



# Chamber Highlights

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE CRESTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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

## MAY 2012

### *In this Issue:*

- Omelet Breakfast
- Crazy Summer Sales
- Gold Star Honor
- May Hi-Fives
- Activity Calendar



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*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.

## May Hi-Fives

*This month the Creston Community and those who came to volunteer their time and resources in helping those individuals and families, organizations and businesses impacted by the recent tornado are the May Hi-Five honorees. The list is extensive and not wanting to leave anyone or any group off we shall just say thank you to all. Please know the kindness and support that took place during this time was truly appreciated and epitomizes what the Hi-Five Honor is all about.*

*Thank you.*

## Creston Crazy Summer Sales Days

Please remember that Creston Crazy Summer Sales Days Promotion will be held citywide on June 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>. **This is a citywide event and it is hoped that many of you will participate over the two days.** It is a Crazy Day (s) event, and the more stores and businesses we have participate the better for the shoppers and the more fun it will be.

The Chamber will be doing radio and newspaper advertising in addition to what you might be planning for the event to let people know about the where & when's of Crazy Summer Sales Days. All of the streets will remain open during the two day event. We are asking retailers to put your Crazy items on the sidewalk or in parking lot areas.

Please plan on getting involved to make this a truly Crazy Summer Sale.

## Chamber of Commerce Member Omelet Appreciation Breakfast

*It's back!*

**Come and enjoy delicious omelets at the  
Chamber Member & Employee  
Omelet Appreciation Breakfast!**

**Wednesday, May 2, 2012**

**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**

### 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*
- Britany Irelan  
*Ex Officio, Creston High School*

### Thoughts from the Director

The Chamber Annual Report has just recently arrived in the April 25<sup>th</sup> *Creston News Advertiser*. This report gives the Chamber the opportunity to highlight our activities, accomplishments and membership. The Chamber truly appreciates the commitment to Creston of our members. We look forward to this yearly opportunity to acknowledge all of you. The Chamber understands your importance to our great community. Our Chamber Membership helps us to promote and showcase Creston. We are truly fortunate. Thank you.

*Ellen*

### Union County Visitors Center to Open Soon

The Union County Visitors Center, located at 636 New York Avenue/Hwy 34 West, will open for the 2012 season on May 14<sup>th</sup> and remain open until October 20<sup>th</sup>. The Visitors Center hours are from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday. If you would like to visit when it is not open please call the Chamber to schedule an appointment.

### Chamber Summer Golf Outing:

The Chamber Summer Golf Outing is scheduled for Friday, July 13<sup>th</sup> at Crestmoor Golf Club and Pine Valley Golf Course. Mark your calendars if you have not already done so. Plans are now underway for the event. Please look for registration information in the June Newsletter.

### Citywide Garage Sale Planned for June 9<sup>th</sup>

The Annual Citywide Garage Sale is planned for June 9<sup>th</sup> in Creston. The official hours will be from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. Any individuals, organizations and/or businesses can participate. The Chamber will be handling the major advertising for the event including our area and region. You can include the information about the event in your own business advertising. Individuals and organizations will need to do their own specific advertising.

Businesses might think about putting their garage sale items outside and handle somewhat like Crazy Days.

We are hoping that this will again bring many people to Creston and discover what a great place Creston is.

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## 2012 Membership Renewals

A special **thank you** to the following businesses, organizations and individuals who are part of the Creston Chamber of Commerce in 2012. **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.

