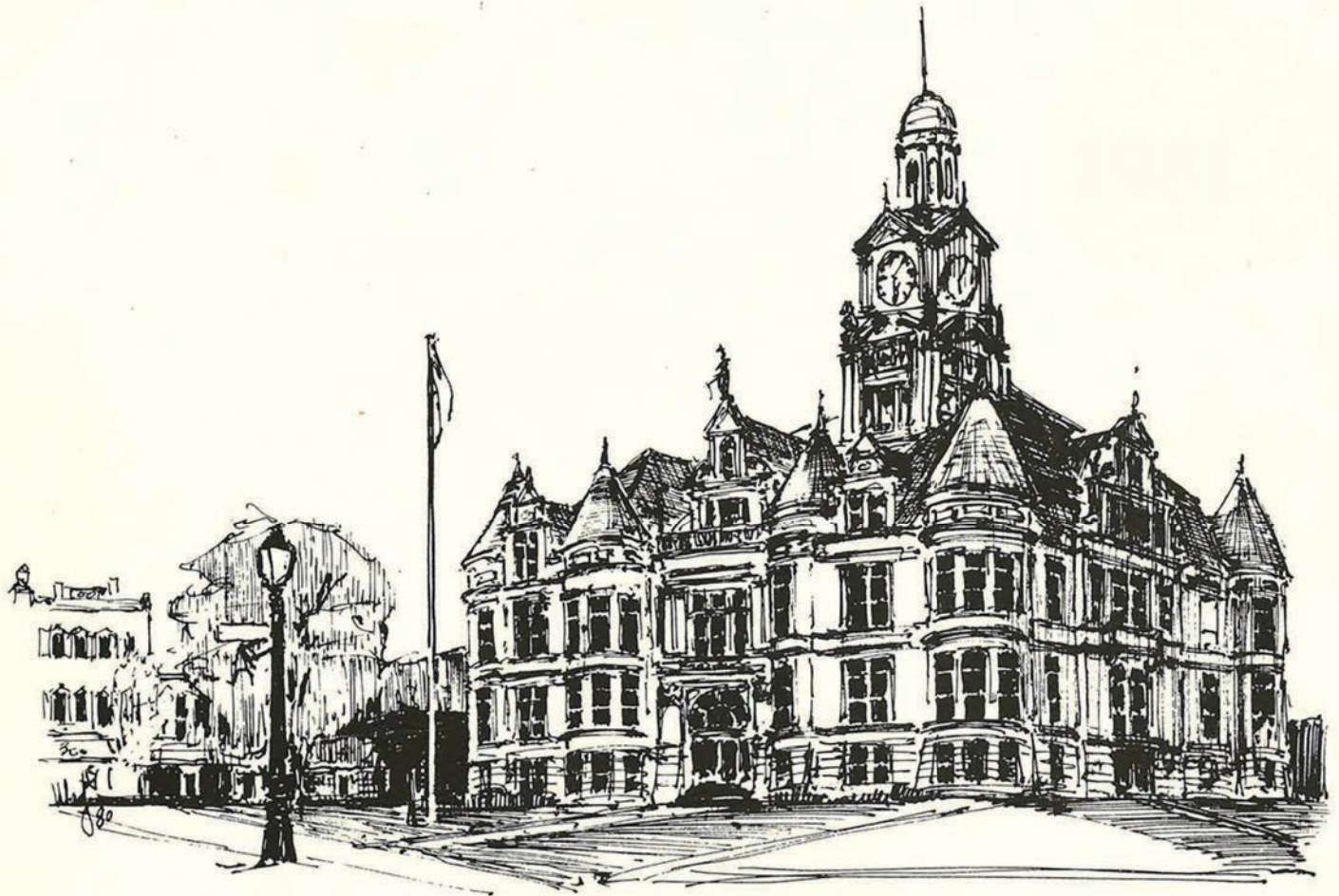


The Iowa County

magazine



Dallas County Courthouse - Adel

May 2023
William Wagner Sketches



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The Iowa County

May 2023 * Volume 52, Number 5

The Iowa County: The official magazine of the
Iowa State Association of Counties
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West Des Moines, IA 50266
515.244.7181 FAX 515.244.6397
www.iowacounties.org
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ISAC's Mission:

To promote effective and responsible county government
for the people of Iowa.

ISAC's Vision:

To be the principal, authoritative source of representation,
information and services for and about county government
in Iowa.

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ISAC members are elected and appointed county officials
from all 99 counties. The Iowa County (ISSN 0892-3795, USPS
0002-150) is published monthly by the Iowa State Association of
Counties, 5500 Westown Parkway, Suite 190, West Des Moines,
IA 50266. Periodicals postage paid at Des Moines, IA 50318.
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to rbennett@iowacounties.org. Subscriptions: \$25 per year.

