



Chamber Notes

MAY/JUNE 2009

**Chamber of
Commerce Board of
Directors
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Robin Hicks

Big Sky Owners Association

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First Security Bank

Board Members

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The Club at Spanish Peaks

Pride Moline

3 Rivers Communication

Shelley Henslee

East West Resorts

Victor DeLeo

Big Sky Resort

Kevin Barton

Mountain View True Value

Jason Luchini

The Wrap Shack

Greg Pack

Moonlight Basin Resort

Chamber Staff:

Marne Hayes

Executive Director

Robin Martin ~

Membership Director

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Thoughts from the Director

In a time of year when the Chamber of Commerce and the Convention & Visitors Bureau (CVB) are working on completing and submitting funding applications and marketing plans, we are forced and encouraged to look more closely at what we have done in the past that has brought us value and success, and perhaps alternatively, what has not. Even more specifically in a time when business is not being done 'as usual', we must look at and scrutinize everything we do, and make sure that we are being wise and deliberate in our decisions, and thinking outside of the box to create new ways for others to view us as well. Being creative about how you reach your markets is the name of the game in these different economic times, and it is not wise for any business to think that they can continue to do things as they have in the past. Everything should be explored, from running specials and 'steals of the week' to more extensive marketing approaches and submerging ourselves into the craze of social media. We Twitter and Facebook, and get LinkedIn all in the hopes that it will put us in front of those we need to reach, in the easiest and most direct and effective way. We are all trying new approaches to the same game, teaming up and working cooperatively perhaps where we can, and hopefully with some degree of success in our approach.

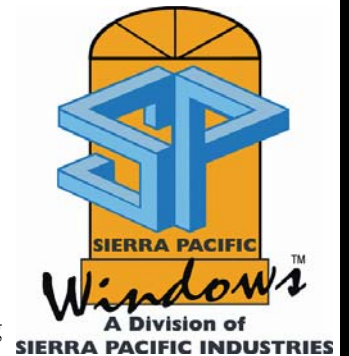
The Chamber was recently approached by the five largest employers and companies in Big Sky, with an interest in bringing the Chamber into some forward thinking and proactive conversation between local businesses about how and where and in what manner we should be marketing ourselves; not as individual businesses, but as a *community*. That is the silver lining in all of the apparent cloudiness, we believe; that these times are driving people to reach out and see beyond just what they can do for themselves, by themselves. The realization and understanding that there is strength in numbers and power in a universal message, this group has engaged in some of the most positive and enthusiastic conversation about how and where marketing dollars should and can be spent, and with efforts focused in what different marketing approaches towards the same message told by one voice. We encourage you all to have the same conversations, and to reach out where you can and where your resources allow you to. Build relationships and take advantage of the power of partnerships, for that is the best advantage we have in difficult business times.

Featured Business—Sierra Pacific Windows

Sierra Pacific Windows is proud to be part of the upcoming Montana Building Industry Association's Annual State Convention being held this year at Big Sky Resort June 10th-13th. The event will bring leading builders from around the state together for four days in Big Sky. In addition to many social networking opportunities, the convention will feature the Build PAC golf tournament on Saturday at The Club at Spanish Peaks.

Local window supplier, Sierra Pacific Windows, will be sponsoring a forestry presentation by Rob Worthington, Director U.S Green Building for the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI), on Friday afternoon from 1:30-2:30. Rob will be discussing sustainable construction, green building standards and programs and the benefits of certification. This is a wonderful opportunity to learn more about sustainable building practices.

Sierra Pacific Windows has been providing high quality wood and aluminum clad wood windows to the Big Sky area for nearly 10 years. All Sierra Pacific products are manufactured from wood that is third-party certified as sustainable under the SFI Program. The Sierra Pacific office is located at 3091 Pine Drive (next to the Chamber) and is open by appointment only. Please call 800-824-7744 to schedule a meeting to discuss your next building project



Thank You Renewing March/April Members

Thank you renewing Lone Moose Members

Rotherham Construction

Thank you renewing Meadow Members

Allgoods

Big Sky Journal

Castle Property Maintenance, Inc.

