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# WINNERS



BEST OF HELENA promotion is brought to you by

*Independent  
Record*



# Congratulations to all of the Best of Helena winners!

We are happy to be selected as the Best Bank in Helena! Thank you to our friends, family and community for voting for us.

Thank you Kalena Bruno and Roxanne Allen for embracing all that we believe in at Valley Bank. It's at the heart of our values and we are proud of Kalena and Roxanne for proving that nice does matter!



**Kalena Bruno**

2nd in Best Auto Loan Officer



**Roxanne Allen**

3rd in Best Auto Loan Officer



Inspired by you.



**Valley Bank**  
OF HELENA  
Division of Glacier Bank



# CELEBRATING THE BEST OF CARE AND SERVICE

*Congratulations St. Peter's Health caregivers for your well-deserved recognition from our community!*

As a healthcare worker, you know better than anyone the sacrifices, dedication and hard work that go into delivering the best care to our patients. You have demonstrated unwavering commitment to your profession, and we are deeply grateful for all you do.

You are an essential part in keeping us healthy and safe, and we thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

## CONGRATULATIONS ON BEING THE "BEST OF HELENA."



St. Peter's Health



Every year for more than 20 years, the Independent Record has proudly conducted the “Best of Helena” contest as a way to spotlight the best of what our community has to offer. It’s an opportunity for you, our valued readers, to show support for your favorite businesses and individuals that make Helena and our surrounding area such a great place to live. Thank you to everyone who nominated and voted!

Each year, we strive to make the contest bigger and better, and this year is no exception. We are excited to announce that we received over 54,000 nominations and over 134,000 individual votes.

We would like to give a special thank you to our sponsors this year Montana Internet, Helena Orthopaedic, Balanced Chiropractic, Touchmark, Intrepid Credit Union, Joyner Realty, Top Gun Auto Body, Hardware Cafe, Van's Thriftway, Lithia Motors-Dodge, Furniture Design Center. Their sponsorship made this year’s contest even more robust than in years past.

Best of Helena is an exciting contest we all look forward to at the Independent Record. It allows us to work with even more local businesses and help them implement creative marketing solutions with print, digital and agency marketing services. We appreciate the opportunity to work collaboratively with businesses and get them the well-deserved attention they deserve.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO  
THIS YEAR’S WINNERS!**

**Independent Record**

## AUTOMOTIVE

### Best Auto Body Shop

**Winner: Top Gun Auto Body**  
2809 York Rd. • 406-227-3390

Top Gun Auto Body was started by Ted Culbertson in 2000 and has grown tremendously over the past few years. They are a one-of-a-kind Gold Class certified collision and repair shop located in the Helena Valley. Top Gun also specializes in auto restoration and offers 24-hour towing and recovery services. The shop is fully equipped with state-of-the-art equipment and offers free computerized estimates and pick-up and delivery. At Top Gun the customer always comes first, and you are guaranteed to leave satisfied.

**Favorite: Hjelm’s Body Shop**  
**Favorite: Capital Collision Center**

### Best Auto Service/Repair

**Winner: Kolar Tire & Auto**  
3213 Euclid Ave. • 406-459-3135  
3398 Centennial Dr. • 406-465-2442

Kolar Tire & Auto was started by Frank Kolar and today operates out of two 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.

(Kolar Tire & Auto was also the Winner in the Best Tire Shop, Best Towing Company, and Best Customer Service categories).

**Favorite: Iwen Automotive**  
**Favorite: Point S J&J Tire and Auto Service**

### Best Motorcycle/ATV Dealer

**Winner: Helena Cycle Center**  
1825 N. Last Chance Gulch • 406-443-4631

Helena Cycle Center is Helena’s premier Honda, Polaris, and Kawasaki powersports dealership. They sell and service ATVs, motorcycles/scooters, snowmobiles, and sports UTV while also offering the latest in clothing, parts, and accessories. With over four decades of satisfied customers, Helena Cycle Center is the perfect place to visit if you're looking to update your outdoor powersport toys and accessories or are interested in expanding your list of hobbies to motorcycling, four-wheeling, or snowmobiling throughout the beautiful state of Montana.

**Favorite: Poet Motorcycles**  
**Favorite: Mount Helena Motor Sports**

Supplement to the Independent Record  
2222 Washington St.  
Helena, MT 59601



# Thank you, Helena!

You're why we love what we do.



**Kara Addison**

*1st Place – Best Nurse Practitioner*



**Megan Gittings**

*1st Place – Best Dermatologist*



**Lindsay McCarthy**

*3rd Place – Best Dermatologist*



**Heather Robbins**

*1st Place – Best Nurse*



**RaeAnn Hoveland**

*2nd Place – Best Esthetician*



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Service in Helena**

920 Front Street Ste 103, Helena, MT  
(406) 820-3376 | [apdhelena.com](http://apdhelena.com)

## Best New Car Dealership

**Winner: Helena Motors**

**3365 US Highway 12 E • 406-442-6310**

Helena Motors sells three of America's top selling brands: Ford, Honda, 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' mindset is to place the customer first and provide excellent service in any way possible.

*(Helena Motors was also the winner in the Best Used Car Dealership and Best Car Salesperson categories).*

**Favorite: Placer Subaru**

**Favorite: Lithia Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram FIAT of Helena**

## Best Tire Shop

**Winner: Kolar Tire & Auto**

**3213 Euclid Ave. • 406-459-3135**

**3398 Centennial Dr. • 406-465-2442**

*(Kolar Tire & Auto was also the Winner in the Best Auto Service & Repair, Best Towing Company, and Best Customer Service categories).*

**Favorite: Costco**

**Favorite: Discount Tire**

## Best Towing Company

**Winner: Kolar Tire & Auto**

**3213 Euclid Ave. • 406-459-3135**

**3398 Centennial Dr. • 406-465-2442**

*(Kolar Tire & Auto was also the Winner in the Best Auto Service & Repair, Best Tire Shop, and Best Customer Service categories).*

**Favorite: Top Gun Towing & Recovery**

**Favorite: Montana City Towing**

## Best Used Car Dealership

**Winner: Helena Motors**

**3365 US Highway 12 E • 406-442-6310**

*(Helena Motors was also the Winner in the Best New Car Dealership and Best Car Salesperson categories.)*

**Favorite: Placer Motors**

**Favorite: Elk Mountain**

# EATING AND DRINKING

## Best Appetizer

**Winner: On Broadway**

**106 E. Broadway • 406-443-1929**

On Broadway is a casual sit-down restaurant that has been a staple in Helena's historic downtown since 1980. They offer a world cuisine with emphasis in Italian with freshly made pasta and west coast fusion using a variety of fresh fish and jazzy sauces. Come to On Broadway to enjoy an experience in fine dining, fresh food, and fun people.

## "Best of Helena 2022!"

Wow! I, Barbara Calahan, am extremely grateful and blessed to once again receive the votes from our community to make us #1 in the Best of Helena contest for the Best Massage category, a title we have been blessed with since winning Best of Helena 2019! The Mariposa Massage Team would like to take a moment to say "Thank you, Helena & surrounding communities, for taking time to cast your vote!" We greatly appreciate it and look forward to being a continued part of your healthcare journey and for all of the new clients we will have the privilege to meet this year! You are the reason we are here and we are grateful!

Our philosophy is to use everything we have in our toolbox, along with our gifts, skills, latest research, and every learning transition we will have along the way to becoming masters in our industry, to always be helping you with stress & pain management, injury recovery, mental health, and an increased quality of life! We are so grateful for all of you, our valued clients, who continue to trust us with your massage therapy needs! We continue to grow and add to our team to meet the needs of our community! We look forward to some new and exciting things coming in 2023 and beyond in order for us to be able to continue to provide the best for all of you!

Mariposa Massage offers a clinical approach to therapeutic massage, as well as additional modalities such as Reiki, Thai Massage, Lomi Lomi Massage, Prenatal, Reflexology, Myoskeletal Structural Integration, Rolf series, and monthly Couples Massages. Online scheduling is available for everything except Couples' massage (you have to call us to schedule those) or if online is not your thing, you can call us and we will be happy to help you with scheduling!



📍 1221 Echelon Place Suite D 📞 406-465-9679

🌐 [www.mariposamassagemontana.com](http://www.mariposamassagemontana.com)



**Mariposa**  
massage





*(On Broadway was also the winner in the Best Place to Enjoy a Cocktail, Best Place to Get Dinner, Best Restaurant, Best Waitstaff, Best Date Night Location, Best Chef, and Best Server categories).*

***Favorite: Windbag Saloon & Grill***

***Favorite: Brewhouse***

**Best Asian Food**

***Winner: Nagoya | Japanese Steakhouse & Sushi***

***2790 Washington St. • 406-449-2742***

From the moment Nagoya's opened its doors 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 at the sushi bar to watch rollr prepared artistically by hand. 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 acrobatic performance.

