

February

The Business Voice

February 2016

Community Gardens Time to Start Planning for Planting

Often called the “new” green space, community gardens have been around for hundreds of years.

A single piece of land gardened collectively by a group of people, providing fresh products and plants, satisfying labor, community involvement and connection to the environment.

Community gardens grow more than food, they usually lead to long term relationships among people from a wide variety of backgrounds that might not ordinarily “network”. They provide organic food to some people who might not otherwise be able to afford it, which means people eat healthier diets. They teach younger generations the importance of sustainability and being sovereign. They add beauty to the community, have proven to reduce stress and reduce air pollution.

Community gardens provide a place to compost many items that would normally end up in landfills, like paper cups, paper towels, leaves, grass clippings, food scraps, etc. Putting these organic wastes back in the soil make the use of fertilizers unnecessary.

What types of community gardens can you do? Anything you want. Vegetable gardens, potato gardens, butterfly gardens, sensory gardens, flower gardens, herb gardens, fruit gardens, you name it. They can be in raised beds, in the ground, window boxes, anything. Make sure to have a plot of land that gets a lot of sunshine and access to water. Be ready on the first day to break ground and get your hands dirty.

Get the soil tested, especially if you are gardening in a new site. It’s the best way to know what nutrients are in your soil and what you will need to add to grow healthy plants. In urban areas, soil testing is especially important because toxic metals like lead may have contaminated the soil.

Remember, have fun!

The following steps are adapted from the [American Community Garden Association's](#) guidelines for launching a successful community garden in your neighborhood.

1. Organize a meeting of interested people.
2. Form a planning committee.
3. Identify all your resources.
4. Approach a sponsor.
5. Choose a site.
6. Prepare and develop the site.
7. Organize the garden.
8. Plan for children. Have a garden just for kids.
9. Determine rules and put them in writing.
10. Help members keep in touch with each other.



Chamber Gift Certificates



The Shelby County Chamber of Commerce & Industry offers gift certificates that are accepted at many of our area's retailers, restaurants and professional services. The program is designed to promote and have consumers patronize Shelby County businesses. They make a perfect gift for employees, coaches, teachers,

friends and family. Gift certificates can be purchased in any denomination. There is no minimum purchase required. All major credit cards, checks and cash accepted.

Certificates are easy to purchase. On our [website](#), call the office 712-755-2114, [email](#) 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.

Legislative Coffee Series

Hosted by the Shelby County Chamber of Commerce & Industry.

March 19, 9:00 a.m., American Legion Post, Harlan, IA

Free Will Donation Breakfast will be provided by the American Legion Post



Harlan Daffodil Days

Sponsored by the Harlan Lions Club.

Your choice: \$7 for a ten or \$50 for a Sunshine Bunch (includes glass vase).

Orders will be taken through Thursday, March 10, 2016 from any Lions Club member or call Elaine at 712-755-3336.

Delivery: Mid-March.

Money raised will be use for their local Lion's Kid's Sight Project, Leader Dog Adoption and Mobile Food Pantry held at Veteran's Memorial Building in Harlan.



Upcoming Events!

Salem Lutheran Homes and Rehab Center Soup and Sandwich Luncheon, Sunday, February 28, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Elk Horn Lutheran Church, for the 2016 Expansion/Renovation.

Mobile Pantry Monday, February 29, 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Veteran's Memorial Building, Harlan.

Iowa Community Kitchen Meals Every Tuesday, 4:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. First Baptist Church, Harlan.

Iowa Community Kitchen Fundraiser Monday, March 7, Harlan Pizza Ranch, 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

No Excuse Fitness Workshop Sponsored by Schumacher Family Chiropractic. Saturday, March 19, 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Petersen Family Wellness Center.

Harlan Newspapers 30th Annual 2016 Home, Garden & Living Show March 19 & 20, Veteran's Memorial Building.

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](#)

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](#)

Contact Us: Give us a call or email us for more information about becoming a Chamber member. Telephone: 712-755-2114, [Email](#)

Welcome New SCCCI Members

Main Street Market
202 Main Street, PO Box 40
Panama, IA 51562
712-489-2601
Joined January 18, 2015

John Helling
Harlan, IA 51537
Joined January 27, 2016

State Representative Steve Holt
Denison, IA
712-269-4042
Joined February 2, 2016

SCCCI Membership Renewals

Rusty's Shoe Repair * Potter House Bed & Breakfast * FarmTable Procurement & Delivery
Kirk Petersen Certified Appraisal Service * United Bank of Iowa * Harlan Flower Barn

Ribbon Cutting Ceremony



H & R Block Business Services
1110 6th Street
Harlan, IA
712-755-2055

Friday, January 22
Welcoming new business
owners Brett & Marie Bengford

Expansion Project 2016

Salem Lutheran Homes and Rehabilitation Center

Since 1932, Salem Lutheran Homes and Rehabilitation Center has been providing care for aging members of their community and surrounding areas. They are currently working on a large building project to expand their rehabilitation services.

