



# Chamber Highlights

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE CRESTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

*Support YOUR Chamber . . . Buy from Chamber Members*

## FEBRUARY 2013

### *In this Issue:*

- Reach Legislator's
- Legislative Coffees
- Gold Star Honor
- February Hi-Fives
- Activity Calendar



208 W. Taylor  
P.O. Box 471  
Creston, Iowa 50801  
641-782-7021  
Fax 641-782-9927  
[www.crestoniowachamber.com](http://www.crestoniowachamber.com)  
[chamber@crestoniowachamber.com](mailto: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.

## Legislative Coffees

During the 2013 Legislative Session the Chamber is once again providing you an opportunity to ask our Legislators questions during Legislative Coffee's. **The remaining Coffee's have been scheduled at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, February 23 and March 23 at the Multi Purpose Room at the Performing Arts Center/YMCA in Creston.** They last for an hour. Currently Representative Jack Drake and Senator Hubert Houser are planning to attend. Information has been sent to Congressman Latham. Please mark your calendars.



There is no charge and all coffees are open to the public.

## 2013 Southern Iowa Tourism Guides

The 2013 Southern Iowa Tourism Guides are now available. If you would like to receive some, please stop by and pick up your copies today.

## Member Referrals

Do you have a business associate who is not a member of the Creston Chamber of Commerce or do you know of a new business in town? Refer that business to the Chamber and if they join you get \$50 off of your next membership renewal. What a great way to save yourself money while helping the Chamber increase our member base!!

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*Become a Fan of the  
Creston Chamber of Commerce  
on Facebook*  
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## Moonlight Madness Coming to Creston

The Retail Promotions and Showcase Committee invites you to be part of the annual Moonlight Madness sale on Thursday, February 21<sup>st</sup> from 5 to 7:00 p.m. Snow date will be February 28<sup>th</sup>. Mark your calendars now. A flyer on the citywide event is included in this Newsletter.

Please plan on being part of the event.

## 2013 Investments

As a reminder, your 2013 Chamber Investment letter and membership information has been sent out. Please return your investment and membership form as soon as possible. Investments can be made monthly, quarterly, semi-annually and annually.

If you have any questions about your investment, please call Ellen at the Chamber, 782-7021.

### 2013 Executive Board

- President**, Roger Lanning  
*First Federal Savings Bank*
- First Vice President**, Mike McCullough  
*Wellman Dynamics Corp*
- Second Vice President**, Barb Coenen  
*Maple Street Memories*
- Treasurer**, Adam Snodgrass  
*Iowa State Savings Bank*
- Past President**, Jeanette Gildsig  
*Vernie's Drapery Shop*
- Executive Director**, Ellen Gerharz

### Board of Directors -

- Tracy Davis  
*Southwestern Community College*
- Chuck Irelan  
*Hy-Vee*
- Mike Coen  
*Coen's Furniture, Inc.*
- Darin Goins  
*Walmart Super Center*
- Ellen Kearney  
*Greater Regional Medical Center*
- Bill Messerole  
*Creston Community Schools*
- Ron Bernard  
*Creston Super 8*
- Rhonda Miller  
*Bunn-O-Matic*
- Ken Callahan  
*Callahan Real Estate*
- Melissa Driskell  
*Winterstien Construction*
- Mary Saxton  
*First National Bank*
- Teresa Cheers  
*Teresa's Fine Floral*
- Matt Higgins  
*Alliant Energy*
- Devon Leith  
*Tyler Insurance*
- Tony Stuart  
*Hi-Crest Auto/United Super Wash*
- Betty Shelton  
*Creston City Council Liaison*
- Marsha Wilson  
*Creston City Council Liaison*
- Britany Irelan  
*Ex Officio, Creston High School*
- Levi Eblen  
*Ex Officio, Creston High School*

### Thoughts from the Program Manager

As you can see from the articles found in the newsletter the Chamber is gearing up for what I hope will be a great year for our membership and Creston. We would like to have your support on one of our committees or activities. If you already have more in your day than you can handle, a brief call to the office with an idea, suggestion or a thought would be great. Please remember that you are always invited to attend a ribbon cutting, coffee or open house. These events are a great way to network with people.

The more people we can involve in the Creston Chamber of Commerce, the stronger our entire Chamber can be.

I hope to see you soon.



