



## MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR SHOP LOCAL - SHOP SHERMANI

It's easy sometimes to take things you see or use every day, for granted. So, when a newcomer to Sherman tells me what a pleasure it is to have the small town environment

but also a grocery store, drug store, medical clinic, and so on, it's a good reminder of our good fortune.

That's why we're devoting this issue of the newsletter to the growing business community in Sherman. Not many residents realize the broad range of goods and services that are available here, or how many new businesses have launched in just the last few years.

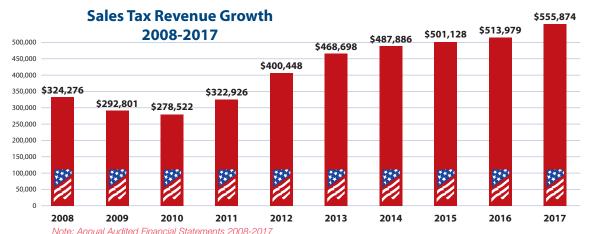
Besides greatly enhancing our quality of life, local businesses generate hundreds of thousands of dollars in sales tax revenue for the Village. The sales tax on purchases in Sherman is 6.75%, significantly lower than the 8.5% rate in Springfield.

Revenue from Sherman's share of the local sales taxes has NEARLY DOUBLED since 2010 and it currently provides 42% of our entire budget! That's no small thing for a community our size.

There is a direct correlation between our sales tax growth and the ability to keep the Village portion of your property tax bills low. Slightly more than 1% of your property tax bill goes to fund Village operations, approximately \$65,000 each year, among the lowest in Sangamon County.



But those are just numbers. Ask residents what they value most about our Sherman businesses and they will talk about convenience, friendliness, choice, good service, and quality of life. I agree with them. So do thousands of our neighbors in surrounding communities, who come regularly to eat, drink, shop, buy gas, see the doctor, get their cars fixed, and more.



Business growth doesn't happen organically. It takes vision, a business-friendly economic environment, and a significant effort by the Village Board. We think the sky is the limit.

In the meantime, explore the many businesses in Sherman and support them by shopping local. Let's keep the momentum going!

## WWW.SHERMANIL.ORG

### SHERMAN CHAMBER FOCUSED ON GROWTH

#### **BUSINESS ADVOCACY GROUP CELEBRATES EVERY LOCAL SUCCESS**



The Sherman Area Chamber of Commerce is less than five years old, founded in 2013 after a call went out to gauge interest and more than 70 business owners showed up.

The group incorporated and agreed upon a mission – to "advocate, educate, and provide resources for our growing community."

"We have businesses that want to be here," said Sean Bull, the Chamber's current president. "They see a great school district, small community feel, and a population base that is highly educated and fairly affluent. We're the fastest growing community in Sangamon County, according to the 2010 Census." Sean sees the Chamber's primary role as supporting individual

businesses, and said many new businesses reach out to the Chamber when they are exploring a move.

When Taylorville Tax Service chose Sherman for its second location – the recently opened Sherman Tax Service – the owners found space to rent in the Seaney Farmer's Market building with help from the Chamber. It turned out to be the perfect arrangement as the tax service

only needed the building January – April, when the building was typically closed for the winter.

"Besides helping find space, we can get the word out about hiring and give them leads on employees," said Sean. "Our members show up to create a crowd for a grand opening, and we promote new businesses through the Chamber's Facebook page."



The Chamber also provides a built in "community" for members, for sharing concerns and answering questions about anything from taxes and regulations, to best practices on marketing and customer service.

"The next step after cutting the ribbon is to encourage new businesses to reach out and show they are part of the Village," said Sean. "The more engaged businesses are, the more residents will embrace them and the more likely those residents are to shop local."

"People see us as providing services and employment for the community," said Ed Legner, Country Financial, and Chamber member. "When we give back to local organizations, the schools, youth sports, or even sponsoring the local Easter egg hunt, they see us a part of the community."

Gary Funk has been a Sherman resident since 1981 and started his business in 2000. Funky's Trophy & Engraving began as a home based business and grew fast, forcing him into an office space after two years.

He agrees that giving back to the local community raises your profile.

"We serve schools, individuals, churches, the State of Illinois, anyone that needs a trophy or something engraved," said Gary. "Still, there are some Shermanites who don't know we're here."

Gary, who was honored by the Chamber as the Volunteer of the Year for 2017, said he'll keep working on that.