*(Nagoya was also the winner in the Best Seafood category.)*

***Favorite: Hokkaido Ramen Bar & Izakaya***

***Favorite: Jade Garden***

**Best Bakery**

***Winner: Vanilla Bean Bakery & Cafe***

***1324 Gallatin Ave. • 406-443-2257***

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. While the bakery originally started out in a location on Rodney Street, they recently moved to a larger location in Helena's Historic Sixth Ward. Baking is Vanilla Bean's passion and creating beautiful, delicious desserts that put smiles on all their customers' faces is why they are here for you!

***Favorite: Park Avenue Bakery***

***Favorite: Grateful Bread***

**Best Bar Food**

***Winner: Windbag Saloon & Grill***

***19 S. Last Chance Gulch • 406-443-3520***

Situated in the historic St. Louis Block in downtown Helena, the location of the Windbag has traditionally been a focal point of night life in the area. The Windbag features a full bar and pub style American food like gourmet mac and cheese, saucy wings, and flavorful burgers and sandwiches. 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.

*(The Windbag Saloon & Grill was also the winner in the Best Nachos category.)*

***Favorite: Sud's Hut***

***Favorite: The Brewhouse***




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Mon-Wed 9:30-6:00 • Thur-Fri 9:30 - 8 • Sat 9:30-6:00 • Sun 11:00-5:00

## Best Beer Selection (Bar or Restaurant)

**Winner: Lewis & Clark Brewing Co.**  
1517 Dodge Ave. • 406-442-5960

A passion for home brewing and a background in marketing compelled Max Pigman to purchase Sleeping Giant Brewing Company in 2001 and transform it into the Lewis & Clark Brewing Co. that Helena knows today. In the summer of 2017, the brewery also celebrated the completion of a \$9 million expansion project which tripled their production capabilities. Their team of brewers takes pride in the craftsmanship that goes into all their beers. From the crowd favorites of Prickly Pear Pale Ale and Miner's Gold Hefeweizen to our new Juicy ObSession and Craft Hard Seltzers, Lewis & Clark Brewing Co. beers are all created with one goal: to produce the finest ales and lagers possible and to serve them at their peak of freshness. Customers can enjoy over 12 different beers on tap in the Tap Room where just one sip will have you appreciating the care and craftsmanship in every glass.

(Lewis & Clark Brewing Co. was also the winner in the Best Brewery, Best Microbrew, Best Place for Live Music, and Best Bartender categories)

**Favorite: Headwaters Crafthouse**

**Favorite: Missouri River Brewing Company**

## Best Brewery

**Winner: Lewis & Clark Brewing Company**  
1517 Dodge Ave. • 406-442-5960

(Lewis & Clark Brewing Co. was also the winner in the Best Beer Selection for a Bar or Restaurant, Best Microbrew, Best Place for Live Music, and Best Bartender categories.)

**Favorite: Missouri River Brewing Co.**

**Favorite: Blackfoot River Brewing**

## Best Burger

**Winner: Old Salt Outpost by Old Salt Co-op**  
406 N. Last Chance Gulch • 406-458-5137

Old Salt Outpost is a simple, stellar burger shop located inside The Gold Bar in Downtown Helena. They serve grass fed burgers made from beef heralding from Montana owned ranches and they source high quality local ingredients for their famous beef-fried potatoes, buns, salads, chili and kombucha.

**Favorite: Raghorn Grill & Tavern**

**Favorite: Big Bull Bar & Grill**

## Best Casino

**Winner: Suds Hut**  
2701 N. Montana Ave. • 406-443-7837

With its famous chicken, ice cold beer, and hot gaming machines, the Suds Hut has been a Helena staple since 1969. They offer a Platinum Plus Player's Club that allows you to earn points while you play, qualify for amazing drawings, and enjoy complimentary beverages while you play. Don't forget to give their giant wheel a spin while you're visiting.

**Favorite: Last Chance Casino**

**Favorite: Papa Rays**

## Best Catering

**Winner: Chili O'Briens Catering**  
2605 N. Roberts • 406-449-2319

Chili O'Brien's is known for serving up "perfection from scratch." From office lunches and festival foods to fine dining for your fundraiser or wedding, Chili O'Brien's delivers delicious food to you. Some of their featured catered events have included the Prickly Pear's Harvest Moon Dinner, Paint the Town Pink, Helena Symphony Gala at Montana Ting, Montana Democratic Convention, Festival of Trees, Helena Area Chamber of Commerce Dinner, St. Peter's Health Employee Christmas Party and more. They are used to working in Helena's event facilities like the Helena Civic Center and Lewis and Clark County Fairgrounds and look forward to providing your event with unique, themed menus and food served hot and delicious. To get a taste of what they have to offer, check out their new weekly Dinners To Go. More information is available on their website.

**Favorite: Bad Betty's Barbeque**

**Favorite: Savor and Graze**

## Best Coffee

**Winner: Florence Coffee Company**  
Florence Coffee Company  
2102 N. Last Chance Gulch / 595 N. Lamborn St. /  
1822 E. Custer Ave. / 1225 Euclid Ave. • 406-543-0561

Family owned and operated for 30 years, Florence Coffee Company boasts the best flavors under the Big Sky of Montana. Wanting to ensure they deliver the very best flavors to their customer with each and every brew, Florence Coffee took their time researching a superior bean, a master roaster, and refining all of their exclusive recipes. Stop by to try for yourself one of the delicious and fresh-brewed coffee concoctions.

**Favorite: 1889 Coffee House**

**Favorite: General Mercantile**

**Thank you to the  
Helena community  
for supporting &  
voting for us!**

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3rd Place - Best Barber Shop

**Megan Winfield**  
1st Place  
Best Hair Stylist

**Josie Griffith**  
3rd Place  
Best Esthetician





Best Deli

**Winner: Van’s Thriftway**  
**306 Euclid Ave. • 406-442-8645**

Located in Helena’s Lundy Center, Van’s Thriftway has been a staple of the Helena community for years. Their full-service deli department is one of the highlights of the store. Whether you need a quick snack or sandwich for lunch, a fast and tasty meal to take home to your family, or a six-foot sub sandwich for a school or office party, Van’s Deli has got you covered. Van’s also caters all occasions, large or small, with a delicious affordable assortment of sandwiches, deli trays and salads..

***Favorite: Real Food Market & Deli***  
***Favorite: Bob’s Valley Market***

Best Dessert

**Winner: Park Avenue Bakery**  
**44 S. Park Ave. • 406-449-8424**

Park Avenue Bakery has been a staple in Downtown Helena for over 25 years. This European style bakery and eatery serves up a variety of specialty breads baked to perfection, sweet and savory breakfast pastries, fresh deli sandwiches, and perhaps most memorable of all is their delectable array of desserts. From their signature Earl Grey cake to brownies, bars, cookies, and cheesecakes, your tastebuds will be thanking you after a quick sugar fix from Park Avenue.

***Favorite: Vanilla Bean Bakery & Cafe***  
***Favorite: Cassadoodles***

Best Food Truck

**Winner: Eat Greekish**

The Eat Greekish food truck is owned and operated by the husband and wife team of John and Carrie Wolf. The truck serves up Greek fusion street food at various locations around the Helena area. From meaty Greek gyros and Lebanese shawarmas to vegan falafels and crinkle cut fries dusted in their signature Thunderbolt seasoning, Eat Greekish serves up a taste of the Mediterranean with dishes that are “mythically delicious”.

***Favorite: Cheddar’s Gourmet Grilled Cheese***  
***Favorite: Mountain Berry Bowls***

Best Mexican Food

**Winner: Melaque Mexican Restaurant**  
**1827 Prospect Ave. • 406-422-1695**

From enchiladas and chimichangas to burritos and sizzling fajitas, 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.

***Favorite: El Vaquero Taqueria***  
***Favorite: Fiesta Mexicana***



Touchmark on  
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We are delighted to share our community is the Independent Record’s Best Retirement Community 2023! Thank you to everyone who voted for Touchmark.

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makes Touchmark great!



## Best Microbrew

**Winner: Miner's Gold - Lewis & Clark Brewing Co.**  
**1517 Dodge Ave. • 406-442-5960**

Miner's Gold celebrates the hard-working, tenacious spirit of the miners who unearthed millions upon millions of dollars in gold from the streams and mountains of Montana. Gold in color, this unfiltered American-Style wheat ale is hand-crafted using malted wheat and Montana-grown barley. (Lewis & Clark Brewing Co. was also the winner in the Best Brewery, Best Beer Selection at a Bar or Restaurant, Best Place for Live Music, and Best Bartender categories.)

**Favorite: Mexican Lager - Copper Furrow Brewing**

**Favorite: Vanilla Cream Ale - Missouri River Brewing Company**

## Best Nachos

**Winner: Windbag Saloon & Grill**  
**19 S. Last Chance Gulch • 406-443-3520**

(The Windbag Saloon & Grill was also the winner of the Best Bar Food category.)

**Favorite: MacKenzie River Pizza Co.**

**Favorite: Melaque Mexican Restaurant**

## Best New Restaurant

**Winner: Raghorn Grill & Tavern**  
**3000 Canyon Ferry Road • 406-422-4661**

Located at the Canyon Ferry Mini Basket, the Raghorn Grill & Tavern was opened by the same family that owns the Big Bull Bar & Grill in Winston. Serving up juicy burgers, flavorful sandwiches, and gargantuan baskets of hand cut fries, you can't go wrong with a meal at the Raghorn.

