



CHAMBER OF COMMERCE NEWS

Another benefit of your West Union Chamber Membership!

www.westunion.com

November 2012



VOLUNTEER AWARD NOMINEES NEEDED

It's that time of year again when we are thankful for the many blessings that come our way each and every year. As a community we are also thankful for the many volunteers who give of their time and talents to make West Union a great place to live, work, and play. Each year we recognize those individuals at the Community Awards Banquet which will be held on January 19, 2013. There are five categories to choose from in which to honor volunteers. They are: Community Service, Religion, Education, Health, and Youth.

Nominations for these awards come from the community and are selected by the Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors. The Citizen of the Year, chosen by the Fayette County Union will also be honored at the annual banquet. Main Street West Union will also honor their volunteers. A nomination form is included with this newsletter to encourage you, the business leaders, to think about those folks you think should be honored. Nominations are due to the Chamber office by December 31, 2012.

Additional forms are available in the Chamber office or on the city's website, www.westunion.com, under the Chamber Events Tab. Please take a few minutes to nominate someone you think gives back to our community and deserves to be recognized!

ANNUAL HOLIDAY PUNCH CARD PROMOTION NOVEMBER 7th- DECEMBER 24TH

The West Union Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring the 6th Annual Holiday Punch Card Promotion. This year's theme is "Snow Place' Like West Union"! Our snowmen will be all around town, in the windows of our participating merchants. Every time a customer makes a \$5 purchase they get a punch. Once their card valued at \$150 is completed, the customer signs their name, address and phone number on the back of the card and then deposits the card in the cans available.

Prize winners of local gift certificates will be drawn at the Chamber office each Monday morning beginning November 19th. Winners will be posted at the Chamber and listed in the Union each week. The final drawing of 5, \$100 Chamber Script dollar prizes will be held on Wednesday, December 26th. The more a customer shops locally, the more times they can be entered in the drawings! **Participating businesses are reminded to bring their completed punch cards to the Chamber office every FRIDAY before 4:30 pm!**

HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSES

West Union Business Holiday Open Houses will be held
November 15th-17th

Many local businesses will be having specials and refreshments at their establishments during these days. Take advantage of a chance to get some holiday shopping done AND get your punch card filled up!

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Melody Patrick	Vice-President
Jenni Elsbernd	Secretary/Treasurer
Ryan Hoey	
Brent Parker	
Judd Swensen	
Bridget Parker	Administrative Assistant

Chamber Spotlight: Union Drug

Steve and Mel Metcalf have owned and operated Union Drug for 25 years, purchasing the store from John Havener in 1987. The store was originally located on the corner of Vine and Elm Streets in downtown West Union. In 1978, it was moved to the present location on the North end of Lilac Plaza. The staff currently consists of 2 full-time pharmacy technicians and 2 part-time technicians.

Union Drug is a full service pharmacy and gift shop open Monday thru Friday from 8:30 am to 6:00 pm and Saturdays from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm. Along with filling prescriptions, they provide diabetic supplies, prescription counseling, manual blood pressure checks, free mailing of prescriptions, and free in-town deliveries. They accept all Medicare Part D plans.

The gift department at Union Drug offers: Willow Tree, Hallmark, Yankee Candles, jewelry, scarves, Iowa and Iowa State gifts, books, a Kodak Picture Maker kiosk, and much more!!

Steve and Mel have seen numerous changes over their 25 years of ownership, primarily in the technological aspect including: the way prescriptions are delivered to the pharmacy, record keeping and insurance filing. Purchasing venues, both pharmaceutical and gifts, have also changed.

As an independent pharmacy, future plans at Union Drug are to provide the best care and concern for our customers, while staying abreast of advances in pharmacy technology.



Mel Metcalf is pictured with oodles of Iowa and Iowa State merchandise at Union Drug! Visit them during the Holiday Punch Card Promotion!



Pharmacist Steve Metcalf has 34 years of experience. Stop in and visit Union Drug during October, National Pharmacist Month!
Photo courtesy of the Fayette County Union

Thank you Union Drug for your Chamber membership and support!

FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS, GRAND LIGHTING EVENT AND SANTA'S VISIT

The Grand Lighting for the Festival of Lights will be at 5:00 on Friday, November 23rd at the Rec Center. Santa and his helper will arrive in style on the fire truck. We will have free hot dogs, cookies, and hot chocolate. Children are asked to bring a canned good for the Food Shelf and in doing so, will be able to put their names in for a drawing for a chance to be Santa's helper. We will draw a girl's name and boy's name and they will then help Santa count down to the grand lighting. They will also receive a Christmas stocking, embroidered by McJ's.



We will then have a Santa parade along the luminaries provided by Main Street, to the large shelter where Santa will greet the children and receive a coloring book from the Chamber, along with a candy cane from the Christmas tree. We have MANY new items and lights this year spreading from the swimming pool throughout the entire park, covering approximately 5 acres. We continue to "adopt" out trees and areas of the park where families decorate for their loved ones.

Also new this year is "The Streets of West Union". We would still love to have more businesses and agencies involved--we only ask that you try and not use your business name, but rather be creative in coming up with something that would represent you. This needs to be done in LED lights and you will also need to provide a 25' extension cord. The electricity will be taken care of by the Festival of Lights. The sections are numbered and we can always add more! We will have a contest during the Grand Lighting night. Visitors who wish to participate will be given a list of the names and need to write the correct number beside it. From the correct entries, we will draw names and award prizes. The correct business/agency names and numbers, along with the winners, will then be published in the Union. Please call Judy at 563-380-5614, or Laurie at 563-422-7074 as soon as possible, no later than November 9th if you would like to be included! We need to have them all up by November 18th to give us time to be able to plug them all in.

This is our 5th year of decorating the park. We've come a long ways from that first year in 2008! Special thanks to the many, many volunteers that have helped, and to those who have contributed in other ways. The lights will remain on nightly from November 23rd through January 1st from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. There is no admission, but donations are accepted.



Thank you!--- the Festival of Lights Committee

GREEN PILOT UPDATE



FAÇADE MASTER PLAN PROGRAM UPDATE:

The City of West Union has chosen Gardner Architecture as the design firm for the Façade Master Plan project. Gardner will be meeting with participating businesses on November 6, 7, & 8 to go over work that building owners would like to have done to their buildings. If you are a participating building owner and have not yet scheduled your time with the Main Street office, please contact Robin Bostrom at 422-3070.

WU RECEIVES IOWA ENERGY CENTER GRANT: Main Street West Union received 7 proposals from film companies interested in working on the 30-minute documentary film which will be created with grant funding from the Iowa Energy Center. Work on the project will begin in November and will be completed by June 30, 2013. The film will be used to share the story of the sustainable development work done here in West Union with others across the state and the nation.

ENERGY EFFICIENT GRANT PROGRAM: The Main Street West Union program has received a grant extension until June 30, 2013 for the Energy Efficient Grant Program which provides rebates to any business that makes energy efficient upgrades to their building. Downtown building owners are reminded that they can qualify for rebates for making energy efficient updates to their commercial buildings. This funding is available on a first-come, first serve basis and you can find out what items qualify by visiting the Green Pilot tab on the city's website. Your upgrades will many times also qualify for rebates from either Alliant Energy or Black Hills Energy. Please contact the Main Street office if you have questions.

WU TO BE FEATURED ON "IN VIEW": Profile Series Productions has selected West Union's green pilot streetscape project for a 4-5 minute segment in a half-hour television program "In View" with host Larry King. A production team is scheduled to visit West Union on Thursday, November 1 to gather footage and a few select interviews. The final program will be aired on a national television network and include other feature segments and commentary by host Larry King from the studio. West Union's unique progress and its designation as a Green Pilot Community and Main Street Community by the Iowa Economic Development Authority were key factors in being selected for the program. 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. More information about the In View program can be found at <http://www.inviewseries.com/>.



