



# Chamber Connection

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

## Is your business a Chamber Select business?

Moffat County is filled with people who set the gold standard for business practices. They consistently exceed their customer's expectations and have the ideas and follow through that it takes to be successful.

The Craig Chamber of Commerce would like to recognize and celebrate those businesses as part of its all new "Chamber Select" program.

Being a Chamber member increases your credibility as a business. According to a Schapiro Group study, when consumers know that a small business is a

member of the chamber of commerce, they are 44 percent more likely to think favorably of it and 63 percent more likely to purchase goods or services from the company in the future.

We want to add another level to that credibility through the Chamber Select program.

Why be a Chamber Select business? Chamber Select businesses are identified with the Chamber Select seal in the Chamber's online business directory, in the

main body of the Chamber's website (includes a direct link to your business directory listing) and in all Chamber publications.

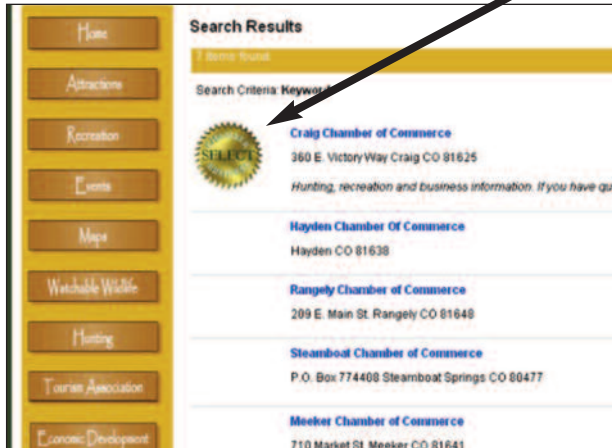
Chamber Select businesses receive a Chamber Select window sticker so your customers know your business stands out and Chamber Select businesses will be listed in the Chamber's newsletter and will be recognized in the newsletter upon becoming a Chamber Select business.

All of that tells customers that you are a leader in your industry and the service and quality they

get from you is consistently excellent.

It's a great way, and an easy way, to let potential customers know what you already do -- they won't be sorry they chose to do business with you as opposed to your competitors.

See SELECT on page 4.



## Trees cutting permits available at the Chamber of Commerce

The Craig Chamber of Commerce is now selling Forest Service firewood permits and Christmas tree cutting permits.

The permits are \$10 per cord, with a minimum purchase of two cords. Instructions and locations will be provided when the firewood permit is purchased.

The Bureau of Land Management in Craig sold the permits for the past several years, but will not be selling Forest Service firewood permits this year. BLM firewood permits are available at their office at 455 Emerson St.

"We heard from folks in Craig that it's important to have a local place to purchase

firewood permits, rather than driving to Steamboat Springs or Yampa," said District Ranger Jamie Kingsbury. "This partnership with the Craig Chamber of Commerce meets those community needs."

Christina Currie, Chamber executive director, said the organization is always seeking new ways to serve its businesses and community, and selling firewood permits helps meet those goals.

The Craig Chamber, at 360 Victory Way, is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, and from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturdays. For more information call the Chamber at 824-5689.

## Test drive membership

Join the Chamber now and don't pay until 2011!

If you have been wondering what Chamber membership could do for your business, but haven't joined yet, now is the perfect time to try it out at no risk.

Join the Craig Chamber of Commerce today and don't pay until 2011.

The Chamber works in different ways for different businesses and completely customizes a plan tailored to your specific business. All businesses benefit from the exposure they get from Chamber membership. You won't get more bang for your advertising dollars anywhere.

Some of the benefits in every

membership include:

- Your business gets its own page on the Chamber's highly-visited Web site. Your Chamber page provides a description of your business, hours of operation, driving directions, a map and a direct link to your own Web site if available. The Chamber's business directory gets between 4,000 and 9,000 visits a month. Upgrades offered to members only are the ability to advertise on the Chamber's Web site, post pictures of your business or goods and to advertise special products or sales.