- |   |   |  |   |
|---|---|--|---|
| <p>First Federal Savings Bank<br/>Maple Street Memories<br/>Snark Publishing<br/>Grapevine Staffing<br/>Edward Jones Investments<br/>M &amp; M Motors<br/>Nishna Valley Credit Union<br/>Piper Sign Art<br/>Carter Agency, Inc.<br/>Creston Farm &amp; Home<br/>J &amp; A Flooring<br/>Bob &amp; Betty Jungst<br/>Precast Concrete<br/>Green Valley Pest &amp; Lawn Care<br/>Crest Haven Care Centre<br/>Ken Hudson<br/>Dick &amp; Peg Anderson<br/>Hammer Medical Supply<br/>Midwest Opportunities, Inc.<br/>Stewart Realty<br/>Stalker Chevrolet Inc<br/>Stalker Rentals<br/>* Creston Automotive<br/>* Gits Mfg. Company<br/>* Spotlight School of Dance<br/>* The Iowana/T &amp; L Properties<br/>* The Answer is Chocolate<br/>* Secured Residential Inspections<br/>* Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation Services<br/>* Vape Smart<br/>* Upper Crust<br/>* Savta's Greenhouse<br/>Greater Regional Medical Center<br/>Built Networks<br/>Delmer Brown, Stewart Realty<br/>Quik Pawn<br/>Quik Cash<br/>Southern Prairie YMCA<br/>Rural Iowa Crisis Center<br/>Dr. Al &amp; Pat Pokorny<br/>Charlie Brown Auto<br/>James Law Office, P. C.<br/>Alzheimer's Association<br/>Creston Community Schools<br/>Fredricksen Memorials<br/>Janet &amp; Floyd Nesbit<br/>Dr. Wm. Todd Scott, DDS<br/>Southern Hills Veterinary Services, Inc.<br/>Subway - Hwy 34<br/>Subway - Super Walmart<br/>City of Creston<br/>Mullin, Mullin &amp; Harvey<br/>Roger Saxton, Stewart Realty<br/>Family Vision Center<br/>Creston Livestock Auction<br/>Country Court Mobile Home &amp; RV Park<br/>Garden &amp; Associates</p> | <p>Cornerstone Financial Group<br/>Tyler Insurance Services Inc.<br/>Pokorny BP &amp; Automotive Service<br/>Winterstien Construction, LLC<br/>Hi-Crest Auto<br/>United Super Wash<br/>Creston Auto Parts/CarQuest<br/>Area XIV Agency on Aging<br/>F &amp; M Body Shop Inc.<br/>MATURA Action Corporation<br/>Iowa Tool &amp; Manufacturing Inc<br/>Medicap Pharmacy<br/>Arlan &amp; Carolyn Biere<br/>Southwestern Community College<br/>Casey Wireless, LLC.<br/>Draper, Snodgrass, Mikkelsen &amp; Co., P.C.<br/>East Casey's Store<br/>North Casey's Store<br/>South Casey's Store<br/>West Casey's Store<br/>Gay Lynn Owens, Stewart Realty<br/>Office Machines Company, Inc<br/>Creston Veterinary Clinic<br/>Callahan Real Estate<br/>First National Bank<br/>Jo Anne Duckworth,<br/>    Union County Emergency Management<br/>Taco John's<br/>American Home Design Center<br/>American Homes by Dave Long<br/>Kinkade Industries, Inc.<br/>Eby's Auto<br/>Dr. Tom Young,<br/>    Internal Medicine Consultants<br/>Moberg/Iowa Realty<br/>Vanmark Equipment, LLC<br/>Creston Chiropractic, P.C.<br/>Jane Lowe, Stewart Realty<br/>Hometown Insurance<br/>Hometown Realty<br/>Carroll Family Chiropractic<br/>Creston Walmart Super Center<br/>Dr. Dan Coen<br/>Planned Parenthood of the Heartland<br/>Plentiful Harvest<br/>State Savings Bank<br/>Powers Funeral Home<br/>Bob &amp; Freida Berning<br/>Great Western Bank<br/>A &amp; G Pizza &amp; Steakhouse<br/>City Carton Company, Inc.