



February

CHAMBER Insider 2020

10 Business Success Ideas for 2020

1. **Promote your business regularly.**
(Share events with the Chamber).
2. **Learn how to delegate.**
By delegating important tasks, you not only take the stress off yourself, but you show others that you trust their judgment.
3. **Get more organized.**
Set aside time to review, coordinate and plan for the future.
4. **Make time for yourself.**
It's ok to take a "mental health" day. Invest time in yourself.
5. **Begin a new tradition.**
Annual traditions give people something enjoyable to look forward to.
6. **Get involved.**
By networking with new people, you can gain new perspectives, new ideas and make additional contacts.
7. **Give back to your community.**
Mentor, volunteer or just become involved.
8. **Learn how to say NO.**
Stop feeling guilty for saying no.
9. **Set realistic goals.**
Unrealistic goals can lead to frustration and stress.
10. **Move on after mistakes.**
Put the past behind you and keep looking toward the future.



A message from: Tim Sebastian, Chairman Marengo-Union Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors

In October 1970 a group of Marengo business owners incorporated the Marengo-Union Chamber of Commerce. Today, 50 years later, the Chamber still exists as a vibrant partner in the success of our communities. Much of this success is garnered through the dedication of our current Executive Director, Colleen Helfers.

The Chamber is 135 members strong. 20 members were added in 2019 and we celebrated with 5 ribbon cutting ceremonies in the last year.

The Chamber Board of Directors recently participated in several Strategic Planning Sessions to assure the Chamber is a vibrant, forward thinking entity for the next 50 years as well.

Our chamber services are anchored by the annual "Community Guide Book", which even in the Digital Age, is a sought after publication by both residents and businesses. We continue to host the State of the Community breakfast, Candidates Night, Ladies Night Out and the Annual Golf Play Day, just to name a few.

The Queen of Hearts has proven quite successful and allowed the Chamber to increase the annual high school scholarship program.

Perhaps you enjoyed Dinner with a Veteran or noticed the Hometown Heroes banners in the Marengo downtown area in the fall. These are just some of the programs your Chamber of Commerce sponsors and organizes.

We encourage you to share any news and events with us.

As we celebrate year 50, take time to visit our newly remodeled chamber office. Consider joining the chamber. And finally, support local business and organizations which serve as the backbone to our wonderful communities.

*Thank you for your supporting the Chamber and
enjoy our 50th anniversary milestone.*

*Want to know more about becoming a Chamber member?
Give us a call at: 815-568-6680*





116 S. State Street
Marengo, IL 60152

Phone: 815-568-6680

Fax: 815-568-6879

Email:

chamber@marengo-union.com

www.marengo-union.com



*Connecting
the brightest
minds and the
greatest leaders of
our region.*



This is a NO COST
service provided to
members and their
employees.

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FEBRUARY

2020 Dates to Remember



February 4, 11, 18, 25 ~ **Queen of Hearts Drawing 7 pm**

February 5, 12, 19, 26 ~ **Glanz & Assoc. in office**

February 14 ~ **Valentine's Day**

February 17 ~ **President's Day – Office Closed**

Chamber Chat is on Tuesday Morning from 8-9am on WXMR 94.3 Marengo Community Radio.



Welcome NEW Members:

Huntley Hills Transportation

Flatlander Market

Armanetti Wine & Spirits

Huntley Floral



Be a "Chamber Supporter" !

As part of your membership – we would like to highlight your business live just before the Queen of Hearts drawing. We ask that you provide us with a shirt, hat or other promotional items (or just sign up) and **"Get Noticed"**

For more information – **815-568-6680**

Don't miss out on this opportunity !



Presents

2020 Hometown Hero Banner Program

- Our mission is to recognize our Hometown Heroes who are serving now, have served/and who are now departed, in conjunction with our Annual Dinner with a Vet on the first Monday of November.
- Our Goal is to have these banners up by the end of September/first of October in order for all attending Settlers Days to experience. Banners will be removed when the Christmas decorations are put up by City workers in November (after Veteran's Day)
- We are limited to 20 banners at the present time. Banners are 30x80.
- All Banners are the property of the Marengo Union Chamber of Commerce unless they have been specifically purchased by the family, and at which time of removal, will be given directly to the purchaser. Cost of each banner is \$250.00. Donations are accepted. A portion of the proceeds will benefit a scholarship fund specifically for a service member's family.
- All submitted photos must be duplicates. We do realize that some photos will be aged, so please take special consideration to submit one without creases or tears. We cannot guarantee photos will be returned.
- Both sides of the banner will be the same hero. Design of the banner is subject to change.
- The Marengo Union Chamber of Commerce will highlight each of these heroes with a small bio on our website, provided by the family and is subject to editing.
- All banners are printed and stitched locally and we will try our best to confirm all details prior to the final printing. If details cannot be confirmed by the deadline, we reserve the right to choose the next applicant waiting.
- Banners are on a first come/first serve basis. A \$125.00 deposit must be included. If the deposit is not included, the application will be rejected.
- Deadline for submission is May 1, 2020

Service Person's Full Name: _____

Maiden name: _____ Hometown: _____

Current home: _____

Branch of Service: _____ Rank: _____

Dates of Service: _____

Conflict (Optional) _____



Marengo Union Chamber of Commerce

Scholarship 2020

The Marengo Union Chamber of Commerce has established a scholarship for a student residing in the Marengo Union area pursuing a career in **business or business related field.**

Amount of Scholarship: one (1) \$3,000 will be awarded.

Criteria:

- Attending post-secondary education at a two year or four year college, a technical college or certificate program.
- Write a two page essay on the topic "Benefit of local businesses in a small community" or "what type of business would you open to benefit the community?"
- One (1) letter of recommendation

Due Date: April 3rd, 2020 to the Guidance Office

The scholarship check will be awarded at Senior Honors night payable to student and college.

Please note the following information during your application:

- Full name
- Home address, city, state
- Home or cell phone
- Parent or guardian name (s)
- Email

Student name: _____

Cumulative GPA: _____

College/University/Program for post-secondary Education: _____

Applied? YES NO (circle one) Accepted? YES NO (circle one)

Essay? YES NO (circle one) Letter of recommendation? YES NO (circle one)