

# TIPTON

## CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

*Where Dreams Happen*

### Chamber Board of Directors

Paul Stueland—President  
Stueland Auto Center

Diana Waltz—Vice President  
Citizens Bank

Kathy Laing—Secretary  
US Bank

Don Young—Treasurer  
City of Tipton

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John Dornfeld  
Hawkeye Corporation

Denise Feltes  
Pizza Hut

Todd Miller  
Tipton Pharmacy

Mike Pelzer  
Community Insurance

Daisy Wingert  
Daisy's On The Square

Doug Boldt—ex-officio  
Tipton City Manager

Travis Alden—ex-officio  
Community Development Director

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# -Chamber Connection-

Newsletter for the Tipton Chamber of Commerce

Volume 2, Issue 4 Nov./Dec. 2008

## Holiday Events Just Around The Corner!

**By Travis Alden**  
Tipton Community Development Director

It's that time of year again! Tipton's "Old Fashioned Christmas" is approaching fast. This event is always a community highlight, and attendance last year was excellent, despite the cold temperatures! On Saturday, December 13th, the Chamber would like to encourage all retail businesses to remain open until 8:00pm to allow for extended holiday shopping.

The cornerstone of this event, the horse-drawn "tour of lights" will take place again this year, thanks to the Tipton Lions Club.

There's nothing like an old-fashioned ride through town to view holiday lights, complete with jingle bells on the horses. Old and young alike love this aspect of the event.

The Tipton Community Soup Supper is back again this year, and will be serving from 4-8pm at St. Mary's Hall. Come hungry for all-you-can-eat chili and chicken noodle soup, plus sandwiches, dessert and beverages. Proceeds from the Soup Supper benefit the Tipton Food Pantry and the 2009 Harvest of Hope.

Also look forward to live music at the Stoplight Café, caroling on the square by the Tipton Apostolic Church, a live performance by the THS choir, free popcorn at Citizen's Bank, kettle corn, hot cocoa by Liberty Trust & Savings Bank, marshmallow roasting, the Chamber's annual button promotion, and of course Santa at the Fire Station from 5-7pm!

New this year is a live Victorian Christmas Card and Civil War re-enactments at Ms.

Molly's and the Cedar County Attic. Stop by for an authentic holiday experience!

We would encourage all local businesses and organizations to participate this year and provide an enhancement or activity for this holiday event. Promotion of the event is underway, so please contact the Chamber at 886-6350 or [info@tiptoniowa.us](mailto:info@tiptoniowa.us) as soon as possible and let us know what activities you will be hosting!

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS!**



### New Shop Opens Doors Downtown

D's Treasure Hunt, located at 521 Cedar Street opened in downtown Tipton this fall. Featuring lightly used home furnishings, décor, gifts and furniture, you'll find something new and different every time! The store joined the Chamber shortly after opening, showing great support of the Tipton community.



The Chamber of Commerce Board celebrated the opening of D's Treasure Hunt with a ribbon-cutting ceremony on September 20th. Pictured L-R: Community Development Director Travis Alden, Chamber Treasurer Don Young, President Paul Stueland, store owner Deloris Michel, Board Member Daisy Wingert, Secretary Kathy Laing, and Mayor Shirley Kepford.

### Holiday After Hours Event



**CITIZENS BANK**

Mark your calendars for Wednesday, December 10th from 5-7pm. Citizens Bank in Tipton is holding their annual after hours event. Please RSVP to Jill Chambliss by December 3rd at 886-2136. Be sure to stop by for some great food, drinks, and socializing!



### Good Luck Tim!

Theisen's manager and Chamber Board Member Tim Frerichs has accepted a promotion to manage the Theisen's store in Charles City, Iowa. The Board thanks Tim for his service and support of the Tipton Chamber of Commerce.

### Aquatic Center Hours

The Tipton Family Aquatic Center will be CLOSED on Thanksgiving Day and the day after, as well as on Christmas Eve/Day and New Year's Eve/Day.