**Favorite: The Hopper**

**Favorite: The Uphill Grill**

## Best Organic Food

**Winner: Real Food Market & Deli**  
**1096 Helena Ave. • 406-443-5150**

Buy your groceries, relax over lunch or dinner, explore the world of natural medicine--you can do all this and more at the Real Food Market and Deli. Recognized as Montana's first certified organic supermarket, they carry more than 11,000 organic and natural products to choose from. They have organic produce and a large selection of organic and natural groceries including special diet foods, bulk foods and ethnic foods. Their meat department features fresh organic local beef, fresh natural local pork, lamb and bison, free-range chicken. Their full-service deli is open seven days a week and features a hot food bar, salad bar, soups and pizza. Made to order 100% organic juice and sandwiches are also available to go.

**Favorite: Nosh Cafe**

**Favorite: The Hopper**

## Best Outdoor Dining

**Winner: Lakeside on Hauser**  
**5295 York Rd. • 406-227-6076**

Enjoy great food, family fun, live music, and beautiful scenery at Lakeside on Hauser Lake, just outside of Helena. The restaurant serves up a variety of tasty menu items, including homemade soup, award-winning chili, burgers, pasta, salads, and much more. The restaurant bar features cocktails, fine wine list, and eight rotating taps of draught beers, with an



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WE HAVE YOU COVERED FROM HEAD TO TOE

emphasis on local Montana breweries. Their Bloody Marys and Caesars were voted some of the best in Montana. Everything at Lakeside on Hauser can be enjoyed while taking in the stunning views of Hauser Lake from the restaurant's deck and sandy beach. Patrons are welcome to play volleyball on the sand court, shoot hoops on the beachside basketball court, and enjoy a late-night drink around the beachside bonfire.

***Favorite: Wassweiler Dinner House and Pub***  
***Favorite: Mediterranean Grill***

**Best Pizza**  
***Winner: Bullman's Wood Fired Pizza***  
***1130 Helena Ave. • 406-443-0004***

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 cook all their pizzas 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. All pizza, salad and sandwich recipes are original. The dough, sandwich bread and sauces are made fresh every morning.

***Favorite: Vigilante Pizza***  
***Favorite: Mackenzie River Pizza Co.***

**Best Place for Happy Hour**  
***Winner: Silver Star Steak Company***  
***833 Great Northern Blvd. • 406-495-0677***

Located in Helena's bustling Great Northern Center, Silver Star Steak Company is Montana's premier steakhouse. They pride themselves on their gourmet food, which includes a refined menu of steak, seafood, burgers, sandwiches, and salads, plus appetizers and small plates to compliment your entrée selection. Silver Star also features a lounge with a warm and friendly atmosphere where you can order your favorite libation. Their weekly happy hour includes live music and tasty appetizers like Jack Daniel peppercorn steak tips, truffle fries, and baked brie with a huckleberry port sauce. 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 Steak Company is the place to be. Happy Hour runs Monday through Friday from 4-6 p.m.

***Favorite: Downstairs at the Brewhouse***  
***Favorite: Windbag Saloon & Grill***

**Best Place to Enjoy a Cocktail**  
***Winner: On Broadway***  
***106 E. Broadway St. • 406-443-1929***

(On Broadway was also the winner in the Best Appetizer, Best Place to Get Dinner, Best Restaurant, Best Waitstaff, Best Date Night Location, Best Chef, and Best Server categories.)

***Favorite: Gulch Distillers***  
***Favorite: Silver Star Steak Company***

**Thank You Helena**  
We appreciate your continued support!



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## Best Place to Get Breakfast

**Winner: The Hardware Café**

**11 Bankers Lane, Montana City • 406-422-4814**

The Hardware Café has been a Montana City favorite for nearly 20 years. The café strives to embody Montana values while serving great food at a fair price. From their potatoes to their meet, they source local Montana ingredients. They serve up classic breakfast favorites like breakfast burritos, biscuits and gravy, omelets, skilletts, and fried chicken and waffles. Get your day started out right with a hearty breakfast from the Hardware Café.

**Favorite: Steve's Cafe**

**Favorite: Shellies Country Café**

## Best Place to Get Dinner

**Winner: On Broadway**

**106 E. Broadway St. • 406-443-1929**

(On Broadway was also the winner in the Best Appetizer, Best Place to Enjoy a Cocktail, Best Restaurant, Best Waitstaff, Best Date Night Location, Best Chef, and Best Server categories.)

**Favorite: Lucca's**

**Favorite: The Brewhouse**

## Best Place to Get Lunch

**Winner: Staggering Ox**

**400 Euclid Ave. • 406-443-1729**

Located in Helena's Lundy Center, the Staggering Ox is home to its famed clubfoot sandwiches, featuring cylindrical bread buns stuffed to the gills with delicious meats, cheeses, veggies, and homemade sauces. From the classic meats like ham, turkey, roast beef and salami, to more adventurous additions like pepperoni, crab, and gyro meat, the Staggering Ox serves up tasty and memorable sandwiches for all.

(The Staggering Ox was also the winner in the Best Sandwich Shop category.)

**Favorite: The Hopper**

**Favorite: Steffanos Pizza & Sub Shoppe**

## Best Restaurant

**Winner: On Broadway**

**106 E. Broadway St. • 406-443-1929**

(On Broadway was also the winner in the Best Appetizer, Best Place to Enjoy a Cocktail, Best Place to Get Dinner, Best Waitstaff, Best Date Night Location, Best Chef, and Best Server categories.)

**Favorite: Lucca's**

**Favorite: Wassweiler Dinner House and Pub**

## Best Salad

**Winner: MacKenzie River Pizza Company**

**1110 Road Runner Dr. • 406-443-0033**

Step into a Montana style adventure for your senses when eating at Mackenzie River Pizza Co. The restaurant is known for serving up a creative assortment of pizzas, sandwiches, salads, and beer and wine in a causal, rustic setting. For a meal bursting with healthy freshness, try one of their larger-than-life salads. From their Greek, wedge, and Thai salads to southwest chop and Taos, every salad at Mackenzie River is full of ingredients both fresh and flavorful.

**Favorite: On Broadway**

**Favorite: The Grateful Bread Bakery & Café**

## Best Sandwich Shop

**Winner: Staggering Ox**

**400 Euclid Ave. • 406-443-1729**

(The Staggering Ox was also the winner in the Best Place to Get Lunch category.)

**Favorite: Steffano's | U-Bake Pizza and Sub Shoppe**

**Favorite: Cheddar's Gourmet Grilled Cheese**

## Best Seafood

**Winner: Nagoya | Japanese Steakhouse & Sushi**

**2790 Washington St. • 406-449-2742**

(Nagoya was also the winner in the Best Asian Food and Best Sushi categories.)

**Favorite: On Broadway**

**Favorite: Helena Hokkaido Ramen & Sushi Bar**

## Best Sports Bar

**Winner: Buffalo Wild Wings**

**3190 N. Sanders St. • 406-495-9464**

Wings. Beer. Sports. What more could you want from your favorite sports bar in town? Founded in 1982, BWW is the largest sports bar brand in the U.S. with more than 1,250 locations in ten countries. They provide guests a unique and immersive experience to get together with friends, drink beer, eat some saucy wings, and watch your top sports teams play. Every seat in the restaurant is like the best seat with wall-to-wall televisions surrounding you no matter where you sit.

# THANK YOU, HELENA,

for naming Fox Ridge the Best Golf Course for three years in a row.

We're grateful for your continued support, including naming us Best Golf Course in 2023.

We extend our heartfelt appreciation to our dedicated staff for their unwavering commitment to serving our community.



*Favorite: Windbag Saloon & Grill*

*Favorite: Papa Ray's Sports Bar*

## Best Steak

*Winner: Chubby's Bar & Grill*

*9 Clancy Creek Rd. • 406-933-5547*

Located in the heart of downtown Clancy, Chubby's Bar & Grill serves up traditional American bar food, including some of the biggest steaks you'll find. All their steaks are fresh USDA Choice Black Angus and are cut to order.

*Favorite: Wassweiler Dinner House and Pub*

*Favorite: Marysville House*

## Best Sushi

*Winner: Nagoya | Japanese Steakhouse & Sushi*

*2790 Washington St. • 406-449-2742*

(Nagoya was also the winner in the Best Asian Food and Best Seafood categories.)

*Favorite: Helena Hokkaido Ramen & Sushi Bar*

*Favorite: Suki Café*

## Best Vegetarian Food

*Winner: Mountain Berry Bowls*

*406-459-8231*

Mountain Berry Bowls is a seasonal food truck that serves made-to-order loaded açai smoothie bowls. Every Mountain Berry Bowl starts with their dairy-free, all-natural smoothie as a base. Then, each is topped with their signature gluten-free granola. Finally, it is decorated with fresh fruit and toppings. With fun local names for their bowls like the "Mount Helena," "Capitol," and "Sleepy G," there is a flavor combination for everyone. Or you can build your own! Most days their food truck can be found parked at Centennial Park to help refuel people finishing a stroll around the park.

