



# Chamber Connection

April, 2011

Your Guide To The Business Community And the Craig Chamber Of Commerce



## EXPRESSING APPRECIATION

Mayor Don Jones, left, says goodbye to Gov. John Hickenlooper after Hickenlooper completed his address to nearly 240 attendees of the Chamber's annual State of the County event. Gov. Hickenlooper spoke as well as Mayor Don Jones, Moffat County Commissioner Audrey Danner and Chamber board members Joe Bird and Mardi Anson. See May's Chamber Connection for stories on the winners of the small and large businesses of the year awards and the businessperson of the year award.

CHAMBER PHOTO

## Your Chamber works for you

### CHAMBER SERVICES

- ◆ More than \$280,000 a year stays in Moffat County and is spent at local businesses because of the Craig Chamber of Commerce's spree dollar program.
- ◆ As home to the Sportsmen Information Center and the Moffat County Visitor's Center, the Craig Chamber of Commerce offers "one-stop-shopping" for visitors, new residents and businesses.
- ◆ The Craig Chamber of Commerce staff, board and ambassadors work with community groups to host special events for residents to enjoy and to draw visitors.
- ◆ Event planners and visitors go first to the Craig Chamber of Commerce for the community's best source of event information. The Chamber manages a centralized calendar of events.
- ◆ Live, work and play in Moffat County — The Craig Chamber of Commerce has extensive information for businesses, residents and visitors.
- ◆ Register your OHVs and snowmobiles at the Chamber office and pick up your annual state park pass.
- ◆ Looking for maps? The Chamber of Commerce has city, county, forest service and BLM maps.
- ◆ We sell national forest wood-cutting and Christmas tree cutting permits.

### MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS:

- ◆ Information about your business is available at [www.craig-chamber.com](http://www.craig-chamber.com), one of Moffat County's most-visited Web sites. Increase your presence with banner ads.
- ◆ Better your business. The Craig Chamber of Commerce offers several educational seminars throughout the year on topics ranging from customer service to marketing strategies.
- ◆ Get the jump on your competitors. Chamber members have access to information on people or businesses considering relocating to Moffat County.
- ◆ The Chamber is the county's premier networking association. Get mailing lists, business information and make connections at seminars and social events.
- ◆ Free notary services for members.
- ✦ Have a mass mailing? Save time by using the Chamber's folding machine. Automated single and triple folding.
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## Chamber reports on successful 2010



CHAMBER PHOTO

Outgoing Craig Chamber of Commerce president Joe Bird tells more than 200 State of the County attendees about the Chamber's 2010 accomplishments.

Joe Bird, the Craig Chamber of Commerce 2010 president presented the Chamber's annual report during State of the County held March 9. Two-hundred forty residents attended the Chamber's annual meeting, which featured Gov. John Hickenlooper as the keynote speaker.

The following is the text of Bird's speech: "The Craig Chamber of Commerce and Moffat County Visitor Center served Chamber members, visitors and the community well in 2010, and we're extremely proud of the impact we made.

The Chamber and Visitor Center assisted more than 12,000 people in 2010. Those requests included residents seeking services or information, visitors interested in Moffat County attractions and more. Our staff doesn't discriminate between members and non-members or residents and non-residents when they pick up the phone. They are committed to helping every patron to the best of their ability no matter what their needs.

About the service he received at the Moffat County Visitor Center, a Fort Collins man

said, "Your kind of customer service is rare. To have somebody actually take the time you do is something you don't often see, even in small communities."

The Chamber & Visitor Center staff considers "above and beyond" to be their minimum level of service and we believe that, as the front door to our community, the Craig Chamber of Commerce ensures that every visitor, resident, business prospect and potential new resident feels welcome.

Visitations were down in 2010, a product of a lagging economy, though we did see many, many visitors from Europe. As the economy rebounds and as Moffat County, hopefully increases its marketing efforts, we expect the number of visitors to increase as well. And we're ready for them.

This year, the Chamber Visitor Center increased its hours of operation to include Saturdays. On many Saturdays we don't see any traffic, but at the height of summer our biggest Saturday drew 17 people. Most of our

Please see **CHAMBER** on Page 15.

*We're on a mission*

The Chamber's mission is to build a strong economic environment which contributes to business success by:

- ◆ Supporting public policy which create a viable business community.
- ◆ Providing quality membership services.
- ◆ Supporting aggressive economic and tourism development programs.