Cornerstone Property Management

Erwin Associates

Eye in the Sky Photography

Flatrock Financial

Gasser Family

Greathorn Properties

Heller General

Hub International Mountain States, Ltd.

Lone Peak Brewery

Michael L. Haring

Mitchell, LLP

Mountain Home Technology

Montana Backcountry Adventures

Montana Home Management

Sierra Pacific Windows

South West Montana Plastic Surgery

The Bannons

The Eagle Radio Station

Wandering Bear Properties

Thank you renewing West Fork Members

Skyline

Town Center Owners Association

Thank you renewing Middle Fork Members

Montana Cabin Caretakers

Wolff Creek Massage

**Thank You First Security Bank
For Upgrading Your Membership to the
Lone Peak Level!**

**Thank you 320 Guest Ranch and
3 Rivers Communications for Upgrading Your
Memberships to the
Andesite Level!**

**You can upgrade your business membership at any
time. Call Robin at 995-3000 for details.*

Welcome New Members!!!

Outside Bozeman—(406) 582-8068—Outside Bozeman is Southwest Montana's premier outdoor journal, celebrating outdoor recreation, lifestyles, and activities in the Bozeman-Big Sky area and beyond.

Blue Moon Chalet—(864) 546-0626—Blue Moon Chalet is an incredible slope side luxury home available for weekly rental in Big Sky, at Moonlight Basin Resort. Go to website VRBO#176406. Contact Kim Keith at (864) 590-5919.

Sizzlestick Welding, LLC—(406) 451-3049—An award-winning metal fabrication service, known for craftsmanship and attention to detail with services including structural, architectural, ornamental and machinery, a complete metal fabrication shop and a full mobile welding service with over 15 years of experience

Western Mountain Homes—(406) 570-6123—Tyler Grupe, founder of Western Mountain Homes, delivers the knowledge and experience of over 40 custom homes built here in Big Sky over the last 11 years. Specializing in timber frame and log homes as well as remodels. Visit our website or give us a call!

My Big Sky Retreat—(360) 441-5009—True ski in/ski out - Montana ambiance at its best in our Powder Ridge log cabins at the base of Lone Peak. Private Hot Tub, 50" Plasma with Playstation 3, River Rock Wood Burning Fireplace, 4 bdrms/3 baths, attached garage! Check It Out!!!

The Gourmet Gals—(406) 570-3616—Specializing in fresh, deliciously prepared meals serving 2 - 200, delivered to your door. We're dishing it out, so you don't have to!

KJ Ranch—Individual Community Supporter

The Bleiers—Individual Community Supporter

Hogan's Electric—(406) 579-8501—Family owned since 1969 we do residential and commercial new construction and remodel and service calls of all kinds we don't mind small jobs

Wittich Law Firm—(406) 585-5598—Wittich Law Firm P.C., experienced attorneys in business, employment, construction, finance, real estate, water, land use, and natural resource law; Bozeman and Big Sky.

The JPG Group—(800) 291-5468—The JPG Group provides creative marketing and internet services including: websites, E-marketing, ad campaigns, logos, brochures, catalogs, annual reports, marketing materials, strategic marketing consultation, and facilitation services and surveys.

Yellowstone Vein Center—(406) 237-5491—Provides treatments for venous disease of the lower extremities. The treatments are the most modern, safest, least invasive, and most effective to resolve symptoms of varicose veins and spider veins.

Pro Card Direct—(406) 600-7075—ProCard Direct provides Golf Professionals at Private Clubs and respected Golf manufacturers with a unique opportunity to better serve their clientele through the establishment of proprietary online pro shops.

Ben Coleman at Big Sky Properties—(406) 581-4565—Ben has been a Real Estate professional for nearly a decade. He is the one you can trust to know Big Sky's Real Estate market.

