



Audubon County Economic Development Corporation

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ACED TIDBITS

March 2009

HOW IS OUR ECONOMY?

When we discuss or hear comments about the economy several phrases keep surfacing. Some of these phrases are; consensus, increase deficits, pork-barrel spending, tax cuts, based on politics, gain political advantage, stand up for your principles, stimulus, earmark, foreign affairs, international reaction, global and on and on. Are they talking about special interest groups? It is difficult to tell if they are talking about you or me or them or us. I think we need to get coordinated so we are all talking and looking out for the best interest of everyone. We all have concern for the local economy, state economy, national economy, and global economy. One affects the other and I am sure one will not work well without the other.

So how is our economy? To find any sort of answer, I think we need to focus on the Global economy first. One country affects the other in finances, workforce, production, consumption, resources, communications, travel, and much more. What I seem to hear constantly in the background is a call for coordinating a worldwide response to the current banking crisis; a response that will regain a long term economy worldwide. Money flows between countries in both the developed and undeveloped regions of the world. Out dated regulations have set us up for our current problems and it appears that updated regulations will be targeted toward global needs and concerns.

A coordinated and unified worldwide economy is an ambitious goal, but also a necessary goal. In my view, bad anywhere can affect bad everywhere. Not all sectors of the economy are suffering and some corporations have dodged the economic turndown. Some reports are talking about profits and earning ratios are beginning to improve. Let's hope so.

I think our local economy, because of its large agriculture base has been more immune from the recession than many areas. Many local families have members that have been hit by the recession and it appears that more of the adverse affects of the recession are hitting more locals. We need to stay together and pull together to face the challenges we may need to face in the next several months. Coordination and unity are the forces that will make us endure and stronger in the future.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Globalization, regionalizing, clustering, coordinating, are all components of a successful economic development plan. The old model of development was that you create jobs and the people will follow. The new model is that you attract creative people and the jobs will follow. Economic growth takes place in those places where people want to live. Coordinating our local bodies is the best tool we have to accomplish this. Coordination will help to get everyone's planning, direction, and focus on economic

development and create an organized image of the county. Economics is what we are all a part of all day every day. Opportunity is always out there, we just need to identify it and embrace it. Together we will have our best chance to capture it.

COORDINATION

The purpose of coordination is to try to achieve greater impact from organizations by having them plan and work together. It is critical that each organization maintain its present identity and tradition, yet coordinated efforts will enhance their results and make the community more structured and organized. Regional, state, and federal bulletins as well as educational issues should be communicated to all businesses in the county. One system would simplify and make this easy and fast.

The ACED board is taking a serious look at clustering with other counties our economic development efforts. This would make us a partner of a bigger group within the state regions. The state regions consist of several counties that have partnered. These state regions were formed to be more effective in development endeavors that involve the state monies and programs. This regionalizing is now at the state level where several states are partnering to create regions consisting of several states to be more efficient and effective in carrying out federal development programs.

VALLEY BUSINESS PARK

The Valley Business Park project continues to receive inquiries. This project is targeting the larger business opportunities and many of the larger companies have put their expansion and relocation plans on hold for a quarter or two. The renewable energy companies are active now, however we are competing with existing buildings in other areas of the state for this business type. The farm building sites in the park have now been cleared and the wells closed. Having these 150 acres available is a great asset for us to have to offer in soliciting new industry, especially because it is located on the I-80 corridor.

AUDUBON INDUSTRIAL PARK

The Audubon Industrial Park land is now annexed to the City of Audubon. Our next step is to get the final platting done, which is necessary to convey property to others. We are also considering moving dirt this fall to create building pads. We have lots available varying in size from 3-5 acres or the whole area is available for industrial use. This project is a huge benefit for us to have available.

WESTERN IOWA ADVANTAGE

Through our partnership with Western Iowa Advantage (WIAD) the virtual building project is nearly complete. We expect to have the finished product in hand by the first of April. We will then post the video fly-by on our website, the WIAD site, and have copies available for our own use. A standard for Shovel Ready sites is being developed which has made it difficult to get that part of the project complete. This project replaces the need for speculation buildings, as spec buildings are a huge investment that normally causes cash flow problems.

AUDUBON COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Audubon County Community Endowment Fund has received applications for this springs distribution which is \$102,000. This program is a huge benefit to the numerous non-profit groups in the county, which in turn benefits all of us.

EDUCATOR/EMPLOYER EFFORT

Our Educator/Employer committee continues to ponder how to improve communication between the two groups to better understand and satisfy the requirements and training needed in the current labor force. Some good ideas have surfaced and we are hopeful of finding a way to gain some beneficial results.

2009 ACED MEMBERSHIP

The 2009 ACED Membership list is attached. We are very appreciative of you members and for your support. Without you our development efforts could not happen.

2009 IOWA TRAVEL GUIDE

The 2009 Iowa Travel Guide is now available here at the ACED office. We have a supply in the entry way in the event you come by during the off hours.

