



Chamber Connection

February, 2011

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

Would you fire your best staff person?

Many businesses consider that very decision every year when they decide whether to renew their dues investment with the Craig Chamber of Commerce.

The Chamber is, in fact, one of your employees. The Chamber is not a charitable organization. We provide a valuable service for a fee, and we truly appreciate the businesses that hire us on year after year.

Our members hire us to market and promote their businesses and our community.

They hire the Chamber to serve as an information center for residents and visitors.

Businesses partner with the Chamber to support community events and initiatives and our members hire us to keep them well informed on issues of importance that affect their operation and on changes in laws and regulations that they must comply with.

Each year, a few members

decide to "fire" the Chamber by not renewing their dues investment. This decision would be more difficult if businesses actually viewed the Craig Chamber of Commerce for what it is – an outstanding employee who produces results that boost the operation's bottom line.

Dues investments to the Chamber are generally much less than the yearly compensation of most of your employees and often even less than what any of them make in a month. And they should be evaluated on the same criteria – that is, your company's cost to hire the employee weighed against the amount of income that the employee produces for your business.

In nearly every case, regardless of business size, the Chamber's efficiency ratio will far exceed that of any other single employee of comparable salary.

Rather than looking at your

“The Chamber is, in fact, one of your employees. The Chamber is not a charitable organization. We provide a valuable service for a fee, and we truly appreciate the businesses that hire us on year after year.”

investment as an expense, look at the Chamber as an employee. Then do a cost-benefit analysis. In most cases, you will find that the dues investment you make in the is returned many times over in the services, marketing and advocacy members receive.

Every time we lose a member, it weakens our organization and the strength of our voice.

The Craig Chamber of Commerce consistently exceeds national retention rates by an average of six percent, and we are extremely proud of that fact.

More, 67 percent of our members have supported the Craig Chamber of Commerce for five years or more.

We're proud that so many businesses continue to support the Chamber, but we're not done.

We will continue to solicit member feedback to enhance the services we provide. We will continue to monitor legislation and take action when our businesses are at risk and we will continually work to grow, lead by example, be proactive instead of reactive, be innovative and aggressive.

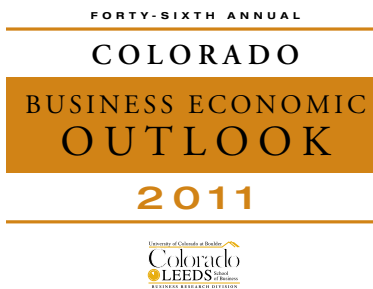
We will always remember who we work for - and that is our members. We will not forget the investment that you have made in our organization – and the confidence you have in our ability to get the job done.

Colorado expected to see slow, steady growth in 2011

Colorado's economy will experience slow, steady growth in 2011, according to economist Richard Wobbekind of the University of Colorado at Boulder's Leeds School of Business. Wobbekind's announcement was part of the 46th annual Colorado Business Economic Outlook Forum.

"I think the overall economic picture for Colorado in 2011 is slow, steady growth much like the national economy," Wobbekind said. "We would all like a more rapid recovery, especially in terms of jobs, but we're just not going to see that yet."

Overall, the forecast calls for a gain of 10,100 jobs in 2011, compared with the more than



140,000 jobs the state lost in 2009-10. Most sectors of the economy will return to growth in 2011, except for the construction, manufacturing, information and government sectors, which will shed jobs, according to Wobbekind.

The full report is available at www.craig-chamber.com/newsroom.



2011 event to be biggest ever

The Craig Chamber of Commerce is increasing by 100 the number of tickets available for the 2011 State of the County event because this year will be the biggest ever.

Mayor Don Jones and the Moffat County Commissioners will headline at the Craig Chamber of Commerce's annual meeting and fifth-annual State of the County event on March 9 at the Holiday Inn of Craig.

Tickets are \$40 for Chamber members and \$50 for non-members. Admission with ticket only.

This event generally sells out

as residents gather to hear the state of the city, county and chamber.

