

Welcome to the Elevate Newsletter

Manufacturing in Iowa

Lori Sheaffer-Weaton, President of the Iowa Association of Business & Industry and Agri-Industrial Plastics, and Maureen Lockwood, Manufacturing Manager at Thombert Inc. spoke about the manufacturing industry at Governor Branstad's weekly news conference on April 24th.

Lockwood presenting and Sheaffer-Weaton listening.

Click [here](#) to read more.

Elevate Scholarship Winners

Elevate Advanced Manufacturing Scholarships are being awarded to 13 high school seniors this spring. The 13 seniors will receive a \$500.00 check to put towards their college tuition. Each student will be studying a career in advanced manufacturing.

1. **Mirza Velic**, *Des Moines Area Community College*, Mechanical Manufacturing/Engineering
2. **Brianna Goetzinger**, *Eastern Iowa Community College*, Manufacturing Technician/Technology
3. **Jacob Kaisand**, *Hawkeye Community College*, Computer Numerical Control Machining and/or Tool & Die
4. **Joshua Hill**, *Indian Hills Community College*, Robotics and Laser Optics
5. **Ozzymandius Pattison**, *Iowa Central Community College*, Welding Technician & Technology
6. **Austin Fairchild**, *Iowa Lakes Community College*, Welding Technician & Technology
7. **Adan Rodriguez**, *Iowa Valley Community College*, Welding Technician & Technology
8. **Dan Beuter**, *Kirkwood Community College*, Welding Technician & Technology

2016 Results!

According to the Department of Education, enrollment for Advanced Manufacturing programs have increased by 14%. These figures are from the 2014-2015 school year so we anticipate they have increased more since!

The top 3 enrollment programs that increased include:

Tool & Die: 66.7%
Machinist: 23.5%
Welding 10.1%

Perception vs. Reality

The False

Perception: Manufacturing careers are dirty, dangerous and dead-end jobs. These jobs are 'consolation prizes' for those who 'couldn't cut it' at a four-year school.

The Reality: Advanced manufacturing careers offer outstanding pay and benefits (average salary of \$77,060 compared with \$60,168 for other industries*). These careers are high-

9. **Adam Jensen**, *Northeast Iowa Community College*, Computer Numerical Control
10. **Nick Hengeveld**, *Northwest Iowa Community College*, Industrial and Commercial Wiring
11. **Dedric Hatchitt**, *Southeastern Community College*, Tool & Die
12. **Charles Nichols**, *Southwestern Community College*, Electrical Technology
13. **Brady Ringleb**

*North Iowa Area Community College,
Tool & Die*

Congratulations to the scholarship winners! Elevate Iowa wishes each award winner best of luck on their career path!

Business Horizons

Business Horizons, a program of the Iowa Association of Business and Industry Foundation, is looking for forward-thinking high school student-leaders to attend the unique summer program **June 25-29** at Central College in Pella.

Business Horizons is a five-day program designed to provide high school students with resume-worthy experience and the tools and skills they need to prepare them for a successful future in today's workplace. Participants team up with other like-minded students from across the state and work alongside Iowa professionals to take part in exciting challenges and competitions with an entrepreneurial twist. Students learn about career opportunities, why Iowa is a great place to live and work, and discover how their personal strengths add value to a team. Business Horizons is a fun week of valuable college and career experience students can't get anywhere else.

Please help us spread the word in your workplace and communities, and encourage students (grades 9-12) you know to take advantage of the experience this summer. Participants can even earn college credit and a Central College scholarship for attending!

To learn more, check out the [2017 Business Horizons brochure](#), and visit BusinessHorizonsIowa.com to view re-

tech, take place in clean and lean facilities and have growth potential.

** 2011 Bureau of Economic Analysis*

Iowa Manufacturing Facts

By 2018, there will be a projected shortage of 6,672 skilled workers in the advanced manufacturing sector.

Projected Career Growth by 2020 in Iowa:

- Computer Numerically Controlled (CNC) + 23%
- Transportation/Logistics +19%
- Machining +17%
- Industrial Automation +16%
- Welding +14%
- Industrial Maint. +11%
- Tool & Die +8%
- Manufacturing Tech. +3%

Is Your Classroom "Open For Business"?

Your area manufacturing companies understand the importance of opening their doors to young people and letting them know about the amazing products being

cap videos, [download applications](#) and [nominate students to attend](#).

