



CHAMBER OF COMMERCE NEWS

Another benefit of your West Union Chamber Membership!

www.westunion.com

October 2014



TREATS IN THE TRUNK



Halloween fun for all ages!

Sunday, October 19th from 2 to 4 pm on the Civic Plaza at the Courtyard Square in West Union.

(Rain Date: Sunday, October 26th)

It's Time for the Annual Punch Card Promotion!

It's that time of year! The holidays are right around the corner and so is your opportunity to participate in this year's Annual Punch Card Promotion! The West Union Chamber of Commerce Retail Committee chose "Sweeten your Season" as the theme.

Last year's promotion saw an amazing \$721,950.00 in completed punch cards turned in to the Chamber office! This year, along with weekly gift certificates and Scrip money grand prizes, a **KitchenAid**® Tabletop Mixer will be given away!

If your business would like to participate, please fill out the forms mailed to your business and drop them off at the Chamber office with your check and gift certificate no later than **October 20th**. If you need additional forms, contact Jennifer.

Remember, this is a great low cost, group advertising event. The more participants we have, the more advertising we can do!

Also, if your business would like to help sponsor the Scrip money prizes, please contact the Chamber office. We would like to give away even more prizes this year to help encourage people to shop locally!

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Chamber Spotlight: West Union Eye Clinic

Michael W. Ohlson graduated from Buena Vista College and received his doctorate from the University of Houston College of Optometry. He has been awarded Diplomate status in the American Academy of Optometry Primary Care Section and the American Board of Certification in Medical Optometry. He has been inducted as a Distinguished Practitioner and Fellow of the National Academies of Practice and awarded the Optometrist of the Year Award from the Iowa Optometric Association. Dr. Ohlson currently serves as Immediate Past President of the Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry and low vision consultant to Iowa Educational Services for the Blind & Visually Impaired.

When not seeing patients at his private practice in rural Iowa, Dr. Ohlson's favorite activity is spending time with his spouse, Joleen, and their beloved daughter, Samantha.



Kris, Dr. Ohlson, Dr. Landis, and Karen

The history of this business starts with Dr. Norman Kilburn founding the West Union office sixty-five years ago. Dr. Ohlson's partner, Dr. Bruce Landis, purchased the office in 1990. They have offices in Elkader, West Union, and Guttenberg. Dr. Ohlson has practiced in West Union for 15 years out of 24 total.

At West Union Eye Clinic, they provide full-scope eye care including complete vision care, treatment of ocular disease, and management related to systemic conditions. This includes spectacles, specialty and multi-focal contact lens, low vision, ocular injury/urgency/emergency, macular degeneration, glaucoma, post-operative cataract, diabetes, ocular toxicology, nursing home visits in a few communities, and more.

Dr. Ohlson is also the low vision consultant for the former Iowa Braille School. This allows him the opportunity to travel the state to treat visually impaired students ages infant to 18 years each spring and fall.

Dr. Ohlson volunteers with InfantSEE (examinations of infants with no fee), Vision USA (care for those "falling through the cracks"), Special Olympics Opening Eyes (examinations and eyewear for the athletes), Head Start (high quality vision screening aimed at an at-risk population), and Volunteer Optometric Services to Humanity/International (VOSH).

For his contributions providing eye care to the Head Start children of northeast Iowa, he was presented the Governor's Volunteer Award.

The offices have ten staff members. Kris Vansickle of West Union holds the highest national level of paraoptometric certification available, CPOT, and serves on the national review board for paraoptometric certification. She was awarded Iowa Optometric Assistant of the Year in 2013.

The future is bright for West Union Eye Clinic! They will purchase new instrumentation once again this fall. This will allow them to continue to deliver an exceptionally high level of care in a local setting. This is becoming quite rare in small communities. One generally finds such instruments and services only in larger group practices in areas of higher population. Their future also involves hopes for Kris and Michael to travel with VOSH again soon, or possibly with Remote Area Medical (RAM) inside or outside the US.

The Chamber is very proud to spotlight this amazing business. They are yet another reason for us to appreciate living in this area! ***Thank you to West Union Eye Clinic for your Chamber membership and continued support!***

West Union Eye Clinic is located at 104 North Walnut Street.

563-422-6805

Check out their Facebook page containing patient education material at www.facebook.com/westunioneyeclinik

Chamber Bits...

GRAND OPENING!

Join Unionland Feed & Supply and Unionland Market as they celebrate their Grand Opening! October 31st and November 1st at their new building!



The upstairs apartment in the Chamber building is available to rent. Contact the Chamber office for more information.



Congratulations to Gus & Tony's Townhouse Café! Opening October 2nd!

Palmer Memorial Foundation's

Fall Fund Fest

Thursday, October 16th
5:00 p.m.—8:00 p.m.
Dance Pavilion
Fayette Co. Fair Grounds

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

- 5:00 p.m.**
Doors Open
Silent Auction Begins
- 5:15 p.m.**
Live Entertainment by
The Buck Hollow Band
- 6:30 p.m.**
Live Auction
- 8:00 p.m.**
Conclusion of Silent Auction

FREE
Live Entertainment
Hors d'oeuvre & Dessert Bar



AUCTION ITEMS:

Miss Me Purse ~ Autographed Sports Team Items ~ Coach Purse ~ Event Tickets ~ Many Silent Auction items and much more!

West Union Trick or Treating will be held **Friday, October 31st from 5 pm to 7 pm.** Residents are reminded to turn on their front porch lights so the little ghouls and goblins know to stop. Have a fun and safe Halloween!

GREEN PILOT UPDATE



MULTI-FAMILY HOUSING PROJECT:

This project is nearing final close-out in October! The building has received final clearance from both the state building inspector and the state fire marshal. All systems are now fully operational and a special ticketed tour of the building will be held on Thursday, October 2nd from 5-7 p.m. Plans are underway for the opening of Gus & Tony's Town House café in October as well!

Applications are being accepted for anyone interested in living in any of the 12 new apartments that are a part of this project. Contact the Main Street West Union office for details.

FAÇADE MASTER PLAN UPDATE:

This project is also nearing completion as the final painting and caulking is taking place. Seven buildings have received improvements which has greatly improved the look and feel of the downtown district. We would like to thank the entire community for their patience as these projects have taken place.

UNIONLAND FEED & SUPPLY:

Work continues on the new building for Unionland Feed & Supply located at the corner of Walnut & Elm. Gary Steinlage announced that they will host a Grand Opening on October 31st and November 1st. They will also share some of their new space with the Iowa Food Hub, a group that sells locally grown food. Check them out at www.iowafoodhub.com. Congratulations to Unionland Feed & Supply and Unionland Market on their new building!



WESTUNION

CHAMBER of COMMERCE

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www.westunion.com

5:05 Community

Enter to WIN
Door Prizes!

Social!

Enjoy
Refreshments!



Everyone is Invited

Everyone is Welcome!



Tuesday, October 14th

5:05 PM



Northwestern Mutual®



IF YOU ARE
INTERESTED IN
HOSTING A
5:05 COMMUNITY
SOCIAL, PLEASE
CONTACT THE
CHAMBER
OFFICE.

225 South Main Street, Fayette, IA 52142 Telephone: 563-425-4144