Learning About William Wagner with Mark Hanson

At the 2023 ISAC Spring Conference, you may have seen a booth filled with historical maps of Iowa, photographs and personal correspondence with prominent figures in the 1960s, and books of recognizable Iowa landmarks, but most of all, sketches of Iowa county courthouses. Mark Hanson, Dallas County Supervisor, is the non-paid curator of this massive collection of art, books, personal letters, photographs, and more from former Dallas County resident, William Wagner.

William Wagner was an architect, artist, and historic preservationist. Wagner was a founding member of The Iowa Society for the Preservation of Historic Landmarks and worked on preserving the courthouses in Marshall and Dallas Counties. For almost 30 years, he sketched Iowa landmarks for American Federal Savings and Loan annual calendars, giving us the sketches of county courthouses that are highlighted in this magazine.

He was a resident of Dallas County from 1956 until his death in 2001, after which his family donated a large portion of his sketches and historic memorabilia to the Dallas County Conservation Board. His collection is now being preserved and displayed in the Wagner Gallery at the Forest Park Museum in Perry.

Hanson brought a small selection from the Wagner collection to showcase the detailed county courthouse drawings to conference attendees and share more about the man who drew them. Hanson spreads the word about the extensive, but unheard-of, collection of William Wagner to anyone that will listen, hoping to introduce more Iowans to the remarkable man. Hanson answered a several questions, to tell us more about the life and art of William Wagner.

How did you come to get involved and to learn about William Wagner?

The interior of the Dallas County Courthouse is all Bill Wagner's artwork. He found the stenciling and the mural work inside the Proudfoot & Bird designed building, which is a 1902 building. Proudfoot & Bird were a fantastic architecture firm who designed five courthouses in Iowa. They did Dallas County's first in 1902, Polk County was second, Jasper County was third, Greene and Jefferson County were fourth, and Pocahontas County was the fifth courthouse that Proudfoot & Bird designed for Iowa. So, I knew of this magnificence of his work on the interiors, but then I found out later that Wagner's family had left his remainder to Dallas County Conservation. I went back into the archives and started looking at this collection, and that is when I got involved.

When was his collection gifted to Dallas County, and what is included in his collection?

Bill died in 2001, so it would have been in 2002 or 2003. At the Forest Park Museum in Dallas County, there is a Wagner Gallery. The building was built to connect the conservation offices to the museum, but it is its own section of the museum dedicated to his collection. In the collection, there are 900 books. His library of Iowa history is second to none. Really, if someone wanted to do Iowa history research, the books are all there.



Courtney Biere

Office Support Coordinator
cbiere@iowacounties.org



Learning About William Wagner with Mark Hanson

Is there a list of all the items included in his collection?

I can only tell you that I've met with the archivist from the Hoover Library, the World Food Price, Drake University, the State Historical Society, and Iowa State University, and we are in the process of itemizing the entire collection. Roughly speaking, there are about 300 pieces of art that he collected, the 900 books, and his own sketch art in the 30 years of calendar art he did is 380 sketches of Iowa landmarks. But within the collection, there are sketches related to Herbert Hoover and sketches all over the world that would make it closer to probably 500 or so sketches of things that Wagner was involved with.

What prompted him to sketch in so many Iowa counties?

He had a contract to do calendars on an annual basis from 1960-1989. So, for 30 years he sketched for the calendars and did so in 81 of the 99 counties. From what I can see, he sketched 18 courthouses in total. He signed and dated each of his sketches, always signing them 'Wag'. He did sketch work for his own Christmas cards and newsletters for The Iowa Society for the Preservation of Historic Landmarks, so he may have been to more than the 81 counties that the calendars showed.



How was he involved in historic preservation in the state of Iowa?

He co-founded a group called The Iowa Society for the Preservation of Historic Landmarks. It was formed in the 1950s by Wagner, George Mills (Des Moines Register feature writer), and an architecture professor from Iowa State University. They were very active and traveled all across the state, and Wagner would arrange the trips to identify buildings and natural sites that needed to be preserved. An example of his preservationist mindset is the Mason's Building in Stuart that's still there. It's the coolest building in downtown Stuart, and he wanted to make sure that a building like this was preserved and

honored instead of being torn down. He wasn't an architect to build new, but an architect of restoration and preservation.

Where can people go to find pictures from their counties or find out more about Wagner?

