



CHAMBER OF COMMERCE NEWS

Another benefit of your West Union Chamber Membership!

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September 2012



STREETSCAPE UPDATES FOR SEPTEMBER

Construction will continue on North Vine Street between Elm Street and Main Street for the entire month of September. Work will consist of excavation of soil from roadway, placement of crushed stone base, construction of street curbs, placement of street lighting, and finishing the permanent electric supply. Street and sidewalk pavers are scheduled for placement at the end of the month.

Work will also be taking place in the northerly blocks of the project, between US Highway 18 and Main Street. This will start with replacement of sanitary sewer and water main within the highway during the week of September 10th. The highway will be closed at this location for this week, reopening on Friday, September 14th. Highway traffic will be rerouted to 240th Street. Following completion of the work within the highway, water, sanitary sewer, and geothermal main construction will continue from US Hwy. 18 southerly to Main Street. Please plan for the Highway 18 closing and try to utilize alternative routes. Thank you!

Join our Downtown businesses in celebrating the newly finished streets, sidewalks, and intersections on Thursday, September 13th. See insert for details!

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Chamber Spotlight: Napa Auto Parts

Jack Cline purchased his business from Jack Gates in 1978 and changed the name to Napa Auto Parts. He had worked there since he was 15 years old. During the 1980's and 1990's, Jack owned additional stores in Decorah, Monona, Elkader, and Strawberry Point. He has owned just the West Union location since 1999.

Napa sells automotive, truck, and tractor parts and equipment. The business has a machine shop for machine work. They also sell paint and paint supplies. Their staff will mix paint and do daily deliveries to towns within a 30 mile radius.

Owner Jackson Cline currently has 7 employees at Napa Auto Parts, including his daughter and son-in-law, Joni and Mark Spies. One of the major changes for Napa was evolving from manual inventory and bookkeeping procedures to computer reliance. Another major change for the business has been the number of different auto parts and more complex systems used in today's vehicles. Inventory kept on hand has dramatically increased over the years.

In the future, Napa employees will continue to provide the same knowledgeable and friendly service that they always have. Jack would like to retire one of these days but, in the meantime, he enjoys spending some time in Florida.

Be sure to visit Napa during September for their month long "Tool Blowout Sale". Also stop by on September 13th during the "Block Party" and enjoy refreshments, entertainment and great deals!



Employees (l-r) Mark Spies, Paul Amundson, Roger Chensvold, Joni Spies, and Justin Hanson are shown with owner Jack Cline. (Missing from photo- employee Dale Ungerer)

Thank you Napa Auto Parts for your Chamber membership and support!



PAMPERED IN PINK

Join Palmer Lutheran Health Center on Thursday, September 13th at 6:00 pm for their "Pampered in Pink" night in the Boeke-Freed Education Center. They will have a breast cancer survivor as their guest speaker along with fingernail painting, shoulder massages, gifts and dessert! Participants MUST preregister.

Call 422-9741 to register (requires participants to have had a mammogram at Palmer in the last 12 months OR schedule one before or on the day of the event. Mammograms will be offered that day from 6 am to 8 pm.) Join them for a night of fun, dessert, education and gifts!

Homecoming Celebration!

Mark your calendars for the North Fayette Homecoming week on October 8th thru 13th. The West Union Chamber and Main Street Promotions Committee are working with the school for this event. The school would like to hold the parade on the evening of Thursday, October 11th to allow business owners and employees a chance to participate and have a parade entry. This year's theme is "Rockin' the Ages". Other Thursday night activities could include the King & Queen coronation and a bonfire.

Friday the school will again hold it's school-wide pep rally and the public is invited to attend. The Homecoming dance will be held on Saturday, October 13th. It would be wonderful to see many of our Chamber Member businesses participate in this event. Watch for more information in the October Chamber newsletter!



Shared Office Space for Rent

The Chamber building has a shared office space for rent in the lower level of the Chamber Building. This is a great corner location with great parking and exposure! Please contact Bridget or Bill at the Chamber office for more information- 422-3070.

LABOR DAY WEEKEND SALE!

Join K&K Gardens for their annual Labor Day Weekend Sale and receive incredible deals! Over 40,000 plants to choose from!

