

# RONAN CHAMBER NEWS

June 2009

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE RONAN AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

## Chamber President Message

Dear Chamber Members,

Leaders see a need and make things happen. And am I ever impressed with those who have taken leadership roles in the Ronan Chamber of Commerce.

It begins with an outstanding, active board of directors, **Ray Aylesworth, Boone Goddard, Ky Bartels, Andy Holmlund, Rob McDonald, Robin Nelson, Shane Shima** and **Al Skogen**. Add in the committee members and their chairs, **Ky Bartels (Beautification), Karen Dellwo (Government Relations), Summer Goddard (Events), Tracy Suter (Membership)** and **Gayle Wilhelm (Marketing)** and you have a core group of leaders that are taking the chamber to the next level.

One individual of particular note who saw a need and is making it happen is **Patti Winter**. When she got the word that the Visitor's Center would probably not be open this summer because of finances, Patti took on the challenge, donating her time to organize a ready group of volunteers to have the center open Monday through Friday. That's the kind of leadership and can-do attitude that makes me proud to be a part of the Ronan Chamber.

If you would like to help by spending some time greeting visitors at the center, give Patti a call at 676-4925.

Or, if you see a need that the chamber should be addressing, give me a call at 528-5296. Through synergistic efforts we can certainly make the whole greater than the sum of its parts which makes for a stronger and more effective Ronan Chamber of Commerce.

See you Thursday,

Wayne

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## Updates & Info

Ronan Roundup June 11th starting 5pm at Ronan Eye Clinic

Crabfest & Duck Races June 19th starting 5pm at Bockman/Ronan City Park

New artist opening June 26th at Main Street Gallery

A limited number of Flower Barrels are still available for purchase.

Please contact the Chamber at 676-8300 if you would like one for your business.

## Check out the Chamber website for upcoming events!

If you would like your event posted to the website send it in today!

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## General Chamber Meeting Agenda for June 4, 2009

- Tracy Burland Presentation about AC/DC Tribute Band Concert July 3rd on Main Street
- Chamber Committee Updates
- Visitors Center

[www.ronanchamber.com](http://www.ronanchamber.com)

## Board of Directors

### Wayne Fuchs, - President

St. Luke Community Healthcare  
wfuchs@stlukehealthnet.org

528-5296 Office

### Boone Goddard, Vice-President

Valley Journal  
boone@valleyjournal.net

676-8989 Office

### Al Skogen, Past-President

Community Bank  
amskogen@ronan.net

676-4499 Home

### Ky Bartels

K12bartels@ronan.net  
253-8611 Cell

### Ray Aylesworth

Aylesworth Insurance  
ayleswor@ronan.net

676-0300 Office

### Andy Holmlund

School District 30  
Andy.holmlund@ronank12.edu

676-3390 Office

### Robin Nelson

Bishop Insurance  
robin@ronan.net

676-5300 Office

### Shane Shima

Ronan Power Products  
shane@ronanpowerproducts.com

676-5000 Office

### Rob McDonald

CSKT  
robertmc@cskt.org

675-2700 Office

## Chamber Committees

**Beautification Committee** - Ky Bartels, Patty Winter, Tracy Suter, Shane Shima, Shad Hupka, Bob Gauthier, Beth Preston and Elmer Diaz.

**Events Committee** - Summer Goddard, Tracy Suter, Brennin Graine, Cheri Houle, Karen Dellwo, Shane Shima, Gayle Wilhelm, Ray Aylesworth, Wayne Fuchs, Adina Fox, Sharon Kjorvestad, Ky Bartels, Carlene Bockman, Shane Shima and Rochelle Gauthier.

**Government Relations Committee** - Karen Dellwo, Brennin Graine, Al Skogen, Robin Nelson, Kim Swaney, Sharon Kjorvestad, Cheri Houle and Shad Hupka.

**Marketing Committee** - Gayle Wilhelm, Summer Goddard, Tracy Suter, Martha Suter, Rob McDonald, Judy Cook, Al Skogen and Trish Sivak.

**Membership Committee** - Tracy Suter, Wayne Fuchs, Beth Preston, Andy Holmlund, Shane Shima, Judy Cook, Judy Preston and Boone Goddard.

## Chamber Info & Requests

The Chamber website has been updated once again. We now have Members broken down into a Master Listing as well as by Category. Please take a moment and go to the website at [www.ronanchamber.com](http://www.ronanchamber.com) and click on Chamber Members. Take a look at the Master List as well as the Chamber Members by Category. Please verify that your business information is correct and listed in the appropriate Category. Email your approval of the listed information or any corrections / additions you would like to see.

We are also getting ready to publish a Chamber Directory that will be available to people at the Visitors Center this summer and are working on a tight deadline of June 10<sup>th</sup>. Your immediate response to this request is greatly appreciated.