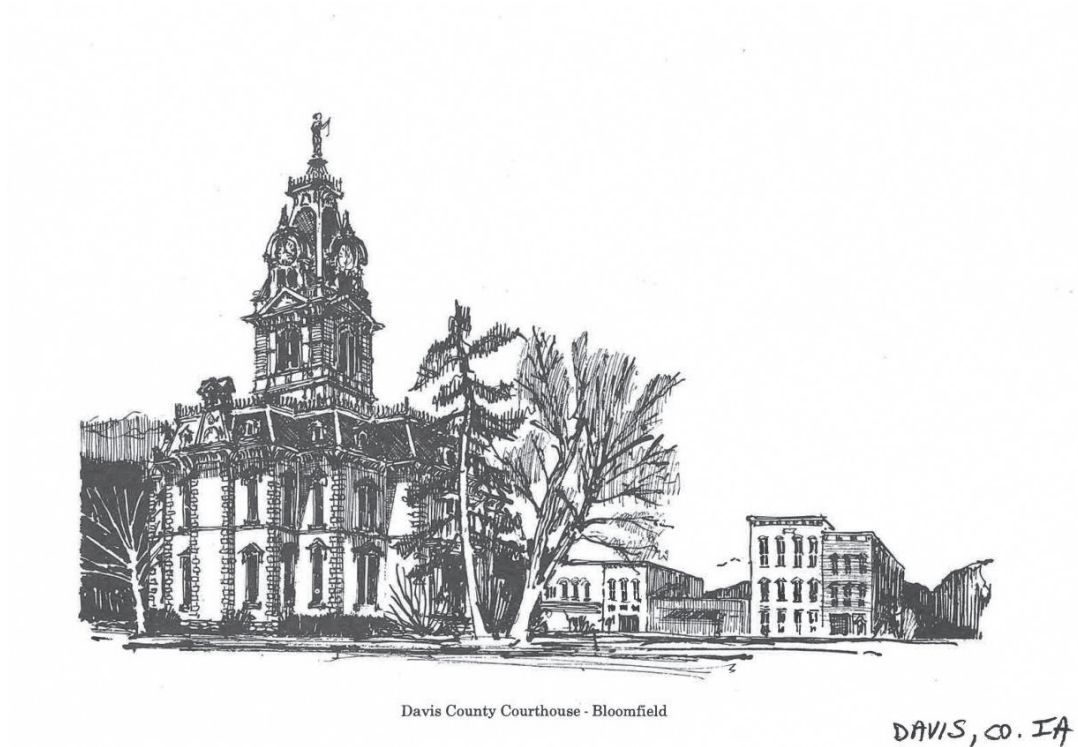
People can visit the Forest Park Museum in Perry to see Wagner's collection in real life, and we also have information and scans of his courthouse sketches online. To read more about Wagner and view the collection of his historical sketches, visit www.dallascountyiowa.gov/our-community/learn-more/history-of-dallas-county/william-wagner-99-counties.

Thank you to Mark for sharing his knowledge of William Wagner and highlighting this bit of Iowa history. If you have questions or want to talk with Mark further about William Wagner, he can be reached at Mark.Hanson@dallascountyiowa.gov.

William Wagner County Courthouse Sketches



DALLAS COUNTY COURTHOUSE | SKETCHED 1980



DAVIS COUNTY COURTHOUSE | SKETCHED 1979

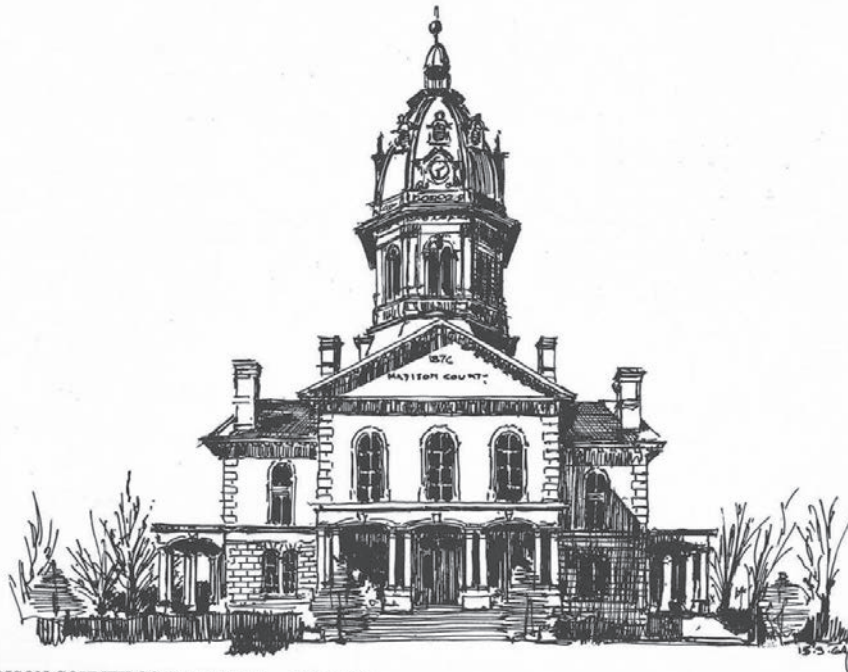
William Wagner County Courthouse Sketches



