

Welcome to the IVCCD Community Speakers Bureau!

Iowa Valley Community College District (IVCCD) is pleased to sponsor this online Community Speakers Bureau. IVCCD operates Ellsworth Community College in Iowa Falls, Marshalltown Community College, Iowa Valley Continuing Education, and Iowa Valley Grinnell.

Additional programs, courses and services that might be of interest to your group are available through Iowa Valley Continuing Education at locations throughout Hardin, Marshall, Tama, and Poweshiek counties in Central Iowa. For more information about IVCE, call 641-752-4645 or 1-800-284-4823.

Using the Community Speakers Bureau

This publication lists speakers from throughout Iowa Valley Community College District (Hardin, Marshall, Tama and Poweshiek counties) who are available to give presentations to clubs, organizations, churches, schools, and other groups.

There is no charge for the speakers other than a meal cost when a dinner meeting is involved. If your organization, as a gesture of appreciation, wishes to make a financial contribution to the Ellsworth College Foundation, the Marshalltown Community College Foundation, or the Iowa Valley Continuing Education Tuition Grant Program, you may do so. Such contributions can be sent directly to the IVCCD Chief Financial Officer, 3702 S. Center St., Marshalltown, IA 50158. (Please specify the entity you wish to designate your contribution for and that it relates to the Speakers Bureau.)

All speakers listed in this booklet are volunteers; IVCCD does not necessarily endorse the topics or opinions they might express.

How to book a speaker:

1. Find the program you want. Names, addresses, phone numbers, and some e-mail addresses for speakers are listed in the Index at the end of this document.
2. You are responsible for contacting the speaker and confirming the date, time, and place of the speaking engagement. Speakers request a minimum of two weeks notice.
3. After you have confirmed a speaker, give your speaker a courtesy reminder call a day or two before the event.
4. Be sure and provide the speaker with your name and phone number in case of an emergency.
5. Due to travel time and cost, some speakers may choose not to present programs in counties or communities outside their own.

Ideas for the Community Speakers Bureau may be directed to the Michele Frost in the IVCCD Marketing Office by phoning 641-844-5573 or by e-mailing Michele.Frost@iavalley.edu.

Community Services topics

Big Brothers, Big Sisters by Lynne Carroll – Big Brothers, Big Sisters is the nation's premier mentoring organization. BBBS makes a "BIG" difference one child at a time through one-to-one mentoring. Learn about this important program, including how you can become involved.

Building for the Future: How the Community Foundation Can Help Build Stronger Communities by Bettie Bolar – The Community Foundation of Marshall County was designed to help communities grow through annual grants and endowment building. This program will help non-profit organizations in planning for the future.

Child Abuse & Neglect by Jana Enfield – Child abuse and neglect is a societal problem that affects the entire community. When citizens understand child abuse, its causes and how it can be prevented, they are better equipped to help protect children within their community.

Community Investing by Kaitlyn Bartling – Discovering the power of donations and the ability for young and middle class families to invest in local organizations to build the communities we live in. Discovering needs of organizations, developing a giving plan, tax benefits of community investing and evaluating your giving plan will be discussed.

Community Partnerships for Protecting Children by Jana Enfield – Protecting children from abuse is everyone's business. The Community Partnerships for Protecting Children (CPPC) project in Marshall and Hardin Counties is an approach to child protection that involves the community. Learn what is being done and how you can become involved.

Emergency Food Box by Ada Brown & Anne Schulte – Emergency Food Box is an all-volunteer Marshalltown organization that provides temporary help to people in need of basic food supplies. Established more than 20 years ago, Emergency Food Box accepts food and financial donations from individuals, organizations, and local churches in Marshall County. Persons are served by referral from pastors, the Department of Human Services, Mid-Iowa Community Action, or other human service agencies.

Home Care Plus by Tina Coleman – Marshalltown Medical & Surgical Center Home Care Plus is available to Marshall, Tama, Grundy and Hardin County residents. Tina will discuss these important services, available on a part-time intermittent basis.

