

FESTIVAL TIME IS APPROACHING!



The Kentucky Headhunters headline entertainment for Saturday June 7<sup>th</sup>!

## FEBRUARY 2008 ISSUE

Sallisaw Chamber of Commerce  
Judy Martens, Executive Vice-President

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### SALLISAW

A CITY OF CHARACTER!

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# SALLISAW CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

*Racing Toward the Future, while cherishing the Past.*

## Chamber Begins Plans for Festival

It is once again time to start thinking spring and summer for the Sallisaw Chamber of Commerce. At the top of the list is the Annual Diamond Daze Festival. Coming off of a statewide award winning event such as the 2007 Diamond Daze Centennial Festival, the Chamber feels that the pressure is on to make this year's festival match up.

Adding another full day to the event is a great place to start. The official dates of the Festival will be Friday June 6<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, June 7<sup>th</sup>.

Also, plans are in the works to hire a nationally known carnival company who will set up and be operational Wednesday June 4<sup>th</sup> through Saturday June 7<sup>th</sup>. Contract negotiations are in the works with Miller's Spectacular Show to bring them as an added attraction this year.

The festival will once again be held on the grounds of the Sallisaw High School campus. Our thanks to Mr. Ron Wyrick, Superintendent of Schools and the Sallisaw Public School Board for allowing us to once again "invade" their space! They were extremely gracious hosts last year for the event. By changing the date of the festival from early May to June, we are able to increase the amount of parking and do not have to worry about scheduling conflicts.

Headline entertainment has been secured for three separate concerts starting on Friday with Daryle Singletary who has had a string of great country hits. His most recent being "I Ain't Never Had Too Much

Fun". On Saturday afternoon the crowd will be entertained by a new up and coming group Crossin Dixin. They will be releasing a new single sometime in March. Then, on Saturday night, the joint really starts jumpin' with The Kentucky Headhunters at 7:00 p.m. The Headhunters are most known for their hit "Down at Dumas Walker" along with many others. The Chamber Board feels very good about this line-up for the entertainment enjoyment of all festival attendee's.

One more added venue to the 2008 Festival that is sure to be a crowd pleaser is a talent show with cash prizes being given to the winners. It is the Chamber's hope that this will draw entrants from throughout the River Valley area.

By making the festival a full two day event, arts and craft vendors will be able to set up and sell twice as long as last year. Food vendors will also have this same opportunity. The Chamber will also once again hold the KCBS Barbeque Cook-Off. Inquiries about the cook-off have been coming in since December! According to the KCBS Office in Kansas City, our cook-off is quickly becoming one of the most popular ones in Oklahoma because of our hospitality to the cooks and our great events surrounding the cook-off. The car show and the motorcycle show, which are vital events to the festival, are also being planned at this time thanks to several generous individuals in our community. Be watching for future updates on Sallisaw's premier event-Diamond Daze 2008!

## Sponsors Make Festival Possible

Without the generosity of many sponsors, the past two Diamond Daze Festivals would not have been possible. Especially the 2007 Diamond Daze Centennial Festival. It's no secret that the 2006 festival just about "broke the bank" for the Chamber of Commerce because of Mother Nature. If you will remember (which the Chamber Board will never forget), after a nine month drought, it started raining in April and it rained for what seems about 15 days straight! It also rained at least half of the time during the festival that year. Long story short, the Chamber reported a huge loss because of this. But, there's always a silver lining and that lining was the overwhelming response from YOU, the Chamber members in 2007. Because of this and your generosity in 2008, we will once again be able to produce a quality festival for all residents of the River Valley. Our sincere thanks to the following sponsors:

**Platinum Sponsors-\$5,000:**  
**GRDA, An Anonymous Sponsor**

**Given In Memory of Tori Mills-SHS Senior '08. Gold Sponsors-\$2500: Blue Ribbon Auto Group, Armstrong Bank. Silver Sponsors-\$1,000 +: Wal-Mart, Arvest Bank, 1<sup>st</sup> National Bank, National Bank of Sallisaw, Peters Agency Managed Care, Sallisaw Ford, Cherokee Nation, Sequoyah County Times. Bronze Sponsors-\$500: Sequoyah County Abstract, State Farm Insurance, People, Inc., Mallory-Martin Funeral Home, McDonald's, TRAC, Inc., Journey Church, Wood Family Medicine, Oklahoma Pork Council, Carson Plumbing. Additional Sponsors-\$250 -\$100: Valley Land & Title, Clif's Pharmacy, Cookson Hills Electric Cooperative, State Representative Bud Smithson, Mazzio's, Bob Wells Dentistry, Mobile MD, Charlie's Chicken, Sonic, Greenleaf Properties, Basin Oil and Transport, BHC Insurance, Western Sizzlin', Fillin' Station and Aroma's.**

