



**MARSHALL  
LEADERSHIP  
ACADEMY**

---

**Cultivating Our Future Leaders**

2026 - 2027  
**Agendas**

# Index



## **September 10, 2026**

### **Kickoff Day: Local Leadership**

North Star Mutual Insurance Company

## **October 1, 2026**

### **Manufacturing Day**

ATZ Manufacturing & Schwan's Specialty Food Plant

## **November 5, 2026**

### **Economic Development Day**

Horvath Remembrance Center

## **December 3, 2026**

### **Public Policy Day**

Lyon County Government Center

## **January 7, 2027**

### **Community Safety Day**

Lyon County Law Enforcement Center & MERIT Center

## **February 4, 2027**

### **Agriculture Day**

ADM & Centrol Crop Consulting

## **March 4, 2027**

### **Healthcare Day**

Avera Marshall

## **April 1, 2027**

### **Education Day**

SWWC Service Cooperative & the CTI Center

## **May 6, 2027**

### **Graduation Day**

To Be Determined

# Cultivating Our Future Leaders

## Kickoff Day: Local Leadership

September 10, 2026 | 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  
Leslie Hart, Co-Owner · The Computer Man | Board Chair · Marshall Area Chamber of Commerce
- 9:25-10:00 Introductions, Expectations & Icebreakers with Marshall Leadership Academy Alumni:**  
Bill Mulso (2000), Chief Operating Officer · Hoffman & Brobst PLLP  
Ellen Griebel (2022), Marketing Brand Manager · Performance Foodservice
- 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**
- 12:30-1:15 MLA Alumni Panel:**  
*Facilitator* · Erik Porter (2025), Vice President of Sales · US Bank  
Bryce Gorder (2023), Business Banker · Minnwest Bank  
Lindsey Steffes (2022), Vice President of Corporate Development · DaVita Kidney Care  
Jasmine DeSmet (2025), Community Education Coordinator · City of Marshall  
Dallas Mahoney (2024), Accredited Farm Manager · Northwestern Farm Management Co.
- 1:15-1:40 Tour of North Star Mutual Insurance Co.**
- 1:40-2:15 Interactive Session with Previous MLA Chairs**  
Mike VanDrehele (2012), Owner · Precision Marketing  
Kris Carrow (2012), Director · GreatAmerica Financial Services Corporation  
Brent Snodgrass (2022), Financial Advisor · Edward Jones  
Heidi Runia (2022), Assistant Vice President · US Bank
- 2:15-2:30 Break**
- 2:30-3:00 Project Overview:**  
Bill Mulso (2000) ^  
Ellen Griebel (2022) ^
- 3:00-3:45 Leadership Speaker Panel:**  
*Facilitator* · Aaron Ziemer (2022), General Manager · Marshall Radio  
Pete Hellie ^  
Tina Eickhoff, Head of Equipment Finance · US Bank  
Randy Wartner, Owner · Subway
- 3:45 Wrap-Up**
- 4:00 Happy Hour · LeRoy's Bar & Grill**



## Thank You to Our Sponsors!



Program Sponsor



Program Sponsor



Local Leadership Day Sponsor



Happy Hour Sponsor

# Cultivating Our Future Leaders

## Manufacturing Day

October 1, 2026 | ATZ Manufacturing & Schwan's Specialty Food Plant (SFP)



## 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**  
*\*1604 Superior Road - R&D (Apollo Theater Room)*
- 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:**  
Cory Jensen, Owner · Country Enterprises, Inc.
- 12:30-2:00**    **Local Manufacturing:**  
Brian Stucke, Operations Manager · BH Electronics  
Jacob Roche, President · Grillworks  
Matt Karels, Plant Manager · Puris Foods
- 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.**



