



# CHAMBER OF COMMERCE NEWS

Another benefit of your West Union Chamber Membership!

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



**MAY 2013**

## MISS WEST UNION CANDIDATES SOUGHT

The West Union Chamber of Commerce is now accepting applications for candidates for Miss West Union 2013. Any young lady with a West Union mailing address can vie for the chance to represent the community and earn a \$500 college scholarship. Miss West Union serves as an ambassador for the community and can be a junior or senior in high school at North Fayette.

Candidates will be judged on Leadership & Citizenship, Attitude & Awareness, and Community Involvement. Local businesses are encouraged to sponsor a candidate which includes a \$20 sponsorship fee. Applications can be picked up at the North Fayette High School guidance office or from the Chamber of Commerce office. Applications are due by **May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2013.**

Miss West Union will be crowned on July 4<sup>th</sup> at the West Union Recreation Complex. For additional information please contact Miss West Union chairperson Jenni Elsbernd at (563) 422-9768.

## 4TH OF JULY CELEBRATION

The West Union Chamber will again be coordinating a Community Celebration for the Fourth of July to be held in conjunction with the annual fireworks display. Some of this year's activities include: The Miles Adams Band, Miss West Union Crowning, face painting, kiddie train rides, an inflatable obstacle course and bouncer, and carnival type games. The fun will tentatively begin at 4:00 pm at the West Union Recreation Center on Thursday, July 4<sup>th</sup>. Park & Rec will once again hold the annual Pool Carnival that day.

The West Union Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors is looking for groups and organizations interested in vending at this exciting community event. Some ideas of what we are looking for are: food vendors, ice cream, cold drinks, glow or 4<sup>th</sup> of July novelties. This would be a great fundraising opportunity for your organization! Please contact the Chamber at 422-3070 if your group would be interested in this opportunity.

Donations are being accepted for the annual fireworks show which costs \$4300 to produce each year. If you would like to make a contribution to the show, please send a check to the Chamber of Commerce earmarked for fireworks. You may also contribute by donating your beverage cans in the collection bin located at Old Mill Redemption Center (by Jay's Automotive).



**Miles Adams**

B a n d

The Miles Adams Band is made up of musicians that were born and raised in N.E. Iowa. The members of the Miles Adams Band have played in many venues over the years. Members of the band include: Bill Adams, Gwen and Dan Silhacek from Spillville, Bob Huinker from Lawler, Kat is from Hawkeye, and Chris is from West Union.

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### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

|                       |                                 |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>Melody Patrick</b> | <b>President</b>                |
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| <b>Jenni Elsbernd</b> | <b>Secretary/Treasurer</b>      |
| <b>Judd Swensen</b>   |                                 |
| <b>Laurie Kreul</b>   |                                 |
| <b>Bridget Parker</b> | <b>Administrative Assistant</b> |





### Chamber Spotlight: Saboe Jewelry

Did you know that Saboe Jewelry right here in West Union is the oldest jewelry store in Iowa? In 1945 Orville Saboe opened a jewelry store in the South half of the Union building. In 1949, he bought out Oscar Heiserman and moved to the location where Saboe Jewelry is currently. The jewelry store was opened in 1854 by WM Parrott. Other owners include: 1883- JP Parrott, 1900- Ella Parrott, 1916- Karl D Fisk, 1925- Oscar Heiserman, 1949- Orville Parrott, and 1983- Ron Saboe.

Ron and Connie Saboe offer much more than jewelry at their store! Besides some gorgeous rings, earrings,

bracelets, and necklaces, customers can also have their jewelry, watches and clocks repaired. Saboe's also offers custom trophies and plaques. With their computer engraver, Ron can engrave glass goblets and mugs, and items made of plastic, brass or aluminum. Using a heat tip, Ron can put names in gold leaf on leather bibles and other items.

In the past, Ron used to do more watch and clock repair. He also sees less bridal and gift registrations. Years ago it was popular to register for a specific China, crystal, or silverware pattern. Ron looks forward to a future of continuing the family business right here in West Union and providing excellent service to all of the Saboe Jewelry customers. If you haven't lately, make sure you stop by to see their great selection soon!



Thank you Ron & Connie Saboe for your Chamber membership and support!



