

CHAMBER CONNECTION

317 West Main Street
Marshall, MN 56258
507.532.4484
www.marshallmn.org



Marshall Area Chamber of Commerce Connection to
Local Business, Public Policy, Economic Development and Community Events



2021 Recap
2021 was another interesting year. For those that kept an eye on the COVID vaccination news, it was a year of anticipation that once the vaccination started spreading, we would be in the clear of COVID. That certainly has not happened with the Delta and Omicron variants still making life difficult. There has to be a light at the end of the tunnel though, right?

We held our first partial in person event way back in February with our Women's Connect meeting and hearing from Stephanie McKee with Avera on work life balance. Certainly a topic that many of us need to hear again and again.

Our first fully in person event was also held later in February and that was through our Ag Business group, where we heard from Allen Deutz with Redwood River Farms and Paul Lanoue with Lyon County Farm Bureau, who presented on the ever changing farm family and how it differs from when we all grew up. Interesting conversation for sure.

Our first large event was the State of the City address, which was held in late April. We saw 118 people join us on the Campus of SMSU to hear from Mayor Bob Byrnes and City Administrator, Sharon Hanson. Very well attended and organized in a safe matter.

Also in April, we had our second (and hopefully last) Rally Around Marshall event where we raised \$25,000 for area business through gift cards. Thanks to those who helped that day. Great to see the Marshall community rally around businesses once again.

In May, and although not an event, a big win for the business community statewide and that was to not let the PPP loans get taxed. Lots of negotiations, but why would we tax businesses that needed the loans in the first place, especially with a surplus of money in the State? Chambers statewide worked hard with legislators to get this accomplished.

In late July on a hot, windy day, we had our Annual State of Agriculture event out at the Lyon County Fairgrounds. We saw 74 people attend, where we saw panelists, Chad Drake with Bremer, Senator Gary Dahms, Ken Franzky with Centrol Crop Consulting, Mike Boerboom with Boerboom Ag Resources and Carolyn Olson with Olson Organics speak on COVID recovery. Wow, what a great panel of people. I would encourage any readers out there today that are interested in attending this upcoming summer to attend.

In October, we held our Taste of Marshall at the Red Baron Arena for the first time. We held this event previously on the 2nd floor of the SMSU Conference Center in the past and we had the good problem of outgrowing that space. We had a record 20 vendors in attendance including 7 from outside of Marshall on hand. In addition, we had just under 400 people attend the event. Thanks to everyone who attended! We will hold this event once again in mid-October.

In September, we had a staffing change and hired Desiree Petrich to be our new Event Coordinator. She has been very involved in the community through Sunrise Rotary and the YMCA. Stop on in and say hi to her when you can.

Speaking of stopping by, we moved on November 1st back to where we were 7 plus years ago. We are back on Main Street at 317 West Main Street, which is right next to Thrifty White Drug and Graceful Marilyn Quilt Shop. We are on the Main Street side of HealthSource Chiropractic. Once again, stop on in and say hi!

Membership has never been stronger with the Chamber. As I type this today, we sit at 583 members, which also includes 16 individual memberships. That's right, individuals that want to stay connected to the business community can join with an individual membership! What's next? Possible youth entrepreneur memberships! In light of the successful Kind'l Market held at the YMCA in December, we are going to introduce youth memberships! More details very soon!

We hope that 2022 treats you very well. We are going to continue to be the epicenter for business and community happenings. Don't ever hesitate to reach out to us at 507-532-4484!

Marshall Area \$30

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2022

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EverSpring Inn & Suites
Progress Award (Formerly Ramada Inn)
1500 East College Drive
(507) 532-3221

CHAMBER HAPPENINGS

The Young Professionals toured the Lyon County Jail and heard from Sheriff Eric Wallen for the December luncheon.

Thanks to Anne Johnson from Redwood Falls Chamber for presenting on 'You are the Author of your own story' at the January Women's Connect luncheon.

2022 STATE OF THE CITY

Save the Date! State of the City is Wednesday, March 9th at SMSU! Contact the Chamber if you are interested in being a sponsor!

NEW MEMBERS

- Teig's Lawn Care & Landscaping LLC
- Adobe
- Shades of the Past Marshall

UPCOMING EVENTS

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