Iowa's Oldest County Court House-s

LEE, CO. IA — VAN BUREN, CO. IA

LEE AND VAN BUREN COUNTY COURTHOUSES | SKETCHED 1963



MADISON COUNTY COURTHOUSE - Winterset

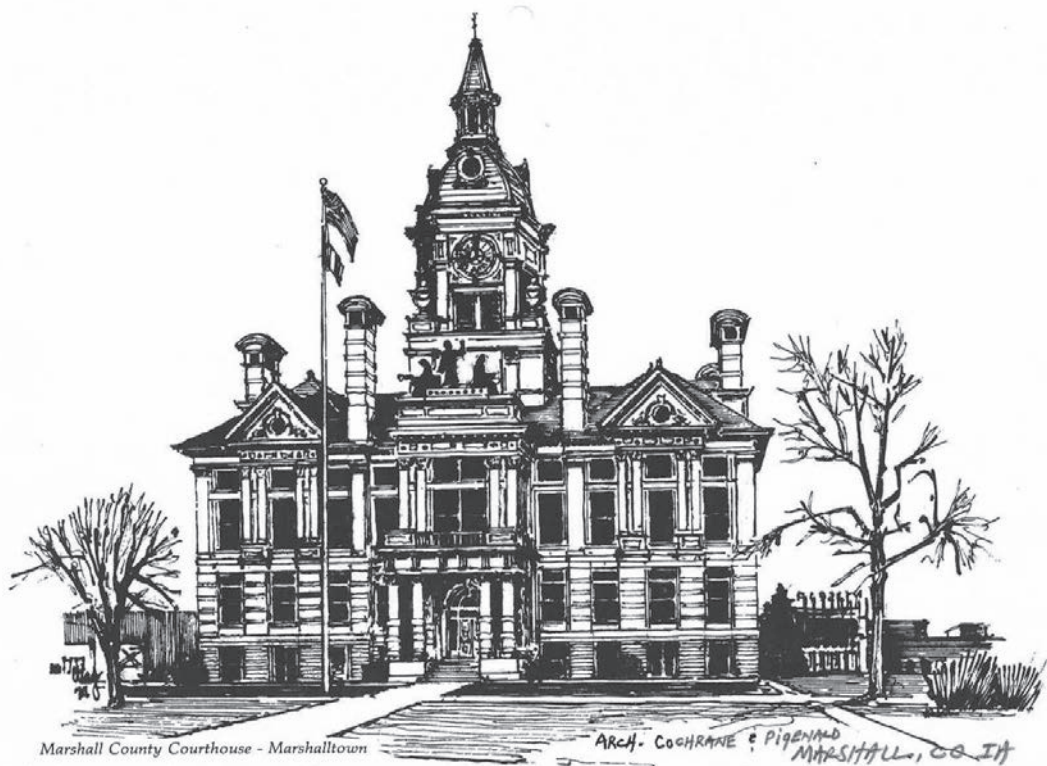
MADISON COUNTY COURTHOUSE | SKETCHED 1964

William Wagner County Courthouse Sketches



Mahaska County Courthouse - Oskaloosa

MAHASKA COUNTY COURTHOUSE | SKETCHED 1982



Marshall County Courthouse - Marshalltown

MARSHALL COUNTY COURTHOUSE | SKETCHED 1974

William Wagner County Courthouse Sketches



MITCHELL COUNTY COURTHOUSE - Osage, Iowa

MITCHELL COUNTY COURTHOUSE | SKETCHED 1977



Montgomery County Court House - Red Oak

MONTGOMERY, CO. IA.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY COURTHOUSE | SKETCHED 1972

