

➤ DID YOU KNOW? IOWA COMPANIES IN THE NEWS.

U OF I POISED TO LEAD WITH \$120 MILLION BIOMEDICAL CENTER.



THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA

Plans to build a \$120 million biomedical research institute at The University of Iowa are sure to bolster the institution's prestige within the national and international biomedical research community. Named the Institute for Biomedical Discovery, the new facility will serve as an interdisciplinary research center while combining faculty from engineering, medicine and biological sciences into one building.

The new research arm will be the final piece of an aggressive three-building drive to expand the university's health science program, which includes the Carver Biomedical Research Building, completed in 2005, and the Medical Education and Research Facility, completed in 2002.

The Institute for Biomedical Discovery will involve research that could lead to discoveries in neurosciences and regenerative medicine, including such areas as stem cell research, Alzheimer's disease and muscular dystrophy. According to Steve Maravetz, director of health science relations, the state-of-the-art research facility will help the university compete more successfully for funding from the National Institutes of Health.

The ambitious project has drawn equal support from key sources, including \$30 million each from federal contributions, the state, The University of Iowa and donations. State Sen. Robert Dvorsky, D-Coralville, is a supporter of the project, saying it will have lasting benefits around Iowa. "The Institute for Biomedical Discovery will lead to endless research benefits that could find cures for disease, better procedures for health professionals and better training," he said. "This is going to make the university among the national leaders."

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LIFE SCIENCES

FEATURE ARTICLE

WIND INDUSTRY A WINDFALL FOR IOWA WORKERS.

Newton, Iowa, will soon welcome a new company to its town when TPI Composites of Warren, R.I., opens the doors to a new manufacturing facility for blades used on wind turbine electrical generators. The company plans to employ 500 people in its 316,000-square-foot factory that will manufacture the blades needed by GE Energy for its line of wind energy generators.

The new facility, which will be built at an estimated cost of \$56 million, is the latest addition to Iowa's growing wind turbine manufacturing industry. Other industry leaders with operations in the state include Clipper Windpower, Acciona Energy, and Siemens Power Generation.

TPI Chief Executive Steven Lockard said blades made at the plant will be up to 150 feet long and weigh up to 20,000 pounds. The blades will be transported by truck to wind farms within 500 to 600 miles from Newton. TPI liked Newton's workforce potential and Iowa's location in the upper Midwest, a prime location for wind energy generation because of its naturally windy conditions.

ADVANCED MFG.

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GOOGLE GEARING UP IN COUNCIL BLUFFS.



Google is proving it can process the work necessary to move and open a gigantic new data center very quickly. Since its announcement in June that it would open a new \$600 million data center in Council Bluffs, Iowa, the company has moved swiftly with both new construction and refurbishing an existing building to prepare for the start of operations. Situated on 55 acres, the building will be completed in 2009 and stocked with rows of computer servers. In addition, company officials continue to plan what to do with 130 acres near the data center site and have finalized plans to purchase another 1,000 acres south of the city.

Google is even taking an active role in joining Iowa Governor Chet Culver's efforts to recruit residents back to the area. The company is sending letters to past Iowa Western Community College graduates that express, "Google's hiring. Come on home." Said Google executive Ken Patchett, "Google's part of Iowa. Google's part of Council Bluffs. We want to move here and be a good neighbor." Prior to its 2009 opening, the company will staff up, hiring as many as possible from the Council Bluffs area. What can new employees expect to find at Google? The company is famous for a culture that is loose, informal and spontaneous. A culture Patchett refers to as "bottom-up." As he proudly stated, "It's the #1 place to work in America." The #1 place to work in America is about to draw a large number of workers to Council Bluffs.

FINANCIAL/IT

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➤ BETTER HOMES AND GARDENS PICKED BEST.



Better Homes and Gardens, published by Des Moines-based Meredith Corp., has been awarded magazine of the year by *Advertising Age*. It is the second

time the magazine has been included in the top 10 of the prestigious list by the advertising publication, and it is the first time it has garnered the top spot. In addition to *Better Homes and Gardens*' top honors, another Meredith publication, *More* magazine, earned the second spot on the list. With a circulation of 7.7 million, the winning magazine saw advertising pages grow by 5.1 percent this year while single-copy sales increased by 35.5 percent.

➤ NEW ISU CENTER HAS FITNESS FOCUS.

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

It's the first of its kind in the United States, and it's going to study ways to change our eating and exercise habits. Researchers at the new Iowa State University Nutrition and Wellness Center want to focus less on people with diseases than on those who are healthy and trying to remain that way. In a research facility that looks far more like a workout gym than a laboratory, the center will examine choices and behaviors related to healthy lifestyles. Specialized equipment will test average people on things like the way they walk. Ultimately, by working with nutrition industries, researchers hope to help develop products that may someday not only help stop your stomach from growling, but give you the assurance that you made a healthy choice in snacks.

