

April 2026

New Leadership At The Chamber: Meet Paul Plumb

There's a new face leading the Shelby County Chamber of Commerce & Industry—and it's one that feels right at home.

Paul Plumb has stepped into the role of Executive Director, bringing with him years of experience in business, marketing, and community leadership. Even better, he's no stranger to the area. A Shelby County native, Paul and his wife now live in Irwin and have long planned to put down roots here.

Before joining the Chamber, Paul served as Director of the Crawford County Chamber and Development Council in Denison. Many may also recognize his connection to Arnolds Park Amusement Park, where he spent nearly 20 years in sales and marketing roles. Along the way, he's also been a business owner—giving him firsthand insight into the challenges and opportunities local businesses face.

As he gets started, Paul says his first priority is simple: listen and learn. He's looking forward to meeting Chamber members, visiting local businesses, and getting a feel for what's working well—and where there's room to grow.

One of the biggest issues on his radar is workforce. Like many rural communities, Shelby County continues to face challenges in attracting and keeping workers. Paul also points out that it's about more than just jobs—it's about creating a place where people want to live, with strong housing options, amenities, and a sense of community.

He sees the Chamber continuing to play an important role as a connector—bringing together businesses, local leaders, and organizations to help the entire community thrive.

You may be seeing Paul out and about soon, as he plans to spend time getting to know people across the county. His message to the community is simple: get involved, ask questions, and take advantage of what the Chamber has to offer.

After all, strong communities don't just happen—they're built through connection, collaboration, and people who care.

Information for this article was gathered from The Harlan Tribune (March 31, 2026) and summarized/synthesized using ChatGPT.

Director's Letter

It is an honor to step into the role of Executive Director of the Shelby County Chamber of Commerce & Industry, and I am genuinely excited to begin this work alongside such a dedicated community of business leaders and advocates. Though I am only a couple of weeks into this role, it is already clear that Shelby County has something special — engaged members, strong local businesses, and a deep sense of community pride that makes this chamber's work meaningful.

I want to express my sincere gratitude to the board of directors for their confidence in selecting me for this position. I do not take that trust lightly, and I am committed to earning it every day through hard work, honest communication, and a focus on what matters most — supporting the businesses and people that make Shelby County thrive.

I look forward to connecting with each of you in the weeks and months ahead. Please don't hesitate to reach out, introduce yourself, or share what's on your mind. This chamber exists to serve you, and I'm here to listen.

Paul Plumb,

Executive Director Shelby County Chamber of Commerce & Industry



Tuesday, May 5 - Cinco de Mayo

Sunday, May 10 - Mother's Day

**Monday, May 25 - Memorial Day
(the Chamber office will be closed)**

MEET & GREET

PAUL PLUMB

SCCCI'S NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



DATE
WEDNESDAY, **MAY 6**, 2026



TIME
4:30 PM – 6:00 PM



LOCATION
HARLAN GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB
2503 12ST ST., HARLAN, IA

HOSTED BY:



scsb
SHELBY COUNTY STATE BANK

4 SEASONS TRAVEL
CORPORATE AND LEISURE



Join us next Wednesday, **May 6th**
to welcome **Paul Plumb** to the
Shelby County Chamber of
Commerce & Industry!

Shelby County
CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY
A PLACE TO CALL HOME!

(712) 755-2114



www.exploreshelbycounty.com



Let's Connect!



Build relationships.



Share ideas.



Strengthen Shelby
County.

Upcoming Ribbon Cuttings

Friday, May 1, 2 pm. The Museum of Danish America (2212 Washington Street, Elk Horn) is hosting a ribbon cutting ceremony for their Thomas Dambo Troll. Please join us as we celebrate and welcome this new addition to the Museum, Elk Horn, and Shelby County.

Wednesday, May 6, 1:30 pm. New business in Portsmouth, Wings & Wishes, 210 Main Street, is hosting a ribbon cutting. Make sure to join us so we can welcome Sarah Reinig, the owner, to Shelby County

Ribbon Cutting



Friday, April 3, 2026 - Lofted Boutique, 1024 6th Street, Harlan
Celebrating Their One Year Anniversary

Celebrate Your Business - Host An Ambassador Visit, Groundbreaking Ceremony, Open House, Or Ribbon Cutting

The Shelby County Chamber of Commerce & Industry is always ready to help its members celebrate their success with an ambassador visit, groundbreaking ceremony, open house, or ribbon cutting. Whether you are a new or existing member the Chamber and its members will join you marking your momentous occasions. It gives the owner or manager a chance to say a few words to those gathered and the opportunity to talk about what their business does.

