



Chamber Highlights

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE CRESTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Support YOUR Chamber . . . Buy from Chamber Members

APRIL 2012

In this Issue:

- Omelet Breakfast
- Citywide Promotions
- Gold Star Honor
- April Hi-Fives
- Activity Calendar



208 W. Taylor
P.O. Box 471
Creston, Iowa 50801
641-782-7021
Fax 641-782-9927
www.crestoniowachamber.com
chamber@crestoniowachamber.com

*Ellen Gerharz,
Executive Director*

*Peggy Van Pelt,
Office Manager*

For further information on Chamber projects and events, call the Chamber office at 641-782-7021.

The Chamber's Mission Statement

To promote and showcase the community, to be a leadership organization which unifies the community, and map a course for Creston's future development.

Chamber Omelet Appreciation Breakfast Coming

Get ready for delicious omelets at the Chamber Member & Employee Appreciation Omelet Breakfast!

Chamber Omelet Appreciation Breakfast Wednesday, May 2

7:00 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.

Congregate Meal Site in the restored Depot

FREE OMELETS

For All Chamber members and their employees.

The Omelet Breakfast is FREE to you and your employees.
You just have to remember to come.

Mark your calendars now and let your employees know as well.
We hope to see you there!

Creston Calendar of Events

Please visit the Chamber Website Home Page to view the Calendar of Events and see what is happening in the area.

4th Annual SWCC Smart Business Conference & Expo May 14th Instructional Center SWCC

Upcoming 2012

Citywide Retail Promotions

The Retail Promotions Committee of the Chamber is planning the following Citywide Retail Promotions for 2012.

City-Wide Garage Sale/Sidewalk Sale,
June 9

Crazy Summer Sales Days
(formerly Crazy Days) June 29 & 30

State of Iowa Tax Free Weekend,
August 3 & 4

Creston's Taste of the Town,
October 12 & 13

Holiday Giveaway Promotion 2012,
November 22 to December 11

**Winter Crazy Days/Moonlight Madness
Promotion 2013** in late January

Please mark your calendars and plan to participate.

2012 Executive Board

- President,** Jeanette Gildsig
Vernie's Drapery Shop
- First Vice President,** Roger Lanning
First Federal Savings Bank
- Second Vice President,** Mike McCullough
Wellman Dynamics Corp
- Treasurer,** Adam Snodgrass
Iowa State Savings Bank
- Past President,** TJ Stalker
Stalker Chevrolet, Inc.
- Executive Director,** Ellen Gerharz

Board of Directors -

- Tracy Davis
Southwestern Community College
- Barb Coenen
Maple Street Memories
- Kate Shafar
Precision Optical
- Cinda Long
American Home Design Center
- Chuck Irelan
Hy-Vee
- Mike Coen
Coen's Furniture, Inc.
- Darin Goins
Walmart Super Center
- Ellen Kearney
Greater Regional Medical Center
- Jay Slight
Creston Community Schools
- Rob Evans
Crop Production Services, Inc.
- Ron Bernard
Creston Super 8
- Rhonda Miller
Bunn-O-Matic
- Ken Callahan
Callahan Real Estate
- Melissa Driskell
Winterstien Construction
- Mary Saxton
First National Bank
- Betty Shelton
Creston City Council Liaison
- Marsha Wilson
Creston City Council Liaison
- Brittany Irelan
Ex Officio, Creston High School

Thoughts from the Director

The Chamber is a busy place these days, as you can see from reading the newsletter. There are numerous projects taking place, which hopefully will be beneficial to many of you as we continue to work toward attracting people to our area with our different promotions and attractions. The Chamber does not work alone. We have many people who give of their time to help. These include Chamber Board Members, Chamber Committee Members, specific project volunteers as well as individuals who call with ideas and support.

Our goal is not to rest on our past achievements, but to move forward and continue to make Creston a great place to live, work and call home. Success does not always happen overnight, but with so many working together our future continues to be bright.

Thank you all for your past involvement and we look forward to working with many of you in the weeks and months to come.

Ellen

Looking for a Few Good Men and Women

Do you have a few hours a week to volunteer or do you know of someone who might? I know just the spot. The Creston/Union County Visitors Center is looking for a few good men and women to volunteer.

We will open the week of May 14th and remain open until October 20th. The current group of volunteers usually takes a morning or afternoon one day a week.

If you might be interested or need a little more information please call the Chamber Office. We will be more than happy to provide you the information you need.



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to
12 a.m.

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782-3300




500 Industrial Parkway
Creston, Iowa 50801
641-782-5380

2012 Membership Renewals

A special **thank you** to all members of the Creston Chamber of Commerce who have renewed their investment for 2012 through March 22nd. **Please note that an asterisk by a name indicates a new or re-joining member.**

We certainly appreciate this show of support by you, our membership.