NFHS PERFORMS "AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS"

Showtimes are scheduled for 7:30 pm on Friday & Saturday, November 9th and 10th as well as 2:00 pm on Sunday, November 11th. All shows will be held at the North Fayette Performing Arts Center at the high school.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT GOOD SAMARITAN SOCIETY

Let us do your Holiday Baking! Place your pie order today! Homemade Pumpkin Pie or Old Fashioned Apple Pie for \$10 each or Traditional Pecan Pie for \$13 each. To place your order by phone, please call (563) 422-9682. Orders can be placed online by going to www.good-sam.com or by emailing Marie at mmonroe@good-sam.com. Orders are due by November 16th. In-town delivery available on Wednesday, November 21st.

Nov 15- Finger & Toes Sock Party. Come and join the fun and do a little shopping for your fingers and toes! East Room from 1:00 to 5:00 pm.

Nov 17- Annual Holiday Vendor Fair at Cedar Court Senior Apartments. Lots of new vendors and merchandise. Enjoy shopping in a festive atmosphere! 9:00 am to 2:00 pm.

Nov 20- Community Coffee at 2:00 pm. Program is "9 Months in Hungary" by Robin Whitford.

ANNUAL CAKE AUCTION

The West Union Cub Scouts Pack 54 will once again be holding their annual Cake Auction! This year's proceeds will benefit the Kaleidoscope Kids Capital Campaign. Join them at the West Union United Methodist Church on Tuesday, November 20th at 6:30 pm. Come out and support the Scouts!

CHAMBER SCRIP MONEY MAKES A GREAT GIFT

Do you have a hard-to-buy for person on your holiday gift list? Are you wondering how to reward your employees or thank them for a job well done this holiday season? Want to give a gift that gives back to the community? Then Chamber Scrip money is the gift to choose! We can customize each certificate for your individual needs and they come in any amount you desire. But the best thing about giving them as gifts is that your money stays here within our community, supporting your fellow businesses.

All businesses are reminded that you can redeem your scrip money spent in your store, either directly through our two local banks or by bringing it to the Chamber office. Thanks for accepting these local certificates this holiday season and all year long!

NOVEMBER 2012

West Union Chamber of Commerce
101 North Vine Street
West Union, IA 52175

Phone: 563-422-3070
Email: wuchamber@alpinecom.net
www.westunion.com

«Name»

«Contact Information»

«Mailing Address»

«City», «State» «Zip»

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Kaleidoscope Kicks off Campaign for Building Project

The Kaleidoscope Kids Childcare Center Board of Directors has recruited additional volunteers to form a Capital Campaign Leadership Team. The group of approximately 35 community and rural volunteers has been meeting for several weeks now planning a major fundraising campaign to help finance building a new Kaleidoscope Kids Childcare Center close to North Fayette High School.

Mike and Barb Heins and LeRoy and Marcia Soppe have volunteered to lead this fundraising effort as Capital Campaign Co Chairs. In addition, Don Mueller and Steve Story have volunteered as Capital Campaign Honorary Co Chairs. Other campaign volunteers include: Kathy Bauer, Kevin Baumler, Ron Beerman, Courtney Bentley, Robin Bostrom, Tobin Britt, Deb Chensvold, Deb Dessel, Al Enyart, 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. This group of volunteers is meeting with Fayette County businesses and individuals to explain the value of Kaleidoscope, the need for a new facility, and the opportunity to financially support this building project.

The Kaleidoscope Building Project is an 8,500 square foot new childcare facility to be built next to the high school at the former swimming pool site. This facility will be built for childcare unlike the current facility which is the lower level of the United Methodist Church. Bathroom facilities and other structures will be built appropriately sized for children and placed in the classroom which is normal for a childcare facility, air conditioning will be installed since Kaleidoscope is open year-round, and quiet rooms will be located away from active learning areas.

Total project costs are estimated at approximately \$1.6 million with funds coming from the Kaleidoscope Capital Fundraising Campaign, a Community Development Block Grant will be applied for, a loan, and foundation grant applications will be submitted. Volunteers plan for a campaign to be complete within the next several weeks, submit grant applications following the successful local fundraising campaign, and begin construction in 2013.

You are needed to be a participate in this project and campaign and can do that by contacting Kaleidoscope Kids at 563-422-5379 or any of the volunteers mentioned in this article.