If you don't see your information listed, please contact the Chamber before the June 10<sup>th</sup> deadline, as it is possible we have yet to receive your renewal membership application and dues.

Thank you again for continuing to support the Ronan Area Chamber of Commerce.

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The Visitors Center on Hwy 93 opens June 1<sup>st</sup>

I want to personally thank Patti & Denny Winter for spending many hours with me cleaning up the Visitors Center after a long winter. Patti has been essential in getting the Visitors Center staffed with volunteers for the season.

The Chamber Business Directory will be available at the Visitors Center by June 15<sup>th</sup>. We still need and want your business brochures, business cards etc to be able to hand out to people visiting the area.

Please drop off your information at the Visitors Center starting June 1<sup>st</sup>.

I would like to request that everyone consider volunteering and hour or two every week to help man the Visitors Center this summer. We can never have enough volunteers, and who better to promote the area and your business than yourself!

Tracy Suter

**Chamber Members**  
**2009 Paid Members in Bold**  
**NEW MEMBERS NOTED IN RED**

Anderson Radio Broadcasting-2009  
 Allied Waste-2009  
 All-Ways Talking Toastmasters Club-2009  
 Arnie's Gas and Tire-2009  
 Aylesworth Insurance Agency-2009  
 Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Lake County-2009  
 Big Sky Flooring Co.-2009  
 Bishop Insurance Agency-2009  
 Cheri's Kitchen Catering-2009  
 Community Bank-2009  
 Daily Inter Lake—2009  
 Don Aadsen Ford-2009  
 Family Health Pharmacy - 2009  
 First Interstate Bank-2009  
 French & Grainey - 2009  
 Friends of the Ronan City Library-2009  
 Glacier Bank-2009  
 Grogan's Suds and Duds - 2009  
 Grogan Funeral Home-2009  
 Hanson & Granley-True Value -2009  
 Harvest Foods - 2009  
**Insty Prints of Polson - 2009**  
 Java Junction—2009  
 John's Fuel Farm-2009  
 Jore Corporation—2009  
 Judy Cook, LLC—2009  
 Kicking Horse Job Corps - 2009  
 Ky Bartels - 2009  
 Lake County Abstract and Title-2009  
 Lake County Leader-2009  
 Les Schwab Tire Center-2009  
 Lost Creek Ranch Yaks-2009  
 Lynn's Drive-In-2009  
 Main Street Gallery—2009  
 McDonalds - 2009  
 Mick Holien—2009  
 Mission Foods—2009  
**Mission Heating & Air - 2009**  
 Mission Mountain Golf Course—2009  
 Mission Valley Power-2009  
 Mission Valley Riders—2009  
 Mission Valley Security—2009  
 Mission Valley Vet Clinic-2009  
 Mission Valley Workforce Center  
 Montana Ace Hardware-2009  
 Mountain West Bank—2009  
 Mountain West Cooperative-2009

Muley Bluz-2009  
 Pheasant, Inc.-2009  
 Polson Flathead Historical Museum—2009  
 R&R Healthcare Solutions-2009  
 Ronan Auto Body Sales & Service - 2009  
 Ronan Auto Parts NAPA - 2009  
 Ronan Booster Club—2009  
 Ronan Chiropractic Inc.-2009  
 Ronan Dairy Queen—2009  
 Ronan Dodge, Chrysler, Jeep - 2009  
 Ronan Eye Clinic-2009  
 Ronan Harvest Foods - 2009  
 Ronan Power Products-2009  
 Ronan Professional Center-2009  
 Ronan Sports and Western-2009  
 Ronan Telephone Co.-2009  
 Rose Bud Deli & Catering-2009  
 S & K Electronics - 2009  
 S & S Sports-2009  
 School District #30- 2009  
 Second Chance Saloon-2009  
 St.-Char-Ro Floral & Event Rental-2009  
 St. Luke Foundation-2009  
 St. Luke Community Healthcare-2009  
 The Total Home-2009  
 Theresa Walter-2009  
 Valley Bank-2009  
 Valley Journal-2009  
 Veterinary Services-2009  
 Westland Seed - 2009  
 White Elephant Store - 2009  
 Windermere Real Estate-2009  
 Wright Real Estate-2009

**Welcome New Chamber Members**

**Insty Prints of Polson**

**Mission Heating & Air**

**IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN!**

Send in your renewal  
 Membership Forms today!

Thank You to all our Members for your continued support!  
 Membership application is available online at [www.ronanchamber.com](http://www.ronanchamber.com)

## The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act – BBB Explains the Benefits for Small Business Owners

On February 17, President Obama signed into law the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act—an economic stimulus plan totaling \$787 billion in federal spending and tax cuts. For small business owners who don't want to wade through the actual document, Better Business Bureau offers a summary on some items in the stimulus package that might benefit them.

