

➤ DID YOU KNOW? IOWA COMPANIES IN THE NEWS

LIFE SCIENCES

FEATURE ARTICLE

POWER FUND TO DRIVE NEW GROWTH IN IOWA RENEWABLE ENERGY.



Already the nation's number-one producer of ethanol and biodiesel, Iowa has passed a \$100 million commitment to the continued expansion of the state's burgeoning renewable energy industry. Senate File 599 passed by a wide margin (36-13) in the senate, signifying the state's commitment to halting America's dependence on foreign oil. The expansion of the state's renewable energy sector promises to spur additional growth in Iowa's economy as more jobs are created to service this key industry.

The new initiative makes funds available in four \$25 million installments and will be awarded with minimal stipulations attached to companies for use on renewable energy projects. The review process for obtaining the funds will involve assessments by a seven-member due-diligence committee and an 18-member Iowa Power Fund Board. The governor-appointed board members will have expertise in renewable fuels, agribusiness and finance.

Supporters of the key economic initiative believe the plan will encourage the increased production of alternative energy, in part by leveraging the state's nation-leading production of raw biomass, specifically corn and soybeans. Under the current proposal, at least 10 percent of the annual \$25 million allotment would be earmarked for energy efficiency and conservation initiatives and \$2.5 million annually for workforce training focused on the renewable energy industry.

The proposed research, development and commercialization fund was a centerpiece of new Iowa Governor Chet Culver's agenda for the 2007 legislative session, which ended in May.

Iowa's leadership in the production of ethanol is consistent with Governor Culver's environmental agenda as the fuel alternative is known to help reduce the amount of greenhouse gases that are released into the atmosphere.

➤ FOR MORE INFORMATION ON CAREER OPPORTUNITIES IN IOWA'S BIOSCIENCE INDUSTRY, GO TO WWW.SMARTCAREERMOVE.COM.

PROCTER & GAMBLE BRANDS EXPAND IN IOWA.



More than a half century after first opening operations in Iowa City, Procter & Gamble's presence in Iowa is stronger than ever. The world's largest maker and marketer of household and personal products maintains manufacturing operations in two large facilities and has plans for expanding a distribution center in West Branch.

Among its portfolio of products manufactured in Iowa City are Oral B toothbrushes; Head & Shoulders, Pantene, Pert, Physique and Vidal Sassoon shampoos and conditioners; and Scope mouth rinse. An expansion is in the works that will add oral rinse and personal cleaning product lines to the list of brands manufactured at the plant and result in 40 new jobs.

In addition, the company's distribution center in West Branch will soon undergo a 270,000-square-foot expansion of its existing facility as well as the construction of an additional 515,000-square-foot building soon after. When both phases are done, P&G's West Branch distribution complex will total more than 1.3 million square feet.

ADVANCED MFG.

➤ FOR MORE INFORMATION ON CAREER OPPORTUNITIES IN IOWA'S ADVANCED MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY, GO TO WWW.SMARTCAREERMOVE.COM.

GOOGLE SEARCH LEADS TO COUNCIL BLUFFS FOR SERVER FARM.



World Wide Web search engine juggernaut Google has announced plans to build a \$600 million data center, or server farm, in Council Bluffs. Referring to the western Iowa city as a busy crossroads of Internet activity, Google plans to start operations at the new site by the spring of 2009. Industry pundits cite Iowa's affordable electricity as a prime factor for the company's decision to build and maintain the energy-hungry data storage operation in the area, which is across the Missouri River from the Omaha metro.

The giant data center is expected to generate 100 new jobs paying between \$50,000 and \$130,000 annually, a boon to western Iowa's growing economy. The Google announcement is just the latest in a series of economic and cultural enhancements to the city of nearly 60,000. Big box retail, hotels, casinos, shopping centers, a new convention center and arena, and numerous industry expansions have all contributed to transform Council Bluffs in the last decade.

FINANCIAL/IT

➤ FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT CAREER OPPORTUNITIES IN IOWA'S FINANCIAL AND IT INDUSTRIES, GO TO WWW.SMARTCAREERMOVE.COM.

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➤ THE APPRENTICE: LOS ANGELES IS SWEET ON SUE BEE.



This past February, Donald Trump made the situation even stickier than usual for contestants on his popular reality series, *The Apprentice*. He gave them a marketing assignment to promote Sioux City, Iowa-based Sue Bee Honey. Different

members of the competing teams were assigned responsibilities related to harvesting, processing, bottling, labeling and marketing the honey. If they choose to, Sue Bee will be allowed to use any ideas created by the show's contestants for their own marketing. If not, Jim Powell, vice president of sales for Sioux Honey, says the company will still benefit. "The mere buzz created by the presence of our product on the popular prime-time show is bound to be invaluable for our marketing efforts," he said.