See MEMBER on page 4.

## 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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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.

# NOVEMBER'S FEATURED EVENTS

**Oct. 4 - March 31 • Win the big game hunt of your dreams!**

The Craig Chamber of Commerce, in partnership with some of our hunting industry members, is offering the chance to win a quality hunt for the price of a raffle ticket.

**Beaver Creek Outfitters**

www.huntbeavercreek.com is offering a FULLY GUIDED BULL ELK HUNT for 2nd or 3rd season! This is a chance-in-a-lifetime hunt that includes food and lodging. You can buy a bull elk tag over the counter so the winner is guaranteed access to a license. Units #4, #441, and #214 **Y Lazy S Ranch** www.ylazysranch.com is offering trespass hunts for 2nd season BUCK DEER and a 4th season BULL ELK HUNT. To obtain access to this high-quality hunting area, contest winners must have obtained a license through the DOW limited license drawing process or possess a leftover license. The ranch will extend these hunts until 2012 if the winner doesn't draw a tag in 2011. Unit 301.

**Norman Ranch**

www.normanranches.com is offering trespass hunt for a COW ELK. A camper or trailer will be available for lodging. To obtain access to this high-quality hunting area, contest winners must have obtained a license through the DOW limited license drawing process or possess a leftover license. The ranch will extend these hunts until 2012 if the winner doesn't draw a tag in 2011. Units 4 & 301.

**Four Mile Ranch/Majestic Outfitters**

Four Mile Ranch/Majestic Outfitters is offering a guided RANCHING FOR WILDLIFE BUCK PRONGHORN HUNT. This hunt includes lodging and meals provided by their pri-

vate chef. The ranching for wildlife vouchers will guarantee you a license is 2011. Public land pronghorn licenses in this area taking about 12 points to draw at this time, so a hunt on this 18,615 --- acre ranch may be your one chance in a lifetime. Units 4 & 301.

Must be 18 or older to purchase a ticket any age can win. Website: www.craig-chamber.com  
 Contact: 1-800-864-4405 or 970-824-5689  
 Email: assistant@craig-chamber.com  
 Details: Drawing will be at 4:30 p.m. March 30, 2011.  
 Fees/Admission: Guided bull elk - \$25/ ticket  
 Trespass rifle buck deer - \$20/ ticket  
 Guided rifle pronghorn buck - \$25/ ticket  
 Trespass cow elk - \$15/ ticket  
 Trespass rifle bull elk 4th season- \$20/ ticket  
 Limited number of tickets available.

**Dec. 2 • Chamber mixer hosted by Blue Ribbon Kitchens**

The Craig Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors invite you and your staff to a Business After-Hours Mixer hosted by Blue Ribbon Kitchens located at 2005 W. Victory Way.  
 Time: 5 p.m. - 7 p.m.  
 Contact: Please RSVP by calling (970) 824-5689 or email office@craig-chamber.com

**Dec. 7 • CMEDP Class – Top three Financial Reports You Need to Run Your Business**

Time: 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.  
 Website: www.cmedp.com

Location: Moffat County Courthouse second floor conference room

Contact: Darcy Owens-Trask  
 Email: director@cmedp.com  
 Fees/Admission: \$10 or Free for CMEDP or Chamber Members

**Dec. 7 • How to Start a Business 101 Class - First Steps**

Business start-up and entrepreneur training. Designed for "never ever" entrepreneurs who are thinking of starting a business.  
 Time: 6:30 - 9 p.m.  
 Website: www.cmedp.com  
 Location: Moffat County Courthouse 2nd Floor Conference Room  
 Contact: Darcy Owens-Trask - Craig Moffat Economic Development Partnership  
 Email: director@cmedp.com  
 Fees/Admission: Free

**Dec. 7, 14, 21, 28 • Intercambio**

This is a free, conversational group for English and Spanish language learners of all levels. Come interact with people of all walks of life in a casual and relaxed environment. The group meets every Tuesday at the Boys and Girls Club of Craig.  
 Time: 7 - 8 p.m.  
 Website: www.ciiccolorado.org  
 Location: 1324 E U.S. Hwy 40  
 Contact: Eveline Bacon  
 Email: learn@ciiccolorado.org