William Wagner County Courthouse Sketches



POLK COUNTY COURTHOUSE | SKETCHED 1972

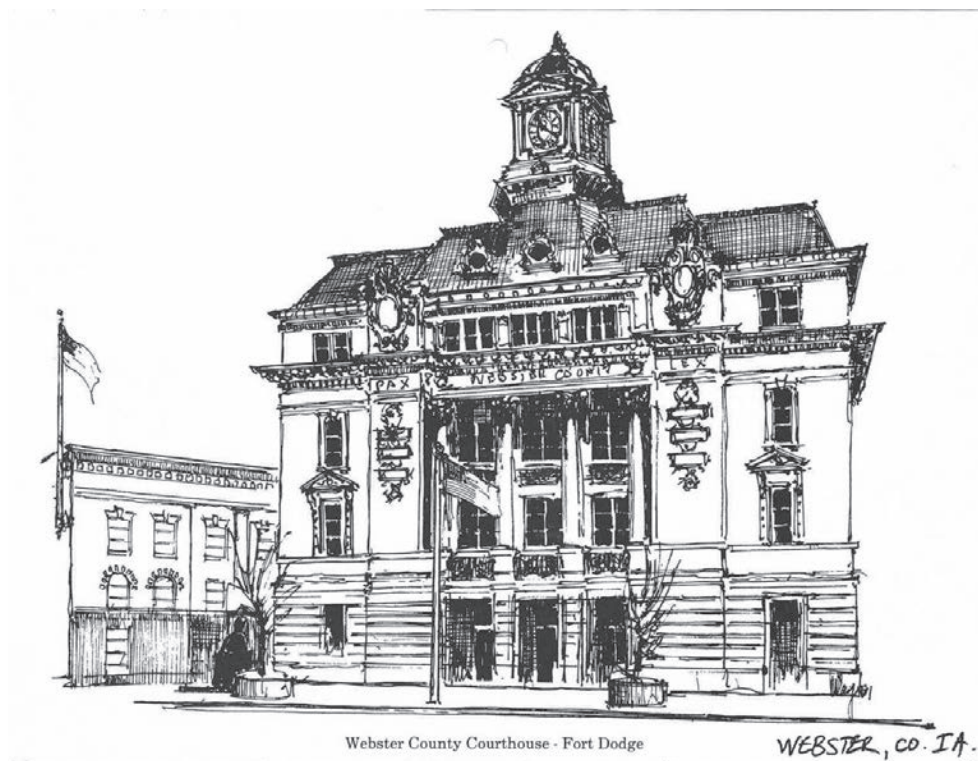


SIOUX COUNTY COURTHOUSE

William Wagner County Courthouse Sketches



WAPELLO COUNTY COURTHOUSE



WEBSTER COUNTY COURTHOUSE | SKETCHED 1981

EECBG Program Grants for Iowa Counties

Sustainability is an important topic for rural communities in Iowa as they face unique challenges and opportunities when it comes to promoting sustainable practices. Though the topic of sustainability is still one that may be relatively new to a lot of Iowans, at least in name, a lot of communities are already engaging in sustainable practices through initiatives like cover crop programs, renewable energy projects, and even resealing tires from Secondary Roads departments. Areas where there may be the most opportunity for Iowa communities to increase their sustainability efforts and leverage some of the currently available and forthcoming federal money include agriculture, energy, waste management, and transportation.

The following will share a little about some of the Department of Energy's Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) Program and how Iowa communities across the state can take advantage of these federal dollars. This is a funding opportunity that can be used to support energy efficiency and renewable energy projects in local communities. The EECBG program provides grants to state, local, and tribal governments to implement energy efficiency and renewable energy projects that reduce energy use, decrease greenhouse gas emissions, and create jobs. Some eligible uses of these funds include:

- **Energy efficiency retrofits:** Rural communities can use EECBG funding to retrofit buildings with energy-efficient lighting, insulation, and HVAC systems. This can help reduce energy use, lower utility bills, and improve the comfort of residents and employees.
- **Renewable energy projects:** Rural communities can use EECBG funding to install renewable energy systems, such as solar panels or wind turbines, to generate clean energy and reduce reliance on fossil fuels.
- **Building codes and standards:** Rural communities can use EECBG funding to develop and enforce building codes and standards that promote energy efficiency and renewable energy in new construction and renovations.
- **Energy audits and planning:** Rural communities can use EECBG funding to conduct energy audits and develop energy plans that identify opportunities for energy efficiency and renewable energy projects.
- **Public education and outreach:** Rural communities can use EECBG funding to educate residents and businesses about the benefits of energy efficiency and renewable energy and promote behavior changes that reduce energy use and greenhouse gas emissions.

Many cities and counties across the state of Iowa have already been awarded funding through a formula funding process that can be viewed on the following [spreadsheet](#). If your community has not received formula funding, your community may be eligible to apply through the EECBG competitive process, and more information on how to do that can be found on www.energy.gov. By using EECBG funding, rural communities can improve their energy efficiency, reduce energy costs, and promote sustainability. This can lead to a range of benefits, including improved economic competitiveness, enhanced quality of life, and reduced environmental impacts. Overall, promoting sustainability in rural communities in Iowa requires a multi-faceted approach that addresses key areas such as agriculture, energy, waste management, and transportation. By implementing sustainable practices in these areas, rural communities in Iowa can improve their environmental and economic sustainability, while also enhancing the quality of life for their residents.