A \$35 discount will be available until May 20. Additional financial assistance is available. Contactinfo@businesshorizonsiowa.com with questions.

Manufacturing Day

Manufacturing day (MFG Day) is an annual nationwide event on the first Friday of October. This year MFG Day lands on October 6th, 2017. It is a day to celebrate the next generation of manufacturers across the world.

Last year, Iowa held over 150 events in manufacturing plants, schools, community colleges, and more! This year, CIRAS from Iowa State University is leading six partners to assist in creating events in Iowa's 99 counties and the goal is to double the events; therefore, we need your help!

Plan an event in your area to educate the students and parents about careers in advanced manufacturing or host a celebration at your job location! If you are interested in participating and want to advertise it on the MFG Day webpage contact [Glenn Volkman](#), CIRAS from ISU or [Alex Monaghan](#), Elevate Iowa.

Kreg Tool Company Informational Night

On January 26th, Elevate Iowa partnered with Kreg Tool Company and Iowa Workforce Development to educate parents and students on advanced manufacturing careers and state resources. There were 55 parents and students at the event.

The attendees toured Kreg Tool Company and saw hands-on demonstrations of computer numerical control machining, robotics, and tool & die.

Click [here](#) to learn more Parent's Night at Kreg Tool Company.

produced here in Iowa. These manufacturers often allow tours, job shadows, internships and many will even come to your classroom to talk to students or participate in an activity! To request such an experience, visit our [Educator Resources page](#)

Upcoming Events!

All-Stars of the Creative Corridor Luncheon

May 25, 2017
Cedar Rapids, Iowa
[Click to register today!](#)

ABI Annual Conference

June 6-8th, 2017
Dubuque, Iowa
[Click to register today!](#)

Legends in Manufacturing

September 19th, 2017
Altoona, Iowa
Registration available soon!

Advanced Manufacturing Conference

September 20th, 2017
Altoona, Iowa
Registration available soon!

Elevate Ambassador Events

Ryan Junge of Lennox presentation audience.

Elevate Iowa welcomed over 30 new ambassadors

Kreg Tool Company demonstrated tool & die.

Sarah Dvorak presented Kreg Tool Company careers.

Brian Hill, Elevate Ambassador presented robotics.

Kreg Tool company demonstrated CNC machining.

since December, 2016 and the ambassadors where involved in multiple events throughout Iowa. Below explain a few events.

Dane Dermody of Highway Equipment in Cedar Rapids presented to students and parents at Planning For Your Future College and Career Fair. The event took place at Marion High School on March 7th.

Ryan Junge of Lennox Industries in Marshalltown presented to 1,000 students on April 18th about advanced manufacturing careers, Elevate Iowa, and the manufacturing industry. The event was held at Iowa Valley Community College.

Alan Johnson of Norplex-Mircarta hosted tours for 12 North Fayette Valley students and their faculty in March.

Michael Johnston from Norplex-Mircarta in Postville presented to parents and students on April 3rd at Northeast Iowa Community College's Career Learning Link Night. The event was held at North Fayette Valley High School.

John Peterson of PPI in Pella hosted Pella Christian students at PPI in April. The students toured

Teaching for the Workforce Conference

New Elevate Partner: Goodwill of the Heartland

With its new light manufacturing training certificate program, Goodwill of the Heartland is meeting a local workforce need while also connecting job seekers with livable wage jobs. The program, which launched in early 2017, is providing paid training to people as they build the skills they need to succeed in area manufacturing jobs.



Goodwill
OF THE
Heartland

The organization received a \$30,000 grant from the Greater Cedar Rapids Community Foundation to get the program started. Jess Schamberger, Vice President of Operations for Goodwill, noted this grant is helping both job seekers and manufacturers.

Schamberger said, "Our local manufacturing sector offers good paying jobs, but we know that many companies are experiencing workforce issues. They are having difficulty recruiting and retaining skilled workers for entry level positions."

She added, "With this new program, our goal is to help those that are unemployed or underemployed achieve greater financial independence while simultaneously providing a workforce solution that closes the skill gap manufacturers face."

Goodwill's program uses on-the-job experience and classroom-based training to prepare participants for manufacturing employment. The trainees work a minimum of 200 hours on assembly, packaging, inspection and recycling production processes. The elements of the program are based on the Advanced Manufacturing Competency Model, an industry standard created by manufacturers.

