



Montana's Sunrise City

Sidney Area Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture Advantage

Volume 20 Issue 3

Sidney, Montana

March 2010

Special points of interest:

- March 2
Community Blood Drive
- March 6
Jay Owenhouse
Magic Show
- March 11
Performing Arts Council
presents Paul Taylor
- March 12 - 14
U12 Girls State
Hockey Tournament
- March 13
R.O.I. Play
- March 13 - 14
Women of the
West Conference
- March 14
Daylight Savings Time
- March 14
Concert at the Confluence
- March 16
Community Health Fair
- March 17
St Patrick's Day
- March 17
Leadership Issue Day #6
- March 19 - 21
Sidney Sunrise City Youth
Basketball Tournament
- March 20
Boy's & Girl's Club Sports
Memorabilia Auction
- March 27
Sidney Prom
- March 27
Moose Lodge Annual
Easter Egg Hunt
- March 27
Missouri-Yellowstone
Center Easter Egg Hunt

The Chamber Is Thinking Spring

The spring and summer activities are scheduled and planning is well under way. The following is a summary of what we have planned and when so that members can plan accordingly to attend, and help with an event. It is also the hope of the Chamber that businesses would plan their own promotions to coincide with these events for maximum results.

Track meets: The 2 C District track meet will be in Sidney on May 12th at Sidney High School. Teams and fans from twelve communities in Northeast Montana will be at Swanson Field. The Chamber sells the admission tickets, and has the concessions on this day.

The Eastern A Divisional track meet is in Sidney this spring also. Details with the high school have not been finalized at this time.

The Town & Country Festival: Is planned for June 19th. It starts with a parade down Central Avenue and then turns into games, entertainment and activity downtown on both East and West Main. New this year is a complete petting zoo. The free feed at noon is being sponsored by Reynolds Market this year. The paint ball tournament will be back at Peterson Park and is provided by the Montana Army National Guard. Afternoon activities will move to the fairgrounds with a cattle handling exhibition by the MonDak Stockgrowers and a Ranch Rodeo by the Neil Hermanson Memorial Committee. The evening will end with the barn dance in the stage building.



The Trade Promotion Committee will be looking at ways to help our merchants with sales on this day. Help will be needed for the parade, games, entertainment, beer booth at the dance, and set-up and tear-down.



Sunrise Festival of Arts: "Arts in the Park" will be in Veterans Memorial Park on July 10th. Maureen Curtiss of Circle is the featured artist and will provide a painting on a sandstone rock for the grand prize. It is also the 20th year for this event and will highlight the past featured artists. There is several food vendors on hand and

stage entertainment thru-out the day. Help will be needed for set-up and tear-down, button sales, and concessions.

Ag Appreciation Golf Tournament: The Ag Committee will have their annual tournament this year on July 12. This is a time to thank ag producers for everything they do for local businesses, and help agri-businessmen and producers get to know each other better. The Ag Committee needs help with registration, hole sponsor set-up, and cooking.

Richland County Fair and Rodeo: The Chamber has committed to operate the beer gardens at the fair this year. We will be needing people on August 4 thru 7. It is a big commitment and has been very profitable in the past. Former helpers are already looking forward to being a part of the fun.

Lone Tree Gun Show: This event will be in the new building at the fairgrounds on August 21



and 22! A large crowd is always on hand to look and purchase about anything related to firearms and hunting. Unique concessions are provided by the committee also. Helping at this event is fun with people needed for admission, raffle ticket sales, gun checks, concessions, and clean-up.

Harvest Fest Tractor Pull: Now working on the third annual, the Ag Committee has seen tremendous growth in this event that is in the arena



the Fairgrounds. Along with the tractor pull, there will be the kid's pedal pull, show and shine car show, and a dance that evening. Other events are being considered as well. Help is needed for admissions, tractor weigh-in and hook-up, beer booth sales, and clean-up.

at

Sidney Hosts Another Successful Tournament

On February 17—20 the Sports and Recreation Committee worked with Sidney High School to host the 2 C District Girls Basketball Tournament . The response for help that we received was wonderful! Approximately one hundred people are needed to man all the different duties that come with a tournament of this size. Cara Nelson, Chairperson of the committee works extensively to make sure the hospitality room is a pleasant experience for our guests.

Sponsors who help make it a successful tournament include: B & B Builders, Inc., Blue Rock Products, Cattle Ac, Doorbust'n Portables & Septic Service, LLC, East-Mont Enterprises, Inc., Farm & Home Supply, Footers, Max & Lola Herbert, KFC, Lone Tree Inn, M & M Café, Miller's Corner, Pizza Hut, Reynolds Market, Richland Motor Inn, Sidney Herald, Sidney Sugars, Inc., SPF Super Pumper, Stockman Bank, Sunny's Family Restaurant, Taco Johns, The Depot, Valley View IGA, and Yellowstone Chiropractic Clinic.



Next year the Chamber has the opportunity to host two basketball tournaments with the High School. We will have the 2 C Boys District Tournament and then the Eastern C Boys Divisional . The Chamber looks forward to helping our guest have a good experience while they are here, and our members receiving benefits from everyone that comes to our town.

