



# Pillar Talk

## Ephrata Chamber of Commerce

DECEMBER 2010

2010-2011

**Board of Directors**

President: Kevin Danby  
Rim Rock Meadows

Member at Large: Lance Keller  
Washington Trust Bank

Treasurer: Shelly Detrick  
WashingtonTrust Bank

Vice President: Janice Moore  
Moore Furniture

Kevin Burgess  
United Country

Peggy Muchlinks  
US Bank.

Ray Towry  
City Of Ephrata

Pam Leseman  
Subway

Steve Lovitt  
Grant County PUD

Kim Meaney

Alan Troupe  
Basin Insurance Associates

Brian Buckingham  
Wal-Mart

Bob Richardson  
Columbia Basin Herald

## A WORD FROM OUR PRESIDENT

In this festive season in the midst of difficult times, it is crucial to remember what is really important. Family, friends, and a sense of community are what bind us together. Please remember those less fortunate by giving to the Ephrata Food Bank or the charitable organization of your choice. Help support your community businesses

by shopping local. And most important of all, be safe and enjoy the holidays with your loved ones.

Happy holidays and peace and prosperity to all!

-Kevin Danby

## WHAT DO YOU WANT YOUR CHAMBER TO BE?

It has been a busy month at the Chamber and a productive one as well. We held a public forum at City Hall to discuss the future direction of the Chamber. We had a great mix of generations offering some very insightful suggestions and comments. Those with decades of Chamber experience believe that the Chamber improves the quality of life for Ephrata and should have the support of the entire community, not just the businesses. The overwhelming majority wants to see the Chamber improve our forms of communication. That includes a Facebook presence, better email management, and work on keeping our website up to date in all phases. The framework of the website is excellent but we have fallen short on the content issues. Debbie Doran-Martinez, Moses Lake Chamber director, talked about a new software program specifically designed for Chambers that they have adopted and are thrilled with. It is designed to allow members

**“...the Chamber improves the quality of life for Ephrata and should have the support of the entire community, not just the businesses. “**

to interact with the website and consolidates all databases, along with many more benefits. We now have a task force looking into this with you, our members, in mind. We will keep you posted as to what we learn.

## DECEMBER BUSINESS AFTER HOURS

Please be sure to mark your calendar  
for the December After Hours at  
Brix & Stone!

Tuesday, December 14  
5-7 pm  
\$5 at the door

### Future BAH Dates:

**January 11**  
Moore Furniture  
*Kick Off of  
100 Year  
Anniversary*

**February 8**  
United Country



After Hours is a great opportunity to network with other businesses and celebrate this special season

## ARE YOU UP TO DATE?

We're checking through our records and making sure our membership list is up to date. If we haven't received your membership renewal you can look forward to hearing from us soon.

## BRINGING BOURBON STREET TO THE BASIN

Mark your calendar for Saturday, March 19, 2011 so you can be sure to join us for the Annual Taste of the Basin Wine Tasting & Auction. Our theme is '*Gala on Bourbon Street*' which, of course, means we're ensuring a fun night for all!

## YOU'VE GOT MAIL...

We have been working to try and update our email database. If you received this newsletter electronically, you are set! If you're reading a hard copy and would like to receive this newsletter and other chamber updates via email, we need your

email address. Please send us a quick note at

[ephratawachamber@gmail.com](mailto:ephratawachamber@gmail.com).

Your information is safe with us, we don't share our list. If you'd like to be removed from our list at any time, simply let us know.



## WE'VE MOVED UP

In our attempt to re-structure and move forward, the Ephrata Chamber of Commerce has partnered with the City of Ephrata and is taking advantage of unused office space at the ERC. Board members and volunteers spent a Sunday morning moving into our new residence.



Our new street address will be  
 112 Basin Street SW  
 Our phone number remains the same  
 754-4656

## WINTER DAY CAMP

Do your kids need something to do over winter break? The City of Ephrata Parks & Recreation Department has just the thing! Winter Day Camp is guaranteed to be nothing but fun, fun, FUN!! Each day will be a different adventure. Daily activities may include bowling, crafts, movies and gymnastics. Lunch will be provided. Weekly and 2 week participants will receive a shirt! \$120 all days, \$65 weekly, \$20 daily. See dates below. Register online at <http://www.ephrata.org> or stop by City Hall. Registration deadline is December 17, 2010.

## COMMUNITY EVENTS & HAPPENINGS



### December

- 4—Craft Bazaar, Ephrata Recreation Center
- 11—Miracle on Main Street, Downtown Ephrata
- 14—Business After Hours, Brix & Stone
- 20-23—Winter Day Camp, City of Ephrata Parks & Recreation
- 27-30—Winter Day Camp, City of Ephrata Parks & Recreation

### January

- 22—Mom Prom, City of Ephrata Parks & Recreation

### February

- 5—Columbia Basin Hospital Auxiliary Mystery Dinner, ERC
- 19—Daddy Daughter Dinner Dance, City of Ephrata Parks & Recreation
- 26—Ducks Unlimited Crab & Steak Feed Banquet, ERC

DON'T FORGET...our Downtown businesses are ready for the holidays. Be sure to stop in and see what wonderful decorations and gifts they have to offer!

If you'd like your event listed on this list, please send the information to [ephratawachamber@gmail.com](mailto:ephratawachamber@gmail.com)

Be sure to be Downtown Ephrata  
on Saturday, December 11 for

## ***Miracle on Main Street***

Lots of fun activities for the  
Young and the  
Young at Heart!!

9:00 am Jingle Bell Fun Run

10:00 am Cooking Contest at Hometown TV & Appliance

11:00 am Kids Activities at the ERC including Santa pictures and crafts

12:00 pm Adult Scavenger Hunt with Downtown Merchants

(All children must be accompanied by an adult)

3:30 pm Meet at Rock Park for Scavenger Hunt Prizes

5:30 pm Miracle on Main Street Parade on Basin Street

### All Day

Downtown Shopping \* Hay Rides \* Caroling

Bake & Craft Sales \* Hot Cocoa Sales

(Baked goods would be appreciated! See attached document)

Keep watching the Grant County Journal for full details