



# BEST OF HELENA

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# WINNERS



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## 2019 Best of Helena

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Congratulations to our caregivers who were recognized by members of the community for their extraordinary care.



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Palliative Care



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DOUGHTY, RN

Surgical Unit



AMANDA  
EVANS, RN

Same Day Services



ANDREW  
GILBERT, MD

Family Medicine



KERRY  
HALE, MD

Orthopaedic Surgeon



WILLIAM  
HARPER, MD

General Surgeon



KILEY  
KIRKSEY, MD

Family Medicine



ORPHA  
MONTGOMERY, RN

Women and  
Children's Unit



St. Peter's Health

*Thank you to all of our staff for raising the bar as we continue on our journey to become the gold standard for health care in Montana.*

## PEOPLE OF THE YEAR

### Best Artist

1st Place: Derek Miller - DM6

Owner and artist at DM6 Studio Tattoo and Fine Art, Deric Miller has been tattooing since 2007. He is a member of the National Tattoo Association and won an assortment of awards throughout the years. He specializes in black and white, pin ups, portraits, and photo realistic.

2nd Place: Jay Crider

3rd Place: Jami Daehn - Tattoo Syndicate

### Best Accountant

1st Place: Mari Williams

- Accounting & Tax Specialists

Mari Williams prides herself on being part of a local, family owned firm that provides the kind of customer service not found at big accounting firms. Williams has years of valuable experience to help take the hassle out of your tax returns. Contact her today for your personal or small business tax needs.

2nd Place: Anna Stitt - Anderson Zurmuehlen

Spencer Marks - Oilfield Tax Services, LLC

3rd Place: Van Barron

- Van H. Barron Accounting

Mary Donna Schultz - JCCS

### Best Attorney

1st Place: Anna Sherwood - Morrison,

Sherwood, Wilson, Deola, PLLP

Anne Sherwood graduated with honors from the Alexander Blewett III School of Law at the University of Montana. In 2016, she received the American Bar Association's Steiger Fellowship and the American Bar Association Ms. JD National Fellowship. She intends to focus her practice primarily on helping Montanans in the areas of consumer protection, campaign finance, employment, personal injury, intellectual property, and constitutional law.

2nd Place: Matthew Johnson

- Matthew Johnson Law Office PC

3rd Place: Rick Pyfer - Doubek, Pyfer & Storrar

### Best Auto Loan Officer

1st Place: Linda Garrett - RMCU

Linda Garrett has been helping the members of Rocky Mountain Credit Union with their lending needs for 15 years. In that time she has grown the credit union's loan portfolio and created wonderful partnerships in the process. Members enjoy working with her because she remembers every detail they share with her. Even when they

are not in her office for a new loan, they will stop by to say hi and catch up.

2nd Place: Don Kessler - Opportunity Bank

3rd Place: Lisa Nelson - Opportunity Bank

### Best Bartender

1st Place: Robert Starz - The Sapphire Bar

Robert Starz is one of Helena's renowned bartenders at The Sapphire Bar located along the Walking Mall in Downtown Helena. Sapphire Bar has 11 taps on hand of some of Montana's finest brews as well as a wide selection of spirits and wine. Next time you find yourself downtown, be sure to swing by and have Starz mix you a drink. One online reviewer commented, "Great bartender...Rob is amazing!" When Starz isn't busy pouring drinks at the Sapphire he has his hands full showing properties as a Realtor for Century 21 Heritage Realty..

2nd Place: Adam Imhoff - On Broadway

3rd Place: Kyle Whitney - Grubstake



[continued on page 6]

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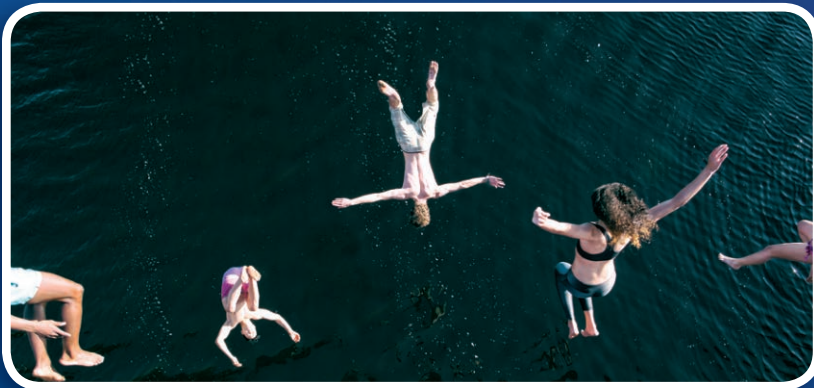
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## Best Car Salesperson

1st Place: Andy Petek - Lithia CJD

Andy Petek is a lifelong Helena resident and has been a salesman at Lithia for the past eight years. According to Chad Nethery, Lithia general manager, Petek has always been a leader on the sales floor, a solid team player, and constantly strives to deliver the best customer service. According to one online reviewer, "Andy Petek was wonderful. He went above and beyond to get me the best deal."

2nd Place: Christian Rupp - Lithia CJD

3rd Place: Kourtney Koch - Helena Motors

## Best Chef

1st Place: Andrew Brosten

- Wassweiler Dinner House

Raised in Helena, Andrew Brosten began his career studying at le Cordon Bleu Culinary School in Scottsdale, Arizona. After graduating culinary school he went onto work in various kitchens and even became a catering sous chef under the mentorship of Food TV star Beau MacMillan, who participated in and defeated Bobby Flay on Iron Chef America. He has worked alongside renowned chefs Michel Richard, Ming Tsai, Geoffrey Zakarian, Marcus Samuelsson, and Stephanie Izard. He has also cooked for

celebrities such as the late Muhammed Ali and former President George W. Bush. He now serves as head chef at the Wassweiler Dinner House in Helena.

2nd Place: Mike McWilliams - Montana Club

3rd Place: Mike Hyppa - Lucca's

## Best Chiropractor

1st Place: Brandon Blank

- Balanced Chiropractic

Dr. Brandon Blank graduated from Palmer College of Chiropractic in Davenport, Iowa in 2014. He has advanced training in extremity adjusting, soft tissue (trigger point) work, Blair Upper Cervical, toggle, Thompson drop, Gonstead, activator and flexion distraction. Excelling in chiropractic is one of his top passions in life. He is currently working on a research project to document the effectiveness of the Blair Upper Cervical protocol for headache and migraine cases. Blank commonly says "I don't feel like I work, I just show up to the office and enjoy every minute."

2nd Place: Benjamin Clack

- Big Sky Chiropractic

3rd Place: Vince Maddio

- Town Center Chiropractic

## Best Contractor

1st Place: Bob Andersen - Andersen Artisan  
Bob Andersen, founder of Andersen Artisan, brings 30 years of experience into every project. In addition to building experience, Bob has also been a full-time wildlife artist. He strives to build homes that complement the natural beauty of Montana. With 15 years of personal experience in alternative energy living, Bob also designs homes with efficiency in mind and is committed to building environmentally friendly homes.

2nd Place: Michael McCarthy

- Stonefly Construction

3rd Place: Kevin Montgomery

- Blue Mountain Builders

## Best Customer Service

1st Place: Costco

Costco Wholesale is a multi-billion-dollar global retailer with warehouse club operations in eight countries. Costco is a recognized leader in its field, dedicated to quality in every area of its business, and respected for its outstanding business ethics. Despite its large size and explosive international expansion, Costco continues to provide a family atmosphere in which employees thrive and succeed.

2nd Place: Kolar Tire & Auto

3rd Place: 1889 Coffee House

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## Best Dentist

*1st Place: April Walsh - Schauer, Ditchey & Walsh Family Dentistry*  
 Born and raised in Helena, April Schauer Walsh attended Carroll College and Oregon Health and Science University. She is a member of the Omicron Kappa Upsilon National Dental Honors Society, Delta Sigma Delta dental fraternity, Fifth District Dental Society, Montana Dental Association, and American Dental Association. April is dedicated to welcoming patients to the office in the same way she would welcome them into her home. She strives to ensure that each patient's visit to the office is a comfortable one.

*2nd Place: Christian Claeys - Claeys Family Dentistry*

*3rd Place: Nathan Ahlers - Ahlers Family Dentistry*

## Best Dermatologist

*1st Place: Jeffry Goldes - Associated Dermatology*  
 Jeffry A. Goldes is board certified in general dermatology, anatomic pathology, and dermatopathology Sub Specialty Fellowship. He graduated from Boston University School of Medicine. He received training in Anatomic Pathology, Dermatology and Dermatopathology,

both at University of Washington, in Seattle, and University of Minnesota, Minneapolis. He is a member of numerous specialty societies including the American Academy of Dermatology, and Montana Academy of Dermatology, Montana Medical Association and American Society of Dermatopathology. Goldes has been a member of the Test Committee for Dermatopathology for the American Board of Pathology. He has published numerous research articles and contributed to many textbook chapters about dermatology and dermatopathology topics.

*2nd Place: Kara Addison - Associated Dermatology*

*3rd Place: Latha Vellanki - Helena Dermatology*

## Best Electrician

*1st Place: Bulkley Electric*  
 Bulkley Electric is a family-owned electrical contractor providing residential and commercial electrical services to the Helena Valley since 1986. Bulkley prides themselves on adhering to the highest standards and pays careful attention to the tiniest detail. They only hire the best to make sure all of their customers receive the best service and work. They provide ongoing training to make sure their team is up to date on all the current code requirements. Bulkley Electric is bonded, licensed and insured with the state.

*2nd Place: Zach - Integrity Electric*

*3rd Place: Getty Parker - Ascension Electric*

## Best Esthetician

*1st Place: Amy Johnson - Opulence Aesthetics*  
 Amy has been working as an esthetician for seven years in Montana and Colorado. Helping people achieve their skin care goals and needs is her primary focus and true passion. She attended the Concentric Healing Institute in Boulder, Colorado where she received her certification for esthetics. She also attended the Rocky Mountain Laser College in Colorado and specializes in many advanced laser treatments and techniques and has in depth experience in advanced chemical peel treatments, microneedling, dermaplaning, microdermabrasion, microblading and various facial services.

*2nd Place: RaeAnn Hoveland - Opulence Aesthetics*

*3rd Place: Amanda Berkram - Crafted Aesthetics*

[continued on page 8]



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**Thank You Helena!**



## Best Firefighter

1st Place: Captain Vince Williams  
- Helena Fire Department

Vince Williams joined the Helena Fire Department in October 2000 and has been serving the community ever since. Williams was also honored as Firefighter of the Year in 2004. The Helena Fire Department is a living organization consisting of members who are committed to each other and the community they protect.