# Join Us! Sherman Area Chamber of Commerce info@shermanilchamber.org shermanilchamber.org



left: Funky's Trophy & Engraving occupies the corner suite of the Villa Parkway business mall. Right, Top: Prairiehaven Animal Hospital new construction.Bottom: The businesses of the Illini Blvd shopping area.

Sean Bull, Chamber President



## SHERMAN BUSINESS DIRECTORY

#### **BUSINESS**

1 Stop Auto Shop **Action Builders Group** 

All His Children **All-Pro Floor Care** 

**American Family Insurance** 

**Animal Health Center** Barbi's Styling Studio

**Bethesda Lutheran Communities** 

**Brent Construction Bounce Times** Cancun Restaurant Carter Bros. Lumber

Carter Sawmill & Feed

Casev's General Store **Central Ag Services** 

China King **CID Floral** 

**Chuck Cline Construction** 

**Clothing Rack Connection Point** 

**Contri Built Construction** Coopers StrEATside Bistro

**Cornett Ice** 

**Creswell Concrete County Market Country Financial** 

**Diamond Residential Mortgage** 

Donely Trucking Inc. **Double H Tavern Ed Clark Photography Edward Jones Investments** 

**Fairlane Diner** 

**Farmland Solutions** 

Farm Credit Services of Illinois

**Fancy Creek Farms** 

Fern's Coffee House & Café

Filter Free Services **Final Four Tavern** 

Fire and Ale

Flagg Farmstead B&B

Funky's Trophy & Engraving

**Garrison Group** 

Gatsby's

**Grayboy Building Maintenance** Green Dodge, Kia, Mitsubishi

& Suburu

**Gold Center** 

Hageman Family Ins. Agency LLC

**HPC Lawn Care** 

Jim Johnson Lawn Care

Julie M. Timm, Inc. **Just for Kids Daycare** 

Kinner & Co. Dance

Larson Plaza

Lincoln Land Development Co.

Merrill Lynch-Derek Dexheimer

Mitzi Brandenburg, Realtor/broker

**Nelson Wall Systems Noonan Grand Rental** 

Offerings Therapeutic

& Sports Massage

Olysav Lawn Care & Landscaping

Pat's Garage

Poe's Catering (On The Hill)

Prairiehaven Animal Hospital

**Prudential-Dave Neale** 

**Pyramid Builders** 

Ricco's Pizza

Richardson's Power Wash

Rich Gatschenberger

**Heating & Cooling** Sam's Too Pizza

Sandy & Bill Dragoo, Realtors

Seaney Farmer's Market

**Serenity Salon** 

**Shear Beauty** 

Sherman Area

**Chamber of Commerce** 

Sherman Athletic Club

**Sherman Chiropractic** 

**Sherman Family Dental** 

Sherman Mini Storage

**Sherman Super Wash** 

**Sherman Tax Service** 

**Snap Fitness Center** 

**Springfield Clinic** 

Staab Funeral Home

State Farm Insurance

Subway

Sun-Times newspaper

Tracy Shaw - Realtor

**Todd Smith Commercial Real Estate** 

The Rail Golf Course

**Turasky Builders** 

**TVH Media** 

**United Community Bank** 

Villa Health Care - East

Villa Health Care - West

Villa Retirement Office

Visi - Kim Hayes

Voepel & Associates

Walareens

Williamsville Sports Boosters

Williamsville State Bank & Trust

**Yoder Construction** 

Zara's Collision Center

Zinn Construction

#### **CHURCH**

Faith Outreach Christian Church Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Living Faith Baptist Church

**Sherman United Methodist Church** Sherman Church of the Nazarene

St. John Vianney Church

& Activity Center

#### **GOVERNMENT**

**Sherman Elementary School** 

**Sherman Emergency** 

**Management Agency** 

**Sherman Fire Protection District** 

**Sherman Police Department** 

**Sherman Public Library** 

**United States Postal Service** 

Water Department-Sherman/Will

Village of Sherman

Village of Williamsville

#### UTILITY

Ameren Illinois

**Cass Communications** 

**Frontier Communication** 

**Menard Electric** 

## **SHOP LOCAL - SHOP SHERMAN!**



PRSRT STD
ECRWSS
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
EDDM RETAIL

Local Postal Customer





## **COMING UP THIS MONTH**

Tuesday, February 6 • Village Board Meeting • 6 p.m. • Village Hall
Wednesday, February 14 • Happy Valentine's Day!

Thursday, February 15 • SACC Community Networking Breakfast • 7 a.m. • Farm Credit Services
Monday, February 19 • President's Day • Village Offices Open
Friday, February 23 • Glo Bingo for Sherman MOVE • Doors open 6 p.m. • Boondocks