



# CHAMBER/MAIN STREET NEWS

www.westunion.com

March 2015

## EXCITING THINGS ARE HAPPENING!

There are some exciting things happening with the West Union Area Chamber of Commerce and Main Street West Union! Both boards of directors have voted to merge the two organizations into one entity.

The objective of each will not be changed. There will still be focus on the entire West Union area (including surrounding communities) and the four points of emphasis – organization, business improvement, promotions and design – as set by the Iowa Main Street program. It is estimated to take about a year until the entire merger has been accomplished.

We are so excited to come together and strive to continue to make our community a great place to live, work, and play. We are still working to find a name for the new organization, so please stop by our office at 101 North Vine, or call (563) 422-3070 with suggestions. We'd love to have your input! Thank you for your continued support!

## It's A Great Day, West Union!

If you've called our offices lately, you may have noticed our new way of answering the phone; "It's a great day in West Union, this is the Chamber and Main Street office," or "It's a great day in Fayette County, this is Economic Development!" We'd like to invite your business to join with us in using this greeting! This initiative was spurred on by Fayette County Economic Development & Tourism's Karla Organist as a way to show pride in our community, without costing a thing. Plus, it's impossible to say without a smile. We'd love to hear from you if you are planning to use this greeting in your home or business!

### Inside This Issue:

Main Street/Chamber News	2-3
Diva's & Dining	4
March Calendar	Insert

Bob Sadler, President  
 Amie Johansen, Vice - President  
 Pattie Heuton, Secretary  
 Karla Organist, Treasurer  
 Carolyn Havenstrite  
 Greg Ptacek  
 Melody Patrick

Amy Christensen  
 Dick Woodard  
 Gail Hackman  
 Jane Blumhagen  
 Carolyn Weber  
 Allison Moschel  
 John Pleggenkuhle  
 Jon Biederman

OUR NEW  
 BOARD OF  
 DIRECTORS

DIRECTOR  
 Jennifer Tobin



**FREE  
National  
Incident  
Management  
System  
Training**



**FEMA**

- IS-100** - Introduction to Incident Command System
- IS-200** - Single Resources and Initial Action Incidents
- IS-700** - National Incident Management System (Introduction)

**Dates & Time**

Monday, March 30, 8 am - 4 pm  
IS-100 & IS-700  
Tuesday, March 31, 8 am - 3 pm  
IS-200

**Location & Details**

Palmer Lutheran Health Center  
Boeke-Freed Education Center (lower level)

**Instructor**

Mitch Nordmeyer  
Butler County Emergency Management Director

**Pre-register**

Call Jessica at Palmer Community Health  
563-422-6267  
j.wegner@palmerlutheran.org



**Remember**

Daylight Savings Time begins at 2:00 am on Sunday, March 8th.

**Knights of Columbus Annual Lenten Fish Fry**



The Knights of Columbus Council # 4287 will offer its annual Lenten Fish Fry on Friday, March 13th at the Holy Name Parish Center. They will be serving from 4:30 to 8:00 pm. Advanced tickets are \$9.00 and tickets at the door are \$9.50. Carry-outs will be available.

**GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP**

**West Union & Oelwein**

Available to Anyone Who Has Experienced a Loss

**Join Us!** The Grief Support Group is an eight-week long program beginning March 2. Meeting will be every Monday (in West Union) & Thursday (in Oelwein) for 90 minutes.

"Anyone can feel grief over the loss of a loved one, whether that be a spouse, friend, child, grandparent, sibling, etc. The grief a person feels can vary based on different aspect specific to that person. Grief is very unique."

**To Register** (563) 422-6267  
(800) 335-0711  
Pre-registration is required

**What is Involved?**

A facilitator will assist in leading a structured support group designed to bring individuals together to share thoughts, experiences and feelings regarding their loss.

Utilizing a grief book, "Understanding Your Grief" which participants get to keep, the facilitators attempt to help people understand what they are feeling.



**Join Us...**

**WEST UNION**

Begins Monday, March 2 – West Union  
4:30 - 6 p.m.  
Palmer Homecare Services , Lower Level, 200 Jefferson Street

**OELWEIN**

Begins Thursday, March 5  
2:00 - 3:30 p.m.  
Palmer Homecare Services, 955 N. Frederick Ave.