2nd Place: Josh Royan  
- Helena Fire Department  
3rd Place: Louie Menghini  
- Helena Fire Department

## Best Hairstylist

1st Place: Ashley Stevens - Teez Salon & Unique Boutique

Ashley Stevens, hairstylist at Teez Salon, is ready and willing to help you revamp your hairstyle for a new and improved you. One online reviewer commented that "Ashley did some foils on my hair and it turned out beautiful! Not only am I happy with the finished product, but she was very sweet to me while I was there. She listened to what I wanted and worked around my schedule to get me in." Visit Stevens at Teez for all of your hair cut, color, and style needs.

2nd Place: Ashley Hurt - Mahalo Salon

3rd Place: Chelsey Lundin  
- Capital Hill Barbershop

## Best Insurance Agent

1st Place: Tom Clinch - State Farm Insurance  
Tom Clinch loves helping people relocate to Helena. He provides free auto insurance and homeowners insurance quotes throughout the state of Montana and primarily in Helena. He helps people insure their cars as well as their home, whether they need renters insurance, condo insurance or homeowners insurance. Clinch takes the time to talk to everyone about the importance of life insurance as well to protect those we value most. He finds working with small business owners for their business insurance and planning needs rewarding as well since he is a small business owner too.

2nd Place: John Cochrane  
- Cochrane Insurance  
Joe Mitchell - State Farm Insurance (Tie)  
3rd Place: Michael Spotorno  
- State Farm Insurance

## Best Law Enforcement Officer


1st Place: William Harrington  
- Deputy Chief East Helena Police Department

Recently promoted from deputy chief of the East Helena Police Department to Chief, William Harrington has 16 years of experience in law enforcement, and has spent the last 11 years of his career working in the East Helena Police Department. At the time of his promotion, Harrington said he planned to focus on drug abuse education and prevention. Because the East Helena police force is a small one, Harrington also emphasizes maintaining good relationships with the larger law enforcement agencies operating in Lewis and Clark County.

2nd Place: Sheriff Leo Dutton  
- Lewis & Clark County  
3rd Place: David Gleich  
- MT Highway Patrol Trooper



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**City of  
Helena**



The Helena Fire Department would like to thank the citizens of Helena for their continuing support.

Congratulations to Captain Vince Williams (pictured), Lieutenant Louis Menghini and Josh Royan for your honorable service and recognition by this award from our community.

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## Best Local Band

1st Place: *Ten Years Gone*

Ten Years Gone is a classic rock, alternative, and pop dance band. Members include Mark Walker (keyboards/vocals), Ken Nelson (keyboards/vocals), Robert Doughty (lead guitar/vocals), Jeremy Slead (drums/vocals), Dennis Ferriter (bass), and Ben Fandry (lead vocals). The band has been playing in Helena and the surrounding area since 2007.

2nd Place: *Insufficient Funds Band*

3rd Place: *The Clintons*

## Best Mechanic

1st Place: *Joe Miller - Point S*

Whenever you need maintenance, service, or repair on your car or truck, Joe Miller at Point S is committed to providing customers with the best possible service and repair experience. According to one online review, "Joe Miller is a great certified master tech and always works hard to repair your vehicle correctly the first time." Joe and all the staff at Point S are proud to serve you in all your automotive needs. From tires, brake work, and alignments, all the way to engine diagnostics, they are here to serve you.

2nd Place: *Ken Iwen - Iwen Automotive*

3rd Place: *Todd Harding*  
- *Capital City Transmission*

## Best Mortgage Loan Officer

1st Place: *Crystal Eckerson*  
- *Opportunity Bank of Montana*

Crystal Eckerson joined Opportunity Bank in 2018 as a home loan division branch manager for the Helena market. With 10 years lending experience in Helena and surrounding areas, and 17 years' experience in finance, Eckerson is a recognized leader in the mortgage industry. She specializes in customizing mortgage solutions and working with home buyers to find the best options for each situation. Her goal is to make the mortgage process an easy, seamless one and Opportunity Bank's local processing, underwriting, and closing help ensure this result. Eckerson takes great pride in her reputation as an honest and ethical loan officer and making the process of obtaining a mortgage as simple as possible for her clients and referral partners.

2nd Place: *Cuyler Tonkovich*  
- *Opportunity Bank of Montana*  
3rd Place: *Don Kessler*  
- *Opportunity Bank of Montana*

## Best Nurse

1st Place: *Orpha Montgomery*  
- *St. Peter's Health*

Orpha Montgomery, RN, has been delivering babies and caring for mothers for over 30 years at St. Peter's Health. She is known for going the extra mile and helping new moms feel confident and comfortable. In 2019, Montgomery received the Daisy Foundation Award for extraordinary nurses.

2nd Place: *Jen Doughty - St. Peters Health*  
3rd Place: *Amanda Evans - St. Peters Health*



[continued on page 10]



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## Best Optometrist

*1st Place: Bill Hasquet and Bill Simons  
- Montana Eyecare (Tie)*

Dr. Bill Hasquet joined Montana Eyecare in August 1997 in partnership with Dr. Bill Simons. Hasquet received his doctorate degree in optometry in 1997 from Southern California College of Optometry. He has been a strong leader in Montana as President of the Montana Optometric Association and member of the American Optometric Association. He was named Montana's Young Optometrist of the Year and continues to be active in his profession. Hasquet has dedicated himself to delivering the very best optometric care to each and every patient he serves.

Dr. Bill Simons purchased the optometric practice of Dr. Mike Coffey and began practicing at Montana Eyecare in August 1986. Dr. Simons graduated from Carroll College with a bachelor's degree in biology and continued his education at Southern California College of Optometry, receiving his doctorate degree in Optometry in 1982. Simons is past president of the Montana Optometric Association and the Great Western Council of Optometry. He has been named Optometrist of the Year several times and

continues to be active promoting the profession he loves. Simons is Board Certified by the American Board of Optometry.

*2nd Place: Nicole Hendriksen  
- Helena Vision Center  
3rd Place: Matthew Nottingham  
- Helena Vision Center*

## Best Orthodontist

*1st Place: Jeffrey Foster - Helena Orthodontics*  
At Helena Orthodontics, Dr. Jeffrey Foster offers comprehensive orthodontic services for children, teens, and adults, including WildSmiles, ceramic and metal braces, and Invisalign clear aligners. Foster graduated with honors and a doctorate of Dental Medicine from Oregon Health and Sciences University and received an Advanced Certificate in Orthodontics from Nova Southeastern University. For Foster, nothing is more rewarding than seeing someone smile confidently after a treatment well done. His goal is to help patients achieve such beautiful, healthy smiles that they cannot help but to confidently show their new attractive teeth to the world.

*2nd Place: Adam Ostby  
- Ballweber & Ostby Orthodontics  
3rd Place: Timothy Ballweber  
- Ballweber & Ostby Orthodontics*

## Best Pediatrician

*1st Place: Michelle Danielson  
- Partners In Pediatrics*

Dr. Michelle Danielson was born and raised in Sidney, Montana, and graduated from Carroll College. She earned her medical degree at the University of Nevada School of Medicine and completed her residency in pediatrics at Blank Children's Hospital in Des Moines, Iowa, where she has also served as chief resident. Danielson has served the Helena community for over 12 years. She also provides care for abused children as a member of the Lewis and Clark County Child Advocacy Center's multidisciplinary team. Additionally, she has provided care at health clinics as part of medical missions to Grenada, Honduras, and Mexico and enjoys volunteering in underserved areas.


*2nd Place: Tom Strizich - Partners in Pediatrics  
3rd Place: Kari Loomis - Partners in Pediatrics*



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## Best Photographer

1st Place: Samantha Yearry  
- Yearry Photography

For Yearry Photography owner Samantha Yearry, photography first started as a hobby. But over the years it has transformed into a flourishing business and earned Yearry the reputation of "Helena's Most Caring Photographer." Yearry Photography specializes in maternity, newborns, and infants.

2nd place: Jacqui Smith - Floating Leaf Studios  
3rd place: Tess Dana Photography

## Best Physical Therapist

1st Place: Matthew Fischer  
- Fischer Physical Therapy

Founder and owner of Fischer Physical Therapy, Matthew Fischer received his master's of science in physical therapy in 2000 from the University of Montana. He has practiced in Helena since that time in outpatient orthopedic settings exclusively. In 2004, Matthew set out to establish Fischer Physical Therapy with emphasis on quality care and superior results. Matthew's approach focuses on specialized hands-on techniques, while progressing each client toward independent management with gentle exercise. In 2005, Matthew became 1 of 50 therapists in

the U.S. to complete advanced training in Primal Reflex Release Technique.

2nd Place: Kyle Cicero  
- Ascension Physical Therapy  
3rd Place: Anna Larson  
- Ascension Physical Therapy  
Jenell Day - Peak Physical Therapy (Tie)

## Best Physician

1st Place: Andrew Gilbert - St. Peter's Health  
Andrew Gilbert, MD came to Helena from St. Mary's Hospital in Cottonwood, Idaho, where he had been practicing family medicine for five years. Dr. Gilbert earned his medical degree from the University of Washington School of Medicine and completed his residency at the Family Medicine Residency of Idaho. Dr. Gilbert's interests in medicine include the full spectrum of family medicine including pediatrics, adult medicine, and sports medicine. In addition, he performs colonoscopies and upper endoscopies.

2nd Place: Jessica Bailey - St. Peter's Health  
3rd Place: Kiley Kirksey - St. Peter's Health

## Best Plumber

1st Place: Harris Plumbing

Harris Plumbing is known as the Helena Valley's and southwest Montana's "most trusted and reputable plumbing and heating provider.

They have over 16 years of experience in new construction, plumbing services, hot water heat and more.

2nd Place: 3 Brothers Plumbing  
3rd Place: Brandon Pocha, Luke Campbell and Matt Losey (3 way Tie)

## Best Realtor/Broker

1st Place: Jolene Lloyd  
- Century 21 Heritage Realty

Born and raised in Montana, Jolene Lloyd graduated from Carroll College prior to starting a career as a Realtor. Being a Realtor is Lloyd's passion and she enjoys working with both buyers and sellers in and around the Helena area to help purchase or sell their homes. She knows that buying a home is one of the most important decisions a person will ever make, so she strives to be there for her clients to help every step of the way. According to one online reviewer, "Jolene Lloyd's extensive understanding of the Helena market gave us great confidence that she would get the best price for our home. She constantly re-evaluated the market to ensure we received the highest amount possible."

