S. president was born in West Branch, Iowa? A1: Herbert Hoover

Q2: What actor, best known as Captain James T. Kirk, is said to be born in Riverside, Iowa (in the future)?

A2: William Shatner's character - Captain Kirk from Star Trek

Q3: Which Iowan won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1945?

A3: Norman Borlaug (for his work in agriculture)

Q4: Iowa is the leading U.S. producer of what two crops? A4: Corn and soybeans

Q5: What percent of lowa's land is used for agriculture? **A5:** About 85-90%

Q6: What musical is based on a traveling salesman in River City, lowa?

A6: The Music Man

### Randall Cody Branch Manager



Office: Address:

NMLS ID:

712-484-2220 x5501 418 S. Commercial St. PO Box 96, Carson, IA 51525 rcody@rollinghillsbank.com 528217



Email:





Sports Clothing, Accessories, Licensed Products We Do Custom Orders

712-322-8833 sidelinesportsandtees@gmail.com

**Amy Wohlers** Owner









# UPCOMING EVENTS



## DOES YOUR BUSINESS CARD NEED UPDATED?

Email image to: westerniowadevelopment@outlook.com



















### Business Tips

### THIS SUMMER

### \* Embrace Outdoor Marketing

- Set up booths at local festivals, farmers markets, or community events.
- Use sidewalk signs or window displays to draw in foot traffic.
- Host an outdoor sale or "summer sidewalk clearance" to clear spring inventory.

### Tailor to Seasonal Trends

- Promote items/services tied to summer activities (gardening, grilling, travel, etc.).
- Offer summer-exclusive deals or bundles (e.g., "Summer Starter Kits" or "Midwest BBQ Must-Haves").

### Refresh Digital Presence

- Update your Google Business hours and social media banners for the season.
- Use vibrant, summer-themed content in marketing emails and social posts.
- Run targeted
   Facebook/Instagram ads for nearby customers enjoying local events.

### Tap into Midwest Travel

- Highlight how your business fits into road trip stops, state fair visits, or lake weekends.
- Partner with local tourism boards, campgrounds, or small-town events for cross-promotion.

### Engage the Community

- Sponsor a local youth sports team, parade float, or charity event.
- Host a free demo, tasting, or class to drive interest and goodwill.



# UPCOMING EVENTS

### Treynor









LIVE • WORK • EXPLORE • THRIVE















JUNE 28TH 2025 | 11AM-3PM | 12 E MAIN

### MAIN STREET MARKET TREYNOR

Join us for the 3rd Annual Main Street Market | Treynor Days at The Occasional Collective!

This rain-or-shine outdoor market will feature a select group of curated vendors.

Half of the vendor fees and a percentage of the day's sales from the shop will be donated back to the Treynor Parks and Trails board to assist in building the Community splash pad, inclusive playground, and trail.

### **VENDOR LIST:**

- Wildflower Wife | Neola
- Two Lost Blondes | Council Bluffs
- Conservation Fusion | Bellevue
- MinDee's Nuts | Malvern
- Handmade at Barnswallow Farms | Blair
- Silver Fox The Art of Plants | Omaha
- Full Fledged Brewing Company | Council Bluffs







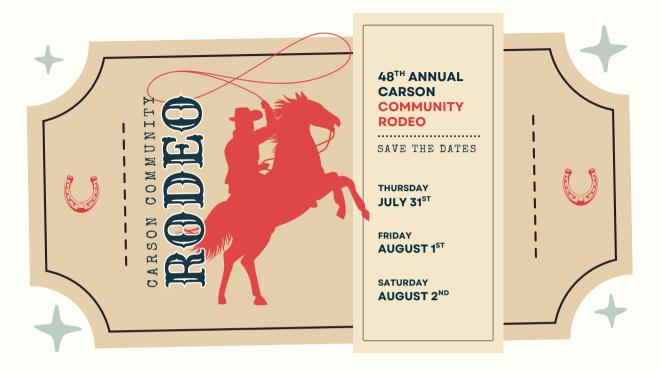






















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Stacie is so supportive of my business and really wants us to succeed. She is constantly thinking of ways for businesses to collaborate and work together to help all of us. Her experience and expertise is so helpful. I appreciate her support and willing to help anyway she can.

Morgan Branan Owner | Avoca Flower Shop

### **WIDA Business Membership Levels**

**BRONZE** 

**MEMBERSHIP** 



\$200°°

Per Year

- Listed on WIDA website as member
- Listed on WIDA Annual Report as a member
- WIDA membership window decal
- Receive WIDA quarterly e-newsletter
- Access to Ribbon Cuttings for special events
- Promotion of news releases, when made available
- Event postings on WIDA calendar, when made available
- Opportunity for a "Did You Know?" highlight on social media
- Promo flyers on our website, when made available
- Business-card ad in 4 consecutive WIDA e-newsletters
- · Listed in WIDA business directory

**SILVER** 

**MEMBERSHIP** 



\$500°°

Per Year

- Bronze Elements Plus
- Welcome write up in WIDA e-newsletter
- Mini branding photoshoot with Stacie Kinney

**BEST VALUE** 

GOLD

**MEMBERSHIP** 



\$1000°

Per Year

- Bronze + Silver Elements Plus
- WIDA town landing page sponsor
- · Event organizational checklists
- Tourism venues listed on Travellowa.com
- Front page welcome in WIDA's e-newsletter
- Marketing materials upon request
- Grant review and proofreading upon request

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# RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY INFORMATION



Minden Bowl GRAND REOPENING | 209 Broadway St



On your upcoming business milestone! Whether you're opening a new business, celebrating an anniversary, or relocating/expanding an existing business in western lowa, we are thrilled for your success and grateful for the opportunity to assist you in commemorating this special occasion. Our services for ribbon cutting ceremonies are entirely free for businesses in our area.