## Thank You to Our Sponsors!



Program Sponsor



Program Sponsor



Manufacturing Day Sponsor



Happy Hour Sponsor

# Cultivating Our Future Leaders

## Economic Development Day

November 5, 2026 | Horvath Remembrance Center



## Agenda

*Schedules & speakers are subject to change.*

- 9:00-9:05**     **Welcome**
- 9:05-9:30**     **Leadership Speaker:**  
Christine Fischer, Regional Director • Small Business Development Center
- 9:30-10:30**    **Community Project Panel:**  
*Facilitator* • Hayley Fruin, Vice President and Mortgage Lender • First Independent Bank  
Chad Adams, CEO • Southwest Minnesota Housing Partnership  
Jeff Andrews, President • Business of Child Care  
Lauren Deutz, Economics Development Director • City of Marshall  
Scott Marquardt, President • Southwest Initiative Foundation (SWIF)
- 10:30-10:45**   **Break**
- 10:45-11:30**   **Speakers:**  
Dave Parsons, City Assessor • City of Marshall  
Mark Buysse, County Assessor • Lyon County
- 11:30-12:00**   **Lunch & Group Project Discussion**
- 12:00-1:00**    **Entrepreneur Panel**  
*Facilitator* • Dave Parsons^  
Dr. Amy Full, Dentist & Owner • Full Smile Dentistry  
Chet Lockwood, Owner • Lockwood Motors  
Dr. Ally Schwagel, Chiropractor & Owner • Complete Health Center  
Jeremiah Jans, Owner • Western Print Group
- 1:00-2:00**     **Minnesota Demographics:**  
Jeff Howison (PhD), Senior Research Analyst • Minnesota State Demographic Center
- 2:00-2:15**     **Break**
- 2:15-3:45**     **New Developments in Marshall + Bus Tour & Stop at Water Treatment Plant**  
Lauren Deutz ^
- 3:45-4:00**     **Recap**
- 4:00**            **Happy Hour**



## Thank You to Our Sponsors!



Program Sponsor



Program Sponsor



Economic Development Day Sponsor



Happy Hour Sponsor

# Cultivating Our Future Leaders

## Public Policy Day

December 3, 2026 | 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  
Barry Gronke, Lawyer • Gronke Law  
Abby Wikelius, Lyon County Attorney • Lyon County  
Jeremy Blackwelder, Assistant Public Defender • Public Defender's Office (Marshall)
  
- 9:50-10:20**    **Leadership Speaker:**  
Cecil Naatz, Retired Assistant Defender • Public Defender's Office (Marshall)
  
- 10:20-11:20**   **Local Leadership Panel:**  
*Facilitator* • Lacey Staeffler, Court Operations Supervisor • Minnesota Judicial Branch  
Sara Brink, Associate Financial Advisor • Thrivent Financial | Board Treasurer • Marshall Public Schools  
Amanda Schroeder, IT Helpdesk • Minnwest Bank | City Council Member • City of Marshall  
Todd Draper, Commissioner • Lyon County
  
- 11:20-12:00**   **2026 Legislative Session Preview:**  
Marty Seifert, Lobbyist • Flaherty & Hood
  
- 12:00-12:30**   **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:**  
Barry Anderson, Retired Minnesota Supreme Court Justice • State of Minnesota  
*\*10 Minute Break During Presentation*
  
- 3:45**          **Wrap-Up**
  
- 4:00**          **Happy Hour**



## Thank You to Our Sponsors!



Program Sponsor



Program Sponsor



Public Policy Day Sponsor



Happy Hour Sponsor

# Cultivating Our Future Leaders

## Community Safety Day

January 7, 2027 | 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:**  
Derek Woodford, Senior Special Agent · Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA)
- 1:00-1:30**      **Break & Travel to MERIT Center**  
*\*1001 W Erie Rd*
- 1:30-1:45**      **MERIT Center Overview and Tour:**  
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 Roxxy:**  
Beau Swenson, Deputy · Marshall Police Department
- 3:50**              **Wrap-Up**
- 4:00**              **Happy Hour**



## Thank You to Our Sponsors!



Program Sponsor



Program Sponsor



Community Safety Day Sponsor



Happy Hour Sponsor

# Cultivating Our Future Leaders

## Agriculture Day

February 4, 2027 | ADM & Centrol 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:**  
Eric McVey, Plant Manager · Archer Daniels Midland (ADM)
- 9:45-10:45**      **Tour of ADM**
- 10:45-11:00**      **Break & Travel to Centrol Crop Consulting**  
*\*351 Burlington Circle*
- 11:00-11:45**      **Intro to Ag Companies:**  
Ken Franzky, Agronomy Services Manager · Centrol Crop Consulting
- 11:45-12:15**      **Lunch & Group Project Discussion**
- 12:15-1:15**      **Specialty Ag Panel:**  
*Facilitator* · Ken Franzky^  
Rosie Petty, Owner · Rustic Iron Orchard  
Krista Kopperud, Owner · Painted Prairie Vineyard  
Dani Stonestrom, Owner · Valley Tree Farm
- 1:15-2:00**      **Interview with Commissioner of Agriculture**  
*Facilitator* · Carolyn Olson, Owner · Olson Organics  
Thom Petersen, Commissioner · Minnesota Department of Agriculture
- 2:00-2:10**      **Break**
- 2:10-2:55**      **Intro to Ag Companies:**  
Carolyn Olson^
- 2:55-3:55**      **Intro to Agriculture:**  
Paul Lanoue, Farmer · Verly Lanoue Cattle LLC
- 3:55-4:00**      **Wrap-Up**
- 4:00**              **Happy Hour**