### Where to Park????

The Chamber has received several calls from customers and storeowners asking us to remind everyone that parking in front of or around a business should be left open for customers. Please remember your neighbors as well and do not park in front of their business.

### 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. and Saturdays from 1 to 4 p.m. free of charge for the public to stop by and enjoy the art. The February Show will be the Art of Hannah Nelson and Sandy Webb. The Artist Reception will be held on February 1<sup>st</sup> from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Gallery.

For more information please call 1-641-247-1663.

### Creston Park & Rec Dinner & Comedy Show

March 2 at the Eagles

### PRIME RIB DINNER

Social Hour Begins at 5:30 p.m.

Tickets are \$25/person and are available through any Park & Rec Board Member or the Eagles Club

### American Home Design Center

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## Friends of the Library Cookie Bouquets are Back

Order Your Friends of the Library Valentine Cookie Bouquets at the Creston Library by February 7<sup>th</sup>.

A bouquet of six cookies is \$10 and a box of twelve is \$15.00 and 6 Gluten free cookies are \$12.00. Deliveries in Creston will be on February 14<sup>th</sup>. Proceeds go to the Summer Reading Programs.

## Why Support Local Business?

- 1. Protect Local Character & Prosperity:** By choosing to support local businesses, you help maintain diversity and the distinctive character of Creston.
- 2. Community Well-Being:** Local owned businesses build strong neighborhoods by sustaining communities, linking neighbors and by contributing more to local causes. Where we shop, where we eat and where we go – all make our neighborhoods home.
- 3. Local Decision Making:** Important decisions are made locally by people who live in the community and who will feel the impacts of those decisions.
- 4. Keeping Dollars in the Local Economy:** When shopping locally, you simultaneously create jobs, fund city services through tax dollars, through sales tax, invest in neighborhood improvement and promote community development.
- 5. Jobs:** Local businesses create jobs locally.

## February Gold Star Business Honor

Congratulations to:  
**Advanced Ag, LLC**

1729 Commerce Road - 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. Please call Ellen at 782-7021 to share your thoughts.

**Buy Creston First**



**Buy/Shop Creston First**

**Help Your Chamber Help You**



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## 2013 Creston Chamber of Commerce Investments

(• Denotes New or Returning Chamber Members)

A special **thank you** to the following members of the Creston Chamber of Commerce who have returned their investments for 2013 during December and through January 21<sup>st</sup>.

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

- Mila's Attic
- Kiki's Graphics
- DURANGO Mexican Restaurant
- Taste of Italy
- Hotel Greenfield
- Strand Theatre
- Adams Street Country Lodge  
Bed & Breakfast
- Advance Restoration Services
- American Home Design Center
- American Homes by Dave Long
- Arlan Biere
- Bob & Betty Jungst
- Bob & Freida Berning
- Callahan Real Estate
- Carroll Family Chiropractic
- Carter Agency, Inc.
- Casey Wireless, LLC
- Charlie Brown Auto Ltd
- Chat Mobility/Radio Shack
- City of Creston
- Cook Video & Appliance
- Cornerstone Financial Group
- Crest Haven Care Centre
- Crestmoor Golf Club, Inc.
- Creston Audiology &  
Hearing Aid Center
- Creston Chiropractic P.C.
- Creston Livestock Auction
- Creston Medical Clinic, P.C.
- Creston Nursing & Rehab Center
- Creston True Value
- Creston Veterinary Clinic
- Dr. Al & Pat Pokorny
- Dr. Brian Kinkade, O.D.
- Dr. Dan Coen
- Dr. William Todd Scott
- Draper, Snodgrass, Mikkelsen & Co.
- Eblen Accounting & Tax
- Echo Electric
- F & M Body Shop
- Family Vision Center
- First National Bank
- Grapevine Staffing, LLC
- Great Western Bank
- Greater Regional Medical Center
- Green Valley Pest & Lawn Care
- Hahn Roofing
- Heartland Tire & Auto Center
- Hi-Crest Auto & United Super Wash
- Hometown Insurance
- Hometown Realty
- Iowa State Savings Bank
- Iowa Tool & Manufacturing Inc.
- Iowa Vocational  
Rehabilitation Services
- J & A Flooring
- Java J's
- Ken Hudson
- Ken's Barber Shop
- Kilgore's Enterprises, Inc.
- Kilgore's Rental & Lease LLC
- Kilgore's RV Sales & Service
- KSIB Radio
- Linda A. Green, Accountant
- M & M Motors
- Maple Street Memories
- Medicap Pharmacy
- Mid-State Surveying & Consulting
- Midwest Opportunities, Inc.
- Moberg Iowa Realty
- Morning Star Internal  
Medicine Clinic
- Mullin Mullin and Harvey
- Nishna Valley Credit Union
- Piper Sign Art
- Pizza Ranch
- Planned Parenthood  
of the Heartland
- Pokorny BP & Automotive Service
- Powers Funeral Home
- Prairie View Assisted Living
- Precision Optical Group
- R Realty
- Rieman Music
- Rural Iowa Crisis Center
- Sister Chicks Catering
- Snark Publishing Inc.
- Southern Hills  
Veterinary Services, Inc
- Southern Iowa Regional  
Housing Authority
- Southern Prairie YMCA
- Southwestern Community College
- Stewart Realty
- Subway - Hwy 34
- Subway - Super Walmart
- Tyler Insurance Services, Inc.
- Union County Abstract
- U.S. Cellular
- U-Haul
- Winterstien Construction, LLC

