

# CHAMBER CONNECTION

118 West College Drive  
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



**Mike Fox,**  
**Marshall**  
**Area**  
**Chamber**  
**Board Chair**

I would have never imagined once I agreed to be the Chamber Board Chairman two years ago that we would have had a year like this past one. What a roller coaster, we went from a robust, strong economy full of optimism to a stay at home order and uncertainty in the blink of an eye.

The Chamber fiscal year runs from October 1-September 30 each year. Obviously, the year started "normal" for the Chamber and businesses around Marshall but these last 6 months have taken a toll on many businesses in the area. I am so thankful how the community has supported local businesses throughout this ordeal.

I've been involved with the Chamber of Commerce in Marshall for many years but having finished my 5th year on the Chamber Board, I see more value in Chamber membership than ever and trust me, many other business owners have told me the same thing.

Like many businesses, the Chamber had to completely flip their business model from having 4-5 live and in-person monthly events, selling coupon books (amongst other things) to being the main portal of COVID-19 communications for

businesses and non-profits. This would include information on loans, grants, unemployment, "essential" businesses, legal, return to work, legislative and much, much more. I found this to be extremely helpful during the past year. I would watch the "leaders" press conferences and wait for the Chamber to email out the bullet points of what they were really attempting to tell us.

In October of every year, about 70% of renewals for Chamber membership are up. I encourage all businesses/non-profits to renew their membership and for those that are not members, give Brad or someone on the Chamber team a call and find out how your business can belong to the Chamber and furthermore, get involved in the Marshall business community.

No one knows what is next in this messy year and I like everyone else, hope for a much better 2021. One thing that is for sure, one way or another, the Chamber will be in business for you, the business owner/non-profit leader.

Mike Fox, Ace Home & Hardware. Board Chairman, Marshall Area Chamber of Commerce.




**Marshall Area Chamber**  
**BUSINESS AFTER HOURS**

**SHAY'S RESTAURANT & LOUNGE**  
**RAMADA MARSHALL**  
**1500 EAST COLLEGE DRIVE**  
**MARSHALL, MN**

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24TH, 2020**  
**4:30PM-7:00PM**

Complimentary Appetizers, Wine & Beer  
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## NEW MEMBERS

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### • Shopko Optical

(507) 537-9652  
www.shopkooptical.com

### • 1 Journey Fit

(507) 229-0400  
www.1journeyfit.com

## CHAMBER HAPPENINGS



Thanks to Theresa Welu, Animal Health Center for presenting and giving us a tour at the September Young Professionals luncheon.



Thanks to See Moua-Leske, Southwest Adult Basic Education and Amanda Beckler, City of Marshall for presenting at the September Women's Connect luncheon at Red Baron Arena on Culture & Diversity!



State of the Agriculture 2020  
Thanks to our panelists for presenting! Greg Boerboom, Eric McVey, Paul Lanoue, Rep. Chris Swedzinski & Ken Franzky

## AMBASSADOR VISITS



LeRoy's Progress Award - Updated interior with new seating area.  
89 W 1st St, Cottonwood, MN  
(507) 423-1055



Cottonwood CO-OP Progress Award  
Gas station construction and addition of dining area.  
999 West 1st St, Cottonwood, MN  
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