First Federal Savings Bank
 Maple Street Memories
 Snark Publishing
 Grapevine Staffing
 Edward Jones Investments
 M & M Motors
 Nishna Valley Credit Union
 Piper Sign Art
 Carter Agency, Inc.
 Creston Farm & Home
 J & A Flooring
 Bob & Betty Jungst
 Precast Concrete
 Green Valley Pest & Lawn Care
 Crest Haven Care Centre
 Ken Hudson
 Dick & Peg Anderson
 Hammer Medical Supply
 Midwest Opportunities, Inc.
 Stewart Realty
 Stalker Chevrolet Inc
 Stalker Rentals
 * Creston Automotive
 * Gits Mfg. Company
 * Spotlight School of Dance
 * The Iowana/T & L Properties
 * The Answer is Chocolate
 * Secured Residential Inspections
 * Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation Services
 * Vape Smart
 Greater Regional Medical Center
 Built Networks
 Delmer Brown, Stewart Realty
 Quik Pawn
 Quik Cash
 Southern Prairie YMCA
 Rural Iowa Crisis Center
 Dr. Al & Pat Pokorny
 Charlie Brown Auto
 James Law Office, P. C.
 Alzheimer's Association
 Creston Community Schools
 Fredricksen Memorials
 Janet & Floyd Nesbit
 Dr. Wm. Todd Scott, DDS
 Southern Hills Veterinary Services, Inc.
 Subway - Hwy 34
 Subway - Super Walmart
 City of Creston
 Mullin, Mullin & Harvey
 Roger Saxton, Stewart Realty
 Family Vision Center
 Creston Livestock Auction
 Country Court Mobile Home & RV Park

Garden & Associates
 Cornerstone Financial Group
 Tyler Insurance Services Inc.
 Pokorny BP & Automotive Service
 Winterstien Construction, LLC
 Hi-Crest Auto
 United Super Wash
 Creston Auto Parts/CarQuest
 Area XIV Agency on Aging
 F & M Body Shop Inc.
 MATURA Action Corporation
 Iowa Tool & Manufacturing Inc
 Medicap Pharmacy
 Arlan & Carolyn Biere
 Southwestern Community College
 Casey Wireless, LLC.
 Draper, Snodgrass, Mikkelsen & Co., P.C.
 East Casey's Store
 North Casey's Store
 South Casey's Store
 West Casey's Store
 Gay Lynn Owens, Stewart Realty
 Office Machines Company, Inc
 Creston Veterinary Clinic
 Callahan Real Estate
 First National Bank
 Jo Anne Duckworth,
 Union County Emergency Management
 Taco John's
 American Home Design Center
 American Homes by Dave Long
 Kinkade Industries, Inc.
 Eby's Auto
 Dr. Tom Young,
 Internal Medicine Consultants
 Moberg/Iowa Realty
 Vanmark Equipment, LLC
 Creston Chiropractic, P.C.
 Jane Lowe, Stewart Realty
 Hometown Insurance
 Hometown Realty
 Carroll Family Chiropractic
 Creston Walmart Super Center
 Dr. Dan Coen
 Planned Parenthood of the Heartland
 Plentiful Harvest
 State Savings Bank
 Powers Funeral Home
 Bob & Freida Berning
 Great Western Bank
 A & G Pizza & Steakhouse
 City Carton Company, Inc.
 NAPA - Creston
 Precision Optical Group
 Vernie's Drapery Shop

Echo Electric
 Heartland Tire & Auto Center
 Gavilon Grain
 Eblen Accounting
 Central Iowa Power Cooperative
 Curves
 Southern Iowa Regional Housing
 Authority
 Ken's Barber Shop
 Union County Abstract
 Crestmoor Golf Club
 Green Valley Realty
 Adams Street Country Lodge
 Mid-State Surveying & Consulting
 New Life Family Medicine PC
 Waste Management of Creston
 BM Sales
 Pizza Ranch
 Dairy Queen of Creston
 Buena Vista University
 Creston Vision Clinic, P.C.
 American Family Insurance
 R Realty
 Farley's and Sathers Candy Company
 Vicker's Programming & Service
 Bunn-O-Matic Corporation
 Sister Chicks Catering
 Union County Farm Bureau
 KSIB Radio
 James Law Office, P.C.
 Advance Services Inc.
 Family Shoe Store
 Jane's Headquarters
 Innovative Industries, Inc.
 Quality Glass Company
 Phillips' Floors
 Glen Weaver
 Petznick Printing Co.
 Prairie View Assisted Living
 Rhine Body Repair
 Punky's Putt-Putt
 The Windrow Restaurant & Sports Bar
 Van Gelder Clothing
 Cook Video & Appliance
 U-Haul
 Timberview B & B
 Quilts & other Notions
 Quilts & other Notions Creative Place
 Casa de Oro
 Creston Farmers Market
 three C design
 Teresa's Fine Floral
 R.E. Lewis Refrigeration
 Kay's Catering, Kay Ritter
 Dr. Brian Kinkade, O.D.

