

Businesses Catch the Olympic Spirit in Steamboat

While Hometown Heroes Aim for Gold, Here's How You Can Get in on the Action

Molly Killien

STEAMBOAT SPRINGS
CHAMBER RESORT ASSOCIATION

The wait is over, and the U.S. Olympic team roster has been set. Now let the countdown begin! An incredible 17 Steamboat Springs athletes will be participating in the 2010 Winter Olympics in Vancouver, British Columbia, making history and representing Ski Town USA.

Steamboat Springs has sent more Olympians to the winter games than any other town in North America, and with the addition of the newest Olympic hopefuls, the Olympic legacy continues. But trust us, these athletes won't be the only ones celebrating Feb. 12 to 28. Community pride will be taken to a new level as the Steamboat Springs community, including the business community, shares in the excitement and anticipation of the 2010 Olympics.

"Celebrating our hometown heroes, our dedicated Olympians, is something the Steamboat Springs community is extremely passionate about," said Sandy Evans Hall, executive vice president of the Steamboat Springs Chamber Resort Association. "Along with the Steamboat Springs Winter Sports Club and the Steamboat Ski and Resort Corp., our enthusiastic business community is proud to honor and recognize the accomplishments of these talented athletes. These festivities offer an incredible beginning to 2010."

Steamboat Ski & Resort Corp. is kicking off a remarkable Olympic season with the 2010 Olympian Send-off & Community Celebration on Friday evening. The timing and the location of the event is noteworthy because it is coupled with the history of the iconic 97th

Annual Winter Carnival (today through Sunday), a festival that commemorates the skiing and ranching heritage that has made this region of Colorado famous. Starting at 6:30 p.m. on the historic Routt County Courthouse lawn, all who are a part of the Steamboat Springs community will celebrate the notion that, "It takes a community to raise an Olympian."

Special evening festivities include the lighting of the "Community Cauldron," fireworks choreographed with a special video, the Flying Aces aerial show starring past, present and future Steamboat Olympians and a downtown stroll featuring Olympians signing posters at downtown stores.

Here is just a sample of how local businesses are supporting and celebrating the 2010 Olympic season.

Tread of Pioneers Museum

■ "Our Winter Olympic Tradition" display at the Bud Werner Memorial Library (Dec. 22, 2009, to December 2010). This display focus includes: Winter Olympics history, Steamboat Springs Winter Sports Club history, current Steamboat Springs athletes to look for, Olympic and Hall of Fame athletes from Steamboat Springs and a trivia question with a chance to win a prize at the Tread of Pioneers Museum.

■ "Keeping the Olympic Spirit Strong" display in the History of Skiing exhibit at the Tread of Pioneers Museum (opened Jan. 7). This display honors our current athletes and a few "star" former Olympic athletes from Steamboat. See memorabilia and photographs that capture the Olympic spirit while learning about the unique history of skiing in Steamboat.

■ "Celebrating our Olympic Heritage: Honoring Steamboat Springs' First Olympian, John Steele" display at the top of the gondola/Thunderhead at Steamboat Ski Area (Dec. 8, 2009, to April 9, 2010). Discover Olympian John Steele, as well as fun information about the 1932 Winter Olympic Games in Lake Placid, N.Y. Artifacts include Steele's 1932 Olympic Uniform Hat.

■ "The Olympic Experience" presented by The Tread of Pioneers Museum. (5:30 p.m. Feb. 17 at the Steamboat Springs Community Center.) Celebrate the Vancouver games and Steamboat's Olympic heritage. Meet former Steamboat Springs Olympians and hear their stories and experiences as world-class competitors.

ResortQuest Steamboat

ResortQuest has launched a "Live Your Olympic Dreams in Steamboat" package. Guests who book this package receive \$200 in Chamber gift certificates when they stay five or more nights. The idea is to have guests use the certificates to try activities in Steamboat Springs that are comparable to the real Olympic events, all with a Steamboat twist. Visit www.resortqueststeamboat.com/steamboat-winter-events/olympics.htm.

Discovery Learning Center

The Family Development Center's annual Casino Night fundraiser is from 7:30 to 11 p.m. Feb. 12 at The Steamboat Grand ballroom. The event, "Let the Games Begin," will feature Olympic opening ceremonies coverage, casino-style gaming including blackjack, Texas hold 'em, roulette and craps, a cash bar, a silent and live auction and light appetizers. Everyone is invit-

ed, and tickets are available at All That Jazz and through Discovery Learning Center. All money raised at the casino night will benefit the Family Development Center's nonprofit organizations.

