



## The Business Voice

**December 2015**

### It's the Holiday Season!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! Thank you for being part of the Shelby County Chamber of Commerce & Industry. May you enjoy a prosperous 2016!

People celebrate Christmas Day in many ways. In the days or even weeks before Christmas Day, many people decorate their homes with lights, Christmas trees and much more. It is common to organize a special meal for family or friends and exchange gifts with them.

Christmas is a time of good natured gift exchange, feasting and celebration. Nothing beats the fun and good times that can be experienced during the Yuletide season.

Speaking of gifts, Gallup's November update of Americans' 2015 holiday spending intentions finds U.S. adults planning to spend \$830 on Christmas gifts this year, on average. That is up sharply from the \$720 recorded a year ago.

(Source: <http://www.gallup.com/poll/186620/americans-plan-spending-lot-christmas.aspx>).

Here's a fun fact. If your true love bought you all the gifts mentioned in the holiday classic "The Twelve Days of Christmas", the bill would come out to \$27,673.22 in 2014. If you received every gift, you'd have 364 gifts. Score!

(Source: <http://time.com/3612491/twelve-days-of-christmas-pnc-wealth-management-price-index/>).

Hanukkah is celebrated 8 days even though the miracle of the oil was really only 7 (the first day's light shouldn't count - it's natural) to teach us that everything in the "natural" world is really a miracle caused by God. Nothing happens without Him willing it. (Source: <http://www.aish.com/h/c/mm/8-Fascinating-facts-about-Hanukkah.html>).

Hanukkah also goes by the names of the Festival of Lights and Feast of Dedication.

(Source: <http://www.israel21c.org/eight-fun-facts-about-hanukkah/>).

For many years, my family always had a real Christmas tree. Then around 1973-1974, my mom decided to purchase an artificial Christmas tree. Dad said it looked like a long green pole with a bunch of green toilet bowl brushes stuck to it. Dad was banned from decorating the tree after that. Honestly, I think he planned that way in advance. My siblings and I loved the artificial tree. No more placing tinsel on the tree one piece at a time and we didn't have to worry about our cocker spaniel drinking the water out of the tree base. We had other Christmas family traditions growing up and those are the memories I hold near and dear to my heart.

Remember, Christmas is a time to build lifelong memories with your family. Traditions also help you bond and reconnect with family, friends, and neighbors.

Merry Christmas everyone!

## Chamber Gift Certificates



It's the holiday gift giving season again. Are you wondering what to buy that hard to shop for person on your holiday gift list? The Shelby County Chamber of Commerce & Industry has an answer – Chamber gift certificates.

Chamber gift certificates are a wonderful gift for employees, teachers, coaches, friends and family. Gift certificates can be purchased in any denomination and used throughout Shelby County. There is no minimum purchase required. All major credit cards, checks and cash accepted.

Certificates are easy to purchase. On our website: <http://www.exploreshelbycounty.com/chamber-gift-certificates.html>, call the office 712-755-2114, [email](mailto:info@exploreshelbycounty.com) or stop by and see us.

Each gift certificate expires after six months from the date of issue. They will NOT be redeemed, honored or replaced if lost, misplaced, mutilated, defaced, destroyed or stolen.

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## Chamber Happenings!

Join the Chamber staff on Friday, December 18, 9:30 a.m. for an Ambassador Visit sponsored by KNOD, 909 Chatburn Avenue, to celebrate Judy Storm's retirement. Chamber members are encouraged to attend and to bring a non-member business owner/employee along to this event. You are also invited to the Open House for Judy's retirement from 9:00 a.m. - noon.

The Shelby County Chamber of Commerce & Industry will be closed Friday, December 25 through Friday, January 1 to celebrate the holidays with family and friends.

## Business After Hours



Business After Hours is a premier networking event for business professionals in Shelby County. It gives you the opportunity to discuss and share ideas while learning about other local businesses. It is a relationship-building experience held in a relaxed setting that benefits you and your company through added contacts and resources.

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## SCCCI Mission Statement

To create a climate of opportunity for business growth, economic development, and a high standard of living throughout Shelby County.