*Favorite: The Hopper*

*Favorite: Real Food Market & Deli*

## Best Waitstaff

*Winner: On Broadway*

*106 E. Broadway • 406-443-1929*

(On Broadway was also the winner in the Best Appetizer, Best Place to Enjoy a Cocktail, Best Place to Get Dinner, Best Restaurant, Best Date Night Location, Best Chef, and Best Server categories.)

*Favorite: Shellie's Country Cafe*

*Favorite: Lucca's*

## Best Wine Selection (Bar or Restaurant)

*Winner: The Hawthorn Bottle Shop and Tasting Room*

*46 N. Last Chance Gulch • 406-422-4622*

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. 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 of wine flights. These offerings can be enjoyed at the Hawthorn's seat bar or various tables during the day and evening. Cheese and charcuterie, including house made crackers, dips, and spiced nuts are available for pairing.

(The Hawthorn Bottle Shop & Tasting Room was also the winner in the Best Retail Wine Selection category.)

*Favorite: Island Liquor*

*Favorite: Lucca's*

## HEALTH AND BEAUTY

### Best Barber Shop

*Winner: The Mancave Barbershop*

*1030 ½ N. Montana Ave. • 406-594-7072 / 406-594-7023*

The Man Cave Barbershop is a female-run full-service barbershop offering haircuts, beard trims, hot shaves, waxing, and that old fashioned barbershop appeal with a new feel. They strive to provide exceptional services to suit the needs of varying clientele. Their emphasis is on providing customer-centered service where the customer's needs are always the priority.

*Favorite: Capital City Barber Shop & Stylin*

*Favorite: Magnolia Hair Lounge & Beauty Bar*

### Best Chiropractic Office

*Winner: Balanced Chiropractic, PC*

*800 Lola St. • 406-449-2501*

Balanced Chiropractic is owned and operated by the husband/wife team of Dr. Brandon Blank and Dr. Holly Matz-Blank, who are "third generation trained" chiropractors. The couple opened their clinic in Helena in 2016 after seeing there was a real need for a "Blair Upper Cervical" chiropractor in town. This specialized technique is used by less than one percent of chiropractors and takes a 3D view of the upper neck which helps the doctor visualize what is really going on. The team at Balanced

# THANK YOU HELENA

for voting *Tara A. Harris* as winner in the  
*Best Attorney Category for 2022!*

Congratulations to all the other winners!

We look forward to serving your estate planning, probate, guardianship, adoption, and small business planning needs in the years to come.



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*Tara A. Harris*  
**Harris Law Office PLLC**  
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Helena, MT 59601  
[www.harrislawmt.com](http://www.harrislawmt.com)  
406-513-1412



Chiropractic are committed to getting their patients out of pain and back to the active Montana lifestyles they enjoy.  
(Balanced Chiropractic was also the winner of the Best Chiropractor and Best Physical Therapist categories.)

**Favorite: Town Center Chiropractic**

**Favorite: Parliament Chiropractic**

## Best Gym

**Winner: Capital City Health Club**

**1280 N. Montana Ave. • 406-442-6577**

For 11 years running, Capital City Health Club has been voted the best in Helena. But with 70 pieces of cardio equipment, 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 maintain the top spot? There is even a 24-hour access area to accommodate busy schedules. Amenities aside, Capital City's main concern is offering a unpretentious and results-oriented community that's invested in members' goals and helping them build healthy lifestyles for themselves.

**Favorite: Tiny's Gym**

**Favorite: Planet Fitness**

## Best Hair Salon

**Winner: Magnolia Hair Salon & Beauty Suites**

**7534 Roughsawn Dr. Suite B • 406-438-5710**

Located just north of Lincoln Road, Magnolia Hair Salon & Beauty Suites loves to exceed their client expectations. Their team of talented stylists work hard to design, create, and deliver awe-inspiring looks and transformational experiences. Each expertly trained stylist at Magnolia

has been crafting beauty designs for years, and they are always furthering their skills through attending workshops and participating in continuing education to stay current with contemporary trends. Their mission is to deliver authentic, innovative, and professional quality hair that is designed for each client to work in harmony with their beauty rituals, hair texture, and lifestyle. Their full-service salon offers everything from haircuts and conditioning treatments to highlights, balayage, extensions, and facial waxing.

(Magnolia Hair Salon & Beauty Suites was also the winner in the Best Hair Stylist category.)

**Favorite: Capital Hill Barbershop and Styling Salon**

**Favorite: Tousled Hair & Co.**

## Best Hearing Services

**Winner: Costco Wholesale**

**2195 E. Custer Ave. • 406-495-7042**

For premium quality hearing aids at value prices, look no further than Costco Wholesale. They offer a variety of hearing aid styles including open fit, in the ear, and Bluetooth capable. They also offer an abundance of Bluetooth accessories to complement your hearing aids and free hearing tests to help you best determine what hearing aid will work best for you.

(Costco was also the winner in the Best Meat Department category.)

**Favorite: Comprehensive Hearing Services**

**Favorite: St. Peter's Health Audiology**

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**Best Massage**

**Winner: Mariposa Massage & Healing Center, LLC**  
**1221 Echelon Place Suite D • 406-465-9679**

Mariposa Massage & Healing Center was established to make a difference in the health and well-being of the people in our community. It offers a calm, relaxing place where clients can come for a truly unforgettable massage experience that will always leave them wanting to come back for another. Mariposa Massage is all about providing transformational treatment massages and a new lease on life with pain management. The therapists at Mariposa are there to support clients in achieving their health goals by providing healing touch through therapeutic massage. Rejuvenate your mind and body with massage services from Mariposa’s massage services today.

**Favorite: Mighty Mo Massage**  
**Favorite: Crafted Aesthetics**

**Best Medical Cannabis Provider**

**Winner: White Pine Montana**  
**1018 W. Custer Ave. #5 • 406-461-3518**

White Pine Montana carries a wide selection of dispensary menu products to help customers get the relief they deserve. From flower, pre-rolls and vaporizers to concentrates, edibles, and CBD, they have a product to suit everyone’s needs. Whether you’re a first time buyer or a cannabis aficionado, White Pine’s friendly and knowledgeable staff are always available to answer any questions and help pair you with the best suited products.

**Favorite: Helena Buds**  
**Favorite: Bloom Montana**

**Best Nail Salon**

**Winner: Beauty from Ashes**  
**1325 Euclid Ave., Suite 3 • 406-916-8645**

When you’re on the hunt for a quality and affordable local nail salon, look no further than Beauty from Ashes. Owner and nail technician, Ava Lopeman, specializes in keeping your nails healthy and beautiful while providing a relaxing environment for customers. Whether you’re wanting to jazz up your nails with some decorative nail art, revive your cuticles with a spa manicure, or get a new set of acrylics done, Beauty from Ashes will deliver the pampering you and your nails most need with creativity and attention to detail.

**Favorite: Paradise Nails**  
**Favorite: Pro Nails**

**Best Spa**

**Winner: Wells Wellness & Aesthetics**  
**27 Neill Ave. Suite 207 • 406-422-1114**

Great skin doesn’t just happen by chance, it happens by appointment. At Wells Wellness, their mission is to help each and every person find their beauty. They value teamwork, kindness & honesty, and strive to always provide their customers with excellent service. With the help of innovative technologies, they work hard to stay competitive and give their customers the latest treatments available. Wells Wellness offers a wide variety of skincare and wellness services including facials, peels, microdermabrasion, Botox, lash lifts and tints, IV nutrient infusions, sugaring and waxing and so much more.

*(Wells Wellness & Aesthetics was also the winner in the Best Esthetician category.)*  
**Favorite: Magnolia Salon and Beauty Suites**  
**Favorite: Opulence Health and Aesthetics**

**Best Tanning Salon**

**Winner: Apricity Beauty Bar**  
**1005 Partridge Place, Ste 5 • 406-439-6354**

Get your glow on today at Apricity Beauty Bar in Helena. Apricity offers private, personalized spray tan sessions using South Seas technology, which is continuously voted “Best of the Best” by Allure magazine. Upon arriving at your appointment, a color consultation and skin analysis is performed. This allows the staff to select the best solution from their lineup to achieve your desired results. Monthly spray tan memberships are available as well as party packages. In addition to spray tanning, Apricity also offers teeth whitening and cryo sculpting and tightening.



**Favorite: The Tannery**  
**Favorite: Planet Beach**

**Best Tattoo/Piercing Studio**


**Winner: DM6 Studio Tattoo & Fine Art**  
**631 Helena Ave. • 406-502-2002**

Located in one of Downtown Helena’s historic buildings, DM6 is proud to offer an upscale, relaxing, and professional environment for their clients. All of DM6 Studio’s artists are members of The National Tattoo Association and actively promote responsible health standards and business practices. As the industry has become more mainstream it is important to DM6 Studio that the professionalism, legislation, licensing, and regulation are in place to meet the demands of the board and growing demographic. DM6 Studio artists have won numerous awards

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for tattooing and fine art work. They enjoy building relationships with their clients, giving direction to their vision, and creating a work of art that lasts a lifetime.  
(DM6 Studio Tattoo & Fine Art was also the winner in the Best Artist category.)

