

HARRINGTON AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE NEWSLETTER

Fall Festival 2018 Recap

Looking back at last year's Fall Festival...it's always a great community event for Harrington. For one, it brings us all together with plenty of things to do and see. For the attendees who do not live here anymore but enjoy coming back each year, it showcases what makes our community amazing! Do you know what that is? It truly is a concerted effort to make it all work. Months of planning, organizing and contributions by those who are involved is what it takes. The FFA pancake breakfast was a success as well as the parade and Fun Run. Many visited the HOHS rummage sale at the Opera House. Hotel Lincoln had the "Outlaw Woman" in attendance selling her jewelry. She commented that she enjoyed connecting with a town with heart. Up at the Harrington Golf & Country club they reported a total of 44 golfers that day who took advantage of the golf specials. The Lions Club put on the festivities at the City Park, BBQ, raffles, and games for all ages. Some of the vendors had a suggestion to move the vendor booth locations to the street in the future. The Chamber will consider this for next year as that street is already closed off to traffic. New this year was the first Annual Pinewood Derby hosted by the Studebaker Garage. A total of 16 cars were entered by both children and adults. Overall the whole day was fantastic! We hope to see friendly familiar faces and more in attendance this year in 2019.

A Very Harrington Christmas

Another magical and festive time of the year in Harrington is Christmas. As you drive or walk through downtown you will see holiday lights, decorations, and live wreaths to look at that give a warm feeling in your heart. Christmas time is when family and friends come together and that couldn't be more apparent in our small but mighty community. Organizations, businesses and individuals all work in a coordinated effort once again to help with all that goes on. We have a tree of sharing, the FFA extravaganza selling beautiful trees, poinsettias and wreaths, senior citizen holiday gift bags with the help of the students at the school, Santa pictures and goodie bags at the Opera House along with a Christmas Bazaar at the Memorial Hall. This bazaar includes vendors, live musical and dance performances, food, drinks and tree lighting with Christmas caroling by our little ones from the school. A tremendous thank you goes out to all who help make it possible.



2019 Chamber Board of Directors

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Vacant Lot Downtown at 3rd & Willis

Just a quick update on this project.....there is now signage in the lot space that shows the concept plan for the town square. The Chamber applied for a grant through the Innovia Foundation out of Spokane and was awarded \$30,000 to start the development. Innovia is thinking outside the box here and offering it as a challenge grant put up if we can match the funds. They came out to see the lot, meet with our committee who put this plan together and have a face to face with us. They were impressed with what is going on here in Harrington as we toured the Opera House, Hotel Lincoln and then went down to The Post & Office for coffee and snacks. I feel that this positive and informative meeting is what really showed them what our community is capable of. They see the potential for the town square space, something that is needed in any downtown throughout the world. It allows for community activities to be planned around it, outside events, movies, and live musical performances to name a few. This town square will allow for more and more interaction within the community and the potential for attracting people driving through to stop and visit the space. Therefore walking through our downtown district and possibly checking out our small town business storefronts.

We already have some "in kind" hours into this project as it is going to take plenty of community involvement to take this vision to the finish line. Another big hurdle that we have overcome already is acquiring a grain bin top for the gazebo structure and guess what, we already have a couple to choose from. How awesome is that? Talks are already ongoing as to how we can make that work, the logistics, getting it taken down or transported here and then made into an actual gazebo. It will tie into the rich farming and agriculture history of Harrington and be an eye catcher to people driving by for sure. We look forward to sharing more details very soon as Innovia finishes up the press release and funding page for the matching funds. Be on the lookout for that and ask yourself "how do I want to be involved?"

Thank You to Our Members

Our Chamber would not be possible if not for our members, volunteers and contributors. People really are the ingredient that makes it all work! Thank you to every single one of you, no matter how big or small your involvement is. It does not go unnoticed within the community and it actually is what fuels others to want to be part of the process. If you would like to be part of something going on in Harrington then the Chamber of Commerce is a great place to start that conversation. Email us, come to a meeting or talk to an existing member when you see them in town. We don't bite I promise you that.

Monthly Meetings

Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the month at 12pm. We usually meet at The Post & Office coffee shop downtown. Anyone is welcome to attend and we encourage that. Feel free to stop by sometime and see what being involved in your local Chamber of Commerce is all about.

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2018 - 2019 CHAMBER MEMBERS	
<u>Businesses and Organizations</u>	
Harrington Golf & Country Club	Harrington Opera House Society
Harrington Truck & Auto	Harrington School District
Harrington Hideaway RV Park	Harrington Food Mart
The Studebaker Garage/Wild Hair Salon	City of Harrington
The Post & Office	Hotel Lincoln, the Electric Hotel
Studio 1 on South 3 rd Street	Lettel, Ols & Warwick
Highline Grain Growers	King Heart Ranch
Nutrien AG Solutions	Off Insurance
Grange Supply Co. of Odesa/Harrington	The McGregor Company
Conagico Inc.	Harrington Community Food Bank
Harrington Church of the Nazarene	Mikalec
US Bank - Harrington Branch	Robertson Arts & More
Odesa Trading Co/Ritzville Warehouse	Oershables
Rag Bar/Books and Broth.com	Chris Paxton LLC
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