

# Chamber Highlights

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE CRESTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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

## APRIL 2013

### *In this Issue:*

- Omelet Appreciation
- Paint Creston Program
- Gold Star Honor
- April Hi-Fives
- Activity Calendar



208 W. Taylor  
P.O. Box 471  
Creston, Iowa 50801  
641-782-7021  
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[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.

## **Chamber Omelet Appreciation Breakfast Is Coming**

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

### **Chamber Omelet Appreciation Breakfast**

**Wednesday, May 1**

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!

## **Upcoming 2013 Citywide Retail Promotions**

The Retail Promotions Committee of the Chamber is planning the following Citywide Retail Promotions for 2013.

**City-Wide Garage Sale/Sidewalk Sale,**  
June 8

**Crazy Summer Sales Days (formerly  
Crazy Days) – June 28 & 29**

**State of Iowa Tax Free Weekend,**  
August 2 & 3

**Creston's Taste of the Town,**  
October 11 & 12

**Holiday Giveaway Promotion 2013,**  
November 29 to December 17

**Please mark your calendars  
and plan to be part of these events.**

## **Paint Creston Program**

The Creston Chamber of Commerce is again offering the Paint Creston Program to a minimum of three Creston homeowners in 2013. Applications are available at the Chamber Office through May 10<sup>th</sup>. Twelve homes have been painted in the previous three years through this program.

Please feel free to share this information with those you think could benefit.

A little paint can make a dramatic difference.

## **Creston Bucks**

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

**The Chamber Annual Report will be included in the  
April 24<sup>th</sup> issue of the *Creston News Advertiser*.  
Be watching for it.**

### 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 Ireland  
*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*
- Britany Ireland  
*Ex Officio, Creston High School*
- Levi Eblen  
*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.*



## 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.

## 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 5<sup>th</sup> from 6 to 8 p.m. For more information please call 1-641-247-1663.

## American Home Design Center

**101 Ways to  
Improve Your Home**  
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641-782-8511

### Chamber Member Spotlight



The Creston Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors held a Ribbon Cutting at Sumner Lesson Studios, 904 N. Sumner, Suite B on March 8<sup>th</sup>.

### Chamber Golf Outing Scheduled

The Chamber Summer Golf Outing has been scheduled for Friday, July 12<sup>th</sup> 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.

### 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.



On March 15<sup>th</sup> the Creston Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors held a Ribbon Cutting at Big Boyz Toys, 900 S. Division.

### 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 20<sup>th</sup> 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.

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Creston, Iowa 50801

**782-3300**

**FERRARA CANDY COMPANY**

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



**IowaWORKS  
Job Fair**

**April 25<sup>th</sup>**

from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Creston YMCA

Please call Elizabeth Waigand at  
641-782-2119 ext. 41  
to reserve your space

**5<sup>th</sup> Annual SWCC  
Smart Business  
Conference &  
Expo**

**June 10<sup>th</sup>**

Instructional Center, SWCC

Buy/Shop Creston First

**Buy Creston  
First**



Remember to  
Buy/Shop Creston.

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

*Do something Nice for Somebody this Week*

SWCC's 2013 Pay it Forward (PIF) Week will be held April 22-26, 2013. 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 22-26, 2013 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@swcciowa.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 2012 PIF Video to learn more about this activity:

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

**April Gold Star Business Honor**

**Congratulations to:**

**Creston Chiropractic P.C.**

**905 West Townline 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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## 2013 Creston Chamber of Commerce Investments

A special **thank you** to all members of the Creston Chamber of Commerce who have renewed their investment for 2013 through March 21<sup>st</sup>.