Chamber Choices Receives Another Award

Montana Chamber Choices wins ADDY® Award!

The flu and cold season reeks havoc across Montana each year resulting in hundreds of thousands of lost time hours, absenteeism and work flow disruption. Montana Chamber Choices and Flying Horse Communication designed a "Flu and Cold Kit" for employers to prevent and help reduce these costly disruptions.

The Flu and Cold Kit posters won a Silver ADDY® Award at the Montana competition in Great Falls!

The kit included three posters and a flyer. Each poster had a unique message. The first *Do you feel sick?* warned employees that they may have the flu and to stay home if their symptoms matched those on the poster.

Cold or Flu? was the theme of the second poster which clearly outlined and contrasted cold and flu symptoms.

The third poster *Stop the Spread* directs readers to take precautions such as staying home if sick, thorough hand washing, vaccination and covering coughs to stop the spread of cold and flu viruses.

"More than 3,000 small businesses in Montana helped prevent the flu from spreading by displaying award winning posters at their worksites," said Chelsea Culpon, Health Benefits Director of the Montana Chamber Choices health insurance program.

"We were determined to assist the smallest employers in Montana from experiencing the devastation from lost time at work and absenteeism for members in the health insurance pool. Worksites messaging is one of the best ways to educate people about specific health issues, such as identifying the flu and what to do if you think you have it."

Montana Chamber Choices distributed the kit to all customers and to every member of the Montana Chamber of Commerce and businesses across the state from Troy to Sidney, Billings to Kalispell, Havre to Butte are displaying the award winning posters.

The Montana Chamber Choices award winning posters will compete at the regional level with all other Silver



and Gold ADDY® winners from neighboring states. To order a Flu and Cold Kit, email Chelsea at chelsea@montanachamber.com

To download the Flu and Cold Kits posters, visit www.chamberchoices.com and click on "Flu and Cold Kit"

B.A.H. at Picture Perfect & Sidney Job Service



Picture Perfect Photography helped start the new year right with a Business After Hours on January 19. Jan Bloesser used this opportunity to showcase her new studio at 323 2nd Avenue SE. She is enjoying her larger facilities and had great exhibits of her work everywhere for Chamber members to view. A door-prize of a 11 x 14 print was won by Renee Goss. Good networking, refreshments, and socializing were abundant on this evening. The Chamber congratulates Jan on having a new studio and opening it up for our members to see.

Vernette Torgerson and her staff at Sidney Job Service rolled out the red carpet for Chamber members at their Business After Hours on February 11. Those in attendance had the opportunity to meet new staff, become familiar with new VISTA young people in the community, and enjoy refreshments and socializing. It was also a grand time to see all the many programs that are available to help the Sidney Community.

The Sunrise Ambassador Committee took a few minutes on this evening to recognize Hazel Larsen, a charter member of the committee, for her years of dedicated service. Hazel retired from the Sunrise Ambassadors this past fall.



Limited space last month prevented us from including Forrest Gump, our banquet speaker, in the newsletter. After establishing that we were all friends, he proceeded to tell us how life is like a box of chocolates and how to handle it. He continued to work behind the mic for the rest of the evening as the Master of Ceremonies.

We reported last month that Sidney Sugars Inc. won the Terrific Table contest and you can see they put a considerable amount of work into their creation. We look forward to providing a full page ad to them as the winning prize.



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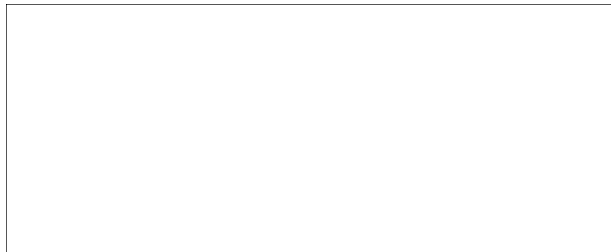
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We're on the web!
www.sidneymt.co



The Chamber hears from time to time about calls members receive to purchase some type of promotional service (the last one was for magnets), and the companies have the Chamber's name attached to their story in some way. We want members to know that if the Chamber is involved in a promotion, you will have heard about it thru this newsletter or an email. We may even ask your permission before allowing contact with Chamber members. I appreciate all calls here to ask about these types of solicitations.

NFL BOOK WINNERS:

The Chamber has paid out the winners of their annual NFL playoff game cards.

Receiving \$50 each for the quarter finals were Maxine Schleppeutz, Cory Washechek, Jillian McLaughlin, Amanda Dige, Cheryl Knudson (who was lucky enough to win twice!), Sheri Madison, and Paul Hayden.

The semi-final winners receiving \$75 each were Linda Steinbeisser, Ed Deg, Margo Zadow, and Paul Miller. The Super Bowl winners collected \$150 and went to Grace Russell and Amanda VanEvery.

These books are sold by the members of the Sports & Recreation committee with the help of Super Pumper, Thogersen Oil, Millers Corner, and Great Plains Supply. Sponsoring the pages are Blue Rock Products, South 40/Winners Pub, Stockman Bank, Super Pumper, Wells Fargo, MDU, and the Ranger Lounge.