Tamara Marcus

Linn County Sustainability Director
Tamara.Marcus@linncountyiowa.gov



NACo Leadership Academy Alumni Profile

Shirley Vermace

Winneshiek County Iowa, District 3 County Supervisor



Number of years in your role:

1-5

Don't miss this in my county:

Hiking Trails, Biking Trails, Kayaking the Upper Iowa River, visiting the Vesterheim Norwegian American Museum, the Dvorak Exhibit and the Bily Clocks Museum, fishing the many trout streams criss-crossing our land, visit our many area parks and campgrounds, and enjoy visiting our retail and restaurants county wide!

My biggest challenge:

Corporate farms polluting our air and water; population decline which means tax revenue decline; and proper funding for our public schools.

My motivation for signing up for the NACo leadership Academy:

To better serve and communicate with my county's community, the people I work for!

My favorite part of the NACo Leadership Academy:

Hearing from others in county government from around the country, dealing with some of the very same things we are dealing with here in rural Iowa.

My favorite leadership rule of the NACo Leadership Academy:

YOU BRING YOUR OWN WEATHER and TRUTH MATTERS.

My leadership oath:

I am committed to continual learning. I will work to be patient and to listen with intention. I will lead with honesty, integrity, and humility. I will criticize privately and praise publicly. I will always work to empower others on the county team. I will have the courage to strive for alignment, connection, and joint purpose. I will have the courage to speak the truth, and to not back away from the crucial conversations that take more preparation and a bit more courage. I will lead as a public servant.

In my spare time I:

Hike, bike, garden, volunteer, read, and bake!

I'm most looking forward to:

A couple of planned trips with family, a wedding for a niece, and possibly starting an inter-office county newsletter to keep EVERYONE better informed within our county team of 140 great employees!

Find out more at NACo.org/skills

Opioid Settlement Funds Strategic Planning Summit



Opioid
Response
Network



Opioid Settlement Funds Strategic Planning Summit
May 24-25, 2023
Grand Ballroom | Embassy Suites Downtown Des Moines
Speaker Bios and Description of Sessions at www.iowacounties.org

County officials, employees, providers, and other stakeholders are encouraged to attend this FREE event.

ISAC and the Opioid Response Network (ORN) would like to invite your county to an Opioid Settlement Funds Strategic Planning Summit (the Summit). **The Summit will be held May 24 and 25 at the Embassy Suites by Hilton Des Moines Downtown.** The Summit is intended to be directly tied to the strategies and approved uses under the Settlement Agreements.

[CLICK HERE FOR THE SUMMIT AGENDA](#)
[CLICK HERE FOR ALL SUMMIT INFORMATION](#)

The Summit is open to anyone in your county, including providers and other stakeholders, you anticipate may be involved in planning for the expenditure of the settlement funds in your county. Attendees will work together as teams in a strategic planning session to begin the development of plans for the use of opioid settlement funds. Please feel free to forward this invitation to providers and other stakeholders.

There is no registration fee to attend, but please register as soon as possible, so that we may plan accordingly. Registration for The Summit closes on Thursday, May 11.

For registration questions, please reference [these instructions](#) or contact ISAC Support at support@iowacounties.org or 515.244.7181. For questions about the agenda or opioid settlements, please contact Bill Peterson (bpeterson@iowacounties.org) or Kristi Harshbarger (kharsbarger@iowacounties.org).

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) DISCLAIMER:

Funding for this initiative was made possible (in part) by grant no. 1H79TI085588 from SAMHSA. The views expressed in written conference materials or publications and by speakers and moderators do not necessarily reflect the official policies of the Department of Health and Human Services; nor does mention of trade names, commercial practices, or organizations imply endorsement by the U.S. Government.

SAVE THE DATE!

WEDNESDAY, JULY 12, 2023

The 18th Annual ISAC Scholarship Golf Fundraiser

Toad Valley Golf Course

237 NE 80th Street

Pleasant Hill, IA, 50327

Registration is now available on the ISAC website! All proceeds of the event go to the ISAC Education Foundation. The ISAC Education Foundation is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization that raises funds for the ISAC Scholarship Program, which awards annual scholarships to high school seniors that are children or dependents of county officials and employees.



IPAC Software Update

Software Rewrite Process

The Iowa Precinct Atlas Consortium (IPAC) has made tremendous strides in its new software development. The software is now ready to be used in mock elections this spring. Our first round of mock elections is being held on April 28. In May, we will also be hosting mock elections in Johnson and Dallas Counties. We will continue to test the software in different locations to ensure it is working correctly for the upcoming city/school election this fall.