The Lamperts—Individual Community Supporter

Bob & Donna Thompson—Individual Community Supporter

Monroe Cameron—Individual Community Supporter



Member 2 Member Purchase Incentives Program

Would you like to help promote commerce in the community of Big Sky? Now, more than ever, is the time to buy local and the Big Sky Chamber of Commerce has designed the Member 2 Member purchase incentives program to encourage Chamber members to do just that. This program was designed to give businesses an avenue to offer a small discount on products or services to other Chamber members to encourage them to 'keep it in the family' and spend their money locally. Please visit our website at www.bigskychamber.com/m2mincentives to check out the great incentives already being offered by local businesses. Would you like to participate in this great, economy-stimulating program? This program will only work with participation from local businesses like yours. Contact Robin at the Chamber at (406) 995-3000 for more information. Thank you to businesses already participating in this great program:

The Paint Factory ~ 15% off Pittsburgh and Devoe Paints & Stains (excludes sundries and Ralph Lauren products). This offer is good at either location
Montana Mountain Express ~ Montana Mountain Express -- fabulous incentive to Chamber members! Refer a client who books transportation with MME & receive a 10% referral fee on a single transfer! Airport trips, Yellowstone trips, Fly Fishing trips etc. Refer a client for our "Wedding Package" & receive a \$100. Please be sure to tell your friends to mention the Chamber member's name when booking. Please Call 406-995-7272.

Big Sky Design Center ~ is pleased to announce its Customer Referral Incentive Program. As a way of saying thank you for recommending Big Sky Design Center, we will send you \$50.00 for any referral that results in a sale of Flooring (ie Carpet, Hardwood, Tile) Shower Glass Enclosures or Window Blinds or Shades. So tell your friends and neighbors to mention your name when they call and you will receive a \$50.00 referral gift from Big Sky Design Center.

Buck's T4 ~ With the presentation of a chamber card a member can receive a complimentary appetizer with the purchase of an entree in the pub or main dining room and/or 15% discount on the current hotel room rate based on availability.

Abundant Health Family Chiropractic, Dr. Kimberly Maxwell ~ \$50 first time evaluation (includes consult, exam, any necessary digital x-rays) /15% off fees and/or supplies (cervical pillows, nutritional, ice packs, etc.). (Restrictions may apply if doctor's office is responsible for billing insurance)

OZssage Ltd- Therapeutic & Sports Massage ~ \$350 for 5 massages with upgrades of your choice. Treatment specific or just for relaxation. Also Enjoy 2 free day passes to Big Sky Health & Fitness, take a friend or keep them for yourself. Expires 12-months from purchase

Spartan Promotional ~ Order any imprinted item, (with your logo) with Spartan and receive 10% off your first order and a free personalized gift as a thank you.

Alpine Property Management ~ 3 month complimentary property management to builders on new homes, and real estate agents on re-sale.

The Wrap Shack ~ buy a wrap and get a free soft drink.

Katalin Green ~ have Katalin plan your next company function, receive a complimentary grand floral arrangement, valued at \$150

Riddles Jewelry ~ Free membership into the Gem Club, offering you increased discounts on already discounted prices.

C&P Grocery ~ Receive a cork screw & bottle opener with any purchase.

River Rock Lodge & Resort Property Management ~ 15% discount to Chamber Members for River Rock Lodge Reservations or any Resort Property Management Condo or Home Rental. (Property rentals require a 5 night minimum stay).

Nordic Hot Tubs ~ 10% off spa and pool chemicals, 10% off in stock accessories (not on special order items), 10% off Dimension One Spas MSRP (saving of \$600-\$1800). No discounts off replacement parts and/or labor.

Remember you must present your Purchase Incentives card you received in the mail. If you do not have your card incentives are not redeemable. Can't find your M2M Card? Contact Robin at the Chamber at 995-3000 for a replacement.

Tiered Membership Recognition

Thank you to our

Lone Peak Members



MOONLIGHT BASIN

"The Higher the Altitude the Greater the Exposure"

Find out how to increase your business reach and upgrade your membership. Call the Chamber today.

Thank you to our

ANDESITE MEMBERS



"We look for reasons to say yes!"



What's the News?

