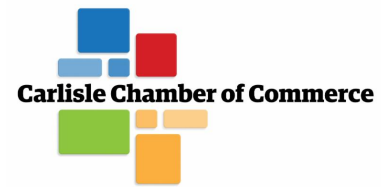




MISSION STATEMENT: The Carlisle Area Chamber of Commerce exists to promote the economy vitality of its members, encourage economic development, and to enhance the quality of life.



Your September "Business Spotlight" *Friends of Carlisle Parks*



Business Spotlight



*Friends of Carlisle Parks
Carlisle, Iowa 50047
515-490-2775*

Business Profile: Over the past year Friends of Carlisle Parks have completed significant improvements to the Scotch Ridge Nature Park in advance of the Karras Kaul Connector Trail, the long-awaited trail construction linking the southeast metro communities to the expansive central Iowa bike trail system. As a non-profit we have undertaken significant fundraising and grant writing to install a modern restroom (the last restroom on the trail for 13+ miles), wayfinding signage, and turn the bridge over North River into a community focal point by adding lighting complimentary of the environment. While much of this work was driven by the trail connector, it created many unexpected opportunities for partnerships we never imagined. The enhancements to the park have allowed for the development of outdoor classrooms for the middle school, expansion of programming for local youth groups (like the Boy Scouts, Girls Scouts and child care groups) leveraging the park for expanded learning.

The addition of lighting to the North River pedestrian bridge will be something to see! New metal sculptures designed to mirror the prairie grass in the city logo will accent both the north and south



Business Spotlight

entrances to the bridge. The sculptures are being fabricated and donated by PDM here in Carlisle. The sculptures and the planking of the bridge itself will have special lights, with the ability to adjust the coloring to highlight special community events and celebrations. The lighting will be visible from Highway 5, but more importantly, will provide a unique experience for visitors on the trail. We anticipate the lighting to be completed on the bridge this fall, and we will plan a special celebration when the lights are ready!

There will be a larger celebration in the spring (June 2025) once all of the project components are fully complete – a special fundraising event hosted by Friends of Carlisle Parks. We plan to host a **DINNER UNDER THE STARS** on the pedestrian bridge enjoying an amazing meal and outdoor experience in the nature park, under the lights. Stay tuned as more information will be available on that after the 1st of the year!

We appreciate the generous support of our local businesses and community members and are very proud of all we have accomplished! Please join us outside and enjoy our wonderful parks and trails!



Contact the Chamber Office
515-989-4216
executivedirector@carlisleiachamber.org

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Carlisle Chamber of Commerce

Shar Pardubsky, Executive Director

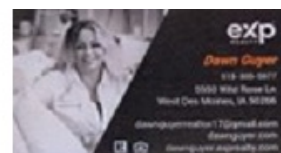
27 School St; PO Box 487

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(515) 989-4216

By Appointment

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