Iowa River Hospice by Rhonda Miller – Learn about the hospice concept where patients are cared for by a trained interdisciplinary team of volunteers and professionals who specialize in supporting patients and families needing end of life care. Iowa River Hospice staff is available for presentations concerning all aspects of hospice care and bereavement after the loss of a loved one. Tours of the Hospice Home can also be arranged.

Marshall County Drug Endangered Children (DEC) Alliance by Nikki Hartwig — There is a task force of professionals who have united to rescue, defend, shelter and support children who are living in environments of drug abuse, sales and manufacturing. Drug endangered children are often victims of various types of abuse, and they struggle to survive in these toxic home environments. Nikki will offer tailored presentations that highlight the problems and focus on solutions. Topics include the Drug Endangered Child Concept and the Marshall County DEC Task Force. Presentations can be adapted to audience interests, including presentations for youth groups.

Marshall County RSVP by Nancy Earney – Seniors (over 55) CAN make Marshalltown a better place to live, through volunteering. RSVP (Retired & Senior Volunteer Program) offers more than 50 volunteer opportunities in 20 non-profit/city government sites in Marshalltown.

Policing & Criminal Justice by Bernal F. Koehrsen – Retired Waterloo Chief of Police and Lt. Colonel in the U.S. Air Force, now an associate professor of criminal justice, Bernie is prepared to speak on policing and criminal justice. Current issues and events including child abduction, terrorism, and homeland security are just a few of the topics Bernie will be glad to discuss.

Public Library Issues by Sandy Gowdy & Joa LaVille – These Marshalltown public librarians are willing to tackle a wide range of topics, including selecting good books for children, freedom of speech issues in the library, and planning for the Marshalltown library's future. In addition, they'll do "Book Talks" with specific groups according to their special interests.

Seeds of Hope by Robin Hartkopp – Seeds of Hope provides quality education and comprehensive services concerning domestic violence and sexual assault including: personal, medical, court, and child advocacy, counseling, transportation, basic essential items, community education, victim support groups, and a 24-hour crisis line. Seeds of Hope is also very active in the school systems by presenting educational prevention-based programs on topic like healthy relationships, self-esteem, bullying, and harassment. Ms. Hartkopp is a Seeds of Hope Victim Advocate.

The Child Welfare System by Ken Baker – An overview of how children and families become involved with the Department of Human Services and the Juvenile Court system and what interventions and outcomes this involvement may lead to. Participants will gain a better understanding of how children can be served through the child welfare system and how to connect children and families to those services. They'll also be able to identify when child welfare services are not an option and how to access other services for children and families.

YOUR Community Y by Carol Hibbs – The Marshalltown Y is continually expanding! New facilities are providing space for more amenities and more programs than ever before. Get a first-hand look at all the "new" services and activities, from Carol, the CEO.

Contemporary Issues topics

Are We Prepared After 9/11? by Dennis Bachman – Now, years later, the question is still unanswered. Dennis will discuss what we, as a community, can do to protect ourselves and discuss the role of residents in emergency preparedness.

Are We Prepared For a Disaster? by Dennis Bachman – Dennis will discuss home and family preparedness in the event of a natural disaster or pandemic event.

Cell Phones: Do They Provide Real Safety? by Dennis Bachman – Cell phones and emergency 911 calls may not provide the safety most people think. Learn important facts about your cell phone.

Child Abuse: The Problem & The Prevention by Jana Enfield – Child abuse is a reality in our society. How widespread is the problem? Why does it happen? What can we do about it? Jana will talk about the Child Abuse Prevention Services agency and what's being done locally, and help you understand how you can become a part of the solution.

Drug Endangered Children (DEC) Alliance by Nikki Hartwig – The Marshall County DEC Alliance was formed in 2007 to develop a community response to children being exposed to methamphetamine and other illicit drugs. Participants will learn about meth manufacturing and the effects that meth has on the user and the children in their care, as well as dangers to the community. The speaker will also discuss Marshall County's DEC response protocol, the Alliance's goals, and projected outcomes.