**(• Denotes New or Returning Chamber Members)**

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
- Sumner Lesson Studios
- Elm's Club
- Big Boyz Toyz
- Elizabeth Waigand, IowaWORKS
- Casey's Store Hwy 34
- Casey's Store Hwy 25
- Adams Street Country Lodge  
Bed & Breakfast
- Advance Services Inc.
- Advanced Restoration Services
- A & G Pizza & Steakhouse
- Akin Building Center
- Alliant Energy
- American Family Insurance,  
Turner Insurance Agency
- American Home Design Center
- American Homes by Dave Long
- Area XIV Agency on Aging
- Arlan Biere
- Arnold Motor Supply, LLC
- Barker Implement
- Bill Fastenow
- B.M. Sales
- Bob & Betty Jungst
- Bob & Freida Berning
- Boyd Appliance Center
- Buena Vista University
- Built Networks by
- Dennis LaMasters
- Bunn-O-Matic Corporation
- Callahan Real Estate
- Carroll Family Chiropractic
- Carter Agency, Inc.
- Casey's Store East
- Casey's Store West
- Casey's Store North
- Casey's Store South
- Casey Wireless, LLC
- Central Iowa Power Cooperative
- Charlie Brown Auto Ltd
- Chat Mobility/Radio Shack
- City of Creston
- Coen's Furniture Inc.
- Cook Video & Appliance
- Cornerstone Financial Group
- Country Court RV Park
- Crest Haven Care Centre
- Crestmoor Golf Club, Inc.
- Creston Audiology &  
Hearing Aid Center
- Creston Automotive
- Creston Chiropractic P.C.
- Creston Farm & Home Supply
- Creston Farmers Market
- Creston Livestock Auction
- Creston Medical Clinic, P.C.
- Creston Nursing & Rehab Center
- Creston Community Schools
- Creston Publishing Company
- Creston Super 8 Motel
- Creston True Value
- Creston Veterinary Clinic
- Creston Vision Clinic, P.C.
- Crop Production Services
- Curves
- Dairy Queen of Creston
- Delmer Brown
- Di Miller, at 3's Company
- Dr. Al & Pat Pokorny
- Dr. Brian Kinkade, O.D.
- Dr. Dan Coen
- Dr. Dave Buck
- Dr. Steve Tilley
- Dr. William Todd Scott
- Draper, Snodgrass, Mikkelsen & Co.
- Eblen Accounting & Tax
- Eby's Auto
- Edward Jones Investments
- Echo Electric
- F & M Body Shop
- Family Shoe Store
- Family Vision Center
- Ferrara Candy Company
- First Federal Savings Bank
- First National Bank
- Fredricksen Memorials
- Garden & Associates Ltd.
- Gavilon Grain, LLC
- Gay Lynn Owens, Stewart Realty
- Graphic Displays
- Grapevine Staffing, LLC
- Great Western Bank
- Greater Regional Medical Center
- Green Valley Chemical
- Green Valley Pest & Lawn Care
- Green Valley Realty

## 2013 Creston Chamber of Commerce Investments

A special **thank you** to the following members of the Creston Chamber of Commerce who have renewed their investment for 2013.

Hahn Roofing	McDonald's of Creston	Snark Publishing Inc.
Hair House	Medicap Pharmacy	Southern Hills Veterinary Services, Inc
Hair Tech School of Cosmetology	Mid-State Surveying & Consulting	Southern Iowa Regional Housing Authority
Hammer Medical Supply	Midwest Carbonic Inc	Southern Iowa Resources for Families
Heartland Tire & Auto Center	Midwest Opportunities, Inc.	Southern Iowa Rural Water Association
Hi-Crest Auto & United Super Wash	Moberg Iowa Realty	Southern Prairie YMCA
Hometown Insurance	Morning Star Internal Medicine Clinic	Southwestern Community College
Hometown Realty	Mullin Mullin and Harvey	Southwestern IA Chapter of SHRM
Hy Vee Food Store	NAPA-Creston	Stalker Car Wash
I Think I Can Child Care Center	Newbury Management Co/ Summit House	Stalker Chevrolet Inc.
Innovative Industries, Inc.	Nishna Valley Credit Union	Stalker Rentals
Internal Medicine Consultants	Office Machines Company	State Farm Insurance, Ben Adamson
Iowa Focus	Pearson Family Funeral Service	State Savings Bank
Iowa State Savings Bank	Petznick Printing Company	Stewart Realty
Iowa Tool & Manufacturing Inc.	Phillips' Floors	Subway - Hwy 34
Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation Service	Pine Valley Golf & Bowl	Subway - Super Walmart
J & A Flooring	Piper Sign Art	Supertel Inn & Conference Center
James Law Office, P.C.	Pizza Ranch	Taco John's
Jane's Headquarters	Planned Parenthood of the Heartland	Taylor Financial
Jane Lowe, Stewart Realty	Plentiful Harvest	Teresa's Fine Floral
Java J's	Pokorny BP & Automotive Service	three C design
Jo Anne Duckworth, Union County Emergency Management	Powers Funeral Home	Timberview B & B
Kawa Construction	Prairie View Assisted Living	Tyler Insurance Services, Inc.
Kay Ritter	Precast Concrete	Union County Abstract
Ken Hudson	Precision Optical Group	Union County Extension & Outreach
Ken's Barber Shop	Quality Glass Company	U.S. Cellular
Kilgore's Enterprises, Inc.	Ralph & Marilyn Edwards	U-Haul
Kilgore's Rental & Lease LLC	R.E. Lewis Refrigeration	Vanmark Equipment LLC
Kilgore's RV Sales & Service	R Realty	Vernie's Drapery Shop
Kinkade Industries	Rhine Body Repair	Vickers Programming & Service
KSIB Radio	Rieman Music	Walmart Super Center
Leslie's Dance Emporium	Roger Saxton, Stewart Realty	Waste Management of Creston
Linda A. Green, Accountant	Rural Iowa Crisis Center	Windrow Restaurant & Sports Bar
M & M Motors	Sharon Bennett	Winterstien Construction, LLC
Maple Street Memories	Sister Chicks Catering	