Kilgore Rental Cars & Lease
 Kilgore Enterprises, Inc.
 Coen's Furniture Inc.
 McDonalds
 Hullett & Son Auto Salvage
 Iowa State Savings Bank
 Green Valley Chemical
 Midwest Carbonic, Inc.
 Kenyon & Nielsen, P.C.
 Di Miller at 3's Company
 Southwestern IA Chapter of SHRM
 Ben Adamson, State Farm Insurance
 Boyd Appliance Center
 Creston True Value
 Java J's
 Windstream Communications
 Stalker Car Wash
 Kawa Construction
 Creston Publishing Company
 Dr. Dave Buck
 Pine Valley Golf & Bowl
 Union County Extension
 Creston Nursing & Rehab Center
 Ralph & Marilyn Edwards
 Barker Implement
 Fareway Stores Inc.
 Leslie's Dance Emporium
 Chat Mobility/Radio Shack
 Office of Congressman Steve King
 Hahn Roofing
 U.S. Cellular
 Newbury Management Co./Summit House
 Linda A. Green, Accountant
 Dr. Steve Tilley
 Iowa Focus
 Hair House
 Hair Tech School of Cosmetology
 Alliant Energy
 Panther Lanes
 Rieman Music
 Manpower, Inc.
 Hy-Vee Food Store
 St. Malachy Foundation
 St. Malachy School
 Creston Super 8 Motel
 Supertel Inn and Conference Center
 Central Plains Automotive
 Central Plains Electric
 Wishing Well
 Crop Production Services, Inc.
 Southern Iowa Rural Water Association
 KLOX Radio
 Advanced Restoration Services

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4. *Chamber Highlights* - Creston Chamber of Commerce

Chamber Golf Outing Scheduled

The Chamber Summer Golf Outing has been scheduled for Friday, July 13th at Crestmoor Golf Club and Pine Valley Golf Course. Plans have not yet been finalized, but we wanted you to know the date so that you can mark your calendars now. More details will follow in upcoming newsletters.

Buy/Shop Creston



Mailing List Reminder

Just a reminder to members that if you would like to be removed from the Chamber mailing list that is given out please notify us. This would also be a great time to let us know if you have others in your business you would like to receive the Chamber Newsletter.

We also need to keep your address current. If you have moved or changed your address recently please let the Chamber know.

The Chamber Annual Report will be included in the April 25th issue of the *Creston News Advertiser*. Be looking for it.

Chamber Inserts a Great, Low Cost Way to Advertise

Just a reminder that any Chamber member may advertise with a flyer in the Newsletter. All you need to do is call Ellen and reserve your spot, print 425 copies of your flyer and bring them to the Chamber Office by the 20th of the month. All flyers must be flat, unfolded, normal text weight, 8.5 x 11 paper. It can be printed on one or both sides. All for only \$40 a month.

Call the Chamber today to reserve your future spot.

Become a Fan of the Creston Chamber of Commerce on Facebook

SWCC Pay It Forward Week (Feel Good, Do Good!)

Do something Nice for Somebody this Week

SWCC's 2012 Pay it Forward (PIF) Week will be held April 16-20, 2012. During PIF Week, SWCC students, faculty, and staff get involved in encouraging positive behaviors and service to the community. PIF Week started in 2009 with 10 students and has spread across campus and the community. We encourage individuals in the community to celebrate this opportunity to have a positive influence on the community through acts of kindness and service to others.

There are little things you can do—hold the door for someone, thank a mentor, write a note of encouragement to someone with an illness, pay for the next person's coffee at the drive-up, or help an elderly member of the community with yard work. It is easy to have a positive impact on the community. Please join Southwestern Community College April 16-20, 2012 as we make a difference in Creston and across southwest Iowa. For more information on PIF Week activities or how you plan to "PIF" please e-mail Matt Thompson, thompson@swcciaowa.edu. We would like to hear from you so we can compile a list of activities taking place in Creston and across the region.

You can view the 2011 PIF Video to learn more about this activity:

<http://www.swcciaowa.edu/about/marketing/news-and-announcements/134-pif/1143-pay-it-forward-2011-pif>

The logo features a globe with "GVS" in the center, surrounded by "EMPLOYMENT" and "AGENCY". Below it is "Grapevine STAFFING" and the website "www.grapevinestaffing.com" and phone number "(641) 782-2225".

See the Difference!

(641) 782-1000
ISSBbank.com

The logo for ISSB (Iowa State Savings Bank) includes the letters "ISSB" in a stylized font and the text "Member FDIC" below it.