### Holiday Décor Reminder

The Chamber would like to encourage all local businesses, especially those in the downtown area, to "dress up" your storefront and windows during this holiday season.

Cheerful window displays are always a good idea, and hanging white Christmas lights is fantastic. It's great to drive through town and see our local merchants showing the spirit of the season!



### Service of Long Shadows

By Pastor Paul Frederiksen

First United Methodist Church

The "Service of Long Shadows" is a Christmas service intended especially for those persons who may be experiencing a hard time getting 'into the spirit' of the season. It can be hard to sing "Joy to the World" after a loved one has died, or the family has experienced division due to a divorce or move. This year we have people in Cedar County who have experienced the loss, through the flood, of every holiday decoration they ever had! Compounding our mixed feelings may be loss of income or financial freedom due to the economic downturn.

Come to this service and discover a setting where it's okay to be struggling with life and holidays. The service will be followed by a time of fellowship, where you will be able, at your discretion to your level of comfort, to converse with others who might be able to understand your situation in ways that lend you affirmation and maybe even hope.

3rd Annual "Service of Long Shadows"

At First United Methodist Church, 607 Lynn St.; Tipton December 21, 2008 beginning at 3:00 p.m.

Information: Pastor Paul Frederiksen at 886-2331 or pastor@tiptonumc.org

### 6th Annual Jail Fest Of Trees—November 29 & 30

Back again this holiday season is the Jail Fest of Trees, sponsored by Cedar County Friends of Historic Preservation. Be sure to come by the Old Cedar County Jail & Residence on the corner of 4th and Lynn Streets to take part!

Decorated Christmas trees, wreaths, centerpieces, gingerbread creations, needlework and baked goods will all be available for purchase as a fundraiser for the continued restoration of the old jail and residence, which is on the National Register of Historic Places.

Hours are: 10am—5pm on Saturday the 29th and 11am-5pm on Sunday the 30th, with silent auction winners announced at 5:15pm on Sunday.

Please Contact Daisy at 886-2758 with any questions or for more information



# Chamber Luncheon



We invite all Chamber Members, employees and interested parties to come together every other month to enjoy informative speakers and network with other local business leaders.

Thursday, December 4th—12:00pm  
 Tipton Golf & Country Club—1143 Cedar Valley Road  
**RSVP is required by Monday, Dec. 1 to 563-886-6350 or info@tiptoniowa.us.**

\*\*\*Please get your “soup & sandwich” lunch as you arrive. Cost is \$7 per person—includes drink. Those who RSVP are responsible for payment.

## AGENDA

**Welcome—Travis Alden, Tipton Community Development Director**

- Thank you to Ellis Ahrens for hosting & providing lunch
- Brief introductions and recognition of guests

**Chamber Update—Paul Stueland, Chamber President**

**School District Update—Dick Grimoskas, Superintendent**

**City Update—Doug Boldt, City Manager**

**Local Business Spotlight: Matt Sandy—Tipton Structural Fabrication**

**Presentation: The upcoming legislative session—Rep. Jeff Kauffman**

**Adjourn at approx. 1:00pm. Thanks to everyone for attending!**



### Tipton Chamber Of Commerce

520 Cedar Street—Tipton, Iowa 52772—563-886-6350—www.tiptoniowa.us—info@tiptoniowa.us

Board Members: Paul Stueland-President; Diana Waltz-Vice President; Kathy Laing-Secretary; Don Young-Treasurer; Jim Allen; John Dornfeld; Denise Feltes; Todd Miller; Mike Pelzer; Daisy Wingert; Doug Boldt-ex officio; Travis Alden-ex officio

## Get Paid For Saving Energy!

**By Travis Alden**  
 Tipton Community Development Director

Tipton’s Municipal Utilities continue the City’s effort to “Go Green” and have developed a rebate program to encourage energy efficiency. For any city resident who purchases new compact fluorescent light-bulbs (CFL) they can receive a 50% rebate (up to \$2 per bulb). CFL’s use a fraction of the energy of traditional incandescent bulbs, and can have a real impact on your home’s electricity usage. Appliances are large energy users, and the City also has a rebate program for refrigerators and freezers.



