

## FEBRUARY 2014

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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 show-  
case the community, to  
be a leadership organi-  
zation which unifies the  
community, and map a  
course for Creston's  
future development.



## Legislative Coffees

During the 2014 Legislative Session the Chamber is once again providing you an opportunity to ask our Legislators questions during Legislative Coffee's. **The Coffee's have been scheduled at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday February 1<sup>st</sup> and March 1<sup>st</sup> and April 5<sup>th</sup> at the City Council Chamber in the Restored Depot in Uptown 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. There is no charge and all coffees are open to the public.

## 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!!

## 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 20<sup>th</sup> from 5 to 7:00 p.m. Mark your calendars now. Complete details on the citywide event are included on the flyer in this Newsletter. **Feel Free to display.**

Please plan on being part of the event.

## Stand Out as an Exceptional Employee Training

IowaWORKS, Iowa Workforce Development, will be offering the training, **Stand Out as an Exceptional Employee**, on February 25<sup>th</sup>. Employees will learn how their soft skills don't only affect the business's bottom line but their own paycheck. Employees will also learn customer service tips as well as the importance of knowing about their community attracting more customers. **Dave Jennett, owner of Green Valley Pest & Lawn Care said of the class, "I found this workshop extremely valuable. After attending in November, I required all of my employees to attend before spring."**

Two Sessions are available. The first will be held from 9:00 a.m. until Noon and the second will take place from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Cost for the Class is \$10.00/employee for non-chamber members or \$5.00/employee for Chamber Members. The class will be held at SWCC, Technical Center Room 103 in Creston.

Please RSVP to IowaWORKS, 641-782-2119 ext 3, or email  
Elizabeth Waigand at [elizabeth.waigand@iwd.iowa.gov](mailto:elizabeth.waigand@iwd.iowa.gov).

### 2014 Executive Board

- President**, Mike McCullough  
*Wellman Dynamics Corp*
- First Vice President**, Barb Coenen  
*Maple Street Memories*
- Second Vice President**, Ken Callahan  
*Callahan Real Estate*
- Treasurer**, Adam Snodgrass  
*Iowa State Savings Bank*
- Past President**, Roger Lanning  
*PCSB Bank*
- Executive Director**, Ellen Gerharz

### Board of Directors

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- Melissa Driskell  
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- Teresa Cheers  
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- Devon Leith  
*Tyler Insurance*
- Tony Stuart  
*Hi-Crest Auto/United Super Wash*
- Jessica Duncan  
*Geater Regional Medical Center*
- Sandy Jennett  
*Green Valley Pest and Lawn Care*
- Shawn Phelps  
*Walmart Super Center*
- Jacki Steffen  
*Southern Prairie YMCA*
- Marsha Wilson  
*Creston City Council Liaison*
- Gary Lybarger  
*Creston City Council Liaison*
- Levi Eblen  
*Ex Officio, Creston High School*
- Bree Daggett  
*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.

Ellen Gerharz

## 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.

## 2014 Chamber Investments Are Due

As a reminder, your 2014 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.

## CRESTON PARK & REC DINNER & COMEDY SHOW

February 22<sup>nd</sup> 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

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## February Gold Star Business Honor

Congratulations to:

### The Upper Crust

201 West Adams Street - 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.

## 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.

### CORRECTION

Creston High School Graduation will take place on May 25<sup>th</sup>

## Petznick Printing Co. Commercial Printers

204 N. Elm, Creston, Iowa  
petznicks@mediacombb.net

**641-782-2023**  
- COLOR COPIES -

## 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.

## Buy/Shop Creston First

Buy Creston First



## 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 8<sup>th</sup>. A bouquet of six cookies is \$10 and a box of twelve is \$15.00. Deliveries in Creston will be on February 14<sup>th</sup>. All proceeds go to the Summer Reading Programs.

## FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY SCRAPBOOKING EVENT

Saturday, March 1<sup>st</sup>  
from 8:30 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.  
Quilts & Other Notions Creative Center, 201 N. Elm  
Cost is \$25.00 and includes lunch and dinner  
Contact Karen Walter at 641-782-4357 or [ronwalter@windstream.net](mailto:ronwalter@windstream.net)  
Registration Due by February 29<sup>th</sup>

## CARTER AGENCY

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## 2014 MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

A special **thank you** to the following members of the Creston Chamber of Commerce who have renewed their investments for 2014 during December and through January 21<sup>st</sup>. • Asterisk indicates a New Member.

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

- Perspective Counseling
- Leilani's Antiques Collectibles & Second Hand Goods
- She-Nae's Rescued & Renewed
- Prairie Solid Waste Agency
- Supreme Cleaners
- Farmers Cooperative Company
- Dr. Michael Buck
- A & G Pizza & Steak House
- Adams Street Country Lodge
- Bed & Breakfast
- Akin Building Center
- American Home Design Center
- American Homes by Dave Long
- Arlan Biere
- ASI-Audiology & Hearing Aid Center
- Bob & Betty Jungst
- Bob & Freida Berning
- Callahan Real Estate
- Carroll Family Chiropractic
- Casey Wireless LLC/iWireless
- Central Plains Electric
- Central Iowa Power Cooperative
- Charlie Brown Auto LTD
- City of Creston
- Connections Area Agency on Aging, Inc
- Cornerstone Financial Group
- Crest Haven Care Centre
- Crestmoor Golf Club, Inc
- Creston Automotive
- Creston Chiropractic P.C.
- Creston Community Schools
- Creston Farm & Home
- Creston Livestock Auction
- Creston Medical Clinic P.C.
- Creston Nursing & Rehab Center
- Creston True Value
- Creston Veterinary Clinic, P.C.
- Creston Walmart Super Center
- Curves
- Di Miller at 3's Company

- Dr. Al & Pat Pokorny
- Dr. Dan Coen
- Dr. Dave Buck
- Dr. William Todd Scott
- Draper, Snodgrass, Mikkelsen & Co
- Eby's Auto
- Echo Electric
- Elizabeth Waigand, IowaWORKS
- Elm's Club
- Family Vision Center
- Ferrara Candy Company
- First National Bank
- Gavilon Grain, LLC
- Gay Lynn Owens, Stewart Realty
- Grapevine Staffing
- Greater Regional Medical Center
- Green Acct & Tax DBA Eblen
- Acct & Tax
- Green Valley Pest Control & Lawn Care
- Green Valley Realty
- Heartland Tire & Auto Center
- Hi-Crest Auto & United Super Wash
- Hometown Insurance
- Hometown Realty
- Hotel Greenfield
- Innovative Industries, Inc.
- Internal Medicine Consultants/
- Dr. Tom Young
- Iowa State Savings Bank
- Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation Services
- ISU Union County Extension & Outreach
- J & A Flooring
- James Law Office, PC
- Java J's
- Ken Hudson
- Ken's Barber Shop
- Kiki's Graphics
- Kilgore Rentals
- Kilgore's Enterprises, Inc.
- Kilgore's RV Sales, Parts & Service
- Kinkade Industries

- KSIB Radio
- Leslie's Dance Emporium
- M & M Motors
- Mediacom
- Medicap Pharmacy
- Midwest Opportunities, Inc.
- Moberg Iowa Realty
- Morning Star Internal Medicine Clinic
- Mullin Mullin & Harvey
- NAPA-Creston
- New Life Family Medicine PC
- Nishna Valley Credit Union
- PCSB Bank
- Pearson Family Funeral Services
- Pizza Ranch
- Pokorny BP & Automotive Service
- Prairie View Assisted Living & Memory Care
- Precast Concrete
- Punky's
- R Realty
- Rieman Music
- Roger Saxton, Stewart Realty
- Sister Chicks Catering
- Southern Hills Veterinary Services, Inc.
- Southern Iowa Regional Housing Authority
- Southern Iowa Rural Water Association
- Southern Prairie YMCA
- Southwestern Community College
- St. Malachy Foundation
- St. Malachy School
- Stalker Chevrolet Inc
- Stalker Rentals
- State Savings Bank
- Stewart Realty
- Subway - Hwy34
- Subway - Walmart Super Center
- Tyler Insurance Services, Inc.
- Union County Abstract
- Vanmark Equipment LLC
- Waste Management of Creston
- Wishing Well

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## 2014

### Southern Iowa Tourism Guides

The 2014 Southern Iowa Tourism Guides are now available. If you would like to receive some, please stop by and pick up your copies today.

