AG SECRETARY VILSACK SPEAKS AT ANKENY CAMPUS

U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack (left) speaks at a roundtable discussion with Iowa agriculture and business leaders, including Des Moines Area Community College (DMACC) President Rob Denson at an event held Fri., Feb. 10, in the College’s Center for Advanced Manufacturing. Vilsack led a discussion on President Obama’s Blueprint for Economic Revitalization and Job Creation in Iowa.

Vilsack spoke on numerous ag-related topics, including a new farm bill, biomass, the importance of attracting younger people to farming and a farm safety net, as well as other topics such as a need for more science and math instructors, reforming the K-12 school system, the President’s goal of making college more affordable and a need to continue investing in America’s infrastructure.

DENSON PRESENTS OPPORTUNITY NATION MEDALLION

DMACC President Rob Denson (right) presents an Opportunity Nation medallion to U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack following Vilsack’s recent roundtable discussion with Iowa agriculture and business leaders held on the DMACC Ankeny Campus.

Here’s a close-up of the medallion presented to Secretary Vilsack.
TALKING TREES PROJECT—URBAN CAMPUS

Did you know that one in four girls and one in six boys experience some level of sexual abuse before the age of 18? There are more than 40 million survivors of childhood sexual abuse in America today. Chances are, there is at least one survivor close to you in your life who has not disclosed. Come find out why. From 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Mon., Feb. 20, in Bldg. #1, Room 116 on the Urban Campus, the DMACC Psychology and Human Services Departments will host an event to raise awareness of adult survivors of childhood sexual abuse. Dr. Rosenna Bakari, author of *Talking Trees: Breaking the Silence to Restore the Spirit*, will present information and facilitate a discussion about issues related to the topic. The event is open to the public and all students are encouraged to attend. If you have questions, contact Rosenna Bakari at rbakari@dmacc.edu.

DMACC HOSTS ANKENY WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT SESSION

Maureen Sharp (left to right) from Accumold, Warner Coffman of Snyder and Associates and Chet Galetich of John Deere take part in a panel discussion at an Ankeny Workforce Development Series breakfast meeting held recently on the DMACC Ankeny Campus. DMACC Business Resources, Ankeny Economic Development Corporation and the City of Ankeny have been hosting monthly breakfast meetings with Ankeny area businesses to discuss employment issues, skills shortages and other topics pertinent to local businesses. Thirty-four people from 24 Ankeny businesses attended the session.

DENTAL HYGIENE STUDENTS HEAD TO JAPAN

Des Moines Area Community College (DMACC) second-year Dental Hygiene students Meagan Pletcher (left) of Garner and René Williams (right) of Woodward, along with DMACC Health and Public Services Dean Sally Schroder (center), will be heading to Japan March 7–21 as part of an exchange between DMACC’s Dental Hygiene program and the Yamanashi Dental College in Kofu.
BOOKS ARE FUN—ANKENY CAMPUS

Books Are Fun, a Reader’s Digest Company, and the DMACC Pioneers are partnering for a fun and educational book sale. It will be held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Thur., March 8, and Fri., March 9, in the Quiet Lounge, Bldg. #5 on the Ankeny Campus. Product categories include children’s story books, cookbooks, general interest books, *New York Times* best sellers, stationery and scrapbooking, music collections, gifts for all ages, early learning and children’s educational products. Proceeds from this event will go to support the Pioneers’ Scholarship Fund and student assistance.

JABALI AFRIKA

Justo Asikoye (center) of Jabali Afrika leads DMACC Boone Campus students Kodie Butterfield (left) of Boone and Rachel Sheirbon of Boone in a dance in the Courter Center on the Boone Campus. Other members of Jabali Afrika include Tanash Henri (back row, left) and Joseck Asikoye, brother of Justo. The group performed authentic African music mixed with an Afro-rock sound. The group also performed the next day on the DMACC Ankeny Campus. The events were sponsored by the Student Activities Councils on the respective DMACC campuses.

JOB OPENINGS

**Lab Coordinator,**
Agriculture and Natural Resources, Dallas County Farm
Application Deadline: Feb. 20, 2012

**Correctional Education Program Instructor** (two positions),
12-months-per-year position, Newton Correctional Facility for Men
Application Deadline: March 18, 2012

If interested in the above positions, please visit this DMACC website: [http://jobs.dmacc.edu](http://jobs.dmacc.edu).
DMACC EMPLOYEE AWARDS

Congratulations to the following employees who have received DMACC Employee Awards.