Emergency Services: Where Do We Go From Here? by Dennis Bachman – Emergency medical services have evolved over time into important medical vocations. Join Dennis as he explores emergency medical service professions ... past, present, and future.

Islam & Muslims by Dr. Salah Syed – As a practicing American Muslim, Dr. Syed will share a personal perspective on beliefs and practices of Islam and who Muslims are. He will address common misperceptions, and will be happy to take questions from his audiences. The presentation will be educational in nature, and not "a preaching session."

Issues in Immigration by Immigrant Allies of Marshalltown - A speaker can be arranged to talk with your group about a variety of issues that face newer and established immigrants to our community, lead a discussion about the demographic changes in Marshalltown over the past several years, as well as share information about the "welcoming" strategies, as promoted by the national organization, Welcoming America, that can strengthen communities and help to bring diverse groups together.

Japan's Nuclear Disaster Revisited by Dennis Bachman – See the inside story of how the nuclear reactor disaster happened and what could have been done. Are nuclear reactors safe?

Safe Haven by Jana Enfield – The Safe Haven Act is an Iowa law that allows parents to leave an infant up to 14 days old at a hospital or health care facility without fear of being charged with abandonment. Participants will learn why Safe Haven was enacted, what responsibilities health care facilities have, what happens after an infant is dropped off, and what happens if the parent changes his/her mind.

Education topics

Books & Reading by Joa LaVille – Youth services librarian, Joa LaVille, can speak about the best books for kids, tips on reading with children, community or early childhood literacy issues, "judging a book by its cover" (book cover changes over time and across cultures), great youth or teen books that adults would enjoy, the summer reading program, or other specific topics or thematic book talks as requested.

Ellsworth Music: From Bach to the Boundary Waters by Anne Sherve-Ose – An overview of the music program at Ellsworth Community College, including classes, lessons, musical theater, concerts, field trips, and the humanities class that travels to the Boundary Waters of Minnesota each spring.

Go Ahead, Be A Writer! by Robert Kerr - Amazon.com Best-Selling Author, and retired school psychologist Robert Kerr shares his experiences writing his first novel, Completely Restored with school-aged writers. Topics include getting an idea, using criticism constructively, getting to that first draft, editing, and making a final copy.

Green Belt High School, WOW! by Angela Scallon – Here's a real WOW story! Green Belt High School is a student-centered learning environment for high school students. Students have the opportunity to earn their high school diplomas in a non-traditional mode.

Marshalltown's Own Novel: Completely Restored by Robert Kerr – Amazon.com Best-Selling Author, Robert Kerr shares the back stories behind his first novel, Completely Restored, in which a Marshalltown family is transported back in time to 1909 where they encounter the Rev. Billy Sunday, T. Nelson Downs and the Green Mountain Train Wreck and others.

Music Advocacy: The Amazing Benefits of Music Education and the Efforts of Marshalltown Youth Foundation's Musical Instrument Lending Library by Carrie Barr – The Marshalltown Youth Foundation has developed a Musical Instrument Lending Library for families whose budget would not otherwise allow students to participate in Marshalltown's fine band program. Research shows amazingly positive results of music education! This PowerPoint show highlights some of the encouraging research that spurred the Marshalltown Youth Foundation to help.

Reach Out and Read Marshall County by Betsy Macke – Reach Out and Read Marshall County is a community supported pediatric literacy program which is partnering with Spread the Words – Read by 3rd! initiative (RB3!) which envisions a future where children achieve at their highest potential by reading at a grade level.

Ten Season Working in Antarctica by Paul D. Jones – I have spent ten seasons working "on the ice" as we say with the utilities department. Water-Wastewater-Power at McMurdo Station, (Americas Science Station) on the continent as well as one season in a remote field camp. I have a power point presentation showing what is happening on the Continent. I have been to the South Pole Station two times but have not worked or stayed overnight at the pole.

Why should I pre-plan my funeral? by Mary Mauk – We plan for other major life event expenses: education, buying a home, wedding and retirement. Why not your final celebration? It is the greatest gift you can give your family. The best way to make sure your funeral reflects the real you is to plan it yourself!