<br/>NAPA - Creston<br/>Precision Optical Group<br/>Vernie's Drapery Shop<br/>Echo Electric<br/>Heartland Tire &amp; Auto Center</p> | <p>Gavilon Grain<br/>Eblen Accounting<br/>Central Iowa Power Cooperative<br/>Curves<br/>Southern Iowa Regional Housing Authority<br/>Ken's Barber Shop<br/>Union County Abstract<br/>Crestmoor Golf Club<br/>Green Valley Realty<br/>Adams Street Country Lodge<br/>Mid-State Surveying &amp; Consulting<br/>New Life Family Medicine PC<br/>Waste Management of Creston<br/>BM Sales<br/>Pizza Ranch<br/>Dairy Queen of Creston<br/>Buena Vista University<br/>Creston Vision Clinic, P.C.<br/>American Family Insurance<br/>R Realty<br/>Farley's and Sathers Candy Company<br/>Vicker's Programming &amp; Service<br/>Bunn-O-Matic Corporation<br/>Sister Chicks Catering<br/>Union County Farm Bureau<br/>KSIB Radio<br/>James Law Office, P.C.<br/>Advance Services Inc.<br/>Family Shoe Store<br/>Jane's Headquarters<br/>Innovative Industries, Inc.<br/>Quality Glass Company<br/>Phillips' Floors<br/>Glen Weaver<br/>Petznick Printing Co.<br/>Prairie View Assisted Living<br/>Rhine Body Repair<br/>Punky's<br/>The Windrow Restaurant &amp; Sports Bar<br/>Van Gelder Clothing<br/>Cook Video &amp; Appliance<br/>U-Haul<br/>Timberview B &amp; B<br/>Quilts &amp; other Notions<br/>Quilts &amp; other Notions Creative Place<br/>Casa de Oro<br/>Creston Farmers Market<br/>three C design<br/>Teresa's Fine Floral<br/>R.E. Lewis Refrigeration<br/>Kay's Catering, Kay Ritter<br/>Dr. Brian Kinkade, O.D.<br/>Kilgore Rental Cars &amp; Lease<br/>Kilgore Enterprises, Inc.<br/>Coen's Furniture Inc.<br/>McDonalds</p> | <p>Hulett &amp; Son Auto Salvage<br/>Iowa State Savings Bank<br/>Green Valley Chemical<br/>Midwest Carbonic, Inc.<br/>Kenyon &amp; Nielsen, P.C.<br/>Di Miller at 3's Company<br/>Southwestern IA Chapter of SHRM<br/>Ben Adamson, State Farm Insurance<br/>Boyd Appliance Center<br/>Creston True Value<br/>Java J's<br/>Windstream Communications<br/>Stalker Car Wash<br/>Kawa Construction<br/>Creston Publishing Company<br/>Dr. Dave Buck<br/>Pine Valley Golf &amp; Bowl<br/>Union County Extension<br/>Creston Nursing &amp; Rehab Center<br/>Ralph &amp; Marilyn Edwards<br/>Barker Implement<br/>Fareway Stores Inc.<br/>Leslie's Dance Emporium<br/>Chat Mobility/Radio Shack<br/>Office of Congressman Steve King<br/>Hahn Roofing<br/>U.S. Cellular<br/>Newbury Management Co./Summit House<br/>Linda A. Green, Accountant<br/>Dr. Steve Tilley<br/>Iowa Focus<br/>Hair House<br/>Hair Tech School of Cosmetology<br/>Alliant Energy<br/>Panther Lanes<br/>Rieman Music<br/>Manpower, Inc.<br/>Hy-Vee Food Store<br/>St. Malachy Foundation<br/>St. Malachy School<br/>Creston Super 8 Motel<br/>Supertel Inn and Conference Center<br/>Central Plains Automotive<br/>Central Plains Electric<br/>Wishing Well<br/>Crop Production Services, Inc.<br/>Southern Iowa Rural Water Association<br/>KLOX Radio<br/>Advanced Restoration Services<br/>Akin Building Center<br/>Taylor Financial<br/>Mediacom<br/>BNSF Railway Company<br/>Advance Services Inc.<br/>Bill Fastenow<br/>Maurice's</p> |
|---|---|--|---|