"We're so proud to be able to present an event that features such a great overview of what's going on in in our community," Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Christina Oxley said. "I think people enjoy this event because it's a fun way to learn about what's going on and how your tax dollars are being used. People often ignore that information because it's so

See EVENT on page 3.

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, 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.
- ◆ Have a mass mailing? Save time by using the Chamber's folding machine. Automated single and triple folding.

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.

FEBRUARY EVENTS

Feb. 1, 8, 15, 22 · Moffat County Commissioners' meeting
Moffat County Commissioners' weekly meeting

Time: 8:30 a.m. - noon
Website: 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
Date/Time Details: Every Tuesday

Feb. 1, 3, 8, 10, 15, 17, 22, 24 · 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. Tuesday is lunch and Thursday is dinner. 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

Feb. 1 · 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

Feb. 2, 9, 16, 23 · AWANA at Calvary Baptist Church

AWANA for children 3-years-old through 6th grade. Awana is an awesome adventure for our next generation to learn the Word of God and have fun doing it.
Time: 6 p.m. - 7:15 p.m.
Website: www.calvarycraig.org
Location: Calvary Baptist, 1050 Yampa Ave.
Contact: Janet Wright at (970) 824-5222
Email: janetwright@rocketmail.com
Date/Time Details: Wednesdays at 6 p.m.
Fees/Admission: Dues are \$10 for the semester. Uniform, if needed, is \$10

Feb. 2, 9, 16, 23 · 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

Feb. 3, 10, 17, 24 · Yampa Valley Chorus of Sweet Adelines practice

Learn the art of barbershop singing. There will be a show next 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
Date/Time Details: Every Thursday at 7 p.m.
Fees/Admission: Only applicable if you join

Feb. 4, 11, 18, 25 · Elks Bingo

Come 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

Feb. 8 · 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

Feb. 8, 22 · Craig City Council

The Craig City Council meets the second and fourth Tuesday of each month. Log on to www.ci.craig.co.us for meeting agendas and minutes.
Time: 7:30 p.m.
Website: www.ci.craig.co.us
Location: City Hall, 300 W. 4th St.
Email: jferree@ci.craig.co.us
Fees/Admission: None

Feb. 10 · 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 or not The top 3 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
Location: Moffat County Courthouse 2nd 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
Fees/Admission: Free - Sponsored by CMEDP

Feb. 12 · Art Walk & Taste of Chocolate

Start your evening in the basement of the Museum of Northwest Colorado where the pottery class from CNCC is selling soup or chili in a handmade bowl, which you get to take home. Then make your way into different businesses in the downtown two blocks of Yampa to view work by local artists and sample many different kinds of chocolate from local chocolatiers.

Time: 5 - 8 p.m.
Location: 400 & 500 blocks of Yampa Ave.
Contact: To enter as an artist or for more information about Art Walk contact Kandee Dilldine (970) 824-2151. To enter as a chocolatier call (970) 824-8148. For more information regarding the pottery bowls with soup or chili contact Mary Morris (970) 824-1135.
Fees/Admission: To view the art is free. Taste of Chocolate tickets are \$10 each, limited number of tickets available at the Kitchen Shop, 577 Yampa Ave.

Feb. 12, 26 · 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 Way
Contact: Frank Sadvar at (970) 620-0874 or the Post (970) 824-3625
Fees/Admission: Minimum \$15 for the full event

Feb. 14 · Wyman's 3rd Annual Romantic Dinner

Come and enjoy all you can eat Prime Rib and Crab. Enjoy a romantic atmosphere like no other! Wine and dine your loved one with a romantic sleigh ride after dinner. Music this year is a jazz band quartet by Moffat County's best jazz students! There will be a silent auction and a Valentines Day gift for two lucky valentines. All proceeds help fund the Winter Festival.
Time: 6 p.m.
Location: Wyman Museum
Contact: (970) 824-6346
Email: wymanmuseum@earthlink.net
Fees/Admission: \$50 per person

Feb. 15 · Yampa Valley Piecemakers Quilt Guild

Join the Yampa Valley quilt guild in their monthly meetings and enjoy presentations from special guests. This month the 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 Alstrom (970) 824-4617 or Lorraine Moon (970) 824-9568
Fees/Admission: Members are free and guests are \$3

Feb. 15 · State of the County 2011

This is the premier information gathering and networking event in Moffat County. Come hear what Moffat County, the city of Craig and the Craig Chamber of Commerce have in store for 2011. Dinner and dessert will be served. Cash bar.