The Olympian

The Olympian downtown development showcases their new sales center and unveils a timeline of the Steamboat Springs Winter Sports Club and the Olympians the club has produced. Join in the celebration from 4 to 6:30 p.m. Friday at offices on Fifth Street. On hand will be memorabilia from the Colorado Ski History Museum, as well as an intricate timeline full of historic photos prepared by The Olympian team. The Olympian development already has donated \$25,000 to the Steamboat Springs Winter Sports Club through a transfer fee of the units and expects to donate about another \$100,000 when all units are sold.

Go Alpine

The team at Go Alpine is excited about the Olympic Games. In addition to sending three of the company's drivers to Vancouver, British Columbia, to drive shuttle buses for more than a month, Go Alpine also has a promotion on its Web site called GO4GOLD, which offers a 10 percent discount for reservations booked through Feb. 28.

Steamboat Meat & Seafood

Since 1982, Steamboat Meat & Seafood Co. has been serving up delicious eats, including tasty sandwiches. In celebration of Winter Carnival and the 2010 Olympics, Steamboat Meat & Seafood Co. presents its Gold Medal Lobster Roll for only \$9.99 each. This traditional lob-



MOLLY KILLIEN/COURTESY

Bill Hamil, owner of Steamboat Meat & Seafood Co., displays his company's signature Olympic sandwich. The Gold Medal Lobster Roll is available through Feb. 28 in celebration of the 2010 Winter Olympics.

ster salad is served on a split hot dog bun and comes with chips and a pickle. You can order this sandwich until Feb. 28, the last day of the Winter Olympic Games.

Old Town Pub

Join the team at the Old Town Pub for their gold medal giveaway. During the month of February, all OTP kids' meals come with a gold medal (while supplies last) for all the future Steamboat Springs Olympians. These cute party favor-type gold medals say "#1" and "winner" because every kid deserves a gold medal even if it's in hamburger eating.

In this Olympic year, the Steamboat Springs community is passionate about sharing its heritage, legacy and traditions with the rest of the world. Help Steamboat Springs celebrate as the community bonds together Feb. 12 to 28 to cheer on locals and Team USA competing at the 2010 Vancouver Olympic Games.



STEAMBOAT SPRINGS
CHAMBER RESORT ASSOCIATION, INC.

www.steamboatchamber.com
events • programs • hot deals

This page is Sponsored by:



Ski Town Cleaners is under new local ownership. Karl and Bonnie Bunker are working hard to re-establish a reputation of great customer service, quality dry cleaning and convenient laundry services. The Bunkers have been Steamboat residents for 17 years and also run Steamboat Lake Marina. Green Earth environmentally friendly Dry Cleaning is offered at the Central Park Plaza and Curve Plaza locations.

24-hour Laundromat at Curve Plaza
Cleaners: Mon-Fri 8-6 • Sat 8-2
Central Park Plaza & Next to Ace at the Curve
879-0074 or 871-4698



STEAMBOAT SPRINGS
CHAMBER RESORT ASSOCIATION, INC.

Upcoming Events

February 6-7 Winter Carnival

The 97th Winter Carnival celebration includes a variety of events that embrace our western heritage and highlight Steamboat's tradition of winter sports. The festivities include such events as: Ski Jumping competitions, a Snowboarding Jam Session, the Soda Pop Slalom, a Tubing Party, the Diamond Hitch Parade which includes the High School band on skis, the Street Events on Lincoln Avenue, and the Night Extravaganza at Howelsen Hill with a brilliant fireworks display and the famous Lighted Man.

February 11 Speed Networking

Back by popular demand! Join us for a fast paced networking session with 23 other local professionals. Don't forget to bring your elevator pitch and business cards! \$5 per person, \$15 for non-members. Please RSVP @ steamboatchamber.com or 875-7000; space is limited.
3:30 p.m. at The Boathouse Pub

New Members

Ciao Gelato
Lynne Romeo
(970) 870-7979
700 Yampa Street

There is no better place to go for a taste of Italy than Ciao Gelato. The shop's warm family

environment, along with its delicious pizza, panini, coffee and gelato, is sure to be a great fit to that perfect Steamboat day! Come in and try our mouth watering, homemade pizzas, panini or our famous gelato with ingredients straight from Italy.

Mesa Equestrian Center
Ingrid Scott
(970) 871-7998

Come share hours of fun riding at our HORSE CAMPS, in our indoor HEATED arena, either english or western, and out on the snow covered trail (when accessible). They also offer riding lessons, starting at age 3.