### GIVE & GROW FOR FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS

Do you have the urge to get outside and do some planting in your yard and garden? If so, keep the Festival of Lights in mind. During the month of May, K & K Gardens in Hawkeye, Iowa will donate 10% of your purchase to the Festival of Lights. This is one of our major fund raisers for the year.

Just print off our brochure and take it to K & K Gardens and they will take care of the rest. Easy-peazy!! Go to: <http://www.kkgardens.com/festival-of-lights.html> to print out our brochure. A BIG THANKS for your support!



### MEMORIAL DAY PROGRAM AT PRAIRIE VIEW

The public is invited to attend a Memorial Day Program on May 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm at Prairie View Management. The program is being sponsored by the Prairie View Auxiliary.



### May 12-18 is National Nursing Home Week

Activities at the West Union Good Samaritan Center include:

- **Walk Way of Flags** in honor or memory of a loved one donation fundraiser at Good Samaritan Society - West Union. Proceeds will go toward a Touch Free Ice Maker & Dispenser. Order Now through May 31st. Flags will be posted along Hall Street. Flags can be picked up after June 4th. Send orders to Sharon's attention or call (563) 422-3814 or 422-9692.
- May 17 Good Samaritan Society - West Union will have a **Potato Pancake Fundraiser** from 10:30 -1:00 at the center. Serving pancakes, toppings, ham, applesauce, bars & beverages for \$7.00. Proceeds will go toward an Touch Free Ice Maker & Dispenser for the residents. Supplemental funds from Fayette County Thrivent for Lutherans #31140 Orders can be placed by Tues. May 15th. by giving a pickup time. Call Sharon at (563) 422-3814 or 422-9692.
- May 21 will be the **Community Coffee** at 2:00 in Dining Room. Program will be a music concert by Judy Hovden. Refreshments and fellowship follow program.

### Chamber Office Closed

The West Union Chamber of Commerce office will be closed on Monday, May 27th for Memorial Day. Sorry for the inconvenience!

## GREEN PILOT UPDATE



### DISTRICT GEOTHERMAL SYSTEM:

The City of West Union continues to research options for lease and operating the downtown district geothermal system. They will review options again at the May 6<sup>th</sup> City Council meeting.

### USDA RURAL ENERGY FOR AMERICAN GRANT PROGRAM:

Small businesses or agricultural producers can apply for grant funding to assist with energy efficient equipment to use in their business or farming operation. Interested parties should contact Norm Brus at the Waverly USDA office at 319.352.1715 or via email at [norm.brus@ia.usda.gov](mailto:norm.brus@ia.usda.gov).

### HISTORIC STREET BRICKS FOR SALE:

The City of West Union continues to sell the historic street bricks recycled from the downtown streetscape project for 25 cents each. Anyone interested in purchasing them for a landscaping project should contact City Hall at 422-3908.

### WEST UNION GREEN STREETScape ON PROFILES SERIES MAY 6TH:

West Union's green pilot streetscape project and partnership with the Iowa Economic Development Authority (IEDA) will be featured on an educational television program, "Profiles Series" with host Larry King, on Monday, May 6, 2013 at 6:00 am on the Discovery Channel. The half-hour program will include other feature segments and commentary by host Larry King from the studio. A production team gathered footage in West Union on November 1, 2012. This included interviews with West Union City Administrator Robert Vagts, former West Union mayor Merlin Dunt, Business Owner Dick Woodard, and IEDA Community Development Division Administrator Tim Waddell.

The segment will focus on the streetscape's design and implementation, including the stormwater management and district geothermal system. It will highlight the local connections between downtown revitalization, sustainability, and economic development, in addition to the commitment needed to accomplish the project.

"Profiles Series" produces educational programming on a variety of important subjects and issues: Environmental, Health & Medical, Educational, Business and Agriculture. Its host, Emmy Award-winning Larry King, has been dubbed "the most remarkable talk-show host on TV ever" by TV Guide and "master of the mic" by "TIME" magazine.

**What's Happenin'  
in WU...**



### **K&K Gardens "GIVE & GROW" Program**

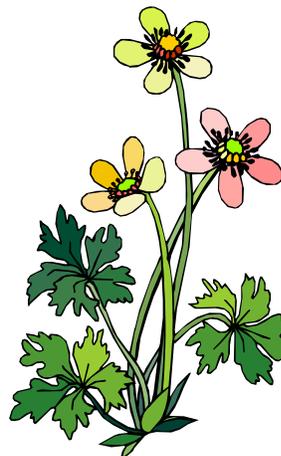
K&K Gardens will once again offer their "Give & Grow" program to help non-profit organizations raise money. For more information on the program and how to apply to participate, please go to [www.kkgardens.com](http://www.kkgardens.com) or contact Keith Kovarik at (563) 427-5373.