Again, because of your generosity we will make the 2008 festival something in which we all can take pride! Sponsorships are still being accepted for this great event. If you

or your business would like to contribute, please call Judy at the Chamber Office, 775-2558.



*2007 Festival Committee  
 Recognized at Annual Banquet*

## Chamber Annual Awards Banquet a Success!

Over 340 Sallisaw Chamber of Commerce members, guests, community residents and dignitaries at the local and state level enjoyed a great evening of food, fun, and entertainment at the Annual Awards Banquet of the Sallisaw Chamber of Commerce. Choctaw Blue Ribbon Downs was the scene once again this year for this event. The theme was "Celebration in the Heartland." The crowd was entertained by music from the SHS Jazz Band during the social time and Ms. Rhoda Wilson and Mr. Mike Hightower during the dinner. The highlight of the evening was our keynote speaker, U.S. Congressman Dan Boren. Congressman Boren gave an uplifting speech about unity not only at the national level but also at the state and community level. He generously complimented the Sallisaw Chamber of Commerce on how visible the unity was within our organization. He commented that our strength of unity is evident in the many successful projects we have completed and by the huge crowd on hand for the banquet. Our sincere thanks goes to the banquet committee: Holly Martens, Alta Matthews, Cheryl Mills, Debbie Edgmon, Robin Akers, Judy Martens and Roena Poindexter. Also to Charlie's Chicken, Choctaw Blue Ribbon Downs, Sallisaw FFA and the National Honor Society Students who all worked hard to make this social event of the year a true success!

### **Executive Board – 2007**

- President** – Debbie Edgmon, BorgWarner
- President Elect** – Marley Abell, First Financial Center
- Treasurer** – Dale Wood, Armstrong Bank
- Past President** – Matt Caldwell, National Bank of Sallisaw

### **Board Members – 2007**

- Larry Randolph** – Charlie's Chicken
- Buddy Spencer** – President, SIC-Blue Ribbon Auto
- Dwight Spencer** – Blue Ribbon Auto Group
- Kasey Moran** – TRAC, Inc.
- Darlene Pearson** – First National Bank
- Buddy Holt** – Red Bird Smith Health Services
- Jayne Hadley** – McDonald's
- Holly Martens** – Sequoyah Memorial Hospital
- Jeff Allred** – Journey Church
- Bill Baker** – Ex-Officio Member-City Manager
- Shannon Vann** – Ex-Officio Member-Mayor
- Ron Wyrick** – Ex-Officio Member-Superintendent of Schools
- Buddy Spencer** – Ex-Officio Member-Blue Ribbon Auto
- Judy Martens** – Executive Vice-President  
 Sallisaw Chamber of Commerce

## **Community News**

### **February Chamber Meeting Combines with EARL**

The Business and Industry Services division of Indian Capital Technology Center will host their annual Sallisaw Business and Industry Awards Luncheon in conjunction with the regular monthly meeting of The Sallisaw Chamber of Commerce on Wednesday, February 27<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 noon. This luncheon will be held in place of their EARL (Executives and Respected leaders) meeting. The meeting will be held on the ICTC Sallisaw Campus. Lunch will be provided at no charge to attendees. If possible, as a courtesy, could you please RSVP to the ICTC Muskogee Campus at: 918-682-1965 or [ictcbis@yahoo.com](mailto:ictcbis@yahoo.com) if you plan to attend this luncheon.

### **Sequoyah County Junior Livestock Show Coming Soon**

The Sequoyah County Junior Livestock Show which is sponsored by The Sallisaw Chamber of Commerce will be held on Thursday, February 28<sup>th</sup> with the dinner and auction on Friday, February 29<sup>th</sup>. Tickets for the great BBQ dinner can be purchased at the Sallisaw Chamber of Commerce Office for \$5 each starting Monday, February 25<sup>th</sup>. Last year a record amount of over \$65,000 was raised for the FFA and 4-H students of Sequoyah County. Many of you are to be congratulated for contributing to the success of these young people. Please make plans to attend the show on Thursday and the Dinner/Auction of Friday and support these kids with your dollars.