## CHAMBER CONNECTION

# APRIL EVENTS

### March 29 - April 7 • Greater Sage Grouse Viewing Trips

Join CEC, the Wilderness Society, Center for Native Ecosystems and their coalition partners to watch one of the West's most captivating sights - the Greater Sage Grouse mating ritual.

This is an opportunity to view male Greater Sage Grouse strutting to attract mates. The unique courtship entails male sage grouse inflating air sacs on their chests while dancing on their ancestral breeding ground (called a "lek"). In 2010, Greater Sage Grouse became a Candidate Species for the Endangered Species List.

Website: [www.ourcolorado.org](http://www.ourcolorado.org)

Location: Viewing area is about one hour north of Craig.

The viewings will take place within the confines of a purpose built viewing trailer, however a short hike (about 300 yards over variable terrain) will be required to get to the viewing site. Hiking boots and warm clothing are highly recommended. Complete trip information will be e-mailed to paying guests approximately two weeks prior to the event.

Contact: Sasha (970) 824-5241

Email: [sasha@ourcolorado.org](mailto:sasha@ourcolorado.org)

Date/Time Details: Trips will leave from Craig at 4:30 a.m., driving roughly one hour north of town and returning mid to late morning after additional wildlife watching opportunities.

Tour dates:

March 29

April 4

April 6

April 7

Fees/Admission:

\$50 includes pre-trip orientation packet, transportation from Craig to/from the lek, a light breakfast and additional wildlife watching opportunities.

Special limited offer: for \$75 receive a one-year CEC membership, as well as a matted 4" x 6" print of a Greater Sage Grouse male in full strut taken in 2010 by Colorado professional photographer Todd Patrick. (Only 25 available)

### April 1, 2 • Walker Williams Band

Enjoy a night out with great country music and drinks with friends.

Time: 9 p.m.

Location: Sports Page Bar at the Holiday Inn of Craig, 300 S Hwy 13

Contact: (970) 824-4000

Fees/Admission: No cover charge

### April 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 • Elks Bingo

Enjoy an evening of bingo at Elks Lodge #1577. One pack of cards is \$20, two packs is \$30, three packs is \$37.50 and additional packs are \$5 each. Those 18 and under can purchase a half pack for \$10.

Time: 6 - 10 p.m.

Location: Elks Lodge #1577, 43 W. Victory Way

Contact: Frank Sadvar (970) 824-6131

### April 2 • Talent Show Auditions

Get ready for the annual talent show. Tryouts should be between three and five minutes. Submit a tape or CD of audition if unable to attend. Craig's annual talent show will be held Saturday, April 23 at 7 p.m.

Time: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Website: [www.craigconcerts.org](http://www.craigconcerts.org)

Location: MCHS Auditorium, 900

Finley Lane

Contact: Denise Hainault (970)

824-8326

Fees/Admission: Free

### April 3, 10, 17, 24 • VFW Bingo

Join in the fun at the VFW with bingo, food and drinks every Sunday.

Time: 1:30 p.m.

Location: VFW Hall, 419 E. Victory Way

Contact: Cave Walters (970) 824-2923

### April 4 • Culture Night

Enjoy an hour of entertainment as local artists present their talents the first Monday of every month at the Craig library. This month's feature is watercolor and charcoal/pencil drawings by Joan Feagins. She will also be signing copies of her book of poetry, "A Listening Heart."

Time: 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Location: Moffat County Library - Craig Branch, 570 Green St.

Contact: Moffat County Library - Craig Branch (970) 824-5116

Fees/Admission: Free

### April 5, 12, 19, 26 • Moffat County Commissioners' meeting

Moffat County Commissioners' weekly meeting.

Time: 8:30 a.m. - noon

Website: [www.moffat.co.us](http://www.moffat.co.us)

Location: Moffat County Courthouse, 221 W. Victory Way, commissioners' meeting room, second floor

Contact: Erin Miller at (970) 824-5517

Email: [emiller@moffatcounty.net](mailto:emiller@moffatcounty.net)

Date/Time Details: Every Tuesday

### April 5, 7, 12, 14, 19, 21, 26, 28 • Soup Kitchen at St. Michael's Church

If you're in need of a good meal, the soup kitchen is open to anyone at no charge twice a week.

Groups of community members serve and prepare the meals.

Location: St. Michael's Catholic Church, 678 School St.

