

Mobile Version: mobile.timesrepublican.com

RSS



Start your search at PROGRESSIVE.COM.

SHOPPER C. D. IN WA	
PROGRESSIVE	\$ 452
AMERICAN FAMILY	\$ 685
NATIONWIDE	\$ 608
ALLSTATE	\$ 593

Enter ZIP Code:

[Get Your Free Quote](#)

Marshalltown, IA



63°F

[Extended Forecast](#)
[Find Another Location](#)

Data provided by The Weather Channel ©

[Contact Us](#) | [Submit News](#) | [Subscribe](#) | [Create an Account](#) | [Home](#)

Member Login: Email: Password: [GO](#)

Search: Local News Classified Web [GO](#)

[News](#) | [Central Iowa](#) | [Obituaries](#) | [Money & Markets](#) | [Closings and Delays](#) | [Sports](#) | [Web Exclusives](#) | [Jobs](#) | [Local Classifieds](#) | [CU Galleries](#)

News

- [Today's News](#)
- [Central Iowa](#)
- [Obituaries](#)
- [Money & Markets](#)
- [Daily Record](#)
- [Iowa News](#)
- [National News](#)
- [World News](#)
- [Today's Front Page](#)
- [Iowa Public Notices](#)
- [Submit](#)

Closings and Delays

- [Iowa Road Conditions](#)

Sports

- [Local Sports](#)
- [Iowa Sports](#)
- [National Sports](#)
- [Submit](#)

Opinion

- [Our View](#)
- [Your View](#)
- [Columnists](#)
- [Editorial Cartoons](#)
- [Vent!](#)
- [Submit](#)

Web Exclusives

- [News&Features](#)
- [Food&Recipes](#)
- [LifestylesOnline](#)
- [Home&Garden](#)



Features

- [Crossword](#)

Classifieds

- [Jobs](#)
- [Local Classifieds](#)
- [State Classifieds](#)
- [National Classifieds](#)
- [Place An Ad](#)

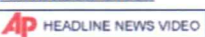
CU Galleries

Online Extras

Special Sections

Customer Service

Affiliated Sites



Today's News

> [News](#) > [Today's News](#)

Legislators learn about plug-in car

Consumers hosts politicians Thursday

By ANDREW POTTER, TIMES-REPUBLICAN

POSTED: May 29, 2009

[Save](#) | [Print](#) | [Email](#) | [Read comments](#) | [Post a comment](#)

Area legislators learned more about the Consumers Energy plug-in hybrid Toyota Prius and even one got to take it for a spin.

Sen. Steve Sodders, D-State Center, Rep. Mark Smith, D-Marshalltown, Rep. Annette Sweeney, R-Alden, and Sen. Rob Hogg, D-Cedar Rapids, all visited Consumers Energy Thursday to learn more about the car and renewable energy.

Brian Heithoff, CEO of Consumers Energy, said Hogg approached him about having a day where the legislators could learn about the car.

"I really see plug-in technology as the next major step toward energy independence," Hogg said.

Sodders was behind the wheel on one test drive and said it drives just like his Prius at home. He mentioned plug-in cars can help reduce America's dependence on foreign oil.

Sweeney was surprised at what she did not hear during the ride.

"I didn't know it didn't make any noise," she said.

The car is equipped with a special battery that allows it to run on electricity up to about 35 to 40 miles an hour when the gas engine kicks in.

Consumers staff members have been involved with testing the car since they acquired in last fall. Testing has shown gas mileage to be in the 60 miles per gallon range.

"It's been an exciting project," Heithoff said.

Contact Andrew Potter at 641-753-6611 or apotter@timesrepublican.com

[Subscribe to Times Republican](#)

Share:



Member Comments

[View Comments:](#) | [Post a comment](#)

No comments posted for this article.

You must first login before you can comment.

[Existing Member Login](#)

Not a Member? [Create a Member Account](#)

* **Your email address:**

Article Photos



T-R PHOTO BY ANDREW POTTER
Sen. Steve Sodders, D-State Center, left, and Rep. Annette Sweeney, R-Alden, go for a ride in the plug-in hybrid car at Consumers Energy Thursday.



[Click Here for Public Notices in Iowa](#)



Save hundreds with Progressive today.

Enter Zip Code:

[Get Your Free Quote](#)