The main goal of the stimulus package is to spur job creation—Congressional Budget Office estimates that employment could increase by as much as 3.6 million jobs by 2010—with the concept being that more jobs will provide additional assistance to struggling consumers and businesses. For business owners, this means increased federal spending on projects—such as funding for the U.S. Small Business Administration to assist businesses with financing needs—and small businesses can also look forward to some tax breaks.

"The stimulus package is addressing the troubled economy from many angles, and while most of us will receive benefits as an individual through tax breaks, there are perks for business owners as well," said Steve Cox, BBB spokesperson. "Experts agree that a healthy job market goes hand-in-hand with a healthy economy, and frankly, many businesses need the help immediately to stem the tide of employee lay offs."

Following are examples of how the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act will benefit small businesses nationwide:

### Small Business Financing

The U.S. Small Business Administration will receive \$730 million from the stimulus package—more than doubling their operating budget from 2008— to help assist businesses with financing.

According to a press release from the SBA, funds will be divided among many programs including:

\$375 million for temporary fee reductions or eliminations on SBA loans, and for increased SBA guaranteed shares, up to 90 percent for some loans;

\$255 million for a new loan program to help small businesses meet existing debt payments; and

\$30 million to expand SBA's Microloan program, enough to finance up to \$50 million in new lending and \$24 million in technical assistance grants to microlenders.

For complete details on how the U.S. Small Business Administration will use the new funding from the stimulus package and how small businesses can benefit, go to [www.sba.gov](http://www.sba.gov).

### Small Business Tax Breaks

**Qualified Property Expense Increased.** The ceiling on the Section 179 tax break—allowing companies to expense qualified assets in the first year of service—has been increased from \$133,000 to \$250,000 in the first year that qualifying assets are placed in service.

**Bonus Depreciation Extended.** Originally instituted in 2008, businesses will again be able to take an additional bonus depreciation expense of up to 50 percent of the cost of newly acquired fixed assets.

**Loss Carry Back Expanded.** Only available to companies with sales less than \$15 million, a business which incurs operating losses in tax years ending after December 31, 2007, can offset such losses against income earned in previous years and obtain a refund on previously paid taxes. Losses can now be carried back for five years instead of two.

**Vehicle Depreciation Expense Increased.** The depreciation expense for passenger vehicles in their first year of service—limited only to those placed into service in 2009—was increased from \$2,960 to \$10,960. The depreciation expense for light trucks and vans increased from \$3,160 to \$11,160.

### Industry and State-Specific Benefits

The stimulus package will provide state and local governments with billions of dollars to fund assistance programs and infrastructure projects, such as road construction or mass transit development. More details on how state-specific funding will be dispersed and which projects will benefit will be announced soon.

Green businesses will also see a benefit, including \$20 billion dollars set aside for companies that produce solar panels and wind turbines, \$6 billion in loan guarantees for renewable energy projects, and a 30 percent tax break for investments in wind and solar energy.

Additional information on the stimulus package can be found at [www.recovery.gov](http://www.recovery.gov).

For more small business advice from your BBB including tips for surviving a tough economy, go to [www.bbb.org](http://www.bbb.org).



*Doing Things Most People Think Just Happen*

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RONAN AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

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Thank You Community Bank for Donating the Printing of this Newsletter!

## JUNE 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 All-Ways Talking Toastmasters Meeting	3	4 Chamber General Meeting	5 Friends of the City Library Meeting	6
7	8	9 All-Ways Talking Toastmasters Meeting	10	11 Ronan Roundup	12	13
14	15	16 All-Ways Talking Toastmasters Meeting	17 Chamber Board Meeting	18	19 Crabfest & Duck Races	20
21 Happy Father's Day	22	23 All-Ways Talking Toastmasters Meeting	24	25	26	27
28	29	30 All-Ways Talking Toastmasters Meeting				

### Schedule of Events

#### June 2009

- June 2nd, 9th, 16th & 23rd & 30th - All-Ways Talking Toastmasters Meeting, 6:30pm - 7:30pm at the Agnes Vanderberg Building on the SKC campus in Pablo
- June 4th - Chamber General Meeting  
12 Noon at Mission Mountain Country Club
- June 5th - Friends of the Ronan City Library Meeting  
3pm at the City Library
- June 11 Ronan Roundup  
5 - 7pm at Ronan Eye Clinic - 417 Main St SW
- June 17th - Chamber Board Meeting
- June 19th - Crabfest & Duck Races  
Starting at 5pm at Ronan City Park
- June 21st - Happy Father's Day
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#### Events Coming in July

Citywide Sidewalk Sale

July 10th & 11th