Phase one of the project is to transform their dining room, updating the area with new flooring, lighting and décor, adding a coffee bar and restaurant type seating. Phase 2 will create a two-story entrance with a green house and gift shop area, private rooms on the first floor and a state-of-the art 1,600 square foot therapy wing with expanded services for "rehab to home" patients on the top floor.

About half of their \$200,000 goal has been raised. Construction is scheduled to begin mid to late February with final completion in October-December 2016. For more information, visit saulemlutheranhomes.org or call 712-764-4201.

Do You Have a New Member to Refer?

Email Carol at info@exploreshelbycounty.com

Featured Member:



Four Seasons Travel, Inc. is a full service leisure and corporate travel planning company owned by Steve and Bambi Ineson. We moved to Harlan 7 years ago to purchase the agency from Bambi's mother, Linda Bruck. Four Seasons Travel has been in the family for 27 years. Our team provides a comprehensive, individualized travel planning experience. Our agents, Steve, Dori, Trina, and Gretchen have a combined 43 years of travel experience. Our services include:

- Corporate meeting planning and travel services including air, hotel and car bookings
- Leisure trip planning including all-inclusive destinations, cruises, domestic, and international travel
- Full service tour planning
- Destination wedding planning
- Honeymoons
- Disney and all other family vacations
- Group trips

We can save time in planning travel which can be a tedious task. Our tools and experience make it easy on the customer. You get to work with a real person that will help you from the beginning, planning stages to getting home. We have vast experience helping our customers with travel issues that do arise and we have 24-hour emergency service. You do not necessarily save money using the internet, so stop in or give us a call, (712) 755-3811, and we can start planning your trip and provide you with have an amazing experience.



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](#). 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.

SCCCI Mission Statement

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

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

Molded Products Nishnabotna Valley REC

Pitts Family & Sports Chiropractic Center, PC

Smitty Bee Honey, Inc. Subway

Town & Country Credit Union

**2015-2016
Chamber Board
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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

Friday Mornings at the Shelby County Chamber of Commerce & Industry

State Representative Steve Holt will be available for meetings and discussion on Friday mornings, through March 25, 2015, from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m., at the Shelby County Chamber of Commerce & Industry's Conference Room. Feel free to stop by or you can call Mr. Holt at 712-269-4042 to schedule an appointment.

As A Chamber Member there are so many avenues you can take advantage of promoting or marketing your business. If you are opening your doors for the first time, relocated or simply remodeled and plan a re-opening of your business, call the Chamber office to schedule a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony. Ribbon Cutting Ceremonies are a member benefit provided at no additional charge. You set the date, call Carol and she'll notify fellow Chamber members. You supply the refreshments and we'll supply the special ribbon and big scissors, plus photos will be taken which will appear in the next Chamber newsletter and on our Facebook page.

If you would like additional information about scheduling a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony, call Carol at 712-755-2114 or [email](#).

Did You Know!


According to America's Small Business Development Center, 90% of people research online BEFORE shopping locally!

As a Chamber member you have access to your own Traffic Catcher Site (TCS page), a unique web page dedicated to your business. It's your primary tool for sharing information about your company, products and services.

If you have any questions or need additional assistance setting up your TCS page, contact the Chamber's Webmaster, Ed Hendley at 712-733-8325 or [email](#).

February's Blue Zones Project Recipe

For more recipes, [click here](#).



