

SALLISAW CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Racing Toward the Future, while cherishing the Past.



Diamond Daze Fast Approaching!

MARCH/APRIL 2011- ISSUE

Sallisaw Chamber of Commerce
Judy Martens, Executive Vice-President

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SALLISAW

A CITY OF CHARACTER!

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Planning of Diamond Daze in Full Swing

The 2011 Diamond Daze planning is in full swing. Thus far, for the main venue of the festival, the entertainment we have **The Turnpike Troubadours** booked as the headliners for Friday, June 3rd. They are a real sensation among the Red Dirt Music crowd. The opening act for the Troubadours will be **Sherman Connelly and The War Ponies**. All entertainment on Friday will begin at approximately 7:00 p.m. The fee for parking on Friday night will be \$10 per car load. On Saturday, June 4th all festival activities will begin around 10:00 a.m. with the **Tori Mills Talent Showcase** getting underway at that time. Anyone interested in performing in this event should contact **Chad Jasna at: 775-6655**. Chad is planning to make this event even bigger and better than last year. As always, this event is done in memory of Tori Mills, a darling Sallisaw teenager who's life was taken too soon with cancer. Friday evening, all day Saturday and Saturday night the carnival, brought to us by **Great Plains Amusements**, will be in full swing. Thursday night, June 2nd will feature not only **"Family Night"** at the carnival where kids can ride all the rides as many times as they choose for one low price, but we will also be hosting a **Battle of the Bands** where cash prizes will be awarded to the best bands. Again, any band interested in taking part in this contest should contact either Chad Jasna, or the Chamber of Commerce Office. All arts & crafts vendors along with the food vendors will be allowed to open for business on

Thursday night, June 2nd. On June 2nd, a parking fee of \$5 a car load will be charged to defray the cost of the Battle of the Bands. On Saturday, June 4th, once again the **KCBS Barbeque Cook-off** will be held. Along with this and the car show, thanks to the generous help of **LeighAnn Lessley** and **Kathy Harrell**, we are introducing the **United Freestyle Stunt Team BMX Bike Show**. There will be three shows that day, at 12:00 noon, 3:00 p.m. and the last at 6:00 p.m. This will be a real treat for kids of all ages! The Saturday night entertainment line-up is still in the works! Thus far, we have booked **The Brandon Butler Band** as our opening act, followed by **James Wesley**, an "up and comer" who hails from Eureka Springs. He currently has a song called "Real" that is making its way up the country charts, daily. We are excited that **Ashton Shepherd** will be our headliner for Saturday night. She has hit the Country Charts several times, her latest hit "Look it Up!" continues to rise in the charts almost daily. The parking fee will be \$5 until 5:00 p.m. after that, \$10 per car load. Start making plans now to come out all three nights and enjoy the festivities! All of these events are made possible because of the generosity of the sponsors you see listed on the enclosed flyer.

Generosity
Carefully managing my resources so I can freely give to those in need.

Chamber Board Continues Programs

The 2011 Sallisaw Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors met for their annual Board Retreat on Wednesday, February 23rd at the ICTC Seminar Center. Mrs. Sue Harris, President of Muskogee Chamber of Commerce gave a presentation to the Board on their responsibilities, the Executive Director's responsibilities and made suggestions to the Board on ways to help our Chamber progress to new levels of success. The second half of the retreat was dedicated to the 2011 Program of Work for the Chamber. The Board discussed the five committee's that were established at the 2010 Board Retreat and agreed to set new goals for each committee and also appoint a Co-Chair for each committee. A new committee was formed, the **Character Council Committee** which will be chaired by **Miss Holly Martens** and Co-Chaired by **Michelle Mings**. The other committee's and their co-chairs are as listed: **Legislative-Cheryl Mills & Holly Martens, Retail-Michelle Mings & Jimsie Looper, Education -Dr. Kathy Harrell, & Dr. Curtis Shumaker,**

Membership Retention and Growth-Dr. Bob Wells, Jimsie Looper & Kathy Harrell, Sallisaw Young Professionals- Dr. Amanda Trudeau & Eric Riggs, and Tourism-Gary Schaefer & Terry Nation. Each of these committees are comprised of several Chamber members who will set goals and meet at least every quarter to ensure these goals are met. A truly well rounded Chamber of Commerce meets the needs of the community through each of these areas along with being the major player in community activities which create a better quality of life for all citizens.