If you retire/dispose of an old refrigerator or freezer (must go off Tipton’s electrical grid) you will receive a \$25 rebate. If you purchase a new Energy-Star certified unit and dispose of your old one (such as have it taken away by the store that you purchased the new one from) you can get a \$100 rebate! The more we, as consumers, reduce our energy usage the lower our bill will be and the less energy the City has to purchase. Please contact City Hall at 886-6187 for more detailed information. Rebate forms and requirements are available at City Hall and will soon be available online at [www.tiptoniowa.org](http://www.tiptoniowa.org).

**Note: rebates are given out in Chamber Bucks**



**TIPTON CHAMBER  
OF COMMERCE**

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Tipton, Iowa 52772

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**We're on the web!**  
[www.tiptoniowa.us](http://www.tiptoniowa.us)

**Tipton Chamber of Commerce Member**

**Tipton, IA 52772**



**This newsletter is printed on 100% recycled paper**

## Vermeer of Iowa Coming to Tipton

About three years ago, the City of Tipton purchased a trencher from Vermeer of Iowa. City Manager Doug Boldt spoke with the salesperson about the potential direction that the company might be taking. "We thought that Vermeer of Iowa having a location in eastern Iowa would be very beneficial to them, and Tipton would be an excellent place for that location," says Boldt.

Vermeer of Iowa, with locations in Pella, Marcus and soon Tipton, services and distributes all Vermeer Environmental, Industrial, and Construction machines in Iowa and the northern two tiers of counties of Missouri. The company sells all Vermeer products except for Agricultural products.

Over the next couple of years Boldt remained in contact with the company, trying to convince and persuade them to come and take a look at Tipton. "Vermeer of Iowa's President, Rick Boat, did come to Tipton a couple of times but wasn't quite ready to make a move like this," Boldt continues. "We kept in regular contact to stay on Rick's radar screen."

This past September, the company visited Tipton again, ready to pull the trigger on the project. "I wasn't aware of Doug's (Boldt) conversation with Vermeer of Iowa up to this point, so when Woody (Fisher) walked in my office door it was a complete surprise," says Travis Alden, Tipton's Community Development Director. "I learned that Mr. Fisher would be heading up the company's eastern Iowa location, and that Tipton was near the top of his list of potential building sites."

Soon after the initial meeting and property walk-through with Alden, Fisher returned to Tipton with Boat in order to strike a 5-acre land purchase deal with the Tipton Economic Development Corporation (TEDCO) who owns the land making up the Tipton Business Park on the south side of town.

"This is really a home run for our community," notes Jeff Meyer, TEDCO President. "Vermeer of Iowa is exactly the kind of quality business we want to see locate in Tipton. They will be a great fit in the Business Park."

Fisher notes that Tipton is located in an advantageous geographic position. It sits in the center of many of the more populous cities in the eastern part of the state, which is key to Vermeer of Iowa's business strategy. "Many of our good customers are located in this area of the state, and being situated physically closer gives us a better opportunity to serve them," he says. "It will also make us more attractive to potential customers in competitive bidding situations."

Some of the more popular products that will be serviced and distributed out of the Tipton location include: Stump Cutters, Brush Chippers, Horizontal Directional Drills, Rubber Tired Trenchers and Track Trenchers.

A number of things made the company decide to locate in Tipton. "Tipton has made it easy to locate here," says Fisher. "They have been willing to go that 'extra mile' which has made it convenient. It has really been a simple choice as to where we were going to build." Boat adds, "Tipton has many great qualities that combined together to make it the right choice for our expansion".

For more information about Vermeer of Iowa, please visit their website at [www.vermeeriowa.com](http://www.vermeeriowa.com).

