

Calendar of Events

January 2009

- 1 — Chamber office CLOSED—Happy New Year!
- 6 — Executive Committee—10:30 am at the Chamber
- 8 — Marketing Committee—8:30 am at the Chamber
- 8 — **Pre-Legislative Luncheon** — 11:30— 1:00 pm at Tailgator's
- 12 — Hometown Days Meeting—7:00 pm at the Chamber
- 14 — Chamber Board Meeting—11:30 am at the Chamber
- 15 — Public Relations Committee—8:00 am a the Chamber
- 15 — **Chamber Mixer**—5:00—6:30 pm at Valley Lanes & Recreation Center—900 N. Splitrock Blvd.
- 21 — Tourism Committee—9:00 am at the Chamber
- 21 — Sports & Rec. Committee—Noon at Pizza Ranch
- 22 — **New Member Luncheon** — 11:30 am— 1:00 pm at Pizza Ranch
- 24 — **Legislative Coffee** —9:30 — 11:00 am at Tailgator's
- 28 — **Brandon Day at the Legislature**—All day event in Pierre

February 2009

- 3 — Executive Committee—10:30 am at the Chamber
- 11 — Chamber Board Meeting—11:30 am at the Chamber
- 12 — Marketing Committee—8:30 am at the Chamber
- 16 — Chamber office CLOSED—President's Day
- 18 — Sports & Rec. Committee—Noon at Pizza Ranch
- 19 — Public Relations Committee—8:00 am a the Chamber
- 19 — **Chamber Mixer**—5:00—6:30 pm at Grage Financial Group & Alternative Health & Wellness—910 E. Redwood Blvd., Suite #1
- 21 — **Legislative Coffee** — 9:30-11:00 am at Tailgator's
- 25 — Tourism Committee—9:00 am at the Chamber

Don't get the weekly email updates? Sign up today or you miss out! Email brancofc@alliancecom.net

December 2008

Christmas Cheer Overflowing at Chamber Holiday Party!



ored at the event were: Amy Ahlers, Cheryl Erickson, Tara Simonson, and Chris Limmer.



Although it was cold outside, the Chamber Holiday Party was warm and cozy inside a beautifully decorated room at Tailgator's with a cordial dinner of Pheasant Wild Rice Soup and Chili. Over ninety Chamber Members enjoyed each others company through dinner and were only quiet for a 10 minute presentation, given by the Chamber President, Bob Bruning, who honored Chamber Board Members that have finished their 3 years of service. Those that were hon-

Thank you to all of our members for a wonderful year! With your help, the Chamber is gearing up for 2009 with plans to make this the best year ever! *Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!*



It's time for the 09-10 **Brandon Visitor Guide** to be updated and printed! If you have photo's that could be used in this year's guide, please submit them by email to: brancofc@alliancecom.net



PRE-LEGISLATIVE LUNCHEON

January 8th, 2009
11:30am-1:00pm
at Tailgator's

David Owen, Director of the South Dakota Chamber of Commerce, will be here to identify and discuss select issues that are expected to surface during the upcoming legislative session that will impact business.

Each person is in charge of purchasing their own meal so if you are interested, just plan on showing up at the above time and place!

Everyone is Welcome!

Thank you to Todd Headrick, HJN Team Real Estate for the printing of the Horizon Newsletter.

Nancy Cunningham, Administrative Assistant
Kim Cervick, Executive Director
BVAAC Staff

Randy Zdenek, Home Federal Bank
Tara Simonson, Splitrock Chiropractic Center, LLC
Jennie Patrick, Sioux Valley Energy
Chad Padgett, Sunshine Foods
Chris Limmer, Limmer Financial Services
Cheryl Erickson, Home Federal Bank
Secretary/Treasurer, Kevin Thelen, First National Bank
Vice President, Barb Fish, Financial Network
President, Bob Bruning, Bruning Graphic Design, Inc.

BVAAC Board of Directors

Horizon is an official publication of the
Brandon Valley Area Chamber of Commerce
www.brandonvalleychamber.com
(605)582-7400 ~ brancofc@alliancecom.net

Current Resident



What's Inside....

~ Chamber Committee Highlights ~ Santa Stops Double in 2008! ~ Did you know? ~ Cutting, Breaking, & Mixing it up ~ Local Business: Bridge to Sustainable Economy ~ Calendar of Events

Chamber Committees' Monthly Highlights

Fundraising Committee:

Completed a successful fundraiser and community service with the recent Santa Stops! They will begin planning for the 2009 Golf & Wine Outing in the coming months.

Marketing Committee:

Working diligently on compiling and budgeting for the "Buy Brandon" campaign for 2009. Also, recently finished and displayed the Holiday Banners on Splitrock Blvd.