## Upcoming Events!

### Santa Visits.

Saturday, December 19  
Harlan Shopko Hometown Store  
Harlan, IA. 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Saturday, December 19  
Shelby County Community Building  
Shelby, IA. 2:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 20  
Harlan Hy-Vee. Harlan, IA  
11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

### Shelby County Holiday Harvest Market

Tuesday, December 22  
3:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.  
Milk & Honey Restaurant

### Iowa Community Kitchen Meal

Tuesday, December 22  
4:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.  
First Baptist Church

### Advertise in the Shelby County Chamber of Commerce & Industry Newsletter.

If you would like to advertise in the chamber newsletter, contact us at 712-755-2114 or email at: [info@exploreshelbycounty.com](mailto:info@exploreshelbycounty.com).

**Notary Services** are available, at no cost, to all Shelby County Chamber of Commerce & Industry members. This service is another added benefit from your friendly staff at SCCCI. If you are in need of these services, please contact the Chamber office at 712-755-2114 or email [info@exploreshelbycounty.com](mailto:info@exploreshelbycounty.com).

**Contact Us:** Give us a call or email us for more information about becoming a Chamber member. Telephone: 712-755-2114;  
Email: [info@exploreshelbycounty.com](mailto:info@exploreshelbycounty.com)

# Welcome New SCCCI Members

Shelby County Farm Bureau  
908 6th Street  
Harlan, IA 51537  
712-755-5145  
Joined December 3, 2015

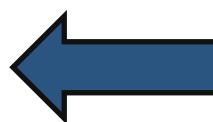
Casey's General Store  
1006 Chatburn Avenue  
Harlan, IA 51537  
712-755-7891  
Joined December 7, 2015

Regional Water/Rural Water Assn.  
108 Highway 59  
Avoca, IA 51521  
712-343-2413  
Joined December 15, 2015

## SCCCI Membership Renewals

Harlan Inn & Suites \* Cobblestone Inn & Suites \* Pauley Jones Funeral Home \* R & S Waste Disposal LLC  
Salvo, Deren, Schenck, Swain & Argotsinger, PC

## Ambassador Visit



Midstates Bank  
812 Durant  
Harlan, IA  
712-755-2126

Celebrating John Helling's  
Retirement

## Article Submissions

We are looking for content from Chamber members about your business that would be interesting to others.

If you would like to contribute an article of 150 to 400 words about important things happening in your field, or share knowledge that would be of benefit to the membership and community, please contact Carol at [info@exploreshelbycounty.com](mailto:info@exploreshelbycounty.com). Our editorial committee (Todd and Carol) will review all submissions. We reserve the right to edit articles and to schedule them according to the needs of the publication.

**Deadline:** The second Friday of the month. You may include your company's contact information, in case readers are interested in your products and/or services.



## Featured Member:



### Marne Elk Horn customers connect to ultra-fast fiber network

Today, communications services are to rural economies what rural electricity was in the 1930s. Those with ultra-fast connections will have the advantage over those who don't. For that reason, Marne Elk Horn is investing in a Fiber-to-the-Home network for business and residential customers – both in the county and in the communities they serve.

Customers who call Marne, Elk Horn, Brayton, and Kimballton home have access to an ultra-fast fiber optic network, which delivers Internet services up to 1Gig (equal to 1000 Mb.) Those same customers also have access to Digital TV and voice services.

“The fiber network brings the world to our customers. When you can live where you want and still work, or start a business, we are seeing people do just that,” said Janell Hansen, Marne Elk Horn’s General Manager. “Businesses can grow in new and innovative ways with access to reliable, ultra-fast Internet, and not just traditional businesses. Small office and home office options become realistic when you have 200Mb Internet at your door.”

Ultra-fast, unlimited Internet allows customers to stream multiple HD movies, video chat using FaceTime or Skype, enjoy on-line gaming and still have plenty of bandwidth for research or music streaming.

Over 80% of the fiber network is in service now. The final 20% is still being completed and will be done at the end of 2016.

“About 5% of the customers in Iowa have Fiber-to-the-Home services like we offer our customers at Marne Elk Horn. Beyond providing them an outstanding set of products, the Fiber network is a great economic development tool for our area,” concluded Hansen.

