

### Chamber Highlights

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE CRESTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Support YOUR Chamber . . . Buy from Chamber Members

### NOVEMBER 2013

#### In this Issue:

- Annual Meeting
- Christmas Parade
- Gold Star Honor
- November Hi-Fives
- Activity Calendar



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208 W. Taylor P.O. Box 471 Creston, lowa 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.

### **Creston Holiday GiveAway 2013**

This is a reminder about the <u>Creston Holiday GiveAway 2013</u> information that all of you were recently sent. Remember, any and all Chamber members can participate in the Giveaway and the more we have involved the bigger the promotion. A ballpark figure would put the number of tickets involved on 2012 at over 425,000 which compared to the approximately 400,000 tickets in 2011 and in 2010 and 385,000 tickets given out in 2009 and 2008. This would mean that approximately \$4.25 million dollars were spent in Creston during the two plus week promotion in 2012. We hope that this year will be just as successful and more

The Retail Promotion Committee hopes that this will keep more business local as people realize their chances of winning – five \$100 Creston Buck winners and three \$500 Creston Buck winners – will increase with the number of tickets, based on purchases, they enter into the drawing.

The Retail Promotion Committee is again suggesting that businesses draw out a ticket from those that have been deposited at their businesses for an in store prize before taking all of the tickets to the Chamber for the drawing. The Chamber will then publish the various stores winning numbers along with the GiveAway winners. Each store should also post their winning number along with the GiveAway winners.

This year in an effort to try to give all of the prizes away, we will do a second drawing for those tickets that remain unclaimed. To claim their prize on the first ticket drawing, prizes need to be picked up by 4:30 p.m. on January 3rd. If prizes are not collected by then, new tickets will be drawn for the remaining prizes. If these prizes are not claimed by January 17th by 4:30 p.m. all remaining proceeds revert back to the Creston Chamber Retail Committee.

Please call the Chamber at 782-7021 by November 14th if you would like to participate or if you have questions.

Please make this a Creston team effort and show your support for Creston by getting involved in **Creston Holiday GiveAway 2013.** 

### Invitation to the Annual Meeting from the Chamber Board

That time of year is upon us as plans are being finalized for the 74th Annual Meeting of the Creston Chamber of Commerce. This is an accomplishment that we would like to celebrate with you at the Supertel Inn & Conference Center on November 12th.

We will start the evening off with a social hour at 6:00 p.m. The Annual Meeting will follow dinner. At this time we will acknowledge members who joined the Chamber in 2013, recognize the Citizen of the Year, announce the Leadership and Youth Awards, and pay special thanks to several individuals who have helped make this another great year.

Please mark your calendars for November 12th and plan to be with us for this very special event.

Sincerely,

The Creston Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors

### 2013 Executive Board

President, Roger Lanning PCSB 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
- $\substack{\bullet \text{ Chuck Irelan} \\ \textit{Hy-Vee}}$
- 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
- Marsha Wilson Creston City Council Liaison
- Levi Eblen Ex Officio, Creston High School
- $\bullet \ {\bf Bree\ Daggett} \\ {\it Ex\ Officio,\ Creston\ High\ School}$

### **Directors Thoughts**

November is a special month for the Creston Chamber of Commerce. Seventy-four years ago the Chamber came into existence for "good" – there had been other attempts, but they proved to be unsuccessful. We have certainly come a long way over the years. I realize, and the Board of Directors realizes, that without you, our membership, we would not be where we are today. To all of our members, new and not so new, I say thank you. It is only through your continued support that the Chamber can continue to grow and continue our mission of, "promoting and showcasing the community", and at the same time be a, "leadership organization which helps to unify the community", as we, "map a course for Creston's future development".

Again thank you so much for the support.

Have a great month, as we all gear up for a very busy end of the year. I hope to see many of you at our Annual Meeting on the 12th.



# The Shovel Brigade Needs You

The Shovel Brigade is back by popular demand. If you would like to join this fun and "talented" group please call Ellen at the Chamber.

### Annual Meeting Tickets

Annual meeting tickets to our 74th Annual Meeting have been sent out to all chamber members. We make reservations based on the tickets not returned. If you are unable to attend please call or return your tickets by November 4th or you will be billed for them. If you need more tickets please let us know at the Chamber office. See you there!

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### **Lighted Christmas Parade**

The Lighted Christmas Parade will be held on Thursday, December 5, beginning at 7 p.m. We hope that many of you will have an entry in the parade.