➤ U-HAUL SAYS DES MOINES IS IN THE FAST LANE FOR GROWTH.

Each year U-Haul, the nation's largest facilitator of do-it-yourself residential moving, tabulates a national migration trend report that reflects the nation's top growth areas. The results of its 2006 report found that Des Moines had the greatest percentage of growth for cities with 5,000 to 10,000 families moving — at 14.17 percent. Compiled from more than 1.62 million U-Haul transactions for the calendar year of 2006, the results were calculated by comparing the percentage of inbound moves vs. outbound moves for each area.

➤ ONLINE MAGAZINE GETS TEENS UP TO SPEED ON TRANSPORTATION CAREERS.



A research project for a graduate course in linguistics has become the driving force for a new online magazine designed to help teens and young adults explore the numerous careers available in transportation. The free e-magazine, called

Go!, was conceived by editor Michele Regenold when she discovered that young people had little notion of transportation careers beyond truck drivers and airline pilots. To help fill the education void, she launched *Go!* using various grants from state and industry groups. Visitors to *Go!* can read about everything from how bridges are built, to how ATVs are tested in the field to ensure durability. The new monthly e-magazine is published by Iowa State University's Center for Transportation Research and Education. Go to www.go-explore-trans.org.

MEMBER HIGHLIGHTS



Pella Corporation is an industry leader in window and door manufacturing, known for quality, innovation and customer satisfaction. With five manufacturing sites and corporate headquarters in Iowa and with operations across the country, Pella provides quality careers for more than 9,000 team members. The privately held corporation, now celebrating its 82nd year in business, has been honored by *FORTUNE* magazine as one of the nation's "100 Best Companies To Work For." Pella earned this recognition for providing exceptional benefits, development opportunities, and a quality work environment for its employees.

➤ TO LEARN MORE ABOUT CAREER OPPORTUNITIES WITH PELLA, VISIT WWW.PELLA.COM/CAREERS.



integer

Watch your marketing communications career flourish at The Integer Group – Midwest in Des Moines. As one of the nation's leading promotional advertising and marketing agencies, The Integer Group provides strategic solutions in retail marketing, advertising, interactive, and public relations for national and international brands. As part of the Omnicom Group, Inc. (NYSE: OMC) with agencies in Dallas, Denver and Cleveland, Integer is the 7th best promotional agency in the United States, as ranked by *PROMO* magazine. Integer employees enjoy a full benefits package ranging from medical insurance and summer flex days to dry cleaning services and monthly massage treatments.

➤ TO LEARN MORE ABOUT CAREER OPPORTUNITIES WITH THE INTEGER GROUP – MIDWEST, VISIT WWW.INTEGER.COM.

AS ALWAYS, TRAVELING THROUGH IOWA IS A GAS.

Another beautiful May had Iowans celebrating Tourism Month and warming to the state's extensive travel opportunities. A special promotion by the Iowa Tourism Office and Kum & Go convenience stores is helping to make the drive even sweeter. Visitors to any of Iowa's 20 Welcome Centers can register to win a Kum & Go gas card worth \$100 to be drawn at each of the locations. Another lucky winner will receive a \$500 Kum & Go gas card in an online drawing at traveliowa.com.

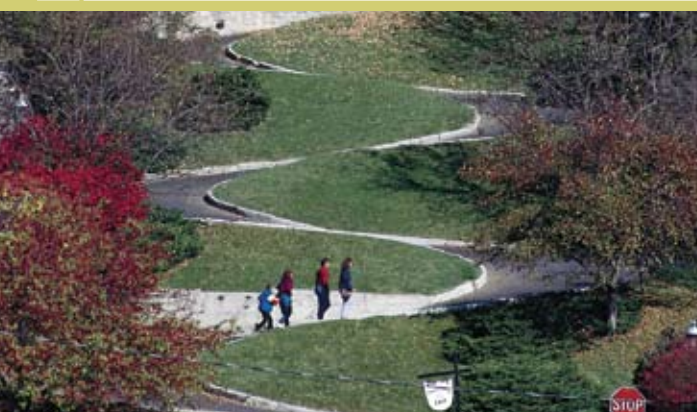
Of course, there's no end of cool places to visit with that gas. Just consider some of the venues listed in the *Des Moines Register's* "100 Places in Iowa to See Before You Die."