Contact: (970) 824-5330

Date/Time Details: Tuesday 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and Thursday 4 - 6 p.m.

Fees/Admission: Free

### April 5 • Yampa Valley PieceMakers Quilt Guild board meeting

PieceMakers Quilt Guild board business meeting.

Time: 6:30 - 8 p.m.

Location: Hampton Inn & Suites, 377 Cedar Ct.

Contact: Roberta Armstrong (970) 824-4617 or Lorraine Moon (970) 824-9568

Date/Time Details: The first Tuesday of every month.

Fees/Admission: Free

### April 5, 12, 19, 26 • Yampa Valley Pool Leagues (APA)

Amateur pool players meet each Tuesday to play pool league style. If you like to play pool or learn to play pool, this is a great opportunity for any level player. The equalizer handicap system levels the playing field for everyone.

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Website:

[www.yampavalley.apaleagues.com](http://www.yampavalley.apaleagues.com)

Location: Mathers Bar, 420 Yampa Ave.

Contact: Michelle (970) 826-2783

Date/Time Details: Every Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.

Fees/Admission: \$25 per year for membership

### April 6, 13, 20, 27 • Aging Well - Wellness Wednesdays

The Aging Well Program sponsors Wellness Wednesdays for adults 50 years old and older. Options include art, writing and exercise classes. Lunch is served at each week's luncheon presentation. Register for activities before each Wednesday.

Time: 9 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Location: American Legion Post, formerly the Shadow Mountain Clubhouse.

Contact: Aging Well (970) 871-7676

Date/Time Details: Every Wednesday from 9 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Fees/Admission: none

### April 7, 14, 21, 28 • Story Time

Enjoy stories, songs and crafts for young children each week. We offer two story times at 10 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. Come enjoy stories, songs and crafts.

Location: Moffat County Library - Craig Branch

Contact: Moffat County Library - Craig Branch (970) 824-5116

Date/Time Details: Every Thursday at 10 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. through May 26

Fees/Admission: Free

### April 7, 14, 21, 28 • Yampa Valley Chorus of Sweet Adelines practice

Learn the art of barbershop singing. There will be a show this year and a tour of Hawaii to meet another chorus and have the opportunity to teach barbershop singing.

Time: 7 - 9 p.m.

Location: Craig Middle School - enter through front side door

Contact: Aaron Gillett

Email: [aaronterry@aol.com](mailto:aaronterry@aol.com)

Date/Time Details: Every Thursday at 7 p.m.

Fees/Admission: Only applicable if you join

### April 9, 23 • American Legion Post #62 Bingo

American Legion Post #62 has bingo every other Saturday evening. All are welcome to attend.

Time: 5:30 - 10 p.m.

Location: Elks Lodge, 43 W. Victory

Contact: Frank Sadvar at (970) 620-0874 or the Post (970) 824-3625

Fees/Admission: Minimum \$20 for the full event

### April 12 • Open mic night

Share your poetry, comedy act or music with a live audience at open mic night.

Time: 6:30 - 9 p.m.

Location: Carelli's, 465 Yampa Ave.

Contact: (970) 824-6868

Fees/Admission: Free

### April 12, 19 • Craig City Council

The Craig City Council meets the second and fourth Tuesday of each month. Log on to [www.ci.craig.co.us](http://www.ci.craig.co.us) for meeting agendas and minutes.

Time: 7:30 p.m.

Website: [www.ci.craig.co.us](http://www.ci.craig.co.us)

Location: City Hall, 300 W. 4th St.

Email: [jferree@ci.craig.co.us](mailto:jferree@ci.craig.co.us)

Fees/Admission: None

### April 14 • How to Start a Business 101: Will My Idea Work and Will It Make Any Money?

Do you want to start a business? Do you want to know if your idea will be profitable? Would you like some free help to get started? If you answered "yes," then First Steps is for you.

Learn:

How to determine if your idea is profitable

The top three things every entrepreneur needs to know to succeed

How much money you will need to start and where to get it

Website: [www.cmedp.com](http://www.cmedp.com)

Location: Moffat County Courthouse second floor conference room - Please use the North door.

Time: 6:30 - 9 p.m.

Contact: Darcy Owens-Trask (970) 826-2039

Email: [director@cmedp.com](mailto:director@cmedp.com)

Fees/Admission: Free - Sponsored by CMEDP

### April 16 - 24 • National Parks Fee-Free Days

Enjoy visiting a National Park for free in 2011. Seventeen days have been marked in 2011 as Fee-Free days at 394 National Parks in the USA.