Hardware

IPAC is looking at hardware options and we have an updated pricing list available on the IPAC Members Basecamp. The good news for those member counties that do not wish to purchase new laptops, the software can be installed on your current equipment.

Training

IPAC will be providing trainings this summer throughout the state. Training and assistance will be provided through in-person training, tutorials, videos, and webinars.

Benefits/Compliance

IPAC is very excited about the new pollbook software. One important factor about the new software is that it will enable poll workers to process any voter in the state and will take them step-by-step through the process. It will have an absentee module that enables the hosting of satellites. The software can also be used at a vote center and, of course, on election day. Most importantly, this software is compliant with Iowa election laws.

All of those involved are very excited about the future of the IPAC Program and will continue to provide updates on the Precinct Atlas Members Basecamp website. If you have any questions regarding the IPAC Program, please contact Carla Becker, IPAC Board President, or Tammy Norman, IPAC Program Manager.



Tammy Norman

IPAC Program Manager

tnorman@iowacounties.org

ISAC Spring Conference General Session Minutes Summary

Summary of Minutes – ISAC Spring Conference General Session – Thursday, March 9, 2023

President Brian Gardner called the meeting to order and led attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance. He introduced the ISAC Executive Committee and Board of Directors.

Executive Director Bill Peterson welcomed the group and thanked ISAC staff, the ISAC Board, exhibitors, and sponsors.

Bill presented the budget for ISAC for the fiscal year 2024. The members in attendance were given the opportunity to ask questions. The budget was unanimously approved as presented.

Carissa Sisson, Franklin County Assessor, presided over the ISAC scholarship ceremony. President Gardner presented scholarship awards to all attending winners.

Dallas County Supervisor Mark Hanson informed members about his display of historical items from the William Wagner Collection available in the exhibit hall.



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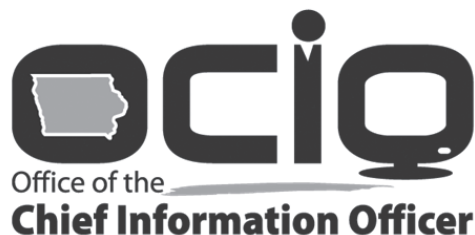
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2023 Calendar

May 2023

- 3 ISAC Board of Directors Meeting
(ISAC Office)
- 4-5 Supervisors Board of Directors Retreat
(Webster County)
- 9-12 Treasurers May School
(Pella, Iowa)
- 17-19 Western Interstate Region (WIR) Conference
(Washington County, Utah)
- 17-19 Annual CoZo Officials Spring Conference
(Hotel Julien, Dubuque, Iowa)
- 24-25 Opioid Settlement Funds Strategic Planning Summit
(Embassy Suites Des Moines Downtown)

June 2023

- 15-16 Records Summer Conference
(Burlington, Iowa)
- 20-23 ISACA Summer Conference
(Hilton Garden Inn West Des Moines)
- 28 ISAC Board of Directors Meeting
(Virtual)

July 2023

- 12 ISAC Education Foundation Golf Fundraiser
(Toad Valley Golf Course, Pleasant Hill)
- 21-24 NACo Annual Conference
(Travis County/Austin, Texas)

August 2023

- 22 LPC Retreat
(Veterans Memorial Community Choice Credit
Union Convention Center, Des Moines)
- 23-25 ISAC Annual Conference
(Veterans Memorial Community Choice Credit
Union Convention Center, Des Moines)

September 2023

- 19-22 ISSDA Fall Jail School
(Holiday Inn Des Moines Airport)
- 20-22 ISAC Board of Directors Retreat
(Linn County, Iowa)

October 2023

- 8-11 Assessors Fall Conference
(Holiday Inn Des Moines Airport)

November 2023

- 15 ISAC Board of Directors Meeting
(ISAC Office)

December 2023

- 12-15 ISSDA Winter School
(Holiday Inn Des Moines Airport)
- 13-15 77th Annual Iowa County Engineers Conference
(Veterans Memorial Community Choice Credit
Union Convention Center, Des Moines)

If you have any questions about the meetings listed above or would like to add an affiliate meeting to the ISAC calendar, please contact Kelsey Sebern at ksebern@iowacounties.org.