Whatever you choose, your event will be posted on our online event's calendar, in our weekly Did You Know email, that goes out every Friday, listed in our monthly Business Voice newsletter, and posted on the Shelby County Chamber of Commerce & Industry and Shelby County Information and Ideas Facebook pages.

Then there's the great photo opportunity. A photo will be taken and emailed to you to share on your social media. The photo will also appear in the Harlan Newspapers, the Chamber's monthly newsletter, and on Facebook.

Helpful tips: Invite friends, family, and customers. Provide snacks and refreshments for your attendees. Most important is "showcasing" your business as this is your day. Last but not least - Have Fun!

To schedule your ambassador visit, groundbreaking ceremony, open house, or ribbon cutting with the Shelby County Chamber of Commerce & Industry, call us at 712-755-2114 or email the [Chamber office](#).

Celebrating National Library Week - Find Your Joy

April 19 - 25, 2026

A time to celebrate the essential roles libraries, librarians, and library staff play in transforming lives and strengthening communities.



Monday, April 20, 2026
Elk Horn Public Library



Tuesday, April 21, 2026
Harlan Community Library



Thursday, April 23, 2026
Lied Irwin Public Library

2026 Fun China Luncheon



Cowboy Up
Shelby Co Chamber



Derby Day Tea Party
Elm Crest Senior Living



Dine In Elegance
Deb Nowatzke

Thanks to everyone who attended this event and decorated tables.

Thanks to Harlan Golf & Country Club Staff for the delicious lunch.

Here is the [link](#) to the video of all the tables, courtesy of Harlan Golf & Country Club



Garden of Learning
Elk Horn Public Library



Making Memories
HGCC Ladies Golf & Social

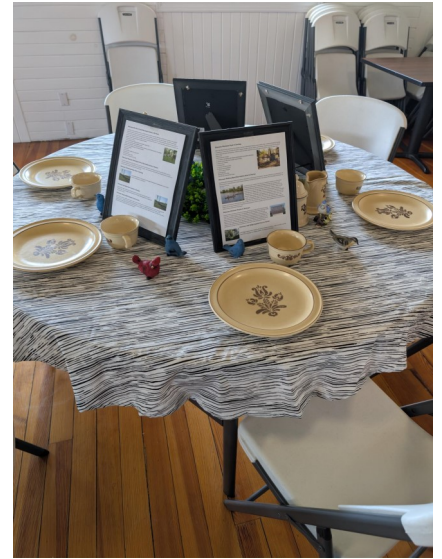
2026 Fun China Luncheon



Plant A Seed, Read
Harlan Community Library



Purple & Lavender
Harlan Theatre



Shelby Co Parks
Shelby Co Conservation Board



Stepping Back In Time
Hansen House Senior Living



Delicious Desserts
Provided By HGCC



Volunteers
Janet Buman & Gretchen Cote'

Member Spotlights - We Want To Know About You!

This year it's about our Chamber members. It's your chance to talk about your business.

Tell us about your history, your success, your future, new staff, changes, and how great you really are.

The story will be featured in our monthly newsletter, The Business Voice and on our Facebook pages, Shelby County Chamber of Commerce & Industry and Shelby County Information and Ideas.

Please let us know if you are interested [today!](#) We welcome you to change the questions to best suit your business, the questions below are a general outline, please consider answering at least 5-6 questions. Pictures are encouraged!

Questions to consider:

- Give us some background on yourself/your business.
- How many years have you been in business?
- What's an interesting fact about your business most people don't know?
- What is one thing you're most proud of so far?
- Do you have a personal or professional motto?
- Who are the people in the background of your organization?
- Do you have any advice for new business owners?
- What brought you to the area?
- What keeps you here?
- What are your business's goals?
- How can people keep up to date on what's happening at your organization?
- Anything else you want the community to know about your business?
- How does being in this community affect your business?

Member Spotlights are available to members to provide further brand awareness and visibility for your business in Shelby County.