Website: [www.nps.gov](http://www.nps.gov)

Future dates:

June 21 (First day of summer)

September 24 (National Public Lands Day)

November 11-13 (Veterans Day weekend)

### April 17 • The Marlins in concert

These brothers will perform music ranging from Broadway to Beatles to Bach, while singing and playing more than 20 instruments.

Time: 7 - 9 p.m.

Website: [www.craigconcerts.org](http://www.craigconcerts.org)

Location: Moffat County High School Auditorium, 900 Finley Lane

Contact: Julie Dempster

Email: [heydempster@gmail.com](mailto:heydempster@gmail.com)

Fees/Admission: Free with membership. Membership fee: \$35

adult, \$10 student, \$80 family

### April 19 • Yampa Valley PieceMakers Quilt Guild

Join the Yampa Valley quilt guild in their monthly meetings and enjoy presentations from special guests. This month's speaker is Linda Pinnt and the program is old blocks new ways. The guild meets the third Tuesday of every month.

Time: 6:30 - 8 p.m.

Location: Hampton Inn, 377 Cedar Ct.

Contact: Roberta Ahlstrom (970) 824-4617 or Lorraine Moon (970) 824-9568

Fees/Admission: Free for members and \$3 for guests.

### April 22, 23 • Taylors Bayou

Enjoy a night out with great country music and drinks with friends.

Time: 9 p.m.

Location: Sports Page Bar at the Holiday Inn of Craig, 300 S Hwy 13

Contact: (970) 824-4000

Fees/Admission: No cover charge

### April 23 • Celebrate Children Festival

The Children's Festival provides many activities for children and parents to interact.

Time: 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Website: [www.centennialmall.com](http://www.centennialmall.com)

Location: Centennial Mall, 1111 W. Victory Way

Contact: Sarah Hepworth, (970) 824-6042

Fees/Admission: Free

### April 23 • Resurrection Breakfast

Ridgeview Church of God will host a resurrection breakfast and service.

Time: 9 - 10:30 a.m.

Location: Centennial Mall, 1111 W. Victory Way, Suite #102 (west end of mall)

Contact: Pastor Tim, (970) 824-

9619

Fees/Admission: Free

### April 23 • Easter Bunny

Bring your children to see the Easter Bunny and they will receive an Easter egg filled with a surprise.

Time: 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Website:

[www.centennialmall.com](http://www.centennialmall.com)

Location: Centennial Mall, 1111 W. Victory Way

Contact: Vicki Hall (970) 824-7011

Fees/Admission: Free. This event is for children under 12 years old.

### April 23 • Lions Candy Race

Bring the kids for the race to get candy.

Time: 1 p.m.

Location: North end of City Park

Contact: Al Shepherd (970) 824-3095

Fees/Admission: Free

### April 23 • Yampa Valley

**Piecemakers Quilt Guild workshop**

Join the Yampa Valley quilt guild in this workshop. Estella Heitman will lead the workshop which will focus on one block wonders.

Time: 6:30 - 8 p.m.

Location: Hampton Inn, 377 Cedar Ct.

Contact: Roberta Armstrong (970) 824-4617 or Lorraine Moon (970) 824-9568

Fees/Admission: Free for members and \$3 for guests

### April 23 • Craig's Annual Talent Show

Stop by and see what your neighbors can do! Show features local talent determined at auditions.

Time: 7 - 9 p.m.

Website: [www.craigconcerts.org](http://www.craigconcerts.org)

Location: MCHS Auditorium, 900 Finley Lane

Contact: Denise Hainault (970) 824-8326

### April 30 • Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation Banquet

The Northwest Colorado Chapter of the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation will host its 25th annual banquet celebration. This banquet is a fundraiser for elk and other wildlife habitat projects. A live and silent auction, games and door prizes will be amongst the activities at the banquet.

Time: 4 - 7 p.m.