Time: 6:30 - 9 p.m.
Website: www.craig-chamber.com
Location: Holiday Inn of Craig, 300 S. Hwy 13
Contact: Christina Oxley (970) 824-5689
Email: director@craig-chamber.com
Fees/Admission: The tickets are \$40 for Chamber members and \$50 for non-members and are available at the Chamber of Commerce, 360 E. Victory Way or can be purchased online by clicking "register now" on the event listing at www.craig-chamber.com.

Feb. 16 · CMEDP board meeting

Craig/Moffat Economic Development Partnership's regular monthly board meeting. Community welcome.
Time: 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Website: www.cmedp.com
Location: Moffat County Courthouse second floor conference room
Contact: Darcy Trask, (970) 826-2039
Email: director@cmedp.com
Date/Time Details: Third Wednesday of the month
Fees/Admission: Free

Feb. 19 - 20 · Wyman's Winter Festival

Join the Wyman Museum for this event that is fun for everyone.
Date/Time Details: Events on Saturday:
Western Ride in Antique Snowmobile Show - Registration start at 7 a.m., Show begins at 10 a.m.
X-Treme Mountain Snow-X Racing - Racing, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., finals 5 p.m.
Chili Cook-off - 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Judging at 12:30 p.m.
Cardboard Box Derby - Racing at 2 p.m.
Warrior FreeStyles - Noon & 6 p.m. followed by fireworks

Events on Sunday:
X-Treme Mountain Snow-X Racing - Drag Racing registration 8 - 9 a.m. Anyone can participate. Races start at 9 a.m.
Snowmobile Jackpot Rodeo - Registration 8 - 10:30 a.m., Rodeo at noon
Enduro Racing - 9 a.m.
Events on both days:
Sleigh rides, professional ice carvers, hot toddy bar sponsored by Parrot Heads, Concession stand hot dogs, hamburgers, popcorn and non-alcoholic drinks

Vendors: jewelry, candles, clothing, cotton candy and more
Website: www.wymanmuseum.com
Location: Wyman Museum, 94350 East Hwy 40
Contact: (970) 824-6346
Email: wymanmuseum@earthlink.net

Feb. 19 · Chili Cook-off 2011

If you make the best chili in the West, then enter the 6th Annual Chili Cook-off, or stop by to sample the entries and submit your vote. It's a fun, tasty way to warm up at the Wyman Winter Festival. This event is hosted by the Chamber Ambassadors.
Time: 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Website: www.craig-chamber.com
Location: Wyman Museum Winter Festival
Contact: Call Shannon (970) 824-5689 or email office@craig-chamber.com
Date/Time Details: Chili will be for sale starting at 11 a.m. Judging will be at 12:30 p.m.
Fees/Admission: \$1 to sample all entries & \$3 for a bowl of chili. Entry fee is \$15 for Chamber members and \$20 for non-members.

To include your event, or to see additional events, log on to www.craig-chamber.com and click the "Events" button. Choose "submit your own event" and fill out the event details. It's that easy!

Craig Mental Health Center
A Division of Colorado West Regional Mental Health, Inc.
439 Breeze St. • Suite 200
(970) 824-6541

Don't Run Dry!
Call us today for ALL of your Pump Sales & Service needs.

Home Inspection Provided

MOUNTAIN STATES COMPANY
CRAIG, COLORADO

- LICENSED
- BONDED
- INSURED

LIC. #438 & 846
424 RUSSELL STREET • CRAIG, CO 81625
970-824-6568 • EMERGENCIES CALL 970-824-5593 • 970-824-3745

The CITY OF **CRAIG**

supports local businesses.

Shop Craig

Large to Small We Care for them All Kelly Hepworth, D.V.M. Neil McCandless, D.V.M. Gary Visintainer, D.V.M.