Lone Mountain Ranch

The Ranch had a great winter season and appreciates all of the local residents and area visitors who enjoyed skiing the trails, dining in the Dining Lodge, sleighride dinners at the North Fork cabin, ski lessons and rentals, snowshoe trails, fly fishing trips and special events like Nordic Clinics and the Glide and Gorge. The Ranch is looking forward to a fun filled summer and invites everyone up to the Ranch for lunch and dinner, to check out the new merchandise in the Outdoor Shop, and fly fish with our Orvis endorsed guides. As many of you know, the Ranch was purchased by a company called Everlands several years ago. As a result of a poor economy and difficult sales environment, Everlands has decided to suspend the club membership sales effort. The focus of the company has reverted to operating their properties with availability open to the public throughout the winter and summer seasons. Ranch guests (both week long guests and day visitors) can continue to enjoy the experiences they have known and loved in the past. For more information on Ranch activities & events, or to book a stay, call 995-4644.

Rocky Mountain Rug Gallery

As most people know by now, the Rocky Mountain Rug Gallery in Bozeman was involved in the Main Street explosion on March 5th that devastated many downtown businesses. Since then, the Rug Gallery has moved some of their custom rugs to another building in Bozeman on the corner of 7th and Main St., where they are still open for business. However, they are eagerly awaiting the move back into the original building on Main St. so that they may continue serving their customers in the professional manner they are accustomed to. The Rug Gallery invites you to their additional store located in Big Sky's Town Center, where they have handmade oriental rugs of the highest quality. They are located next to The Hungry Moose at 107 Lone Peak Drive, Unit #3 and are open Tuesday - Friday from 9:00am until 5:00pm and Saturdays from 11:00am until 5:00pm. Please stop in and allow The Rug Gallery to earn your business with their quality products and outstanding service. If you have any questions about our products or services, please call 995-4304 or email bigsky@rockymountainruggallery.com

Greene Construction

When people enter the new Big Sky Health and Fitness Building in Big Sky's Meadow Village they often comment on how good it makes them feel. According to builder Josh Greene, "It's not your typical office building. There are none of those 'new building smells' that come from VOCs emitted from floor coverings and paint. There is a ton of light in every office space and a whole building heat recovery ventilation system so occupants don't breathe stale indoor air. Most windows open and inhabitants control the heat in their own offices. All around it's built healthier so occupants enjoy the space and are more productive at work." The building, completed in February, 2009, is registered and waiting to receive LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certification from the USGBC (United States Building Council). Greene hopes it will receive gold certification. Greene and one of his crew are LEED accredited and Greene is a founding board member of the Montana Chapter of the USGBC. The building is unique in Big Sky; no other commercial structure currently has LEED certification. The biggest LEED feature of the building is the fact that it utilizes the Big Sky Water and Sewer holding ponds for all heating and cooling using geo-thermal plates. The geo-thermal plates save approximately 60% of heating and cooling costs for the building. Other LEED features include: a whole building heat recovery ventilation for healthy indoor air quality, a green power purchase agreement, diversion of over 85% of construction waste from landfills through recycling, water efficient landscaping, water use reduction using efficient plumbing fixtures, sustainable site because the building is located within walking distance of two bus lines, located near other business and services, facilities to encourage alternative transportation and reduce light pollution. Greene Construction is currently building a LEED registered custom home in the Cascade subdivision. To contact Josh Greene or learn about LEED building go to www.greeneconstruct.com or phone 406/995-3393.

Rainbow Ranch Lodge

Greetings from Rainbow Ranch Lodge! Following the devastating fire, a year ago, The Ranch is excited to finally re-open for business July 1st, with the grand re-opening BBQ party scheduled for Thursday, July 2nd. Construction on the new Lodge is well underway and nearing completion. Overall, the new building will resemble the old one, with a few minor changes throughout. Upon the re-opening this July, the Ranch will be bringing back the popular Riverside BBQ's, held every Sunday through September. Also, they will be introducing a bar menu, available throughout the week. The bar menu will mostly consist of small plate offerings, and will change frequently. They decision was to offer this as another option for those who didn't want to sit down and have a big meal, yet still wanted great food. The most noticeable change to Rainbow Ranch will be the new management team, comprised of Bryan Conway, General Manager; LenElla Tabor, Hotel Manager; Michael Ruhland, Executive Chef; and John Colglazier, Restaurant Manager. The new team at the Ranch is looking very forward to re-opening, and seeing Rainbow Ranch come alive with excitement, once again. Feel free to contact them at any time. 406 995-4132
info@rainbowranchbigsky.com
www.rainbowranchbigsky.com

Events and Seminars

Business After Hours



After Hours begin at 5:30pm, and allow you to network with local area businesses, shake a new hand, and engage in new conversation. Be sure to bring plenty of business cards to expand your business reach!

