



**MARSHALL  
LEADERSHIP  
ACADEMY**

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**Cultivating Our Future Leaders**

2025 - 2026  
**Agendas**

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TBD

# Cultivating Our Future Leaders

## Kickoff Day: Local Leadership

September 4th, 2025 | North Star Mutual Insurance Company



## Agenda

*Schedules & speakers are subject to change.*

- 9:00-9:15**    **Registration**  
*\*North Star Mutual Insurance Company • 269 Barstad Road, Cottonwood*
- 9:15-9:25**    **Chamber Welcome:**  
Brad Gruhot, President • Marshall Area Chamber of Commerce  
Jeremy Gossen (2009), Teammate • Carlson & Stewart Refrigeration, Inc. | Board Chair • Marshall Area Chamber of Commerce
- 9:25-10:00**    **Introductions, Expectations & Icebreakers with Marshall Leadership Academy Alumni:**  
Heidi Runia (2022), Assistant Vice President • US Bank  
Bill Mulso (2000), Director of Operations • Hoffman & Brobst PLLP
- 10:00-10:15**    **Program Sponsor Introductions:**  
Pete Hellie, CEO • North Star Mutual Insurance Company  
Charlie Ehlers (2009), Director of Sales: Office Equipment Vendor Service • US Bank
- 10:15-10:45**    **Speaker**  
Desiree Petrich (2022), Owner • Intentional Action, LLC
- 10:45-11:00**    **Break**
- 11:00-12:00**    **Marshall Overview & The Need for Leadership:**  
Bob Byrnes, Mayor • City of Marshall
- 12:00-12:30**    **Lunch**
- 12:30-1:30**    **Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI) Commission Presentation:**  
Dr. Erin Kline, Assistant Vice President for Equity and Inclusion / Campus Diversity • SMSU
- 1:30-2:15**    **MLA Alumni Panel:**  
*Facilitator* • Marcy Heemeyer (2006), Senior Vice President of Human Resources • North Star Mutual Insurance Company  
Luke Tietz (2022), Branch Manager • BMO  
Carl Johnson (2023), Partner • Hoffman & Brobst PLLP  
Mandy Hurr (2023), Human Resources • Turkey Valley Farms  
Melissa Greenwood (2024), Assistant Vice President & Operations Manager of Vendor Markets • US Bank
- 2:15-2:30**    **Break**
- 2:30-3:00**    **Project Overview:**  
Heidi Runia (2022) ^  
Bill Mulso (2000) ^
- 3:00-3:45**    **Leadership Speaker Panel:**  
*Facilitator* • Aaron Ziemer (2022), General Manager • Marshall Radio  
Sara Brink, Member • Marshall Public School Board  
Amanda Schroeder (2012), Member • Marshall City Council  
Paul Graupmann, District 3 • Lyon County Board of Commissioners
- 3:45**    **Wrap-Up**
- 4:00**    **Happy Hour**

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# Cultivating Our Future Leaders

## Manufacturing Day

October 2nd, 2025 | ATZ Manufacturing & Schwan's Specialty Food - Apollo



## Agenda

*Schedules & speakers are subject to change.*

- 9:00-9:05**    **Welcome**
- 9:05-10:00**    **Tour of ATZ Manufacturing**  
*\*1105 Lake Rd*
- 10:00-10:15**    **Travel to SFP**
- 10:15-11:30**    **Overview & SFP Tour**  
Daryl St. Aubin (2022), Director of Manufacturing · Schwan's Company
- 11:30-12:00**    **Lunch**
- 12:00-12:30**    **Leadership Speaker:**  
Eric McVey, Plant Manager · Archer Daniels Midland (ADM)
- 12:30-2:00**    **Local Manufacturing:**  
Brian Stucke, *Operations Manager* · BH Electronics  
Jacob Roche, *President* · Grillworks  
Bill Cowden, *Branch Manager* · Universal Forest Products
- 2:00-2:15**    **Break**
- 2:15-2:45**    **Group Project Discussion**
- 2:45-3:45**    **The Future of Manufacturing:**  
*Facilitator* · Jeremy Gossen (2009), *Teammate* · Carlson & Stewart Refrigeration, Inc.  
Bill Maertens, *Owner* · Bend-Rite Fabrication  
Mike Dahl, *Account Sales Manager* · Baldwin Supply Company  
Darin Yost, *Senior Manager of Operations* · Vishay
- 3:45**    **Wrap-Up**
- 4:00**    **Happy Hour & Tour at Brau Brothers Brewing Co.**



