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**Young Professionals Network of Steamboat Springs**

YPN aims to bring diverse programming to members; Tour de Forks and professional development speaker

Since the group's inception in April 2009, the Young Professionals Network of Steamboat Springs has been changing the way young professionals are perceived in the Yampa Valley. In a very short amount of time, a once challenging demographic to wrangle, now has a following that is thriving, meeting regularly and making connections within the Steamboat Springs community.

The Young Professionals Network of Steamboat Springs or "YPN" as members know it, is taking measures to insure that this new organization is one that is committed to cultivating a community of young professionals by providing an outlet to build partnerships.

"I believe that the Young Professionals Network has filled a void that was greatly needed in the Steamboat Springs community," noted **Marion Ayer, Finance and Human Resources Director at the Steamboat Springs Chamber Resort Association and current YPN facilitator.** "This organization is working tirelessly to create new programming and engage community members. YPN has just blown me away with their hardworking mentality, volunteerism and commitment to representing high quality leadership."

This energetic group of young professionals shows that leadership, involvement and community contributions aren't just about the monthly YPN meetings. In addition to the large group meetings that occur every month at new locations around town with various speakers, YPN has four committees that work to bring fresh activities and learning experiences to members. The four committees that comprise the Young Professionals Network are professional development, philanthropic, events and networking and recreation "fresh air" committees.

October is a big month for YPN. On October 1-3<sup>rd</sup>, YPN's philanthropic committee introduces **Tour de Forks**, a new restaurant focused event raising scholarship money for a deserving Routt County high school senior. Tour de Forks participants purchase wristbands for \$10/day or \$25 for all 3 days and receive special discounts and offers at participating restaurants. This event is a great way to support local restaurants, collaborate with YPN efforts and raises funds for scholarships. Find more information at [www.steamboatchamber.com](http://www.steamboatchamber.com).

On Saturday, October 17<sup>th</sup> from 9:30 – 12:30 p.m. at the Steamboat Springs Community Center, YPN's professional development committee along with the Steamboat Ski & Resort Corporation and help from Peabody Energy is pleased to host **international trainer, speaker and consultant Shari Harley.** As the president of Candor Matters, Harley's business helps people manage their reputations and accelerate their careers. In essence, Shari takes the mystery out of working with others.

"Information is power, power gives you control. I want people to have more power and control over their work relationships," notes **Shari Harley.** "I see the things that people do to screw up their careers, but no one will tell them. My motto is ask more and assume less."

Cost is \$25 for YPN members and \$50 for non-members. Space is limited; reserve your spot today by emailing Marion Ayer at [marion@steamboatchamber.com](mailto:marion@steamboatchamber.com).

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*Celebrating over 100 years of service in Steamboat Springs, Colorado, the Steamboat Springs Chamber Resort Association works to promote summertime activities and programs. To learn more about chamber events and activities please check out [steamboatchamber.com](http://steamboatchamber.com) or call the Steamboat Springs Chamber Resort Association at (970) 879-0880.*

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