Environment topics

Recycling Magic by Pam Blake – Find out what happens to your recyclables. Did you know you could be wearing them? Let Pam share several sample items made from recyclables. She can also demonstrate special items you can make from recyclables at home.

Solving the Case of HHW by Pam Blake – Do you know what is kept under your sink, in your basement, or in your garage? Household Hazardous Waste materials need to be respected and used wisely. From “buying smart” (reading labels, knowing what you’re getting) to proper disposal procedures, Pam will show how to deal with household materials requiring special disposal. Everything from garage/workshop items (car wax, paint thinner, oil-base paints), and home/garden items (furniture polish, insecticides, weed killer), to kitchen/bathroom items (cleaners, polish remover) comes with special precautions. She’ll also list places where these items can be taken for safe and proper disposal.

Families & Relationships topics

Child Abuse & Domestic Violence by Lynn Koch – Family violence and child abuse are linked. Violence in families affects children today and tomorrow. Participants will learn about linkages between child abuse, domestic violence and sexual assault and be able to identify at-risk situations.

Child Abuse Prevention Services by Jana Enfield – Many strategies are used to prevent child abuse and neglect. Learn about the unique and effective programs that are provided in Marshall County and how to refer families to these services. Speakers will discuss the Building Healthy Families home visitation program, Stork's Nest incentive program, Crisis Child Care program, and Sexual Abuse Prevention program (available in Marshall, Hardin and Tama Counties).

Divorce Hurts by Don Lamb – What are some things we can do to prevent divorce? Or at least reduce the hurt? I think there are many possibilities! We'll explore some common sense ways to prevent some divorces.

Five Wishes Advanced Medical Directives lead by Iowa River Hospice Social Workers Karen Bursley LBSW or Karla Minear MSW, LISW – Five Wishes is a user friendly legal document that lets your family and medical professionals know how you want to be cared for in the event you can't communicate. This is a great conversation starting tool for those important ‘what if’ discussions and is a wonderful gift for your loved ones to have in the event you can't speak for yourself.

Mom & Me – Starting the Conversation About Puberty by Kathy Dooley – A fun session designed to get moms, or the significant female in the household, and girls from 4th through 7th grades talking about the changes they face as they enter puberty. A “basket” filled with hygiene and personal-care products serves as a trigger to start the conversation about menstruation and emotions. Presentation lasts about one hour.

Protecting Relationships by Dr. Robert L. Moore – Dr. Moore has designed relationship talks for singles, couples or groups. He will assist your group in thinking about marriage and other relationships. He'll talk about counseling, take a look at some of the major reasons relationships struggle, and draw on his experience as a marriage counselor to make some observations on how couples can protect and enhance their relationship. He is also prepared to present on the importance of pre-marital relationship guidance and counseling.

Strengthening Families Through Home Visitation by Linda Havelka – Examine how the Building Healthy Families homes visitation program reduces the risk of child abuse and helps parents be their child's first and best teacher.

Transitional Living Program For Women In Crisis by Pastor Randy Edgar – Van Orman Transitional Living Program offers informational services for people in crisis; a residential “Transitional Living Program” for women with or without children that are in crisis; “independent living skills program” for those who wish to learn life skills yet do not wish the intensity and life training of a residency program. Our goals is to help participants not only survive their present situation, but help enable them to make life changing decisions for their future. We seek to instruct participants how to take their “next right step” following biblical principles and spiritual guidance.

Finance topics

Consumer Credit Counseling Service of Northeastern Iowa by Karen Atwood – Money is a serious problem for thousands of people. No matter how much you earn, you could still find yourself in a financial squeeze because of inflation, overusing credit, medical bills, and poor money management. Karen gives an informational presentation to educate consumers about the wise use of credit and also provide homebuyer education.

Credit Information for 60-Plus'ers by Derek Ginder – Credit needs change as we age, and this counselor is willing to present information to 60-plus'ers regarding reverse mortgages and representative payeeships.