➤ GENERATION IOWA COMMISSION CREATED.



The state of Iowa has established the Generation Iowa Commission to advise and assist the state in activities designed to attract and retain young professionals. The 15 voting members were appointed

by the governor and represent a diverse mix of age, geographic location within the state, education, and multicultural diversity. The commission produces annual reports with their findings and recommendations. The commission has held numerous open forums across the state to get input from young people on what the state can do to improve and attract people like themselves. The Generation Iowa Commission released their first report in January and is available at www.iowalifechanging.com/generation.

➤ IOWA-MADE BASEBALL FLICK DEBUTS AT SUNDANCE.

Iowa's most famous baseball movie has inspired yet another and received a major boost when it debuted at the 2008 Sundance Film Festival. The movie, titled "Sugar," is about a Dominican teenager who wants to play minor league baseball in Iowa after watching the movie "Field of Dreams." The boy's minor league travels include a stint with the Quad Cities Swing, and his Iowa baseball dream is realized. Starring in the title role is newcomer Algenis Perez Soto, who drew raves from co-directors Anna Boden and Ryan Fleck. "Sugar" is the most recent of a number of movies that have been shot in Iowa in the past few months. According to field producer Doug Miller of Davenport, the production was a credit to the Quad City region, including the area's production community and local government. The film received rave reviews after Sundance. HBO Pictures is exploring debuting "Sugar" on its pay network or having a theatrical release via its Picturehouse label.



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Clear Lake/Mason City Economic Development Corporations
Council Bluffs Chamber of Commerce
Greater Cedar Valley Alliance
Greater Des Moines Partnership
Greater Dubuque Development Corporation
Indian Hills Regional Development
Iowa Connections
Iowa Great Lakes Corridor of Opportunity
Kossuth County Economic Development
Muscatine Development Corporation
Pottawattamie County Growth Alliance
Quad City Development Group
Southeast Iowa Job Bank — Burlington/West Burlington Area
Technology Corridor — Cedar Rapids/Iowa City
Webster County Development
Western Iowa Advantage

SUPPORTING ORGANIZATIONS

Iowa Association of Business & Industry
Iowa Association of Community College Trustees
Iowa Association of Independent Colleges and Universities
Iowa Biotechnology Association
Iowa Business Council
Iowa Newspaper Association
Iowa Plastics Industry Consortium
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Printing Industry of the Midlands, Inc.
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MEMBER HIGHLIGHTS.



John Deere is the world's leading manufacturer of agricultural and forestry equipment; a leading supplier of equipment used in lawn, grounds and turf care; and a major manufacturer of construction equipment. Additionally, John Deere manufactures engines used in heavy equipment and provides financial services and other related activities that support the core businesses. Founded in 1837 by pioneer blacksmith John Deere, Deere & Company today employs 47,000 people, including 12,000 living in the state of Iowa, and does business in more than 130 countries. Investing approximately \$1.7 million a day on research and development, John Deere is an industry leader in deploying robotics, telematics and global positioning technologies.

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farm, commercial insurance, administrative services, annuities, mortgages, mutual funds, pensions, long-term savings plans, and health and productivity services. Nationwide employs approximately 4,000 associates in central Iowa, which includes affiliates Nationwide Agribusiness and Allied Insurance, both based in Des Moines.

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THE WATER'S FINE AND SO IS THE COFFEE.

Get ready for summer's warmer temperatures by enjoying a great time at an Iowa waterpark. Jump on in — the water's fine at three full-service Iowa waterparks!

- **King's Pointe Resort, Storm Lake** The shores of Storm Lake are the setting for the new King's Pointe Resort, a lakeside hotel with great dining and entertainment, including indoor and outdoor waterparks. The indoor waterpark offers over 17,000 square feet of climate-controlled fun with three waterslides that wind throughout the facility. For more details, visit www.kingspointeresort.com.
- **Grand Harbor Resort and Waterpark, Dubuque** Grand Harbor Resort and Waterpark is set in the heart of Dubuque's bustling historic district. The incredible 25,000-square-foot indoor waterpark offers a waterslide, a lazy river, water canons, an 800-gallon dump bucket, two giant whirlpools, and a poolside café. To learn more, visit www.grandharborresort.com.
- **FunCity, Burlington** The name says it all — FunCity features two hotels, indoor/outdoor waterpark, golf course, award-winning bowling alley and much more! FunCity's 70,000-square-foot indoor/outdoor waterpark has 19 waterslides, a lazy river, a monster hot tub, and a 500-gallon dump bucket. For more information, visit www.1funcity.com.

