



**Special points of interest:**

- December 2 Leadership Skills Development #2
- December 4 - 5 Sidney Invitational Wrestling Tournament
- December 4 - 5 St Matthew's Bazaar
- December 5 People's Congregational Plant & Bake Sale & Auction Bazaar
- December 6 Christmas at the Confluence
- December 12 Fairview Silver Bells
- December 13 MonDak Heritage Center Christmas celebration
- December 18 Christmas Cash Drawing
- December 24 Christmas Eve Last day for Big Bucks Program
- December 24 - Jan 1 No School
- December 25 MERRY CHRISTMAS!
- December 31 New Years Eve



Merry Christmas

## Thank You for Your Membership

Wow! It's hard to believe it's already December—what a full and exciting year it's been.

Dedicated to promoting the business and agriculture community in the Sidney area, the Chamber has been actively meeting its mission through a variety of activities and events all year long. We hope you've enjoyed annual celebrations such as the Sunrise Festival, unique opportunities like the Wings of Freedom Air Show, and networking socials including our Business After Hours events. We

trust you've benefited from our business referral service, event sponsorship opportunities, and our enhanced website. Membership is at an all-time high as we wrap up another successful year of working together to support a strong Sidney area. Thank you for your active membership. We look forward to continuing to serve you in the New Year.

Cheers!

Lisa Aisenbrey,  
Chamber President

## Chamber Banquet Set For January 25



Plans are well under way for the Sidney Area Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture annual banquet which is set for January 25, 2010. Festivities begin with the no-host social at 6:00 pm and the program commencing promptly at 6:30 pm. The Fringe at the Sidney Country Club will host this year's event.

It is important that everyone knows that they can now call the Chamber and reserve their **Ter-rific Table**. Some members have already mentioned that they are ordering supplies to dress a table up.

Highlighting this year's event will be speaker Steve Weber of Hamilton, MT. He is a fairly new citizen of Montana and is looking forward to learning more about Sidney and the Eastern side. Steve is an entrepreneur, speaker, business consultant, writer/aspiring author, and wanna-be actor/showoff. He is proud to be a member of the National Speaker's Association.

Chamber award recipients are now being decided and will be honored on this night. The audience will hear messages from out-going President Lisa Aisenbrey, in-coming President Marci Albin, and Exec. Director Wade VanEvery.

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# Sidney Chamber 2009 Board of Directors

Past President: Ben Larson Safflower Technologies

President: Lisa Aisenbrey Sidney Health Center

1st V.P. Marci Albin The Lucky Buckle

2nd V.P. David Seitz Seitz Insurance

Treasurer: Lorilee Norby Mitchell's Oilfield Service

Raleigh Peck ElectricLand Rowdy Cvancara 1st Bank

Greg Miller Millers' Corner Leona Colvin

Idelle Badt R.S.V.P. Nick Lonski Edward Jones Investments

Jodie Leland Wells Fargo Bank Sharon Rau Honorary Member

Staff: Wade J. VanEvery, Executive Director LaVanchie Starkey, Administrative Assistant

*You Are Invited!*

*The Foundation for  
Community Care*

**Business After Hours**  
& Holiday Open House

December 17th, 2009

4:30 - 6:00 p.m.

221 2nd Street NW

Come meet the staff, enjoy refreshments  
and network with other Chamber members!

**Welcome the New Director!**

## Banquet Award Nominations

There is still time to submit your nominations for the 2009 awards!

Check out the insert in this newsletter and see who past winners were for the Entrepreneur and Horizon Awards, then submit your nominations to the Chamber.

A business may nominate itself, and you may nominate a business again if they didn't win last year. These are prestigious awards and the highlight of the banquet. Please take a moment and think of a deserving business, then fax your nomination to the Chamber at 433-1127 by Dec.18th.

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Everyone will be inspired by our speaker Steve Weber, and we encourage one and all to put this date on their calendar or in their organizer.

The Staff and Board of Directors of the Chamber would like to wish you all a safe and Happy Holiday Season!

# TERRIFIC TABLES 2010



Terrific Tables has become a eagerly anticipated part of the annual banquet, the creativity displayed each year is amazing. Several of our guests arrive early just to decide where they want to sit!

Join the fun and enter your business in the table decorating competition at this year's Chamber banquet. Shown are a few examples of last year's tables demonstrating how you can use this great opportunity to "show off"

your business. We don't care how you decorate (as long as it's tasteful please!!)

