

SUN COURIER

Serving the communities of Gladbrook, Reinbeck and Garwin

Friday, April 3, 2026

www.sun-courier.com

Vol. 7 - No. 14 • \$1.00



PHOTO BY RUBY F. MCALLISTER

The west entrance to Traer's now-shuttered NuCara Pharmacy pictured Thursday, March 26. A sign indicates all stock is 50% off, while another sign states customer prescriptions will be "securely transferred to Medicap Pharmacy currently known as NuCara Pharmacy" in Marshalltown. NuCara locations in Ackley, Conrad, and Zearing were also shuttered this past week.

Four area NuCara pharmacies shutter amid \$22M lawsuit, possible Medicap/OneroRX acquisition

RUBY F. MCALLISTER | rbodeker@northtamatelegraph.com

TRAER — Traer's only pharmacy was set to abruptly shutter this past Tuesday, March 31, following an announcement that four NuCara Pharmacy locations in Iowa are closing and the company is reportedly being acquired by Medicap. Alongside Traer, NuCara pharmacies in Conrad, Ackley, and Zearing are also slated for closure. "WE ARE CLOSING," a sign taped to the door of Traer's NuCara Pharmacy on Thursday, March 26, read. "This location will be closing Tuesday, March 31. To ensure your care continues without interruption, your prescriptions will be securely transferred to Medicap Pharmacy currently known as NuCara Pharmacy located at 421 E. Merle Hibbs Blvd, Marshalltown ... No action is required on your part. If you have any questions or need

NUCARA | P5



PHOTO BY ROBERT MAHARRY

Marshalltown Area Chamber of Commerce Tama County Economic Development Director Jacob Buchanan, left, and Marshall County Economic Development Director Alex Ferneau, right, pose for a photo at the Chamber office in Marshalltown late last month.

Economic development efforts expand across Marshall, Tama counties

ROBERT MAHARRY | SUN COURIER

MARSHALLTOWN/TOLEDO — Over the last few years — and thanks to a pair of contracts signed with the boards of supervisors in each county — the Marshalltown Area Chamber of Commerce has expanded its economic development reach well beyond the Marshalltown city limits and across all of the communities in Marshall and Tama counties under the guidance of a pair of new hires.

Marshall County Economic Development Director Alex Ferneau, a Melbourne native and West Marshall graduate, has been with the organization since last May, and Jacob Buchanan, a South Tama alum and longtime resident of the Tama-Toledo area, started as the Chamber's Tama County economic development director on Jan. 26.

ECONOMIC | P3

WEEKEND FORECAST:

Saturday: CHANCE OF RAIN
High: 57 / Low: 34

Sunday: MOSTLY SUNNY
High: 52 / Low: 31

INSIDE:
Weekly Journal.....2
Your Government.....3
Opinion.....4
Church5
Legal Notices.....6
Local News.....8

Contact Us:
Tama-Grundy Publishing
PO Box 1300
Marshalltown, IA 50158
For general inquires
call 641-753-6611
For billing or subscriptions
641-753-6611



GMG iJAG students advance to national competition

District qualifies record number students for annual state conference



PHOTOS COURTESY OF IJAG/FACEBOOK

GMG's iJAG Business Plan team pictured at Iowa's State Career Development Conference Thursday, March 26, in Des Moines after taking first in their respective competition, thereby earning a trip to the national competition set for later this month in Salt Lake City, Utah. From left, iJAG board member Sarah Richardson; iJAG CEO and President Dr. Wendy Mihm-Herold; GMG students Gracie Deal, Liam Fitzsimmons, Jayden Beichley, and Tavin Coleman; Iowa Secretary of State Paul Pate; and iJAG Vice President Allyson Vukovich.

SUN COURIER

DES MOINES — Nationals, here they come!

More than 400 high school students from across Iowa along with nearly 40 employers participated in the annual State Career Development Conference (CDC) Thursday, March 26, in Des Moines, including a record number of GMG iJAG (Iowa's Jobs for America's Graduates) students from which two teams earned first-place finishes in student competitions and will now advance to the JAG National Career Development Conference (NCDC) set for April 30-May 2 in Salt Lake City, Utah.

GMG iJAG students competing in the Business Plan competition and in the Project Based Learning Showcase both earned an all-expenses-paid trip to the national JAG competition for their efforts.

GMG's Business Plan team includes Tavin Coleman, Gracie Deal, Liam Fitzsimmons, and Jayden Beichley. As part of the competition, teams are



GMG's iJAG Project Based Learning Showcase team pictured at Iowa's State Career Development Conference Thursday, March 26, in Des Moines after taking first in their respective competition, thereby earning a trip to the national competition set for later this month in Salt Lake City, Utah. From left iJAG board member Sarah Richardson; iJAG CEO and President Dr. Wendy Mihm-Herold; GMG students Drayson Stephenson, Ethan Klemesrud, Caleb Ferch, and Jocie Parks; Iowa Secretary of State Paul Pate; and iJAG Vice President Allyson Vukovich.

required to develop and present strategies to solve a problem for a fictional or nonfictional company.

The district's Project Based Learning Showcase team includes Jocie Parks, Drayson Stephenson, Ethan Klemesrud, and Caleb Ferch. As part of the PBL competition,

teams design solutions to real-world problems and then present those solution(s) to a panel of judges.

At NCDC, teams will compete in their respective categories while also networking with national employers, attending skill-development workshops, and participating in leadership

activities. Per iJAG, only about 300 of JAG's 65,000 students attend NCDC annually.

GMG's Promo Video team (Aubrey Zitzow, Brynn White, Delaney McCubbin, Brooke Thomas)

IJAG | P3

GMG hires Garling for secondary addition construction, work to begin late May

RUBY F. MCALLISTER
rbodeker@northtamatelegraph.com

GARWIN — In less than two months, construction is set to begin on GMG Community School District's new \$12.3 million secondary addition in Garwin, paid for with general obligation bond revenues, following the school board's approval in February of the final bid packages.

"We have been moving along in the pre-construction phase of the project now that all contractors have been awarded bids," Superintendent Chris Petersen's report stated during the regular monthly board meeting held on Monday, March 23 in Green Mountain. "We held a pre-construction meeting on March 18 with all contractors and continue to hold some final design meetings. We plan to have contractors start once students are out of the



SUN COURIER FILE PHOTO

GMG Community School District's secondary campus in Garwin, including the main gym (left), pictured in January 2025. After Memorial Day this year, GMG plans to begin construction on its new middle/high school addition east of the gym in space currently occupied by a parking lot. The 1925 building, visible on the right side of the photo, will eventually be demolished.

building, which will be after Memorial Day (May 25)."

During an early morning special board meeting held on Friday, Feb. 20 at GMG Elementary in Green

Mountain, school directors present — vice president Kristine Kienzle, Rod Claassen, Lacey Boege, Blake Warren, Kyle Warren

— reviewed bids received

for the addition's general

trades package (Work Package No. 1). Four bids were

GMG | P3