24 Hour EMERGENCY SERVICE

BEAR CREEK ANIMAL HOSPITAL

(970) 824-5964
(970) 824-7567 Fax
2430 E. Victory Way Craig, Colo.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



CHAMBER PHOTO

The Craig Chamber of Commerce welcomes its newest member the Yampa Valley Pool League. The nationally-sanctioned league plays Tuesday nights and is open to all skill levels. They are always seeking players. Call coordinator Michelle Reed at (970) 826-2783 for more information.



CHAMBER PHOTO

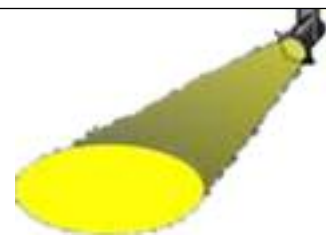
THPK accounting, located at 538 Breeze Street is a new member of the Craig Chamber of Commerce. THPK strives to provide superior quality accounting, tax and management consulting services to help their clients succeed in both personal and business endeavors. Call them at (970) 826-1400 today.



CHAMBER PHOTO

The Craig Chamber of Commerce welcomes the Craig Youth Hockey Association to its membership. CYHA is a non-profit organization providing youth an opportunity to learn to skate and play hockey. New members always welcome. Call (970) 629-8322.

Business Spotlight



Wells Fargo Home Mortgage

318 W. Victory Way • (970) 824-0307

Number of employees: 1

Number of years in business: 4 years in Craig

What is your specialty? Mortgage loans, equity loans for purchases and refinances.

What is your business or organization philosophy?

Custom service is #1. Our philosophy is to make sure our customers get the best type of financing for their situations.

Is there something your business or organization offers that people don't seem to know about?

Some people still do not know our office is here!

Anything else you would like add?

Honesty and integrity are the base of my business.

Business Briefs

Service remains same at Kinder Family Clinic

The Kinder Professional Building at 595 Russell Street houses one primary care provider, Jona Ely, FNP and the only local neurologist, Pamela Kinder, MD. Dr. Dennis Kinder has moved to 785 Russell Street.

The Kinder Family Clinic and Pamela Kinder, Neurology, are open Monday through Friday.

They offer many services on-site including blood draws and strive to see patients "same-day" whenever necessary, so that they can resume activities as soon as possible.

The clinic's emphasis for the New Year is to help people become and stay healthy. Stop in for assistance in weight loss, tobacco cessation, cancer prevention and staying healthy.

Total Teamwork Training opens new office

Total Teamwork Training Center is now operating in Steamboat Springs as well as Craig. Their new training facility is located in the Riverside Plazabon the west side, suite 250, right around the corner from Sears facing Steamboat PowerSports.

Head Start Puppy Training begins Jan. 29 in our the training center. Following that class will be the first Steamboat Canine Good Citizens class for students that have attended our Family Dog Class.

Classes include everything from puppy training to Family Dog Training to Rally Obedience, and the Canine Good Citizens Program We will also be set up to teach some Agility foundation skills.

Event highlights city, county, chamber

Continued from page 1.

dry. At State of the County, it's not."

In addition to speeches from elected officials, Craig Chamber of Commerce board members will present the organization's annual report and the 2011 Small Business, Large Business and Businessperson of the Year awards.

"We have some really strong businesses in our community and selecting the award winners is always difficult," Oxley said. "The award presentations are always a highlight of the event."

New for 2011 will be the presenta-

tion of an award for "Up and Coming Businessperson of the Year."

Presentations from the city, county and chamber are staples of the event. Past State of the County events have featured guest speakers from economic development and tourism industry leaders, the fire district, hospital, school district and the community college. This year's keynote speaker will be the biggest ever and will be announced the first week of February.

State of the County begins at 6:30 p.m. Tickets include dinner, dessert and the program. There will be a cash bar.

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.