Parade participants should line up by 6:45 p.m. The line-up will start at the corner of Mills and Pine Streets and go east on Mills toward Cherry to the Creston Livestock Auction parking lot. The parade route will be west on Mills to Elm Street south on Elm to Montgomery, west on Montgomery to Division, south on Division to Adams, and east on Adams to Walnut.

The only requirement that you must follow for the parade is that your entry be lighted.

This is a fun and spectacular event. There will be floats, Santa, and much, much more.

We ask that you please hand out any candy instead of throwing it. We want to make this a safe parade.

### Quilt Show to be featured the day of the Lighted Christmas Parade and during the "No Place Like Creston For the Holidays" Activities

Plans are also underway for the eleventh Annual Comfort and Joy Quilt Show, sponsored by the Patches and Pieces Quilt Guild, American Home Design Center and Quilts and Other Notions. The exhibit will be on display at Quilts & Other Notions Creative Center, 201 North Elm Street and be available to the public from December 5th through December 7th. Admission to the Show is \$2.00 or 2 canned goods. A block walk will also take place during this time in Uptown Creston.

# Gift Ideas or Stocking Stuffers

Do you like to do your Christmas shopping early and need a gift idea for that special someone, a co-worker or friend? The Chamber can help.

Creston Bucks are a great idea. Creston Bucks are user-friendly and guarantee the dollars will be spent locally at only Chamber member businesses. They also give the gift recipient more flexibility as to where in Creston to spend their gift as opposed to a standard gift certificate. You may order them in \$5, \$10 and \$20 increments. As an extra bonus, your Creston Bucks can be personalized if you call us a day in advance.

In addition, the Chamber has full color **Creston Afghans** available for your gift giving. They are \$44.95 plus tax and for an additional amount can be sent for you. They really are a great way to show pride in our community.

The Chamber also has **Creston canvas totes** available for \$6.00. They make a great gift. Stop by the Chamber and take a look.





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### **Decorate Your Place of Business**

The Retail Promotion & Showcase Committee would like to ask all Chamber members to decorate their place of business for the holiday season. Many of you now do this, and the results are beautiful, and greatly appreciated by the many that not only visit and shop Creston, but also those who live here. It wouldn't take much effort if each business would put little white lights in their windows during this time of the year, and think how eye catching this would be. It would certainly create an atmosphere and add continuity to our holiday displays.

This year we will honor the three top decorated businesses. You do not need to be a retail business to win. You do not even need to sign up. The Committee will drive around after December 2nd and select winners based on curb appeal. The three businesses selected will be notified and honored.

Thank you in advance for your effort. Please make this a Chamber-wide effort. If you have any questions, please contact the Chamber.

### **Why Support Local Business?**

- 1. 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.
- 2. Community Well-Being: Locally 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. Protect Local Character & Prosperity: By choosing to support local businesses you help maintain diversity and the distinctive character of Creston.
- 4. Local Decision Making: Important decisions are made locally by people who live in the community and who will feel the impacts of those decisions.
- 5. Jobs: Local businesses create jobs locally.

### Carolathon

The Union County Ministerial Alliance will again present the Annual Carolathon at the UCC Church, 501 West Montgomery, located at the corner of Division and Montgomery Street on the afternoon of the Lighted Christmas Parade, December 5th from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m. The public is invited to come and enjoy and participate.

All proceeds will go the Union County Ministerial Alliance Relief Fund.

# Food Pantry/ MATURA Outreach Neighborhood Center

Just a reminder that the Food Pantry has moved to 207 B North Elm. They are open year around from 8 to 4:30 p.m. They accept food donations at any time.

### Festival of Trees:

This year the Crisis Intervention a n d Advocacy Center is sponsoring the Festival of Trees that will be on display at **American Home Design** Center, 101 North Walnut Street, from December 5th through December 7th. This is a great opportunity to stroll through all the beautifully decorated trees. Silent bids will be taken during the event for individuals to purchase the trees.

### Buy/Shop Creston First

Again this year
as an added
bonus there
will be a
fireworks display
immediately
following the
Lighted
Christmas Parade
just East of
Uptown Creston.

### Balloon Items Reduced

The remaining 2013 Balloon Tee-shirts and sweatshirts have been reduced from their original price. Stop by the Chamber today and take advantage of this great value.

## Creston Indoor Farmers' Market is Now Open

The Creston Indoor Farmers' Market is now open at **She-Nae's Rescued & Renewed**, 311 West Montgomery Street on Fridays from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. through the Fall until late December. Lunch will be served by Back 40 BBQ.