Money in Motion by Kent Baldwin – Using the “textbook” that is often used in client classes, Kent is prepared to define credit issues (buying a car, buying a home, using credit cards, handling money), identify characteristics of persons who need credit counseling, and discuss the benefits of being in a structured program.

Endowment Building & Estate Planning for Financial Advisors: How the Community Foundation of Marshall County Can Partner With Advisors to Benefit Their Clients and the Community At Large by Bettie Bolar – This presentation will include suggestions of possible ways to use financial planning tools together with the Endow Iowa legislation and tax benefits in dealing with community foundations for the benefit of clients and the community.

Estate Planning Under Current Tax Rules by James L. Goodman – It's always the right time to learn about estate planning and Jim's expertise will get you moving. Review federal gift and estate tax rates and credits, rules on unlimited marital deductions, and Iowa Inheritance Tax rules.

Financial Planning by Gary Schaudt – Gary will speak to small or large groups with various time limitations. Topics may include retirement, estate and college education planning, budgeting, and general investing techniques depending on your group's needs and interests.

Make Your Move by Kent Baldwin – This is a big step for many. Learn more about becoming a first-time homebuyer and about workshops for those people.

Revocable Living Trusts by James L. Goodman – This general discussion of revocable living trusts includes a comparison of revocable living trusts to wills, advantages and disadvantages, tax aspects of revocable living trusts, and why more people consider using revocable living trusts.

Successful Investing by Jeffrey A. Schwarck – To be secure in the knowledge of successful investing, an individual must achieve four investment goals. Jeffrey will identify and describe these goals and how they can be attained.

Transfer of Wealth & The Possible Benefit to Marshall County Charities by Betsy Macke & Carrie Barr – The anticipated transfer of wealth from one generation to the next in the coming 50 years was studied by The Community Vitality Center at Iowa State University. Specific information about Marshall County is included in this presentation, as well as possible ways the information could be used to benefit charitable organizations in Marshall County.

When the Stock Market Crashes by Jeffrey A. Schwarck – Jeffrey will compare Black Monday, October 19, 1987, with Black Tuesday, October 29, 1929. He'll also discuss the Great Recession that began in 2008 with today's current stock market trends and issues.

“Grab Bag” topics

Basketball, a History of the Game by Don Lamb – How the rules have changed with an emphasis on Iowa girl's basketball. Do you know the original rules? Why basketball players are sometimes called "cagers"? What is the only original rule that has not been changed? We will discuss these items and more plus look at some of the uniform changes that have happened over the years.

Lost Mail? You Can Solve the Mystery! by Don Lamb – Can you help the U.S. Post Office get mail to its destination? Of course! Learn the best way to address mail from an expert who has handled thousands of pieces of mail a day.

Panther Basketball by Troy Muilenburg – Troy will discuss the Ellsworth Community College Panther basketball schedule (past and present), team personnel, current recruiting status, and much more. He also provides an overview of the ICCAC men's basketball conference.

The Amish: Plain But Not So Simple by Charlie Cochran – Learn some of the facts and fallacies surrounding the Amish people and how modern technology is influencing the Amish way of life.

World War II in the South Pacific On Board the USS Honolulu CL48 by Don Paustian – Follow the life of a decorated light cruiser from her launching through the attack on Pearl Harbor and the battles to regain control of several South Pacific islands, to her being sold for scrap after the war ended. Don's father served onboard the Honolulu, and Don has assembled 2000 pages of historical data, 500 photos, and shells and projectiles of every size and type ever fired from the ship. He'll tailor his program to your timeframe.

Canoeing the Mississippi in Twenty Years or Less by Anne Sherve-Ose – Anne Sherve-Ose and two college roommates have been paddling the Mississippi River for the past 9 years, one segment each year. They started at the headwaters at Itasca State Park in Minnesota, and reached Kentucky this year. Enjoy life on the Mississippi as only Tom Sawyer could tell it, with stories about storms, wildlife, locks and dams, history, and crazy characters.