May 21st ~ Carole Sisson and Big Sky Build
June 18th ~ Big Sky Sotheby's International Realty

First Annual 'Womanless' Beauty Pageant Community Gents 'Man-up' for Event!

The Big Sky Chamber of Commerce is hosting the first annual "Womanless Beauty Pageant"! Unlike a traditional beauty contest, this pageant won't showcase the usual women, dolled up, gliding across a stage in ball gowns. However, that's not to say that the evening won't include any ball gowns, or any gliding for that matter. This pageant is special; the contestants will consist of a select few of Big Sky's bravest *men* donning pageant dresses and strutting their stuff to help raise the spirits of the community of Big Sky and money for the Chamber of Commerce. Each contestant will be sponsored by a local business and will participate in an evening gown competition and a question and answer session with the pageant MC. This event is guaranteed to be a hilariously good time and we promise you will laugh from the time you walk in to the time you walk out; call it our own local stimulus pageant, guaranteed to make you smile, all while supporting your Chamber! Come to the 320 Guest Ranch on Friday June 12th at 7pm to see the amazing talents and beauty of Big Sky's finest men! Tickets are \$10 in advance and \$12 at the door, Children 10 and under are free. If you would you like to 'man up' and be a pageant contestant or if your business would like to sponsor a pageant contestant please contact Robin Martin at the Chamber of Commerce at 995-3000 or Robin Hicks at the BSOA at 995-4166 for information.

Superhost Customer Service Seminar June 5th 8:30am-11:30am, 12:30pm-3:30pm Huntley Lodge, Big Sky Resort

Montana Superhost is designed to create an awareness and understanding of Montana's travel industry and to enhance the customer service provided by local businesses. The Montana Superhost training improves the quality of front line and management staff and gives participants a strong understanding of what it takes to provide great customer service. We invite you and your staff to learn how to welcome, and delight, Big Sky's visitors and local customers.

The cost for this program is \$15 for members and \$20 for non members. Call the Chamber of Commerce at 995-3000 for more information.

Reservations are required.

Montana Chamber Choices Informational Seminar

The Montana Chamber Choices plan was started "To provide our members with an affordable insurance plan," said Montana Chamber President, Webb



Brown. "Our members want to provide good employee benefits, including health insurance" continued Brown. Montana Chamber Choices was started in May 2004 as an alternative to the small business group insurance plan. Since that time it has grown to over 20,000 lives, more than half of whom were previously not covered by health insurance. Learn how your business can benefit from this insurance plan. Beth Kuhl, from Taylor and Associates Insurance, Inc. will focus the first 20 minutes speaking on the various plans and benefits and will spend the remaining time answering your questions. This informational session is free and is one of the many benefits of your Big Sky Chamber Membership. The seminar will be held at Buck's T-4 in the Big Horn Room at 1pm on Tuesday, May 19th. Contact the Chamber at 995-3000 with questions.



BASECAMP TO YELLOWSTONE

Season Passes on-sale now at Big Sky Resort

Pricing w/ Chamber Membership	
Single	\$ 770
Single w/ cart	\$ 1170
Couple	\$ 1535
Couple w/cart	\$ 2180
Junior Pass (17 & under)	\$ 235



406-995-5810
bigskyskyresort.com

Big Sky's only public golf course

Events and Seminars

Annual Meeting Dinner Banquet

Join the Chamber of Commerce, its board of directors and membership on Tuesday, June 23rd for our Annual meeting dinner banquet. The annual event is a time for the Chamber to inform the membership about what has happened in the last year, and what our program of work is focused on in the coming fiscal year. In addition, the Chamber membership will be approving the budget and getting an introduction into our promotional projects and new publications. Community awards focusing on Business of the Year, Community Person of the Year, Non-Profit of the Year and Educator of the Year will be awarded; the Chamber looks to the community and business members to nominate these deserving recipients so that we may honor them at the annual dinner. Our keynote presentation each year brings an informative look at subjects ranging from smart growth to community developments, to business challenges and strategies and everything in between, and this year's program is sure to live up to the expectations that have been fulfilled in the past.