### Buy/Shop Creston First



Remember to Buy/Shop Creston during this upcoming Holiday Season.

### November Gold Star Business Honor

Congratulations to:

Pizza Ranch 520 Livingston 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. Please call the Chamber to acknowledge a business property.

### November Hi-Fives For Great Customer Service Goes Out To

**Morgan Oetken, Office Machines,** for, "always being so pleasant and helpful. It is appreciated. Thank you."

**Thane Glynn, Countryside Products,** for, "the best customer service I have received from a businessman in this community. He will help his customers regardless of time of day or day of the week."

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.





"Putting You First"

STAFFING FOR THE MIDWEST

302 E. Taylor (Hwy 34) Creston, Iowa 50801

782-3300



500 Industrial Parkway Creston, Iowa 50801 641-782-5380 6.

### **Chamber Member Spotlight**

**She-Nae's Rescued and Renewed** is hoping their unique shop will draw more shoppers to Creston; especially, Uptown Creston. Passerbys can't help but notice the vintage, multi-colored building trimmed in fluorescent green and hot pink at 311 West Montgomery Street. Their phone number is 641-782-2252. Co-Owners, Rene' Foster and Sheila O'Riley, say the color scheme was contrived to reflect each of them in the shop; just like the name, She-Nae's. In case, you are wondering Rene's favorite color is the fluorescent green and Sheila's is the hot pink. This, in itself, gives you a clue to the wacky, fun personalities of the new friends and business partners.

Rene' and Sheila were introduced by a mutual friend who learned they had the same dream of owning a re-purposing and up-cycling shop after Rene' was displaced from her job and Sheila retired from hers late last winter. They went to work making plans and securing consignors for the shop and opened May 1st. As the building was previously used by Foster Construction and, some time before that, for Montgomery Ward tire center, it offers a trendy industrial atmosphere. In addition to a large show floor, it includes workshop areas for Rene' and Sheila to create their works of art and storage for projects in wait.

Most of the pieces for sale are one-of-a-kind unique pieces made from recycled material. Some pieces are remade for a new purpose; re-purposed; and some are given a new finish or look; up-cycled. Headboards are made into benches, tables are given new finishes, horseshoes become home décor, old dishes become garden art, etc.

One customer commented, "It's like Pinterest come to life!" Another customer said, "We are from out-of-town and happened to drive by. We just had to stop because the merchandise sitting in front of the shop reminds me of my favorite shop in New York."

Rene' says, "It is important to keep as much out of the landfill as we can in order to extend the life of landfills." Many people stop by She-Nae's with items they are throwing away anyway and offer them to the partners for free. Sheila says, "We feel re-using pieces for home and garden décor is not only a "green thing" to do, but they are much more interesting and make for great conversations."

The business also offers custom work to re-purpose or up-cycle customers' pieces or will look for or create special requests. They also offer interior design services. Sheila and Rene' are happy to share their stories with groups; either in the shop or off- site.

She-Nae's has a gift registry for special events and Christmas gifts wishes. They will have a men's shopping and refreshment night on December 18th. The Farmer's Market is there on Fridays and Saturdays until Christmas.

Many customers are amazed and delighted to see all the creative ideas from the owners and over 30 consignors. The ladies invite you to stop in and experience it for yourself.

### American Home Design Center

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### Newest Chamber Members

The Creston Chamber would like to acknowledge and say thank you to the newest members of the Creston Chamber of Commerce who joined during our Fall Membership Campaign.

Leilani's Antiques Collectibles & Second Hand Goods

**Perspective Counseling** 

Prairie Solid Waste Agency

She-Nae's Rescued & Renewed



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Creston Nursing & Rehab Center

1001 Cottonwood Road Creston, Iowa

641-782-8511

### Image Enhancement Committee October Flowerpots of the Month

The Image Enhancement Committee would like to acknowledge and again thank everyone who has cared for a flower pot this year. Your time and efforts are very much appreciated.

Creston News Advertiser, Family Shoes, Curves, Walters Custom Signs & T's, Coen Furniture, First National Bank, Tyler Insurance, Union County Court House, NAPA of Creston, Boyd Appliance Center, SIRHA, Quilts and Other Notions, Harvey Law Office, Innovative Industries, Van Gelder Clothing, Southwest Iowa Furniture Mart, Wishing Well, American Home Design Center, Connections Agency on Aging, Upper Crust, City of Creston, Creston Chiropractic, Vernie's Drapery Shop, Creston Veterinary Clinic, Grapevine Staffing, Stalkers Chevrolet, iWireless, Great Western Bank, Ben Adamson, State Farm Insurance, Southern Hills Veterinary Clinic, Jane Brown Physical Therapist, Hi-Crest Auto & United Super Wash, Quality Glass Company, Plentiful Harvest, Punky's, R Realty, Precision Optical Group, Eblen Accounting and Iowa Workforce Development.