## 2016 Chamber Events

We are seeking individuals for our events committee. If you or someone you know is interested joining, please contact the Chamber office at 712-755-2114 or [info@exploreshelbycounty.com](mailto:info@exploreshelbycounty.com).

February 19	Annual Member Banquet	August 13	Harlan Market
April 27	Fun China Luncheon	August XX	Tour De Shelby County
May 14	Harlan Market	September 10	Harlan Market
June 11	Harlan Market	September XX	Shelby County Women’s Conference
June 19	71 <sup>st</sup> Harlan Flight Breakfast	October 22	International Beer Festival
June XX	Harlan 100 with Shelby County Trails	October 29	Harvest Festival
July 9	Harlan Market	November 26	Small Business Saturday Holiday Lighting
July 19	Annual SCCCI Membership Meeting	December 1-4	Festival of Trees

“XX” date has not been determined

## **Club Level Members**

### **Platinum Plus Club Members**

**City of Harlan**

**Harlan Municipal Utilities**

**Shelby County**

**Harlan Industrial Foundation**

**Myrtue Medical Center**

**Shelby County State Bank**

### **Platinum Club Members**

**Conductix-Wampfler**

**Monogram Prepared Meats, LLC**

### **Gold Club Members**

**Essentia Protein Solutions**

**FMCTC**

**Farmers Trust & Savings Bank**

**Midstates Bank**

### **Silver Club Members**

**Elm Crest Retirement Community**

**Panama Transfer**

### **Bronze Club Members**

**The Agency, Inc. CDS Global Counsel Office & Document**

**Cyclone Lanes Fareway Stores, Inc.**

**Harlan Golf & Country Club**

**The Harlan Tribune**

**Hy-Vee Keast Motors**

**Terry Knapp Real Estate**

**KNOD Radio Station**

**EJ Leinen - State Farm**

**Medivac Corporation**

**Molded Products Nishnabotna Valley REC**

**Pitts Family & Sports Chiropractic Center, PC**

**Smitty Bee Honey, Inc. Subway**

**Town & Country Credit Union**



## 2015-2016

### Chamber Board Members

#### President

Brent Scheve  
The Agency

#### Vice-President

Dave Tyrrel  
Molded Products

#### Treasurer

Denny Siemers  
Town & Country  
Credit Union

#### Past President

Kevin Campbell  
Shelby County State Bank

#### Board Member

Tracee Gettys  
Elm Crest Retirement  
Community

#### Board Member

Terry Knapp  
Terry Knapp Real Estate

#### Board Member

EJ Leinen  
EJ Leinen State Farm  
Insurance

#### Board Member

Roger Schmitz  
Shelby County Board of  
Supervisors

### Chamber Staff!

#### Todd Valline

Executive Director

#### Ed Hendley

Information Technology  
Manager

#### Carol McHugh

Administrative Assistant

# Did You Know - Christmas 1990

Movie: Home Alone

Popular boys' toy: Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles Figures

Popular girls' toy: Polly Pockets

Song: "Because it's Christmas (For All the Children)" Barry Manilow

Unusual event: The internet gets its first test run

## Christmas Trivia - Test your Christmas knowledge or quiz your friends and family (answers can be found on another page in this newsletter).

1. What is the name of the city where "It's a Wonderful Life" takes place?
2. What traditional Christmas carol does the entire Peanuts gang hum, and then eventually sing at the end of the show?
3. In the 1964 classic Rudolph The Red Nosed Reindeer, what was the name of the elf that wanted to be a dentist?
4. What action causes Frosty the Snowman to come to life?
5. How many reindeer usually pull Santa's sleigh on a clear night?
6. What was the Grinch's dog's name?
7. In the movie, "A Christmas Story?", what was Santa's response to Ralphie's request for a BB gun for Christmas?