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### Member Spotlight

On January 8<sup>th</sup> the Creston Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors held a Ribbon Cutting at Office Machines, 110 N. Elm Street

## Relocation Packets Available

Just a reminder to all Chamber members that the Chamber has relocation packets available for your recruiting needs as well as for someone you know who may be thinking about moving to our area. Just give the office a call.

### February Inserts

Creston Moonlight Madness  
Kiki's Graphic Design

## February Hi-Fives for Great Customer Service

**Orr Heating & Air Conditioning**, for, "doing your job so well and for being so prompt and affordable. It is truly appreciated."

**Raymond James Financial**, for, "being so pleasant and customer orientated."

**J & J Plumbing, Heating & Air Conditioning**, for, "outstanding service and for being so considerate of their customers. Thank you."

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. Please call Ellen at 782-7021 to share your Hi-Five.



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6. *Chamber Highlights* - Creston Chamber of Commerce

**Creston  
Chamber of Commerce  
Activities**

# February 2013

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
					<b>1</b> Artist Reception at the Creston Arts Gallery, 6 to 8 p.m., Restored Depot	
<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	Chamber Radio <b>5</b> Grapevine Visit, 9 a.m. Creston City Council Meeting, 6 pm, City Council Chambers	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
					<b>8</b> Creston Chamber of Commerce Board Meeting, 7:30 a.m., Chamber Office	
<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
			Greater Regional Cancer Awareness Night SWCC Basketball vs. DMACC, Women at 5:30 p.m. Men's game to follow.	 Happy Valentine's Day	<b>15</b> Image Enhancement Committee Meeting, 7 a.m., Windrow Restaurant	
<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
The Bridal Show Supertel Inn & Conference Center 2 to 4 p.m.		Creston City Council Meeting, 6 pm, City Council Chambers		Women in Business Meeting, 8 a.m., R Realty, 114 North Elm Citywide Moonlight Madness Sale, 5 to 7:00 p.m.		Legislative Coffee, 8 a.m., Multi Purpose Room at the YMCA St. Malachy Auction, Supertel Inn & Conference Center
<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>		
				Snow Date for Moonlight Madness Sale		

## MARCH

- 1 Artist Reception at the Creston Arts Gallery, 6 to 8 p.m., Restored Depot
- 2 Creston Park & Rec Dinner Comedy, 5:30 p.m., Eagles
- 5 Chamber Radio Grapevine Visit, 9 a.m.  
Creston City Council Meeting, 6 pm, City Council Chambers
- 8 Creston Chamber of Commerce Board Meeting, 7:30 a.m., Chamber Office
- 10 Daylight Savings Time Begins
- 15 Image Enhancement Committee Meeting, 7 a.m., Windrow Restaurant
- 17 Happy St. Patrick's Day
- 19 Creston City Council Meeting, 6 pm, City Council Chambers
- 20 First Day of Spring
- 21 Women in Business Meeting, 8 a.m., R Realty, 114 North Elm
- 23 Legislative Coffee, 8:00 a.m., Multi Purpose Room at the YMCA
- 26 Kiwanis Pancake Day, 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.
- 31 Happy Easter

Creston Chamber of Commerce  
Box 471  
Creston, IA 50801

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