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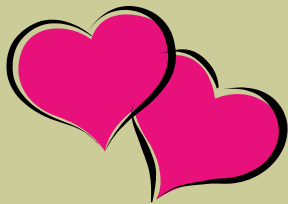
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Milton-Freewater Area Chamber of Commerce

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Milton-Freewater, OR
97862

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Chamber Office Hours:

Mon-Fri 9:00am to 4:00pm



MILTON-FREEWATER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

February 2012

Business of the Month - East Oregonian

The East Oregonian is owned by the East Oregonian Publishing Company, which is a newspaper company owned by the Forrester/Brown family for four generations, since 1908. The company also publishes the Hermiston Herald, Blue Mountain Eagle (Grant Co.), Wallowa County Chieftain, Capital Press, The Daily Astorian and Chinook Observer.

Edwin Burton Aldrich came to Pendleton to be editor of the East Oregonian in the early 1900's and became a part owner of the newspaper in 1908. His two daughters, and his son-in-law all worked for the company. Today, Steve and Mike Forrester are third-generation owners, along with their cousin, Kathryn B. Brown, a fourth-generation owner. Kathryn is currently Associate Publisher and is the only owner that actually works at the paper. She and her family moved to Pendleton a few years ago to take on the challenge of learning the newspaper business, leaving her career as a registered nurse. Kathryn loves the fact that this is a family-owned paper and takes pride learning the business from the ground up. To round out her team of experts, Tom Brown (not related) is Publisher and Editor and Skip Nichols is Managing Editor.

Both men have an extensive background in the ever-changing world of newspaper and are facing the new age of online readers head-on. The East Oregonian publishes a daily newspaper, covering the communities of Umatilla and Morrow Counties. Their website at www.eastoregonian.com receives over 500,000 unique visitors each month.

The East Oregonian management team is very proud of the fact they have retained some of the most skilled and professional newspaper staff in the area. Fifty-six staffers round out the team, from reporters to delivery people. The paper is printed on-site at their Pendleton office located at 211 SE Byers. To contact the East Oregonian to receive up-to-date Oregon news, submit your story or for advertising opportunities, call 800-522-0255.

The Milton-Freewater Chamber of Commerce is proud to present the Business of The Month Award to the East Oregonian for February, a long-time supporter and member of the Chamber.



Pictured is Chamber President Michelle Thacker with Skip Nichols, Kathryn Brown, Tom Brown & Jennifer Callahan

Chamber of Commerce Mission Statement

The Milton-Freewater Area Chamber of Commerce is an organization of professional and business members who together in a planned manner promote commerce, agriculture, community spirit and the quality of life in the Milton-Freewater Area.

**2012
Chamber of Commerce
Board Members**

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Michelle Thacker
Baker Boyer Bank

President Elect

Julie Culjak
Three Divas Beads

Vice President

Member at Large

Janet Millar
Visual Eyes/ Vision Source

Treasurer

Past President

Rob Johnson
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Gina Hartzheim
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Heather Nygaard
Curves for Women

Katie Caldwell
Sykes Enterprise

Merri Anne Huber
Brown & Sons

Mike Watkins
City of Milton-Freewater

Mitch Odman
Farmers Insurance

Sam Tucker
Monahan Grove & Tucker

Steve Irving
City Councilor

Susan Dohrmann
Century 21 Sequist Real Estate

Tim Kennedy
Don Carlo Vineyard

Vicki Lee
Blue Mt Valley Physical
Therapy

Chamber Staff

Cheryl York
Executive Director

Taridy Robertson
Office Assistant

Volunteers
Bonnie Stephens
Michelle Miller

Message from the Director

This month we celebrate our city's finest citizens as we honor them on February 16th at the 64th Annual Awards Banquet. Every year I am amazed to hear about the contributions and accomplishments each one of these people make in our community. Across the nation, many small towns are giving up those special things that distinguish their community from so many others due to lack of volunteers. Milton-Freewater definitely does not have that problem. It is with much gratitude and pleasure I attend this special evening and hope you will join me. Seating is limited, so purchase your ticket at the Chamber office today!

“OUR LITTLE CORNER OF PARADISE”

Help us honor those who serve!