The on-the-job experience component is taking place through Goodwill's Contract Services Division. Goodwill may be best known for its retail stores. These stores support its mission to help people that face barriers to independence. One way this mission happens is through work experience and skills training in Contract Services.

Goodwill's Contract Services Division is ISO 9001:2008 certified, with locations in both Cedar Rapids and Iowa City. The organization partners with area manufacturers to create paid training opportunities for people that face employment barriers. Goodwill currently has job training programs in place targeted to specific populations like homeless veterans, individuals with disabilities and people re-entering the workforce after incarceration, for example. This new program is different because there are no restrictions on who it can serve.

Goodwill is also providing case management and job placement help. Case management connects participants with needed community resources and addresses other employment barriers including transportation, healthcare, financial management and childcare. Placement help includes assistance with job searches, resume writing and completing applications and interview prep. Services also include follow up with both employers and workers to help individuals maintain their jobs long-term.

Goodwill is currently recruiting trainees for this new program, which includes immediate paid work experience. To participate or for more information, contact Charles Wills at [319-739-5061](tel:319-739-5061) or rcwills@goodwillheartland.org.

the facility and learned about manufacturing careers, especially welding. Peterson is presenting in Ankeny on April 28th to present Elevate and PPI at the USA Welding Competition.

Click [here](#) to learn more about the Ambassador Program.

Congressmen visit manufacturers



On Tuesday, April 11, Congressmen Dave Loebsack and District Representative David Leshtz visited and toured NIS in North Liberty.

The leadership team talked with Loebsack and Leshtz about manufacturing and the importance of the industry.

Click [here](#) to learn more about NIS.

Manufacturer Success Story of Loren Landsman

PEOSTA, Iowa-Picking up everything to move 150 miles southeast to explore an entirely new advanced manufacturing career, with no training background in the industry, could be accurately described as a leap of faith.

Loren Landsman, originally from Winona, MN, enjoyed machining classes in high school and working on cars his entire life. His work career included a position at IBM in Rochester, forklift operation work for a warehousing firm in Arcadia, WI, and a position as an auto technician at a dealership. Nowhere on his resume evidenced training or education on the computer numerical control (CNC) machines that dominate the advanced manufacturing and machinist industries.

Still, the employment opportunities in northeast Iowa for people with this expertise caught his attention immediately.

"I was moving to Dubuque where my girlfriend lived and looked in the area for jobs that would support my family and future. CNC looked to be a constant employment need in northeast Iowa," Landsman explained. "In the CNC program at Northeast Iowa Community College (NICC), you can progress from limited or no experience to higher-level skills. I wanted to do something different and new with my career, so I enrolled in the program."

After earning a one-year CNC Machinist Technician diploma in August 2016, Landsman's enthusiasm for learning and desire to advance his skills helped him to secure full-time machinist employment for Dubuque Screw Products. Now he is one of four employees at the company participating in the Metal Working Apprenticeship program at the college.

At Dubuque Screw Products, the apprentice student estimates that he rotates his work time between 15 - 20 different CNC machines to enhance his skills and gain



In March, Kristi Hager and Michael Bergan visited Norplex- Micarta. Alan Johnson, Director of Operations hosted the tour for the representatives.

Click [here](#) to learn more about Norplex-Mircarta.

Elevate Sponsorship Logo

Thank you for your Elevate support! You can now share your support through posting our sponsorship logo to your marketing channels. When you use the sponsorship logo, please link the logo to www.elevateiowa.com.

Submit your testimonials today!

Elevate Iowa is looking for testimonials from schools, community colleges, and manufacturer's! The testimonials will be posted on Elevate marketing materials. Click [here](#) to download the testimonial form.

Company Highlight

Miller Products started in the 1920's as a bicycle

knowledge of newer machines, processes and the software that coordinates specific machine functions.

Click [here](#) to learn about NICC programs.

shop then sold its bicycle interests in the 1930's to focus on manufacturing. Miller Products continued to grow its manufacturing abilities making parts for agriculture, military, outdoor power products, marine, leisure and food industries.

Miller Products is located in Osceola, Iowa and has 30 employees most of which work in Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing.

Submit your upcoming events!

Do you have an upcoming event or recent news that you would like highlighted on our website and to our followers? [Visit our website](#) to submit and we'll get them posted!

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