



LOCAL I A9 RODEO

# YOUR LOCAL CONNECTION

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### Area educators learn new skills through summer externships



T-R PHOTO BY MIKE DONAHEY

Marshalltown Central Business District Executive Director Deb Millizer speaks to a group of educators in front of the new shared Chamber/MCBD office on Wednesday.

#### By MIKE DONAHEY

TIMES-REPUBLICAN

Area educators strive to teach youth "hard skills" defined as learnable skills that enable individuals to perform job-specific tasks like.taking blood pressure, running a lathe, using a computer, or making change.

However, one educator said 50 of her colleagues from Central Iowa will now be better prepared to teach "soft skills" too.

"Business people in a varied spectrum tell us they can teach their employees specific skill sets," said Jenny Allen of the Marshalltown Community School District."That is skills they need for their specific job. But one thing we (the employers) can't teach, they tell us, is work ethic, personality, getting along with others and more."

Allen, with 25 years experience in education, elaborated more on soft skills such as effective listening and speaking with co-workers, respect for others and showing up for work on time and meeting employers' expectations while on the job.

"Business people from all endeavors and parents of students want us to follow-through on 'soft skill' education," she said.

Allen, along with other educators and project partners, developed a curriculum where educators listened to, and then asked questions of employers.

**EXTERNSHIP | A5** 

#### State Center PD, Iowa DOT exploring safety options at Highway 30/Durham intersection



The State Center Police Department and the lowa DOT are considering additional safety measures at the intersection of Highway 30 eastbound and Durham Avenue, pictured, after a recent fatal accident.

#### By ROBERT MAHARRY

TIMES-REPUBLICAN

STATE CENTER — The Highway 30/Durham Avenue intersection that leads eastbound drivers to Casey's in State Center has developed an unfortunate reputation as one of the most dangerous crossings in Marshall County, and it came back into the spotlight recently after a fatal accident that claimed the life of 43-year-old Bruce York

of Ames. State Center Police Chief Jon Thomas said that while this is the first fatality crash he has dealt with at the intersection during his tenure, there are usually multiple wrecks per year, and it always involves vehicles attempting to turn left and not seeing oncoming traffic. He estimated that about 3,600 cars travel eastbound on Highway 30 every day, and about 1,400 of those turn north into town.

**SAFETY | A3** 

# 'Newer, better, bigger'



Gov. Kim Reynolds speaks at the Thursday Lennox Museum ribbon cutting ceremony. The governor spoke briefly of the resilience of the company after receiving devastating damage from the 2018 tornado.

#### Museum dedicated to history of Lennox and highlighting tornado recovery opens to public

By LANA BRADSTREAM

TIMES-REPUBLICAN

(Editor's note: This is the second in a series of stories looking back at the July 19, 2018 EF-3 tornado leading up to the fifth anniversary, but also looking forward and detailing rebuilding and revitalization efforts since then.)

Almost five years after the EF-3 tornado which tore through Lennox, the rebuilding effort was completed Thursday. The company hosted a ribbon cutting and grand opening of the Lennox Museum, which drew a crowd of roughly 50 people, including the entire executive team from Texas and Gov. Kim Reynolds.

CEO Alok Maskara



A special commemorative series celebrating 5 years of continuous growth after the July 19, 2018 EF-3 tornado

opened the event, speak- ployees and the people of ing about the tornado and Marshalltown to rebuild. highlighting the temerity The museum, he said, is a and tenacity of Lennox em- testament to the strength of

the community. "It is a tribute to Mar-

shalltown," he said. Maskara said they are proud to be a part of the community. After Maskara, Reynolds spoke at the podium, having traveled to the Lennox facility from Des Moines as a guest of honor at the event and eventually doing the honors of cutting the ribbon.

"Here we stand to celebrate Lennox's incredible comeback story," she said.

Reynolds remembered visiting Marshalltown the day after the 2018 tornado and seeing the destruction.

"I saw first-hand the devastation left behind, but I also witnessed the unbreakable spirit of this community as they channeled

LENNOX | A3

## Birthday girl turns 100, gets airplane ride — again!

By GARRY BRANDENBURG

TIMES-REPUBLICAN

Velma Hanus had a birthday on July 12, 2023, exactly 100 years after she was born. A special gift was awarded to her on Thursday morning when Garry Brandenburg, a local pilot at Marshalltown's airport, brought his co-owned Skyhawk up to the terminal building. This spunky lady who has a sharp mind and a gutsy attitude was ready to go flying in a small aircraft again.

Velma is a licensed private pilot who completed her training near the Nevada, Iowa, airport in the early 1970s. She passed all her ground school and air work tests to ultimately be successfully signed off by an instructor and issued a private pilot license.

While she did some local flying after that, other was a bug that had bitten flying ratings. She instead



Celebrating a 100th birthday by going flying is not the average gift, but it was for Velma Hanus, left, who, on July 13, was 100 years and one day old. The Marshalltown Airport hosted the guests and welcomed the birthday girl herself. Pilot Garry Brandenburg, right, used his co-owned aircraft to make Velma's day unique

things happened. Like rais- her (in a nice way), but othing a family and working to er obligations did not allow support that family. Flying her to achieve additional

attended business college and worked for Bankers Life

RIDE | A3

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