

CALENDAR of events.....

March 2010

- 2—Executive Committee—8:30 am at the Chamber
- 3—Marketing Committee—8:30 am at the Chamber
- 4—Public Relations Committee—8:00 am at the Chamber
- 9—Chamber Board—8:00 am at the Chamber
- 16—Membership Committee—8:00 am at the Chamber
- 17—Fundraising Committee—8:30 am at the Chamber
- 24—Tourism Committee—4:00 pm at the Chamber
- 25—Issues Management Council —8:00 am at the Chamber
- 25—**Annual Banquet**—5:30 pm Social Hour;
6:30 pm Banquet at Holiday Inn Express

April 2010

- 1—Public Relations Committee—8:00 am at the Chamber
- 6—Executive Committee—8:30 am at the Chamber
- 7—Marketing Committee—8:30 am at the Chamber
- 13—Chamber Board—8:00 am at the Chamber
- 20—Membership Committee—8:00 am at the Chamber
- 21—Fundraising Committee—8:30 am at the Chamber
- 22—Issues Management Council —8:00 am at the Chamber
- 22—**Chamber Mixer**— 5:00-6:30 pm at Edward Jones & Caliber Creative, 1306 & 1308 E. Cedar St.
- 28—Tourism Committee—4:00 pm at the Chamber

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

Horizon is an official publication of the Brandon Valley Area Chamber of Commerce
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Horizon

Building a Better Life

BRANDON VALLEY AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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Brandon Travels to Pierre

February 2010

On Wednesday the 27th of January, over 30 members of our Chamber journeyed to Pierre. It was our 4th annual trip to visit our Capitol during the Legislative Session. Once again we braved the cold and boarded our chartered bus for the long ride.



By 11:15 Tony and Chad from Tony's Catering had 2 serving lines of hot lunch set up and ready to go. One each in the House and Senate lobbies. We've been told that we are the only community that shows up offering a hot lunch, and when those scrumptious smells waft over the chamber halls and committee hearing rooms, there is an instant lineup of diners. The accolades for Brandon and Tony's Catering were plentiful, and it was obvious just how much our gesture was appreciated. We served over 320 very thankful lawmakers and their staffs. Brandon indeed made a dramatic impact!

Perhaps the highlight of our visit was the time scheduled to meet with Darin Bergquist, secretary of Transportation and PUC Commissioners Gary Hanson, Steve Kolbeck and Dusty Johnson.

During our time with Bergquist, we shared our concerns regarding the pending relocation of the Sioux Falls railroad switching yard. The proposed plan would move the switching yard to the east side of Sioux Falls near Timberline Avenue, along Rice Street. While we voiced our support for the proposed option of improving Benson Road so that it can intersect with SD 100, we were also requesting that an overpass

be built for safety reasons and to avoid traffic conflicts for commuters to and from Brandon to Sioux Falls.

Other highlights of the day included a round of applause from both the Senate and House of Representative Members. A group photo, now a tradition of 'Brandon Day at the Legislature' was also taken before jumping back on the bus and heading home. Another standing tradition is a stop for dinner in White Lake, South Dakota compliments of Harry Buck, Town & Country Realtors.

Our legislators would like to hear from you! If you would like to contact them and offer support or ideas you can do so by calling our District 10 Legislators:

- Rep. Shantel Krebs 351-5916
- Rep. Roger Hunt 582-3865
- Senator Gene Abdallah 338-0544

Thanks to everyone who came along. Because of all of you, Brandon looked great!

Legislative Coffee
9:00 am

Saturday, February 27th
at Bethany Meadows

Find out what is happening during the 2010 Legislative Session in Pierre. There is no charge to attend. All are welcome. Coffee is provided!

WELCOME to the Family!

Liberty Tax Service
 Brandon Citywide Rummages
 Brandon Valley Vintage Power



Did you KNOW?

Did you know that this issue of the Horizon has gone out to 318 members this month alone?

We are reaching all of Brandon and parts of Sioux Falls, Valley Springs, Garretson, Brookings, and even Pierre!

Each month you can advertise your business or your business event by putting a flier in the Horizon to get the word out!

If you are interested please call the chamber office at 582-7400 and reserve your spot for the month you wish to place your insert. Space is limited so please call in advance.

The cost is just \$50! Supply us with 325 copies of your 8 1/2 x 11 flier and we'll make sure they go out in the Horizon.

Drop them off to us by the 10th of the month so that we have them ready to be mailed by the 15th.

Chamber Committees' Monthly Highlights

Fundraising Committee:

As we are between fundraising events, this group has been pondering new ideas for other fundraisers that bring more people to Brandon. If you have any great ideas please let us know by attending a fundraising meeting or contacting the chamber office at 582-7400.

Marketing Committee:

This committee is hard at work putting together a marketing campaign for "Brandon Buck" gift cards that will be available for purchase at the Chamber in April. Another project of this committee is The Brandon and Valley Springs Residential and Business Directory. This publication is just about complete and should be in your mailboxes in early March.

Membership Committee:

The first new member luncheon was a great event that honored over 30 new members to the Chamber in 2010. Over the next few

months, this group will be focusing on benefits and opportunities for the 2011 membership drive.