From the kitchen of:
Blue Zones Project®

Sweet-Potato & Black-Bean Chili

Ingredients:


- 2 tsp. extra-virgin olive oil
- 1 small onion, finely diced
- 1 small sweet potato, peeled and diced
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 tbsp. chili powder
- 2 tsp. ground cumin
- ¼ tsp. ground chipotle chile
- ¼ tsp. salt, or to taste
- 1½ cups water
- 1 15-ounce can black beans, rinsed
- 1 cup canned diced tomatoes
- 2 tsp. lime juice
- 2 tbsp. chopped fresh cilantro

Directions:
Heat oil in a large saucepan over medium-high heat. Add onion and potato and cook, stirring often, until the onion is slightly softened, about 4 minutes. Add garlic, chili powder, cumin, chipotle, and salt, and cook, stirring constantly, until fragrant, about 30 seconds. Add water, bring to a simmer, cover, reduce heat to maintain a gentle simmer and cook until the potato is tender, 10–12 minutes. Add beans, tomatoes, and lime juice; increase heat to high and return to a simmer, stirring often. Reduce heat to maintain a simmer and cook until slightly reduced, about 4 minutes. Remove from the heat and stir in cilantro.

Source: [EatingWell.com](#)

Yields: Serves 2

Per Serving: 374 calories, 6 g. fat, 699 mg. sodium, 15 g. fiber, 14 g. protein

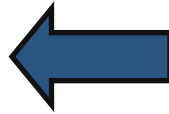


BLUE ZONES PROJECT
by HEALTHWAYS

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2016 Shelby County Chamber of Commerce & Industry's Annual Awards Banquet Winners

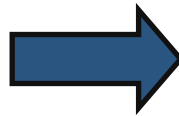


2015 Non-Profit Business of the Year

Shelby County Historical Society & Museum, Harlan, IA

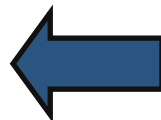
2015 Citizen/Volunteer of the Year

Mayor Stan Jens, Elk Horn, Iowa



2015 New Business & Business of the Year

Beauty N the Beast Grooming, LLC



Photos Courtesy of Harlan Newspaper



Thursday, March 17 is St. Patrick's Day. On this day, the Irish and Irish-at-heart around the world celebrate this well-known patron saint of Ireland. Since I'm Irish, I'll be wearing green, the color of my great-grandmother's homeland. This means that those not sporting the color could endure a painful pinch (you've been warned!). Of course this fun holiday is also about searching for four-leaf clovers and leprechauns that can lead you to a pot of gold.

With its increasing popularity and media attention, St. Patrick's Day has become a financial boon for businesses across the country. American consumers of all ages will be taking part in the St. Patrick's Day festivities this year. And while spending on the Irish holiday might seem small in comparison with other holidays such as Christmas [\\$626.1 billion](#) or Valentine's Day [\\$18.9 billion](#), millions will hit the stores to buy their favorite green goods.

Last year, approximately 127 million people in the United States celebrated St. Patrick's Day. Wearing green is one of the most popular ways people celebrate this holiday and spent an average of \$37 on green garb, festive food and more. Total "green" spending, close to [\\$4.6 billion](#). Having said that, it presents an opportunity for small businesses to lure consumers and boost their revenues.

St. Patrick's Day is a fun and festive holiday, an opportunity that offers your business a creative reason to reach out and interact with your customers. Regardless of what segment your business serves, you need to put your best foot forward and give your customers a reason why they need to pay attention to your business and your products. The goal is to boost traffic and bring new people into your business, strengthen relationships with current customers and ultimately, increase sales.

By the way, St. Patrick was British. His only "Irish connection", at the age of 16 he was kidnapped by a group of Irish raiders, sold to an Irish sheep farmer and held captive for six years.

To get your "green on", visit these Chamber members. They'll be glad you did. Bauer's Shoe Store * Beauty N the Beast * Cyclone Lanes * Fair N Square * Farm Sweet Farm * Floral Elegance & Unique Gifts * Harlan Flower Barn, Apparel & Gifts * Harlan Do It Best Hardware * Harlan Veterinary Associates and Referral Center * Jeronimo's * Market Street Gifts * Milk & Honey * Odds & Ends * Potter House Bed & Breakfast * Rubi J Store * Secret Serenity Salon & Day Spa.

Daylight Savings Time Begins
at 2:00 a.m. on Sunday, March 13,
2016. Remember to set your clocks
ahead one hour before going to bed
on Saturday, March 12!





**KNIGHTS
OF COLUMBUS**
IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

Harlan Knights of Columbus

Annual Fish Fry

Every Friday through Lent

At the St. Michael's

Rosman Parish Center

5:30 to 7:00 p.m.

Menu includes fried or baked fish, baked potatoes, French fries, macaroni & cheese.

New this year FISH TACOS!

Adults \$10, children ages 6-10 \$5,

Children 5 and under Free.

Family rate is also available.





- 2016 TO DO:**
- Harlan Home Show
 - Landscaping
 - Garden
 - Home Improvement
 - Enjoy!