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

Membership

Welcome New SCCCI Members

ARC Electric, Harlan. Joined April 16, 2026

SCCCI Membership Renewals

**The Chamber wishes to thank the following members
who renewed their membership in
April 2026**

Carstens 1880 Farmstead, Inc. * Westridge Senior Apartments, LLC

**All Chamber Membership Renewals
Are Sent Electronically Through
Our Website 30 - 60 Days Prior
To Their Due Date.
You Can Also Renew Your
Membership Online Via Our Website.**



Send Us Your Events

The Shelby County Chamber of Commerce & Industry is gathering event information for 2026. We post Shelby County and surrounding area events on our [website calendar](#) for free. This information is also used in our weekly "Did You Know" emails and on our Facebook page. We can help to be sure locals and tourists can find you. Contact the Chamber office at 712-755-2114 or [email us](#).

2025-2026

Board of Directors

President

Janet Buman

SCSB

Vice President

Darin Turner

Hy-Vee

Treasurer

Gervas Mgonja

City of Harlan

Past President

Jahde Osborn

CiShirts/Courtside
Marketing

Board Member

Steve Ineson

Four Seasons Travel

Board Member

Cali Klein

Elm Crest Senior Living
Community

Board Member

Mike Kolbe

Shelby County Board
of Supervisors

Board Member

Jeff Sundholm

Myrtue Medical Center

Chamber Team

Paul Plumb

Executive Director

Carol McHugh

Administrative Assistant

Event Info

May 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 May Day Salem Lutheran Home Clean Up Day, Elk Horn Ribbon Cutting Museum of Danish America, Elk Horn House Plant & Veggie Start Swap, Milk & Honey Salute to Our Customers, HyVee Harlan	2 Adult Board Games EHPL
3	4 After School Movie HCL	5 Cinco de Mayo PRADA Night, Harlan Theatre	6 Ribbon Cutting Wings & Wishes Portsmouth Reception for the New Chamber Director Paul Plumb, HGCC	7 Adult Craft, HCL Cottage Law Presentation w/Shelby Co ISU Extension, Milk & Honey	8 Indoor Farmers Market, Milk & Honey	9
10 Mother's Day Mother's Day Brunch Buffet, Milk & Honey	11	12 Library & Lunch Book Club, HCL SPARK! MoDA Elk Horn	13 EHPL Kimballton Kaffee & Craft Kimballton Town Hall 5 O'Clock Somewhere Book Club, HCL	14	15 Movie & Book Discussion, EHPL Summer Door Hanger Class w/Denise, Milk & Honey Community Jam, Milk & Honey	16 Silent Book Club EHPL
17	18 Friends of the Library EHPL	19 League of Hmany Dignity, HCL	20 SCCCI Board of Directors Meeting Chamber Conference Room Classic Movie Morning HCL	21 Garden Program: Seed Bombs with Mary & Amber, HCL Roar into Harlan	22 Tivoli Fest Elk Horn Kids' Market, Milk & Honey	23 Tivoli Fest Elk Horn
24	25 Memorial Day Chamber Office Closed	26 B.Y.O.B. (Bring Your Own Book) Club LIPL	27 Elk Horn Community Coffee & Craft, EHPL	28	29 HCL Silent Book Club, Milk & Honey Trivia Night Fundraiser, Milk & Honey Butter Together w/Sara Pratt, LIPL	30 Shelby City Wide Garage Sales Hansen House Senior Living Block Party Harlan
31 Plant Swap BINGO LIPL						

June 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Shelby's Annual Clean Up Day	2	3	4 Guided Prairie Walk MoDA, Elk Horn	5	6 Viking Camp A MoDA, Elk Horn
7 Viking Camp B MoDA, Elk Horn	8	9 SPARK! MoDA Elk Horn	10	11	12 Chamber Annual Golf Tournament HGCC	13 SCCO 3 rd Front 9 Back 9 Golf Tournament
14 Flag Day	15	16	17	18 Roar into Harlan	19 Juneteenth Modern Calligraphy for Beginners, Milk & Honey	20
21 Father's Day Summer Solstice	22	23	24	25	26 Elk Horn & Harlan City Wide Garage Sales	27 Elk Horn & Harlan City Wide Garage Sales
28	29	30				