**THANK YOU TO ALL THE BUSINESSES WHO ARE SPONSORING TABLES
FOR THE EVENING.**

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Blue Mt Valley Physical Therapy
Broadway Family Dental
Cayuse Technology
City of Milton-Freewater
Curves for Women
Farmers Insurance
John Zerba & Zerba Cellars
McLoughlin Union High School
MF Garden Club

OR First Community Credit Union
Our Daily Bread
Pendleton Grain Growers
Saager's Shoe Shop
Smiley's RV Sales & Service
Sykes Enterprises (2)
Three Divas Beads
US Bank
Umatilla County Tourism
Wilcox Furniture
Wildhorse Resort & Casino
Windermere Real Estate

Ambassador News

The Ambassadors held their 2012 Retreat at 'Primrose on Main' as we were hosted by Jim & Sherry Rowan and their team. We enjoyed an absolutely wonderful meal in their home - beautiful beyond words! We are excited to welcome two new members, Julie Culjak and Trevor Moon, to our team. Julie gave a presentation on new ideas of how the Ambassadors can better serve the business community. We will be working on new ideas in 2012 as we look forward to having more ribbon-cuttings, business after hours, and open houses. Please mark your calendars for the Chamber/City Business Showcase on March 29th at the Community Building. We all look forward to working with you and your business in 2012 - please call us if we can assist you in any way!



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inafziger@bisnett.com

Business Before Hours

The Milton-Freewater Chamber of Commerce and Blue Mountain Community College are coming together to present a class, "Finance Your Next Step" to the community. The class is Thursday, February 23rd at Blue Mt Community College in Room 110 from 7:30 to 9am. This Business Before Hours class was originally presented in a panel discussion at a half-day small business conference in Portland and subsequently as a webinar through the Mt. Hood Community College Small Business Development Center. Funding strategies for small businesses will be examined in this workshop. We are proud to be able to bring this class, "Finance Your Next Step," to the community for a very low price. Members are \$5 and non-members \$7. You cannot beat this price anywhere! Presenter Art Hill will discuss the five funding focus points every business owner should know, the types and sources of funding available, the right-size funding for your specific business needs, funding for your customers, getting your business funding-ready and living with the results of funding. To get registered for this class call BMCC at 541-938-7176.

1st Quarter Service Award

The First Christian Church, 518 S Main, is the recipient of the first quarter service award and just celebrated their 125th Anniversary! The pastor, Steve and his wife Carol Lyons are originally from the Seattle area. His first pastorate position was in 1991 in Grandview, WA. In 2004 they moved to Tennessee so Steve could earn a Master's of Divinity and became pastor at Colonial Heights for four years. Wanting to be near their children and grandchildren, they packed up and moved back to the Northwest. They were offered the pastorate position at the First Christian Church in 2008 and started in February 2009. Currently, they are parenting two teen foster children. Along with Steve, the church members are involved in many community activities such as the local food drive for Christmas boxes, Trunk or Treat, community dinners, hosting a site for local Girl Scouts and addiction rehab groups. Each year church members fill the park to enjoy the outdoor Sunday service held at the Muddy Frogwater Festival. Office hours are Mon-Thurs 8am to 1pm, Sunday Breakfast is 8:30-9:30am, Sunday School starts at 9:30am, Morning Worship 10:30am and youth 3:30 to 5:30pm. For more information call 541-938-3854.



Awards Banquet Almost Here!

The 64th Annual Awards Banquet is sneaking up on us rather quickly. If you have not gotten your tickets to this event on February 16th, you had better hurry as seating is limited. Tickets are \$28 and are now on sell at the Chamber office, 157 S Columbia. A full prime rib dinner will be served buffet style with all the trimmings; chicken if you prefer, catered by Rhonda's Catering. Nominations have been turned in and committees have met to select the most deserving of Milton-Freewater's volunteers. Without volunteers, many of the "extra" events we enjoy, simply would not happen. Come and help us celebrate those being honored on this most important evening in their lives.

**TABLE SPONSORSHIPS ARE STILL AVAILABLE.
THIS IS A UNIQUE WAY TO ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS OR COMPANY TO THE COMMUNITY.
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Larry & Jennifer Anderson
Balance Sheet

Judy Chesnut
Individual

Julie Culjak
Three Divas Beads

Susan Dohrmann
Century 21 Real Estate

Nadine Dougherty
Nadine's Country Garden

Merri Anne Huber
Brown & Sons

Carol & Steve Irving
Individual

Jane Kilburg
BMCC

Trevor Moon
Dairy Queen

Ruth Myers
R&R Business Services

Mitch Odman
Farmers Insurance

Curtis Walter
Galaxy Computers

Cheryl York
Chamber Director

MUDDY FROGS SQUARE DANCE CLUB

We are available for entertainment demonstrations. We dance on the first and third Sunday of each month at the Community Building.