## 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.

## 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 13<sup>th</sup> and remain open until October 5<sup>th</sup>. 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.

**APRIL  
INSERT**

**Arnold Motor Supply**



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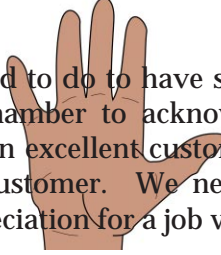

*Commitment you can bank on.*

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

**The Upper Crust**, “their excellent service. They are so friendly and pleasant.”

**Sherry Wallace, Windrow Restaurant & Sports Bar**, for, “being so efficient and treating her customers so nicely. 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 for a job well done.



## Tips for Promoting Your Business

- 1) Attend Chamber events regularly to make business contacts.
- 2) Join Chamber committees to benefit your company.
- 3) Introduce yourself and shake hands often at Chamber events.
- 4) Give out business cards generously.
- 5) List products and services on the back of your business card.
- 6) Thank clients openly for their business.
- 7) Promote your business through Chamber publications.
- 8) Do business with fellow Chamber members.
- 9) Call on new Chamber members; they may be prospective customers.
- 10) Periodically review Chamber member benefits to be sure you are taking advantage of every one of them.

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Difference!*

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**Creston  
Chamber of Commerce  
Activities**

**April 2013**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> Chamber Radio Grapevine Visit, 9 a.m. Creston City Council Meeting, 6 p.m. City Council Chambers	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Health Careers Employment Fair, 12:30 p.m., SWCC	<b>5</b> Career & Technical Education Recruitment Day, 8:30 a.m., SWCC	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> Arnold Motor Supply Grand Opening & Ribbon Cutting, 10 a.m., 502 W. Adams	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> Creston Chamber of Commerce Board Meeting, 7:30 a.m., Chamber Office	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> Greater Regional Medical Center Auxiliary Spring Fling Luncheon 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. United Methodist Church	<b>16</b> Creston City Council Meeting, 6 p.m., City Council Chambers	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> Women in Business Meeting, 8 a.m., R Realty, 114 N. Elm SWCC Awards Ceremony, SWCC Performing Arts Center	<b>19</b> Image Enhancement Committee Meeting, 7 a.m., Windrow Restaurant Fredricksen Memorials Open House & Coffee, 10 a.m., 902 N. Sumner	<b>20</b> McKinley Park, Hurley Creek Community Clean-up, 8 a.m. Creston High School Prom
<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> Annual Chamber Tab can be found in the Creston News Advertiser	<b>25</b> IowaWORKS (Iowa Workforce Development) Job Fair, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., Creston YMCA	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> Legislative Coffee, 8:00 a.m., Multi Purpose Room at the YMCA Spotlight School of Dance Season Finale
<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>April 20 - 27 Money Smart Week</b> <b>April 22 - 26 SWCC Pay It Forward Week</b> <b>(DO) something nice for Somebody this Week!</b>			

**MAY**

- 1 Chamber Member Omelet Appreciation Breakfast, Congregate Mealsite, 7 to 8:30 a.m.
- 2 Chamber Radio Grapevine Visit, 9 a.m.
- 4 YMCA Healthy Kids Day, 9 a.m. to Noon
- 7 Creston City Council Meeting, 6 p.m., City Council Chambers
- 10 Creston Chamber of Commerce Board Meeting, 7:30 a.m., Chamber Office
- 11 YMCA Spring 5K Fun Run
- 12 Happy Mother's Day
- 13 Visitor Center Opens for the Season
- 16 Women in Business Meeting, 8 a.m., R Realty, 114 N. Elm
- 17 Image Enhancement Committee Meeting, 7 a.m., Windrow Restaurant
- 19 CHS Graduation
- 21 Creston City Council Meeting, 6 p.m., City Council Chambers
- 27 Memorial Day

Creston Chamber of Commerce  
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