### WHY HOLD A RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY?

This event serves as a significant milestone in the history of your business and presents an excellent photo opportunity to capture the moment. It allows the owner to introduce themselves to the attendees and the wider community, explaining the nature of their business. Additionally, a ribbon cutting ceremony provides a platform to express gratitude to financial backers, employees, family, friends, and business partners. We, at WIDA, can coordinate with city officials, invite our Board of Directors and business members, and promote the event on our website, Facebook page, and newsletter (if submitted ahead). Our staff will arrive with ceremonial scissors and ribbon, as well as capture photos to be shared on our social media platforms and in our next newsletter. We have a wide reach within western lowa, and we want others to hear about your business.

### THINGS TO CONSIDER FOR YOUR RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY:

- Who will cut the ribbon? It is common for owners or top executives to perform this honor, but ultimately, the choice is yours.
- When will you hold the event? We recommend Wednesday-Fridays, during the lunch hour, late afternoon, or early evening to attract the largest crowds. It's also advisable to promote the event 3-4 weeks in advance to maximize attendance and exposure.
- What would you like to share before cutting the ribbon? You can express
  gratitude towards those who supported you throughout the journey,
  share the story behind your business, or mention any special offers or
  upcoming events. Please limit your speech to three minutes or one page
  of notes.
- How can you maximize the event? Make sure to invite your family, friends, and clients. Consider hosting a drawing or raffle to collect business cards and expand your database. While drinks, refreshments, decorations, and door prizes are optional, keep in mind that the ribbon cutting ceremony itself is typically short. However, your grand opening celebration with others can continue as long as you wish.

















# WESTERN IOWA DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

### Small Town Feel, Big City Heart.

### **Meet the WIDA Board**

At our core, we are the voice of business, dedicated to supporting our members' success. Our ultimate goal is to champion and promote the prosperity of our communities.



PRESIDENT
Kevin Zimmerman



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Stacie Kinney



VICE PRESIDENT
Mike Holton



Brian Shea



Ron Kroll



Susan Miller

## MEMBERSHIP DRIVEN COMMUNITY GROWN

WIDA continues its efforts to engage members and the community through its website, social media platforms, electronic newsletters (print newsletters as requested), as well as email communication.



Trace Frahm



Jayme Busch

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WIDAIOWA.ORG —

# POTTAWATTAMIE COUNTY RESOURCES

### **ELECTED OFFICIALS**

### >>> CARSON

### Mayor

Adam Houser

### City Clerk

Kristina Hansen (712) 484-3636 carsoncc@futuretk.com

### >>> HANCOCK

### Mayor

Vince Guyer

### City Clerk

Kimberly Gress (712) 741-5665

### >>> MACEDONIA

### Mayor

Melia Clark

### City Clerk

Liz Alff

(712) 486-2323 macedoniacityhall@gmail.com

### >>> MCCLELLAND

### Mayor

Mitchell A. Kay

### City Clerk

Denise Magnuson (402) 670-1062 magnuson1971@gmail.com

### >>> MINDEN

### Mayor

Kevin Zimmerman

### City Clerk

Teresa Tenner (712) 483-2991 ttenner@walnutel.net

### >>> NEOLA

### Mayor

Karla Pogge

### City Clerk

Heidi Erwin (712) 485-2307 neolacityclerk@walnut.net

### >>> OAKLAND

### Mayor

Brant A. Miller

### City Clerk

Marissa Lockwood (712) 482-6811 oaklandclerk@frontiernet.net

### >>> SHELBY

### Mayor

Ron Kroll

### City Clerk

Chris Martin (712) 544-2404 smu2@walnutel.net

### >>> TREYNOR

### Mayor

Allen Hadfield

### City Clerk

Michael Holton (712) 487-3787 cityhall@cityoftreynor.com

### >>> UNDERWOOD

### Mayor

Dennis C. Bardsley

### City Clerk

Cindy Sorlien (712) 566-2373 cityadmin@underwoodia.com

### >>> WALNUT

### Mayor

Wm. Brett Simpson

### City Clerk

Shannon Wood (712) 784-3443 citywaln@walnutel.net



Find Your Fire









### WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

WIDA is asking our members to keep us in mind when you want to share your business events, successes and information with the community. There is no cost to you as a member. Whether it is exciting news regarding your business or an upcoming event, we will find the perfect way to showcase your information. Send a description of what you would like to share, and we will be happy to place your news in our newsletter and on the WIDA Facebook page.

Send your business news by the 20th of every month to: WesternlowaDevelopment@outlook.com to be included in the newsletter. For more information, you can also call us at (712) 406-6234.

Our members benefit from the visibility that we bring to the local business community, including opportunities to connect with potential customers and partners, as well as access to resources and support to help you succeed. Additionally, WIDA provides a platform for members to share their stories and experiences so that others can learn from their successes. We hope you make the most of your WIDA membership and that it helps you to continue to grow your business!



3.2K FACEBOOK FOLLOWERS



816 **INSTAGRAM FOLLOWERS** 



1,514 NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIBERS

Your generous and ongoing support provides our 501(c)6 nonprofit organization with the resources necessary to promote our members and western lowa communities, advocate for a favorable economic climate and quality lifestyle, and promote overall tourism in the region. thriving Building strong, business communities takes each of us working together, and WIDA is proud to serve as a resource, connection, and voice for business.