Website: [www.rmef.org](http://www.rmef.org)

Location: Holiday Inn of Craig, 300 S. Hwy 13

Contact: Allan Reishus (970) 824-2228

Email: [areishus@amigo.net](mailto:areishus@amigo.net)

Fees/Admission:

Single supporting ticket (includes 1 meal & 1 supporting membership) - \$70

Couple supporting ticket (includes 2 meals & 1 supporting membership) - \$105

Single sponsor ticket (includes 1 meal & 1 sponsor membership) - \$335

Couple sponsor ticket (includes 2 meals & sponsor membership) - \$370

Life member single ticket (includes 1 meal for current life member) - \$35

Life member couple ticket (includes 2 meals for current life member & guest) - \$70

To include your event, or to see additional events, log on to [www.craig-chamber.com](http://www.craig-chamber.com) and click the "Events" button. Choose "submit your own event" and fill out the event details.

# Welcome Members

## Northwest Auto Sales & Service

485 Market Street  
Meeker, CO

(970) 878-5026

*We are a GMC dealership with a busy, full-service department that works on all makes and models. We also have a full-service tire shop and offer a car rental service.*

## The Jungle

565 Yampa Ave

(970) 824-5755

*Your local source for all your pet, aquarium and pond service needs. Let our knowledgeable staff help with all your needs.*

## Status Symbols Laser Engraving

791 Stout St.

(970) 824-9477

*We can engrave anything from glass to metal to material. Personalization is our business!*

## Cactus Patch Fabrication

1895 CR 174

(970) 846-7927

*We specialize in all types of metal work, blacksmithing and machine shop.*

## Relay for Life of Yampa Valley

1111 W. Victory Way Ste 109

970-620-3292

*Annual all-night fundraiser for cancer treatment and awareness.*

## Stylz 5th Avenue

535 Yampa Ave.

(970) 824-0341

*Stylz 5th Avenue is a high-class salon that offers hair color, cuts, perms, manicures, nail extensions, pedicures and esthetics. Also find many product lines in our salon.*

## Bears Ears Dental

965 W Victory Way

(970) 824-3425

*Our office offers dental care in a relaxed comfortable atmosphere.*

## Yampa Valley Pool League (Yampa Valley APA)

Based in Mather's Bar

420 Yampa Ave.

(970) 826-2783

*Nationally sanctioned pool leagues - entertainment. Teams compete for a chance to attend national events in Las Vegas.*

# Chamber: Visitor center extends hours, increases services in 2010

Continued from Page 13.

Saturday visitors are residents who woke up and thought it a beautiful day to go snowmobiling or to take out their 4-wheeler, so they stop by the Visitor Center to purchase a permit. It's a service we're thrilled to provide.

The Visitor Center also underwent a bit of a make-over in 2010, with preliminary work on landscaping – to be completed this spring — and a total facelift to make our conference room much more user friendly. We intend to make additional progress on the building in 2011 thanks to contributions from Chamber members and the Moffat County Tourism Association.

The Craig Chamber of Commerce & Moffat County Visitor Center will continue to be your source for snowmobile, OHV, wood cutting and Christmas tree permits; city, county, BLM and forest service maps, state parks passes, and the best information available on Moffat County attractions, offering personal service from a friendly and knowledgeable staff.

Your Chamber remained strong in 2010 as an organization representing more than 350 members who demonstrate through their membership that they believe we are stronger together than we are alone. We served our members in 2010 by giving them a larger reach with their marketing dollars, providing educational opportunities, lobbying when necessary and serving as the “front door” to Moffat County.

Some of our members were a little confused when they received a bill in 2010 that was for less than their annual dues and then another bill in December. Last year the Chamber went through the arduous process of switching from date-of-join billing to annual billing. This change did several things. It lowered the 2010 payment for many businesses in a year when businesses needed all the help they could get. It also allows members to choose which calendar year to attribute their payment to and should simplify bookkeeping, hopefully freeing up staff time as well. Your Chamber is a leader in its industry and as other chambers work toward an annual billing schedule, they will use our experience as a template.

As your Chamber, we work for you and we responded when you said the current workforce needed better soft skills. The Chamber designed and offered six, free, soft-skills courses on topics ranging from work habits to work-

place ethic and communication.

On a political front, the Chamber hosted a health care forum and worked to oppose Amendments 60 and 61 and Proposition 101 and communicated with our legislators our opposition to the Clean Air, Clean Jobs act and with the Public Utilities Commission regarding efforts to force the Craig Station power plant to install a \$600 million particulate-control system not backed by science.

Understanding that business owners are busy and don't always have the time to seek out the educational opportunities that the Chamber and other community organizations provide, we participated in the launch of Craig's Smart Business Alliance. The Smart Business Alliance includes the Chamber, Craig/Moffat County Economic Development Partnership, CNCC and the Colorado Workforce Center and allows us to combine all of our business offerings and identify whether there are needs that aren't being met and determine which organization is best positioned to meet those needs. The group prints a brochure that compiles all business and workforce education opportunities in one, easy-to-follow information piece.