***Favorite: Velvet Rose Tattoo***  
***Favorite: Tattoo Syndicate***

# LOCAL

## Best Church

***Winner: Helena First Church***  
***2210 Dodge Ave. • 406-442-6851***

At Helena First they believe that the only way to experience true fulfillment in life is through a relationship with Jesus, being connected with other believers and fulfilling the mission God has assigned to you. The team at Helena First helps its members achieve those things by connecting in group, leading others to Jesus, experiencing God in worship, and going out to serve the world. At Helena First you are among friends. No matter who you are, what you’ve done, or where you have come from, you are more than welcome here.  
***Favorite: Cathedral of St. Helena***  
***Favorite: St. Paul’s United Methodist Church***

## Best Church Choir

***Winner: Cathedral of Saint Helena***  
***530 N. Ewing St. • 406-442-5825***

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. With over 1,400 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. The Cathedral is home to three the Cathedral Choir, which sings choral literature from the Western canon with a focus on polyphonic Renaissance, Baroque, and modern works and the Cathedral Brass and Trombone Choir, which is open to parishioners who play brass instruments. The music from these choirs works to elevate and breathe life into the services held at the Cathedral of St. Helena.  
***Favorite: Helena First Church***  
***Favorite: St. Paul’s United Methodist***

## Best Customer Service

***Winner: Kolar Tire & Auto***  
***3213 Euclid Ave. 406-459-3135 • 3398 Centennial Dr. 406-465-2442***

(Kolar Tire & Auto was also the Winner in the Best Auto Service and Repair, Best Tire Shop, and Best Towing Company categories).  
***Favorite: Costco***  
***Favorite: Advanced Practice Dermatology***

## Best Date Night Location

***Winner: On Broadway***  
***106 E. Broadway • 406-443-1929***

(On Broadway was also the winner in the Best Appetizer, Best Place to Enjoy a Cocktail, Best Place to Get Dinner, Best Restaurant, Best Waitstaff, Best Chef, and Best Server categories.)  
***Favorite: Lucca’s***  
***Favorite: Wassweiler Dinner House and Pub***

## Best Event Venue

***Winner: Kleffner Ranch***  
***305 Mt. Hwy 518 • 406-495-9090***

Kleffner Ranch Barn is a historic site that displays Montana's natural beauty and generations of charm. This once upon a time cattle ranch now is a beautiful site to enjoy your wedding or other celebration. Kleffner Ranch sits alongside Prickly Pear Creek and features picturesque mountain views. This red barn has a charming interior space. The open layout, wooden floors, high ceiling, and rock wall texture combine to create a rustic yet extremely romantic atmosphere. Let loose with friends and family at the Kleffner Ranch as you dance and dine in this warm and inviting environment.  
(Kleffner Ranch was also the winner in the Best Place to Get Married category.)  
***Favorite: Lewis & Clark Tap Room***  
***Favorite: Helena Civic Center***

## Best Festival or Event

***Winner: : Symphony Under the Stars***  
***Caroll College Hill • 406-442-1860***

Symphony Under the Stars is a Helena tradition that began in 2004. Each summer, the Helena Symphony comes together to put on a spectacular show on the hill at Carroll College. Each year, the event draws nearly 20,000 people to enjoy an evening of music and fireworks under Montana's iconic Big Sky. The music may not begin until sundown, but spectators make a full day out of the event. Beginning mid-morning, attendees bring their blankets to the venue, staking out their seats for the evening, creating a large patchwork quilt that spans the hillside. People then start grilling, pulling out the drinks, and catching up with old friends as they wait for the musical performance to begin.  
***Favorite: Helena Farmer’s Market***  
***Favorite: Last Chance Stampede***

## Best Hotel/Lodging

***Winner: Best Western Premier Helena Great Northern Hotel***  
***835 Great Northern Boulevard • 406-457-5500***

Conveniently located in the Great Northern Town Center area of historic downtown Helena, the Great Northern Hotel is the perfect destination for the business or leisure traveler. The hotel became a Premier property in June of 2011, being the 10th Best Western Premier property in North America. The town center is home to restaurants, upscale retail shops, the Great Northern Carousel, Cinemark movie theater, Exploration Works Museum and the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Walkway. With a theme reminiscent of the Great Northern Railroad days, the hotel offers a variety of elegantly appointed room styles, to accommodate guests whether traveling for business, convention or family vacation. Enjoy our indoor pool, hot tub or the 24-hour fitness room.  
***Favorite: Residence Inn***  
***Favorite: Home2 Suites by Hilton***

## Best Local Band

***Winner: 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.

Their local appearances have included venues like Helena’s Alive at 5 during the summer, Brewfest, and Lewis & Clark Brewery.

***Favorite: Insufficient Funds***  
***Favorite: Dan Henry Band***

**Best Place for Kids’ Fun**

***Winner: Flying Giant Adventure Park***  
***3351 Tricia St. • 406-458-5867***

First opened in February 2021, Flying Giant Adventure Park is Montana’s premier indoor adventure park. Featuring trampolines, interactive climbing walls, a suspended rope course, dodgeball, batting cages, and axe throwing, the park has something for everyone. Flying Giant keeps kids and adults active and having fun year-round. Looking for somewhere awesome to host your child’s next birthday party? Flying Giant Adventure Park will take care of all the details by providing pizza, ice cream, beverages, and all the adventure a kid could want on their birthday.

***Favorite: ExplorationWorks***  
***Favorite: Sleeping Giant Lanes***

**Best Place for Live Music**

***Winner: : Lewis & Clark Tap Room***  
***1535 Dodge Ave. • 406-442-5960***

(Lewis & Clark Brewery was also the winner in the Best Beer Selection at a Bar or Restaurant, Best Brewery, Best Microbrew, and Best Bartender categories.)

***Favorite: Lakeside on Hauser***  
***Favorite: Symphony Under the Stars***

**Best Place to Get Married**

***Winner: Kleffner Ranch***  
***305 Mt. Hwy 518 • 406-495-9090***

(Kleffner Ranch was also the winner in the Best Event Venue category.)

***Favorite: Summer Star Ranch***  
***Favorite: U Diamond Barn***

**Best Place to Work**

***Winner: State of Montana***  
***406-444-3871***

Montana offers a variety of opportunities to help you make a difference in your community and further your career. The State of Montana offers competitive benefits, work-life balance, and family friendly policies. As a service-oriented employer, they seek employees with a passion for customer service. Work for the state you love to live in by applying with

the State of Montana today.  
***Favorite: Kolar Tire & Auto***  
***Favorite: Helena Orthopedic Clinic***

**Best Senior Living Community**

***Winner: Touchmark on Saddle Drive***  
***915 Saddle Dr. • 406-558-4673***

Serving the Helena community since 1997, Touchmark on Saddle Drive enjoys a stunning setting on 11.5 green acres in Helena. The community offers cottage homes, independent and assisted living services, and memory care. At Touchmark, they believe that it is a privilege to enhance the daily experience of seniors and support pursuing interests and passions. 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 community uniquely addresses the needs of a dynamic population eager to move into the next adventure. Currently offering safe private and virtual tours.

***Favorite: Beehive Assisted Living***  
***Favorite: Hunters Pointe***

**MEDICAL PROFESSIONAL CATEGORIES**

**Best Chiropractor**

***Winner: Dr. Ron Henze - Balanced Chiropractic***  
***780 Lola St. • 406-449-2501***

Dr. Brandon Blank opened Balanced Chiropractic, PC in 2016. He graduated with honors from Palmer College of Chiropractic in Davenport, Iowa. Brandon was the only graduating student in his class to receive the Clinical Excellence Award and also received the Vogt Leadership Award from his fellow classmates. He has advanced training in extremity adjusting, soft tissue (trigger point) work, Blair upper cervical, toggle, Thompson drop, Gonstead, activator and flexion distraction.

(Balanced Chiropractic was also the winner in the Best Chiropractic Office and Best Physical Therapist categories.)

***Favorite: Dr. Aaron Jones - Made to Move Chiropractic***  
***Favorite: Dr. Brandon Blank - Balanced Chiropractic***

**Best Dentist**

***Winner: April Walsh - Capital City Dentistry***  
***740 Helena Avenue • 406-442-7980***

At Capital City Dentistry, Dr. Walsh and her team are dedicated to improving the lives of their patients through age-appropriate, comprehensive dental care. Dr. Walsh graduated from Oregon Health and

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Winner- Best  
Barbershop!