## December's Blue Zones Project Recipe

For more recipes, check out <https://www.bluezones.com/recipes/>



From the kitchen of:  
Blue Zones Project®

## Honey Baked Apples

### Ingredients:

- 2 medium-size tart apples (Granny Smith, Braeburn, Jonathan, Fuji)
- 1 tbsp. honey
- ¼ tsp. ground cinnamon

- 2 tbsp. oatmeal
- 2 tbsp. (in total) of raisins, dried cranberries, and chopped walnuts or other nuts

### Directions:

Cut apples in half lengthwise. Use spoon to remove cores and hollow out a space 1 inch or more deep. Arrange apple halves, cut sides up, on microwavable dish. Cut thin slices off bottoms to keep from tipping. Combine honey, cinnamon, oatmeal, raisins, and nuts. Fill each apple half. Cover with plastic wrap. Fold back one edge ¼ inch to vent steam. Microwave 3 to 3 ½ minutes, or until apples can be cut easily. Take from microwave. Let sit a few minutes.

Source: Spend Smart Eat Smart, Iowa State University Extension and Outreach

**Yields:** Serving Size: 1 apple half, serves 4

Per Serving: 85 calories, 1 g. fat, 8 g. sodium, 2 g. fiber, 1 g. protein





# Shelby County Holiday Harvest Market

**Tuesday, December 22nd**

**3:00 PM to 7:00 PM**

Hosted by:

**Milk and Honey**

**1101 7th Street, Harlan, Iowa**

**On the Historic Downtown Square**

**Winter Produce and Baked Goods**

**available from Local Farmers,**

**Bakers and Artisans**





# **Dad's Belgian Waffles**

## **Brunch & Silent Auction**

Serving Waffles, Sausages, Flavored Syrups and Drinks

**Sunday, Jan. 17 • 9 AM – Noon**

St. Mary's Parish Hall – Panama

*Fundraising Event Hosted by The Shelby County Trails Committee.*

Adults: \$7 advance - \$8 at the door.

6-12 years: \$5 advance - \$6 at the door.

Children under 5 years FREE.

*Carry-outs available!!*

### **All You Care to Eat**

--- PLUS ---

## **Shelby Co. Trails Silent Auction !**

Expecting dozens of items with 3 separate bid closing times: 10 am, 11 am & Noon.

Auction item donations will be greatly appreciated! Please call 712-579-1604.

Advance tickets available at the Shelby County Chamber of Commerce & Industry office  
1901 Hawkeye Avenue, Suite 101, Harlan.



## Event Info

For additional information on community events, please visit <http://www.exploreshelbycounty.com/events.html>

~ January 2016 ~						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 New Year's Day SCCCI Office Closed	2
3 Fruitcake Toss Day	4	5 Iowa Community Kitchen Meal	6	7	8	9
10 Peculiar People Day	11	12 Iowa Community Kitchen Meal National Pharmacist Day	13	14 Brown Bag Lunch Program Dress Up Your Pet Day	15	16 Appreciate a Dragon Day
17 Dad's Belgian Waffles Brunch & Silent Auction, Panama - Fundraising Event for the Shelby County Trails Committee	18 Martin Luther King Day	19 Iowa Community Kitchen Meal	20 Penguin Awareness Day	21 Squirrel Appreciation Day	22	23
24	25 Bubble Wrap Appreciation Day	26 Iowa Community Kitchen Meal	27	28 Fun at Work Day (It's okay, we give you permission)	29	30
31 Backward Day	<b>Notes:</b>					

February 2016						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 Groundhog Day Iowa Community Kitchen Meal	3	4	5 National Wear Red Day	6 Eat Ice Cream for Breakfast Day
7 Superbowl Sunday	8 Boy Scout Day	9 Iowa Community Kitchen Meal Mardi Gras-Fast Tuesday	10 Ash Wednesday	11 Make A Friend Day	12 Abraham Lincoln's Birthday	13
14 Valentine's Day	15 Presidents Day	16 Iowa Community Kitchen Meal	17	18	19 SCCCI Annual Awards Banquet	20 Love Your Pet Day
21	22 George Washington's Birthday	23 Iowa Community Kitchen Meal	24	25	26	27 No Brainer Day
28	29 Leap Day	<b>Notes:</b>				

Answers to Christmas Trivia Questions: 1. Bedford Falls; 2. Hark the Herald Angels Sing; 3. Hermie; 4. Placing an old hat on his head; 5. Dasher, Dancer, Prancer, Vixen, Comet, Cupid, Donner & Blitzen; 6. Max; 7. You'll shoot your eye out kid.