



Mount Pleasant Office
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Monday - Thursday
ISU-Henry County Extension Building
127 N. Main St.
Mount Pleasant, IA 52641

Friday - Outreach
Iowa Workforce Development
1000 N. Roosevelt Ave.
Burlington, IA 52601

FYI:

- New Iowan Centers (NIC) Outreach in IWD Burlington Office on Fridays from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm.
- U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services will begin administering the New Naturalization Test on October 1st, 2008.
- If your organization is looking to program a Special Presentation, keep the New Iowan Centers in mind!



ICAP: Iowa Career Access Point...

is a unique resource to help customers become self-sufficient. It is a network like no other. It brings together:

- Workforce Development partners
- Faith-based organizations
- Community organizations
- Businesses
- Government agencies

What is an Iowa Career Access Point (ICAP)?

A faith-based or community organization, where people can go in their own neighborhoods or communities to look for jobs, assisted by trained individuals who connect them to One-Stop system via computer and direct referrals.

What does it do?

- Open to the public 8 hours weekly
- Core services (self-directed job search)
- Referrals to One-Stop, others
- Publicizes itself/ One-Stop
- Reports
- Assures non-religious use, equal treatment and religious liberty

What makes a good Iowa Career Access Point?

- Computer workstation with a chair and a phone
- Internet access, preferably hi-speed
- Training
- Relationship with One-Stop staff
- Good communication skills
- Networking opportunities

Iowa Career Access Points consist of:

- Committed Service Providers
- Over 100 Services ranging from Adult Employment and Training Services to Youth Services

How to get involved...

Iowa Workforce Development is interested in creating access to job services throughout Iowa. Working with your local Iowa Workforce Development office, we will help determine your ability to become an Iowa Career Access Point (ICAP).

As an ICAP, you will provide a volunteer who can assist the public a minimum of eight hours weekly, internet access and promote your site as well as Iowa Workforce Development's One-Stop and partners services.

Iowa Workforce Development will provide the following as deemed necessary: an internet ready computer and printer, training of the volunteer who will establish a relationship with your local One-Stop staff and partners and ongoing communication and support.

The ultimate goal of the ICAP program is...

To create a portal into the Iowa Workforce Development One-Stop system for communities that may not know about our employment services, may be too far away or may not be comfortable entering a government office building. Each ICAP is located in a community neighborhood and staffed by volunteers so clients and residents can feel more at ease.

If you are a Faith Based or Community Organization and are interested in becoming an Iowa Career Access Point (ICAP) for more information contact:

New Iowan Centers
Mount Pleasant Office
Victor Oyervides - Coordinator
(319)931- 5585
victor.oyervides@iwd.iowa.gov

Source: www.iowaworkforce.org/icap



NIC Updates:

English & Spanish Class:

RosettaStone Language Program in English and Spanish in Mount Pleasant Office from Monday to Friday.

Citizenship Class :

We will be giving FREE Citizenship Classes on Fridays in Burlington, but you MUST first register with us (NIC)! There will be a morning and evening class, locations to be announced. Classes will begin as soon as a sufficient number of students register.

For more information please call us.

Word of Inspiration:

“The wisest mind has something yet to learn.”

George Santayana

The New Iowan Centers
Is Working on the Project :

*In their own words -
Stories from the heart*



In your own words...

- What did you do in your old country
- What do you do now in this country
- Family situation in the old country
- Family situation here
- Relationship with the old country and family there
- Things that you miss from the old country
- Things you do not miss
- Things that you like about living in the U.S.
- Things that you don't like about living here
- Work/education in this country vs. old country
- Opportunities here
- Relationship with and feelings about using the New Iowan Centers program
- Your Immigration experience (struggles, money, time, treatment, language, etc...)
- Plans/goals for the future
- Special message to whom will read this

Please call us for more information if you're interested in participating !

The New Iowan Centers Mount Pleasant Office acknowledges and thanks the financial support from Enhance Henry County Community Foundation, Henry County Health Center, Veyance Technologies, KILJ Radio, Hy-Vee and Healthy Henry County Communities. Thank you for sponsoring the Mount Pleasant location!



Healthy Henry
County Communities

*Working Together to make
Henry County a better place to
live, work and raise a family.*

From Marco's Desk

Soft Skills: The Competitive Edge

What do employers look for in new employees? According to the 2006 report **Are They Really Ready to Work? Employers' Perspectives on the Basic Knowledge and Applied Skills of New Entrants to the 21st Century U.S. Workforce**, it may not be what some young job seekers expect. This in-depth survey of 461 business leaders conducted by the Conference Board, Corporate Voices for Working Families, Partnership for 21st Century Skills, and Society for Human Resource Management reveals that while the three "R's" (reading, writing, and arithmetic) are still fundamental to every employee's ability to do the job, employers view "soft" skills as even more important to work readiness. The report also finds that younger workers frequently **lack** these skills, which include:

- **Professionalism or work ethic**
- **Oral and written communication**
- **Teamwork and collaboration skills**
- **Critical thinking or problem-solving skills**

Companies identified the following competencies as key to the success of young workers in the 21st Century workplace:

- **Networking**
- **Enthusiasm**
- **Professionalism**
- **Communication Skills**
- **Teamwork**
- **Problem Solving and Critical Thinking**
- **Business etiquette**

Source: U.S. Department of Labor

<http://www.dol.gov/odep/pubs/fact/softskills.htm>

News & FYI:

The Mexican Consulate will be coming to Marshalltown with the "**Consul Movil**" to

Hispanic Ministries

12 W. Linn Street

Marshalltown, IA 50158

on **Saturday September 27.**

For more information call
(641)753-7815.



WelcometoUSA.gov is the U.S. Government's official web portal for new immigrants. This web portal is an initiative

of the Task Force on New Americans, a federal partnership created to strengthen the efforts of federal, state, and local agencies in providing immigrants the information they need to embrace the common core of American civic culture, learn English, and fully become American.

WelcometoUSA.gov will help New Iowans find basic information about the United States and their new communities.

One example of what is included in this web site is the following which is found on

the top right side of the web page:

I Want To...

- Find a Job
- Learn English
- Learn About the United States
- Find a Place to Live
- Get a Social Security Number
- Get a Green Card
- Get a Drivers License

FYI: A great website to study about **America's Founding Documents** is at: <http://www.billofrightsinstitute.org/>