Free Admission

Harlan Newspapers
30th Annual, 2016

Home, Garden & Living Show

Sat. & Sun., March 19 & 20

Saturday, 4:30-8:00 pm • Sunday, Noon-4:00 pm

Vet's Auditorium 12th St. & Morningview Drive, Harlan, IA



Expecting up to 2,500 people to attend the show again this year.



Reserve Your Space Today
Call 712-755-3111

Vendor Packages Available from \$190. Limited Space.

2016 Regional Beginning Farmer and Military Veteran Workshops

Sponsored by: Iowa Bankers Association, Farm Service Agency
FFA Alumni, Iowa Finance Authority, Veterans In Agriculture

Workshop Objectives Raise awareness of programs that support beginning farmers and military veterans
Identify program processes and points of contact

Targeted Invitees: Ag lenders, attorneys, CPAs, Farm Management Firms, Farm Coop Managers, FSA staff
Beginning and transitioning farmers, military veterans, FFA alumni, Ag students
Everyone is welcome to attend and invite others interested in these programs

AGENDA

8:30-9:00 am	Registration and coffee
9:00-9:30 am	Farm Service Agency beginning farmer programs
9:30-10:00 am	Iowa Finance Authority beginning farmer programs
10:00-10:15 am	Veterans in Agriculture update
10:15-10:30 am	Break
10:30-11:00 am	Ag lender panel on regional Ag topics
11:00-11:30 am	Q & A
11:30 am	Adjourn with regional FFA alumni and military veteran committee meetings

- There is no charge to attend these workshops
- See location and map for each workshop and to register at www.iowafinanceauthority.gov/iadd
- If questions, send email to IADD@iowa.gov

The assistance and support provided by the eight community college workshop hosts are sincerely appreciated

City	Locations	Dates	Deadline to email RSVP
Calmar	NEICC	March 3	March 2
Emmetsburg	Iowa Lakes CC	March 8	March 7
Ankeny	DMACC	March 10	March 9
Ottumwa	Indian Hills CC	March 31	March 30
Mason City	NICC	April 8	April 7
Cedar Rapids	Kirkwood CC	April 12	April 11
Creston	SWICC	April 14	April 13
Carroll	DMACC	April 15	April 14

Event Info

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

March 2016						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Iowa Community Kitchen Meal	2 Read Across America Day	3 Museum of Danish American After Hours	4 Representative Steve Holt at Chamber Conference Room St. Michael's Knights of Columbus Annual Fish Fry	5
6	7 Iowa Community Fundraiser	8 Iowa Community Kitchen Meal	9 Harlan Lions Club Daffodil Days – Last Day to place your order	10	11 Heartsaver First Aid and CPR/AED Adult, Child & Infant Class - IWCC Representative Steve Holt at Chamber Conference Room St. Michael's Knights of Columbus Annual Fish Fry	12
13 Daylight Saving Time Begins	14 Save a Spider Day	15 Iowa Community Kitchen Meal	16 IWCC Lunch & Learn Series	17 St. Patrick's Day	18 Representative Steve Holt at Chamber Conference Room St. Michael's Knights of Columbus Annual Fish Fry	19 Harlan Newspapers 30 th Annual, 2016 Home, Garden & Living Show Legislative Coffee American Legion Post Harlan No Excuse Fitness
20 March Equinox/First Day of Spring Palm Sunday Harlan Newspapers 30 th Annual, 2016 Home, Garden & Living Show	21	22 Iowa Community Kitchen Meal	23	24	25 Good Friday Chamber Office Closed Representative Steve Holt at Chamber Conference Room	26
27 Easter Sunday	28	29 Iowa Community Kitchen Meal	30 IWCC Lunch & Learn Series	31	Notes:	

April 2016						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 April Fool's Day	2 World Autism Awareness Day
3	4	5 Iowa Community Kitchen Meal Arbor Day	6	7 Path Less Pedaled Presentation – Therkildsen Center	8	9
10 National Library Week (through the 16 th)	11	12 Iowa Community Kitchen Meal First Man in Space (1961)	13	14	15 Taxes Due	16 Community Kids Festival – Myrtue Medical Center
17	18	19 Iowa Community Kitchen Meal	20 IWCC Lunch & Learn Series	21	22 Earth Day	23 Passover
24	25	26 Iowa Community Kitchen Meal	27 Administrative Assistants Day Fun China Luncheon	28 Take Our Sons & Daughters to Work Day	29	30