

SouthEastern Montana Development Corporation

"GROWI NG MONTANA ~ ONE JOB AT A TI ME"

Winter 2003

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Economic Development Update

PRIVATE SECTOR ASSISTS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS WITH SEMDC'S "PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM"



MEMBERS

ROSEBUD COUNTY

POWDER RIVER
COUNTY

TREASURE COUNTY

CITY OF FORSYTH

TOWN OF HYSHAM

TOWN OF BROADUS

CITY OF COLSTRIP

"We want to create strategic partnerships with the private sector", said Jim Atchison, of SEMDC.

"We want it to be a 2- way street relationship, where both parties receive mutual benefits". With SEMDC's "Partnership Program", a private individual or a small business can be a part of the local and regional economic development effort in southeastern Montana.

Since SEMDC has a 501 (c)

3 IRS status, the financial investment with SEMDC is not only tax deductible, but would help keep and grow jobs in our region (See Scoreboard on page 2). SEMDC is providing a needed and valuable service to the business community. In turn, these successful small business and individuals are assisting SEMDC. It's a win-win deal. SEMDC helps small businesses with free and confidential counseling thru its Small Business Development Center and other programs/services. In turn, successful business and individuals can assist SEMDC with financial support thru the "Partnership Program"

SEMDC would like to thank the following Partners for 2003:

- First Interstate BancSystem Foundation
- First State Bank of Forsyth
- First Interstate Bank of Colstrip
- First Interstate Bank of Miles City
- First Interstate Bank of Lame Deer
- Rosebud Physical Therapy - Forsyth / Colstrip
- Montana Decoy - Colstrip
- H & T Printing - Miles City

Investment options start at \$100 with tax deductible and numerous recognition benefits. Contact us for more information on the "Partnership Program."



Jim Atchison, Exec. Dir. Of SEMDC Presents Darrel Grogan and Scott Klein of 1st State Bank of Forsyth with their SEMDC Partnership Plaque.

GATEWAY TO OPPORTUNITY JANUARY 6th & 7th - GLENDIVE, MT

“Gateway to Opportunity” includes seminars, a noon luncheon, exhibits and a special evening forum. The seminars on January 7th will feature 36 new ideas and opportunities to strengthen our communities, create new income from our land and improve personal and family income. There will also be 40 exhibitors showcased at the Eastern Plains Events Center in Glendive featuring unique MonDak Businesses.

The major purpose is to help new and existing entrepreneurs learn about new opportunities to build a future for the MonDak region.

Tuesday January 6th 6:00 to 9:00 P.M.

Evening forum at the Eastern Plains Events Center (EPEC) entitled “Exhibits and Samples” featuring MonDak food and beverage entrepreneurs “Marketing the Lewis & Clark Experience” - “The first Economic Development Mission” Panel Discussion

Wednesday January 8th 8:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M

36 classes will be held at the Dawson Community College (DCC).

Planned topics with corresponding classes and speakers include:

- Value-Added Agriculture and Alternative Crops.
- Alternative Energy Development
- Business Skills and Marketing
- Recreation and Tourism
- Information Technology and E-Commerce
- Ideas, Innovations and Inventions

A noon luncheon will be held on January 7th at Eastern Plains Events Center, 313 S. Merrill Ave, Glendive, MT 59330. Featured will be a special Lewis and Clark Historical Presentation and Musical Entertainment.

“Gateway to Opportunity” is a regional economic development forum for the benefit of residents in eastern Montana and western North Dakota.

For more information and/or registration forms, please call (406) 433-5024 or e-mail eprcd@midrivers.com, or Southeastern Montana Development Corp. (SEMDC) at 406-748-2990.

SBDC UPDATE

Scoreboard

Updated December, 2003

	<u>Since 1997</u>	<u>Last 12 Months</u>
Jobs Created	89	22
Jobs Retained	238	53
Total Jobs	327	75
Loans Received	\$7,140,776	\$1,622,360
Total Funding	\$8,651,286	\$2,003,955

SCORE BOARD DATA is only recorded when a SBDC client is able to receive small business funding after two or more one-on-one counseling sessions have been completed.

SMALL BUSINESS
DEVELOPMENT CENTER
SATELLITE OFFICES

Call for appointment

406-748-2990

BAKER – EKALAKA

**BROADUS - ASHLAND
LAME DEER**

FORSYTH – HYSHAM

**GLENDIVE - WIBAUX
TERRY**

MILES CITY

COLSTRIP

Please check our website for
schedule

www.semhc.org

*Coal is actually
“buried sunshine,”
because it originated from
prehistoric plants that lived
some 300 million years ago.*

- - - Montana Coal
Council



PPL Montana partners with Colstrip's "Got Socks" Store

PPL Montana has announced that they will be making a \$6,000 contribution to the "Got Socks" community - owned clothing store Project in Colstrip.