Chamber Banquet Honors Longevity and Loyalty!

The Annual Chamber of Commerce Awards Banquet this year was held in spite of the snow! With the exception of having our keynote speaker on hand, most everyone who planned to attend did so! This year's banquet had a different tone than usual. It might have even been better in some ways without the speaker. The evening felt like "family" in every sense of the word. Three very special awards were given to three very special men who, each in different ways, have helped mold Sallisaw and Sequoyah County into the great place it is to live, work

and raise a family. Lifetime Achievement Awards were given to: **Mr. Bud Smithson, former State Representative, Retired Judge A.J. Henshaw and Mr. Ron Wyrick, retiring Superintendent of Schools for Sallisaw.** Each of these men has had a tremendous impact on our county and they will be sorely missed. Other awards given were: **Community Spirit Award-Marley Abell, and the 2011 Chamber Member of the Year- First National Bank.** The evening was capped off with a presentation given to Dale Wood, outgoing President for the great job he did in 2010. The Chamber credits the good meal and excellent service to Charlie's Chicken, Sallisaw NOW Coalition Youth and the Sallisaw FFA Members. A big thank you to all who helped make this event a success.

Sallisaw Without a Chamber of Commerce?

Think about it, a community without a Chamber? What would it be like? There would be no office to respond to the inquiries about your community and its opportunities. There would be no information gathering center with which to inform the business community and advise it of current events affecting them. There would be no forum wherein the business community can exchange views and positions, and no voice to express those to other agencies. There would be no focal point for social gatherings of the business community wherein an exchange of ideas and services may take place. There would be no political voice to keep our elected representatives aware of the community's feelings on legislative action and needs. There would be no organized effort to plan and execute events and programs that ensure quality of life and quality of place exists. If there were not a Chamber, chances are you would be among the forerunners of a group to establish one. **Your Chamber** is a rallying point and an instrument for the promotion of plans, ideas and projects. **Thank you for making a difference!!**

Executive Board – 2011

President – Dr. Bob Wells, Bob Wells, D.D.S. Family Dentistry
President Elect – Dr. Curtis Shumaker, ICTC
Treasurer – Gary Schaefer, BHC Insurance
Past President – Dale Wood, Black Diamond Storage

Board Members – 2011

Mike Neer – National Bank of Sallisaw
Cheryl Mills – 7 Oaks Ranch
Dr. Kathy Harrell – Carl Albert State College – Sallisaw Campus
Michelle Mings – First National Bank
Dr. Amanda Trudeau – Total Eye Care
Terry Nation – Armstrong Bank
Holly Martens – Sequoyah Memorial Hospital
Jimsie Looper – Valley Land Title Co.
Eric Riggs – ARVEST Bank
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-SIC Pres. - Blue Ribbon Auto
Judy Martens – Executive Vice-President
Sallisaw Chamber of Commerce

Community News

Boys and Girls Club start Annual Campaign

The Sequoyah County Boys and Girls Club has now started their Annual Fund Raising Campaign. This organization supplies the needs of over 1, 250 children a year. Services provided by this organization range from diabetes education, tutoring and many summer programs. According to Dr. Amanda Trudeau, Board Member, "this is not a babysitting service". Many social skills along with education needs are provided by The Club. With government assistance being cut severely many local organization such as this will have to rely on community donations to survive. Have you ever wondered what would happen to the children of our area if we didn't have this Club? Think about it and do your part to provide a safe haven for these kids and a place where learning and caring come first! To donate call: 776-9117

Barks & Burgers Time Again!