Health & Wellness topics

Birth Control Methods by Kathy Dooley – This program takes a look at birth control ... it's history, current methods and how they work, and a pregnancy prevention program that includes abstinence. Statistics on teen pregnancy are shared and the cost and availability of prevention methods are discussed.

Breast Cancer Awareness by Tina Coleman – Tina will share a video and talk about breast cancer and how to do self-breast examinations.

Cooking around Food Allergies by Kaitlyn Bartling – Almost every recipe can be adjusted for food allergies. Learn the basics of food science and recipe evaluation techniques to help you adjust your favorite recipes and learn why some substitutes work better than others. Wheat, egg and dairy will be the main focus of the presentation.

Hepatitis by Tina Coleman – Are you at risk? Tina will present a videotape and discuss the various types of hepatitis and specific at-risk groups.

Nurturing Healthy Sexual Development by Jana Enfield – This presentation educates participants on the sexual development of children and how to respond to children's sexual behavior and questions in ways that promote healthy development. The program also teaches parents on ways to prevent child sexual abuse. The presentation is available in Marshall, Hardin and Tama Counties.

Psychological Disorders by Dr. Robert L. Moore – Dr. Moore will help your group take a sensitive look at the people around us; you'll come away with a new appreciation of topics such as anxiety disorders, mood disorders, childhood disorders, personality disorders, psychotic disorders, and other psychological issues. You may wish to examine specific disorders such as Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder or Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD), and he can discuss those as well as other special topics in abnormal psychology. He'll work with you to choose topics suitable to your group.

Sexually Transmitted Diseases/HIV/AIDS by Kathy Dooley – This program takes a comprehensive look at STDs/HIV, what they are, the risks, and treatments. Prevention and protection are key elements of Kathy's presentation.

Special Health Topics by Tina Coleman – Representing MMSC's Public Health Department, Tina is happy to discuss a variety of important topics, including lead paint poisoning, communicable diseases, building healthy families, tuberculosis, child and adult immunizations, hantavirus, rabies, lice, wound care, intravenous therapy, chronic disease management, community health resources, Marshall County's comprehensive needs assessment, other health problems, or how to maintain a healthy lifestyle. Also, physical therapy, nursing, home health aide, occupational therapy, speech therapy, medical social work, and nutritional counseling. She will tailor a presentation to your specific needs and/or interests.

Y Fitness = Your Fitness by Angie Paxson – Angie, head of the Fitness Department at the Community Y, is prepared to talk about the importance of lifetime fitness for adults and teens, and demonstrate fitness activities available at the Community Y.

Personal Enrichment & Growth topics

Affordable World-Class Entertainment is Just a Phone Call Away! by Gloria Hanson – Marshalltown Community Concert Association brings world class entertainment to Marshalltown with every season. There are normally five to six concerts a year, ranging from classical to pop, to American Masters. The performances are held in the Marshalltown High School/Community Auditorium. The five to six programs are presented from October through April and are family-friendly and encompass a wide range of musical interests. A short 15-minute DVD presentation is available, along with an overview of the artists for the upcoming season. Presenters for MCCA are Gloria Hanson, membership chairperson or Bill Fitzgerald, president. Please make an appointment for an enthusiastic program presentation regarding these live performance opportunities in our community.

Mentoring by Big Brothers Big Sisters – Learn about the history of mentoring, hear anecdotes, and discover how a mentor can influence a life, a family, and a community to strive for success. The speakers will share listening techniques, conversation starters, relationship building, friendship, anger control, skill streaming, character building, and empathy.

So You Wrote A Book? Self Publishing as an Option? by Robert Kerr – Your book is finished, but you don't know where to submit it for publishing. You've already pitched your finished draft to a dozen publishers; half have turned you down and the others haven't replied in over a year. Why not try self-publishing or print-on-demand? Get a brief introduction to the world of self-publishing.

The Importance of Arts in Modern Society by David W. Engel – David will discuss the opportunities for anyone to become involved in the arts. He will emphasize the importance of the arts to our economy, the need for artists to take risks, and how censorship of the arts can lead to unexpected results.

Index of Speakers

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