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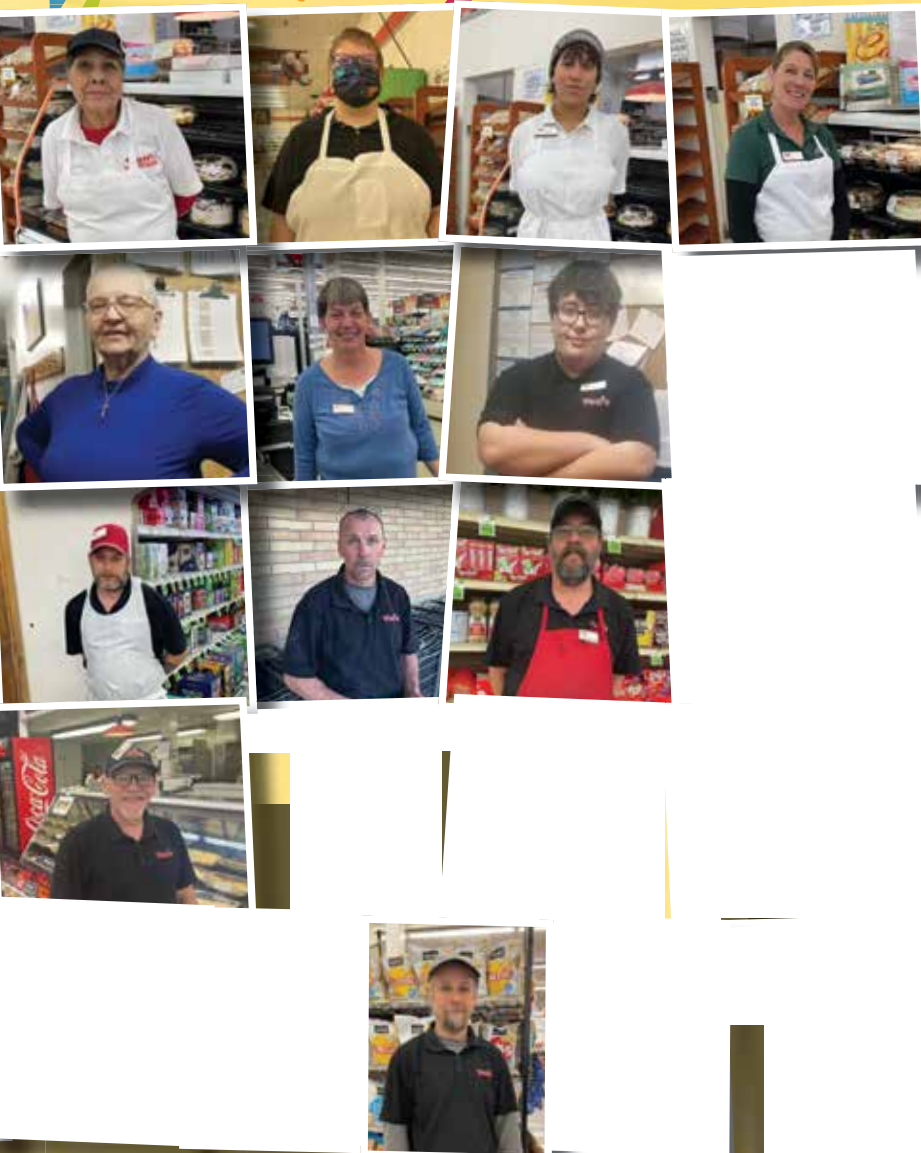
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**Tara Wells – Best Nurse Practitioner**

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Science University in 2012. She worked with Dr. Ditchey and Dr. Schauer (her father) for 6 years before buying the practice. She is happy to be back in the Helena area continuing her father's legacy. From teeth cleaning and cosmetic dentistry to root canal therapy and crowns and bridges, you can trust Dr. Walsh for all your oral health needs.

**Favorite: Dr. Michael Fife - Nielsen Dental**

**Favorite: Dr. Kathryn Sealey - South Hills Dental**

### Best Dermatology

**Winner: Megan Gittings - Advanced Practice Dermatology  
920 Front St. Suite 103 • 406-820-3376**

Helena native, Megan Gittings, has been a practicing dermatology nurse practitioner since 2005. She first found her love of dermatology after working as a nurse, which led her back to school to become a Certified Family Nurse Practitioner. She completed her dermatology certification in 2007. Megan prides herself on “walking patients through” their procedures and works her hardest to make the experience less scary and pain-free. This makes her an excellent provider for kids and nervous patients. She also has a particular interest in working with alopecia.

(Advanced Practice Dermatology was also the winner in the Best Nurse and Best Nurse Practitioner categories.)

**Favorite: Dr Jeffry Goldes - Associated Dermatology**

**Favorite: Lindsay McCarthy - Advanced Practice Dermatology**

### Best Nurse

**Winner: Heather Robbins - Advanced Practice Dermatology  
920 Front St. Suite 103 • 406-820-3376**

Heather Robbins has been a nurse at Advanced Practice Dermatology for the past two years but has many years of experience in the field of dermatology. She enjoys working in dermatology because she gets to interact with and serve patients in all stages of life while making an important impact in their lives. Robbins is most grateful for the opportunity to work with all the other amazing women that make up the Advanced Practice Dermatology team.

(Advanced Practice Dermatology was also the winner in the Best Dermatology and Best Nurse Practitioner categories.)

**Favorite: Ally Sather - Partners in Pediatrics**

**Favorite: Krista McEachern - St. Peter's Health**

### Best Nurse Practitioner

**Winner: Kara Addison - Advanced Practice Dermatology  
920 Front St. Suite 103 • 406-820-3376**

Kara Addison, a Montana Native, is a board certified dermatology doctor of nursing practice. She received both her Doctor of Nursing Practice and Masters of Nursing Practice from Montana State University and obtained her bachelor of science in nursing from Carroll College. Kara received her aesthetics training from the Allergan Medical Institute and the IAPAM Institute. She specializes in all skin care needs, including medical dermatology and cosmetic dermatology. She enjoys working closely with clients to treat and prevent sun damage, minimize age-related changes, and optimize skin health. Her goal is to create a safe, natural, and individualized experience for all clients.

(Advanced Practice Dermatology was also the winner in the Best Dermatology and Best Nurse categories.)

**Favorite: Tara Wells - Wells Wellness & Aesthetics**

**Favorite: Beverley Roope - St. Peter's Medical Group**



## Best Optometrist

**Winner: Bill Simons - Montana Eyecare**  
**550 N. Montana Ave. • 406-443-2121**

Dr. Bill Simons graduated from Carroll College and continued his education at Southern California College of Optometry, receiving his doctorate degree in Optometry in 1982. He began his optometric career practicing privately in Cut Bank and at the IHS in Browning, Montana. Simons has been a leader in optometry both locally and regionally throughout his career and is past president of the Montana Optometric Association and the Great Western Council of Optometry. Simons is board certified by the American Board of Optometry and has dedicated himself to delivering the very best optometric eye care to each and every patient he serves.

***Favorite: Dr. Matthew Nottingham - Helena Vision Center***

***Favorite: Bill Hasquet - Montana Eye Care***

## Best Orthodontist

**Winner: Dr. Kyle Jackson- Jackson Orthodontics**  
**301 Saddle Dr. Suite A • 406-442-1899**

Dr. Kyle Jackson attended the prestigious east coast dental school at Temple University in Philadelphia where he graduated with honors and received his doctor of dental medicine degree. After spending four years in Philadelphia, Dr. Jackson moved to Arizona where he became one of four residents in the school's state-of-the-art orthodontic program. Dr. Jackson attended 26 months of specialized training to become an orthodontist, as well as earning a doctorate degree in health science. He stays current on all the latest orthodontic techniques including Invisalign, temporary anchorage devices (TADs), and is laser certified. He regularly participates in continuing education opportunities

through his active memberships with the American Association of Orthodontists, American Dental Association, and the Montana State Dental Association.

***Favorite: Dr. Jeffrey Foster - Helena Orthodontics***

***Favorite: Dr. Cory Wood - Helena Orthodontics***

## Best Pediatrician

**Winner: Tom Strizich - Partners in Pediatrics**  
**2525 E. Broadway #201 • 406-447-2885**

A Helena native, Dr. Tom Strizich completed his undergraduate studies at Gonzaga University in Spokane. After receiving his medical degree from the University of Washington School of Medicine, Dr. Strizich completed his internship and Pediatric residency at the University of Utah. At Partners in Pediatrics, Strizich and the other providers pride themselves on providing comprehensive, family-centered pediatric care from birth through 18 years.

