

Bloomberg Business News Spotlights Ankeny for Growth and Development

Ankeny is a standout among US cities for its growth in the last decade. [Bloomberg Business News](#) counted Ankeny on its list of America's fastest growing cities. The list noted Ankeny's access to transportation services as a growth driver. Ankeny's population grew 68% between 2000 and 2010.

The article also pointed out the City's intent to grow the industries of bioscience, logistics, IT and manufacturing, including wind energy. The photo accompanying the story shows workers at Accumold which is currently building an addition that will double their Ankeny-based corporate headquarters and manufacturing facility.

Ankeny High School Students Experience the Real World of Business

Forty-five Ankeny High School students learned during the month of April what it takes to succeed in today's work environment through the Ankeny Workforce Partnership - Student Academy. Students spent a day at each of the three businesses: John Deere Des Moines Works, Snyder & Associates and Siemens Industry. They were exposed to work in the field, the office and on the factory floor.

The students are at a point in their lives when the choices they make about education and careers will have a major impact on their futures. The Student Academy helps students to see the wide range of career opportunities available to them. Meetings with company employees give the students a better sense of the education, experience and soft skills they need to succeed.

The Student Academy wrapped up with a Parent Learning Session where the parents of participating students heard directly from their children and the businesses about the experience. As influencers in a student's education and career choices, parents appreciate learning more about the options available to their high schoolers.

The Ankeny Workforce Partnership is a collaborative effort of the City, education and business organizations.

25-mile Trail is Another Asset for Ankeny Area Workforce Attraction

The 25 mile long [High Trestle Trail](#) officially opened Saturday, April 30. The trail gives cyclists, joggers and skaters a new opportunity to enjoy the outdoors in Central Iowa. One of the highlights of the trail is the 13-story high bridge over the Des Moines River valley. The bridge is one of the longest and tallest in the world and is enhanced with art that recalls the coal mining heritage of this area.

The High Trestle Trail offers the recreation amenities that talented workers look for when they have choices about where to work. Area businesses will be able to promote the trail as another amenity to encourage workforce retention and recruitment to Central Iowa.

Ankeny Business *Fast Fact*

This company is a nationwide provider of rendering, recycling and recovery solutions to the food industry. Factors that drove the company's decision to locate in Ankeny were its central location for the company's workforce and the neighborhood of bioscience peers. The lab employees analyze the daily output of the company's plants across the nation.

This month's business is [Darling International, Inc.](#)

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