Public Relations Committee:

After a successful 'Brandon Day at the Legislature' in Pierre, this group is changing gears and beginning their work at planning this year's Annual Banquet. Scheduled for Thursday, March 25th, Bob Sutton, President of the South Dakota Community Foundation will be the Keynote Speaker. Please mark your calendar and plan on attending this great event. There will be new unveilings and surprises that you won't want to miss!

Tourism Committee:

Do you have any great photos of Brandon? If so, this committee would be very interested in seeing them as we begin compiling and organizing the 2010-2011 Brandon Community Guide. Call the Chamber at 582-7400.



Meet the Newest Addition to the BVACC Staff!

On Monday, February 8th, Lindsey Barwald began her work as our additional Administrative Assistant at the Chamber! She and Nancy will be working together in a job share capacity to cover the now full-time Administrative Assistant position.

As the Chamber has grown by leaps and bounds these past 2 years, we are now able to expand the hours of this position. One huge benefit to members will be that the Chamber office will be open from 8 am-5 pm Monday-Friday with no exception. Gone are the days you stop by and see the "Will Return" clock hanging on the door with a future time.

Lindsey is a 'Brandonite' who just moved back to town after a brief 1 year move to Springfield, IL. Lindsey said that she and her husband decided that this was home and that is one of the reasons for returning to the area.

Working with budgets, making reservations while being a front desk agent at hotels, organizing events as well as data entry are just some of the attributes that Lindsey will bring with her to the Chamber.



Words from Lindsey

I am very excited to not only be living back in Brandon but also working here again. I am thrilled to be a part of helping Brandon grow into an even greater community than it was when I grew up here.

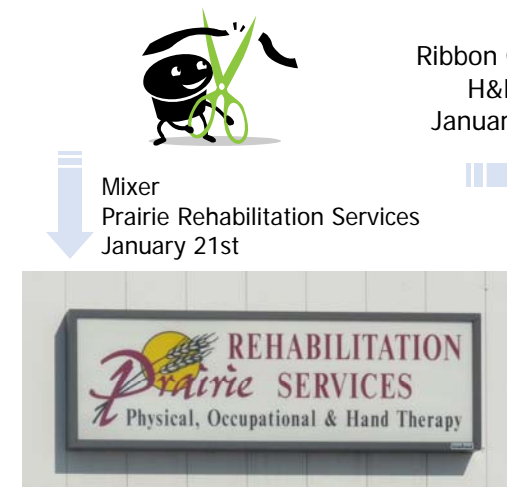
I look forward to meeting all of the Chamber members that are new to me, and reconnecting with the members I have known for years.

My goals for this position are to not only bring in new fresh ideas for the Chamber but to also learn many new things from all that the Chamber has to offer.

CUTTING, BREAKING & Mixing it up!

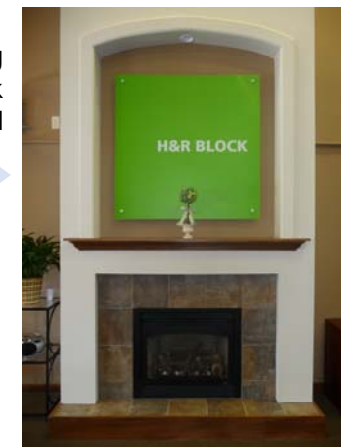


Ribbon Cutting (New X-ray Machine!)
 Brandon Natural Care Center
 January 12th



Mixer
 Prairie Rehabilitation Services
 January 21st

Ribbon Cutting
 H&R Block
 January 22nd



Chamber Spotlight: Sunny Radio

In a few short months you'll be able to turn on the radio and listen to a BRANDON radio station! Sunny Radio... Where it's ALWAYS in the 80's will be broadcasting from Brandon, SD. John & Heidi Small have been working on this project since the later part of June, 2009. "This kind of thing doesn't happen overnight" John said "The SBA and FCC have so many details that need to be taken care of, but we're finally getting to the end of a long tunnel!" John spent about 15 years in radio before starting his own advertising business in Brandon. He was a morning show host, salesperson, program director and sales manager at radio stations in SD, IA and NE.

The Smalls plan to broadcast "Sunny Radio" on-line in a few weeks, but their AM & FM signals will not be ready for another few months. "We have to wait for the FCC license to be transferred before we can take over the stations" John said "But I just can't wait that long, so we're going to start our broadcast as soon as we can be on-line at MySunnyRadio.com" The Smalls are also work-

ing with Alliance Communications to have "Sunny Radio" on their local cable channel 18 (digital cable 21).

Heidi is the one that chose the 80's format "The music from the 80's is very happy and upbeat, it's very SUNNY and bright!" The radio station will feature local news, local sports and will broadcast local weather three times each hour "We'll say... hear the weather every twenty on Sunny" Heidi said with a smile.

The Smalls are excited about the many things they will be able to do to give back to the community as well. "We want to be a part of every community event" Heidi said. "We

really want to let people know about all the great things happening in Brandon. It's hard to get the word out right now"

Sunny Radio will broadcast from 721 North Splitrock Blvd., in the south half of the Sioux Marble building. The Smalls plan to add to their team as they grow, there's room for two more salespeople, a news person and a few more on-air announcers. They already have their phones set up, the office line is 582-1985, and the studio "request line" is 582-1980. Learn more about Sunny Radio and get advertising information on their website MySunnyRadio.com

Article provided by John Small