***Favorite: Dr. Venus Villalva - Partners in Pediatrics***

***Favorite: Dr. Caitlin Gallagher - Partners in Pediatrics***

## Best Physical Therapist

**Winner: Jessica Hendricks PT, DPT - Balanced Chiropractic**  
**780 Lola St. • 406-449-2501**

Jessica Hendricks serves on the team at Balanced Chiropractic as a physical therapist. She holds a doctorate in physical therapy from the University of Montana and a bachelor's degree in exercise physiology and metabolism from the Washington State University. She is also a certified myofascial trigger point therapist and her ASTYM certified clinical areas of specialty include orthopedics, sports and active injury, trigger point dry

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needling, soft tissue management, headaches/migraines, TMJ, whiplash/ car accident, and post operative care.  
(*Balanced Chiropractic was also the winner in the Best Chiropractic Office and Best Chiropractor categories.*)

***Favorite: Johnanna Sullivan PT, DPT, OCS, SCS, ATC - Optimal Sports Physical Therapy***

***Favorite: Jennell Day - Peak PT***

## Best Surgeon

***Winner: John Michelotti - Helena Orthopedic Clinic***

Dr. John Michelotti earned his medical degree from the University of Washington in Seattle and completed his orthopaedic surgery residency at their Affiliated Hospitals. Afterwards, he was selected for advanced fellowship training in sports medicine at the Steadman-Hawkins Clinic in Vail, Colorado, where he worked with the Denver Broncos, the Colorado Rockies, and the United States ski team. Dr. Michelotti brings his love of sports to his practice of sports medicine. He thrives on the care of athletes of all ages. He is the team physician for Carroll College and the local high schools. He is also a member of the American Academy of Orthopaedic Sports Medicine.

***Favorite: Dr. Erik Bergquist, Helena Orthopedic Clinic***

***Favorite: Dr. Calvin Schlepp, Helena Orthopedic Clinic***

## PEOPLE OF THE YEAR

### Best Accountant

***Winner: Terry Atwood - Atwood Accounting Services***  
***110 E. Lyndale Avenue • 406-442-1947***

Terry Atwood established Atwood Accounting Services in Helena in 2008 specializing in tax preparation and bookkeeping. This family owned and operated firm also includes Atwood's wife and daughter. A Montana native, Atwood is a graduate of the University of Montana. At Atwood accounting, they have a tradition of good quality tax preparation at a reasonable price. They believe their success is built upon personal integrity and the commitment to providing clients with the highest level of service possible, at a reasonable price, while paying strict attention to the details.

***Favorite: Lindsey Carkeek - Accounting & Tax Specialists***

***Favorite: Mallory Redmond - Van Barron Accounting***

### Best Artist

***Winner: Melissa Spatzierath - DM6 Studio Tattoo & Fine Art***  
***631 Helena Ave. • 406-502-2002***

A Montana native, Melissa Spatzierath fell in love with the art of tattooing after she received her first tattoo at the age of 18. When she got the opportunity to apprentice as a tattoo artist, she jumped at the chance; After bouncing around to a few different tattoo shops she finally found her home at DM6 Studio. Spatzierath is a fan of bright color, bold lines, and a little on the cartoony side when it comes to her tattoo art. She's always up for a challenge and is always working on perfecting her craft. What she loves most is taking client ideas and going above and beyond to meet their expectations, giving them a quality finished product that leaves them wanting to come back for more!

(*DM6 was also the winner in the Best Tattoo/Piercing Studio category.*)

***Favorite: Devan Wieferich - Devrenee Boudoir***

***Favorite: Troll - Velvet Rose Tattoo***



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Best Attorney

**Winner: Tara Harris - Harris Law Office**  
**825 Great Northern Boulevard, Suite 318 • 406-732-7087**

A Montana native, Tara Harris received her bachelor’s degree from Carroll College and earned her J.D. from the University of Montana Law School in 2003. Harris pursued a law degree in order to protect children and fight injustice. Since 2003 Tara has been a practicing trial attorney and dedicated more than 10 years of her career to serving the people of Lewis and Clark County. Tara has tried more than 40 jury trials, numerous judge trials, and a variety of civil and administrative hearings. Tara returned to private practice in 2015 changing her focus to estate planning, probate, guardianships, adoptions, employment law, general civil litigation, and small business planning. Since opening Harris Law in 2016, Tara has completed over 140 estate plans, over 100 adoptions, numerous guardianships, and several probates and small business matters. Tara finds great satisfaction in using her law degree to help people plan for their future, protect their families, and right wrongs.

***Favorite: Rebecca Dockter - City of Helena***  
***Favorite: Anne Sherwood - Morrison, Sherwood, Wilson, & Deola, PLLP***

Best Auto Loan Officer

**Winner: Scott Shein (Intrepid Credit Union)**  
**406-443-5400**

Scott Shein has been helping the members of Intrepid Credit Union with their lending needs since 2003 and currently serves as a lending supervisor. Members enjoy working with him because he prioritizes building relationships and takes the time to get to know each member he serves. As one online customer commented, “Scott is absolutely awesome. We have worked with Scott for many years and he is wonderful to work with. He always goes the extra mile for his clients.”  
*(Intrepid Credit Union was also the winner in the Best Credit Union category.)*

***Favorite: Kalena Bruno - Valley Bank of Helena***  
***Favorite: Roxanne Allen- Valley Bank of Helena***

Best Barber

**Winner: Chance Linkenbach**  
**(Capital Hill Barber Shop & Styling Salon)**  
**521 N. Sanders St. • 406-442-6812**

Chance Linkenbach owns and operates Capital Hill Barber Shop & Styling Salon in Helena. As one online reviewer commented, “Chance is an artist.

I've seen him cut multiple types of hair with confidence. Everyone I've seen leave before me looks beyond satisfied on their way out the door. As for myself, I've never had to tell him what to do, just sit down and he starts cutting. Looks great every time.” Capital Hill is a full-service salon pampering and styling the people in Helena. Their services include haircuts, therapeutic massages, manicures/pedicures, tanning services and bridal hair services. If you’re looking for a simple cut come visit Chance at Capital Hill Barber Shop & Styling Salon.  
***Favorite: Secy Servera (Black Eye Legrand)***  
***Favorite: Katherine Baldovin - The Man Cave Barbershop***

Best Bartender

**Winner: Laura Krushensky -- Lewis & Clark Brewing Co. Tap Room**  
**1517 Dodge Ave. • 406-442-5960**

Whether you stop at Lewis & Clark Brewing Co. for an after-work pick-me-up or meet up with a group of friends over the weekend to have a drink and enjoy some live music, you'll surely be greeted by bartender, Laura Krushensky. She'll greet you with a smile, offer a drink recommendation if needed, and keep your glasses filled with one of the brewery’s on tap selections. Laura is a Helena native and she has worked for two years at Lewis and Clark Brewery. Her favorite beverage from the brewery is a Yellowstone Golden Ale.  
*(Lewis & Clark Brewery was also the winner in the Best Beer Selection at a Bar or Restaurant, Best Brewery, Best Microbrew, and Best Place for Live Music categories.)*  
***Favorite: Adam Imhoff - On Broadway***  
***Favorite: Jordyn Taylor - Gulch Distillers***

Best Car Salesperson

**Winner: Kourtney Koch - Helena Motors**  
**3365 US Highway 12 • 406-442-6310**

Even after over 25 years as a car salesman at Helena Motors, Kourtney Koch still loves what he does. For him, it’s simple. When you enjoy the dealership you work for and love the products they sell, why leave? According to Koch, the real reward in his work though comes through interacting with his customers each day and helping take care of them as they move through the process of purchasing a vehicle. One online reviewer wrote, “Kourtney made the buying process very easy. The online listing matched reality and no hidden pricing surprises. Smooth and quick and had everything ready to go when I arrived to take delivery. Polite, prompt, and professional communication throughout the process. Somewhat rare with some dealerships these days. Refreshing to find that someone still does business honest and open.” Visit Kourtney Koch at



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*(Helena Motors was also the winner in the Best New Car Dealership and Best Used Car Dealership categories.)*

**Favorite: Nick Retz - Chevrolet of Helena**

**Favorite: Ryan Nettleton - Placer Motors**

## Best Chef

**Winner: Andrew Maynard - On Broadway**

**106 E. Broadway • 406-443-1929**

As executive chef at one of the most popular restaurants in town, Andrew Maynard has his work cut out for him continuing On Broadway's 40 plus year legacy. Maynard started his culinary training in 2007 at On Broadway and has served as their executive chef for the past three years. From the mainstays of On Broadway's menu like prosciutto angel hair pasta, chicken a la broadway, and eggplant parmesan to new and delectable creations that rotate weekly, Maynard lets his creativity and taste buds take On Broadway's customers to new culinary heights.

*(On Broadway was also the winner in the Best Appetizer, Best Place to Enjoy a Cocktail, Best Place to Get Dinner, Best Restaurant, Best Waitstaff, Best Date Night Location and Best Server categories.)*

**Favorite: Mike Hyypa - Lucca's**

**Favorite: Tim O'Brien - Chili O'Brien's Catering**

## Best Contractor

**Winner: Adam Pentecost - Pentecost Builders**

**406-459-9235**

Adam Pentecost with Pentecost Builders has been building custom/ designer homes in the Helena Area since 2010. The brother team of Rob

and Adam Pentecost complement one another to bring the absolute best to the table when designing and building a new home. With over 30 years combined experience, a degree in construction technology, and a reputation unsurpassed in the community, Pentecost Builders have the edge to thrive in the constructions industry. Their goal is not only to build great homes, but great relationships with our customers. They understand that the home building process can be very stressful to all involved and they strive to make it a fun and enjoyable experience.

