

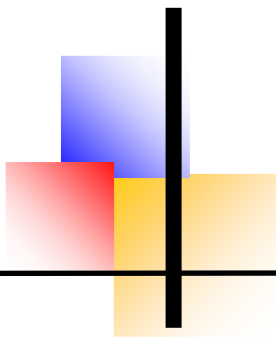
# Audubon County Economic Development Corporation

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Audubon, IA 50025-1050

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## ACED TIDBITS

March 2008

Thank You, Thank You, and Thank You to all that have joined ACED for 2008. Your support is really appreciated and is essential for us to function. Economic Development is a process and needs everyone's participation and support. The 2008 Membership list is attached to this newsletter.

The past year has been good for our local Industries. Our lead Industrial employers; Accu-Steel has added a huge building and additional workforce, Quality Machine has added real high dollar production equipment, AMVC has had major growth, AMANCO is in need of addition workforce, Trausch Industries and Jumbo Jacks are both busy. Some smaller businesses have added space/workforce during the past year. Agriculture has had another respectful year.

The Western Iowa Advantage (WIAD), which we are a partner, has had great reaction from the "Come Back to Western Iowa" postcard campaign. We are re-ordering another batch of the postcards. If your business would like to help distribute them, let us know. A couple additional distribution locations around the County would be great

The jest of the campaign is for you to send one of the postcards to family, relatives, or acquaintances that you think may consider moving to Western Iowa. It could be someone that would like to join the workforce here, start a business here, expand a business here, relocate a business here, or retire here. The card tells that we need good employees; we do have good career opportunities, and recreational things to do. Those that return the card to WIAD will receive a nice response piece that gives detail about the area.

I have been working with some demographic numbers, some of which may be of interest to you. It shows our population decline, which is the most challenging issue in Audubon County. According to the U.S. Census 2006 Estimate of Population, Audubon County's 2006 population was 6278 and that ranked us as the 97<sup>th</sup> county in population. Only Ringgold (5289) and Adams (4192) had lower population. Population stats are:

	2000 Census	2006 Estimated	% Change
Audubon County	6830	6278	-8.1
Audubon, City of	2382	2192	-7.9
Brayton, City of	145	137	-5.5
Exira, City of	810	753	-7.0
Gray, City of	82	80	-2.4
Kimballton, City of	342	308	-9.9

Persons under age 18 years old in Audubon County are 22.1% of the population.

All of our rural communities are experiencing the population change and it is real challenging to find actions that will slow this down.

Those that are here and those we would like to come back have excellent work ethics, work loyalty, work dependability, know how to work with others, have motivation, are caring, are responsible, and are willing to train for new skills. As developers we are convinced we can attract people with these qualities.

We have bike trails, walking trails, nature trails, golf, swimming(Olympic lane), tennis, volleyball, camping, hunting, fishing, community theatre, wineries, festivals and events, spacious parks, numerous churches, friendly people, full service health care, great schools that kids can have an active part in, and much more are reasons to live here. We are not far from several cities for those that want the cultural activities offered there.

The Valley Business Park currently has five prospects. Three of these are in the renewable energy business. To land one of these huge projects is tough because many sites in several states are competing for them. Like the Menard's deal at Shelby, all it takes is one deal. The other projects are smaller in comparison, but may be more probable to happen. As of today, we have not been eliminated from any of these projects.

The Audubon Industrial Park Expansion is in the process of being annexed to the City of Audubon. The archaeological survey has been completed; the Preliminary and Final Plats are complete. When the annexation is complete we will be making decisions on what dirt work to do and when. Through a WIAD program (CVN) we get exposure to about a dozen small business start ups and wannabes every quarter that may lead us to a prospect. Also we are moving forward with our Virtual Building project which will be great for marketing these sites.

Audubon's Downtown Revitalization project should soon be moving forward again. This has great potential to become a destination draw. When complete it will be a 1900's ERA Streetscape plan that includes a John James Audubon Bird Walk Trail that will tie into the T-Bone Trail, Albert the Bull, and Albert the Bull Campgrounds. Other features are the John James Audubon Statue and Plaza which is lighted and has a berm with running water. Located near the plaza are the WPA mural of John James Audubon and numerous items of interest in the cultural center.

If you haven't browsed the [www.auduboncounty.com](http://www.auduboncounty.com) site lately, there is much information available. Did you know you can pay property taxes or car registrations on line? (County Treasures section) There is GIS to find the property you own with location and size maps (Audubon Assessors section). Also the county calendar of events is available on the home page. The Business Directory lists the Audubon County businesses and you may click direct to them via e-mail or to their web site. The Careers section is available with no fees and allows you to post job openings on our local web site and it will automatically load to the Iowa Workforce and the Iowa Careers Consortium. All of you that are involved in not for profit organizations (501(c) 3); there is much information in the Audubon County Endowment section.