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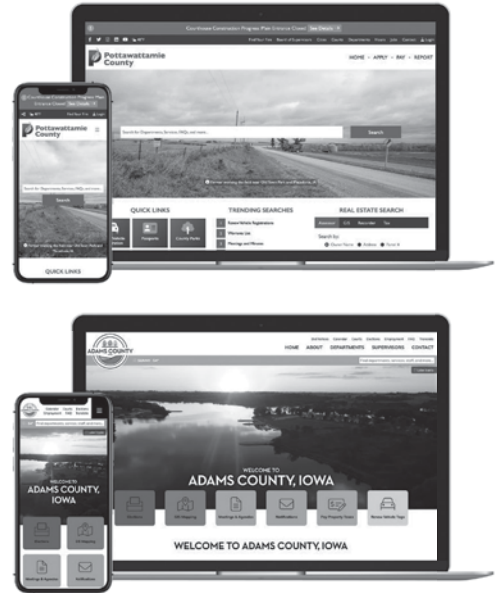
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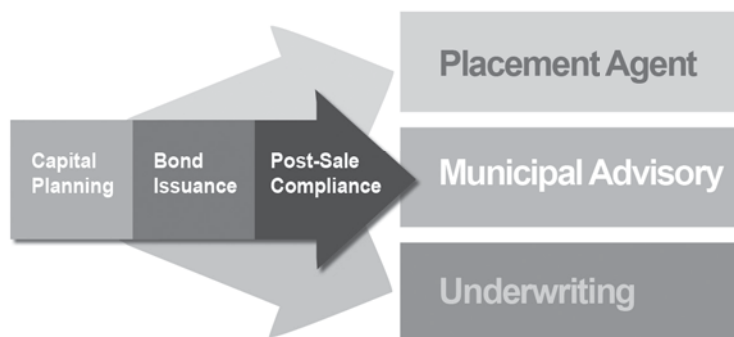
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Henry M. Adkins and Son, Inc. (Adkins) was founded in 1939 by Henry Merritt Adkins and has maintained representation in the county government field for over 75 years. In 2011, Adkins became a business partner with Unisyn Voting Solutions, selling and supporting Unisyn voting system products. Our staff has over 100 years of experience in conducting elections and providing quality products and exemplary service to our clients.



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Health Program

- Early release of renewal rates
- Experience and wellness discounts
- Multiple networks and plan designs
- 28 participating counties



Worksite & Ancillary Program

- Group accident and critical illness plans
- Accident includes wellness benefit
- Voluntary Life and Voluntary AD&D
- Group disability products



Dental Program

- Comprehensive plan portfolio
- Voluntary and contributory pricing
- Broad network of providers
- 29 participating counties



Complimentary ISAC Benefits

- Wellness Program
- Employee Assistance Program
- COBRA administration
- Consolidated Billing



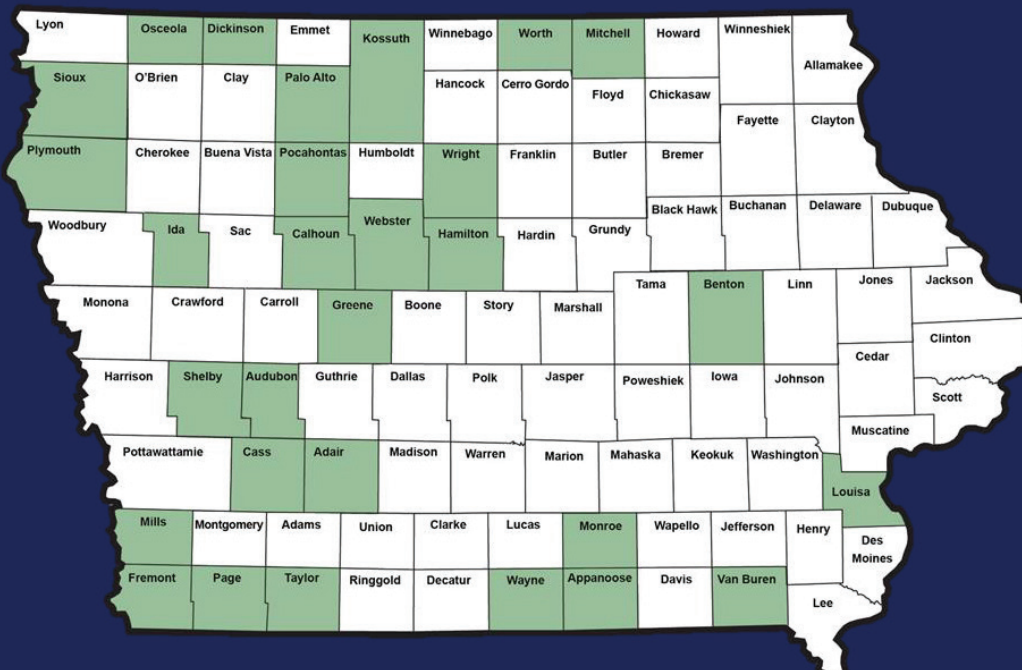
Vision Program

- Multiple carriers and plan options
- Exclusive fully insured county pricing
- Robust provider networks
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