**Dec. 9 • Colorado Environmental Coalition, The Wilderness Society and Friends of Northwest Colorado Holiday Party**

Celebrate the Season with these local non-profits.  
 Time: 7 - 10 p.m.  
 Website: www.ourcolorado.org  
 Location: The Center of Craig

Contact: Sasha Nelson  
 Email: sasha@cecenviro.org

**Dec. 10, 11 • Winter Arts & Crafts Show**

This winter show features various arts and crafts from over 80 exhibitors. Come shop for your Christmas gifts and goodies. There is a large variety to shop from.  
 Website: www.centennialmall.com  
 Location: Centennial Mall, 1111 W. Victory Way  
 Contact: Vicki Hall (970) 824-7011  
 Email: vhall@coloradosantafe.com  
 Date/Time Details: Friday noon - 7 p.m. and Thursday 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
 Fees/Admission: Free admission

**Dec. 14, 28 • 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

**Dec. 16 • Chamber mixer hosted by Northwest Colorado Visiting Nurses Association**

The Craig Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors invite you and your staff to a Business After-Hours Mixer hosted by Northwest Colorado Visiting Nurses Association.  
 Time: 5 - 7 p.m.  
 Location: 745 Russell St.  
 Contact: RSVP by calling 970-824-5689 or email office@craig-chamber.com  
 Fees/Admission: Free

**Dec. 18 • Third annual Parade of Museums**

Start at the Wyman Museum at 7 a.m. and enjoy the tall tales of Lou Wyman on the way to Savery WY, where participants will tour the Little Snake River Museum and be served a light breakfast. At Three Forks Ranch participants will enjoy 180 pieces of original "Western" art and bronzes. The Three Forks personal pastry chef will prepare a treat to enjoy along with high tea. At the Museum of Northwest Colorado in Craig will be a gingerbread house display and tour. Lunch will be served. The final step is a tour of the Wyman Museum, sleigh rides, Santa, hot cocoa and more holiday fun.  
 Time: 7 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
 Location: Starts and ends at Wyman Museum  
 Contact: Tickets are available at the Museum of Northwest Colorado 824-6360 and the Wyman Museum 824-6346.  
 Fees/Admission: \$30 per person

**Dec. 18 • Christmas for Kids**

Make Christmas crafts and ornaments with your kids, Santa will be available for last-minute Christmas lists and photos, sleigh rides, hot cocoa, Christmas songs.  
 Time: 1 - 4 p.m.  
 Location: Wyman Museum  
 Contact: Wyman Museum, 824-6346  
 Fees/Admission: Free

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. It's that easy!

## Three recognized for excellent customer service

The Chamber Ambassadors wish everyone a wonderful holiday season.

The group is working on a program that will allow high school students to become Junior Ambassadors. The hope is to expose youth to a variety of different business experiences giving them insight into a career path they may not have previously thought about along with showing them firsthand how important and rewarding community service can be. We are having a lot of fun sharing ideas about the project.

In fact Ambassadors is a really fun group of volunteers that compliment and help the Chamber in its mission of serving business. We are always looking for new members. Come check us out at our next meeting Noon on Dec. 14 at the Chamber Office.

The Chamber Ambassador spotlight for October goes to brand new member Adriana Robbins, State Farm Insurance,

## Ambassadors update

and longtime member Laurie Ogden, Mountain West Insurance, for their amazing job heading up and bringing together the annual Homecoming float. The theme of this year's annual parade was Hawaiian. The Ambassador's float was named "The Big Kahuna" and featured a Bull Dog King. This year the Ambassadors had the pleasure of help from lots supporter's including several local high school students. They helped both with building the float and marching in the parade. We are grateful for their two nights of labor, their creativity and laughter along with sharing their enthusiastic volunteer spirit. It was refreshing and much appreciated. Those special kids are: Joseph Romero,

Jeremie Ogden, Barry (Bear) Steadman, Larry Watson, Carl Bowman, Nick Augustine, Zack Reed, Chris Middelstadt, and Morgan Shrum. Thank you so much! We also appreciate all the support of the businesses that pitched for the float beginning with Bob Johnson, State Farm Insurance, Craig Daily Press, Walgreen's and Mountain West Insurance.