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## Economic Development Day

November 6th, 2025 | Marshall City Hall



## Agenda

*Schedules & speakers are subject to change.*

9:00-9:05	<b>Welcome</b>	
9:05-9:30	<b>Leadership Speaker:</b> Sharon Hanson, City Administrator · City of Marshall	
9:30-10:00	<b>Speaker:</b> Diana Heston, Construction Supervisor · MnDOT	
10:00-10:30	<b>Speaker:</b> Jason Anderson, Director of Public Works & City Engineer · City of Marshall	
10:30-10:45	<b>Break</b>	
10:45-11:30	<b>Speakers:</b> Dave Parsons, City Assessor · City of Marshall Mark Buysse, County Assessor · Lyon County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• • • • •</li><li>• MnDOT: Minnesota Department of Transportation</li><li>• • • • •</li></ul>
11:30-12:00	<b>Lunch &amp; Group Project Discussion</b>	<div style="border: 1px solid orange; padding: 5px;"><p>DEED: Department of Employment &amp; Economic Development</p></div>
12:00-1:00	<b>Workforce Development Panel</b> <i>Facilitator</i> · Dave Parsons^ Jessica Miller, Director of Workforce Strategy · DEED Carrie Bendix, Executive Director · SW MN Private Industry Council Luke Greiner, Regional Analyst for Central & Southwest Minnesota · DEED Scott Marquardt, Executive Director · Southwest Initiative Foundation	
1:00-2:00	<b>Speaker:</b> Susan Brower, State Demographer · State of Minnesota	
2:00-2:45	<b>Tour of Ralco</b>	
2:45-2:55	<b>Break</b>	
2:55-3:55	<b>New Developments in Marshall + Bus Tour</b> Lauren Deutz (2023), Economic Development Administration Director · City of Marshall	
3:55-4:00	<b>Recap</b>	
4:00	<b>Happy Hour</b>	



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# Cultivating Our Future Leaders

## Public Policy Day

December 4th, 2025 | Lyon County Government Center



## Agenda

*Schedules & speakers are subject to change.*

- 9:00-9:05**      **Welcome**
- 9:05-9:50**      **Lawyer Panel**  
*Facilitator* • Amie Ascheman, Lawyer • Runchey, Louwagie & Wellman PLLP  
Bill Toulouse, Attorney • Quanstrom & Doering  
Abby Wikelius, Lyon County Attorney • Lyon County  
Cecil Naatz, Assistant Public Defender • Public Defender's Office (Marshall)
- 9:50-10:20**      **Leadership Speaker:**  
Representative Chris Swedzinski, House Seat 15A • Minnesota House of Representatives
- 10:20-11:00**      **2026 Legislative Session Preview:**  
Marty Seifert, Lobbyist • Flaherty & Hood
- 11:00-11:55**      **US Congressional Staff Panel:**  
*Facilitator* • Marty Seifert^  
Jeanne Poppe, Southern MN Outreach Director • US Senator Tina Smith  
Chuck Ackman, Southern MN Outreach Director • US Senator Amy Klobuchar  
TBD
- 11:55-12:30**      **Lunch & Group Project Discussions**
- 12:30-2:00**      **Tour of Lyon County Government Center & Courtrooms**  
Judge Tricia B. Zimmer (2003), Fifth Judicial District • Lyon County Courthouse
- 2:00-2:15**      **Break**
- 2:15-3:45**      **Presentation:**  
Paul Thissen, Minnesota Supreme Court Justice • State of Minnesota  
*\*10 Minute Break During Presentation*
- 3:45**      **Wrap-Up**
- 4:00**      **Happy Hour**