### Image Enhancement Committee October Yards of the Month

The Image Enhancement Committee would like to acknowledge and congratulate the following yards that were honored as the October Yards of the Month:

509 West Howard

221 South Walnut

405 South Cherry

These yards join the September Honorees at 502 West Mills, 401 East Prairie and 415 New York Avenue, and the August Honorees at 1718 West Prairie, 408 South Elm and 1016 North Mulberry and the July Honorees at 402 West Lucas, 609 North Cherry and 1407 Elm Drive and the June Honorees at 505 McKinley, 1202 West Jefferson and 705 West Irving. Keep up the good work everyone.

Thank you to Creston True Value, Creston Super Walmart and Green Valley Pest & Lawn Care for again co-sponsoring the Yards of the Month, Area of the Month and flowerpot of the month with the Chamber this year. Your support is appreciated

### **NOVEMBER INSERTS**

CHAMBER & HOLIDAY CALENDAR

DOG GONE RESCUE

ST. MALACHY PTO

### **Creston:Arts**

Enjoy art in Uptown Creston. Each month Creston:Arts will present a new exhibit in the Gallery 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 1 to 4 p.m. for the public to stop by and enjoy the art. The November Show will feature "The Art of Carolyn & Bernie Stamper". The Artist Reception will be held on Friday, November 1st, from 6 to 8 p.m. For more information please call 1-641-247-1663.

### Chamber Thank you's to

- Thank you to Creston Walmart Super Center for their support of Salute to Industry Month.
- Thank you Barb Coenen, Maple Street Memories; Jason Davis, Vanmark; Don Mosman and Dick Anderson for their help and assistance during the Leadership Iowa Tour of Creston.



Follow the Chamber on Twitter at Creston, IA Chamber Creston
Chamber of Commerce
Activities

### November 2013

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					Creston:Arts Artist Reception, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m., Restored Depot	St. Malachy PTO Spaghetti Supper & Carnival, 4:30 – 7:30 p.m., St. Malachy School
Daylight Savings Time Ends	4	Monthly Chamber Radio Grapevine Visit, 9 a.m.  ELECTION DAY  SWCC Bookstore Holiday Open House, 7:30 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. Student Center  Creston City Council Meeting, 6 p.m. City Council Chambers	6	7	Veteran's Appreciation Breakfast 7:00 to 8:30 a.m. at Meal Site	9
10	<b>11</b> Veteran's Day	Creston Chamber of Commerce Annual Meeting, 6 p.m., Supertel Inn & Conference Center	13	14	Image Enhancement Committee Meeting, 7 a.m., Windrow Restaurant SWCC Athletic Fundraiser, 6 p.m., Elk's Lodge	16
17	18	Creston City Council Meeting, 6 p.m., City Council Chamber	20	Women in Business Meeting, 8 a.m., R Realty, 114 N. Elm	22	23 Second Annual Dog Gone Rescue Bowl -a- Thon and Jamfest, 2 p.m. to midnight, Pine Valley
24	25	26	27	28 HAPPY THANKSGIVING	<b>29</b> Holiday GiveAway 2013 Begins	30

### **DECEMBER**

Check out the
Calendar of Events Insert
found in this Newsletter
for Happenings Scheduled
in December

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# December 2013 Calendar of Events

- 3 Monthly Chamber Radio Grapevine Visit, 9 a.m.
  Creston City Council Meeting, 6 p.m., City Council Chambers
- 5 H & R Block Chamber Coffee, 10 a.m., 801 Wyoming

**Comfort and Joy Quilt Show**, 9 a.m. till after the Parade, Quilts & Other Notions Creative Center, 201 N. Elm **Festival of Trees**, 9 a.m. till after the Parade, American Home Design Center, 101 N. Walnut

**Quilt Block Walk in Uptown Creston** 

Santa & Mrs. Claus Arrive at the Depot, 4:30 to 7 p.m., Pictures available for a fee, Friends of the Library