Advertise a new product or service for your business. You're guaranteed to have a captive audience of at least eight people sitting at the table with your business' information in front of them for two hours (probably longer!) Feel free to leave gifts or takeaways at the table settings. Tables can be decorated from 1:00 to 5:00 pm on Monday, January 25th. The tables will be judged and the winning table will receive a free sponsorship of the *Chamber Advantage* monthly newsletter which includes one 8 ½ X 11 page advertisement for your business, a \$100 value.



Contact the Chamber to reserve a table for your business at 433-1916!!



## New Benefit: Chamber Member Board

The Membership Committee has a standing goal of continually finding new and up-dated ways to provide benefits to the members. A new way to promote member business has been initiated within the Chamber. The northeast wall of the lobby will have literature racks placed for each member who wishes to have a brochure of some kind available. We get heavy traffic locally with meetings, ticket sales, and inquiries. We have also recorded over one hundred and thirty out-of-town visitors to the Chamber in 2009 so far.

Members have an option of either a business card space or a tri-fold brochure space. Corporate members will have priority on location on the board. This board has been the location of the Lewis & Clark materials and the demand for them seems to have diminished. This new benefit will be ready for use on January 1, 2010.

## Basketball Tournaments are Coming

Even though regular season basketball games haven't started yet, the Sports & Rec committee is busy preparing for the 2 C District Girls Basketball Tournament on February 17-20, 2010. The Chamber will be seek approximately one hundred workers to handle ticketing, door monitoring, and hospitality. In January the schools will be provided with a list of services which Sidney can provide while they are in town. This includes menus from eating establishments, available shopping, and area attractions.

Thank you to everyone that helped with the Eastern C Divisional Volleyball Tournament in November. They had good crowds for most of the sessions, and we received feed back that the Tournament had an impacted for our members. Cara Nelson and Wade VanEvery attended the planning meeting and learned that DCC in Glendive has approached the schools about hosting this event. The Chamber will keep an eye on this development.

## Chamber Announces New Directors

The board is pleased to announce new directors have been chosen for three year terms. Coming onto the board is Jay Frank of the Sidney Country Club, David Garland from Sidney Sugars, and Kathy Nicholson owner of the Candy Bouquet. They replace out-going board members Raleigh Peck of ElectricLand, Leona Colvin past director of the Foundation for Community Care, and Cheryl Olson past owner of the Mustang Run Gallery.

Please thank these people for their service to the Chamber, some have served two three-year terms, and some have had a one three-year term. Make sure to welcome our new board members as well.



The Montana Chamber hosted Business over Breakfast on November 24th in Sidney. Senator Don Steinbeisser was recognized for his pro business voting record at the 2009 Legislature, and Karen Beenken Olson was honored for her service on the Montana Chamber Board and Executive Board. Karen has also been Chairwoman of the Montana Chamber.

**SIDNEY AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND AGRICULTURE**

Sidney Area Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture  
909 South Central Avenue  
Sidney, MT 59270

(406) 433-1916 phone  
(406) 433-1127 fax  
schamber@midrivers.com e-mail



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Sidney Sugars  
Stockman Bank  
Wells Fargo



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**We're on the web!**



## NFL Books On Sale Now

The Sports & Recreation Committee is offering their NFL Books for sale again this year. The books went on sale after Thanksgiving and make great stocking stuffers! They sell for \$10 each with \$5 being used to pay the winners. The funds raised for the Chamber help to pay for the Class C Tournaments held in Sidney each year. Contact the Chamber or stop in at Superpumper or Miller's Corner if you are interested in purchasing a few. Thank you to our sponsors for supporting this project: Blue Rock Products, South 40/Winners Pub, Stockman's Bank, Wells Fargo, Montana-Dakota Utilities, Ranger Lounge and Superpumper,

**Chamber Bucks**

Are you looking for a gift idea for your employees or a stocking stuffer idea for your family? We have the answer for you!

Chamber Bucks make a great gift. They are like a gift certificate to Sidney and can be spent just like cash at any participating Sidney businesses.

This is a great way to keep our dollars in Sidney and they are easy to use. Chamber Bucks are purchased at face value and come in denominations of \$5, \$10, \$20 or \$50. Businesses then redeem the bucks at any bank at face value.

## Holiday Extended Hours—3 Days—3 Nights

The Trade Promotion Committee has set the extended hours for the holiday shopping season. Stores will be open from 1:00 to 4:00 pm on Sundays beginning December 6th until Christmas. Weekday extended hours will begin Dec 21st with stores being asked to stay open until 8:00 pm. Christmas Eve Day stores will be open until 4:00 pm for all those last minute shoppers!