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Media Release

New Website Captures Essence of **Montana's Trailhead to Promote Billings** as a Destination to Visitors and Meeting Planners.

For Immediate Release:

Billings, NT, December 14, 2009: The Billings Chamber of Commerce/Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB) is proud to announce the launch of the new website promoting Billings. The website is: www.visitbillings.com. This exciting new web location showcases Billings' vibrant culture and history, as well as the city's events, amenities, attractions, touring opportunities, travel destinations, and accommodations. This website caters to the visitor as well as the meeting planner. The new www.visitbillings.com promises to be a powerful online tool for people planning a visit to Montana's Trailhead whether it's for business or pleasure. The website is ideal for anyone interested in planning a trip, a meeting or convention, a group tour, or even a community event in Billings.

The website possesses detailed itinerary planning features including a hotel/motel booking engine, an extensive, up-to-date calendar of events listing, plus detailed information on tour opportunities, accommodations, shopping, dining and transportation.

The Billings Chamber/Convention and Visitors Bureau collaborated with AD Creative Group of Billings to develop this highly interactive and vibrant, new website. It holds a design that reflects the city's brand, Billings: Montana's Trailhead. The new www.visitbillings.com features a sophisticated layout that incorporates the rich heritage and culture of Billings as well as the tremendous outdoor recreational opportunities the city offers like trails and hikes along the Rimrocks.

Billings Convention and Visitors Bureau Director Joan E. Kronebusch says, "This new website is one of the best in the region because it offers the visitor or meeting planner a solid balance of the latest trends in web design and technology while maintaining a user-friendly design." Billings Chamber/CVB President and CEO John Brewer says, "Visitbillings.com embraces the Billings' brand." Brewer adds, "It doesn't matter where you're headed, just log on, find out the details about your upcoming trip, and book it!"

Part of the mission of the Billings Chamber/Convention and Visitors Bureau is recruiting conventions and tourists to the city in order to nurture the local economy. This new website helps aid that mission by offering meeting planners tools including online request for proposal submissions that can be sent directly to CVB staff. The website also offers details to planners about caterers, audio/visuals needs, tour guides as well as CVB and other convention services offered at Montana's Trailhead.

Other features include:

- Online travel planner
- City map
- Link to BikeNet
- Local/regional travel links

Finally, <u>www.visitbillings.com</u>, also offers many Chamber/CVB members added benefits. For instance, all listings, with the exception of lodging partners and area attractions, are exclusive to Billings Chamber/CVB member businesses.

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"Our Vision is to achieve excellence in community leadership and growth."

"Our Mission is to develop a strong business climate and vibrant economy by serving the community in a leadership role thereby enhancing the quality of life."

"Billings is Changing. Your Chamber/CVB is Leading the Way."

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