



# CHAMBER OF COMMERCE NEWS

Another benefit of your West Union Chamber Membership!

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

**JULY 2013**

## Celebrate INDEPENDENCE DAY in West Union!

Join us at the West Union Recreation Center on Thursday, July 4th!

**FOOD! FUN!!  
FIREWORKS!**  
Rain Date- Thursday, July 11th

### *Miles Adams Band*

*5:00 pm to 9:30 pm*

*Sponsored by:*

*Gundersen West Union Clinic  
Palmer Lutheran Health Center  
Prairie View Management  
Traditions of Iowa*

*West Union Good Samaritan Society*

*In case of rain, the Band and Miss WU Crowning will be held at the Fayette County Fairgrounds Dance Pavilion!*

*Miss West Union  
Crowning  
7:00 pm*

*Kiddie Train!*

*Jurassic Survivor  
Inflatable Obstacle Course  
& Carousel Bouncer  
4:00 to 8:00 pm  
Sponsored by  
Local Contractors*

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### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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Laurie Kreul	
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Bridget Parker	Administrative Assistant
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**Chamber Spotlight: Dessel-Roach Furniture & Floors**

Mick Roach, a longtime employee of Dessel's Furniture, purchased the floorcovering department from George Dessel in 1979. The floorcovering store was located in the Lilac Plaza in West Union for many years. In 2007, owners Mike Roach and Rob Van Horn purchased the furniture store from Julia Dessel and the flooring department was moved back to the location of the furniture store on Highway 18.

Dessel-Roach Furniture & Floors is Northeast Iowa's one-stop-shop for flooring, furniture, and appliances! The business offers carpet, vinyl, hardwood, laminate, wall and floor tile, furniture, appliances, and mattress sets. The flooring department installs all of their own flooring, or offers competitive pricing on materials for do-it-yourselfers! They have an interior design service for help in selecting the right color/product for your home. Need an area rug? The business can bind carpets to make custom area rugs. The great customer service at Dessel-Roach also provides free delivery of furniture and appliances!

The staff at Dessel-Roach Furniture & Floors includes: Barb Van Horn, Cindy Metzger, Sue McDonough, Mike Roach, Rob Van Horn, Al Caldwell, and Donnie Schaar. Over the years the business has seen the product choices increase. A customer can choose from a wide variety of laminates, tiles that look like wood, and carpet tiles. It is certain that outstanding customer service will continue to be a focus of the business! The staff at Dessel-Roach Furniture & Floors will continue to serve West Union and the surrounding area, providing products and services in such variety and affordability that customers can shop locally for many years to come!



**Thank you Dessel-Roach Furniture & Floors for your Chamber membership and support!**

**160TH FAYETTE COUNTY FAIR JULY 23-27**

The annual Fayette County Fair will be held in West Union July 23rd through the 27th. Grandstand entertainment includes: Racing, Heartland Rodeo & Kiddie Calf Scramble, Mud Bog, Tribute Bands, Bus Races and "Hell Drivers". In addition, the Fair will once again have a carnival, petting zoo, animal exhibits, commercial building, food, games and fun to be had by all! For more detailed information please go to [www.fayettecofair.com](http://www.fayettecofair.com).

**SIMS TV & ELECTRONICS**

New owners of Haven Electronics, Ryan and Amy Christensen have announced that they have officially changed the name of the business to Sims TV & Electronics. Stop in and check out the newly remodeled store! Watch for their Grand Reopening in August!

**Playin' on the Plaza**

Main Street West Union's Promotions Committee is kicking off "Playin' on the Plaza" beginning on July 11<sup>th</sup>. The series will provide free live musical entertainment at the Civic Plaza in Downtown West Union every Thursday night at 6:00 p.m.

The schedule of performers is as follows:

- July 11 Fusion (5:00 pm)
- July 12 Topp Flight (7-9 pm, Special Teen Night)
- July 18 Kindred Minds
- August 1 Chad Elliot
- August 8 Jerry Anderson, Jeff Molokken, & Bill Tillman
- August 15 Patsy Wellman
- August 22 Done Doin' Laundry
- August 29 Dave Rowley

**Name Change Completes**

**TeKippe Engineering Acquisition**

After acquiring TeKippe Engineering December 31, 2012, Fehr Graham announced effective July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013 their West Union, Manchester, and Cedar Rapids engineering and environmental office locations will be named Fehr Graham to complete the acquisition process.

"The name change makes a lot of sense as we move forward together," said Mick Gronewold, Fehr Graham Board Chairman. "With the additional resources now available to our clients in this market, the Fehr Graham name is an important element of communicating our broad range of services available to them."

The Iowa offices are home to 28 Fehr Graham employees, supported by over 130 professionals firm wide. Established in 1973, Fehr Graham is a premier provider of engineering, environmental, and funding solutions for commercial, industrial, institution, and government clients with nine Midwest office locations.

**GREEN PILOT UPDATE**



**DISTRICT GEOTHERMAL SYSTEM:**

The City of West Union has hired FVB Energy of Minneapolis, Minnesota to draft the organizational structure for the lease agreement related to the district geothermal system. This proposal will provide a preliminary estimate of an appropriate leasing payment. Funding for this service is being provided by the Energy Efficient Grant program.