2nd place: Mary Hibbard - Windermere Realty  
3rd place: Tobie McDonnell - North Star Realty

[continued on page 13]

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## Best Server

1st Place: Dean Mack  
- Brewhouse Pub & Grille

Dean Mack has been a server at the Brewhouse Pub & Grill for the past nine years. According to Kitty Brown, Brewhouse owner, Mack is "Very professional, personable, and responsible." Brown credits his success as a server to the multitude of people he knows on a personal level in town.

2nd Place: Samantha Stephenson  
- Wassweiler  
3rd Place: Sean Kelly - On Broadway

## Best Surgeon

1st Place: William Harper - St. Peter's Health  
William Harper, MD is board certified with the American Board of Surgery. Dr. Harper earned his medical degree from Wright State University in Dayton, Ohio. Dr. Harper completed his general surgery residency at St. Joseph Hospital in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. He completed a vascular surgery fellowship at Jewish Hospital in Cincinnati. Dr. Harper also completed a year as the Chief Surgical Resident at Jewish Hospital. He then completed a surgical fellowship at St. Louis University. Before joining St. Peter's Health Medical Group, Dr. Harper was in private practice

in Helena since 1988.

2nd Place: John Michelotti  
- Helena Orthopaedic Clinic  
3rd Place: Kerry Hale - St. Peter's Health

## Best Veterinarian

1st Place: Brenda Culver  
- Montana Veterinary Specialists and Mandy McGowan  
- Animal Center Veterinary Hospital (Tie)

Dr. Brenda Culver is an Alaska native. She is a graduate of Colorado State University School of Veterinary Medicine. She spent an additional year at Purdue University in advanced training in small animal medicine and surgery. She has a strong interest in ophthalmology and is a member of the American Society of Veterinary Ophthalmology.

Dr. Mandy McGowan is a Helena native who graduated from both Capital High School and Carroll College. Since completing the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine program at Colorado State University in 2007, Dr. McGowan has been practicing in the Helena area.

2nd Place: Keith Stav  
- Bridger Veterinary Hospital  
3rd Place: Heidi Wampler - Alpine Animal Clinic

## RETAIL & SERVICES

### Best Art Gallery

1st Place: Ghost Art Gallery

Helena's Ghost Art Gallery derives its name from its early days when it largely featured paintings depicting the area's ghost towns. Established in 1974, the Ghost Art Gallery has since flourished into a 4,200 square foot gallery, including a frame and design area upstairs in the space where Helena's renowned madam—Big Dorothy—ran her brothel. The Ghost Art Gallery specializes in Western and wildlife art, with works by over 80 Montana artists.

2nd Place: Holter Museum of Art  
3rd Place: Alan Snell/Bear's Den



[continued on page 14]

# #1

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# #1

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**Best Auto Service/Repair***1st Place: Point S J&J Tire*

J&J Point S Tire & Auto Service and Point S Capital City Tire & Auto Service are locally owned and operated. Both stores are proud to serve customers in all their automotive needs. From tires, brake work, and alignments, all the way to engine diagnostics, they are here to serve you.

*2nd place: Kolar Tire & Auto**3rd place: Meineke Car Care Center***Best Bank***1st Place: Valley Bank of Helena*

Valley Bank opened its doors in 1978, with values rooted in community, family, excellence, and making a difference. Today the bank proudly serves the area with five full-service branches in Helena and a sixth in East Helena. A local bank with its own management team, Valley Bank is known for friendly service and personal attention that make it an easy choice for customers every day—with core values that remain as important as they were 40 years ago.

*2nd Place: Opportunity Bank of Montana**3rd Place: First Interstate Bank***Best Bike Shop***1st Place: Great Divide Cyclery*

Great Divide Cyclery was built on a passion for biking, the Montana outdoors and Helena's local community. No matter your biking goals or skill level, Great Divide Cyclery will connect you with the perfect bike for your needs. They are one of the few bike shops in the state that has a fit protocol for every bike they sell so every customer walks away with the correct bike fit. Great Divide is also a passionate cycling advocate in the Helena area through the organization of trail maintenance projects, organized cycling events and weekly rides, and working with private and public individuals/organization for greater trail access.

*2nd Place: Big Sky Cycling & Fitness**3rd Place: The Garage***Best Boat Shop***1st Place: Montana Boat Center*

Since 1992, Montana Boat Center has been providing the Helena area with quality boat and powersports sales and service. They are one of the few boat dealers in Helena (possibly Montana) that has as much space dedicated to service as they do to sales. Stop by their showroom to view their line of new and used ski

and wakeboard, fishing, cruisers, pontoons and marine accessories. They support brands such as Bennington, Chapparral, Starcraft, and Tige. In addition, they have the complete line of the latest Arctic Cat ATVs and snowmobiles available.

*2nd Place: High Country Boats**3rd Place: Townsend Marine/Ace Boat Repair***Best Car Wash***1st Place: Woody's Car Wash*

Woody's is a classic car wash combining brushless, touchless power washing with the personalized attention of attendants to ensure your vehicle shines like new when it leaves. Each car wash also includes a free vacuum. They also offer windshield chip repair. One online reviewer shared, "My car was really dirty and they got it shined right up! Best car wash in town."

*2nd Place: Town Pump**3rd Place: Rod's N Dogs Car Wash***Best Church***1st Place: Cathedral of Saint Helena*

The Cathedral of St. Helena is the cathedral of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Helena. It was constructed at the turn of the century during the episcopate of Bishop John Carroll. It is an outstanding example of Geometric Gothic architecture, patterned after the Votive Church



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of the Sacred Heart in Vienna, Austria. Stained glass windows, white marble altars, statues carved of pure Carrara marble, and genuine gold leaf decorates the sanctuary. The pews and woodwork are all done in hand carved oak. The lighting fixtures are of hand-forged bronze with a special lacquer finish. Outside, majestic twin spires rise 230 feet above the street. With over 1,467 households in attendance at the Cathedral today, it is a home for many in the community as well as an architectural masterpiece to watch over the town.

2nd Place: Helena First Assembly of God

3rd Place: Narrate Church

### Best Church Choir

1st Place: St. Paul's United Methodist

St. Paul's United Methodist Church is a Christian community in the heart of downtown Helena. Their Chancel Choir sings on Sunday mornings and for other special events throughout the year. They practice on Sunday mornings at the church. They also have a group called the Sunrise Singers that sings once a month.

2nd Place: Cathedral of Saint Helena

3rd Place: Helena First Assembly of God



[continued on page 16]

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**Best Clothing Store***1st Place: Macy's*

First established in 1858, Macy's is the Great American Department Store. Experience the excitement of shopping by visiting Helena's Macy's in the Northside Center. They offer women's and men's apparel, shoes, jewelry, makeup, housewares and gifts.

*2nd Place: Poppyseed Boutique**3rd Place: Stacks***Best Construction Company***1st Place: Dick Anderson Construction*

Founded in 1975, Dick Anderson Construction has grown from a small, private client company into a large corporation handling multi-million-dollar commercial projects. They handle all aspects of contracting and construction management including commercial office buildings, medical centers, large institutional renovations, higher education facilities, wastewater treatment facilities, banking facilities, bridges, dams, parking structures, historical renovations, ranch infrastructure, large residential projects and large retail projects. With offices in Helena, Billings, Great Falls, and Missoula, Montana as well as Sheridan, Wyoming, Dick Anderson has built clients across

many western States. Named to Engineering News-Record's Top 400 contractors in 2016, Dick Anderson Construction is the region's contractor to watch in the coming years.

*2nd Place: Golden Eagle Construction / Diamond Construction (Tie)**3rd Place: Sussex Construction***Best Credit Union***1st Place: Intrepid Credit Union*

Intrepid Credit Union was established in Helena in 1936 as "Helena U.S. Employees Federal Credit Union". Since that time, the name has changed a few times but the membership and the services they offer continued to grow. Intrepid offers its members the latest in technology as well as a full menu of products - from all types of loans (including mortgage) to 24 hour account information by phone or internet, bill pay, checking, various savings accounts for all ages, as well as IRA's, Share Certificates and VISA. Intrepid has three full service locations in Helena with drive through ATMs, plus standalone ATMs at eight different locations in town.

*2nd Place: Rocky Mountain Credit Union**3rd Place: Vocal Credit Union***Best Date Night Location***1st Place: On Broadway*

On Broadway is a casual sit down restaurant in the heart of Helena's historic downtown. They offer world cuisine with emphasis in Italian with fresh made pasta and west coast fusion using a variety of fresh fish and jazzy sauces. Every Thursday night, they feature live jazz. Come to On Broadway to enjoy fine, fresh food made and served by fine, fun people.

*2nd Place: Lucca's Fine Italian Restaurant**3rd Place: Wassweiler Dinner House***Best Daycare***1st Place: Little Angel Daycare**& Preschool*

Little Angel Daycare & preschool offers standard childcare and learning services. It offers programs for infants, toddlers, early preschool, preschool, and kindergarten prep. It also offers before and after school programs, including summer camps and winter break activities. The staff at Little Angel strive to provide a safe and loving Christian based atmosphere. Their focus is to provide a stimulating early care environment.

*2nd Place: 3 R's Early Education Center**3rd Place: Creative Horizons***Commit to be fit with us in 2020**

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## Best Employment Agency

*1st Place: A2Z Staffing Solutions*

A2Z Staffing Solutions is an independent, women-owned and run employment agency for all professions since 1995. A2Z provides clerical, professional, technical, light industrial and construction personnel for private and public employers. The staff at A2Z pride themselves on the fact that they “work for you.” A2Z is dedicated to placing the best possible candidates that match the position not only with skills and experience but with the company’s internal culture as well. In 2016, A2Z was also honored for Outstanding Communications and Marketing Program for their “Mismatched?” advertising campaign by the American Staffing Association.

*2nd Place: Weststaff*

*3rd Place: Express Services*



## Best Event Venue

*1st Place: Helena Civic Center*

Originally built as a Shrine temple in 1920, the Helena Civic Center is now owned and operated by the City of Helena. The Helena Civic Center offers the community a unique place to enjoy concerts, conferences, conventions, banquets, balls, wedding receptions, expositions, art shows and other special events. The Helena Civic Center houses two major facilities: the 1,925 seat auditorium theater and the 15,000 square foot ballroom exhibition hall, which is used for banquets, craft shows, dances, weddings, trade shows and conferences. The ballroom facility includes a second floor mezzanine overlooking the ballroom and a catering kitchen with a walk-in cooler. The auditorium contains a green room, two stage-level dressing rooms and two upper-level dressing rooms.

*2nd Place: Kleffner Ranch*

*3rd Place: Lewis & Clark County Fairgrounds*

## Best Festival or Event

*1st Place: Intermountain Festival of Trees*

Held annually the first week of December at the Helena Civic Center, Festival of Trees is Intermountain’s largest fundraising event of the

year. With elaborately decorated trees, musical and artistic performances, dancing, children’s activities and more, it is a truly unique event. Intermountain is a nationally accredited non-profit organization that provides mental health and educational services to effectively meet the diverse needs of children and families facing emotional challenges.

*2nd Place: Alive at Five*

*3rd Place: Last Chance Stampede & Fair*

## Best Flower Shop

*1st Place: Westmont Flower & Trading Company*

West Mont Flower & Trading Company offers people with developmental disabilities the opportunity to learn and develop basic vocational skills in a structured environment. Trained staff provide supervision and job coaching to help them reach their maximum potential while meeting all of your floral needs. Your support helps to benefit our clients and this program. Their products and services include floral arrangements for any occasion, wholesale flowers and supplies, locally made soap, handmade crafts, and much more.

*2nd Place: Knox Flowers & Gifts*

*3rd Place: The Herb & Garden*

*[continued on page 18]*

# Thank You Helena For Voting



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## Best Furniture Store

1st Place: Ruckers Furniture

Family owned and operated since 1962, Rucker's Furniture has long been committed to offering quality home furnishings and bedding at affordable prices. Ruckers' flagship store at 1010 Dearborn Ave. offers a 30,000 square-foot showroom featuring a variety of styles and designs for living rooms, dining rooms, bedrooms, home office, lighting, entertainment and mattresses. Ruckers' Furniture Showroom, at 2200 N. Last Chance Gulch, offers another 7,000 square feet of furniture and bedding for their most budget-minded customers.

2nd Place: Appleton Furniture Design Center

3rd Place: Ashley HomeStore

## Best Grocery Store

1st Place: WinCo

Helena's newest grocery store, WinCo Foods first opened in March 2019. The employee-owned grocery store boasts 84,000 square feet and offers a wide selection of produce, meat, deli, seafood, and bakery items. To keep their prices low, WinCo also offers a number of bulk food items. Experience WinCo's signature low prices and quality grocery selection today.

2nd Place: Van's Thriftway

3rd Place: Super 1 Foods

## Best Gym

1st Place: Capital City Health Club

Eight years running, Capital City Health Club has been voted the best in Helena. But with 70 pieces of cardio equipment with personal viewing screens and iPod integration, a large free weight area, three group fitness studios, basketball/volleyball court, sauna and steam room, three pools, a juice bar and kids club, how could it not have landed the top spot? Amenities aside, Capital City's main concern is helping its members fulfill fitness goals and build healthy lifestyles for themselves.

2nd Place: Planet Fitness

3rd Place: Seven Devils CrossFit

## Best Hair Salon or Barber

1st Place: Capital Hill Barber Shop

& Styling Salon

Whether you're looking for a blow out or a full hair care makeover, Helena's Capital Hill Barber Shop has you covered. The stylists at this salon are trained in a wide variety of hair care services, including cut and color processes. Guests looking for last-minute beauty services will love

the walk-in policy at this salon in Helena. Men and women alike will find a stylist they like at Capital Hill Barber Shop, where everyone leaves with locks they love. From its beginning as a small barbershop in the Capital Hill Shopping Center in 1965 to the present, the shop has continued to grow and thrive.

2nd Place: Mirror Mirror Salon

3rd Place: Halo Salon

## Best Home Improvement Store

1st Place: Lowes

Lowes of Helena works to improve the experience of all home improvement projects. Thinking about remodeling your bathroom? Lowes offers a wide selection of tile, cabinets, countertops and light fixtures to get the job done. Is it time to repaint your house, finish out the garage or build an addition on? Lowes is your one-stop-shop to begin tackling all these projects and more.

2nd Place: Home Depot

3rd Place: Power Townsend

[continued on page 20]



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### Best Hotel/Lodging

*1st Place: Best Western Great Northern Hotel*

Conveniently located in the Great Northern Town Center of historic downtown Helena, the Best Western Premier Great Northern Hotel is a perfect destination for the business or leisure traveler. The hotel's décor is reminiscent of the Great Northern Railroad days and offers a variety of luxury rooms. Featuring an indoor pool and hot tub, 24 hour fitness room and spacious conference center, the Great Northern Hotel offers something for everyone. With the Silver Star Steak Company next door, nearby shops and Cinemark Helena and XD theatre a block away, guests find it themselves in the heart of everything when they stay at the Great Northern Hotel.

*2nd Place: Delta Hotels by Marriott Helena Colonial*

*3rd Place: Double Tree*

### Best Internet Provider

*1st Place: Montana Internet*

Montana Internet was Helena's first internet provider when they launched their dial-up service back in 1994. Since then they've been busy building a broadband network that connects thousands of residential and business customers across several regions of the Treasure State. Now, in their 25th year, their team is laser-focused on strengthening their wireless network and bringing fiber optic internet to more people every day.

*2nd Place: Spectrum*

*3rd Place: Treasure State*

### Best Jewelry

*1st Place: Eaton Turner Jewelry*

Eaton Turner is a full service jewelry store that has served the Helena area since 1885. Owner, Corey Johnson, specializes in making customer jewelry and spends his days crafting unique and timeless pieces for his customers. Some of his pieces were even selected several years in a row as Best of Show at the Montana-Wyoming Jewelers' Association Design Competition. Johnson is a Graduate Gemologist with a certification from the Gemological Institute of America and also has an educational background in graphic design. At Eaton Turner, they love to think outside the box and create pieces their customers will be proud to wear for years. Whether it is a repair on a family heirloom, creating a new piece from that heirloom or starting with a fresh idea and a stone, the staff at Eaton Turner is ready to serve your needs.

*2nd Place: Barnes Jewelry*

*3rd Place: Imagine Designs*

### Best Landscape/Sprinkler Company

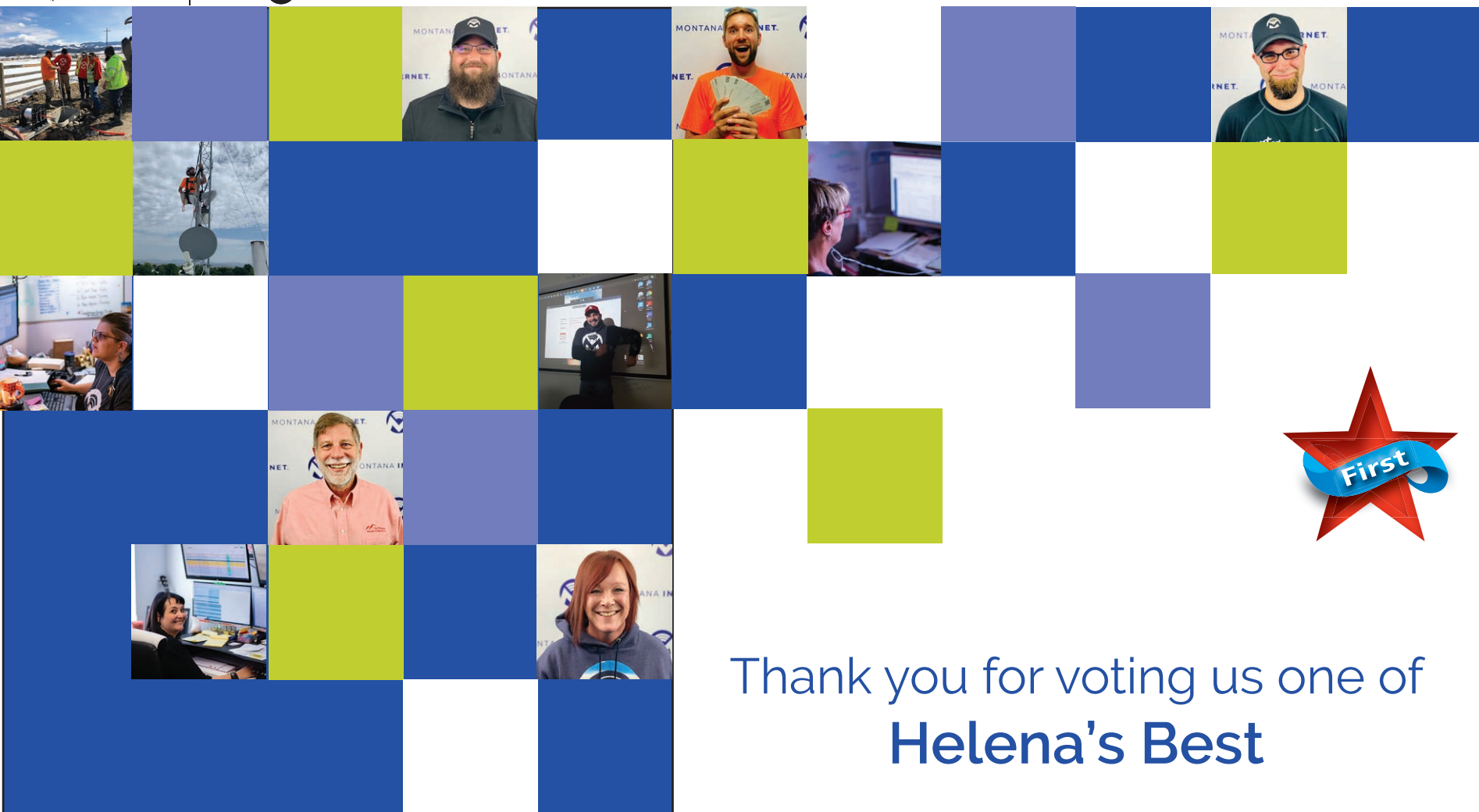
*1st Place: Spieker Sprinklers*

The Spieker team can do it all from sales, service, and planning to installation and repair for residential and commercial sprinkler projects. They also offer law care services, spring sprinkler system startups and fall sprinkler system winterization. With over 80 combined years of sprinkler system experience, the staff at Spieker provide nothing but "top shelf" performance. They take great pride in their sprinkler installation and only uses the very best products like Hunter and Rainbird Sprinkler systems.

*2nd Place: Silvertip Landscaping*

*3rd Place: Gardenwerks Nursery and Landscaping*

[continued on page 22]



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## Best Massage

*1st Place: Mariposa Massage*

Mariposa Massage & Healing Center was established to make a difference in the health and well-being of the people in our community. MMHC is a calm, relaxing place clients can come for a truly unforgettable massage experience that will always leave you wanting to come back for another. Mariposa Massage is all about providing transformational treatment massages and a new lease on life with pain management. Mariposa Massage tailors clients' transformation with an evidence-based approach to meet your goals for every session. The therapists at Mariposa are here to support clients in achieving their health goals by providing healing touch through therapeutic massage.

*2nd Place: Mighty Mo Salon*

*3rd Place: Mahalo*

## Best Meat Department

*1st Place: Van's Thriftway*

Van's Thriftway customers have continually selected Van's Meat Department as the "best in town" over the years. The meat department's friendly staff not only keeps a great meat case but will bend over backward to help with custom cuts for customers and any special

events customers are preparing for. Van's meat department offers a butcher block of beef, seafood and their own ground sausage. They carry a full line of Montana "Red Neck" products, Montana beef and Montana pork products. Their fresh "ground daily burger" as well as all of their meat products will satisfy even the most discriminating tastes and budgets. Van's in-store butchers are always there to provide assistance unavailable anywhere else.

*2nd Place: Costco*

*3rd Place: Super 1 Foods*

## Best Motorcycle/ATV Dealer

*1st Place: Poet Motorcycles*

Family-owned and operated, Poet Motorcycles provides the latest and best in powers ports products to make your outdoor living more enjoyable. From the most recent in ATV technology to the hottest new motorcycles, Poet can help you find the recreational vehicle that's made for you. Combine this wide array of selections with their friendly and knowledgeable staff, and Poet Motorcycles will become your only stop for all of your power sports needs. From the minute you walk through the door, meeting your needs is Poet's top priority. Founded not only on excellent customer service,

but also on the principles of hard work and a focused attitude, Poet Motorcycles has a long list of satisfied customers.

*2nd Place: Helena Cycle Center*

*3rd Place: Mount Helena Motor Sports*

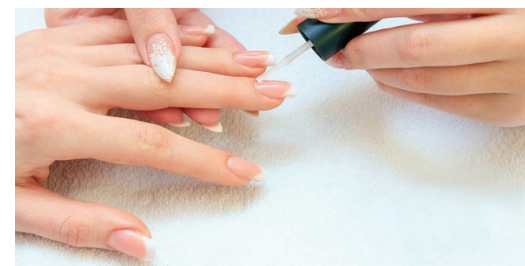
## Best Nail Salon

*1st Place: Paradise Nails & Spa*

When you're on the hunt for a quality and affordable local nail salon, look no further than Paradise Nails and Spa. Paradise Nails specializes in design/color tips, acrylic, gel nails, fading/tie-dye nails, shellac, mani/pedi, nail art and hand painted designs. Whether you're wanting to jazz up your nails with flowers, snowflakes, palm trees or the Easter bunny, Paradise Nails will decorate nails for any occasion.

*2nd Place: Country Beauty*

*3rd Place: Pro Nails*



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### Best New Car Dealership

1st place: *Helena Motors*

Helena Motors sells three of America's top selling brands: Ford, Honda, Lincoln and Toyota. The staff's goal is to "exceed your expectations at all times." Helena Motors loves getting to know their customers and each time they visit, the staff strives to ensure those customers have the best possible experience. From helping you select, finance and purchase your vehicle to keeping it serviced and maintained throughout your ownership of it, Helena Motors is committed to its customers long after your first drive your new vehicle off the lot.

2nd Place: *Placer Motors*

3rd Place: *Lithia Chevrolet Buick GMC of Helena*

### Best Pawn Shop

1st place: *Dave's Pawn*

Located in Downtown Helena along Last Chance Gulch, Dave's Pawn was founded by Dave Schlick in 2001. Dave's is known for its good prices, quality merchandise, and fair and friendly staff. According to one online reviewer, "The great folks at Dave's Pawn are kind, considerate, and really care about our community. They are fair and the prices are very honest. Great place

to get a loan when you need it or shop for a unique item."

2nd Place: *Capital Pawn*

3rd Place: *Alias Smith & Jones Pawn*

### Best Pet Boarding/Grooming

1st Place: *PetSmart*

Founded in 1986, PetSmart is the largest specialty pet retailer of services and solutions for the lifetime needs of pets. PetSmart provides a broad range of competitively priced pet food and products and offers unique pet services including training, pet grooming, boarding, PetSmart Doggie Day Camp and in-store pet adoptions. Whether it's a pamper day, playdate, sleepover, training class or veterinary visit, PetSmart provides the best in pet services with highly trained, passionate associates.

2nd Place: *SkyHi Kennel*

3rd Place: *Alpine Animal Clinic*

### Best Place for Kids' Fun

1st Place: *ExplorationWorks*

Located in the Great Northern Town Center, ExplorationWorks Science Center's mission is to ignite a lifelong love for science to enrich Montana's future. ExplorationWorks offers hands-on exhibits, programs, workshops, classes, and camps for kids, youths, families,

seniors, as well as school and community groups.

2nd Place: *Flippin' Family Fun*

3rd Place: *Great Northern Carousel*

### Best Place to Buy Books

1st Place: *Montana Book Company*

Montana Book Company is an independent community bookseller located in historic downtown Helena since 1978. Their experienced and knowledgeable staff strive to create a bookstore that is tailored to meet the needs of their customers. They specialize in books about Montana and books by Western authors. The store also specializes in quality children's books and creative and educational specialty toys.

2nd Place: *Aunt Bonnie's Book & Gifts*

3rd Place: *Costco*



[continued on page 26]

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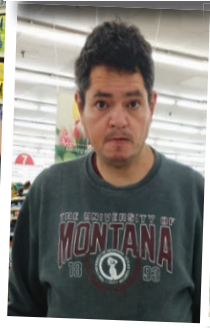
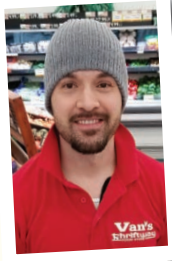
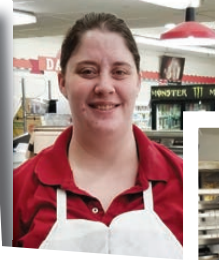
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## Best Place to Buy Fitness Equipment

*1st Place: Better Body Fitness*

Better Body Fitness of Montana is a locally owned company proudly serving Montana and Northern Wyoming since 1999. They have an energetic team of experts that will help you or your business take the hassle out of choosing, buying, installing, and repairing top quality fitness equipment. The showrooms at Better Body Fitness feature all of the latest home fitness equipment as well as a great selection of pre-owned and consigned equipment.

*2nd Place: Play it Again Sports*

*3rd Place: Bob Ward's*

## Best Place to Buy Pet Supplies

*1st Place: Petco*

Petco's story began in 1965 when Walter Evans opened a mail-order veterinary supplies business. Over the years, the business continued developing to better meet the changing needs of the pet supply business and consumers. In 1980 Evans opened the first official Petco store in Oregon. Today, Petco has more than 1,200 stores nationwide that offer a wide selection of top quality products to meet the needs of a variety of pets. Whether you're looking for food, beds and carriers, ID tags or even a funny outfit or

two, Petco is the place to go. Petco also offers a full service dog grooming salon, dog training classes, pet vaccinations and pet adoption events.

*2nd Place: PetSmart*

*3rd Place: Murdoch's Ranch & Home Supply*

## Best Place to Buy Unique Gifts

*1st Place: General Mercantile*

Take just one step into the General Mercantile and you feel like you've stepped back in time into a classic general store from the pioneer days. With vintage posters and signs lining the wall, novelty candy and trinkets you thought disappeared with your childhood, wooden barrels, a Koi pond and an old fashioned soda fountain and coffee bar, a trip to "The Merc," as it's called, is an experience unlike any other. From apparel, mugs, and magnets to games and toys, candy, and cards, the General Mercantile has gifts for any occasion.

*2nd Place: Birds & Beasleys and*

*Mae & June Vintage Market (Tie)*

*3rd Place: Leslie's Hallmark*

## Best Plant Nursery

*1st Place: Valley Farms*

Valley Farms has been Helena's complete garden center and nursery since 1974. They grow a wide variety of perennials and flowering ornament plants and offer Montana hardy trees and shrubs. They specialize in organic alternatives to gardening and are known for their juicy vine ripened, pesticide free tomatoes grown on site. Valley Farms also hosts a variety of gardening classes from April through May.

*2nd Place: Chadwick Nursery*

*3rd Place: Gardenwerks Nursery and Landscaping*

## Best Produce Department

*1st Place: Super 1 Foods*

Open since June 2014, Helena's Super 1 Foods is a full service supermarket that offers a large natural/organic foods department as well as a wide selection of seafood, wine, and fresh bakery items. Super 1 is owned and operated by the McIntire family, which owns and operates over a dozen stores in Montana and Idaho.

*2nd Place: Safeway*

*3rd Place: Winco*

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### Best Real Estate Agency

*1st Place: Big Sky Brokers*

Founded in 2001, Big Sky Brokers has a selective team of the most experienced and reputable agents in Helena and surrounding areas. Today the firm includes more than 25 full time brokers representing diverse backgrounds and impressive track records in Helena real estate, including residential homes, land, commercial, investment, and development real estate transactions. The Big Sky team maintains comprehensive knowledge of Montana real estate markets in the communities of Helena, East Helena, Montana City, Clancy, Jefferson City, Avon, Boulder, Craig, Elliston, Lincoln, Townsend, and Wolf Creek.

*2nd Place: Century 21 Heritage Realty*

*3rd Place: Joyner Realty*

### Best Retail Beer Selection

*1st Place: Super 1 Foods*

(Super 1 Foods also took first place in the Best Produce Department)

*2nd Place: Van's Thriftway*

*3rd Place: Toppers Cellar*

### Best Retail Wine Selection

*1st Place: Topper's Celler*

The secret behind Toppers' popularity is its wide and unique selection of wine and beer as well as extensive knowledge available to advise customers. As one online reviewer shared, "Excellent wine and micro/import beer selection. They'll help you find the perfect beverage for enjoying the patio or a delectable dinner."

*2nd Place: Island Liquor*

*3rd Place: The Hawthorn*

### Best Senior Living Community

*1st Place: Touchmark*

Touchmark is situated on 11.5 green acres in Helena. With first-rate amenities, award-winning features, such as their Full Life Wellness & Life Enrichment Program, an outstanding culinary program, and a dedicated professional team, the Touchmark community uniquely addresses the needs of a dynamic population eager to move into the next adventure. The staff at Touchmark invite residents to embrace a new kind of home, one that frees people to enjoy their life to the fullest.

*2nd Place: Hunters Pointe*

*3rd Place: BeeHive Homes and Edgewood (Tie)*

### Best Shoe Shopping

*1st Place: Famous Footwear*

Famous Footwear is your place for the latest in athletic and casual shoes for the whole family from hundreds of name brands. You'll find styles for women, men and kids from brands like Nike, Converse, Vans, Sperry, Madden Girl, Sketchers, ASICS and more!

*2nd Place: Macy's*

*3rd Place: Sole Sisters*

### Best Spa

*1st Place: Broadwater Hot Springs & Fitness*

Helena's only natural hot springs is located just 10 minutes from Downtown Helena. There are several outdoor pools available to comfortably swim in year round. All pools are filled with therapeutic natural hot springs water from their artesian well and cooled to comfortable temperatures with natural cold springs water. Stop by and visit for a relaxing and refreshing soak. While you're there, be sure to grab a drink and bite to eat from the Springs Taproom and Grill that serves up "traditional Montana flavors in new and innovative ways."

*2nd Place: Opulence Aesthetics*

*3rd Place: Her Alibi*

[continued on page 30]

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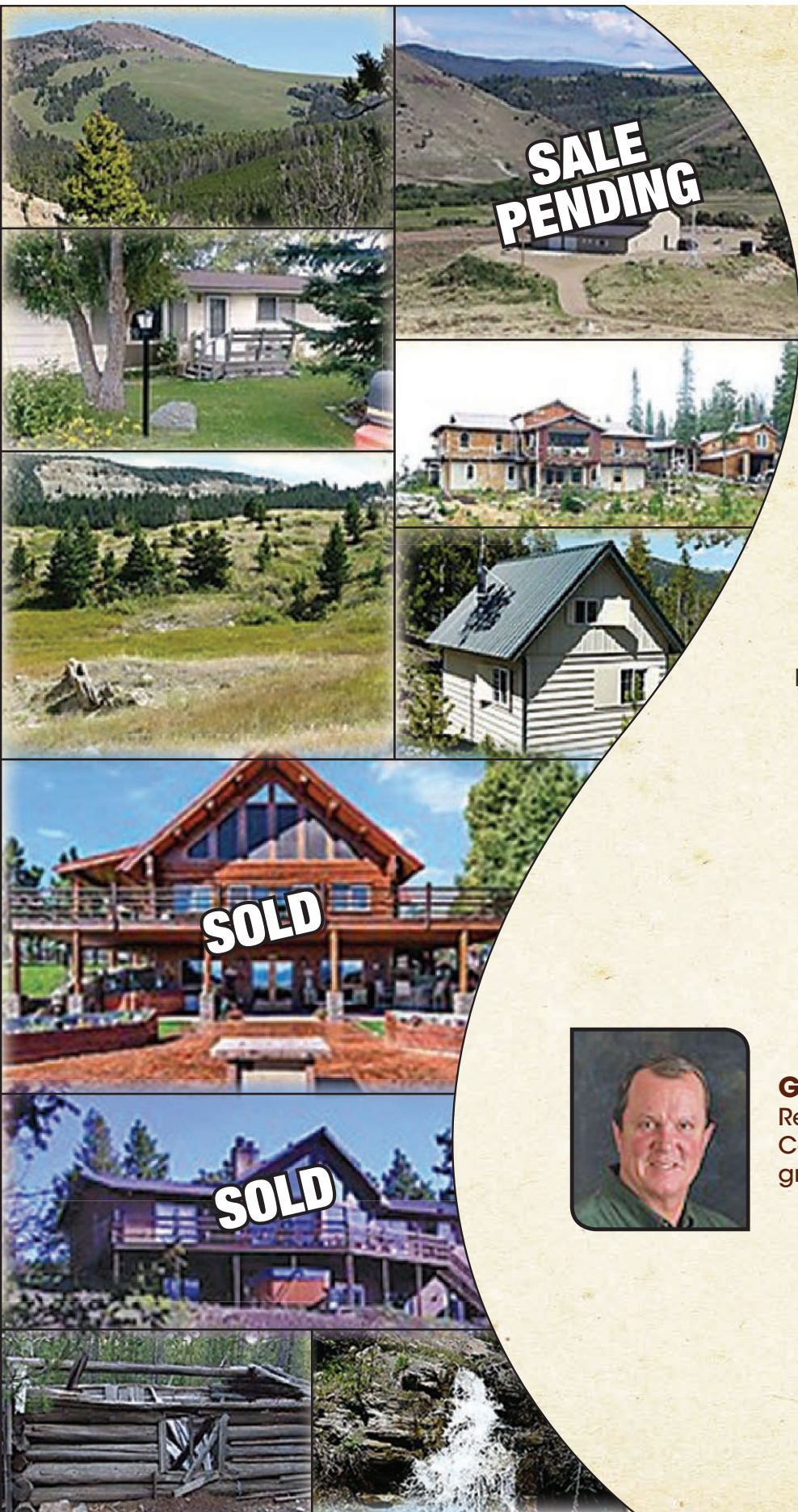
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Montana is the perfect place to enjoy the great outdoors! With its majestic mountains and rolling plains, Helena, Montana offers endless recreational possibilities such as biking, fishing, floating, camping, skiing and hunting to name a few. With Montana's many acres of public land and National Forests, you'll never find yourself without a new area to explore. So when you decide to make Helena, Montana your home, give Joyner Realty a call and let's make your Montana Dream a reality!



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**Fred Pippin**  
 Realtor MT Lic 71307  
 Cell: (406) 461-5226  
 fpippin67@gmail.com





## Best Sporting Goods Store

*1st Place: Capital Sports*

For some 50 years, Capital Sports and Western Wear has been Helena's go-to store for sporting goods. Since their inception, Capital Sports has made it their goal to offer the best quality and highest performance products at fair prices for the outdoor enthusiast. That's why they have always been a regional leader in sales of outdoor gear, clothing and footwear. Capital Sport's staff is just as passionate about outdoor recreation as you so come take advantage of their knowledge before your next adventure.

*2nd Place: Bob Ward's*

*3rd Place: Sportsman's Warehouse*

## Best Tattoo/Piercing Studio

*1st Place: DM6 Studio*

Located in the heart of downtown Helena, DM6 Studio Tattoo and Fine Art has been creating unique works of art that will last a lifetime. It opened in February 2015. After an extensive remodel of one of Helena's historic downtown buildings, DM6 Studio offers an "upscale, relaxing, and professional environment" for their clients. Owner, Deric Miller, and all DM6 artists are members of the National Tattoo Association and actively promote responsible health

standards and business practices. (DM6 also took first place in Best Artist category)

*2nd Place: Dermawerx Custom Tattoo*

*3rd Place: Tattoo Syndicate*

## Best Thrift Store

*1st Place: Good Samaritan Thrift Store*

The Good Samaritan Thrift Store is the largest in the Helena area and continues to grow to meet the needs of the community. With a 40,000 square foot shopping area, you're bound to find something every time you visit. The store sells everything from furniture to vintage clothing to knick-knacks and sporting goods. They even have bridal gowns year round. All items are at great prices, so you are sure to find a deal. The first 5 days of every month at the store features a 50% off sale. When you shop at the Good Samaritan you can also take pride in the fact that your dollars are contributing to the Good Samaritan Family Ministry, which helps hundreds of low income families in the Helena area.

*2nd Place: Goodwill*

*3rd Place: Funky Trunk*

## Best Tire Shop

*1st Place: Kolar Tire & Auto*

Kolar Tire & Auto was started by Frank Kolar and today operates out of three convenient Helena locations. They offer trusted and dependable auto service and preventative maintenance, name brand tires and wheels. They are also a towing service, providing roadside assistance and recovery to drivers throughout Helena and the surrounding area. Kolar Tire and Auto employs a well-trained staff of experienced mechanics specializing in the sale and installation of passenger car, performance, light truck, or SUV tires. Custom wheels are also available at Kolar Tire & Auto.

*2nd Place: Eagle Tire*

*3rd Place: Les Schwab Tire*



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## Best Used Car Dealership

1st Place: J&D Auto Sales

J&D Auto Sales is a family owned car, truck, and RV dealership that serves a large array of clients from all over Montana. They are a versatile dealership that also features a repair shop, a convenient detailing service department, and a number of specialized trucks and RVs. The team at J&D prides themselves on listening to the needs of their customers. They strive to make the car buying or leasing experience as easy and enjoyable as possible. With competitive pricing, knowledgeable staff and superior customer service J&D Auto Sales creates a simple and painless way to purchase a world class automobile at a great price.

2nd Place: Helena Motors

3rd Place: Placer Motors

## RESTAURANTS & DRINK

### Bar or Restaurant with Best Beer Selection

1st Place: Brewhouse | Pub & Grille

Located in the Great Northern Town Center, the Brewhouse Pub & Grille is "way more than just a pub." It is one of Helena's most respected and frequented restaurants. With 20 beers on tap, you can sample some of the favorites in

the state. Need something to munch while you sample their drink options? Their extensive appetizer menu includes items like beer battered cheese sticks, crunchy shrimp, sweet potato fries, calamari, and Brewhouse wings. They also feature gourmet entrees like buffalo chicken pizza, blackened prime rib sandwich, and shrimp ravioli. Love the Brewhouse but looking for a more relaxed atmosphere? Try eating Downstairs at the Brewhouse where a separate menu is offered alongside the same chilled beverages. (Brewhouse Pub and Grille also took first place in Best Server category.)

2nd Place: Windbag Saloon

3rd Place: Bert & Ernie's Dining Saloon & Grill

### Bar or Restaurant with

### Best Wine Selection

1st Place: The Hawthorn

The Hawthorn Bottle Shop and Tasting Room is an inviting, down-to-earth wine experience for Helenans and the many visitors to the downtown area. In their bottle shop, the Hawthorn offers a broad selection of wines from around the world at a range of price points and emphasize a selection of bottles for \$10 and under. They have new bottles open daily to sample while you shop. In the tasting room, they offer a variety of

wines to purchase by the glass and have a fun and interesting selection wine flights. These offerings can be enjoyed at the Hawthorn's seat bar or various tables during the day and evening, and cheese and charcuterie including house made crackers, dips, and spiced nuts are available for pairing.

2nd Place: Lucca's Fine Italian Restaurant

3rd Place: Wassweiler

### Best Appetizer

1st Place: Wassweiler

(The Wassweiler also took first place in the Best Chef and Best New Restaurant categories.)

2nd Place: Brewhouse | Pub & Grille

3rd Place: Silver Star Steak Company



[continued on page 32]



Honored to be a part of such an amazing community.

Thank you Helena for your continued support and recognition.

  
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## THANK YOU, HELENA

2<sup>ND</sup> PLACE: Best Date Night Location

2<sup>ND</sup> PLACE: Bar or Restaurant with the Best Wine Selection

3<sup>RD</sup> PLACE: Best Restaurant

3<sup>RD</sup> PLACE: Best Dinner

3<sup>RD</sup> PLACE: Best Chef - Mike Hyppa

*Lucca's*

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## Best Asian Food

*1st Place: Jade Garden*

Since 1985, Jade Garden has been innovating and creating original recipes beyond the traditional Chinese American offerings for the Helena community. Their menu offers contemporary Chinese dishes influenced by both American and global cuisines in a relaxed, elegant, and family oriented atmosphere. The staff's passion for superior hospitality and food has been recognized both locally and nationally. With rich dishes like orange chicken, Thai noodle bowls, and endless fried rice, Jade Garden is ready to fill your cravings for Asian cuisine.

*2nd Place: Nagoya | Japanese Steakhouse & Sushi*

*3rd Place: Hokkaido*

## Best Bakery

*1st Place: Park Avenue Bakery*

Park Avenue Bakery continues its 25 year tradition of being Helena's from-scratch bakery in the old Eddy's Bakery building downtown. The bakery also honors tradition with its business model from the "European tradition of community cafes and making of artisan breads and fine pastries." But Park Avenue Bakery offers much more than just bread and desserts. They also prepare homemade soups daily along with sandwiches and breakfast quiches.

*2nd Place: Vanilla Bean Bakery*

*3rd Place: Cotton-Top Pastries*

## Best Bar Food

*1st Place: Windbag Saloon*

Situated in the St. Louis Block in downtown Helena, the location of the Windbag has traditionally been a focal point of night life. The Windbag features a full bar and pub style American food. The restaurant was recently renovated to provide a more modern and comfortable environment for customers. If you're in the mood for great service and a little history of downtown Helena, the Windbag is the place to go! Brunch is served on Saturday and Sunday.

*2nd Place: Brewhouse | Pub & Grille*

*3rd Place: Miller's Crossing*

## Best Breakfast

*1st Place: Steve's Café*

Named Montana's Best Diner in 2015 by Business Insider, Steve's Café is a local favorite for breakfast and lunch. The locally owned restaurant serves up unique offerings made with fresh ingredients. Some of the more popular

items include huckleberry-stuffed French toast, homemade sausages and slow roasted corn beef hash.

*2nd Place: Main Street Eats*

*3rd Place: Shellie's Country Cafe*

## Best Burger

*1st Place: Big Bull Bar & Grill*

First built in the 1950s, the "Winston Bar" was a local watering hole for Winston residents and travelers alike. Sometime thereafter the bar expanded with two additions to the original structure to eventually become the Big Bull Bar and Grill today. The bar offers poker/keno/line games and serves a menu of appetizers, burgers, lunch and dinner entrees, and desserts — all made in house and served piping hot by friendly staff.

*2nd Place: York Bar*

*3rd Place: Suds Hut*

## Best Casino

*1st Place: Last Chance Casino*

You can gamble here on the 20 line games, live ball keno or poker, but you'll always be a winner and treated right by the friendly staff who serve up great meals and drinks. The Last Chance Casino is a family friendly restaurant.

*2nd Place: Nickels Gaming Parlour*

*3rd Place: Lucky Bucky's Casino*

## Best Catering

*1st Place: Chili O'Briens Catering*

Chili O'Briens has been Helena's premier catering company for several years. The company was started by Bob Goetz and Tim O'Brien. With Tim's education in culinary arts and Bob's background in the social work field, the team has a unique skill set that puts them above the competition. With tantalizing menu options like Cajun beef wraps, French brie and pear stuffed chicken, and Montana huckleberry grilled flank steak, your event will be a delicious success when you ask Chili O'Briens to cater. In January 2019, Chili O'Brien's Catering even received the Small Business of the Year Award from the Helena Area Chamber of Commerce.

*2nd Place: Bad Betty's Barbeque*

*3rd Place: Montana Club*

*[continued on page 34]*

  
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## Best Coffee

*1st Place: Florence Coffee Co.*

Family owned and operated since 2003, Florence Coffee strives to deliver the “smoothest flavor every time” customers visit. With four drive-up kiosks in town, you’re never far from recharging with a shot or two of their renowned espresso. For the non-coffee drinkers in town, Florence also serves up tasty concoctions like their Matcha green tee, real huckleberry smoothies, and Italian sodas.

*2nd Place: 1889 Coffee House*

*3rd Place: General Mercantile*

## Best Deli

*1st Place: The Real Food Market & Deli*

Helena’s Real Food Market and Deli repeatedly wins the Best Deli in Helena award for its delicious and wholesome food. Their deli offerings include hot bar, salad bar, grab-and-go items, soups, pizza, freshly-made juices, organic coffee, custom and ready-made sandwiches, a large selection of Boar’s Head meats and cheeses, and a variety of baked goods, including scones, cookies, breads and desserts—many without gluten-containing ingredients.

*2nd Place: Van’s Thriftway*

*3rd Place: Safeway*

## Best Dessert

*1st Place: Vanilla Bean*

Vanilla Bean Bakery and Café aims to make sure their desserts are the star of the party. Since 2008, the bakery has been serving up delicious, scratch-made desserts, hearty breakfast pastries, comforting lunches, and piping hot coffee beverages. Some of their signature desserts include a fleur de sel cake, decadent cupcakes, bread pudding, and whoopee pies. Vanilla Bean is moving from their original location off Rodney St. to a new space in Helena’s historic Midtown/Sixth Ward District at 1324 Gallatin Ave.

*2nd Place: Park Avenue Bakery*

*3rd Place: On Broadway*

## Best Dinner

*1st Place: On Broadway*

(On Broadway also took first place in the Best Date Night Location, Best Restaurant, Best Salad, and Best Seafood categories.)

*2nd Place: Wassweiler Dinner House*

*3rd Place: Lucca’s Fine Italian Restaurant*



[continued on page 36]



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## Best Food Truck

1st Place: *Eat Greekish*

The Eat Greekish food truck is owned and operated by the husband and wife team of John and Carrie Wolf. John grew up in south central North Dakota and Carrie is a Helena native. John and Carrie have lived, traveled, and eaten across the United States. They settled in the Detroit area from 1998 to 2018. Southeast Michigan has a huge Mediterranean population and that translates into incredible cuisine from nearly a dozen countries on almost every street corner. This is where they developed and refined their tastes and techniques for making unforgettable Greek Fusion Street Food. John and Carrie started Eat Greekish so they could bring their version of these amazing tastes to Montana.

2nd Place: *Saigon Alley*

3rd Place: *Cheddar's Gourmet Grilled Cheese*

## Best Happy Hour

1st Place: *Silver Star Steak Company*

Located in Helena's bustling Great Northern Center, Silver Star Steak Company offers up a variety of tasty appetizers and drinks, live music, and a comfortable, inviting atmosphere for their weekly happy hour. Try pairing their twice-baked-potato spring rolls or five cheese

fried raviolis along with one of their specialty cocktails. Whether you are meeting friends for a quick drink after a long day at work or looking for somewhere with a relaxing but happening scene to take you through the night – Silver Star's lounge during happy hour is the place to be! Happy Hour runs Monday through Friday from 4-6 p.m.

2nd Place: *Windbag Saloon*

3rd Place: *LaPa Grill*

## Best Karaoke

1st Place: *Hap's Beer Parlor*

Located across from Helena's historic train depot off Railroad Avenue, Hap's is one of the original and most popular bars in town. Hap's was first opened by Hap Schneider in 1935 when trains were still the favored cross-country mode of transportation. Schneider ran the bar until 1941. The second owner, George Schneider, ran the bar from 1936 until 1974. The present owner, Don Lytle, bought Hap's in 1974. Hap's offers karaoke three nights a week as well as hosts local league tournaments on its two league pool tables. Hap's is where all walks of life have been coming together for a drink and a good time since 1935.

2nd Place: *Libation Station*

3rd Place: *Rialto*

## Best Lunch

1st Place: *Benny's Bistro*

Located in the heart of Downtown Helena, Benny's Bistro is a small, farm to table restaurant. They rely on local farmers to supply them with Montana grown proteins and as much produce as our seasons allow. Benny's sources their ingredients directly from the farmers who they have worked to develop personal relationships with. With lunch items like an award winning tomato soup, hot grilled panini sandwiches, frittatas and currys, Benny's has plenty of fresh and delicious items to choose from.

2nd Place: *Nosh*

3rd Place: *Main Street Eats*

## Best Mexican Food

1st Place: *Melaque*

From enchiladas and chimichangas to burritos and carne asada, Melaque's extensive menu gives you plenty of tasty options. With moderate prices, generous portions, a friendly staff, and a colorful atmosphere, Melaque is the place to be when you're craving some south of the border cuisine.

2nd Place: *El Vaquero Taqueria*

3rd Place: *Fiesta Mexicana*

[continued on page 38]

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**Best Microbrew**

1st Place: *Single Malt IPA*  
- *Blackfoot River Brewing Co.*

First brewed in 2000, Blackfoot's Single Malt IPA is brewed from 100% Batch 19 Crisp Maris Otter (formerly Glen Eagles) floor-malted barley – no specialty malts, no blending. It is their interpretation of the American/Northwest India Pale Ale style. The Single Malt IPA is generously hopped with Northwest-grown Simcoe and Cascade hops. It is Blackfoot's best-selling and most-beloved beer and is golden in color, with a medium-bodied malty backbone and full of hop flavor.

2nd Place: *Miner's Gold*  
- *Lewis & Clark Brewing Co.*  
3rd Place: *Prickly Pear Ale*  
- *Lewis & Clark Brewing Co.*

**Best Microbrewery**

1st Place: *Lewis & Clark Brewing Company*  
A passion for home brewing and a background in marketing compelled Max Pigman to purchase Sleeping Giant Brewing Company back in 2001 and, over the past several years, transform it into the Lewis and Clark Brewery that Helena knows today. After a three year renovation project, Lewis and Clark Brewery landed at its

current location at 1517 Dodge Avenue. In the summer of 2017, the brewery also celebrated the completion of a \$9 million expansion project which tripled their production capabilities. Customers continue to enjoy 12 different beers on tap in the Tap Room.

2nd Place: *Blackfoot River Brewing Company*  
3rd Place: *Copper Furrow Brewing*

**Best Nachos**

1st Place: *Mackenzie River*

Mackenzie River Pizza's Cowboy Nachos are piled sky high with tortilla chips, jack and cheddar cheese, tomatoes, black beans, scallions, olives and jalapenos, and drizzled with green chili sour cream. Served with a house salad and fresh house-made guacamole, this mountain of nachos is definitely a meal you'll want to share

2nd Place: *Overland Express*  
3rd Place: *Brewhouse, Bert & Ernie's, Melaque*  
(3-way Tie)

**Best New Restaurant**

1st Place: *Wassweiler Dinner House*  
(The Wassweiler also took first place in Best Chef and Best Appetizer categories.)

2nd Place: *Hokkaido Ramen and Izakaya*  
3rd Place: *1889 Coffee House*

**Best Restaurant**

1st Place: *On Broadway*

On Broadway is a casual sit down restaurant in the heart of Helena's historic downtown. They offer a world cuisine with emphasis in Italian with fresh made pasta and west coast fusion using a variety of fresh fish and jazzy sauces. Every Thursday night, they feature live jazz. Come to On Broadway to enjoy fine, fresh food made and served by fine, fun people.

2nd Place: *Wassweiler Dinner House*  
3rd Place: *Lucca's Fine Italian Restaurant*

**Best Organic Food**

1st Place: *The Real Food Market & Deli*  
(Real Food Market and Deli also took first place in Best Deli and Best Vegetarian Food categories.)

2nd Place: *Natural Grocers*  
3rd Place: *Benny's Bistro*



[continued on page 40]



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## Best Outdoor Dining

*1st Place: Bert & Ernie's Dining Saloon & Grill*

Established in historic downtown Helena in 1974, Bert & Ernie's offers the best in simple, classic American food and fine beers and wines. Their recipes have been designed over many years with top quality being the constant goal. In the spring of 2005, Bert and Ernie's opened its outdoor patio. When the weather is nice, enjoy a glass of wine on their patio along with one of their burgers, pasta dishes, or sandwiches while watching the comings and goings along historic Last Chance Gulch.

*2nd Place: Silver Star Steak Company*

*3rd Place: Mediterranean Grill*

## Best Pizza

*1st Place: Bullman's Wood Fired Pizza*

Pizza aficionados will tell you that the only proper way to prepare a pizza is in an authentic Italian style wood fired oven. At Bullman's Wood Fired Pizza, they are all about authenticity and flavor and all of their pizzas are prepared in a wood fired oven. Wood fire baking, Bullman's says, "produces a crisp, slightly chewy crust with just a hint of smoky goodness." Bullman's ovens are heated to 800 degrees and it takes just four minutes to cook a pizza. Their menu was inspired by the "Big Sky Country" of Montana, its majestic mountains and beautiful rivers. All pizza, salad and sandwich recipes are original. The dough, sandwich bread and sauces are made fresh every morning.

*2nd Place: Bridge Pizza*

*3rd Place: MacKenzie River Pizza Co.*

## Best Place to Enjoy a Cocktail

*1st Place: Silver Star Steak Company*

(Silver Star Steak Company also took first place in the Best Happy Hour and Best Steak categories.)

*2nd Place: Gulch Distillers*

*3rd Place: On Broadway*

## Best Place to Play Pool

*1st Place: Valley Hub*

The Valley Hub offers one of the largest selection of pool tables in Helena as well as gaming machines, and several televisions for watching sporting events. During the summer months, guests can also enjoy their outdoor patio area which features another bar and a stage for live entertainment. On Monday nights, there are 50 cent tacos offered along with the regular supply of microbrews, domestics, hard liquor and a limited wine selection. Whether you're looking for a cold beverage, late night snack, or a round of pool with friends, the Valley Hub is the place to be.

*2nd Place: Miller's Crossing*

*3rd Place: Jesters Bar*

## Best Salad


*1st Place: On Broadway*

(On Broadway also took first place in the Best Date Night Location, Best Dinner, Best Restaurant, and Best Seafood categories.)

*2nd Place: Brewhouse | Pub & Grille*

*3rd Place: MacKenzie River Pizza Co.*

[continued on page 42]



**Thank you  
Helena for  
voting us #1.**

**Tom Clinch, Agent**

750 W Custer Avenue Suite 3

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## Best Sandwich Shop

1st Place: Steffanos

Steffano's has been Helena's go-to u-bake pizza and sub shop since 1982. Started by Ron and Deb Stefanik, the business has continued to grow in size and menu selection throughout the years. But throughout it all, the delectable food and friendly customer service, and relaxing atmosphere have remained exactly the same. Today, Steffano's serves up ready to bake pizzas, hot and cold sub sandwiches, soups and salads, and St. Louis style BBQ ribs. If you're looking for a quick meal on the go, try their taco, pizza or BBQ rollups—a local favorite! If you have time to dine in, be sure to take in Deb's collection of 50s and 60s memorabilia adorning the walls.

2nd Place: Staggering Ox

3rd Place: Jimmy John's

## Best Seafood

1st Place: On Broadway

(On Broadway also took first place in the Best Date Night Location, Best Dinner, Best Restaurant, and Best Salad categories.)

2nd Place: Nagoya | Japanese Steakhouse & Sushi

3rd Place: Wassweiler



[continued  
on page 43]

# THANK YOU HELENA!

YOU VOTED US:

**#1** Best  
Mexican  
Food

**#3** Best  
Nachos



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**Come in and try our  
delicious food and  
see why we are #1!**

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**(406) 422-1695**

# THE WASSWEILER

DINNER HOUSE & PUB

EST. 1883

First

## Thank you

Helena for voting us  
winners in 10 Best of Helena Categories!

# #1

- Best New Restaurant
- Best Appetizer
- Best Chef-Andrew Brosten

Other Categories:

- Best Server: Samantha Stephenson
- Best Wine Selection, Restaurant
- Best Date Night Location
- Best Dinner
- Best Restaurant
- Best Steak
- Best Seafood



4528 West Hwy 12 | Helena, MT • 406-502-1303



### Best Sports Bar

1st Place: Buffalo Wild Wings

The Buffalo Wild Wings chain started in 1982 in Columbus, Ohio with a three part mission: wings, beer and sports. In fulfilling their mission they say they served more than a billion wings in 2013, 27 million each week. On Super Bowl Sunday 2015, they served 11 million wings. With 21 signature sauces and seasonings to try on your wings and televisions broadcasting sporting events along every wall, your taste buds will feel as excited as you are while watching the big game.

2nd Place: Windbag Saloon

3rd Place: Brewhouse and

Bert & Ernie's Dining Saloon & Grill (Tie)

### Best Steak

1st Place: Silver Star Steak Company

(Silver Star Steak Company also took first place in the Best Happy Hour and Best Place to Enjoy a Cocktail categories.)

2nd Place: Wassweiler Dinner House

3rd Place: Chubby's Bar & Grill



[continued on page 44]

**eat GREEKish**  
GREEK FUSION STREET FOOD

**Thank you for voting us Helena's Best Food Truck!!**

Track the truck at [eatgreekish.com](http://eatgreekish.com)

**THE HERB & GARDEN**  
Nature Inspired Floral Designs

Thank you to all of my customers for your support of a small locally owned business for the last 5 years!

**(406) 594-2058 | Mon-Sat, 10-5**  
436 N. Last Chance Gulch, Helena, MT  
[theherbandgarden@gmail.com](mailto:theherbandgarden@gmail.com) | [theherbandgarden.com](http://theherbandgarden.com)

**Thank You Helena for voting Singlemalt IPA Best Microbrew!**

**Blackfoot River Brewing Company**  
66 S. Park Ave • Helena, MT • (406) 449-3005 • [www.blackfootriverbrewing.com](http://www.blackfootriverbrewing.com)



## Best Sushi

1st Place: Nagoya | Japanese Steakhouse & Sushi

From the moment the doors first opened at Nagoya in Helena, it has built a reputation for being the ultimate fun dining experience. Guests have the option of sitting on the "Hibachi-style" side of the restaurant or the sushi side. Those interested in traditional sushi rolls have the option to either sit at a table or right up at the sushi bar to watch each and every roll prepared artistically by hand with the freshest ingredients. Not a sushi fan? Try gathering around one of their Hibachi grills instead, where you are treated to dinner and a show as Nagoya's chefs prepare your meal right in front of you over the grill. Don't be surprised when the chefs start tossing food in the air and twirling their cooking tools about in a culinary acrobatics performance.

2nd Place: Suki Café

3rd Place: Hokkaido Ramen and Izakaya

## Best Vegetarian Food

1st Place: The Real Food Market & Deli

(Real Food Market and Deli also took first place in the Best Deli and Best Organic Food categories)

2nd Place: Murry's Café

3rd Place: Benny's Bistro



Thanks for your votes Helena!



- **Independent Living**  
Spacious apartment with attached garage
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Levels A & B
- **Memory Care**  
Age in place at **BeeHive Homes.**

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# CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE WINNERS

## AND THANK YOU TO EVERYONE

## WHO VOTED FOR THE

# BEST OF

# HELENA



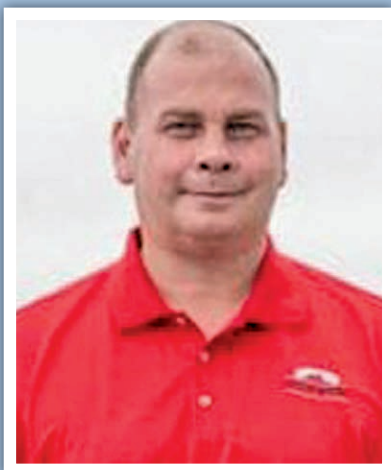


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**CONGRATULATIONS Kourtney Koch**  
**Voted one of Helena's**  
**BEST CAR SALESPERSONS**

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HONORED TO SERVE YOU.  
**THANK YOU  
HELENA!**



**#1-Dr. Jeffrey Goldes**

# Best

## DERMATOLOGISTS



**#2-Kara Addison**



ASSOCIATED DERMATOLOGY  
& SKIN CANCER CLINIC OF HELENA



*Your votes  
earned*



**STEAK COMPANY**  
HELENA, MT

**BEST  
STEAK HOUSE  
in HELENA!**



Amazingly tender.  
Incredibly juicy. Full of flavor.  
No shortcuts, and you can  
taste it in every bite.



***Certified Angus Beef*<sup>®</sup> brand steaks cooked to order**

**Also voted #1 for Best Happy Hour & Best Place to Enjoy a Cocktail!  
and Runner Up for Best Appetizer & Best Outdoor Dining!**

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