Membership Committee:

Currently in recess

Public Relations Committee:

Held a successful Holiday Party and have compiled a complete listing of 2009 Mixers. They are gearing up for a large 'New Member Luncheon' which will be taking place in January.

Sports & Recreation Committee:

Recent updates on the Brandon Chamber website have made our sports association members more accessible to online patrons through the addition of a tab in the Community section of the website.

Tourism Committee:

Working with 14 other Southeast South Dakota communities on a large online marketing campaign for tourism. This group is also beginning their efforts on creating the 09-10 Brandon Visitor Guide.



Santa Stops Double in 2008!

Over 40 families in Brandon enjoyed a special visit from Santa Claus in December courtesy of the Chamber's 2nd Annual Santa Stops fundraiser! With only 20 Santa Stops in 2007, this year's efforts by the Fundraising Committee doubled the load, making this a very successful fundraiser!

Thank you to all of our volunteers:

Courtney Bruget	Bob Bruning
Marilyn Bruning	Steve Carlson
Matt Cerwick	Cheryl Erickson
Bailey Fish	Barb Fish
Jim Heronimus	Dirk Johnson
Kathy Koehn	Rebecca Koehn
Nick Langerock	Jason Larson
Mateya Lundstra	Jill Meier
Kacee Metzger	Lance Rasmussen
Shelli Rosena	Chuck Schroder
Cary Schroeder	Anthony Siemonsma
Heidi Small	John Small
Bridget Thelen	Kevin Thelen
Paul VanDeBerg	

Thank you to our sponsors:

Performance Press
 Barb Fish, Financial Network
 Alliance Communications
 Bruning Graphic Design, Inc.
 Anthony Siemonsma, Edward Jones

Welcome to our family!

Welcome to our newest members:

Red Truck Art Studio

Dan Oakland,
 Alternative HR Development

The Church of Jesus Christ of
 Latter Day Saints

Dr. Mark J. Britzman,
 Character Counts

New Member Luncheon
 Thursday, January 22nd
 11:30am-1:00pm



Cutting, Breaking & Mixing it up!



Ribbon Cutting
 Alliance Communications
 November 17



Ribbon Cutting
 Brandon Food Pantry
 November 21



Ribbon Cutting
 George A. Gulson Administration Center
 November 17



Mixer
 Therapeutic Massage & Bodyworks
 & New Day Counseling
 November 20



Local Business: Bridge to Sustainable Economy

Local business is the bridge to a more sustainable economy. These days, many of the things we buy are produced in large factories, often overseas. In industries dominated by large-scale production facilities, an enormous amount of money is required to get each business going. The creation of a single job often requires the investment of tens or even hundreds of thousands of dollars. We are led to believe that big business is more efficient, but in many cases smaller businesses are more efficient. This is true in such businesses as agriculture, food processing, and textiles to name a few.

Why are small businesses more efficient? Because they use more labor and less material resources. If you purchase a loaf of bread manufactured by a nationally known company with centralized production facilities, the cost of that product primarily consists of the fossil fuel and materials needed to create and run the machinery to make the bread. If you buy bread from a

local bakery, the cost of the loaf of bread is based primarily on how much labor was required to make it. The environmental cost of the latter product is lower.

The same is true of other products. We are all familiar with the ongoing mechanization in this country that displaces industrial workers. Welding a car with robots requires significantly more fossil fuel than using human labor. Each increment of mechanization, on average, significantly increases the energy and materials required for production while the need for labor is decreased. In our current economy, the low cost of energy and the relatively higher cost of labor make it economically viable to use more energy to manufacture products. Small and locally owned businesses are, on average, less capital intensive and use natural resources more efficiently. As a result, they can help us begin to move toward a more sustainable economy.



Know What's In Your Backyard
 Pace Manufacturing
 December 9

ATTENTION MEMBERS:

It has come to our attention that a few of our members received phone calls during this election season from people that were identifying themselves as the Brandon Chamber and endorsing specific candidates.

Please be advised: The Brandon Chamber does not take positions on candidates!

If you get a call from anyone endorsing specific candidates in the future, let us know immediately by calling the Chamber office and giving us the caller's name and any information you can get from them so we can stop misrepresentation of our organization.



Did you know?

Your Brandon Chamber of Commerce has a bulk mailing permit stamp that all members have access to.

The Brandon Post Office has given us a new list of guidelines and changes that must be in place on all standard mail pieces which became effective November 23rd, 2008.

We are including the new requirements along with the bulk mail stamp for your convenience when you come in to pick it up.

Regular stamps are now .42 cents. Depending on the size of your mail, the bulk mail stamp may bring that cost down to as little as .30 cents. That can be a considerable savings.

The changes are intended to decrease the amount of undeliverable mail the Post Office handles and the few changes they are asking of us will keep our U.S. mail system working at top efficiency.