**MULTI-FAMILY HOUSING PROJECT:**

Bids were received on June 6<sup>th</sup> for this project involving 3 downtown buildings and 12 new second floor apartments. The low bid was from Matt Construction of Sumner. Final work is being done on the contract so that construction can soon be underway. All three buildings have been approved for state and federal historic tax credits as contributing buildings to the downtown district.

**FAÇADE MASTER PLAN PROJECT:**

A project update meeting was held with participating buildings in this project on June 13<sup>th</sup>. Design plans are currently under review with the State Historic Preservation office. Once approved the bid documents will be finalized and hopefully let in July.

**WU TO HOST COMMUNITY EFFICIENT & RENEWABLE ENERGY WORKSHOP:**

A state-wide community energy and renewable energy workshop will be hosted in West Union on August 27, 2013 from 9:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. at the American Legion Building located at 103 Main Street. The workshop is part of a grant from the Iowa Energy Center awarded to Main Street West Union. The workshop is a joint effort by the Iowa Energy Center, the City of West Union, Main Street West Union, and the Iowa Economic Development Authority. The free workshop will share information on the West Union geothermal project, community wind projects, the net-zero housing project in Charles City, and several other projects from across Iowa. To register please contact Jeff Geerts at [jeff.geerts@iowa.gov](mailto:jeff.geerts@iowa.gov) or call 515.725.3069.

**PROFILES SERIES SPECIAL ON WEBSITE:**

Be sure to check out the video from the Profile Series special featuring West Union on the City of West Union website at [www.westunion.com!](http://www.westunion.com!)

**23rd Annual KCRG “Our Town” Feature**



West Union has been selected as one of the 2013 KCRG “Our Town” features! The local news station will be featuring West Union from July 8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> which will also coincide with our Green Pilot Project Grand Opening. Coverage will be on the KCRG-TV9 Morning News at 6:00 am and News at 6:00 pm. There will also be a special program featured on August 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm.

This is an exciting opportunity and will be some great marketing for our community! If you have any questions about the program or are interested in advertising during the week of the feature, please contact PJ Cahill at [PJ.Cahill@KCRG.com](mailto:PJ.Cahill@KCRG.com).

**THANK YOU DONORS & SPONSORS!!**

A very special THANK YOU to all that have donated to the fireworks fund and to Marge Crandall for her fundraising efforts! The annual fireworks display would not be possible without your generosity! The Chamber is still accepting donations for the annual display which costs \$4300 each year and is payable in advance. If you would like to make a donation, please mail or drop your donation to the West Union Chamber of Commerce and earmark your check “Fireworks”. Thank you!

Our generous band sponsors include: Gundersen West Union Clinic, Palmer Lutheran Health Center, Prairie View Management, Traditions of Iowa, and the West Union Good Samaritan Society, To date our game sponsors include: West Union Trenching, Leslie Lauer & Sons, Kevin Cline Construction, Imperial Roof Systems, Moss Roofing & Insulation, and Gage & Gage Plumbing and Heating. Also thank you to those volunteers who are helping with the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Community Celebration!

**Green Pilot Project Celebration**

City of West Union is hosting the official Grand Opening for the Green Pilot Streetscape Project on Thursday, July 11<sup>th</sup>. Events will begin at 1:00 p.m. with project tours and a recorded radio broadcast with radio personality Ken Root. The official ceremony will begin at 3:00 p.m. on the new Civic Plaza followed by refreshments. Live music provided by “Fusion” will begin at 5:00 p.m. Please join us as we celebrate this landmark project!

**FIRE DEPARTMENT BLOOD DRIVE**

The West Union Fire Department will be hosting a community blood drive on Wednesday, July 3<sup>rd</sup> from 12:30 to 6:00 pm at Valleyview Community Center. As part of the blood drive, there will be a friendly competition between teams. Participants will donate in the name of one of the two teams. A list of team members will be provided at the blood drive. To schedule your appointment call (800) 287-4903 or visit [www.lifeservebloodcenter.org](http://www.lifeservebloodcenter.org) today!



## WESTUNION CHAMBER of COMMERCE

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### Kaleidoscope Campaign Update

Based upon the original fundraising goal of \$1,575,000 a gap of \$263,000 exists. KKCC has been pre-approved for a \$250,000 loan through USDA which can be used to assist in closing the gap. Utilizing the available loan, a remaining gap of \$50,000 exists.

However, an update estimate on costs reflects additional expense of approximately \$260,000 to get the site ready for construction to begin. Additional fill will likely be needed to bring the grade and slope of the site in alignment with handicap accessibility requirements. KKCC is having the borings completed on the site to analyze the soil composition and understand what needs to be brought in to get the site ready for construction. The results are to be available by July 1<sup>st</sup>.

A break has been given to the capital campaign volunteers for the summer months; however, the building committee continues to meet regularly to keep on track for ground breaking this fall.

There will be a featured story on KKCC on Monday, July 8<sup>th</sup> on one of KCRG Channel 9's early morning shows.

KKCC appreciates and thanks everyone for their support throughout this project and the continued support in the months ahead as we near construction!

The Kaleidoscope Kids Childcare Center building project is a new facility of approximately 8,500 square feet to be built next to the North Fayette Valley High School.

"Your gift is needed today," added Meyer. "We have formed a building committee to begin making final decisions on the new building. Your gift is needed now so we can break ground on this project this fall," Meyer said.