We have several people to recognize for the Ambassador's Most Excellent Customer Service Spotlight.

First there is **Bryan Adams** of Strata Networks (formerly Ubet Wireless) for his exceptional and timely customer service to Bonaker & Associates when a power failure kicked them off line. The team at Bonaker's said Bryan saved the day and helped them meet their deadlines on time.

The second Most Excellent Customer Service Spotlight goes to **Brett Brighton** owner of the new Kobota dealership in

Craig. Debbie Baum from Backwoods Web Development said she and her husband were very pleased with the service they received from Brent with purchase of their new tractor.

"From the initial visit to the actual ordering he was professional, informative and answered all of our questions," she said. "It was just a pleasant deal. We highly recommend him."

And finally, **Kelly McBartlett** from our hometown Safeway store gets the Most Excellent Customer Service Spotlight award. Ambassador Adriana Robbins said she was impressed that he was so-down-to-Earth and genuine when he asked if she found everything she needed and that he seemed happy to help her get on her way quickly. She said, "He was real as well as professional and courteous when called to help check out." Robbins said she appreciated his kindness.

## Cybersecurity Guide available to businesses

Worms... Viruses... Hackers... Cybercrime in the United States is on the rise at troubling rates. The dollar loss from cybercrimes referred to law enforcement in 2009 totaled \$559.7 million, a 112% increase from 2008.

The U.S. Chamber released a guidebook, Internet Security Essentials for Business, with practical steps that small business can take to secure their information assets.

To download the entire recourse for free, go to [www.uschamber.com/cybersecurity](http://www.uschamber.com/cybersecurity).

Here are some tips:  
 Educate your employees on Internet security.

Require strong passwords.  
 Set your computer to automatically check for security updates and ensure that all software is current.

Take infected or compromised equipment out of service as soon as practical.

# RIBBON CUTTINGS

## FOUR MILE RANCH



CHAMBER PHOTO

Whether you're looking for a guided hunt or a romantic weekend getaway, Four Mile Ranch/Majestic Outfitters has everything you need. All stays include lodging and meals provided by their private chef on this 18,615-acre ranch bordering national forest in Units 4 and 301. The ranch is located at 53310 N. Hwy 13. Contact them at (970) 824-2472 for more information about their amenities.

## TASK MASTERS ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES



CHAMBER PHOTO

Task Masters is the office assistant you need without hiring an office assistant. Owner Gena Hinkemeyer has extensive experience in providing business support services. Call (970) 824-4801 for assistance on word processing, spreadsheets, newsletters, bulk mailings, presentations, event planning, special projects and everything in between.

## MANE ATTITUDE SALON



CHAMBER PHOTO

Mane Attitude is one of the Craig Chamber of Commerce's newest members and celebrated with a ribbon-cutting ceremony. Mane Attitude, located at 571 Yampa Ave., specializes in acrylic nails with freestyle nail art, old-fashioned men's haircuts, razor cuts, naturally curly hair, color by Paul Mitchell and waxing. Walk-ins welcome. Call them at (970) 824-4064 for more information or to make an appointment.

## LABOR FINDERS



CHAMBER PHOTO

Labor Finders Intermountain is the local office of the national Labor Finders chain. They specialize in providing skilled and semi-skilled labor solutions for short- and long-term jobs. Let Labor Finders help you make your business more successful. Call (970) 824-0380 to connect with potential employees today.

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# 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.