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Creston:Arts

Enjoy art in Uptown Creston. Each month Creston:Arts will present a new gallery show in the former Water Office at the Restored Depot in Uptown Creston, 116 West Adams Street. The area will be open Monday through Friday from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. for the public to stop by and enjoy the art. The April Show will feature the, "Southwestern Community College Student Art Show". The Gallery Reception will be held on April 5th from 6 to 8 p.m. For more information please call 1-641-247-1663.

Creston Bucks

Creston Bucks are an easy way to Buy/Shop Creston First.

April Gold Star Business Honor

Congratulations to:

Quik Pawn/Quik Cash
101 W. Taylor Street, Suite C,
Creston

Each month the Chamber will honor a business or businesses around town that maintain their appearance both inside and out and keep their area clean. The process to nominate a business for a Gold Star Honor is simple. All you need to do is to call the Chamber to acknowledge a business property and tell why you think this business should be a Gold Star Business.

Southwestern Community College Employment Fair to be Held April 4th

The Southwestern Community College's Annual Employment Fair will be held April 4, 2012, in the gymnasium of the Southwestern Student Center, from 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

The Employment Fair is a time when people can have the opportunity to explore area employment opportunities. It can also be a time for career exploration as there are students who are in the process of making occupation and professional decisions.

If you have any questions, or need information please contact Pat Butcher at 641-782-1446.



Do You Have Employees that are New to the Area?

If you do, please call or have them call the Chamber to receive their newcomer packet. It gives us an opportunity to again welcome them to our area and at the same time-share information with them about Creston.

Inserts for April
Graphic Displays
Southern Prairie YMCA

April Hi-Fives For Great Customer Service Goes Out To

Sherry Wallace, The Windrow Restaurant & Sports Bar, for, "her excellent service. She is so friendly and pleasant."

Dr. Chuck Hoyt, Creston Medical Clinic, for, "being so caring of his patients and their concerns. Thank you so much."

Remember all you need to do to have someone honored with a Hi-Five is to call the Chamber to acknowledge individuals and businesses that have given excellent customer service or gone that extra mile for you the customer. We need to acknowledge this effort and show our appreciation for a job well done.

American Home Design Center
101 Ways to Improve Your Home
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6. *Chamber Highlights* - Creston Chamber of Commerce

**Creston
Chamber of Commerce
Activities**

April 2012

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 April Fool's Day	2 April 2 & 3 Creston Middle School <i>Presents</i> "Fidler On The Roof Junior"	3 Chamber Radio Grapevine Visit, 9 a.m. Creston City Council Meeting, 6 p.m., City Council Chambers	4 SWCC Employment Fair, 12:30 to 3:30 p.m., SWCC	5	6 Good Friday	7
8 Happy Easter	9	10 Kiwans Pancake Day	11 Vape Smart Ribbon Cutting, 10 a.m., 113 West Montgomery	12	13 Creston Chamber of Commerce Board Meeting, 7:30 a.m., Chamber Office	14
15 GRMC Public Open House, 2 - 5 p.m., GRMC	16 SWCC Pay It Forward Week (Feel Good, Do Good!) Do something nice for Somebody this Week	17 Creston City Council Meeting, 6 p.m., City Council Chambers	18	19 Women in Business Meeting, 8 a.m., R Realty, 114 N. Elm CHS & SWCC Hurley Creek Clean-up SWCC Awards Ceremony, 7 p.m., SWCC Performing Arts Center	20 Image Enhancement Committee Meeting, 7 a.m., Windrow Restaurant	21 Creston High School Prom
22	23	24	25 Annual Chamber Tab in Creston News Advertiser Administrative Professional Day	26	27 Spotlight School of	28 Dance Season Finale
23 - 28 Money Smart Week						
29	30					

MAY

- 1 Creston City Council Meeting, 6 p.m., City Council Chambers
- 2 Chamber Member Omelet Appreciation Breakfast, Congregate Mealsite, 7 to 8:30 a.m.
- 3 Chamber Radio Grapevine Visit, 9 a.m.
- 4 CAT presents, "BlindDate Inc."
- 5 CAT presents, "BlindDate Inc."
- 6 CAT presents, "BlindDate Inc."
- 11 Creston Chamber of Commerce Board Meeting, 7:30 a.m., Chamber Office
- 12 YMCA, 5K Fun Run Walk
- 13 Happy Mother's Day
- 14 4th Annual SWCC Smart Business Conference & Expo, SWCC
- 15 Creston City Council Meeting, 6 p.m., City Council Chambers
- 17 Women in Business Meeting, 8 a.m., R Realty, 114 N. Elm
Generation Y in the Work Place...Increasing Productivity
- 18 Image Enhancement Committee Meeting, 7 a.m., Windrow Restaurant
- 20 CHS Graduation
- 28 Memorial Day

Creston Chamber of Commerce
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