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#### 4. *Chamber Highlights* - Creston Chamber of Commerce



*The Creston Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors held a Ribbon Cutting at Nishna Valley Credit Union, 205 E. Taylor/Hwy 34 East, on March 30<sup>th</sup>.*

### Inserts Needed for Goodie Bags

The Chamber will be sponsoring a day long bus tour of folks from West Des Moines on May 8<sup>th</sup>. If you have items that you would like to include in a goodie bag which each will receive, please drop them off at the Chamber by May 3<sup>rd</sup>. We will be making 40 bags.

It is our hope that since they are so close to Creston, once they visit they will come back again. Please keep this in mind if you have items to put in the bag.

### 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 May Show will feature, "The Creston High School Student Art". For more information please call 1-641-247-1663.

### Help Your Chamber Help You

**See** the *Difference!*

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### Balloon Day Sponsors

If you have not yet received your 2011 "hangy down" plaque please call or stop by the Chamber to pick it up. If you have missed other years please let us know.

### Southwestern Business Conference & Expo

The Southwestern Business Conference & Expo will be held on May 14<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Instructional Center at SWCC. Some of the 19 Concurrent Breakout Sessions focused on growing your business include:

SBA, USDA and Revolving Loan Funds, Business Planning and Budgeting, the Dos and Don'ts of Brochure Design, Get On-line for Free. In addition to these sessions, there will be a lunch and a Exhibitor Hall. Registration is \$25 and to register you need to contact SWCC Adult Ed at 641-782-1449 or register on-line at [www.swccia.edu/sbdc](http://www.swccia.edu/sbdc).

The Expo is sponsored by SWCC and the Iowa Small Business Development Centers.

**Become a Fan of the Creston Chamber of Commerce on Facebook**

To Chamber Members who use Facebook, please become a Fan of the Creston Chamber of Commerce.

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On April 11<sup>th</sup> the Creston Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors held a Ribbon Cutting at Vape Smart, 113 West Montgomery.

## Ask Us Program

Do your employees get asked questions about our area from visitors? Do they know all the answers? If not, then you need to contact the Chamber. We can come meet with you and your staff or we have information available for you to take back to your business and share. We are willing to work with you.

Tourists and visitors often make the decision for repeat visits to an area based on hospitality. Let's show them that Creston is worth returning to.

## Still 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 still looking for a few good men and women to volunteer.

If you would 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.

## Inserts for May

Crest Haven Care Centre  
Savta's Greenhouse  
Teresa's Fine Floral

## May Gold Star Business Honor

Congratulations to:  
**The Wishing Well**  
206 North Maple 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.

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6. *Chamber Highlights* - Creston Chamber of Commerce

**Creston  
Chamber of Commerce  
Activities**

# May 2012

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		<b>1</b> Creston City Council Meeting, 6 p.m., City Council Chambers	<b>2</b> Chamber Member Omelet Appreciation Breakfast, Congregate Mealsite, 7 to 8:30 a.m.	<b>3</b> Chamber Radio Grapevine Visit, 9 a.m.	<b>4</b> CAT presents, 'BlindDate Inc.'	<b>5</b> CAT presents, 'BlindDate Inc.'
<b>6</b> CAT presents, 'BlindDate Inc.'	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> Creston School Board Appreciation Coffee, 4 p.m., 801 N. Elm	<b>11</b> Creston Chamber of Commerce Board Meeting, 7:30 a.m., Chamber Office	<b>12</b> YMCA 5K Fun Run Walk
<b>13</b> Happy Mother's Day	<b>14</b> 4th Annual SWCC Smart Business Conference & Expo, SWCC	<b>15</b> Creston City Council Meeting, 6 p.m., City Council Chambers	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Women in Business Meeting, 8 a.m., R Realty, 114 N. Elm	<b>18</b> Image Enhancement Committee Meeting, 7 a.m., Windrow Restaurant	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b> CHS Graduation	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> Last Day of School	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> Memorial Day	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>		

## JUNE

All Iowa Shop Hop, June 1 - June 14

- 1 Leslie's Dance Recital
- 2 KSIB Tractor Drive
- 3 Leslie's Dance Recital
- 4 Creston Farmers Market, 4-6:30 p.m., McKinley Park
- 5 Chamber Radio Grapevine Visit, 9 a.m.
- 6 Creston City Council Meeting, 6 p.m., City Council Chambers
- 7 Creston Chamber of Commerce Board Meeting, 7:30 a.m., Chamber Office
- 8 Creston Citywide Garage Sale, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- 9 Creston Farmers Market, 4-6:30 p.m., McKinley Park
- 10 Carson & Barnes Circus, 4:30 and 7:30 p.m.
- 11 Image Enhancement Committee Meeting, 7 a.m., Windrow Restaurant
- 12 SW Iowa Home Builders Alliance Home Show
- 13 Happy Father's Day
- 14 Creston Farmers Market, 4-6:30 p.m., McKinley Park
- 15 Creston City Council Meeting, 6 p.m., City Council Chambers
- 16 First Day of Summer
- 17 Women in Business Meeting, 8 a.m., R Realty, 114 N. Elm
- 18 Relay for Life
- 19 Concert in the Park, music by Foghat
- 20 Creston Farmers Market, 4-6:30 p.m., McKinley Park
- 21 Crazy Summer Sales Days
- 22 Elm's Club Bike Night Event
- 23 Crazy Summer Sales Days

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