2009 AUDUBON COUNTY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

The 2009 Audubon County Calendar of Events is included with this report. This report is also posted on the www.auduboncounty.com site.

AUDUBON COUNTY WEBSITE

On the www.auduboncounty.com site we have posted a number of useful items. Go to the home page and to Economic Development, then:

- Click ACED and find the Quick Links for good information and then scroll down to Links to find more additional useful information.
- Click on Careers to find approx. 285 jobs that are available within a commute.
- Click on Business Directory to find Audubon County Businesses and their contact information.
- Click on News Report. Under the heading News you will find this years Audubon County fair schedule, the stimulus package information and more. Scroll down to Business Information and you will find more items that may be of interest to you.
- Check the rest of the site for a lot of local information.



Thomas R. Nielsen
Executive Director

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**Food for Thought**

- Time heals almost everything. Give time, TIME.
- Whatever doesn't kill you really does make you stronger.

**AUDUBON COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**  
**"OUR IMPORTANT PEOPLE LIST"**  
**2009 MEMBERSHIP**

Aagaard, Dolores  
 ACCU-STEEL, Inc.  
 Ace/Audubon Hardware, Inc.  
 AMVC  
 Andersen, Arch & Violet  
 Anderson, Chris  
 Audubon-Exira Ready Mix  
 Audubon, City of  
 Audubon County  
 Audubon County Abstract Co  
 Audubon County Extension  
 Audubon County Farm Bureau  
 Audubon County Memorial Hospital  
 Audubon County Newspapers  
 Audubon Dental Center  
 Audubon Family Chiropractic  
 Audubon Food Pride  
 Audubon Lumber Center  
 Audubon Manufacturing Corp. (AMANCO)  
 Audubon Medical Clinic  
 Audubon Real Estate Midwest Management  
 Audubon State Bank  
 Barnes, Dr. H.T.  
 Casey's General Stores, Inc.  
 Chambers, Thomas & Candice  
 Charles Manatt Farms  
 Christensen, Delbert & Mary  
 Christensen, Gary & Janice  
 Clemmensen, Milo & Dolores  
 Community Insurance Agency Co.  
 Curtis, Pat  
 Danish Countryside Vines & Wines  
 Darrell's Place  
 Deist T.V. Sales & Service  
 Elmquist Welding & Repair, Inc.  
 Evan, Richard F. & Margaret  
 Exchange State Bank  
 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  
 KJAN Wireless Communication Corp.  
 Kjergaard, Jim & Kay  
 Kraft, John E. & Carlene R.  
 Landmands Bank  
 Landmands Insurance Agency  
 Lansman, LaVerne  
 Madsen-Groteluschen-Tinker Law Office  
 Marne Elk Horn Telephone Co.  
 Mathisen Tree Service  
 MidAmerican Energy  
 Nelsen, Todd & Shannon  
 Nielsen Automotive, Inc.  
 Ohde Funeral Home, Inc.  
 Parrott, John C.  
 Pat Kaiser's Christiansen Motors, Inc.  
 Petersen, Merle & Norma  
 Quality Machine of Iowa, Inc.  
 Rasmussen & Nelson Attorneys  
 Remsburg Service, Inc.  
 Robinson Ruhnke, P.C.  
 SEDON II  
 Smith, Dan & Barb  
 Southwest Iowa Real Estate Co.  
 Subway of Audubon  
 Viking Construction, Inc.  
 Wahlert Soil Conservation  
 West Central Cooperative

# 2009 AUDUBON COUNTY Calendar of Events

**Audubon County Tourism**  
**800 Market Street**

**Audubon, Iowa 50025-1050**

**Phone 712-563-2742 Fax 712-563-2537**

**Email: [audubontourism@iowatelecom.net](mailto:audubontourism@iowatelecom.net)**

**Web site [www.auduboncounty.com](http://www.auduboncounty.com)**

## March

### **13 & 14<sup>th</sup> Country Players Dinner Theater ~**

Performing "Backwoods Romeo" ~ Tickets for "Backwoods Romeo" can be purchase by calling 712-563-2541

### **21<sup>st</sup> Legislative Briefing ~**

8:00 AM ~ Audubon County Economic Development, 800 Market St Audubon ~ Your chance to visit with Senator Nancy Boettger & Rep. Clel Baudler ~ Call 712-563-2742 for more details

### **22<sup>nd</sup> Brayton Community Club Soup Supper ~**

from 5 to 7 PM ~ Brayton Town Hall ~ Free Will Donations

### **29<sup>th</sup> Nathaniel Hamlin Park Soup Supper ~**

5 to 7 PM ~ One mile south of Audubon on Highway 71

## April

### **25<sup>th</sup> John James Audubon Festival ~**

Celebration of John James Audubon ~ Entertainment ~ Games ~ See the Bird Walk and Plaza ~ More details to come ~ Call 563-4239