Another program we launched in 2010 and are looking forward to developing in 2011 is our Chamber Select program. This program recognizes those businesses that have a demonstrated commitment to service, quality and ethics. Studies show that 64% of consumers believe Chamber membership indicates that business cares about its customers, 69% believe Chamber membership shows a business has a good reputation and 70%

believe that Chamber membership indicates a business uses good business practices. The Chamber Select seal will give businesses additional credibility beyond their membership.

The Chamber does more than serve its members. We serve all of Moffat County. We served the community in 2010 by operating, for the 22nd year, the Moffat County Visitor Center, the Sportsman Information Center, helping with community events, supporting the Craig Beautification Committee and administering the Spree Dollar program, which injected more than \$115,000 into the local economy.

The Chamber also maintains an online and print calendar of events for the community, which we submit to state and regional publications and online venues such as Colorado.com. Our staff also inputs those events on Bresnan Channel 17, an opportunity we were given in 2010 and plan to develop on behalf of area businesses and attractions in 2011.

The Chamber continues to care for the Marcia car, with a little help from the Craig Rotary Club, who cleans and polishes the car each spring. If there are any members of the Craig Rotary Club here tonight, we want to say “thank you” for all you do. The Chamber applied for and was awarded grants from the Colorado Historic Society and the Yampa Valley Community Foundation to repaint the Marcia Car. The Museum of Northwest Colorado donated a large portion of the matching funds for those grants, which will allow us to begin work this spring. Tours of the car are available during regu-

lar business hours. Stop by the Chamber if you are interested in seeing this 103-year-old tribute to Moffat County history.

The Chamber's web site is constantly evolving and will see several changes in 2011. The Web site is packed with information on Moffat County – demographics, economic information, visitor and hunting information and pages and pages of Moffat County attractions. We also offer an online business directory with a mapping feature. In 2010, we added a Shop Local page, Whittle the Wood page and an available rentals page.

The Chamber's mission is to build a strong economic environment that contributes toward business success by supporting aggressive economic and tourism development programs, providing quality membership services and supporting public policy issues which create a viable business community. The Craig Chamber of Commerce board of directors believes that all we do is another step toward achieving our mission, and we are a group that will continue to be aggressive, innovative and forward-thinking as we strive to support our member businesses and promote Moffat County attractions.

As the outgoing board president, I'm thrilled with the Chamber's accomplishments in 2010 and would like to give credit to the Chamber's board of directors who made it all possible. It is rare to see a board that can make such huge strides, is effective and dedicated, all while being able to laugh at ourselves and each other and enjoy the work we do for the community.”

*Joe Bird, 2010 Chamber board president*

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**Craig Mental Health Center**  
A Division of Colorado West Regional Mental Health, Inc.

439 Breeze St. • Suite 200

Large to Small We Care for them All

Kelly Hepworth, D.V.M.  
Neil McCandless, D.V.M.  
Gary Visintainer, D.V.M.

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(970) 824-5964  
(970) 824-7567 Fax

2430 E. Victory Way Craig, Colo. 20135226

# Board of directors

The Chamber's 12-member board of directors meets at 11:30 a.m. the second Thursday of each month. Members are always welcome.



**Vice-president:**  
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Union Telephone  
(970) 756-4109  
[racheln@unionwireless.com](mailto:racheln@unionwireless.com)

## Craig Beautification Committee welcomes spring

By JULIE HANNAH

CRAIG BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE SECRETARY

### Spring Cleaning

Once is not enough! Spring cleaning is just that – spring cleaning. Remember to do summer cleaning and fall cleaning as well! The committee encourages property owners to take pride in keeping their yards in good shape for the enjoyment of all and for the beautification of our city. Here are some home cleaning tips:

- Cut or spray noxious weeds or vegetation before they reach a height of 6 inches. Consider spreading a pre-emergent before weeds even break the surface.

- Most home owners don't realize that they are accountable for alley maintenance. Property responsibility goes from the front curb to the middle of the back alley.

- Don't let your grass get higher than 12 inches.

- Trees that originate on private property

and interfere with alleys, streets, or signs must be cut back or removed.