This year's keynote speaker will be Evan Barrett, Montana's Chief Business Development Officer. Barrett previously served as Executive Director of the Butte Local Development Corporation, a successful economic development organization that has the largest revolving loan fund program in the state. He helped create and retain thousands of jobs and participated in some of Montana's largest industrial recruitment efforts. His activities as Legislative and Public Policy Chair for the Montana Economic Developers Association put him in the forefront of economic development policy in Montana over the last 11 years.

Members and non-members are welcome, cost is \$45 for members and \$50 for non-members. Sponsorship opportunities are available, as are table purchases and business promotion offerings. For more information, please contact the Chamber of Commerce at 995-3000. Look for registration forms in the mail soon.



Big Sky Festival of the Arts

Get ready for another great Big Sky celebration of music, arts, and community. New things are on the horizon for our event this year, beginning with a new name and a new location. Formerly known as the *Big Sky Country Fair*, the event will be called the *Big Sky Festival of the Arts* this year, and will be moved to the Big Sky Town Center rather than being held in our community park & pavilion.

The reason behind these changes is two-fold; the Big Sky community park and pavilion will be undergoing construction this year, forcing us to choose another location for as long as the park upgrades take. Taking advantage of this opportunity, we have decided to re-name and re-vamp our traditional event with some new elements. The name change seemed fitting, as the new event location will give it more of a 'street festival' feel, which we are excited about, but will have all of the same favorites from years past. The event is set to take place on Saturday, August 1, 2009.

There are plenty of opportunities to get your business involved, to gain exposure and help with event sponsorship, as well as a number of ways to be involved as a volunteer. Look for the same favorites fashioned in a new way to fit the venue, the 5k Race, Parade, a great gathering of local and regional artists and craftsmen, as well as fantastic music, kids activities, food, and fun. Come out on August 1st and help us celebrate 29 years of community, arts, and entertainment.

The Festival of the Arts is designed as a great day of artistic and fun opportunities for the kids along with great local flavors, talented area musicians, and an eclectic array of art and craftsmanship. Support the event by engaging in a business sponsorship, or by just showing up to enjoy the day. Buy a t-shirt, watch the parade, or dust off those shoes and run in the early morning 5k. Whatever your choice of participation, make sure you don't miss this great event on Saturday, August 1st. For more information, call 995-3000.

5th Annual Big Sky Familiarization Tour Wednesday, June 10th 8:30am –1pm

Educate your staff, re-educate yourself, and get to know your community better. The Chamber has again teamed up with a large number of local businesses and is offering the membership and community the opportunity to spend a half day learning about everything Big Sky has to offer. The tour follows a route which takes participants from the Chamber office through the Town Center development, up to the mountain village and Moonlight Basin, and continuing all the way down to the 320 Guest Ranch, and everywhere in between. Each stop will offer an educational 'update' on what is new, in progress, or status quo. Space is limited, and fills up very quickly so please call and reserve your seat today. Participation is \$5 for Chamber members and \$10 for non-members and includes lunch at the conclusion of the tour. Each participant will receive a Big Sky goody bag; if your business would like to provide any items for this bag please contact the Chamber. The tour is set to run on Wednesday, June 10th leaving from the Chamber office promptly at 8:30am and concluding after lunch. Call 995-3000 for more information and to sign-up. **Reservations are required.**



Lone Peak High School Update
Opportunity for Businesses to Help with
Booster Fundraising

It has been years in the making, but Lone Peak High School will officially open this coming Fall for the 2009-2010 school year. Concurrent with the opening of the high school program comes the completion of Phase 2 of the Ophir School District Expansion. One of the most exciting aspects of the expansion project is the new regulation size gym complete with bleachers, full sized basketball and volleyball courts, half-size courts for multiple practice options, two scoreboards, locker and changing rooms for male and female athletes and a weight room. The gym will not only house health enhancement/physical education classes but also middle school and high school Class C competitive sports as well as adult education programs.