### **SCRIP MONEY MAKES A GREAT GIFT!**

West Union Scrip Money makes a great gift for birthdays, weddings, graduation, anniversaries and more! Support our local businesses by using Scrip Money for your gift giving! Available at the West Union Chamber of Commerce. We can even customize the design for special occasions!

### **City Wide Garage Sales are May 2-4**

West Union City Wide Garage Sales will be held Thursday, May 2nd thru 4th. Maps will be available from the Fayette County Union. The local Knights of Columbus and Troop 54 Boy Scouts will again sponsor a Goodwill truck in the Lilac Plaza parking lot 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, May 4, and from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, May 5.



### **FLOWER BARRELS**

Flowers for the barrels have been ordered and will be planted by Chamber volunteers on Tuesday, May 21st, weather permitting. Please have your flower planter out and ready prior to that date to help the time allotted by volunteers go smoothly! Thank you!



### **FIREWORKS CAN COLLECTION**

Doing a little Spring Cleaning? Why not donate those redeemable cans to a GREAT cause?? The Chamber of Commerce is continuing to collect cans to help fund the annual fireworks celebration on July 4th. The can collection bin is located at Old Mill Redemption on Highway 150 South by the car wash and Jay's Automotive. Thanks for your contributions!!



## WESTUNION CHAMBER of COMMERCE

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Follow us on Facebook and at [www.westunion.com](http://www.westunion.com)

### Kaleidoscope Campaign Receives Major Grant

The Kaleidoscope Kids Childcare Center (KKCC) Capital Campaign has been informed that the Iowa Economic Development Authority (IEDA) has conditionally awarded a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) of up to \$600,000.

"This grant is wonderful news and has been a key component of our plan to raise the funds needed to build a new Kaleidoscope Kids Childcare Center," said Kaleidoscope Board Chair LeAnn Meyer. "This major grant along with the generous local fundraising we have received brings our fundraising total to about \$1,225,000. Our total financial need for all project components is about \$1,575,000 so we continue to raise the final \$350,000 for the complete project," Meyer added.

The CDBG is a "conditional award" based upon IEDA receiving the final grant award from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The federal government's delay in adopting a budget has delayed receiving the final award amount which is subject to possible change.

"We understand the final award has not been received but are assured by the experts that the award will be received; it is also stated as "conditional" because it is "conditional" on the fact that it is for a new daycare center as presented in our application" Meyer said. "I can assure you we plan to build a new facility as communicated," Meyer said.

"Our campaign volunteers continue to visit with area residents and businesses as we work to close the funding gap of \$350,000," said Meyer. "Please make time to visit with one of our many campaign volunteers to learn how this KKCC project can help benefit everyone in Fayette County. Many area citizens and businesses have already made a three year pledge or annual gift and I encourage you to join in their generous charitable giving. KKCC is a not-for-profit organization so your gift is tax deductible. We have already accepted gifts of cash, grain, hogs, and other types of charitable gifts."

Anyone can contact Meyer at 319-404-8555 or one of these campaign volunteers: Marcia and LeRoy Soppe and Barb and Mike Heins as Capital Campaign Co Chairs, Don Mueller and Steve Story as Capital Campaign Honorary Co Chairs, Ron Beermann, Courtney Bentley, Robin Bostrom, Tobin Britt, Deb Chensvold, Deb Dessel, John and Sally Falb, Tami Guyer, Carolyn Havenstrite, Kara Johnson, Pastor Scott Kober, Janell McElree, LeAnn Meyer, Steve Murray, Mary O'Kones, Ron and Barb O'Kones, Deb Rovang, Nicole Russler, Bob Vagts, Jessica Wegner, Deb Willhite, and Bill Ziegler. The campaign is directed by Ralph Savoy, Consult Savoy, Inc. of Cedar Rapids.

"Your gift is needed today," added Meyer. "You can also call Kaleidoscope at 563-422-5379," she said.