Thomas R. Nielsen  
Executive Director

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## **FOOD FOR THOUGHT.....**

**Prepare to be challenged! Prepare to work! Prepare to excel!**

**AUDUBON COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**  
**CORPORATION**  
**“OUR IMPORTANT PEOPLE LIST”**  
**2008 MEMBERSHIP**

Aagaard, Dolores  
ACCU-STEEL, INC  
Ace Hardware  
AMVC  
Andersen, Arch & Violet  
Anderson, Chris  
Audubon-Exira Ready Mix  
Audubon, City of  
Audubon County  
Audubon County Abstract Co.  
Audubon County Agricultural Extension  
Audubon County Farm Bureau  
Audubon County Memorial Hospital  
Audubon Dental Center  
Audubon Family Chiropractic  
Audubon Food Pride  
Audubon Lumber Center  
Audubon Medical Center  
Audubon State Bank  
Barnes, Dr. H.T.  
Bohlmann & Sons Sanitation  
Brue, Nordahl & Suzanne  
Casey's General Stores, Inc.  
Chambers, Thomas & Candice  
Charles Manett Farms  
Chatterbox Café  
Christensen, Delbert & Mary  
Christensen, Gary & Janice  
Clemmensen, Milo & Dolores  
Community Insurance Agency Co.  
Deist T.V. Sales & Service  
Elmquist Welding & Repair, Inc.  
Evan, Richard F. & Margaret  
Exchange State Bank  
Exira Family Medicine Clinic  
Exira, City of  
Exira Plumbing, Heating & Electrical  
Friendship Home  
Gleason, Richard & Lela

Grabill, Sam & Shirley  
Gronewold, Bell, Kyhnn & Co. PC  
Guthrie County Rural Electric Cooperative  
Handlos, Cory & Wendy  
Hansen, Wayne & Norma  
Horizon Equipment  
Iowa Telecom  
Jorgensen, Dan & Elaine  
Karstens, Gene & Kathy  
Kessler Funeral Home  
KJAN Wireless Communication Corp.  
Kraft, John E. & Carlene R.  
Landmands Insurance Agency  
Landmands National Bank  
Lansman, LaVerne  
Madsen-Groteluschen-Tinker Law Office  
Marne Elk Horn Telephone Co.  
Mathisen Tree Service  
MidAmerican Energy  
Nelsen, Todd & Shannon  
Nielsen Automotive, Inc.  
Nishna Valley Insurance  
Nishnabotna Valley Rural Electric Cooperative  
Ohde Funeral Home, Inc.  
Parrott, John C. & Flo  
Pat Kaiser's Christiansen Motors, Inc.  
Petersen, Merle & Norma  
Quality Machines of Iowa, Inc.  
Rasmussen & Nelson Attorneys  
Remsburg Service, Inc.  
Robinson Ruhnke, P.C.  
SEDON II  
Smith, Dan & Barb  
Southwest Iowa Real Estate Co.  
Tessman, Duane E. & Cleone  
Viking Construction, Inc.  
Wahlert Soil Conservation  
West Central Cooperative

# "Exploring Audubon County"



**April 8, 2008**

**5pm-9pm**

**Audubon Fairgrounds Agri-Hall**

**Ticket \$5.00**

**Tickets at the door: \$7.00**

**Registration Form**

**Registration deadline is April 1, 2008**

To register as a vendor for the "Exploring Audubon County" fill out the registration form below and send your check made payable to Audubon County Tourism. For more information or to purchase tickets contact Audubon County Tourism at (712) 563-2742 or Pat Curtis at (712) 563-4532.

**Name of Business:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Number of Spaces Requested** \_\_\_\_\_ **X \$10.00 =** \_\_\_\_\_

**Number of Tickets Requested** \_\_\_\_\_ **X \$5.00 =** \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Due to ACT = \$** \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form to the Audubon County Tourism office - 800 Market St. Audubon, 50025  
no later than **April 1st**.

Thank you for showing your pride in Audubon County and taking part in what will prove to be a terrific Exploring Audubon County!!!!

**APRIL 8, 2008 5PM to 9PM**

**~~~~~SHOPPING SAFARI-GREAT FOOD-DOOR PRIZES-EXHIBITS-DEMONSTRATIONS-GREAT BUYS~~~~~**