



# CHAMBER OF COMMERCE NEWS

Another benefit of your West Union Chamber Membership!

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**SEPTEMBER 2013**

## WELCOME MELISSA FAGLE!

Melissa Fagle will begin her new duties as the West Union Chamber of Commerce Coordinator on Wednesday, September 4th. Originally from Nashua, Melissa has been married to Dan Fagle for 4 years. They live in rural Fayette and run a family business, Fagle View Farms. The couple has four children: Chelsey, Nichole, Kayla, and Reed.

Melissa chose to apply for the Chamber position because of the opportunities to meet new people and the design work and creativity the job requires. She is looking forward to meeting and learning about our Chamber Member Businesses! Office hours for the new Coordinator will be: Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 8:30 am to 3:00 pm. Melissa may be reached at [wuchamber@alpinecom.net](mailto:wuchamber@alpinecom.net) or (563) 422-3070. **Please stop in the Chamber office and introduce yourself to**



Melissa Fagle is looking forward to greeting Chamber members, visitors, and community members at the West Union Chamber of Commerce Office!



### A Note From Bridget

It's hard to believe this will be my last newsletter for the West Union Chamber of Commerce....I want to thank all Chamber Members for the opportunity to work with you over the last couple years. I believe the West Union Chamber has made and continues to make some great accomplishments! We have held some great celebrations and promotions and continue to work with members to promote the community and businesses.

My path now combines Economic Development with Tourism for the County of Fayette. I am looking forward to working to promote the communities, businesses, recreation, and resources of the county. Fayette County Economic Development & Tourism plans to continue our current office sharing agreement with the West Union Chamber of Commerce. We have found this arrangement to be mutually beneficial to both organizations. I am looking forward to assisting the Chamber Board by helping to train Melissa during the transition. Also please be aware that while the Chamber will now have the posted hours of 8:30 am to 3:00 pm on Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday, the office will remain open as much as possible during the regular office hours of 8:00 am to 4:30 pm, Monday thru Friday to provide information to visitors.

I hope you will all make Melissa feel as welcome as you did me! I encourage you to "Like" our Fayette County Tourism Facebook page and look forward to working with all of you in the future to help promote Fayette County as a great place to "Live, Work, & Play!"

### *Bridget Parker*

Marketing & Communications Program Manager  
Fayette County Economic Development & Tourism

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#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

<b>Melody Patrick</b>	<b>President</b>
<b>Ryan Hoey</b>	<b>Vice-President</b>
<b>Jenni Elsbernd</b>	<b>Secretary/Treasurer</b>
<b>Judd Swensen</b>	
<b>Laurie Kreul</b>	
<b>Robin Martin</b>	

#### STAFF

**Bridget Parker**



**Chamber Spotlight: Palmer Lutheran Health Center**

Palmer Lutheran Health Center is a progressive, not-for-profit, 25-bed Critical Access Hospital that can handle all medical needs locally. Why travel hours, when the same excellent care is close to home?

Our high-tech Emergency Room has 24/7 doctor coverage with the tools, equipment and advanced-educated staff available to handle all medical emergencies that arise. Once stable, the Emergency Department is able to transfer patients to a hospital of choice, admit to our private patient rooms, provide referrals for your healthcare needs (such as physical therapy or home health) or offer continuing education to get you back in good health (and back home) again.

Known for its competent and compassionate staff, PLHC is able to follow your care from beginning to end of life. With a full OB department, we deliver locally. Palmer then offers a full-line of services for your medical needs- radiology, physical/occupational therapy, skilled care (in-patient care), lab, cardiac/pulmonary rehab, oncology and surgery. Finally, we have an array of homecare services, such as home health, home medical equipment and hospice, for when that time in life arises. We know you want only the best for your loved ones and so do we.