Sponsored by Palmer Hospice and Palmer Lutheran Health Center





## Mark Your Calendars!

This year, the 2015 North Iowa Tractor Ride will headquarter in West Union at the Fayette County Fairgrounds July 16th-18th. The group of about 150 is excited to ride along our beautiful River Bluff Scenic Byway! More details to come in the future months.

### Volunteer Opportunities Requested

Earth Day, along with Fayette Appreciation Days is coming up on April 22<sup>nd</sup>! This is a day for college students from Upper Iowa University to volunteer in local communities. These acts of service include raking leaves, mowing, painting, cleaning parks, picking weeds, and so on. The only requirement for the person/group asking for a service is that they provide the equipment (rakes, paint, shovels, etc.). We are asking that anyone in need of a service, or with a project idea, please call the Chamber/Main Street office at (563) 422-3070.

#### Upcoming Classes at NICC (Calmar Campus)

800-728-2256, ext. 399 [www.nicc.edu/solutions](http://www.nicc.edu/solutions)

##### Career Development

The Perfect Storm (making the most of cross-generational differences) - March 17, \$59

Food for Thought: LinkedIn: The Power of Virtual Networking - March 25, \$29

Appraising People and Performance - March 31, \$99

##### Microsoft Classes

Webinar: Microsoft Excel 2013, Financial Formulas, March 10, \$29

Getting to Know Microsoft Excel 2013 - March 12, \$35

Getting to Know Microsoft Word 2013- March 12, \$35

Microsoft Excel 2013, Fast-Paced - Level 1 March 19 & 26, \$129

Microsoft Word 2013, Fast-Paced - Level 1 March 19 & 26, \$129

Microsoft Access 2013, Fast-Paced - Level 1 March 23 - 24, \$129

### Northeast Iowa Business and Educator Networking Summit

Northeast Iowa high schools and businesses are invited to join Northeast Iowa Community College for a summit on workforce needs and solutions of the future. Summit attendees will:

- Explore best practices for job shadows, internships and mentorships.
- Learn critical information on liability issues associated with career experiences. Speaker Robert Jester, with 50 years of experience in commercial property and casualty insurance, will present this session. *(Calmar In-person; Peosta video taped)*
- Learn about new career experience opportunities through the Northeast Iowa Career Learning Link.
- Consider an opportunity with the STEM externship summer program.
- Network with regional businesses and high schools.

REGISTER TODAY

**MARCH 23 • 8:30 AM - 3 PM**  
Northeast Iowa Community College, Calmar Campus  
Wilder Business Center

**APRIL 21 • 8:30 AM - 3 PM**  
Northeast Iowa Community College, Peosta Campus  
Conference Center

>> Optional networking and breakfast from 7:45-8:30 a.m.  
>> Lunch included at both sessions.

#### Learn More.

Wendy Mihm-Herold  
Vice President Business and Community Solutions  
[mihm-heroldw@nicc.edu](mailto:mihm-heroldw@nicc.edu)  
800.728.2256, ext. 221





West Union Chamber/Main Street  
 101 North Vine Street  
 West Union, IA 52175  
 Phone: 563-422-3070  
 Email: chamber@westunion.com  
 or mainstreetwu@gmail.com



www.westunion.com

Vendors,  
 Reserve a table today for this fun event! Tables are just \$25 for the first table, \$10 for each additional table, & \$16 for Appetizers & Dinner

Call (563) 422-3070 for ticket and booth information!

*Divas & Dining*  
 in  
**Wild Wild West Union!**

*Calling All Divas - Giddy-up & Get to West Union*

Thursday, April 9th, 2015  
 Echo Valley Banquet Center  
 Doors Open @ 5:00 p.m.  
 for shopping, drinks & appetizers  
 Dinner @ 7:00 p.m.

For a night of western-themed fun!

- ★ Shop with friends ★
- ★ Try some line dancing ★
- ★ Eat great food ★

**Eat, Drink & Cowgirl Up!**

Ticket Price: \$16.00 in advance - \$20.00 at the door  
 For tickets or booth information contact: Main Street West Union  
 101 North Vine Street, 563-422-3070  
 Purchase tickets by April 2nd to be entered into our early registration drawing!