



CHAMBER OF COMMERCE NEWS

Another benefit of your West Union Chamber Membership!

www.westunion.com

June 2011



West Union Fest (formerly Dairy Day) is fast approaching on Saturday, June 4th. The annual event will feature fun for the whole family!

The day begins at the West Union Rec Center with the Tour de WU bike ride registration at 8:00 a.m. There are two rides to choose from; a 27 mile route or a 40 mile route. The ride is free and will begin at 8:30 a.m.

Activities begin downtown on Walnut Street and the Court House area at 11:30 a.m. with FREE entertainment provided by the Just for Kix dancers and the NF Danceline. Food vendors will open at this time also. The parade begins at noon traveling north on Walnut Street from Spahn & Rose to Holy Name Catholic Church.

Following the parade at 1:00 p.m. will be the crowning of the new 2011 Miss West Union. A giant ice cream sundae will be served following the crowning near the stage by Unionland Feed & Supply. Kids games will begin at 1:00 p.m. located on Elm Street & the Court House Square area. Children can purchase a wrist band for just \$1 and play games all afternoon. Mr. Nick will be on hand to create unique balloon sculptures for the kids. Main Street West Union will host a limbo contest at 1:30 p.m. by the stage and a cake walk will begin at 2:00 p.m. Tickets for the cake walk are just \$1 per chance with many tasty & beautiful cakes going to the winners.

The Iowa State Pedal Tractor Pull will begin at 2:30 p.m. for ages 4-12. Winners will advance to the state contest held later this summer.

Food vendors will be available on site including brats, walking tacos, ice cream, soda, water, and more. Downtown restaurants will also be open for lunch.

West Union Fest is sponsored by the West Union Chamber of Commerce and several local businesses and organizations. Be sure to check out the list of sponsors on page 2 of this newsletter!

Inside this issue:

Building Updates	2
Chad Elliott Concert	2
Fireworks	2
Green Pilot Updates	3
What's Happening in WU	3
Calendar of Events	4

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jackie Loomis	President
Lisa Miller	Vice President
Deb Merrill	Secretary
Melody Patrick	
Jenni Elsbernd	
Justin Steinlage	
Ryan Hoey	
Brent Parker	

IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS HAPPENING AROUND TOWN

Several businesses have been working on improving their buildings over the past several months which improves our community. Congratulations to the following businesses and thank you for continuing to make an investment in West Union!

- Edward Jones Financial—whole building remodel. We are glad to have this business coming back to the downtown following the fire!
- Lauer & Lauer Insurance—painting
- Elwood, O’Donohoe, Braun, & White Law Office—painting & rear entrance work
- Norby’s Farm Fleet—new roof, siding, entrance, and signage
- TeKippe Engineering—whole building remodel
- West Union Chamber Building—whole building remodel



FIREWORKS SHOW WILL BE JULY 3RD

The annual 4th of July fireworks show will be held a day early this year on Sunday evening July 3rd. The annual celebration will again be held at the West Union Rec Center beginning at 10:00 p.m. Donations are still be accepted for the show which costs \$4300 to produce each year. About \$1000 remains to be raised to keep this celebration happening. Special thanks to local resident Marge Crandall who has served as the fundraising chairperson for the fireworks show for the past two years. 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 (located by Jay’s Automotive). Thanks to the following sponsors who have already made a contribution to the show:

Matt & Janell McElree, Duane & Sue Patterson, West Union CIVIC Club, Jerem White, Garvin’s LP Gas, Harlan & Margaret Anderson, German Mutual Insurance, George & Iris Woodard, and Mark & Robin Bostrom.



CHAD ELLIOTT HERE JUNE 9TH

Don’t for get to join Main Street West Union’s Promotions Committee on Thursday, June 9th at the shelter house at the West Union Rec Center. “Playing on the Plaza” is the Promotion Committee’s newest event which consists of hosting three free music concerts this summer to promote the future Civic Plaza that will soon become a reality on the Court House Square. The first performer will be Chad Elliott who

brought his “One Horse Town Tour” to West Union last summer. Chad will again be visiting small towns across Iowa sharing his original music with fellow Iowans. The concert will begin at 6:00 p.m. and Main Street West Union will be selling brats and beverages. Residents are encouraged to bring their lawn chairs and blankets and enjoy an evening of live music. A free-will offering will be taken.



GREEN PILOT UPDATE



**GREEN
STREETSCAPE
PILOT PROGRAM**

STREETSCAPE WEBCAM: Be sure to check out the progress on the streetscape project on the web-cam that is recording all the progress currently taking place on South Pine Street. Check it out at <http://www.iowalifechanging.com/community/west-union-camera.aspx>.