### **Roy Frye Industrial Park Receives Certification**

Through the efforts of the City of Sallisaw and the Sallisaw Improvement Corporation the Roy Frye Industrial Park has now been certified through the Oklahoma Department of Commerce as one of their preferred sites. What this means is that the Park will now be listed on the ODOC website as being "site ready" for prospective industries. Many times out of state industries turn to ODOC for possible locations in which to build new facilities. In the past, Sallisaw has not been listed as one of these preferred sites. However, in the future, we will be a site that shows all infrastructure and utilities available and completed. This is quite attractive to prospective industry in that they can begin construction on their facilities at a much faster rate. A formal ceremony to announce this certification will be held at the Industrial Park on Monday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> at 2:00 p.m. We encourage all Chamber and SIC members to attend.

### **Business Incubator Complete**

As you may have noticed, the north side of the Chamber Building has been through a major renovation and is now a completed Business Incubator which was a joint effort between the SIC and the City of Sallisaw. The new tenants of the Incubator are IT Partnergroup. They are a high tech company that is already showing growth. The Incubator was done through funding from a USDA grant and the City of Sallisaw. A formal dedication ceremony of the Incubator will be held on Friday, March 7<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. All SIC members, Chamber members and interested community residents are encouraged to attend

*HERE WE GROW AGAIN!  
NEW MEMBERS FOR:  
January 2008*

**Harrison Quik Signs  
Walls Bargain Center  
Stockton Real Estate**

***Thank you for joining the Chamber. Your commitment to making Sallisaw a better place is appreciated.***

### ***RENEWING MEMBERSHIPS***

**Sallisaw True Value Hardware  
Brown Tire Co. – Gilbert Green  
Mooney Construction  
A.J. & Christine Henshaw  
Sequoyah County Times  
Blue Ribbon Auto Group  
Mazzios – Pafford EMS  
National Bank of Sallisaw  
Philip Green Company  
Anchor Financial Services  
BoNita's – BorgWarner  
Cheek's 501 Ranch  
Belle Point Beverages  
Maria's Mexican Restaurant  
Bob Hammonds Accounting  
First National Bank – Sunlight Farms**

*Thank you for renewing your membership with the Chamber. With your continued support, we can work together in the growth and development of our great community.*

### ***MISSION STATEMENT***

***The mission of the Sallisaw Chamber of Commerce is to enhance the economic vitality of the Sallisaw area while striving to create the best quality of life possible for our citizens.***

### **February Character Trait *Deference***

Limiting my freedom so I do not offend the tastes of those around me.

**Chamber Champs!**

*Thanks goes to our Banquet  
Corporate Sponsors – the  
true Chamber Champs for  
February!*

- People, Inc. - Arvest Bank
- Peters Agency – City of Sallisaw
- Clif’s – Journey Church
- Tenkillerproperty.com
- State Rep. Bud Smithson
- Sequoyah County Times
- Armstrong Bank
- Health & Wellness Center
- ICTC – Blue Ribbon Auto
- Red Bird Health Center
- 1<sup>st</sup> National Bank – TRAC, Inc.
- Sequoyah Memorial Hospital
- National Bank of Sallisaw
- Sallisaw Public Schools
- Choctaw Blue Ribbon Downs
- Cherokee Casino-Sallisaw
- Cookson Hills Electric
- Valley Land & Title
- Mallory/Martin Funeral Home

# Upcoming Events

## February

- February 20**      **Chamber Board Meeting – 12:00 noon,  
Chamber Conference Room**
- February 21**      **SIC Board Meeting – 12:00 noon, Chamber  
Conference Room**
- February 25**      **Organizational meeting of the Sallisaw Home  
Builder’s Association – 7:00 p.m., Chamber  
Conference Room**
- February 27**      **Chamber Membership Meeting in conjunction  
with E.A.R.L. – Indian Capital Technology  
Center – 12:00 noon – lunch provided at no  
charge**
- February 28**      **Sequoyah County Junior Livestock Show –  
Sequoyah County Fair Grounds**
- February 29**      **Sequoyah County Junior Livestock Dinner  
and Sale – Fair Grounds – 6:00 p.m.**



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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED