

2012-2013

DISCOVER



HELENA

A GUIDE TO WORKING AND LIVING IN HELENA

Schools + Services + Government + Construction + Economy + Arts + Employment

feed your dreams



real food market & deli

Helena's certified organic supermarket.

- Organic Fruits, Vegetables & Groceries
- Organic, Antibiotic- & Hormone-free Meats & Dairy
- Organic & Natural Groceries & Bulk Foods
- Supplements, Vitamins & Natural Remedies
- Full-Service Deli ...and More!

1096 HELENA AVE • OPEN: MON-SAT 8-8; SUN 9-7 • (406) 443-5150
 FIND US ON FACEBOOK • WWW.REALFOODSTORE.COM

ABOUT DISCOVER HELENA

Discover Helena has been revamped for 2012 to incorporate feature articles about the Helena community. You will find fewer listings, yet we know you will enjoy reading about recent and current construction and local arts and education.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Helena up to its neck in construction projects.....2
 Development of gateway neighborhood.....3
 Building banks4
EDUCATION5
 Helena school district: construction, renovation, relocation6
 Secondary education in the Helena valley.....8
 State of the art rolling library.....9
 Arts a significant driver in community growth10
CITY & COUNTY GOVERNMENT11
 New, "old", history downtown12
 Downtown: a women's shopping paradise13
WORKING & LIVING
 Business Resources.....14
 Emergency #s14
 Libraries.....15
 Parking.....15
 Transportation15
 Vehicle Registration.....16
 Driver's Licensing.....16
 Utilities.....16

Independent Record | helenatv.com

Discover Helena is published by the Independent Record
 317 Cruse Avenue, Helena, MT, 59601, 447-4003.

THE SIGN OF SERVICE



The Les Schwab sign. A sign that stands for service and quality. For over 50 years Les Schwab has been earning the trust of people all over the West.

With over 440 locations there's a Les Schwab Tire Center near you to take care of your driving needs.

We gladly offer:

- TIRES • WHEELS • BATTERIES
- BRAKES • SHOCKS ALIGNMENTS
- SUDDEN SERVICE
- CONVENIENT CREDIT
- WARRANTIES IN WRITING



At Les Schwab... "Our Business is Earning Your Trust"

LES SCHWAB
495-0070

2970 Prospect Avenue • Helena, Montana 59601



Long-lasting,
 guaranteed fresh,
 Montana-grown
**CHRISTMAS
 TREES AND
 WREATHS**

Choose from fir & pine.
 Flame retardant available.

GIFT IDEAS
 for the gardener
 on your list

**GIFT
 CERTIFICATES**
 10% off



250 Mill Road • 458-5528
 Corner of Green Meadow & Mill Rd
 2 mi. North of Capital High School
 Mon-Sat 8:30am-6:00pm
 Sun 10:00am-5:00pm

www.montanavalleyfarms.com









Complimentary Coffee Shack Coffee. FIND US ON FACEBOOK.

Helena is up to its neck in construction projects *by Lacey Middlestead*

The Helena community is a hustling and bustling place these days, and it's not just because the holiday shopping season is in full swing. New businesses and buildings have been popping up all over town, proving that the downturned national economy hasn't deterred Helena from continuing to grow itself into a viable place to work and live.

In fact, according to Brandt Salo, chief building official for the community development department, 205 commercial building permits have been issued so far in 2012 with a valuation of over \$45 million. This is an increase from the 188 commercial permits issued by this same period in 2011 with a valuation of over \$31 million.

The largest area of development in the Helena area seems to currently be on the north side of town near Costco and Home Depot with at least four new major buildings either completed or still under construction.

In September, not long after the completion of the new Custer interchange project, the doors of a new Town Pump opened at 3161 N. Sanders, just west of the new bridge over Interstate 15. The new 10,426 square foot store had an estimated permit cost of \$2.25 million. It features 8 gas pumps under an island canopy and employs over 30 full and part time employees.

Right next to this new Town Pump Dick Anderson Construction is entering its final phases on a new Helena Community Credit Union (HCCU) branch. HCCU's vision for a new branch began developing in 2008 and by the end of 2009 a site had been selected and purchased. Their vision finally came to life on May 4th at a groundbreaking ceremony for the 7,200 square foot building. This new full-service branch will include four drive-through lanes, double stacked kiosks, and a deposit taking ATM to ensure the most convenient and ef-

ficient drive through service for its customers. The Credit Union hopes to open the doors of its new location in February 2013.

Just across the street from the Credit Union on the corner of Custer Ave. and Sanders is the site of the future home of Stockman Bank. This 2-story, 9,800 square foot building, will feature a 24-hour ATM, night drop, and five drive up lanes. Construction began on August 21 and it is scheduled to open in the fall of 2013.

Staples of Helena will also soon be making a move to the north side into a new building off of Washington Ave. near Hardees. Construction is nearing completion on the 15,000 square foot building worth \$1.62 million and they hope to open by the middle of January 2013.

New development is booming in other parts of town as well.

First Interstate joined the ranks of new bank branches in town when it completed construction on its new building at the corner of Last Chance Gulch and Lyndale and opened on October 1. The 16,000 square foot, two story building features multiple drive-up lanes, a drive up commercial window, exterior ATM with depository, and check cashing capabilities.

Natural food lovers will be happy to know that Helena will soon welcome another organic health store: Natural Grocers. This family-owned business started in Lakewood, Colo. in 1955 but recently began being publicly traded and quickly made its way into Montana. Construction on the 14,000 square foot building in Helena is nearing completion at its location next to the Dollar Tree and Good Samaritan off N. Montana Ave. It is expected to open on December 18. Newcomers to Natural Grocers will not only find groceries but 100% organic produce, supplements, pet food, and health and beauty products.

Touchmark, the retirement home and assisted living center in Helena, began construction

on a \$9 million expansion in September that will add on 26,326 square feet to their existing community and increase the array of services they are able to offer. Included in the expansion is a one-story 19,000 square foot memory care building that will service those with Alzheimer's disease and other dementia illnesses, and a two story, 7,326 square addition that will add eight apartments for clients needing assisted living services.

In August, the congregation of Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church held their last worship service in the place they've called home since the 1950s before moving to their brand new facility off Benton Ave. The new building includes a worship center, fellowship hall, classrooms, an administrative wing, and preschool.

The Cinemark movie theater in the Great Northern has plans in the works for a major expansion that will add on three new screens to the facility, giving it a total of 11. Not only that but one of the new screens will feature Cinemark's "XD" technology along with an oversized screen, top flight equipment, and the ability to show 3D films. This high-tech screen would be the first of its kind in Montana.

Intermountain Children's Home will soon be moving into a brand new community services building behind Petco on Dredge Drive. Intermountain is a non-profit organization that provides mental health and educational services to children and families facing emotional challenges. Intermountain broke ground on their new 22,000 square foot facility in August. This new building will offer outpatient services and in-home support of children with mental health needs as well as serve as the administration headquarters for Intermountain. The plan is to have the building open in December with total completion of the building done in the summer of 2013.

continued on page 4



MY BANK
>>> HAS BEEN IN MONTANA
FOR OVER 90 YEARS

AMERICAN FEDERAL

A MONTANA COMMUNITY BANK SINCE 1922  **WWW.AMERICANFEDERALSAVINGSBANK.COM**

Member FDIC

Tax credit leads to development of gateway neighborhood *by Patricia Spencer*

The Gateway Neighborhood at the corner of E. Lyndale Avenue and Last Chance Gulch has undergone a transformation from languishing mixed-use area to a thriving business center. With the construction of First Interstate Bank at the intersection and the Browning, Kaleczyc, Berry, and Hoven building just down the block, the area is experiencing revitalization thanks, in part, to a tax credit that encourages development in communities.

The New Markets Tax Credit is a federal program providing subsidy financing to a wide variety of projects geared towards community development. Since 2008, the Montana CDC, a community development financial institution with expertise in the New Markets Tax Credit, has engaged in projects across in Missoula, Bozeman, Butte, Libby, and now Helena.

This past summer, Browning, Kaleczyc, Berry, and Hoven P.C. completed a 30,694 square-foot building to house new offices for the local law firm as well as additional lease space. The four-story building is the product of \$7.5 million of New Markets Tax Credit financing in partnership with Pioneer Block LLC, Valley Bank of Helena, and two of Valley Bank's affiliate banks. Designed by CTA architects and built by Dick Anderson Construction, the project took nearly a year to complete and added nearly 30 temporary jobs to the local economy during the project.

The BKBH project was Helena's second New Markets Tax Credit project, the first being the 2011 construction of Capital City Health Club. Given the success of both of these projects, a third project is underway just down the block from the BKBH building. Dick Anderson broke ground this past summer on a new professional building that will house partners Helena Orthodontics, Quinn Irwin, DDS, Mike Miller-State Farm Insurance and the law firm of Crowley Fleck. Helena is the only Montana city to have more than one New Markets Tax Credit project.

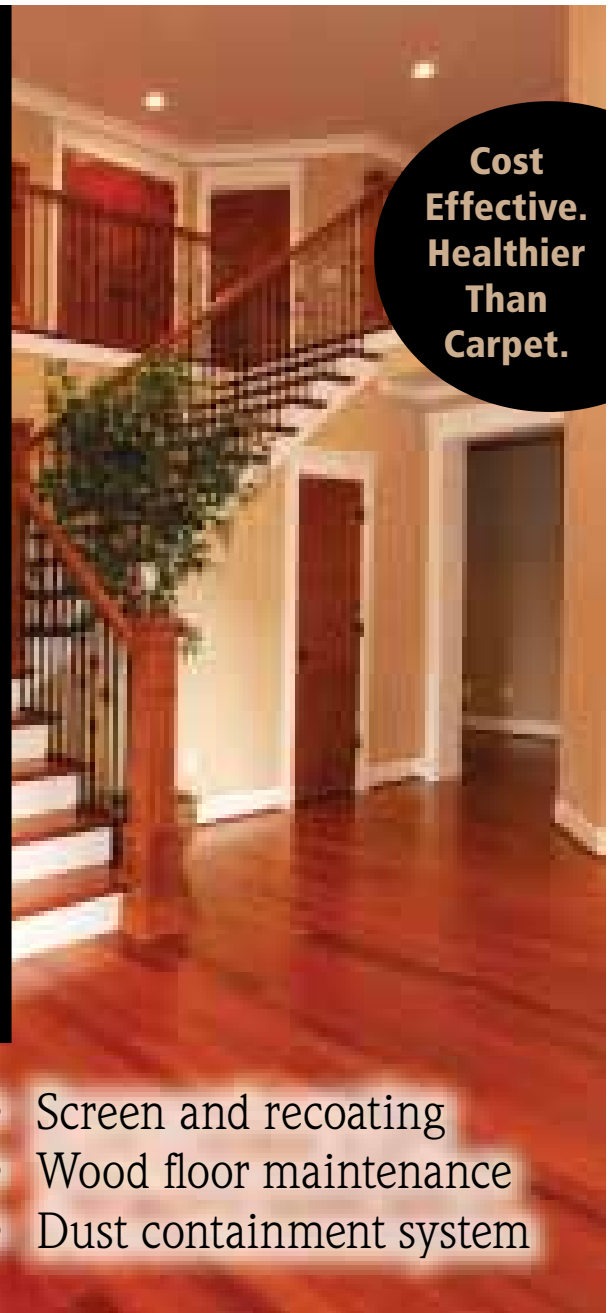
Both the BKBH and Crowley Fleck projects are key in further stimulating growth in the Business Improvement District by utilizing vacant lots on the south side of Last Chance Gulch. Dave Glaser, President of MCDC, recognizes the importance of continuing the revitalization momentum in downtown Helena. "With financing tools like the New Markets Tax Credit program and great local bank partners like Valley Bank of Helena, MCDC can help local businesses make a real impact in their communities. MCDC is pleased to use this financing tool for Helena's historic downtown." According to the Montana Community Development Corporation's website, economic modeling shows an estimated \$12.3 million of economic activity will stem from the construction phase through ten years of operations when direct, indirect and induced activity is included. Wages created from the project account for \$4 million of that total.

The ability of these projects to stimulate additional economic activity in the area made them eligible for the tax credits. The Credit program is a federal tax credit tool that provides incentives for private investment in projects that help revitalize low-income areas. Prior to 2008, the program had been used primarily in larger urban areas. Due to changes in the program, spearheaded by U.S. Senator Max Baucus in 2007, a portion of the tax credits were required to be invested in rural states.

The tax credits are sold to investors for development projects that drive community impacts including job creation, urban revitalization, green buildings and affordable office and retail space. The federal tax credit proceeds bring down the total financing costs, which makes projects and developments more feasible. Each New Markets Tax Credit project requires the participation of equity investors for the project.

For more information on how the New Markets Tax Credit works, visit the Montana CDC website at www.mtcdc.org. n

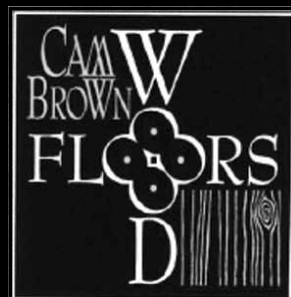
REVIVE | RESTORE | RENEW/REPLACE



Cost Effective. Healthier Than Carpet.

- Screen and recoating
- Wood floor maintenance
- Dust containment system

We can help your wood floor last for generations.



461-4320

Building banks *by Patricia Spencer*

One only has to drive through Helena and see all of the banks being built and wonder why? Well as Donald Trump would say, it's all about location, location, location and according to several bank presidents, Helena is that location.

First Interstate Bank

Strategically located on the second busiest intersection in the State, First Interstate Bank opened its newest branch on October 2nd. Rich Bruner, Helena Market President, explains the choice of location as "fulfilling our desire to have a visible presence in Helena." Prominently located on the corner of Last Chance Gulch and E. Lyndale Avenue, the newest branch of the Billings based First Interstate BancSystem, Inc., is an architecturally beautiful addition to one of Helena's most visible gateways. In addition, the company is in the process of achieving LEED certification for the 17,000+ square foot, \$5million facility. "We would be proud to achieve the highest level of LEED certification with this facility," explained Bruner. In addition to the building being energy efficient, there are also two parking spots designated for "low-emitting fuel efficient cars," two spots reserved for carpooling, bike racks, and showers for employees who choose to ride their bikes to work. "First Interstate is a very environmentally conscious company, and we do a lot to encourage employees to carpool, walk, or ride their bike to work," explained Bruner.

The new location at 25 E. Lyndale Avenue marks the second location of First Interstate Bank in Helena, with another location at 3401 N. Montana Ave. "Four or five years ago we opened a temporary branch in the Capital Hill Mall while we searched for a location for a standalone branch," explained Bruner. With the opening of the new E. Lyndale facility, First Interstate closed the Capital Hill Mall branch and transferred those employees to the new facility.

Helena Community Credit Union

For Helena Community Credit Union, it is all about Community and being a community centered bank. President/CEO Greg Strizich explains the construction of a 7,200 square foot building on Sanders Street near the new Custer Interchange, as a decision to keep Helena as the nucleus of the HCCU banking area, "we are a Helena centered bank with all of our branches in Helena while we serve customers from Powell County and Deer Lodge to Broadwater County and Townsend."

According to Strizich, they began discussing options for relocating HCCU's N. Montana Avenue branch to improve services and convenience for their customers. "We identified that most of the growth was in the

Helena Valley and that ideally we needed to maintain a presence close to that growth." Once the new \$2-3 million project is completed in February 2013, HCCU will move administrative offices to the old N. Montana branch and keep the drive thru open for the convenience of their N. Valley customers. "Lending will all move to the new branch, this is really an exciting option that gives us the space to grow with our customers' needs."

Stockman Bank

Stockman Bank's decision to build a 14, 000+ square foot bank in Helena is based on demand, "Stockman Bank will be the only bank in Helena with an Ag focus," explains John McLaughlin, President-Helena. "We are the number one Ag bank in the state and there are big opportunities in Ag in Helena."

Stockman Bank broke ground this fall in the Custer Landing area adjacent to Power Townsend. Completion is scheduled for June of 2013 and McLaughlin is already planning on expansion of services in the Helena market. When completed, the state-of-the-art facility will be an architectural show piece for the Montana based bank as well as the community it will serve.

Bruner, Strizich, and McLaughlin all point to Helena's stable economy as justification for investing in development in Helena. People want to live in a community that is stable, and Helena provides that stability as the seat of state government and slow, but steady growth. McLaughlin states that "this combination of job stability and steady growth makes Helena attractive for expansion of financial institutions." Strizich expands stating, "Helena needed growth and now we are seeing the service level catch up with the demand." Arguably, Helena weathered the economic recession with minor setbacks and now development is beginning to reflect that stability. n

construction continued from page 2

In July a groundbreaking ceremony was held for the Crowley Fleck Building at 900 N. Last Chance Gulch. This 32,000 square foot building, expected to be completed in May 2013, will house Crowley Fleck Law Office, Jeff Foster, DMD, of Helena Orthodontic, Quinn Erwin, DDS, and Mike Miller with State Farm Insurance.

From downtown and the Great Northern to the valley and north side, Helena is up to its neck in construction projects further developing its business sector. n

First Baptist Church of Montana
Serving the Helena Community since 1880

Opportunities

Sunday Worship - 11:00AM
Bible Study & Sunday School
for all ages - 9:30AM
Nursery available for all services
Multiple weekly Bible Studies

Church office: 406-442-2090
Email: fbcmnt@bresnan.net
Website: fbcmontana.com
Rev. W. Andrew Young, Interim Pastor

201 8th Avenue - Helena, MT 59601
*(Located on the corner of 8th & Warren - across from Central School,
where there is ample parking)*





Life
Covenant Church

Service Times

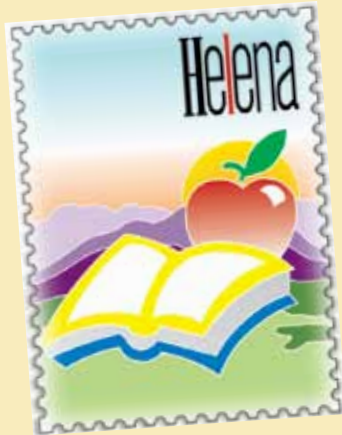
Saturday - 5:30 pm
Sunday - 9:00 & 11:00 am
Sunday School - 10:10 am
Childcare provided

Weekly Activities

Youth Groups • AWANA • Moms & Tots
Preschool • GriefShare • DivorceCare
Adult Small Groups

442-6813
www.lifecch Helena.org

800 N. Hoback
(1 block south of Vigilante Stadium)



Education

To register or transfer to an area school, visit that school's web site to determine your neighborhood school and for general information. For more help contact the administrative offices. Register at the individual school office; be sure to bring the birth certificate and immunization record for the child. www.helena.k12.mt.us

EAST HELENA PUBLIC SCHOOLS | www.ehps.k12.mt.us

Central Office, 226 E. Clinton, 227-7700

District mailing address for all buildings:

P.O. Box 1280, East Helena, MT 59635

- Superintendent Ron Whitmoyer: ext. 4001

Eastgate Elementary School, 4010 Gradestake, 227-7770

- Principal Jill Miller

Robert.H. Radley Elementary School, 226 E. Clinton, 227-7710

- Principal Joe McMahon

East Valley Middle School, 401 Kalispell, 227-7740

- Principal Dan Rispens

HELENA PUBLIC SCHOOLS | www.helena.k12.mt.us

General Administration/Superintendent's Office

55 S. Rodney St., 324-2001

- Superintendent Dr. Kent Kultgen,

HELENA ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Broadwater, 900 Hollins Ave., 324-1130 • Principal Sue Sweeney

Bryant, 1529 Boulder Ave., 324-1200 • Principal Nick Radley

Central, 402 N. Warren St., 324-1230 • Principal Merry Fahrman

Four Georgians, 555 Custer Ave., 324-1300 • Principal Melinda Thompson

Hawthorne, 430 Madison Ave., 324-1370 • Principal Deb Jacobsen

Jefferson, 1023 Broadway, 324-2060 • Principal Lona Carter-Scanlon

Jim Darcy, 990 Lincoln Rd. West, 324-1410 • Principal Brian Cummings

Kessler, 2420 Choteau Ave., 324-1700 • Principal Craig Crawford

Rossiter, 1497 Sierra Rd. East, 324-1500 • Principal Kareen Bangert

Smith, 2320 5th Ave., 324-1530 • Principal Jilyn Oliveira

Warren, 2690 Old York Rd, 324-1600 • Principal Tim McMahon

HELENA MIDDLE SCHOOLS

C R Anderson, 1200 Knight St., 324-2800 • Principal Bruce Campbell

Helena Middle School, 1025 N. Rodney, 324-1000 • Principal Josh McKay

HELENA SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Capital High School, 100 Valley Drive, 324-2500 • Principal Elisabeth Hudnutt

Helena High School, 1300 Billings Ave., 324-2200 • Principal Steve Thennis

Project for Alternative Learning (P.A.L.), 1325 Poplar St., 324-1630 • Principal Frank Jobe

MONTANA CITY SCHOOL

1 McClellan Creek Rd., Clancy, MT 59634, 442-6779,

- Superintendent Tony Kloker

- Principal 1-3 Steve Connole • Principal 4-8 Stephanie Thennis.

MONTESSORI SCHOOL

Montessori classrooms are offered at Broadwater, Central and Smith Schools. Contact the Helena Public School Offices for more information.

Montessori Kindergarten is located at Children's World Montessori School, 32 S. Ewing, Suite 122, 449-3726; Morning Sun Montessori, P.O. Box 413, 118 Placer, 459-0892 or 439-06077. Discovery KidsZone Montessori School, 26 Sweetgrass Rd., Montana City, 449-6865.

COLLEGES

Carroll College | www.carroll.edu

1601 North Benton Ave., 447-4300. The leading Catholic liberal arts and pre-professional college in the West.

Helena College University of Montana | www.umhelena.edu

1115 N. Roberts, 447-6900. A two-year institution of higher education.

One of the four campuses of the University of Montana, the college gives special attention to occupational programs and general education associates' degrees for transfer to four-year colleges. www.umhelena.edu

PRIVATE SCHOOLS

First Lutheran School | www.firstlutheranhelena.org

2231 E. Broadway, 442-5367

Helena Adventist Christian School

2410 Belt View Dr., Helena, 465-6451

Helena Christian School | www.helenachristian.org

PreK through Grade 12, 3384 Canyon Ferry Rd, Bldg. A, East Helena, 59635, 442-3821 or 442-5210

St. Andrew School | www.standrewschool.org

900 Floweree, 449-3201. Classical and Catholic education for all grades (K thru 12). Standardized test scores 80 percentile and >>

Authentic Soda Fountain & Hand-Dipped Chocolates. Taste the Tradition.

Celebrating 90 years of sweetness!

442-1470 PARROTCHOCOLATE.COM 42 N. LAST CHANCE GULCH

The Parrot CHOCOLATE

Helena school district construction, renovation, and relocation *by Victoria Cech*

The Helena School District is about to add some significant projects to Helena's economy, as well as helping the city reshape itself: it's just not clear, as of late 2012, exactly how those major impacts will look and what the specifics will be. The school district is facing some key challenges, and the resolution to those challenges will involve some combination of construction, renovation, and relocation.

The Helena schools have some complex challenges to address. The student population in Helena is not seeing significant increases, although slight growth is predicted over the next five-ten years, but it is undergoing dramatic shifts in location. More and more families with school-age children are locating out in the Valley, moving away from the city's older districts in the southwest. Currently, elementary schools like Jim Darcy are over-capacity, and students are being bussed back to schools in the older areas of Helena.

Compounding the problem of bussing children away from their home neighborhoods are issues of age, maintenance, and accessibility in the district's current buildings. The last new school building constructed in Helena was in 1977 (Four Georgians elementary); the last major renovation of any building was in 1998, when renovations took place at Capital and Helena high schools. In addition to problems of location, many of the schools need repair or renovation to ensure safety and accessibility; some need reconfiguration to handle the numbers of students they accommodate.

The high schools both need work on at least two items: safe, controllable entrances and cafeteria space. Both high schools have multiple doors – one has forty-four separate entries. This creates a security challenge, since unauthorized visitors can easily access an unwatched entrance during the day. With well over 1000 students each attempting to pour through those entries, closing or locking a major portion of those separate entrances would create unworkable student gridlock. Then there's the problem of cafeteria space: Helena High, with over 1500 students, has a cafeteria with a maximum capacity of 171 students. Building new commons areas, with large spaces to accommodate major entry ways and space enough for students to eat and gather for school events, would solve several issues at once.

These are only two out of a long list of examples of space and safety concerns throughout the system. In a moment of unbridled civic generosity, one might be tempted to suggest simply building new schools where overcrowding exists, renovating and remodeling everything else at whatever cost, and thus offer students in every area of town safe, spacious, accessible, and local educational facilities. Even given limitless funds to create the best possible facilities, however, this solution won't solve the problem: the new facilities need teachers and staff, and Helena has no funds to supply those.

The legislature determines a maximum expenditure level for teachers and other personnel based on a per-student formula.

Education continued

above. Teaching is based on Catholic catechism, but the school is not associated with the Helena Diocese.

HOME SCHOOL INFORMATION

County Superintendent of Schools • Dr. Marsha Davis, 447-8344
Office of Public Instruction • Lindy Miller 444-6774.

OTHER

Career Training Institute | www.ctibrc.org

Business Resource Center, 347 N. Last Chance Gulch, 443-0800

MEA.MFT | www.mea-mft.org

232 East Sixth Ave., 442-4250. The association represents and advocates for its members through collective bargaining, political action, legislative lobbying and legal defense. .

Special Education | www.helena.k12.mt.us

Helena School District #1, 55 S. Rodney St., 324-2005. Provides supportive services to students enrolled in the school system,

Adult Learning Center | www.helena.k12.mt.us

1115 North Roberts, 444-6800 or 447-6937, Jake Gustin, Administrator. The purpose of the Adult Center is to provide for the literacy needs of adults in the community. All staff are committed to recognizing individual needs, assisting each student in achieving his or her highest potential and promoting the desire for lifelong learning.

Helena Community Credit Union
www.thecu4u.org

Smart! Choice
CHECKING

SERIOUSLY SMART

Generous tiered interest
No minimum balance or monthly service charge
Free e-services - FREE ATM/Debit card
Get 2,500 my!points
28,000 no surcharge ATMs nationwide

406.443.5400 **f t** 915 Kessler // 1930 Prospect // 4405 N Montana
*Some restrictions apply. Contact us for account details.
Federally insured by NCUA. Equal Housing Lender.

Helena has hit its maximum. This means that building a new school in an over-crowded area would require moving current staff from someplace else to operate the building and teach classes. In solving the city's school issues, options could include closing under-used schools or determining ways to open new schools by sharing teachers and other personnel – school nurses, learning specialists, even principals – among multiple sites.

While sharing teachers, nurses, and administration among buildings at the elementary level may not be optimal, at the high school level, there's an opportunity for strengthening programs through shared resources. One option under discussion is to combine career and technical education into a single large facility which would offer health, culinary, and pre-engineering classes in addition to skills-based courses such as carpentry and auto-mechanics. Such a center could mean streamlined and expanded partnerships with Helena College for accelerated postsecondary entry and completion, and enable a wider array of options for students from both high schools.


Numerous public sessions have been held to hear community concerns and suggestions; a list of recommended solutions addressing elementary school student distribution, facility repair or improvement, and safety and access concerns, will be presented to the Board for consideration and action; decisions will likely be complete by early 2013.

Construction and renovation projects will almost certainly be in Helena's future, and the decisions on how to structure those may help determine whether all or most of the work stays local. The school district is bound by State law to accept the lowest bid, wherever it may come from, but the work can be organized in a

couple of different ways, which could affect how competitive local firms can be. Whatever the final package of projects is, the district could adopt a "design/build" model, in which a contractor bids for the entire package; alternatively, the district could become its own construction manager, splitting out specific components of the project, accepting bids for each part, and retaining more oversight over the details.

The "design/build" method has the advantage of contracting out all the inevitable decisions and adjustments to the process, thus saving time, and arguably administrative cost. Very large, and frequently out-of-state, companies tend to have the advantage in bidding for the entire project start-to-finish. Under the second model, smaller contractors can be more competitive in bidding for smaller portions of the work, and while school district officials must spend time focusing on change-orders and adjustments to the project, they also have the opportunity to ensure that all those changes are done in the best possible way for the district's purposes.

In any scenario, there will be a lot of economic activity flowing from the school district in the coming year or two, and the resulting improvements to the schools will contribute to the community's overall economic health. Schools are one of the first things businesses look at when they re-locate or plan growth in a community: strong education is critical for businesses both to develop a future workforce and as an incentive for current employees to bring their children into Helena. The school district is planning carefully and deliberately to partner with the community to strengthen our education system and our economy for the coming decade.





BALLWEBER ORTHODONTICS

Timothy C. Ballweber, DDS, MS

905 Helena Ave.

449-5576


NEW
PATIENTS
ALWAYS
WELCOME


www.drballweber.com

Creating beautiful Smiles for over 27 years!

Practical is...
Knowing how much
she'll love her smile.




It's nice to have a financial partner that gives you the flexibility to do what's necessary.



1225 Cedar St • 449-2265

PEAK Home Equity Line of Credit
Your money. On your terms.

MTNWESTBANK.COM
FDIC 

Secondary education in the Helena valley *by Lacey Middlestead*

Helena College

Helena's two-year institution, UM Helena, has been very busy with lots of new happenings on campus.

For starters, the college changed its name! UM Helena is now recognized as Helena College. The decision to change the name was spurred by Montana University System's (MUS) College! NOW initiative, which hopes to make Montana's two-year colleges and programs better understood and utilized across the state. The Montana Board of Regents of MUS voted to approve the re-branding and renaming of Montana's five Colleges of Technology, including UM Helena. Helena College presented the new name on July 30.

Continuing their work with College! NOW's efforts relating to meeting the needs of Helena's community, Helena College is now conducting ABE/GED instruction on campus and has partnered with the Helena School District. They are also working with Montana's regional high schools to expand concurrent enrollment opportunities.

According to Elizabeth Sterns-Sims, associate dean of student services, Helena College also recently received a sub-grant aimed at increasing student financial literacy. The Montana College Access Challenge Grant –Financial Literacy Program is funded through the federal College Access Challenge Grant Program (CACG). The Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education received funding of \$1.5 million from the CACG for the period of August 14, 2012 through August 13, 2013. Of this, \$400,000 was designated to financial literacy.

Sterns-Sims explained that Helena College's specific grant, one of only four grants to be fully funded, deals with cross institution approaches to increase the school's educational programming to students regarding borrowing and positive money management.

This fall, Helena College also began offering courses for certification in geoscience technology as well as in development and delivery of online courses and training environments.

According to Sterns-Sims, the geosciences technology certificate will prepare graduates to work as geoscience specialists, applying their skills to areas like core description and analysis, geologic software applications, mineral and rock identification, subsurface mapping, the use of GIS and map interpretation, and field methodologies. Possible occupations with this certification include oil field data technicians, wireline technicians, mudloggers, geology lab technicians, mineral exploration technologists, and geology assistants.

The E-learning certification gives students who want to deliver instructional materials at a distance with the knowledge and skill base they need to design, develop, and implement effective materials for e-learning. Sterns-Sims explained that candidates for this particular certification might include K-12 and higher education instructors teaching at a distance or those who would like to develop instructional technology skills. Candidates might also include human resources professionals or employees of business where online training is desired for use within the organization.

Overall, Sterns-Sims stressed the tremendous growth the school has seen in the past 10 years.

"The growth is a direct response to listening to our community and responding to those needs," said Sterns-Sims.

Stern-Sims went on to say that Helena College, in the future, hopes to announce new educational partnerships with other institutions within the MUS system that will allow students to continue their educational goals without needing to travel outside the state. She said that the school is also working on developing educational opportunities for students to study abroad as well as provide a place for international students to obtain an education.

"We are excited for our future," said Stern-Sims.

*Charming Family Owned Motel With An Excellent Reputation For Friendly Service and Consistent Cleanliness.
Sit Among The Pines and Enjoy The Wildlife*



*Wireless Internet
Pets OK*

*West of Lincoln on Hwy 200 & 1st Ave.
110 1st Ave. • Lincoln, MT 59639
(406) 362-4333*



FIRST BANK OF LINCOLN

P.O. BOX 9 • 417 MAIN ST. • LINCOLN, MT 59639
(406) 362-4248

HOURS: 9:00 – 3:00 M-TH., 9:00 – 5:00 FRI.

YOUR HOME-TOWN FRIENDLY BANK MEMBER FDIC.

BLUE SKY motel

328 Main St.
Lincoln, MT 59639
(406) 362-4450
1-800-293-4521

Carroll College

Carroll College, Helena's four-year institution, has also seen some major changes this year, namely the inauguration of a new president this November.

After several months of candidate screening and deliberation, Carroll finally announced in December 2011 that Dr. Thomas Evans was selected as the new president and would begin his term in June 2012.

Dr. Evans received his Bachelor of Science with a major in Japanese and a minor in theology from Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. and an MA degree in Asian studies and Ph.D. in educational administration from The University of Texas at Austin. Most recently, Dr. Evans served as the associate vice president for professional education and global initiatives at St. Edward's University in Austin, Texas from 2008 until 2012.

On November 5th, Dr. Evans was officially inaugurated as the 16th president of Carroll. And at 42 years of age, he is one of the youngest to hold the position at the school. The prestigious event was attended by over 800 Carroll and Helena community members.

During Dr. Evans's Inaugural address, he discussed the importance of a Catholic liberal arts education and his vision for Carroll. He talked about the changing ways of the world and how this is the most globally connected generation of any age. He urged students to take advantage of this by helping others and growing their knowledge base, thus following Carroll's motto of 'non scholae sed vitae' (not for school but for life).

"This intimately small campus must have a broad reach with branches casting comforting shade where people from every corner of the planet can gather or from which they can be sent forth in the quest for knowledge and Truth—not for school, but for life," he said.

Carroll students also returned this fall to find a reorganization of their student support services. Now, the Career and Testing Services, Internship Coordinator, international programs, academic advising, veteran resources, and the Academic Resource Center can all be found in the east wing of Borromeo Hall. This collation of services into a centralized location was done to make it easier and faster for students to get the assistance they need.

"Our decision to consolidate student services was made based on best practices that are discerned from information and studies from informed and professional individuals who are experts at student services," said Paula McNutt, senior vice president for Academic Affairs and dean of the college, in a September 27 article in the Carroll College Prospector.

In order to meet growing demands in student housing, Carroll also did some construction work over the summer to free up additional space. With 386 current freshmen enrolled, a 12 percent increase from last year's class, Carroll decided to take a few former classrooms in Guadalupe Hall and convert them into five new bedrooms. In St. Charles, a fourth floor recreation and exercise room was renovated into two new bedrooms and one new room was added in the basement of Borromeo hall.

With a new president to guide the way and a campus continually evolving to better meet the needs of its students, Carroll is looking strong as it moves into the new year. **n**

State-of-the-art rolling library

What drives around our community, makes lots of stops, and always leaves children smiling? No, not the ice-cream truck, the Bookmobile! Finally, after years of planning and much excitement, your Lewis & Clark Library is pleased to announce the arrival of your new Bookmobile!

The process to acquire the bookmobile began in 2006 when the Library reviewed its long-range planning. During 2006 and 2007, as part of the Strategic Planning process, the Library conducted several focus groups in an effort to learn what services patrons felt the Library should provide. "Through the process we learned that the North Valley was drastically under served," explained Lewis & Clark Library Director Judy Hart. "As the Strategic Plan progressed, the Board began exploring options to build a branch library in the North Valley but it quickly became apparent that the cost of building a branch library was prohibitive, so we began exploring other options."

After much research, Hart presented a plan to the Board that suggested reaching the underserved, both economically and geographically, in Lewis and Clark County would be best accomplished via mobile services. "I determined that the best way to reach those individuals not served by one of our existing branches, was to take the Library to them via a bookmobile."

Hart and the Library Board presented the Strategic Plan to the voters of Lewis and Clark County during the 2008 mill levy, with the promise that if the levy passed, the Library would expand services in Lincoln, East Helena as well as the North Valley. After the levy passed in June of 2008, the Library Board immediately began working to fulfill those promises. In May of 2010, the Library completed a 1,008 square foot addition to the Lewis & Clark Library Lincoln Branch, adding much needed community meeting space to that facility. The East Helena Library relocated to E. Main Street from the East Helena Middle School in June of 2010, expanding both hours and services to that community.

Fulfilling the promise to expand services in the North Valley took more time. "We already had a presence in East Helena with our branch in the East Helena Middle School, providing services to the North Valley was a new endeavor" Hart immediately began researching companies that specialize in designing mobile libraries for rural areas and located a bookmobile consultant. "The Board and Foundation contracted Michael Swendrowski, a recognized expert on Bookmobiles who offers his expertise to Libraries worldwide as a bookmobile consultant."

Swendrowski visited Helena in the summer of 2011 and traveled with Hart throughout Lewis and Clark County to get a feel for the needs of the Library and how a custom designed vehicle would best suit the terrain of its travel area.

"Swendrowski proposed the design of a 32 foot, long front-engine forward control 'cab chassis' style truck to be built on a 25,500lb. BVWR chassis for adequate support of a the van body, that will hold approximately 3,500 library material items," explained Hart.

The project went to bid in late 2011 with OBS Specialty Vehicles out of Ohio awarded the contract in January of 2012. Work was immediately begun on the Library's new mobile branch and the process of hiring a Bookmobile Librarian began. Bretagne Byrd joined the staff of the Lewis & Clark Library in July as the Bookmobile Librarian to begin planning for the opening of the Lewis & Clark Library's newest branch. Byrd came to Helena from the Bloomfield-Eastern Green County Public Library in Bloomfield, Indiana where she served as the Outreach Librarian. Upon her arrival in Helena, Byrd began making contacts and establishing a bi-weekly route that the Bookmobile would follow throughout Helena, the North Valley, and all of Lewis and Clark County.

The state of the art rolling Library arrived in Helena just before Halloween and Byrd hit the road November 5th to begin fulfilling that promise of bringing services to the underserved patrons of the Lewis & Clark Library.

With over 2,500 library material items on board, the mobile branch of the Library features WiFi connections so that patrons can access the internet during their stop. Additionally, the vehicle is ADA compliant and kid friendly, "this is everybody's library," explained Byrd. The mobile branch is also eco-friendly, burning a cleaner version of diesel fuel and featuring solar panels that allow the vehicle to absorb enough energy to not have to operate the generator at most stops.

For Byrd, it is the interaction with new library users that is the most rewarding component of her job, "We are excited to provide services to the Milford Colony, the Masonic Home, the Birdseye and Green Meadow areas, the State Capitol, Touchmark, Apple Rehab, Eagle's Manor, Hunter's Pointe, Wolf Creek, Canyon Creek, and many other locations throughout the County," stated Byrd. A complete schedule of stops and times can be found online at www.lclibrary.org. **n**

Arts significant driver of community growth *by Victoria Cech*

Helena's artistic and cultural opportunities are more than a great addition to quality-of-life – they make a big impact on the economy, and are one of the significant drivers of community growth. Helena is recognized as one of the best small arts towns in America, and it's not hard to think of the reasons why: once you've listed the unique and nationally recognized Archie Bray Foundation for the Ceramic Arts, the Montana Historical Society, the Helena Symphony, the Myrna Loy Theater, and the Holter Museum of Art, you've barely scratched the surface.

All these cultural organizations add jobs and create economic activity. Supporting their efforts to ensure that Helena remains a community with a vibrant arts and tourism dimension is a quasi-governmental organization called the Public Arts Committee, appointed by the city commission and comprised of independent artists, representatives of arts organizations, a Parks and Recreation representative, a city commissioner, and two at-large members from the public.

Kathy Macefield, the Committee's current chair, notes that while they have not conducted an in-depth study of the economic benefits of the arts to Helena, state and regional studies offer a solid indication of the role arts and arts organizations play in moving communities forward.

In 2012, Missoula was included in a report published by Americans for the Arts analyzing the impact of arts participation on the economy of 182 communities or regions in the nation. The report calculated an annual industry expenditure of \$39,899,280, supporting 1,447 full-time equivalent jobs and generating \$30.3 million in household income within the City of Missoula. An older, 2003, statewide study by the Montana Arts Council showed Helena's non-profit arts sector as very slightly larger than Missoula's; the current economic impact of the arts in Helena is probably slightly larger than the \$39 million Missoula experiences.

Helena's Public Arts Committee, established by the City Commission in 1999, is working to strengthen and expand Helena's image as an arts community, and to develop both events and public art installations that

continue to attract tourists and keep this vibrant economic sector in the forefront of public awareness. This continues and expands the Committee's original mission. The Public Arts Committee was the result of a generous donation to the City by artist Becky Eiker, the bronze statue of a newsboy, called Extra! Extra! that now stands on the Walking Mall. The City was happy to accept, and site, the sculpture, and hoped that additional public donations might follow: it did, however, occur to the Commission that in case other artists were similarly inspired, it would be a good idea to have a means of deciding both what pieces were appropriate for community display, and to determine where to locate them. The Public Arts Committee was established for that purpose.

The committee, which meets on the second Thursday of the month, at 3:30 in the City-County building, works to collaborate with other groups who share similar objectives. One is the Tourism Business Improvement District (TBID), because the arts are a major component of the area's tourist economy.

Heidi O'Brien of the TBID notes that Helena went through a branding process a few years back, and identified the three pillars of the tourist economy as the outdoors; history and culture; and the arts. The TBID has developed apps, compatible with either Androids or i-Phones, and downloadable from the website Helenamt.com, that provide maps to artistic and cultural sites, including the public art sites developed or maintained by the Public Arts Committee.

Public arts activities sponsored by the Committee include "Chalk Up Helena," a family oriented creative event held in July on the Walking Mall. For \$5, participants receive chalk, water, and a marked-off space on the sidewalk to decorate. Businesses have been enthusiastic about the event, which brings participants of all ages into the downtown business district. The event is timed to coincide with the Symphony Under the Stars, creating a wonderful reason for visitors to spend a full day and night in the city.

In September, the Public Art Committee organizes a fund-raising event, an Open

Studios Tour offering access to artists and their workspaces, and enables participants to watch art being created, and buy pieces directly from the artists. Past Tour sites have included the Holter, the Bray, the Upper Missouri Artist Gallery, and Birds and Beasleys, among others.

Funds generated from the Tour have supported projects in various places around the community. The Arts Committee restored the statue of George Washington which used to stand outside the Courthouse. The statue, which was created in 1888 by an unknown artist, was originally outside the courthouse, and was suffering from exposure to the weather. The Committee paid for restoration of the statue, and relocation inside the Courthouse.

In 2005, the Committee contracted for the cleaning and touch-up of the Women's Mural painted on the side of the Livestock Building on Last Chance Gulch; the mural was completed in 1979, and as with the George Washington statue, years of exposure to harsh weather had taken its toll. The whimsical snails on the Butte and Sanders streets traffic circle; the vibrant Chinese gateway on the Walking Mall; the art installation "All of the Above, None of the Above" in Pioneer Park – all of these are pieces supported or made possible by the Public Arts Committee.

The Public Art Committee is currently developing a public art plan, and will be seeking public input and response during 2013. Part of the plan will include projects to enhance the Lyndale Tunnel, Centennial Park, and Memorial Park. When the plan is complete, they hope to apply for grant funds to help execute the possible projects – the Committee is self-supporting, using fund raising projects and grants to advance their work.

The Committee is one small part of the large impact arts have on Helena's economy – but they play a critical role in helping shape an attractive, welcoming community "face" for both tourists and residents seeking pleasant and stimulating areas to spend their time . . . and their dollars. **n**



City & County Government

HELENA | www.helenamt.gov

City Offices: City-County Building, 316 N. Park Avenue, 447-8000

Mayor: Jim Smith

City Commissioners: Matt Elsaesser, Dan Ellison, Katherine Haque-Hausrath, Dick Thweatt

City Clerk: Debbie Havens

Police Chief: Troy McGee

Fire Chief: J.R. Feucht

Public Works Director: John Rundquist

City Manager: Ron Alles

Bill Roberts Golf Course	442-2191
Building Permits and Inspections	447-8437
City Attorney	457-8595
City Commission	447-8410
City Manager	447-8401
City Planning	447-8491
Civic Center	447-8481
Disaster & Emergency Services	447-8252
Downtown Business Improvement District	447-1535
Fire Department	447-8472
Parking Administration	447-8419
Parks and Recreation	447-8463
Police Department	447-8479
Public Arts Committee	447-8491
Public Works	447-8426
Recycling	447-8430
Street Maintenance	447-1566
Traffic Signal and Sign Repair	447-1550
Water, Billing Information	447-8450
Water, Maintenance	447-1551

EAST HELENA | www.easthelenamt.us

City Offices: City Hall, 306 E. Main, 227-5321

Mayor: Anthony Strainer

City Council: Birgit Stipich, Kit Johnson, James Schell, Mike Spotorno, Mike Rielely, Sandra Milsten, Bill Casey, Elroy Golemon, Dennis Loveless, Dale Aschim

Volunteer Fire Chief: Elroy Golemon

Police Chief: Dale Aschim

Public Works Director: Eric Griffin

City Clerk: Sandra Milsten

City Attorney: Mike Rielely

Fire Department (Non-emergency)	227-5321
Police Department (dispatch)	227-5377
Police Department (administration)	227-8686
Water and Sewer	227-5321

LEWIS AND CLARK COUNTY | www.co.lewis-clark.mt.us

County Offices: City-County Building, 316 N. Park Avenue, 447-8200

Attorney: Leo Gallagher

Appraiser: Rocky Haralson

Coroner: Mickey Nelson

County Commissioners: Mike Murray (Chairman), Derek Brown (Vice Chairman), Andy Hunthausen (vice-chair)

Justice of the Peace: Mike Swingley

County Superintendent of Schools: Dr. Marsha Davis

County Extension, 4-H: Brent Sarchet, Ag Extension Agent

Sheriff: Leo Dutton

Undersheriff: Dave Rau

Treasurer/Clerk and Recorder: Paulette DeHart

Animal Control	447-8293
Attorney	447-8221
Clerk and Recorder's Office, Elections	447-8338
Clerk and Recorder's Office, Motor Vehicles	447-8369
Clerk and Recorder's Office, Records	447-8337
Clerk of the District Court	447-8216
Commissioners	447-8304
Coroner	442-7398
Disaster and Emergency Services	447-8285
Extension Office	447-8346
Fairgrounds	457-8516
Health Department	443-2584
Justice of the Peace, criminal matters	447-8202
Justice of the Peace, civil matters	447-8201
Landfill	457-8721
Sheriff's Office	447-8293
Superintendent of Schools	447-8344
Treasurer	447-8334

LIFT YOUR SPIRITS AND RAISE YOUR GLASS.
Come visit the TOAST OF THE TOWN!

NORTHSIDE
Liquor & Wine

1800 Cedar Street
across from Perkins
Helena, MT
495-9575
9am - 8pm
Mon through Sat

LARGEST STATE LIQUOR STORE IN HELENA • WINE & GIFTS
MONTHLY SALES • GIVE AWAYS • OVER 4,000 ITEMS TO CHOOSE FROM
BEST VARIETY, SELECTION, PRICES & CUSTOMER SERVICE IN AREA

New, "old," history downtown *by Victoria Cech*

Helena is home to the Montana Historical Society, which features the well known and often visited Montana's Museum, but what few people realize is that Helena also features an active Historic Preservation Society that strives to protect and promote Helena's rich history through a variety of outreach programs and exhibits.

Until recently the group was known as the Historic Preservation Commission and was supported by a jointly funded City-County Historic Preservation Officer position. That paid staff position did not survive budget cuts and became a part-time funded position with members still appointed by City and County Commissions. Despite the budgetary setback, the group has survived due to the dedication of its volunteers and support of the Lewis and Clark County Historical Society.

Additionally, the Historic Preservation Commission underwent a name change to more accurately reflect the organization's mission to preserve those historic assets in Helena and Lewis and Clark County, and to market them to people in a way that appeals to many types of visitors. According to Pamela Attardo, Helena/Lewis and Clark County Historic Preservation Officer, "We changed our name because we reformed our organization to take advantage of legislation in 2007 that would allow us to be a tourism as well as historic preservation entity. These two concepts go hand in hand - preserving and repurposing historic structures that in turn serve as attractions to tourists seeking historic downtowns. Now known as the Lewis & Clark County Heritage Tourism Council, the group is focusing on attracting even more tourists into Lewis and Clark County's historic core.

Each May the Lewis & Clark County Heritage Tourism Council sponsors Historic Preservation Week as a way to honor those individuals who work on a local level to preserve our areas history. The annual awards luncheon recognizes volunteers, property owners, and grass-roots efforts to save and preserve historic structures and cites in and around Lewis and Clark County.

In addition, the group sponsors historic walking tours of Helena's magnificent mansion district and downtown. These guided tours focus on specific areas and individuals who shaped Helena from a dusty mining camp to the Queen City of the Rockies. While the tours are seasonal, May-September, arrangements can be made for groups visiting Helena for private tours.

Four years ago the group organized the first History Fair on historic Last Chance Gulch. The event featured food, live music, demonstrations, pioneer craft and skill demonstrations, living history performers in period dress, and historical reenactments. The event has grown in popularity and features cavalry reenactments; actors portraying Helens and Montanans of the past; and live old-time and period music. Demonstrations of blacksmithing on a coal-fired forge; horsehair hitching; brands; mining history and fire assay; flint napping (making of "arrowheads"); gold panning; and the making of Norwegian lefse tempt visitors of every age. A portion of the Mall is dedicated to a living history project demonstrating pioneer life, and there's always at least a shootout or two (a couple years ago Samuel T. Hauser's 1886 First National Bank was robbed in broad daylight!) Numerous historical and preservation organizations are set up along the Mall to answer your questions and provide information as well. The History Fair is fun for all ages, and has become an annual event each May.

This past November the Lewis and Clark County Heritage Tourism Council in conjunction with the Lewis and Clark County Historical Society, opened its first premier exhibit in the History Center on Last Chance Gulch, and appropriately the exhibit focuses on Helena's Ur-

ban Renewal Project and how it altered Helena's historic core. "Helena's downtown is full of many magnificent historic structures, some remain only in memory, but the entire story is one worth telling to remind people what a complex history our community has and how it has shaped our current landscape," explained Attardo.

A small state grant made the exhibit possible but in reality, the exhibit is the product of hundreds of hours of volunteer labor. From exhibit cases to display boards, volunteers worked to construct the exhibit and prepare for the opening. "A small group of dedicated individuals support local history in the county and the city. They include members of the Lewis & Clark County Historical Society and the Lewis & Clark County Heritage Tourism Council. It would be good of you to thank them in some way. If you can, join them in conducting future projects. They can be reached at 447-8357 or pattardo@co.lewis-clark.mt.us"

The exhibit will remain up through Spring 2013 at the History Center at 101 N. Last Chance (Securities Building on the Mall). For more information contact Pamela Attardo at pattardo@co.lewis-clark.mt.us or go online to www.helenahistory.com.

The Exhibit

The story of Helena's Model Cities program is long and complex. Spanning over two decades (1968 – 1976 and later), this process profoundly altered the physical, social, political and economic makeup of the community in ways that were immutable and unexpected. The exhibit presents the reasons why people thought Model Cities was necessary; how Helena conducted it; and what Model Cities accomplished. The exhibit also addresses the costs and means of funding the project.

Information on Helena's Model Cities experience was drawn from the recollections and collections of people who actually managed and conducted the program as well as original documents and photographs of the time. This serves history well, as future generations look back on the period to further assess its impacts. The exhibit presents what was done with little critique apart from assessments in Model Cities reports at the time.

Exhibiting what was essentially a bureaucratic undertaking presents a challenge, particularly when working with minimal funding. A great deal of reading is involved but so is a great deal of looking. That offers an opportunity to express more. The illustrations orient around the theme of remembering history, both from the perspective of those involved in events and the community's lingering impressions of what was done. Memory can be both precise and confused. It can overlap different events as well as isolate them. It can be vivid, yet it is often vague. The nature of memory is visually expressed in this presentation.

Memories of a time period carry with them the trends of that time: art, music, dress and illustration, particularly photographic illustration. The exhibit draws on the experimental nature of American photography of the 1960s and 70s to evoke a sense of the period when Model Cities was active. And photographs, like memory, degrade over time. Model Cities collections have faded and colorized over the years. Images presented here are often presented as found or sometimes altered as period post-card scenes, aged photos and as superimposed ideas and events, all giving a sense of time passed and memories at work. Even the difficulty of recalling is involved as the viewer must concentrate, twist and squint to interpret some panels. The hope is that the viewer will find the exhibit interesting visually as well as intellectually and thus take away a more complete memory of what is presented. **n**

Downtown: a women's shopping paradise! *by Patricia Spencer*

Downtown Helena is becoming a women's shopping destination, from the insurgence of new hair and make-up salons to specialty clothing boutiques, the majority of infill construction along Last Chance Gulch has been geared towards the female shopper.

A shopper can begin their stroll of Montana's most historic mile in the 400 Block at **Golden Girls Antiques**, a 10,000 square feet antique mall featuring over forty dealers, offering an excellent selection of glassware, antiques, furniture and vintage clothing from the traditional to eclectic.

Traveling south along Last Chance Gulch, shoppers must visit the new **Byrd's Paradise** a women's fine apparel and adornment retailer offering customers a unique selection of clothing and accessories. In-store garment tailoring services and wardrobe consulting services are also available.

Those wishing to explore their creative side can venture into **The Painted Pot** and paint some pottery. The earthenware (ceramics) are cleaned, fired, and ready for you to paint and all of the paints and glazes are lead free and non-toxic. Finished pieces are dinnerware safe, so you can create usable art. Paints, brushes, creative supplies, and instruction are included every time you visit.

The 300 Block of Last Chance Gulch features clothing and accessories for every style in a distinctive shopping setting. For all of your fine clothing needs, look no further than **By-George Sheila's**. For the more young at heart, **fourOsix**, nestled next door, is a lifestyle shop that promotes art, music, style, forward thinking and Montana living. It is a retail store that operates with a strong focus on community and social responsibility.

Across the block is **Sole Sisters**, where sisters Gerry and Kim make shopping for style in Helena easy and fun at the new Mecca. You'll find footwear, apparel, handbags, and accessories. In need of a good book, or some fun accessories, then make sure to stop in next door at the **Montana Book & Toy Company**. Serving the Helena community since 1978, this independent community bookstore features an extensive children's literature and specialty toy selection.

Occupying the former Coney Island location is **PURE Salon**. This contemporary full service hair salon recently relocated from the Great Northern Town Center and has revitalized the former restaurant into an elegant haven for hair and beauty.

Several new businesses have moved into the Professional Building at 314 NLCG, all with a focus on women's health and beauty. LiElla M. Kelly, Licensed Massage Therapist owns and operates **Thrive Montana Massage Therapy and Wellness Center**. Kelly has been successfully practicing massage therapy in Helena, Montana since 2000. She has had the opportunity to practice in both clinical and fitness facilities. Her experiences in these settings have led her to develop the philosophy that an integrated approach to wellness is beneficial in maintaining and promoting healthy bodies.

The Bucket owner Ashlee Mihelish is excited to welcome you to The Bucket, where you can find "fine things for your face." The trained, knowledgeable staff at The Bucket will help to customize your makeup, skincare, and fragrance collections.

At **Sugar Salon**, owner Laura works hand-in-hand with Bumble and Bumble to learn the philosophies and curriculum that establish the core of what Sugar is...to give the best haircuts and colors and learn new and better ways of achieving a variety of looks.

The shopping continues as you move onto the Walking Mall at **The Root**. The Root is a funky, fun unique boutique that offers affordable apparel, footwear and accessories for women. Every woman loves fine jewelry and **Saunders Jewelry Design**, established in 1987, is a family

owned, full service jewelry store featuring a large selection of gold and silver jewelry, specializing in Montana and Yogo sapphires, exceptional diamonds and colored gem stones.

Whether you need the right gear for enjoying Montana's wild lands or just quality casual clothing to enjoy life, **The Base Camp** has it all. The recently relocated **Birds and Beasleys** is an unique art gallery and gift shop. From original works of art done by Montana artists to a large variety of gifts and a wild bird feed and supply house, you can find everything you need for your backyard feathered friends.

If a formal occasion is on your calendar, make sure to stop in **Brides & Beaux**, Helena's finest Bridal and Formal wear shop located on Broadway just down from On Broadway, a great place to eat after a full day of shopping!

Frayed Sew is a petite boutique located on the Walking Mall near the Trolley. Established in 2009, Frayed Sew was conceived out of the desire to bring high quality unique handmade items to the Helena community and beyond. Venture next door to the **Pan Handler Plus** where they have everything the chef and host need in the kitchen and dining room. n

Don't forget that **Downtown Helena, Inc. Gift Cards** are perfect for birthdays, anniversaries, thank you's, graduation, Mother's Day, employee incentives, teachers, and just about any special occasion, or woman in your life. They are sold in any dollar increment and can be used at multiple locations. Gift Cards can also be reloaded and recycled. Downtown Helena, Inc. gift cards are the **perfect gift choice!**

UNDO DAMAGE
For all your Residential & Commercial Glass Needs

- REPAIR
- REPLACEMENTS
- MOBILE SERVICE
- NEW CONSTRUCTION
- SCREENS-NEW & REPAIRS

BIG SKY

AUTO GLASS GLASS WORKS
449-6992 449-7989
1748 Cole Avenue (behind K-Mart)

www.bigskyautoglass.com



Working and Living

BUSINESS RESOURCES

Helena Area Chamber of Commerce | helenachamber.com
 225 Cruse Ave., Suite A., 442-4120. Cathy Burwell, President. The Helena Area Chamber of Commerce is an alliance of individuals, businesses and organizations dedicated to the growth, economic development, and enhanced quality of life of the Helena

area by working through an organized membership of Public Affairs, Economic Development, Member Services, Tourism, and Marketing councils. The chamber offers business referrals, assistance, networking, promotion and other resources.

Small Business Development Center | www.sbdc.mt.gov

225 Cruse Ave., Suite D, 447-1510. Dan Anderson, Director. SBDC is available to help existing businesses and start-up businesses in Lewis and Clark, Broadwater, Northern Jefferson and Meagher counties. The SBDC staff provides free, confidential business technical assistance, low-cost business training, and helpful information to small business owners. There are 10 SBDC offices throughout the state.

Downtown Helena Business Improvement District (BID)

www.downtownhelena.com

225 Cruse Ave., Suite B, 447-1535. The BID is committed to restoring economic vitality, improving quality of life, promoting community pride and preserving our history and identity.

Montana Business Assistance Connection | www.mbac.biz

225 Cruse Ave., Suite D, 447-1510. The Montana Business Assistance Connection has a revolving loan fund of \$1.6 million to loan at low rates to new and existing businesses.

Helena Job Service Workforce Center | montanajobs.us/helena

715 Front Street, P.O. Box 201505, Helena, 59620, 447-3222. Job Hotline, 447-3200. This state employment agency provides labor exchange, employment related business services, job seeker services and employment and training programs.

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Helena

For immediate response in emergencies from fire, police, sheriff or ambulance personnel, **dial 911** and a dispatcher prepared to handle such situations will respond.

For **non-emergency situations that require law enforcement response** – for example, non-injury accidents, vandalism complaints and barking dog complaints:

City of Helena	442-3233
Lewis & Clark County	442-7883
AA Answering Service	443-0438
AA Hotline Helena, Boulder and Whitehall (24 hour)	449-1044
Crimestoppers, to anonymously report a crime.....	443-2000
Game Warden	495-3260
Helena Fire Dept. general information	447-8472
Helena Police Dept. general information	447-8479
Lewis & Clark County Jail	447-8232
Lewis & Clark County Search and Rescue	442-1044
Lewis & Clark County Sheriff's Dept.....	442-7883
Montana Highway Patrol Dispatcher.....	841-7000
Road-Condition Reports.....	800-226-7623
St. Peter's Hospital	442-2480

East Helena

For immediate response in emergencies from fire, police, sheriff or ambulance personnel, **dial 911**.

For a **non-emergency**, call

East Helena Fire Department	227-5321 or 227-5393
East Helena Police Department.....	227-5377

Hotline Numbers to Know

Poison Control	1-800-222-1222
Suicide Hotline	443-5353
Radon Hotline.....	1-800-546-0483
Center for Mental Health 24-hr emergency.....	1-888-718-2100

DALLAS LAND COMPANY

406.443.5110
 112 Willow Avenue
 Helena, Montana 59602
www.dallas-land.com
land@dallas-land.com

SPECIALIZING IN
 • Farms • Ranches
 • Residential Properties

THE LOST WOODSMAN

Monday - Sat 8:30 - 5pm
 (406) 362-4477
 220 Main St, Lincoln, MT 59639

*Sandwiches * Soup *Coffee/Espresso
 *Art *Gifts/Jewelry *WiFi

Find us on Facebook!

Come in and enjoy a cozy atmosphere while you eat and look around at all the art, gifts, jewelry, wood carvings, custom made flies etc. On the go or in a hurry get your order to-go.

** Coming soon in 2013....The Lost Woodsman Lounge serving beer and wine. Stage for live music/open mic/talent shows...follow us on Facebook for more info!!*

LIBRARIES**Lewis and Clark Library | www.lewisandclarklibrary.org**

120 S. Last Chance Gulch, 447-1690. This library provides users access to professional information services and a broad range of materials, including books, magazines, newspapers and online resources. Open 7 days a week. A branch of the library is located 16 E. Main, in East Helena, 227-5750, East Helena Branch, Tues. & Thurs. 1 to 7 p.m., Wed. & Fri. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Also branches in Lincoln, 102 9th St., 362-4300, and Augusta, 205 Main St.; 562-3348.

Montana Historical Society Research Center, 225 N. Roberts, 444-2694 Hours Tues. through Fri., 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sat. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., with the exceptions of holidays, Closed Mon. Photo Archives open Tues. through Fri. 1 to 5pm.

Montana Legislative Library | <http://leg.mt.gov>

State Capitol, Room 10, 444-3598. Provides access to a focused collection of current materials relevant to issues of concern to the Montana Legislature. Open Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Montana State Library | <http://msl.mt.gov>

1515 E. Sixth Ave., 444-3115. State Law Library, 215 N. Sanders. Justice/State Library Building in Capitol Complex, 444-3660. www.lawlibrary.mt.gov

The Lewis and Clark Genealogical Society Library, located in the mezzanine of the Lewis and Clark Library, 120 S. Last Chance Gulch, 447-1690.

Montana Talking Book Library | www.msl.mt.gov/tbl

1515 E. Sixth Ave., P.O. Box 201800 Helena, MT 59620-1800, 444-2064 or 1-800-332-3400, in Montana. Library services for the blind, low vision, physically handicapped, and reading disabled. mtbl@mt.gov

Shodair Children's Hospital Medical Library | www.shodair.org

2755 Colonial Drive, 444-7518. A collection focusing on clinical genetics, genetic disorders, genetic counseling, prenatal diagnosis, cytogenetics and child psychiatry.

NEWSPAPER**Helena Independent Record | www.helenair.com**

317 Cruse Ave., 447-4000. Business hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday–Friday.

PARKING**The Helena Parking Commission/HPC****www.downtownhelena.com/helenaparkingcommission**

225 Cruse Avenue, 447-8419. Open Monday - Friday from 8 a.m. to

5 p.m., except for holidays. HPC promotes, educates, manages and maintains the short and long-term parking needs and facilities within the Downtown Helena Business District. The Parking District offers free on-street parking on the primary streets as well as paid short-term parking for the meters and nearby lots at 50¢/hour. For long-term parking, especially for employees—there are 11 parking lots, the Great Northern, 6th Avenue, Medical Arts, Jackson Street and 15th Street parking ramps available to purchase monthly permits. The HPC offers a 5% discount for five or more permits, 5% discount for annual billing and a 20% discount on \$10 roll of Goldie Coins. The HPC accepts Visa and Mastercard payments. The HPC also issues residential parking, loading and temporary handicap permits with written documentation from a physician. Permanent Handicap permits must be submitted to the Department of Motor Vehicles, 1003 Buckskin Drive, Deer Lodge, MT 59722 (406-846-6000).

TRANSPORTATION**Buses**

Helena Area Transportation System (HATS), 1415 N. Montana Ave, 447-8080. Operation is Monday through Friday excluding weekends and holidays. HATS offers a Checkpoint bus, an East Valley bus, and Curb-to-Curb buses.

The **Check Point Bus** is a set route bus with approximately 18 stops. No call in is required. The Check Point runs every hour starting at 7 a.m. with the last run beginning at 5 p.m. and ending at the HATS office at 6:00 p.m.

The **Curb-to-Curb Bus** runs every hour and half hour starting as early as 6:30 a.m. and ending at the HATS office at 5:30 p.m. Those with special needs, or riders not by a checkpoint bus stop, are picked up at the closest curb to their location, and delivered to the closest curb location. We request next day service or the ride will be subject to availability.

The **East Valley Bus** is a curb-to-curb bus that services the East Valley, Eastgate, and East Helena with stops in Helena at Wal-Mart, City County Health, Capital Hill Mall, HATS office North Gate and Shop-Ko. To access other drop off locations in Helena other than these stops, we request that you call and connect with either the Checkpoint or the Curb-to-Curb buses. The East Valley Bus operates from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. with the last run leaving Helena at 5:00 p.m. We request next day service or the ride will be subject to availability.

HELENA'S #1 TOP SOIL



- Quality screened top soil
- Quality screened sub soil
- Garden soil amended with manure, compost and sand
- Decorative rock
- Bark and compost
- Road mix
- Washed rock
- Concrete sand



7am-5pm Mon.-Fri. [all year]
8am-3pm Sat. [March thru Oct.]
7510 APPLGATE DR. • 449-4045

INTERMOUNTAIN HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING, INC.



TRANE *WaterFurnace*

Smarter from the Ground Up™

It's Hard To Stop A Trane.®

TRANE High Efficiency Forced Air Heating & Air Conditioning



MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC

Mitsubishi Ductless Air Conditioners

Now every room in your home can feel just right.

1751 EAST LYNDALE HELENA 449-4567

Contr. #146626 BRIAN, DEBBIE & KEVEN PATZER, PARTNERS

WWW.INTERMOUNTAINHEATING.COM

Rimrock Trailways | www.rimrocktrailways.com

1415 N. Montana Avenue, 442-5860. Service to Bozeman, Billings, Great Falls, Missoula, Butte, Kalispell and points in between. Hours 12:00noon-2:00pm, 4:00pm-8:30pm.

AIR TRAVEL**Delta | www.delta.com**

Service to and from Salt Lake City Airport Hub, and to and from Minneapolis/St. Paul Airport Hub. Local: 406-495-1100. Reservations: 800-221-1212. Local Counter Hours of Operation: 4:00am-9:00am; 11:00am-3:00pm; 4:00pm-5:30pm (Note: Hours of Operation May Change with Airline Schedule)

Alaska Airlines | alaskaair.com

Service to and from Sea-Tac Airport Hub. Local Telephone: 406-442-0930. Reservations: 1-800-ALASKAAIR (1-800-252-7522). Local Counter Hours of Operation: 4:45am-8:00am; 1:50pm-4:15pm; 10:30pm-11:30pm (Note: Hours of Operation May Change with Airline Schedule)

United Airlines | www.united.com

Service to and from Denver Hub. Local: 406-495-1100. Reservations: 800-864-833. Local Counter Hours of Operation: 4:00am-9:00am; 11:00am-3:00pm; 5:00pm-7:00pm

Exec Air Montana | www.execairmontana.com

2430 Airport Road, 442-2190, 1-800-513-2190. Air charter business that provides air taxi and air ambulance services, and sells aviation fuel.

Helena Aircraft, Inc.

3232 Airport Road, 442-8360. Aircraft charter and repair.

Vetter Aviation | vetteraviation.net

3080 Airport Road, 443-0066. Aircraft rental, flight instruction, and aircraft maintenance. Approved PSI/LaserGrade testing facility.

Helena Regional Airport | helenairport.com

2850 Skyway Dr., 422-2821.

VEHICLE REGISTRATION

<http://doj.mt.gov/driving/vehicletitleregistration.asp>

County treasurer's office, 316 N. Park Ave, Rm 142, 447-8328.

DRIVER'S LICENSING

<http://doj.mt.gov/driving/DRIVERlicensing.asp>

2708 Billings, 443-3680. Monday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Tues. - Fri. 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Appointments required for services other than renewals, ID cards and replacement licenses. You may apply for a driver's license at any driver exam station, regardless of where in Montana you live. Be prepared to pay for your license with cash or by check; credit cards are not accepted. Individuals with out-of-state licenses who wish to obtain a Montana driver's license must: apply for a Montana driver's license w/i 60 days of moving to the state if seeking a non-commercial driver's license and w/i 30 days if they need a commercial license, provide proof of identity, provide proof of Montana residency, and provide proof of authorized presence. They also may be required to pass written and driving tests, in addition to a vision test. Driver examiners may, at their discretion, waive the written and driving tests for individuals who have in their possession a valid license issued by another state.

UTILITIES-Garbage/Recycle**City of Helena Solid Waste Division**

www.ci.helena.mt.us/departments/publicworks

447-8082, 1975 N Benton Ave.

Helena Recycling | helenarecycling.com

457-2437. A curbside recycling company that provides recycling pick-up service every other week for residential and commercial customers in the Helena area.

S.A.V.E | savemobile.org**Student Advocates for Valuing the Environment Foundation**

S.A.V.E. works to directly expand recycling infrastructure, affect positive environmental policy, and provide educational resources and events in Helena and across Montana. Call 449-6008 or go online for recycling information and events.

Tri-County Disposal | www.ccsanitation.com

3630 York Rd., 227-6300.

UTILITIES-Power**Montana Propane | www.montanapropane.com**

3440 Centennial Dr., 449-6177; 1-800-449-6177

Northern Energy (propane) | www.northwesternenergy.com

2200 Airport Road, 442-5409, 1-800-683-0962.

Northwestern Energy | www.northwesternenergy.com

1315 North Last Chance Gulch, 1-888-467-2669.

PP&L Montana (electric) | www.pplmontana.com

406-533-3400; 1-800-342-5775. Weatherization, 3108 McHugh Drive

Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP)

To apply, download an application form at <http://www.dphhs.mt.gov/programsservices/energyassistance/energyassistanceapplication.pdf>. For more information contact the Rocky Mountain Development Council at 447-1625, 648 North Jackson or call the Montana Citizen's Advocate, toll-free, at 1-800-332-2272.

UTILITIES-Water

City of Helena, City-County Building, 447-8450. Most water is metered, and sewer rates are based on winter water consumption.

East Helena, water, sewer and garbage, city hall at 227-5321.

**Bulkley
Electric, Inc.**

442-9408

Helena