Ro Poindexter, volunteer for the Sallisaw Animal Shelter has announced the coming of the 2nd Annual *Barks & Burgers* event that will benefit the Sallisaw Animal Shelter and the Forever Friends Humane Society. The event will be held on Tuesday, April 26th 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. in the Sallisaw High School Commons Area. Meals are \$5 each and include a hot dog or hamburger with all the fixin's, beans, chips, homemade dessert and drink. There may be puppies and/or kittens on hand for adoption that night and the Annual Rabies Vaccinations will be administered then, also. Attendee's will have the opportunity to win several door prizes and perhaps take home items from the Silent Auction. Ro explained that many of the costs incurred by the Shelter and Forever Friends

comes from abuse and severe neglect of the animals in our area. Ro and the other volunteers at the shelter are always ready and willing to share heart breaking stories of severe abuse cases, most having happy endings thanks to these two organizations. Come on out on April 26th and support this great cause!

County Livestock Show Helps Students

The Sequoyah County Junior Livestock Show was held Thursday, February 24th and Friday, February 25th. This year's sale brought a much larger total premium amount that last year's. There were 64 entries in the sale with 54 kids showing these animals. The gross amount of the sale including all "add-ons" for the kids was over \$69,000. This is up about \$3,000 over the 2010 Show and Sale. The Chamber would like to thank all of you who participated in this event. You have been a tremendous help to all the FFA and 4-H students of Sequoyah County. An appreciation dinner for all buyers and contributors will be held Tuesday, March 29th in the Sequoyah County Fairgrounds Building. If you contributed in any way to these kids, please, please come join us! For more details contact the Chamber Office.

March Chamber Meeting Set

Wednesday, March 23rd is the date for the March Chamber of Commerce Membership Luncheon. This months meeting will be held at Indian Capital Technology Center, Seminar Room, 12:00 noon. Our keynote speaker will be Ms. Lea Taylor, Executive Director of the newly formed Fort Smith Regional Alliance. This new alliance brings together communities from seven counties, two of which are in Oklahoma; Sequoyah and LeFlore. This Alliance will aid us in bringing new industries to the River Valley, which in turn means greater prosperity for all of us. Plan to attend this meeting and learn more about this organization.

*HERE WE GROW AGAIN!
NEW MEMBERS FOR:
Jan. & Feb. 2010*

KiBois Community Action
Foundation
State Senator and Mrs. Mark Allen
Blue Ribbon Dog & Cat
Grooming
Body Works Spa & Salon

*Thank you for joining the
Chamber. Your commitment to
making Sallisaw a better and more
prosperous community is
appreciated.*

RENEWING MEMBERSHIPS

Tenkiller Property.com, LLC
Tammy Tatham Catering
Morgan Roofing
7 Oaks Ranch – City of Sallisaw
Sharpe's Dept. Store
Cheek's 501 Ranch
Sequoyah Manor, LLC
Olen Carson, Jr.-Janie's Properties
Black Diamond Services
Pafford EMS – Mr. Jiff
Maria's Mexican Restaurant
National Bank of Sallisaw
Mazzio's of Sallisaw
Philip M. Green Company
Gilbert Green – Braum's
Anchor Finance Company
SLW Automotive
Belle Point Beverages
Cherokee Nation Career Services
First United Methodist Church
Jimmy Bell Real Estate Co.
Suddenlink - Wal-Mart
B&B Welding-B&B Embroidery
Valley Land Title Company

*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.*

Upcoming Events

March - April 2011

- March 23 Chamber Membership Luncheon – ICTC-12:00 noon
- April 6 Carl Albert State College Foundation Committee – 12:00 noon, CASC-Stites Multipurpose Room
- April 13 Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors Meeting – 12:00 noon, Chamber Conference Room
- April 20 SIC Board Meeting – Location TBA – 12:00 noon
- April 26 “Barks & Burgers” – Sallisaw High School Commons Area – 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
- April 27 Chamber Membership Luncheon – Location TBA – 12:00 noon

MARCH CHARACTER TRAIT

Courage

Facing fear and loss in pursuit of what is best

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ABC Cleaners**

Our sincere thanks to you for this sponsorship!

APRIL CHARACTER TRAIT

Humility

Recognizing my abilities and limitations

SPONSORS NEEDED!!

Call our office if you're willing to help with a sponsorship!

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Sallisaw Chamber of Commerce
PO Box 251
301 E. Cherokee
Sallisaw, OK 74955
USA

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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