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## Community Safety Day

January 8th, 2026 | Lyon County Law Enforcement Center & MERIT Center



## Agenda

*Schedules & speakers are subject to change.*

- 9:00-9:05**      **Welcome**
- 9:05-9:30**      **Leadership Speaker:**  
Eric Wallen, Lyon County Sheriff · Lyon County Sheriff Office
- 9:30-11:30**      **Tour of Jail**  
**Emergency Response Unit Presentation:**  
Adam Connor, Lyon County Sergeant · Lyon County Sheriff Office  
Eric Wallen^
- 11:30-12:00**      **Group Project Discussion**
- 12:00-1:00**      **Lunch & Drug Task Force Presentation:**  
Jon Ellis, Drug Task Force · City of Marshall
- 1:00-1:30**      **Break & Travel to MERIT Center**  
*\*1001 W Erie Rd*
- 1:30-1:45**      **MERIT Center Overview:**  
Kim Swalboski, Training Facility Coordinator · MERIT Center
- 1:45-2:45**      **Fire Department Topics:**  
Quentin Brunsvold, Fire Chief · City of Marshall
- 2:45-3:15**      **Simulators:**  
Marshall Police Department
- 3:15-3:50**      **K9 Demonstration with Roxy:**  
Beau Swenson, Deputy · Lyon County Sheriff Office
- 3:50**              **Wrap-Up**
- 4:00**              **Happy Hour**



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## Agriculture Day

February 5th, 2026 | ADM & Control Crop Consulting



## Agenda

*Schedules & speakers are subject to change.*

- 9:00-9:05**      **Welcome**
- 9:05-9:30**      **Leadership Speaker:**  
Glenn Bader, CEO · Ralco
- 9:30-9:45**      **Archer Daniels Midland (ADM) Overview & Tour**  
Eric McVey, Plant Manager · Archer Daniels Midland (ADM)
- 9:45-10:30**      **Tour of ADM**
- 10:30-10:45**      **Break & Travel to Control Crop Consulting**  
*\*351 Burlington Circle*
- 10:45-11:30**      **Intro to Ag Companies:**  
Ken Franzky, Agronomy Services Manager · Control Crop Consulting
- 11:30-12:00**      **Lunch & Group Project Discussion**
- 12:00-12:45-**      **Specialty Ag Panel:**  
*Facilitator* · Ken Franzky^  
Rosie Petty, Owner · Rustic Iron Orchard  
Krista Kopperud, Owner · Painted Prairie Vineyard  
**TBD**
- 12:45-1:30**      **Interview with Commissioner of Agriculture**  
*Facilitator* · Carolyn Olson, Owner · Olson Organics  
Thom Petersen, Commissioner · Minnesota Department of Agriculture
- 1:30-2:15**      **Intro to Ag Companies:**  
Josh Hillbrands, General Manager · AgPlus Cooperative
- 2:15-2:25**      **Break**
- 2:25-3:10**      **Intro to Ag Companies:**  
Carolyn Olson^
- 3:10-3:55**      **Intro to Agriculture:**  
Paul Lanoue, Farmer · Verly Lanoue Cattle LLC
- 3:55-4:00**      **Wrap-Up**
- 4:00**              **Happy Hour**



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# Cultivating Our Future Leaders

## Healthcare Day

March 5th, 2026 | Avera Marshall



## Agenda

*Schedules & speakers are subject to change.*

- |             |   |
|-------------|---|
| 9:00-9:05   | <b>Welcome</b>  |
| 9:05-9:30   | <b>Leadership Speaker:</b><br>Carol Biren (2000), Public Health Director · SW Health & Human Services   |
| 9:30-10:30  | <b>New Topics in Rural Healthcare:</b><br>Debbie Streier, President & CEO · Avera Marshall  |
| 10:30-10:45 | <b>Break</b>  |
| 10:45-11:45 | <b>Evolving Treatments in Cancer Care</b><br>Jessica Moriarity (AOCNP), Nurse Practitioner · Avera Cancer Institute<br>Jamie Arens (MSW), Assistant Vice President · Avera Cancer Institute - Outpatient Services   |
| 11:45-12:45 | <b>Tour of Avera Marshall</b>   |
| 12:45-1:15  | <b>Lunch &amp; Project Discussion</b>   |
| 1:15-2:15   | <b>Wellness Panel:</b><br><i>Facilitator</i> · Melissa Maranell, Agency Manager · Avera @ Home<br>Steve Sik, Owner & Personal Trainer · Pulse Fitness<br>Rachelle Deutz (RD, LD) Clinical Dietitian · Avera Marshall<br>Nic Doeling (PT, DPT, OSC) Regional Director · Big Stone Therapies in Partnership with Avera<br>Dr. Christopher Eichten, Chiropractor · Preferred Health Chiropractic |
| 2:15-2:30   | <b>Break</b>  |
| 2:30-2:45   | <b>Stretches &amp; Chair Yoga:</b><br>Alexis Witte, Yoga Instructor · Marshall Area YMCA  |
| 2:45-3:45   | <b>Substance Abuse &amp; Mental Health:</b><br>Jory Dove (MA, LPCC, LADC), Clinical Director · Western Mental Health Center   |
| 3:45-4:00   | <b>Wrap-Up</b>  |
| 4:00        | <b>Happy Hour</b>   |



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# Cultivating Our Future Leaders

## Education Day

April 2nd, 2026 | SWWC Service Cooperative & the CTI Center



## Agenda

*Schedules & speakers are subject to change.*

- |             |  |
|-------------|--|
| 9:00-9:05   | <b>Welcome</b>   |
| 9:05-9:30   | <b>Leadership Speaker:</b><br>Cliff Carmody, Executive Director & CEO • SWWC Service Cooperative   |
| 9:30-10:30  | <b>Specialized Education Locations:</b><br>Dan Hoffman, Assistant Principal • Marshall Area Learning Center & Marshall CTI<br>Laura Jenson, Site Administrator • Educational Learning Centers (ELC) • SWWC Service Cooperative   |
| 10:30-10:45 | <b>Break</b>   |
| 10:45-11:45 | <b>Higher Education in Southwest Minnesota:</b><br>Dr. Kumara Jayasuriya, President • SMSU<br>Terry Gaalswyk, President • Minnesota West Community & Technical College   |
| 11:45-12:30 | <b>Lunch &amp; Group Project Discussion</b>  |
| 12:30-1:30  | <b>Collaborations &amp; Partnerships with Schools &amp; Workforce:</b><br><i>Facilitator</i> • Jeremy Williams, Superintendent • Marshall Public Schools<br>Craig Peters, Dean • Minnesota West Community & Technical College<br>Jess Mensink, Director of Concurrent Enrollment • SMSU<br>See Moua-Leske, Program Manager • Southwest Adult Basic Education<br>Beth Ritter, Director of Teaching & Learning • Marshall Public Schools |
| 1:30-2:15   | <b>Student Panel:</b><br>Lyon & Murray County CEO<br>SMSU Center of Innovation & Entrepreneurship  |
| 2:15-3:00   | <b>Tour of SWWC Service Cooperative</b>  |
| 3:00-3:15   | <b>Break &amp; Travel to CTI Center</b><br><i>*900 N Highway 59</i>  |
| 3:15-3:45   | <b>Career &amp; Technical Institute Tour:</b><br>Tricia Stelter (2010), Director of Operations • Marshall Public Schools<br>Dan Hoffman^   |
| 3:45-4:00   | <b>Wrap-Up</b>   |
| 4:00        | <b>Happy Hour</b>  |

CTI:  
Career &  
Technical  
Institute

SWWC: Southwest West  
Central Service Cooperative



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## Graduation Day

May 7th, 2026 | Marshall Golf Course



## Agenda

*Schedules & speakers are subject to change.*

- 3:30-4:00**     **Gather & Socialize**  
*Marshall Golf Course · 800 Country Club Drive*
- 4:00-5:00**     **Project Presentations**
- 5:15-6:00**     **Dinner & Memory Sharing**  
Slideshow Presentation
- 6:00-6:45**     **Leadership Keynote Speaker**  
TBD
- 6:45-7:15**     **Award Presentation**
- 7:15**           **Drinks & Conversation**



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# 2025-2026 Participants

TO BE DETERMINED



# MARSHALL LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

*Marshall Leadership Academy (MLA) is hosted by the Marshall Area Chamber of Commerce. This program is designed to build community leaders. MLA provides participants with a unique opportunity to turn knowledge into action through classroom experiences, hands-on activities, and community awareness. The goal is to educate and develop our leaders to better themselves and their community.*

*Over the period of nine months, participants experience 9 days of classes. Each participant is assigned to a project group, which will assess community needs, determine a project, and facilitate the project working with other community members and/or groups. Group work culminates with a group project presented at graduation.*