Jim Herschberg
Trapper Mine
(970) 826.6171
jimh@trappermine.com



Vice-president: Mardi Anson
Anson Excavating
(970) 824-0382
anson1050@msn.com



Treasurer: Missy Bonaker
Bonaker & Assoc.
824-4156
bonaker@nctelecom.net



Gene Bilodeau
CNCC1
(970) 824-7071
gene.bilodeau@cncc.edu



Don Jones
Craig Steel
(970) 824-6553
djcraigsteel@qwestoffice.net



Gail Severson
Severson Supply
(970) 824-9481
gseverson@wreawildblue.org



President: Joe Bird
Cook Chevrolet
(970) 824-2100
jbird@cookchevrolet.com



Renee Campbell
Holiday Inn of Craig
(970) 824-4000
rcampbell@ardenthoteis.com



Jeff Smith
Advantage Water Technologies
(970) 620-6911
jeff@advantagewater technologies.com



Jeremy Mattingly
Walgreens
(970) 824-0155
mattingley@q.com



RaChell Novacek
Union Telephone
(970) 756-4109
rachelin@unionwireless.com

Craig 6185 kicks off with Wii tournament

Craig 6185 is a group of young people and young professionals looking for ways to meet new people and grow personally and professionally in Moffat County.

"We've heard so many times that young professionals have a hard time integrating in Craig because they don't know anyone and don't know how to develop those social and personal networks that make people feel like part of their community," Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Christina Oxley said. "We launched Craig 6185 to meet that need."

The mission of Craig 6185 is to give young professionals and community members opportunities to enrich our community, to grow and thrive personally and professionally and develop relationships through social, cultural, philanthropic and educational opportunities.

The group is planning 12 social and networking events and quarterly education opportunities.

Membership in Craig 6185 is \$10 per year for Chamber members and \$25 a year for non-members.

If your employer is a Chamber member, you are a chamber member.

Membership includes:

- Opportunity to participate in monthly social and networking events
- Meet new people and develop new relationships
- Build awareness of local issues and how to affect them
- All members will be able to participate in 6185 events for free or at a highly discounted rate
- Discount pricing to Chamber events
- Opportunity to participate in educational programs designed to enhance both your professional and personal life.
- Support community growth and development in a way that engages community members in



CHAMBER PHOTO
Keith Balleck, Atmos Energy, landed last place in the War of the Wii, earning a refund of his entry fee and the Most Wiidiculous trophy. His wife, Michelle, took home the top prize - 35% of the entry fees.



CHAMBER PHOTO
Craig Daily Press reporter Scott Schlaufman launches a ball in the bowling portion of Saturday's 6185 War of the Wii tournament.

their 20s and 30s and those who are young at heart.

• Involvement in a group that strives to bring awareness of the importance of young professionals and community members and their ability to impact the current and future landscape of Moffat County.

• Create and cultivate our future leaders.

The group launched Jan. 29 with a Wii Sports tournament.

Other social events the group will be hosting include, a red-neck wine tasting, National Lampoons Casino Night, movies in the park, dive-in, girls night out, guys night out and more.

Call the Chamber at (970) 824-5689 for more information or download an application from www.craig-chamber.com or the Craig 6185 Facebook page.



CHAMBER PHOTO
Becky Long, pharmacist, and Sean Smith, CNCC student, battle it out on Wii Sports tennis.

February Anniversaries

Colorado Farm Bureau Insurance	1996	High Desert Outdoor Power Inc.	1998	Shelton Ranch	2005
Best Western Deer Park Inn	1997	Mountain States Company	2000	Jack's Bumpers, LLC	2005
CNCC	1998	AFLAC	2002	Homemaker Furnishings	2007
Colorado Workforce Center	1998	Ladder Livestock Company LLC	2003	Norman Ranch	2007
Craig Association of Realtors	1998	Community Budget Center	2004	Wheeler Manufacturing	2008
Golden Arms Apartments	1998	Bedrock Depot, LLC	2004	Advantage Water Technologies	2009
Kiwanis Club	1998	Maybell Store	2004	Virtual Vision Tours, LLC	2009
Kester Jewelry	1998	Faith Lutheran Church	2004	Hooker Mtn Outfitters	2010
City Market Inc. Store #15	1998	Wendy's	2004	Two Shoes Ranch	2010
McDonald's of Craig	1998	Murdoch's Ranch & Home Supply	2005	Elkhead Mountain Lodge	2010
Northwest Title Company	1998				