- Dead trees and neglected hedges can attract disease and insects and should be cut back or removed. Trash can also accumulate and must be cleared.

- Parked vehicles must have current license plates and must be road worthy.

- Any kind of tire that is viewable from a public road or alley must be screened from view or removed. Craig Clean-up Days is scheduled for May -. You can dispose of tires at Craig City Park for no charge on those days.

- Yard sale signs may not be placed on utility poles or placed on property without the owner's permission.

### 2011 Projects

2011 will find the committee continuing to work on the Victory Garden at Highway 40 and Finley Lane. Also on the project agenda are repairing and planting the brick

CRAIG CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



planters at the Museum of Northwest Colorado on the north side, helping the Craig Chamber of Commerce to update its landscaping and work on general beautification.

Keeping Craig beautiful is a big job and we can use all the help we can get. If you're interested in joining the Craig Beautification Committee, contact the Chamber at 824-5689 for their committee's next meeting date and location, or project site.

## Service Star

This month's customer service star may seem a little self-serving, but she more than deserves the recognition.

**Shannon Russell**, general information specialist and office assistant at the Craig Chamber of Commerce & Moffat County Visitor Center goes above and beyond to serve every customer and caller she comes into contact with. Every person who calls or stops by gets Shannon's complete attention and she will do whatever it takes to help them out.

A perfect example happened this month when the Moffat County Youth Basketball association was soliciting discounts from local businesses for tournament participants. When they encountered difficulties, Shannon stepped up to call several businesses on their behalf, and with very little advance notice, collected discounts from nine local busi-

nesses. She also put together 86 gift bags for the visiting teams and set up a Moffat County information table at each of the three locations where the tournament was held.

She is currently working on a similar project for the Colorado Environmental Coalition's sage grouse tours.

Every single day Shannon puts her best foot forward to provide a level of service that amazes those she helps.

Shannon will celebrate her one-year anniversary at the Chamber in April and sets the bar high with her dedication and commitment to visitors and the community. She is the Chamber staff liaison to the Ambassadors and volunteers her time with that group as well. She also serves on the Grand Olde West Days committee.

We are truly blessed to have Shannon on the staff of the Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Center.



**Charlene McGilton**

## Chamber expands staff

The Craig Chamber of Commerce has contracted with Charlene McGilton to serve as it's new Membership Director.

Charlene is a Craig native with more than 30 years of sales experience in Craig and all along the Western Slope. She comes to the Chamber after several years working in publishing and print media.

"Charlene's specific skills are a perfect fit for the Chamber in that she's spent nearly 20 years helping businesses with their marketing needs," Craig Chamber Executive Director Christina Oxley said. "A large part of what we do as a Chamber is to help businesses market themselves effectively and as inexpensively as possible."

Charlene has served on the board of directors for two chambers of commerce and is experienced in helping Chambers to grow their membership and expand their services.

Her philosophy is that the stronger a Chamber is, the more it can benefit its members and the community that it serves.

Charlene will be a terrific resource for members in helping them to use the Chamber to their advantage," Oxley said. "She'll

not only make sure they know what the Chamber can do for them, but that they're using every service available to help grow their business."

The Chamber employed a membership director from 2002 to 2005 and believes that re-filling that position is the next step in continuing to grow, advance and increase its level of services.

If you are interested in joining the Chamber or want to know just what the Chamber can and is doing for your business, contact Charlene at (970) 433-8494 or contact the Chamber at 824-5689.

## April Anniversaries

Craig Daily Press	1998	Arrowhead Auto & Collision	2004	Gino's Neighborhood Pizzeria	2008
Museum of NW Colorado	1998	Block Wall Landscaping	2004	Triple M Electric	2008
Shepherd & Sons, Inc	1998	Maybell Women's Club	2004	Golden Cavy	2008
Moffat County School District	1998	Calvary Baptist Church	2004	Peggy Gonzales	2009
Mathers' Bar	1998	Craig Christian Church	2006	Colorado Student Care Inc.	2009
Village Inn	1998	Homestead Hunts	2006	Vallarta's Restaurant	2009
Country Living Realty, L.L.P.	1999	Craig Concert Association	2006	Herod Industries/Roto Rooter	2009
Craig Mental Health Center	2000	L. R. Sheep	2007	Bears Ears Landscapes	2010
Great Divide Cleaning Service	2001	Colorado Environmental Coalition	2008	Friendship United Methodist Church	2010
Bresnan Communications	2001				