**Craig Brown**, Supervisor, Technical Support, Ankeny Campus. For his extraordinary service in helping students get into the database so they could access their textbooks.

**Linda Frakes**, Supervisor, Administrative Applications Support, Ankeny Campus. For her extraordinary service in helping students get into the database so they could access their textbooks.

**Shon Miles**, Systems Engineer, Ankeny Campus. For his extraordinary service in helping students get into the database so they could access their textbooks.

**Joe Raineri**, eLearning Application Support Analyst, Ankeny Campus. For always being so helpful to instructors with their technical issues. He is very knowledgeable and always quick to respond.

Nominations can be submitted at any time for employees who make exceptional contributions to DMACC. To receive a nomination form, click on [http://go.dmacc.edu/bulletin/documents/daward.pdf](http://go.dmacc.edu/bulletin/documents/daward.pdf).

Additional nomination forms are available in each department office or may be requested from Kim Cady, 515-964-6301 or kscady@dmacc.edu.

DMACC BEAR AT MDA EVENT

The DMACC Bear and the Drake University Bulldog were among more than a dozen mascots at the Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA) of Central Iowa's second annual MDA Muscle Walk held recently at Valley West Mall. The mascots came to cheer on the walkers, pose for pictures, and help with the walk kickoff.

DMACC INSTRUCTOR AND STUDENTS JUDGE SCIENCE FAIR

Newton Campus Biology Instructor Matt Abbott (left) and three DMACC students were judges at the recent Colfax-Mingo Middle School Science Fair. Eighth-grader Brandon Ingle (middle) was one of 66 seventh- and eighth-graders who presented their projects Feb. 13 in both physical and biological categories. Colfax-Mingo Middle School Science Instructor Tim McCloud (right) was also kept busy on that day.
DMACC PRESIDENT DENSON AND OTHERS LEAD OPPORTUNITY NATION EFFORT

With this issue of the DMACC Bulletin, we initiate a video embedded into the Bulletin copy. All DMACC Bulletin readers have to do to access this video is to click on the available video within the Bulletin. Once you click on the video, you can instantly view a video with more information about the story you're reading. This initial video included in the DMACC Bulletin focuses on Opportunity Nation.
PIONEERS CONNECTION

FEBRUARY MEETING
On Thur., Feb. 9, the Pioneers celebrated Valentine’s Day and were treated to a special lunch in the Bistro. We had a great turnout and, after the lunch, many stayed to meet Tonya Wheeler, who is webmaster for DMACC. Tonya gave the group instructions on how to access and take advantage of the on-line Bulletin, Pioneers web pages and more.

MARCH MEETING
At 11:30 a.m. on Thur., March 8, in the Oak Room of Bldg. #7 on the Ankeny Campus, please join us for an informal lunch and some “March Madness” as we celebrate our Luck in being able to get together and share our memories. There will be a planning session for the future meetings and more. There will be a board meeting at 10 a.m. Please call in your reservations at 515-964-6868.

APRIL MEETING
At 11:30 a.m. on Thur., April 12, in the Oak Room of Bldg. #7 on the Ankeny Campus, please join us for lunch and meet Jennifer Brandon of Caring Transitions to learn more about moving, downsizing and estate sales for seniors.

MAY MEETING
In May, we will tour the Hunziker Center in Ames and enjoy lunch catered from Hickory Park. After the tour and lunch, we will be able to view the new exhibit at Reiman Gardens. This will be a wonderful Spring meeting.

THE “Dee” AWARDS
Many thanks to all of my Pioneers Board members for pitching in to make this group a success. Every one of you deserves special recognition for your part in the Pioneers. Vice President: Lyla Maynard, Secretary: Shirley Mulenthaler, Treasurer: Warren Pitcher, Meetings: April Arbuckle, Student Assistance: Linda Fernandez & Mike Perry, Hospitality: Carolyn Hildreth, Garage Sale: Marcia Johnson & Harlan Giese, History: Carroll Bennett & Verlyn Noring, and Membership: Gloria Trager.

FINAL NOTES
So everyone accuses me of bringing winter back to Iowa but it won't be long until Spring so enjoy the white stuff as long as you can bear it. As for me, I am heading back to Texas to finish out the winter and looking forward to viewing the bluebonnets on the trip home. Will see you all again soon.

Pioneer President, Dee Johnson—Only a phone call or e-mail away . . .
djohnsonathome@aol.com
515-710-2298