With the gym nearing completion, the newly formed Booster Club of Ophir Middle School and Lone Peak High School has identified a unique fundraising opportunity that will highlight area businesses while establishing a foundation of funds for Booster supported programs. The gym floor currently has the LPHS and Ophir logos imprinted on it. The Booster would like to offer the opportunity for **BIG SKY AND OTHER AREA BUSINESSES TO HAVE THEIR LOGOS ON THE NEW GYM FLOOR!** Logo spaces are highly visible to any and all people entering the gym or spectating an athletic event

The Booster is committed to assisting the school in fielding top notch Class C athletic teams and extra-curricular opportunities for students; the new gym will become the centerpiece of school and community sports. Your logo sponsorship will help fund our athletic and extra-curricular programs and provide the equipment, coaching and travel necessary to allow our middle and high schoolers to be competitive at the start of Lone Peak High School history!

Spaces are limited, pricing begins at \$5000. If interested please contact John Michel at 600-5333 or jmichel@3rivers.net.

Chamber Requests \$458,000 for
Comprehensive Marketing Plan
Community partners support efforts

The Chamber of Commerce submitted a total request to resort tax of \$458,000 for purposes of executing a comprehensive marketing plan for the 2009-2010 year. Understanding that this is one of the largest requests in Chamber history, the goals of addressing the economic crisis facing our community are set high by the Chamber as we move forward in presenting to the Resort Tax board why this funding is vital to our businesses, and to our economic health. Knowing that our community depends so heavily on our visitors, and the travelers who choose Big Sky as their destination, it seems more than appropriate that the Chamber should put more money than in past years towards our promotional efforts. Focusing on overall promotion, the request is laid out in separate applications, each addressing a specific part of the overall plan. The application covers everything from publication printing to an extensive year round regional marketing effort, publicity to a large scale aggressive winter season campaign for the 2009-2010 season. The Chamber has received exceptional support and input from many of the local businesses and largest employers in the community who all understand the importance of these efforts to address an overall community wide promotion and marketing campaign that will reach our target markets locally, regionally, and nationally. They have communicated with the Chamber their interest in seeing a comprehensive marketing plan executed, complete with an aggressive winter component. The Chamber is hopeful that the resort tax request will be approved.



May

- ★ 9: Mother's Day
- ★ 9: Big Sky Beautification, Community Cleanup Day
- ★ 19: Chamber Choices Information Seminar, 1pm, Buck's T-4
- ★ 20: Resort Tax Q&A meeting for all applicants. Big Sky Chapel, 1:00pm
- ★ 21: Business After Hours, 5:30pm, Carole Sisson Design and Big Sky Build
- ★ 28: Big Sky Resort Golf Course Open

June

- ★ 4: MORart, 7pm, Museum of the Rockies
- ★ 5: Montana Superhost Seminar, 8:30am & 12:30pm, Big Sky Resort

- ★ 9: Big Sky Resort Opening Day
- ★ 10: Big Sky Familiarization Tour, 8:30am - 1pm, meet @ Big Sky Chamber office
- ★ 11-13: Montana Building Industry State Convention, Big Sky Resort
- ★ 12: First Annual 'Womanless Beauty Pageant', 7pm, 320 Guest Ranch. 995-3000 for more information
- ★ 18: Business After Hours, 5:30pm, Big Sky Sotheby's
- ★ 19: Corral Charity Golf Tournament, 12pm start, Big Sky Golf Course. 995-4249 for more information
- ★ 23: Chamber Annual Meeting Dinner, 6pm, Buck's T-4
- ★ 24: Big Sky Institute Open House, 5:30pm, Big Sky Institute

*Events posted are subject to change; please confirm all dates and locations for events you are interested in.
 Call 995-3000 for more information!*

