



# Chamber Highlights

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE CRESTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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

## MARCH 2013

### *In this Issue:*

- Chamber Member Spotlight
- Legislative Coffees
- Gold Star Honor
- March Hi-Fives
- Activity Calendar



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

## **Commercial Tax Abatement Available in the City of Creston**

The City of Creston offers a Commercial Tax Abatement on certain types of qualifying improvements. These include new construction on vacant land, additions to existing structures, replacement of existing structures and rehabilitation of existing structures.

There are certain qualifications for eligibility. An overview of the criteria is that improvements must be added during the time the area is designated as a revitalization area - through December 31, 2013; Improvements consisting of rehabilitation or additions to existing buildings must increase the actual value of the property by at least 15%; Improvements must be completed in accordance with all applicable zoning and other regulations of the City and finally the improvements must not be located within an area subject to tax incremental financing (see actual ordinance for specifics).

All applications must be approved by the Creston City Council.

For more detailed information, and or an application please contact the Chamber at 782-7021 or Creston City Offices at 782-2000 ext.4.

## **Legislative Coffee**

During the 2013 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, March 23 and April 27 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.

## **Creston Job Fair**

The IowaWORKS (Iowa Workforce Development) Center in Creston, Iowa, will be holding a Job Fair on April 25<sup>th</sup> from 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Attendees from the counties of: Adair, Union, Clark, Decatur, Ringgold, Taylor, Adams, Montgomery and Madison are expected to be in attendance.

**Date:** April 25<sup>th</sup>, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.  
(10:30 a.m. set up)

**Location:** Creston, IA YMCA  
(1201 W Townline St, Creston, IA 50801)

**Cost:** \$30 per table

Tables will be available for your use. We hope that you will join with us in this venture.

Please call Elizabeth Waigand at IowaWORKS for more information at 641-782-2119 ext.41.

### 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*
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- Mike Coen  
*Coen's Furniture, Inc.*
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*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  
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- 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 beginning to gear up for all the many events that will be taking place in the Creston area over the next few months. If you would like to be more involved with one of the committees or upcoming activities, please give Ellen a call at the Chamber. It is always nice to get new ideas, or an extra set of hands.*

*If you are already pressed for time, but have an idea or suggestion please let me hear from you. We do care about what our membership thinks. The more people we can involve in the Creston Chamber, the stronger our Chamber can be along with our entire community.*

*The Creston Chamber of Commerce looks forward to your continued support.* *Ellen*

Just a reminder that the 2013 Southern Iowa Tourism Guides are now available at the Chamber Office. Stop by and pick up your copies today.

### 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.

### 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 March Show will be, "Not Your Grandmother's China Painting," featuring the work of Judy Gile. The Artist Reception will be held on March 1<sup>st</sup> from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Gallery. For more information please call 1-641-247-1663.

### Mailing List Reminder

Just a reminder to members that if you have recently moved or changed your address please let the Chamber know so that we may keep our records current.

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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 renewed their investment for 2013 through February 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
- Summer Lesson Studios
- Adams Street Country Lodge  
Bed & Breakfast
- Advance Restoration Services
- 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
- B.M. Sales
- Barker Implement
- Bob & Betty Jungst
- Bob & Freida Berning
- Boyd Appliance Center
- Built Networks by  
Dennis LaMasters
- Bunn-O-Matic Corporation
- Callahan Real Estate
- Carroll Family Chiropractic
- Carter Agency, Inc.
- 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 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
- Crop Production Services
- Curves
- Dairy Queen of Creston
- Delmer Brown
- Dr. Al & Pat Pokorny
- Dr. Brian Kinkade, O.D.
- Dr. Dan Coen
- Dr. William Todd Scott
- Draper, Snodgrass, Mikkelsen & Co.
- Eblen Accounting & Tax
- Eby' 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
- Gavilon Grain, LLC
- Gay Lynn Owens, Stewart Realty
- Grapevine Staffing, LLC
- Great Western Bank
- Greater Regional Medical Center
- Green Valley Chemical
- Green Valley Pest & Lawn Care
- Green Valley Realty
- Hahn Roofing
- Hammer Medical Supply
- Heartland Tire & Auto Center
- Hi-Crest Auto & United Super Wash
- Hometown Insurance
- Hometown Realty
- I Think I Can Child Care Center
- Internal Medicine Consultants
- Iowa State Savings Bank
- Iowa Tool & Manufacturing Inc.
- Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation Service
- J & A Flooring
- James Law Office, P.C.
- Jane's Headquarters
- Java J's
- Jo Anne Duckworth,  
Union County Emergency Management
- Kawa Construction
- Ken Hudson

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

### 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 through February 21<sup>st</sup>.

Ken's Barber Shop  
Kilgore's Enterprises, Inc.  
Kilgore's Rental & Lease LLC  
Kilgore's RV Sales & Service  
Kinkade Industries  
KSIB Radio  
Leslie's Dance Emporium  
Linda A. Green, Accountant  
M & M Motors  
Maple Street Memories  
McDonald's of Creston  
Medicap Pharmacy  
Mid-State Surveying & Consulting  
Midwest Carbonic Inc.  
Midwest Opportunities, Inc.  
Moberg Iowa Realty  
Morning Star Internal Medicine Clinic  
Mullin Mullin and Harvey  
NAPA-Creston  
Nishna Valley Credit Union  
Office Machines Company  
Petznick Printing Co.  
Pine Valley Golf & Bowl  
Piper Sign Art  
Pizza Ranch  
Planned Parenthood of the Heartland  
Pokorny BP & Automotive Service  
Powers Funeral Home  
Prairie View Assisted Living  
Precast Concrete  
Precision Optical Group  
R.E. Lewis Refrigeration  
R Realty  
Kay Ritter  
Rhine Body Repair

Rieman Music  
Roger Saxton, Stewart Realty  
Rural Iowa Crisis Center  
Sharon Bennett  
Sister Chicks Catering  
Snark Publishing Inc.  
Southern Hills Veterinary Services, Inc  
Southern IA Chapter of SHRM  
Southern Iowa  
Regional Housing Authority  
Southern Iowa Resources for Families  
Southern Iowa Rural Water Association  
Southern Prairie YMCA  
Southwestern Community College  
Stalker Chevrolet Inc.  
Stalker Rentals  
State Farm Insurance, Ben Adamson  
State Savings Bank  
Stalker Car Wash  
Stewart Realty  
Subway - Hwy 34  
Subway - Super Walmart  
Supertel Inn & Conference Center  
Taco John's  
Teresa's Fine Floral  
three C design  
Timberview B & B

Tyler Insurance Services, Inc.  
Taylor Financial  
Union County Abstract  
Union County Extension & Outreach  
U.S. Cellular  
U-Haul  
Vernie's Drapery Shop  
Vickers Programming & Service  
Waste Management of Creston  
Winterstien Construction, LLC

### Balloon Day Sponsors

If you have not yet received your 2012 "hangy down" plaque please call or stop by the Chamber to pick it up. If you have missed other years please let us know.

### Member Referrals

Do you have a friend or 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!!

### SAVE THE DATE

**5th Annual Southwestern Business Conference and Expo**  
**Monday, June 10, 2013 - SWCC - Creston**  
**8 a.m. to 4 p.m.**



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## Chamber Member Spotlight

**Kiki's Graphic Design** is owned and operated by Kiki (Kuhns) Scarberry. Kiki has 11 years of experience in marketing, advertising, layout and design. She worked as the Marketing Director at Southwestern Community College prior to going to work for Boyt Harness Company in Osceola, Iowa, for the past seven years. In February 2013, Kiki left Boyt to work on her graphic design business full-time and has been fortunate enough to take Boyt with her as a client. Also in her client list are: Upper Crust Culinary, Nona Via, Graphic Displays, Warren Cultural Center, Clear Target Optics and LD3 Media Group.

Kiki's portfolio includes brochures, post cards, catalogs, wedding invitations, business cards, web design, Facebook promotions, eblasts, newsletters, flyers and much more. Her business philosophy is to deliver high quality design that is on-time and in-line with your budget. Quotes are always free and references are available, please call 641-278-6171, email [kiki@kikisgraphics.com](mailto:kiki@kikisgraphics.com) or on the web at [www.kikisgraphics.com](http://www.kikisgraphics.com).