STREETSCAPE WORK CONTINUES: Water and sewer work continues on South Pine Street between Plum and Elm streets. All sidewalks are open to all businesses and parking is available in several locations. The heavy rains in late May have slowed progress just a bit. Once water & sewer lines are complete, excavation will begin on the street. Geothermal lines have been placed on West Plum Street with services on the south block of Vine Street. Grading to allow for curb placement will begin soon. All sidewalks and front business entrances will remain open to pedestrian traffic.

OLD STREET BRICKS FOR SALE: The city will be offering the historic bricks from the street for sale to anyone wishing to purchase them for reuse. The bricks will sell for \$.25 each and will be available on a date in June and throughout the summer and fall. Five bricks equal a square foot and would make great paving material for landscaping projects. Watch the Fayette County Union for the exact date to purchase the bricks. Five cents from each brick sold will benefit the local boy scout troop who will assist in counting and loading the bricks on the sale dates. For additional information, please contact City Hall at 422-3908 and watch the Fayette County Union for more information.

NATIVE SUN FILMING: Native Sun Productions will be in West Union on Friday, June 3rd to film for a short documentary film that will feature the community of West Union and the work taking place as part of the Green Pilot Project. Native Sun Productions has done documentary film work for many cable channels including the History Channel and the Science Channel as well as PBS. The Iowa Department of Economic Development and Conservation Design Forum are assisting with the production which will be used to tell the story of the Green Pilot Projects and sustainable development work being done in the state of Iowa. West Union will be able to use the film as a recruitment tool for new business and industry. To view some of the work done by Native Sun Productions, check out their website at <http://www.nativesunproductions.com/#!video>



**BOSTROM RESIGNS AS
CHAMBER DIRECTOR**

The Chamber Board of Directors will soon begin the search for a new director following the resignation of Robin Bostrom. Bostrom has served as the director since 2005 and will begin a new position as project director for the Turkey River Recreational Corridor on June 1st. Bostrom will continue to serve as the director for the Main Street West Union program and will continue to staff that office also located in the Chamber office building. Bostrom would like to thank all off the Chamber members for the support they have given to Chamber projects over the past six years and for allowing her the opportunity to serve the organization!

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

The Chamber welcomes Pleggenkuhle Chiropractic to the West Union community. Pleggenkuhle Chiropractic is owned by John Pleggenkuhle and is located at 317 Hwy 150 north in the Lilac Plaza shopping area. John is a native of northeast Iowa and has returned to the area with his family. Welcome John!

THANK YOU MALLORY WIESE



The Chamber would like to thank our 2010 Miss West Union Mallory Wiese for her year of service. Mallory has attended many community functions and parades in neighboring communities serving as a junior ambassador for the city. She is the daughter of Pam and Craig Moss and is attending Upper Iowa University. We thank Mallory for serving as the 2010 Miss West Union and wish her the very best as she continues her education.

COMMUNITY GARDEN



Community Garden spots are still available for rent at the Fayette County Fairgrounds for \$15 each. Art Wolfs will serve as the garden manager this year and will coordinate the public garden spaces and the maintenance for them. Anyone interested in a 10 x 12 spot, should fill out a form at the Chamber office.

JUNE 2011

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JUNE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 Ribbon Cutting for Schwan's
MSWU Organization Committee
MSWU Business Improvement
Committee
Miss West Union Judging | 15 Fayette County Comp Plan
Meeting
Fayette County Local Housing Trust
Fund Meeting |
| 3 Native Sun filming in WU | 16 Iowa Trails Summit—Cedar Falls |
| 4 West Union Fest Celebration
FREE Fishing weekend | 16 MSWU Promotions Committee
Meeting |
| 5 FREE Fishing weekend | 17 WU Light Special at Tap't Out |
| 6 Fayette County Disaster Relief
Meeting
City Council meeting | 19 Happy Father's Day |
| 7 Turkey River Recreational Corridor
Meeting
Fayette County Tourism Meeting | 20 City Council Meeting |
| 9 Chad Elliott concert at WU Rec
Center | 21 MSWU Design Committee
Meeting |
| 11 Geocaching Event at Klock's Island
Park, Fayette | 26 West Union Triathlon |
| 14 Chamber Board meeting
MSWU Board meeting
Flag Day | |



WEST UNION TRIATHLON IS JUNE 26

West Union Park & Rec will host the annual West Union Triathlon at the West Union Rec Center on Sunday, June 26th. The annual event draws competitors from across the state to bike, run, and swim. The event begins at 8:00 a.m. For more information, please contact Kathy Guyer at 563.422.3685. We encourage everyone to come out and cheer on the racers!