For more information call
541-861-9055 or
509-520-0576

Calendar of Events

Follow our latest business promotion campaign on Facebook. Type our address into your web browser: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Milton-Freewater-Chamber-of-Commerce/117234224959892?ref=ts>. **Become a Fan and like us! Up-to-date information posted daily!**

February 1 - General Membership Luncheon at Blue Mt Community College, Room 110

February 14 - Valentine's Day!

February 16 - 64th Annual Awards Banquet at the Community Building. Tickets are \$28. Doors open at 5pm.

February 20 - President's Day, no school for students.

February 23 - MF Chamber and BMCC are presenting a Business Before Hours class, "Finance Your Next Step", from 7:30 to 9am at BMCC, Room 110. Art Hill will be speaking on funding strategies for small businesses. Cost is \$5 members, \$7 non-members.

**Thank you to the drivers that are showing patience
and driving safe!**

Newest Members

Scott Holgate, owner of the **Dollar Plus** store, opened the business approximately nine months ago, and currently staffs six employees. The Dollar Plus store carries everything you need, from party supplies, cleaning supplies, health & beauty products, houseware items, hardware, pet supplies, children's toys and grocery items. They also have a room with office furniture closeouts, shelf pulls and clearance items. The Dollar Plus store is located at 11 N Columbia. Scott and his staff invite you to drop in and visit Dollar Plus; many of the items you use every day are at your fingertips, you won't be disappointed.

Winn Homestead Events is owned by Arlene & Preston Winn and has been in business for three years. Winn's Homestead is known for their historical red barn, a beautiful setting for a wedding or any special gathering. They strive to provide a comfortable and relaxing environment, using their historical red barn as the centerpiece. Winn's Homestead is located at 79560 Winn Road in Weston, OR. To book your special event, contact Arlene at 541-969-2226 or visit their website at www.winnhomestead.com.

The Chamber would like to welcome both of these new members and encourage everyone to stop by, say hello and always shop local first!



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General Membership Luncheon
Wednesday, February 1st
Blue MT Community College, Room 110 @ 12:00pm
Sponsor: Don Carlo Vineyard
Program: BMCC Education

Rhonda's Catering will be providing lunch for a cost of \$7 per person. John Turner, BMCC President, will be the featured speaker.

Renewing Members

Amerititle	Flight Grip LLC	Representative Greg Smith
Blue Mt Cider Company	Gordy Plastics	Rise & Shine
Blue Mt Growers	Graphic Apparel	Simpson Spine & Sport Chiropractic
Blue Mt Valley Physical Therapy	Heritage Homes	Sustainable Soil Solutions
Birch Creek Trophies & Awards	John L Scott Real Estate	Sykes Enterprises
Brittany Farming	Leyah's Catering	Three Divas Beads
CAPECO	Meadowood Springs Speech Camp	Tidbits
CD Thacker Excavating	MF Health & Rehabilitation	Total Office Concepts
Celebrations by Cindy	Muddy Frog Square Dancers	Tulpen Cellars
Century 21 Real Estate	Nadine's Country Garden	V Bowles & Associates
Community Bank	Nine Trees Inn	Walla Walla Clinic
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East Oregonian	John & Louise Johnson/Piper Ranch	Williams Team Homes
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Many of the new Oregon/Washington/Idaho vacation guides are now arriving. Need to plan a trip and get some R &R? We have just the booklet or brochure you need to make a plan for a fun-filled family vacation or a quiet week-end jaunt. Stop by and browse our great selection. Our hours are 9am-4pm, Monday-Friday, we are closed for lunch from 12-1pm.

January 2012 - Calls

General Info - 239
 Business Referrals - 3
 Relocation Info - 3
 Event Info - 54
 Local Attractions - 9

January 2012- Visitors

General Info - 81
 Business Referrals - 7
 Relocation Info - 5
 Event Info - 49
 Local Attractions - 12



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Merchant News Continued

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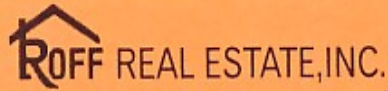
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Happy Valentine's Day



February 14th

2012