**March Inserts**  
**PEO**  
**Omelet Event**

**See** the *Difference!*

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## Mila's Attic

**Mila's Attic** is a clothing and accessory consignment shop that features infant supplies, children's and junior's clothing, and accessories that includes shoes, purses and jewelry. Open Tuesday - Saturday Mila's Attic is dedicated to providing the community with a clothing alternative that is economical, and offers the opportunity to own name brands at a fraction of department store prices.

Items that are high in demand are infant supplies like strollers, car seats, toddler beds, bouncers, walkers, play mats and exersaucers. Name brand clothing such as Abercrombie, Big Star, Silver, Aeropostale, Gymboree, Justice, BKE and more. These brands and items are being bought for cash so you don't have to wait to receive your consignment payments.

For more information on consigning your items or to stop in to shop, Mila's Attic is located at 101 W.

Taylor St., Suite A, Creston, Iowa, on Highway 34 next to Great Western Bank. They can be reached at 641-782-2180 or on the web at [www.milasattic.com](http://www.milasattic.com)

**March Gold Star Business Honor**

Congratulations to:  
**James Law Office**  
205 North Elm 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.

**March Hi-Fives For Great Customer Service Goes Out To**

**Steve Churchill, NAPA of Creston**, "For your great customer service. He went above and beyond. Thank you."

**Trisha Wentland, Creston HyVee**, "for being so kind and helpful to your customers and making them feel important. 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.



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**Creston  
Chamber of Commerce  
Activities**

# March 2013

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					<b>1</b> Governor Branstad Town Hall Meeting, 10:30 a.m., 213 W. Adams Artist Reception at the Creston Arts Gallery, 6 to 8 p.m., Restored Depot	<b>2</b> Creston Park & Rec Dinner Comedy, 5:30 p.m., Eagles
<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> Chamber Radio Grapevine Visit, 9 a.m. PEO Omelet Buffett, 11 a.m. - 7 p.m., Methodist Church Creston City Council Meeting, 6 p.m., City Council Chambers	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> Creston Chamber of Commerce Board Meeting, 7:30 a.m., Chamber Office Ribbon Cutting, Sumner Lesson Studios, 10 a.m., 904 Sumner Ave, Ste B	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b> Daylight Saving Time Begins	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> Local Foods in Our Community Mtg. 3 p.m., 211 West Adams	<b>15</b> Image Enhancement Committee Meeting, 7 a.m., Windrow Restaurant Ribbon Cutting, J & M Services/Big Boyz Toyz, 10 a.m., 900 S. Division SWCC Scholarship Deadline for Fall 2013 Semester	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> St. Patricks Day	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> Creston City Council Meeting, 6 pm, City Council Chambers	<b>20</b> First Day of Spring	<b>21</b> Women in Business Meeting, 8 a.m., R Realty, 114 North Elm	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> Legislative Coffee, 8:00 a.m., Multi Purpose Room at the YMCA
<b>24</b> Palm Sunday  Happy Easter <b>31</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> Kiwanis Pancake Day, 11 - 7:00 p.m.	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>

## APRIL

- 2 Chamber Radio Grapevine Visit, 9 a.m.  
Creston City Council Meeting, 6 p.m., City Council Chambers
- 12 Creston Chamber of Commerce Board Meeting, 7:30 a.m., Chamber Office
- 16 Creston City Council Meeting, 6 p.m., City Council Chambers
- 18 Women in Business Meeting, 8 a.m., R Realty, 114 N. Elm
- 19 Image Enhancement Committee Meeting, 7 a.m., Windrow Restaurant
- 20 Creston High School Prom  
20 - 27 Money Smart Week  
McKinley Community Clean-up Day, 8 a.m.
- 24 Annual Chamber Tab can be found in the Creston News Advertiser
- 25 IowaWORKS (Iowa Workforce Development) Job Fair,  
11 a.m. to 3 p.m., Creston YMCA
- 27 Legislative Coffee, 8:00 a.m., Multi Purpose Room at the YMCA  
Spotlight School of Dance Season Finale

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