We are very pleased that PPL Montana has partnered with the "Got Socks" opportunity in Colstrip" stated Jim Atchison, Exec. Dir. of SEMDC. "it shows that working together, we can improve the quality of life and make southeastern Montana a better place to live and work." SEMDC is assisting the eleven member "Got Socks" Task Force with this store development in Colstrip. This "grass roots" effort has been working on the project evaluation and now the fund raising since August of 2002. Colstrip has been pro-active in this effort to improve their economy with this needed type of store. Other community - owned clothing stores have been successful in Plentywood, Malta, Glendive and Powell, WY. Estimated store opening is late fall of 2004 in the Cherry Street Mall if the fund raising goal is met. There are two ways to invest locally with the "Got Socks" store project. 1) Purchase Common shares at \$300 (one per person, includes 1 vote and patronage dividend.) 2.) Purchase Preferred Shares at \$50 ea. Includes Preferred dividend benefit.) "We need socks in Colstrip along with basic clothing needs" noted Tereasa Taylor of Taylor's Ace Hardware. We know this new store will bring more business and people to town," she added. For more information contact SEMDC at 748-2990.



Curt & Karla Gambill, Jim Atchison

SEMDC ASSIST'S FORSYTH'S C & K MEATS

Southeastern Montana Development (SEMDC) Of Colstrip and USDA Rural Development announced recently that C & K Meats of Forsyth was awarded a Rural Business Enterprise Grant. "SEMDC is very excited to have assisted C & K Meats with it's grant proposal" stated Jim Atchison, Executive Director of SEMDC. "It was 1 of 3 Montana applications that went to the national level and we were successful" added Atchison.

Rural Development funds will complete a marketing development plan for C & K Meats, to help maximize its value-added meat and cheese products. C & K Meats is a full service facility that includes a slaughterhouse, meat packing plant and retail store in Forsyth. Call them today at 346-7660

**SEMDC
Board of Directors**

*Joan Stahl - President
Forsyth*

*Sally VanHemelryck
Vice President
Hysham*

*John Marks-Sec/Treas
Miles City*

*John Williams
Colstrip*

*Tom McKerlick
Miles City*

*Dennis Kopitzke
Forsyth*

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Hysham*

*Betty Aye
Broadus*

*Lyman Amsden
Broadus*

*Susan Moos
Ashland*

*Joe Fox Jr.
Ashland*

*Mack Cole
Hysham*

*Rae Peppers
Lame Deer*

*Less Mahon
Colstrip*

**MONTANA STATS
November 2003**

UNEMPLOYMENT: Montana's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate continues to be lower than U.S. rate. The state's August unemployment of 4.3 percent was 1.6 percentage points lower than the nation's.

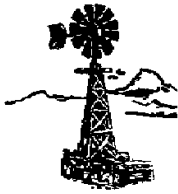
EARNINGS: Average weekly earnings for Montana's private sector production workers were up 4.3 percent over the year in November, outpacing the 1.8 percent over-the-year increase in U.S. inflation.

SECTOR EMPLOYMENT: Montana's seasonally-adjusted, nonagricultural payroll employment was up about 2,600 jobs (0.7 percentage points) over the year in November. The largest over-the-year gains were in, private education & health services; trade, transportation and utilities; government; and leisure and hospitality.

Source: RESEARCH & ANALYSIS BUREAU—MT DEPT OF LABOR/INDUSTRY

www.rad.dli.state.mt.us





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"Growing Montana -One Job at a Time"

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 COLSTRIP, MT 59323

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Happy New Year!!

E-mail: semdc@mcn.net
 Website: www.semdc.org

Coming Soon

GATEWAY TO OPPORTUNITY
 Regional Economic Development Forum
 January 6th & 7th Glendive

SEMDC
 Board of Directors Meeting January 21st - Colstrip

MRED
 Annual Meeting February 5th - Billings

CEDS PLANNING PROJECT
 Four County Region - January through August

'GOT SOCKS' COMMUNITY OWNED CLOTHING STORE
 Stock Ownership Sales - Ongoing - Colstrip

SMALL BUSINESS - EXPO
 April 2004 - Colstrip

ENERGY OPEN
 June 2004 - Colstrip

SEMDC and SBDC STAFF

Jim Atchison.....Executive Director
 David Anderson.....SBDC Director
 Caprice Gregory/Pam Hill.....Administrative Assistants

The Small Business Development Center (SBDC) is a funded program of the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA). SBA's funding is not an endorsement of any products, opinions, or services. All SBA funded programs are extended to the public on a non-discriminatory basis.