We work closely with your provider to ensure your health information gets to your family provider. We understand that no one wants to get sick; however, it is nice to be close to family and friends when that time arises. So, choose your healthcare locally because Palmer is here when the unexpected happens. To tour Palmer and learn about your local hospital and what can be done 'close to home', call today-

*Thank you Palmer Lutheran Health Center for your Chamber membership and support!*

**PLHC Names New CEO**

Please join the West Union Chamber of Commerce in welcoming new Palmer Lutheran Health Center CEO, Steve Stark and his family to the community!



Stark most recently served as Cass County Health System's COO. He officially began his duties on Monday, August 19th. Steve is looking forward to "meeting and getting involved with community, business, and organizational leaders". He and his family are impressed with the many amenities West Union has to offer such as the Recreation Complex, library, aquatic center, and school system. Welcome Steve!

**North Fayette Valley  
Bike Rodeo**

*The knowledge, skills and practice for becoming a smart, safe bike rider!*

- What:** Bicycle safety education and skills test on obstacle course
- When:** Saturday, September 7th (Rain Date: Saturday, September 14th)
- Time:** 9am-11am (Students are welcome anytime between 9am and 11am.)  
*Arrive early to still make the Watermelon Days parade in Fayette!*
- Where:** Downtown West Union (Walnut St. and Main St.)
- Who:** K-6th grade students

**\*\*\*Remember to bring your bike and helmet\*\*\***

**WIN A BRAND NEW BIKE!**  
**...and other great prizes!**

Participants have a chance to win prizes, including two brand new bikes and helmets.

The North Fayette Valley Bike Rodeo is proudly supported by:

North Fayette Valley Schools, West Union Police Department, Palmer Memorial Foundation, Palmer Lutheran Health Center, Palmer Community Health, Gunderson Lutheran, Northeast Iowa Food and Fitness Initiative and Upper Explorerland's Regional Safe Routes to School Liaison

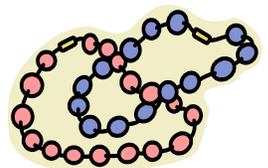
**HOME, SPORT, & GARDEN SHOW!**

**KDEC's Annual Home, Sport, and Garden Show** is now taking reservations for vendor booths! The date of the show is Sunday, March 2, 2014. KDEC anticipates a very full show as they will be back in the newly remodeled Decorah High School, so be sure to let them know NOW that you'd like to be included - space is limited! Over 2,000 people attend this show each year - when was the last time over 2,000 people walked through your front door in a five hour period? Contact Shirley Vermace, West Union's KDEC account executive, for more information at 563.419.2999, 563.382.4251, or email: [shirley@kdecradio.net](mailto:shirley@kdecradio.net).

**JEWELRY PARTY**

The West Union Civic Club is hosting a jewelry party fundraiser on Thursday, September 5th at the American Legion Hall at 103 East Main Street in West Union. The hours of the party are 11:00 am to 6:00 pm.

All jewelry for sale is just \$5.00! Enter to win a free necklace for every \$10 spent. 20% of sales helps support the





**GREEN PILOT UPDATE**

**DISTRICT GEOTHERMAL SYSTEM:**

The City of West Union will review the proposed lease of the district geothermal system with the West Union Energy District at the September 3<sup>rd</sup> council meeting. The lease will include a fund for future repairs and expansion of the system by the initial user group, as well as covering all the costs to operate and insure the system during the first few years of operation.

**MULTI-FAMILY HOUSING PROJECT:**

Construction began on August 5<sup>th</sup> for the 3 downtown buildings participating in the Multi-Family housing project. Basic demo work is underway on concrete and the elevator shaft is being constructed in the former bus barn building.

**FAÇADE MASTER PLAN UPDATE:**

Martin Gardner Architecture is working with the building owners participating in the Façade Master Plan project and is currently in the bid process. Bids for the project are due on September 12<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. to the Main Street West Union office. All local contractors are encouraged to contact Martin Gardner if they are interested in bidding on the project. Easements with the city are



**PAMPERED IN PINK**

Palmer Lutheran Health Center in conjunction with Gundersen West Union Clinic is hosting a "Pamper Yourself" event on Thursday, September 12th from 5:30 to 7:30 pm in the Boeke-Free Education Center on the lower level of the hospital.