Model Railroaders Working at the Depot, 4:30 p.m. to close

Creston Arts: Gallery Open at the Depot, 4:30 p.m. to close

ASP Soup Supper, Depot

Creston Farmers Indoor/ Winter Market, 4 to 8ish p.m., 311 W. Montgomery

Carolathon, Christmas Around the World, 5:00 to 6:30 p.m., at 501 W. Montgomery

Cider and Donut Holes Served in the Depot

Lighted Christmas Parade, 7 p.m., Uptown Creston

Fireworks after the parade

Iowa State Savings Bank Holiday Open House, following the Parade, ISSB Uptown Location

- 6 Comfort and Joy Quilt Show, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Quilts & Other Notions Creative Center, 201 N. Elm Festival of Trees, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., American Home Design Center, 101 N. Walnut Quilt Block Walk in Uptown Creston
- 7 Comfort and Joy Quilt Show, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Quilts & Other Notions Creative Center, 201 N. Elm Festival of Trees, 8 a.m. to Noon, American Home Design Center, 101 N. Walnut Quilt Block Walk in Uptown Creston
- 8 CARE Santa Pictures at Creston Veterinary Clinic St. Malachy All School Christmas Concert, 2 p.m., Performing Arts Center "All Creatures Great and Small" Musical Concert, 2 p.m., CHS
- 11 Creston Chamber of Commerce & UCDA Holiday Open House, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Chamber/UCDA Offices
- 12 Java J's & True Value Ladies Night, 5 to 8 p.m., 801 W. Townline
- 13 Creston Chamber of Commerce Board Meeting, 7:30 a.m., Chamber Office
- 14 Santa at the Christmas Castle at the Restored Depot, 9 a.m. to Noon CARE Craft & Goodie boutique at the Depot, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- 15 SWCC Chamber Choir presents Holiday Carols in Concert, 7:30 p.m., Performing Arts Center
- 16 Creston Middle School Winter Concert, 7 p.m.
- 17 Skilled Workers Conference, Osceola, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
  Creston City Council Meeting, 6 p.m., City Council Chambers
- 18 Creston Holiday GiveAway 2013 Drawing, 10:30 a.m., Chamber Office
- **19 Women in Business**, 8 a.m., R Realty, 114 North Elm **CHS Winter Concert**, 7 p.m.
- 25 Merry Christmas
- 31 New Year's Eve

Stappy Solidays

HOLIDAY EVENTS

### "THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE CRESTON FOR THE HOLIDAYS"

December 5 to December 8 & December 14, 2013 (Events subject to Change)

### December 5th

### **Comfort and Joy Quilt Show**

9 a.m. until after the parade Quilts & Other Notions Creative Center

#### **Festival of Trees**

9 a.m. until after the parade American Home Design Center

### **Quilt Block Walk in Uptown Businesses**

Santa & Mrs. Claus Arrive at the Depot,

4:30 to 7 p.m.,

Pictures available for a fee Friends of the Library

### Model Railroaders Working at the Depot

4:30 p.m. to close

### **Creston Arts: Gallery Open at the Depot**

4:30 p.m. to close

#### **ASP Soup Supper**

Depot

### **Creston Farmers/Winter Market**

4 to 8ish p.m.

311 West Montgomery

#### Carolathon,

5:00 to 6:30 p.m.

501 W. Montgomery

Cider and Donut Holes Served in the Depot

#### Lighted Christmas Parade,

7 p.m., Uptown Creston

Fireworks after the parade

### Iowa State Savings Bank Holiday Open House,

following the Parade,

**ISSB Uptown Location** 

### For more information contact the Creston Chamber of Commerce, 641-782-7021

www.crestoniowachamber.com chamber@crestoniowachamber.com

### December 6th

### Comfort and Joy Quilt Show

9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Quilts & Other Notions Creative Center

### **Festival of Trees**

8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

American Home Design Center

### **Quilt Block Walk in Uptown Businesses**

### **Creston Farmers/Winter Market**

11 a.m. to 6 p.m. 311 West Montgomery

### December 7th

### **Comfort and Joy Quilt Show**

9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Quilts & Other Notions Creative Center

#### **Festival of Trees**

8 a.m. to Noon

American Home Design Center

### **Creston Farmers/Winter Market**

9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

311 West Montgomery

**Quilt Block Walk in Uptown Businesses** 

### **December 8th**

### St. Malachy All School Christmas Concert

2:00 p.m., Performing Arts Center

#### **All Creatures Great & Small Concert**

2:00 p.m., CHS

### **December 14th**

Santa at the Christmas Castle at the Restored Depot

**Model Railroaders Working at the Depot** 

9 a.m. to Noon

### CARE Craft and Goodie Boutique at the Depot

10 a.m. to 3 p.m.