### February Inserts

Creston Moonlight  
Madness  
Curves  
Wimmer Farms



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on Twitter at  
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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. 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, "Book, Box, Board, Deb Anders Bond, Eduardo Garcia & Kathy Svec", from Ames. The Artist Reception will be held on February 7<sup>th</sup> from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Gallery. For more information please call 1-641-247-1663.

### February Hi-Fives for Great Customer Service

**Dani Hoepker, Great Western Bank**, for, "being an excellent representative of your business and such a great help to customers. Thank you."

**Jim Anthony, Fareway Meat Department**, for, "service beyond the call of duty."

**Doug Beer, U.S. Cellular**, for, "thinking of others and supporting local businesses. Thank you."

**Cody Hagel, Fareway**, for, "providing the Best Customer Service Ever. Any employer would be very proud to have him."

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.

**Creston  
Chamber of Commerce  
Activities**

# February 2014

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						<b>Legislative Coffee,</b> 8 a.m., Council Chamber, Restored Depot <b>SWCC Volleyball Team Ceremony &amp; Reception,</b> SWCC-Student Center, 3:35 p.m. <b>Creston Park &amp; Rec Bowling Tournament</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> <b>Around the Town Meeting,</b> 5:30 p.m., Quilts & Other Notions Creative Center, 201 N. Elm	<b>4</b> <b>Monthly Chamber Radio Grapevine Visit,</b> 9 a.m. <b>Creston City Council Meeting,</b> 6 p.m., City Council Chambers	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> <b>Artist Reception at the Creston:Arts Gallery,</b> 6 to 8 p.m., Restored Depot	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> <b>Creston Chamber of Commerce Board Meeting,</b> 7:30 a.m., Chamber Office <b>Happy Valentine's Day</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> <b>SWCC Mixed Blood Theater presents, "Black Eagle",</b> Rm 220, Noon	<b>18</b> <b>Creston City Council Meeting,</b> 6 p.m., City Council Chambers	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> <b>Women in Business Meeting,</b> 8 a.m., R Realty, 114 North Elm <b>Citywide Moonlight Madness Sale,</b> 5 to 7 p.m.	<b>21</b> <b>Image Enhancement Committee Meeting,</b> 7 a.m., Windrow Restaurant	<b>22</b> <b>Creston Park &amp; Rec. Night of Comedy</b> The Eagles Club 5:30 p.m.
<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> <b>Standout as an Exceptional Employee Classes,</b> SWCC, 9 a.m. or 1:00 p.m.	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> <b>CHS All School Play</b>	

## MARCH

- 1 **Legislative Coffee,** 8 a.m., Council Chamber, Restored Depot
- Friends of the Library Scrap Booking Event,** 8:30 a.m. to 11 p.m., 201 N. Elm
- St. Malachy Dinner & Auction,** 5 p.m., Supertel Inn & Conference Center
- CHS All School Play**
- 4 **Chamber Radio Grapevine Visit,** 9 a.m.
- Creston City Council Meeting,** 6 p.m., City Council Chambers
- 7 **Artist Reception at the Creston:Arts Gallery,** 6 to 8 p.m., Restored Depot
- 9 **Daylight Savings Time Begins**
- 10 **Library Coffee House Event,** 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., 200 W. Howard Street
- 14 **Creston Chamber of Commerce Board Meeting,** 7:30 a.m., Chamber Office
- 17 **Happy St. Patrick's Day**
- 18 **Creston City Council Meeting,** 6 p.m., City Council Chambers
- 20 **First Day of Spring**
- Women in Business Meeting,** 8 a.m., R Realty, 114 North Elm
- 21 **Image Enhancement Committee Meeting,** 7 a.m., Windrow Restaurant
- 25 **Kiwanis Pancake Day,** 400 North Elm, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- 29 **YMCA Home & Garden Show,** 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., YMCA

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