- 60% off Pond Plants
- 50% off Garden Gifts
- 50% off Daylily & Clematis
- 40% off Trees
- 35% off Shrubs
- 25% off Perennials & Hosta
- 15% off Grasses
- 10% off Garden & Pond Supplies



Hours: Friday 10-6, Saturday 9-5, Sunday 10-5 and Monday 9-5

GREEN PILOT UPDATE



FAÇADE MASTER PLAN PROGRAM UPDATE:

The City of West Union has signed a contract with the Iowa Economic Development Authority for the \$500,000 Façade Master Plan Award. Main Street West Union will serve as a sub-recipient for the grant providing administrative support and local grant coordination efforts. Upper Explorerland Regional Planning Commission will provide grant administration. The environmental review process, which is required by the grant, is underway. A request for proposals for design services for the project has been released and interested design firms have until Wednesday, September 12th, to submit a proposal to the city.

DOE GRANT FUNDING:

Several businesses have submitted grant applications for the Department of Energy grant program following the review of the recent geothermal analysis provided by KCL Engineering. To date, \$75,000 in DOE grant funds have been allocated to businesses making the conversion to geothermal. \$25,000 remains in the fund which provides grants to businesses located within the downtown urban renewal area who are making energy efficient improvements to their buildings.



CITY WIDE GARAGE SALES

Fall City Wide Garage Sales are set for September 6, 7, and 8. Look for more information in the Fayette County Union newspaper.

SPECIAL EVENTS AT MOONLIGHT STITCHING STUDIO

Join Deb Thies, owner of Moonlight Stitching Studio & Sisters Retreat for these exciting events during the month of September:

September 20, 21, 22- NEIA Shop Hop. Open 8 am to 10 pm on Thursday and 8 am to 5 pm on Friday and Saturday. Limited openings yet to retreat! RSVP to 563-422-8212.

September 26- Stitch Session with the Debs. Join them to renew your knitting/crocheting skills, learn new or just come stitch. They will be focusing on knitting socks but open for any projects.

September 28, 29, 30- The Ultimate Diva Retreat. Several versions of creative expression being offered to enhance that inner Diva! Call for details/registration, 563-422-8212.



Mystery Tour 2012

The Fayette County Tourism Council is hosting their annual Mystery Tour on September 30th. This year's tour will be in the Northeastern part of the county and the cost is \$12.50 which includes a meal. Please contact the Council at 1-800-798-4447 for more details and to register for the event.

Retail Committee Sets Promotion Dates

The West Union Chamber of Commerce Retail Committee has set dates for upcoming promotions.

Fall Open Houses will coincide with North Fayette Homecoming and will be held Friday and Saturday, October 12th and 13th.

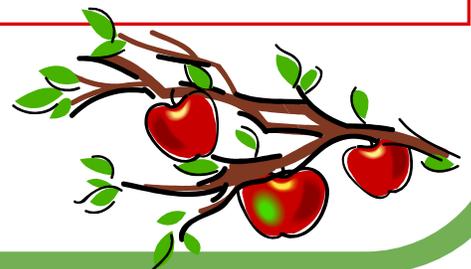
Holiday Open Houses were set for Friday and Saturday, November 16th and 17th.

The annual holiday Punch Card Promotion will begin on November 7th and run through the end of December. 6 weekly drawings will be held beginning November 21st.

Watch for more details on these events in the coming weeks! **The next Retail Committee Meeting will be held at the Chamber office on Thursday, September 6th, at 7:00 am. All are welcome and encouraged to attend!!**

DAVIS RALLY COMING TO WU!

The annual New Hampton Davis Motorcycle Rally will be stopping in West Union on Saturday, September 8th during it's "Biking for Bucks" Poker Run. The route will start in New Hampton and the route will take the bikers through the towns of: Fort Atkinson, Festina, Gunder, Volga, Wadena and Fayette. This year's stopping locations will be 1) Clermont, 2) Elkader, and the last stop will be in West Union at the Veteran's Memorial out by the Hardee's parking lot. The route will bring riders in from the south on Hwy. 150. Bikers may arrive anytime between 10 am and 3:00 pm. Businesses may choose to have specials during the day as many of the riders will stop at local restaurants and stores. This is a great opportunity for our Chamber Member businesses. What a wonderful chance to showcase our town!



SEPTEMBER 2012

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«Contact Information»

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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 18th from 5 – 8:00 p.m. at the Dance Pavilion on the Fayette County Fair Grounds**. 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 or for more information, please contact:

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

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