**President:**  
**Joe Bird**  
Cook Chevrolet  
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**Vice-president:**  
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**Treasurer:**  
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[mattingley@g.com](mailto:mattingley@g.com)



## CLEANING UP



CHAMBER PHOTOS

Left, Chamber board members Don Jones, Joe Bird and Jeff Smith work to cut down trees and clear out brush from the property surrounding the Chamber. The Chamber received a grant from the Moffat County Tourism Association for work at the visitor center, including some much-needed attention to the landscaping. Above, board member Jim Herschberg loads brush into a trailer.

## Select: Program draws attention to your business

Continued from page 1.

It assures your customers that someone outside your business has evaluated your business and certifies that you meet the Chamber's high standards to be named a Chamber Select business.

Businesses must be invited to become Chamber Select members. To be invited, businesses must receive three nominations. Nominations are accepted from customers, other businesses and employees, though not more than one nomination can be from an employee or any other person employed by the business.

Businesses can also be invited

if 50 percent of their workforce (or 10 employees, whichever is fewer) has attended any form of training in time management, leadership or customer service. Proof of attendance is required. Courses are available online or through the Chamber. Inquire by calling (970) 824-5689. Other courses (SkillPath, industry specific) also qualify.

A business must be a Chamber member in good standing.

Chamber Select businesses are expected to meet this additional criteria, as applicable, verified by a Chamber representative:

- Demonstrate exemplary customer service.

- Demonstrate a desire to improve or an adherence to best business practices.

- The business must be clean and organized; both inside and out.

- Hours of operation must be customer friendly, posted and adhered to.

- Business must have the ability to process payments in a customer-friendly way, which includes accepting major credit cards and providing receipts with purchase.

- Employees wear name tags and greet customers upon entry.

- Merchandise is marked with prices.

- The business makes an attempt to serve a diverse ethnic population.

- Service-based businesses keep appointments and stay on time.

- Service-based businesses are willing to provide references regarding the quality of their work.

- Business demonstrates a strong sense of community involvement, donating at any level either time or money.

- Business operates in an environmentally friendly or energy-efficient way and/or offers customers environmentally friendly products or solutions.

## Member: Test out the value of Chamber membership

Continued from page 1.

• Chamber members get to display their business cards or brochures in the Moffat County Visitor Center and target the thousands of people who walk in each year.

• Studies show that customers are more likely to do business with a Chamber member than a non-member. Show them you're

a member with a member window sticker, membership plaque or by posting the Chamber's logo on your Web site.

- Get discounts on products and services from local businesses

Grow your business through networking. Meet new people and market your business at the Chamber's monthly social and

networking functions.

- Publish news about your business in the Chamber's monthly newsletter.

And that's just the tip of the iceberg. The Chamber is a business advocate and community partner. Our staff and board members are involved in a variety of community and philanthropic groups. Our volunteer

arm, the Chamber Ambassadors, offer their time to assist in nearly every event Moffat County offers.

Call (970) 824-5689 to learn more. Membership applications are available at the Chamber, 360 E. Victory Way, via fax or e-mail or online at [www.craig-chamber.com](http://www.craig-chamber.com). Click the "Member Information" button.

## December Anniversaries

Craig Lions Club .....	1997
Colorado CPA Services .....	1998
Moffat County Libraries .....	1999
Yampa Valley Partners .....	1999
The Flower Mine .....	2000
Craig Electric Motor & Machine.....	2001
Craig Rotary Club .....	2001
Abbey Carpet by Braia .....	2002
Mountain Meat & Sausage .....	2002
Bear Valley Inn .....	2004
Elk Run Inn .....	2004

Dynamic Ventures – Shaklee .....	2005
Rocky Mountain Health Plans .....	2005
Cornerstone Realty .....	2006
3B Enterprises, LLC .....	2006
The Print Shop .....	2007
Kum and Go Food Store #902 .....	2007
Kum and Go Food Store #903 .....	2007
Tin Cup Grill .....	2008
Experience Western Colorado/ PTM Publications, LLC .....	2008
Colorado Inn and Suites .....	2009

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