- Stephens Auditorium on the campus of Iowa State University is a "must see" for anyone inspired by unique architecture. The 2,600-seat edifice was constructed in 1969, but its striking contemporary lines still endure as a modern architectural triumph.
- Boone, Iowa, is home to the famous Boone & Scenic Valley Railroad. From its towering trestle tracks, a ride in one of the restored 1920s era coach cars affords a breathtaking view of the Des Moines River valley far below.
- Another interesting way to travel is upon Snake Alley in Burlington, Iowa. Constructed in 1894 and still in use today, the winding road was modeled after vineyard paths in France and Germany and has been named the World's Crookedest Street by *Ripley's Believe It Or Not*.
- For heart-thumping excitement, catch championship auto racing at the new Iowa Speedway. In 2007, the Rusty Wallace signature series track in Newton will be the setting for exciting IndyCar® and NASCAR® events.
- And for a little American art history, don't miss the Grant Wood Studio and Visitor Center in Cedar Rapids. The museum is located in the very studio where Wood painted "American Gothic" in 1930.

Speaking of art, the summer months bring numerous art festivals to Iowa communities. Jackson County has a celebration of the area's art and history on August 18 and 19, with 24 sites celebrating the Jackson County Art and History Adventure Tour. Bellevue holds its Riverview Art Renaissance on August 19. Local and regional artwork is displayed along the banks of the Mississippi River. This weekend-long event is a relaxing tour of life and art in rural Iowa.

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

▼ SNAKE ALLEY, BURLINGTON



▼ IOWA SPEEDWAY, NEWTON



IOWA'S ADVANTAGES ARE ADDING UP.

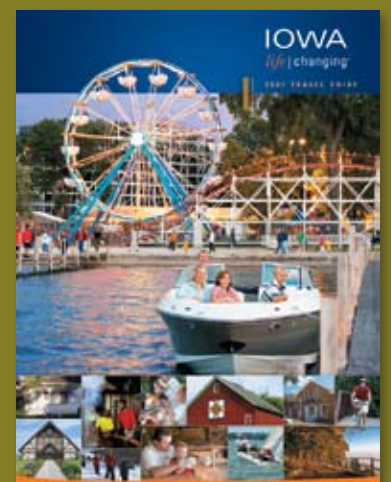
Iowa is the nation's #1 producer of ethanol — 1.2 billion gallons annually.
Iowa Department of Agriculture

Des Moines is ranked 4th-best place for business.
Forbes, 2006

Iowa ranks 1st in the nation in quality of life.
Forbes, 2006

Iowa is the 5th-best place to raise a child.
Annie E. Casey Foundation, 2006

Iowa ranks 9th in the nation in the commitment of venture capital.
National Association of Seed and Venture Funds



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IOWA NOTES



Cedar Rapids, Iowa, native Zach Johnson shocked the sporting world at Augusta National Golf Course in March by claiming the fabled Masters Golf Championship — even withstanding a late charge by the indomitable Tiger Woods in taking the coveted green jacket. "I can't put it into words. This is very, very surreal. I'm just a Midwest guy from Iowa." Under extremely tough playing conditions, brought on by stiff winds through much of the tourney, Johnson's winning total of 1 over par matched the highest winning score in Masters' history, but it was good enough to secure the lucrative win for the Drake University graduate who never gave up on his PGA dream.



Healthy eating is important to former Olympic gold medal figure skater Kristi Yamaguchi. So it's only natural that she become a spokesperson in Wells' Dairy's promotion of its Blue Bunny's® brand Lite 85® Superfruit™ yogurt. An admitted yogurt lover, Yamaguchi's image will appear in promotions for a sweepstakes that awards a grand-prize trip to a spa hosted by Kristi Yamaguchi herself. To kick off the promotion, Yamaguchi made a personal appearance at the company's headquarters in Le Mars, Iowa, where she met with employees and gained a better understanding of the Blue Bunny brand.



Humeston, Iowa, cattleman Brad Hook begins his day with a pot of coffee and NBC's *Today* show; so when he heard about a recent contest to become "Anchor For Today," he couldn't resist entering. *Today* received thousands of entries, from which 16 were selected and voted on by viewers to arrive at the two finalists. During the competition, Hook and other contestants competed in a trivia challenge and auditioned their talents in forecasting. When he was announced the winner, the jubilant Iowa rancher jumped amid a cloud of confetti and let out a victorious shout. Asked by show hosts Ann Curry and Al Roker what surprised him most about *Today*, Hook said, "My day's completely unplanned. Your day is planned per second."



Elite competitors from around the globe came to Des Moines on June 16 and 17 for the Hy-Vee World Cup Triathlon, an International Triathlon Union event. The winner in the men's and women's adult professional category received \$250,000 each. Organizers estimated the 15,000 fans that filled grandstands around the event finish line was the largest audience ever to see a World Cup event in the United States. The event, which included swimming nearly one mile in Gray's Lake, biking nearly 25 miles and running more than six miles, was televised on July 15 on NBC.