The event is open to women who have had a mammogram at Palmer in the last 12 months (or scheduled one the day of the event). Space is limited to the first 50 registrations and is FREE! This fun, pampering event features: fingernail polish, desserts, 5 minute shoulder massage, gifts, and some wonderful information! Call today to



# WANTED:



## Volunteers to help walk kids to school!

*A great way to sneak more exercise into your day  
AND get kids active!*

The West Union Walking School Bus is looking for adults to walk with students this fall:

- ✦ Location: Neighborhoods in West Union
- ✦ Time frame: 7-8 am Wednesday mornings
- ✦ Distance: 1-2 miles

Please contact Ashley Christensen to volunteer or for more information:  
[achristensen@uerpc.org](mailto:achristensen@uerpc.org) or 563-382-6171

**Dad's Belgian Waffle Supper/Auction Fundraiser**

The Good Samaritan Society of West Union is hosting their annual Belgian Waffle Supper on Monday, September 16th at Echo Valley Speedway from 4:30 to 7:00 pm. Tickets are \$6.50 in advance and \$7.00 at the door. Children 5 and under are free. Takeouts will be available.



The silent auction begins at 4:30 pm with winning bids announced at 6:45 pm. The live auction begins at 5:45 pm. All proceeds will go toward a "Whirlpool Bathing Spa". For more information please go to



**YOU ARE INVITED!**

Palmer Lutheran Health Center invites you to attend a Retirement Party for Deb Chensvold on Sunday, September 22nd in the Boeke-Free Education Center. Join them from 2:00 to 5:00 pm to congratulate Deb on her retirement from CEO of Palmer. Deb is a tremendous asset to the community and has helped our local hospital to excel in the healthcare field. Congratulations Deb!



**WEST UNION**  
CHAMBER of COMMERCE

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West Union, IA 52175  
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Email: wuchamber@alpinecom.net

[www.westunion.com](http://www.westunion.com)

**Palmer Memorial Foundation Needs Your Help!**

Planning is well underway for Palmer Memorial Foundation's Fall Fund Fest scheduled to take place on **Thursday, October 17<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 – 8:00 p.m. at the Dance Pavilion on the Fayette County Fairgrounds.** The evening will include a silent and live auction, FREE hors d'oeuvres, desserts and live entertainment.

To continue to make this event a success, Palmer Memorial Foundation needs your help. The Foundation is asking for themed baskets or live auction donations to be sold during the silent basket auction and live auction. Past themed basket ideas have included Hawk Power, For the Birds and Gone Fishin'.

To make a donation, please contact:

**Palmer Memorial Foundation**  
**Attn: Ashlyn Heins**  
**112 Jefferson Street**  
**West Union, IA 52175**  
**(563) 422-3876 Ext. 1514**  
**a.heins@palmerlutheran.org**

Palmer Memorial Foundation strives to meet the healthcare needs of Northeast Iowa by financially supporting Palmer Lutheran Health Center (F) initiatives.



**BLOCK PARTY SEPTEMBER 19TH**

Business owners are planning another "Block Party" to be held on Thursday, September 19th. The band "Wichita" will perform in Downtown West Union from 5:00 to 8:00 pm. In addition, many businesses will be showing their customer appreciation by having refreshments, tasty samples, and special offers during the day and evening hours.

All businesses are welcome to participate in whatever way they wish. For questions or further details, feel free to contact: Gary Steinlage, Judd Swensen, Joni Spies, or Brian Gibson. Last year's event participation was tremendous! We hope even more businesses make plans to participate this year!



**THANK YOU FROM SIMS!**

Ryan and Amy Christensen from Sims TV & Electronics would like to thank everyone who came to the Grand Opening of their store and to those who had plants and flowers delivered! A big congratulations to Ann Hutchins who won the grand prize drawing of the 7" Kindle Fire HD!