## May

### **2<sup>nd</sup> 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Audubon Community Garage Sale ~**

7:00 AM to 1:00 PM ~ Contact 712-563-3780

### **23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> Tivoli Fest ~**

Kimballton/Elk Horn ~ Danish Celebration ~ Great Danish Foods ~ Entertainment and VIKINGJEM (Viking Smiths's Home) Reenactments ~ Parade ~ For details contact 712-764-7472 or 800-451-7960

## June

### **7<sup>th</sup> Annual Flight Breakfast ~**

Free Breakfast to all fly-ins ~ Serving ham & cheese omelets, pancakes, coffee & juice ~ Audubon County Airport Authority, 2106 Highway 71 ~ Contact 712-563-3780

### **20<sup>th</sup> American Cancer Society Relay Walk/Run - Audubon**

**County** ~ At the Audubon City Park 8:00AM ~ 2 & 5 Mile Run ~ Breakfast ~ Entertainment ~ Time of Celebration ~ Time of Remembrance ~ Contact 712- 773-4201

## July

### **4<sup>th</sup> Exira Fourth of July Celebration ~**

Foot Races ~ 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade ~ Great Food ~ Kiddy Tractor Pull ~ Fun & Games ~ Carnival Rides ~ Evening Entertainment & Fireworks at the Exira High School ~ Contact 712-268-2187

### **23<sup>rd</sup>- 26<sup>th</sup> Audubon County Fair ~**

412 N Division Audubon ~ For details contact 712-563-4239 or go to [www.extension.iastate.edu/audubon](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/audubon)

### **31<sup>st</sup> 59<sup>th</sup> Annual Operation T- Bone Celebration ~**

**Audubon** ~Hamburger Feed & Fireworks See August 1<sup>st</sup> for more

## August

### **1<sup>st</sup> 59<sup>th</sup> Annual Operation T-Bone ~**

**Audubon** ~ This celebration pays tribute to the famed beef production of Audubon County ~ Activities include Fun Run/Walk ~ Crafts ~ Vender Tables ~ Store Bargains ~ Flea Market ~ Hamburger Feed (On Fri the 31st) ~ City Park Kid Games ~ Parade at 1:00 PM ~ Free Entertainment in the City Park ~ Firemen's Water Fights ~ Chili Cook Off ~ Dance ~ Wheeler Power Car Show ~ Beer Garden ~ Reunions ~ Food Stands and more.... ~ Contact 712-563-3780

## September

### **26<sup>th</sup> Exira Fall Festival ~**

Crafts from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM at the Exira Rec Center ~ Lunch & Dessert Bar ~ Baked Sales ~ Scare Crow Contest ~ Rides & Children's Activities ~Entertainment at the City Park Gazebo ~ Food Stands and Business Specials ~ Chili Cook-off at Flood Park ~ 5<sup>th</sup> Annual PARK TO PARK PUMPKIN RUN on the T-Bone Trail From Brayton City Park to Exira City Park ~ Contact 712-268-2187

## October

### **3<sup>rd</sup> 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Fall Audubon Community Garage Sale ~**

7:00 AM to 1:00 PM ~ Contact 712-563-3780

### **4<sup>th</sup> Nathaniel Hamlin Park Fall Festival ~**

10:00 AM to 4:00 PM ~ One Mile South of Audubon ~ Come for Lunch ~ Tour the Audubon County Farm Historical Museum, Little Country School House, & Blacksmith's Shop ~ View the huge Cattle Industry Mural by Cam Ross ~ Children's Games ~ Entertainment ~ Bargain Barn Open ~ Contact 712-563-2516

## November

### **21<sup>st</sup> 22<sup>nd</sup> Deck the Agri Hall ~**

Get into the Holiday Spirit as you walk down Christmas Tree Lane and view the holiday collections ~ Food Served ~ Located at the Agri Hall on the Audubon County Fairgrounds in Audubon ~ For more details call 712-563-4239

### **21<sup>st</sup> American Legion Feather Party ~**

Brayton ~ Play Bingo & Win Prizes of Turkeys and Hams ~ Dinner 5:00 PM ~ Bingo 6:00 PM ~ Brayton Town Hall 210 County T Road ~ Contact 712-549-2268

### **27<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> JULEFEST ~**

Kick off the Christmas season by joining the Danish settlements of Kimballton and Elk Horn for traditional singing & dancing around the Christmas tree ~ Visit with Father Christmas ~ Spiced Glogg & Danish Food ~ Homespun Crafts ~ Contact 712-764 7472 or 712-773-2025

## December

### **5<sup>th</sup> Exira Festival of Lights ~**

Come for an evening of fun ~ Enjoy the lighting of one of the largest Christmas trees in Southwest Iowa ~ Soup Supper ~ Cookie Walk ~ Visit Santa ~ Contact 712-268-2219

# 2009 IOWA Travel Guides & Iowa Road Maps

Available at  
Audubon County Economic Development  
800 Market Street, Audubon

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Audubon, IA 50025-1050