If you need to heat up, head to one of Iowa's local coffee houses. Since there seems to be a locally owned coffee shop on every corner, the possibilities of finding a good cuppa' joe are endless. Think coffee shops are just for mornings? Think again! Spend an evening listening to live music, enjoying poetry readings or admiring art. Check out some of Iowa's best coffee shops to get your next caffeine fix.

- **Betty's Dream, Clarinda** Betty's Dream is full of old-time memories, featuring vintage pictures of the town and family photos. You won't find an item of food at Betty's that isn't homemade — in fact, she takes special orders for her pies, muffins, casseroles and other mouth-watering dishes. Purchase gourmet coffee beans, or order a specialty coffee drink. Call 712-542-3324. Located at 221½ N. 16th St.
- **The Book Cellar-Coffee Attic, Iowa Falls** Browse through a collection of new and used books for sale, and spend an afternoon drinking coffee on overstuffed couches. Looking for a place to host parties or meetings? Check out different levels of the shop, which are available for special events. Don't miss out on monthly poetry readings and live music. Located at 604 Washington St.
- **Barn Happy, Cedar Falls** Experience your cup of joe in a renovated 1925 dairy barn, and don't miss out on specialty Iowa products and gift baskets for sale. Barn Happy is known for homemade pastries, soups and sandwiches. Try the raspberry coffee cake, which *The Des Moines Register* named as one of the "100 Foods to Eat in Iowa Before You Die." Visit www.barnhappyonuniversity.com. Located at 11310 University Ave.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THESE AND OTHER EVENTS AND ATTRACTIONS, VISIT WWW.TRAVELIOWA.COM.

GRAND HARBOR RESORT AND WATERPARK, DUBUQUE



FUN CITY, BURLINGTON



IOWA'S ADVANTAGES
ARE ADDING UP.

Iowa tourists spent \$5.8 billion in the state in 2006.

Iowa Tourism Office, 2007

Iowa students had the highest scores on the SAT college entrance exams.

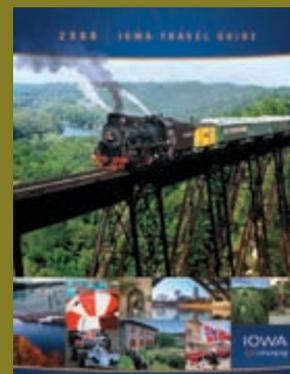
College Board, 2007

Iowa is rated as having the best healthcare in the continental United States.

Commonwealth Fund, 2007

The sixth-most-livable state in the U.S. is Iowa.

Morgan Quitno, 2007



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IOWA NOTES.



Peggy Whitson Commands International Space Station. Iowa-born astronaut Peggy Whitson made history in October when she became the first woman to command the International Space Station. Whitson, 47, hails from Beaconsfield and is an accomplished biochemist with a Ph.D. from Rice University. She joined NASA as a researcher in 1989 and became an astronaut in 1996.

Her first space mission was a 185-day orbit during the Expedition 5 space flight. Whitson isn't a fan of the spotlight and prefers the attention be placed on the accomplishments of the space station. "I think the legacy of the space station will be that it is an international project and that we have built it with 16 different counties in a peaceful way," Whitson said.



Iowan Winner of 2007 National Beef Cook-Off. With her recipe for Smoky Cilantro Pesto Beef Crostini, amateur home cook Lisa Huff of Clive, Iowa, won the "Small Plates, Big Taste" category of the 2007 National Beef Cook-Off. Huff's recipe, which was a grilled beef

dish that can be served as an appetizer or as part of a larger meal, took home a \$10,000 prize. To see the winning recipes from the 2007 National Beef Cook-Off, visit www.beefcookoff.org.



Ankeny Teen Lands Role in Blockbuster Movie. Aspiring actor Corbin Albaugh attended his first Hollywood movie premiere recently and hopes many more will be in his future. This Ankeny, Iowa, native was cast in the Billy Bob Thornton film "Mr. Woodcock."

And although Albaugh's screen time is short — about 60 seconds — the experience had a big impact on the high school junior. At the tender age of 16, he already knows a 9-to-5 job isn't for him and hopes for continued success in the entertainment industry.



Iowa City Native Is Young Google Brainiac. Google recognizes talent. Such is the case for 22-year-old Iowa City native Frances Haugen, head of Google's AdWord

team, a product that analyzes customer results and places sponsored links on search-results pages. In her position, Haugen oversees a staff of nearly 20, including 11 engineers. And though many members of her team are twice her age, she takes her job responsibilities in stride, knowing success is the only option when you're 22 and working for one of the world's most valuable brands.