## Thank You to Our Sponsors!



*Program Sponsor*



*Program Sponsor*



*Agriculture Day Sponsor*



*Happy Hour Sponsor*

# Cultivating Our Future Leaders

## Healthcare Day

March 4, 2027 | Avera Marshall



## Agenda

*Schedules & speakers are subject to change.*

9:00-9:05	<b>Welcome</b>
9:05-9:30	<b>Leadership Speakers:</b> Nancy Walker (2006), Deputy Director of Human Resources & Financial Assistance · Southwest Health & Human Services
9:30-10:30	<b>New Topics in Rural Healthcare</b> Debbie Streier, President & CEO · Avera Marshall
10:30-10:45	<b>Break</b>
10:45-12:00	<b>Evolving Treatments in Cancer Care</b> Jessica Moriarity (AOCNP), Nurse Practitioner · Avera Cancer Institute Rachel Farrell (RN) (2026), Clinic Manager · Avera Cancer Institute
12:00-12:30	<b>Lunch &amp; Project Discussion</b>
12:30-1:30	<b>Wellness Panel:</b> <i>Facilitator</i> · Melissa Maranell, Agency Manager · Avera @ Home Jeff Pooler, Director of Fitness & Personal Training · Marshall Area YMCA Rachelle Deutz (RD, LD) Clinical Dietitian · Avera Marshall Nic Doeling (PT, DPT, OSC) Regional Director · Big Stone Therapies in Partnership with Avera Dr. Christopher Eichten, Chiropractor · Preferred Health Chiropractic
1:30-2:15	<b>Early Intervention Autism Services: A Medical Model</b> Amber BRUNS (EdD, BCBA, LBA-MN, LBA-SD), Clinical Director of Behavioral Health Services · The Ready Clinic
2:15-2:30	<b>Break</b>
2:30-2:45	<b>Ergonomic Stretches:</b> Landyn VanOverbeke, Rehabilitation Specialist · Health Source Chiropractic
2:45-3:50	<b>Substance Abuse &amp; Mental Health:</b> Jory Dove (MA, LPCC, LADC), Clinical Director · Western Mental Health Center
3:50-4:00	<b>Wrap-Up</b>
4:00	<b>Happy Hour</b>



**Thank You to Our Sponsors!**



Program Sponsor



Program Sponsor



Healthcare Day Sponsor



Healthcare Day Sponsor

# Cultivating Our Future Leaders

## Education Day

April 1, 2027 | SWWC Service Cooperative & the CTI Center



## Agenda

*Schedules & speakers are subject to change.*

- 9:00-9:05**      **Welcome**
- 9:05-9:30**      **Leadership Speaker:**  
Cliff Carmody, Executive Director & CEO · SWWC Service Cooperative
- 9:30-10:30**     **State of Marshall Public Schools**  
Jeremy Williams, Superintendent · Marshall Public Schools
- 10:30-10:45**    **Break**
- 10:45-11:45**    **Higher Education in Southwest Minnesota:**  
*Facilitator* · Laura O'Rourke, Campus Human Resources Officer · SMSU  
David Jones (PhD), President · Southwest Minnesota State University  
Terry Gaalswyk, President · Minnesota West Community & Technical College  
*Ridgewater President · TBD*
- 11:45-12:30**    **Lunch & Group Project Discussion**
- 12:30-1:30**     **Collaborations & Partnerships with Schools & Workforce:**  
*Facilitator* · Jeremy Williams ^  
Craig Peters, Dean · Minnesota West Community & Technical College  
Melissa Scholten, Director of Career Services · SMSU  
See Moua-Leske, Program Manager · Southwest Adult Basic Education  
Beth Ritter, Director of Teaching & Learning · Marshall Public Schools
- 1:30-2:30**     **Intro to Community Education**  
Jasmine DeSmet, Director of Community Education · City of Marshall  
Ann Orren, Regional Director · U of M Extension Office
- 2:30-3:00**     **Tour of SWWC Service Cooperative**
- 3:00-3:15**     **Break & Travel to CTI Center**  
*\*900 N Highway 59*
- 3:15-3:45**     **Career & Technical Institute Tour:**  
Tricia Stelter (2010), Director of Operations · Marshall Public Schools  
Dan Hoffman, Assistant Principal · Marshall Alternative Learning Center & Marshall Career and Technical Institute
- 3:45-4:00**     **Wrap-Up**
- 4:00**            **Happy Hour**

CTI:  
Career &  
Technical  
Institute

SWWC: Southwest West  
Central Service Cooperative



## Thank You to Our Sponsors!



Program Sponsor



Program Sponsor



Education Day Sponsor



Happy Hour Sponsor

# Cultivating Our Future Leaders

## Graduation Day

May 6, 2027 | TBD



## Agenda

*Schedules & speakers are subject to change.*

- 3:30-4:00**     **Gather & Socialize**  
*(Location)*
- 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**



**Thank You to Our Sponsors!**



*Program Sponsor*



*Program Sponsor*



*Happy Hour Sponsor*



*Happy Hour Sponsor*



# 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.*