**Favorite: Micheal McCarthy - Stonefly Construction**

**Favorite: Cory Allen - Allen Earthworks Inc.**

## Best Electrician

**Winner: Tim Baker - The Third Element**

**3116 E. Lyndale Ave. • 406-465-6945**

Tim Baker has worked in the service department at Third Element since 2015. Third Element is an electrical contractor specializing in energy efficiency, solar and lighting design. The business was founded on the principle that sustainable energy is a practice, not just an installation. Baker, along with the rest of the Third Element team, works individually with each of their clients to develop technological solutions best suited to their specific needs, paying close attention to the commercial and industrial processes that will help them achieve the most energy-saving results.

**Favorite: Tanner Ozburn - Lewis & Clark Electric**

**Favorite: Zach Bushilla - Integrity Electric**

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## Best Esthetician

**Winner: Quincee Starz, Wells Wellness & Aesthetics**  
27 Neill Ave. Suite 207 • 406-422-1114

Quincee Starz is a licensed esthetician and a Helena native of 20 years. She is passionate about aesthetics and helping others embrace their natural beauty. Starz specializes in body waxing, skin care and lash extensions.

*(Wells Wellness & Aesthetics was also the winner in the Best Spa category.)*

**Favorite: RaeAnn Hoveland – Advanced Practice Dermatology**

**Favorite: Josie Griffith - Magnolia Salon and Beauty Suites**

## Best Firefighter

**Winner: Vince Williams - Helena Fire Department**  
406-447-8472

Captain 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.

*(Vince Williams was also the winner in the Best First Responder category.)*

**Favorite: Chase Berg -West Valley Fire Department**

**Favorite: Jordan Chriske-Hall - Lewis & Clark County Sheriff's Office**

## Best First Responder

**Winner: Vince Williams - Helena Fire Department**  
406-447-8472

*(Vince Williams was also the winner in the Best Firefighter category.)*

**Favorite: Rebecca Brelin – St. Peter's Health**

**Favorite: Jordan Chriske-Hall - Lewis & Clark County Sheriff's Office**

## Best Hairstylist

**Winner: Megan Winfield, Magnolia Hair Salon & Beauty Suites**  
7534 Roughsawn Dr. Suite B • 406-438-5710

Megan Winfield is the owner of Magnolia Hair Salon & Beauty Suites and has been doing hair for over 9 years. Bayalage and blonding services are her specialty. She has always had a passion for the beauty industry and helping others feel beautiful.

*(Magnolia Hair Salon & Beauty Suites was also the winner in the Best Hair Salon category.)*

**Favorite: Chelsey Lundin - Tousled Hair & Co.**

**Favorite: Shelby Novak - Euclid Avenue Salon**

## Best Insurance Agent

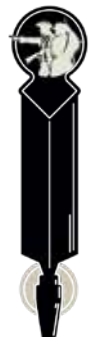
**Winner: Jon Miller - State Farm**  
900 N. Last Chance Gulch Suite 103 • 406-502-2200

A Montana native, Jon Miller joined the State Farm family in 2008. He opened his own agency in 2015, and ever since, has been helping people from Helena and the surrounding area with plans that fit their lives and help them feel confident moving forward. With 12 years of experience in this industry, Miller has a deep understanding of what people are looking for from their coverage. He loves working with younger families and inexperienced customers to help them learn about their options and find the right choices for their needs. You can count on him for straightforward, clear, and honest communication as well as exceptional customer service.

**Favorite: Joe Mitchell - State Farm**

**Favorite: Ryan Fetherston - Hinebauch Agency**

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**Best Beer Selection**

**Best Microbrew:**

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**Laura Krushensky,**  
**Best Bartender**



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Lewis & Clark Tap Room  
1535 Dodge Ave., Helena

Vigilante Pizza, Helena  
Inside the Lewis & Clark Tap Room

Vigilante Pizza, East Helena  
704 E. Main St.

## Best Law Enforcement Officer

**Winner: Sheriff Leo Dutton - Lewis & Clark County**

Leo Dutton was first sworn in as sheriff of Lewis & Clark County in September 2008 and took on the additional role of coroner in January 2019. He strives to lead others in a combined vision to meet a common mission and uphold the core values established by the Lewis & Clark County Sheriff's Office. Dutton has had extensive training in the National Incident Management System and attended the F.B.I. Command College. He is also a member of the Critical Incident Debriefing Team and completed the National Institute of Corrections course on Planning of New Intuitions and the Sherriff's Institute program in Colorado. Dutton serves on several Governor-appointed Boards, including Montana Public Safety Radio Board, Montana Police Officer Standards and Training (POST), and the Montana Board of Crime Control.

**Favorite: Amanda Villa - Montana Highway Patrol)**

**Favorite: Greg Holmlund - Lewis and Clark County Sheriff's Office**

## Best Mechanic

**Winner: Ken Iwen (Iwen Automotive)**

**10 Market St. • 406-443-4936**

Ken Iwen started his independent and family-owned auto repair shop, Iwen Automotive, in Montana City in 2010. His assembled team is dedicated to providing the best workmanship and customer service possible, with ASE-certified technicians on staff to service your vehicle. From automotive repairs, preventative maintenance, and national warranty, Iwen offers comprehensive automotive services at his shop. One online reviewer wrote, "Ken is by far the most honest mechanic that anyone could hope to find. He has never once played the 'upsell' game that so many other shops do. You can totally trust Ken and his crew to treat you and your vehicle with care."

**Favorite: Tony Baker - Kolar Tire & Auto**

**Favorite: Kit Johnson - J4 Automotive**

## Best Mortgage Loan Officer

**Winner: Shawna Erickson - Mann Mortgage**

**3345 Colton Drive, Suite B • 406-457-5205**

Shawna Erickson joined Mann Mortgage in 2018 and worked in various mortgage positions before becoming a licensed loan officer in Helena. Her honesty, quick communication, and extensive mortgage knowledge have gained her many referrals from past clients. There are many mortgage programs available, and Erickson specializes in finding the right one for your unique financial situation. No matter your savings, credit score, or

income, she is ready to work with you to finance your first home, refinance your existing home, or build a new home.

**Favorite: Crystal Eckerson - Opportunity Bank**

**Favorite: Katie Lawler - Stockman Bank**

## Best Photographer

**Winner: iFlyBigSky**

**3026 Canyon Ridge Dr. • 406-475-2328**

iFlyBigSky strives to provide cutting-edge photography to turn fleeting moments into everlasting memories. While their focus primarily resonates on aerial photography, they also provide services such as infrastructure inspection, search and rescue, as well as damage assessments. Their team is composed of editors, pilots, and photographers. With the use of high-end aerial drones and cameras, they are able to encapsulate beauty into a frame for your pleasure.

**Favorite: Alesha Ayers - Precious Moments Photography**

**Favorite: Devan Wieferich - Devrenee Boudoir**

## Best Plumber

**Winner: Jon O'Dell - 3 Brother's Plumbing & Heating**

**3 Virginia Rd., Montana City • 406-449-4343**

Helena native, Jon O'Dell, has worked as a plumber for 3 Brother's Plumbing & Heating for nearly nine years. 3 Brothers is a family-owned business established in 2000. They are staffed and equipped for projects ranging from municipal and commercial construction to residential plumbing repairs, remodels, and upgrades. From large scale commercial construction to that bathroom remodel you've been planning, 3 Brothers Plumbing is equipped and qualified to handle the job!

**Favorite: Jon Sorensen - Sorenson Plumbing**

**Favorite: Brandon Pocha - BP Plumbing & Heating**

## Best Realtor/Broker

**Winner: Savanna McNellis - Joyner Realty**

**1300 N. Montana Ave. #3B • 406-558-4767**

Savanna McNellis is a realtor with Joyner Realty in Helena. While some real estate agents focus on one county in Montana, Joyner focuses on the entire state of Montana and serves every county. McNellis and the rest of the Joyner team are here to help you with your land needs for a new build or we can find you something that is already built. One online reviewer wrote, "Savanna helped us find our dream home and made the process so easy and stress free in such a crazy market. Highly recommend!" (Joyner Realty was also the winner in the Best Real Estate Agency category.)



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**Favorite: Jessica Jones-Moore - Engel & Volkers**  
**Favorite: Tobi McDonnell - North Star Realty**

### Best Server

**Winner: Sean Kelly - On Broadway**  
**106 E. Broadway • 406-443-1929**

Sean, one of our On Broadway’s most experienced servers having worked for the restaurant since 2001. Kelly loves his job, and it really shows in his incredible attitude and work ethic, excellent service, and the ever-present skip in his step. What he loves most about On Broadway is the consistency over the years - the kind, loyal customers, and the hard-working staff. His customers love his attention to detail, his authenticity, and his smile.

*(On Broadway was also the winner in the Best Appetizer, Best Place to Enjoy a Cocktail, Best Place to Get Dinner, Best Restaurant, Best Waitstaff, Best Date Night Location, and Best Chef categories).*

**Favorite: Krista Williams - Shellies Cafe**  
**Favorite: Becca Larson - Big Bull Bar & Grill**

## SERVICES

### Best Bank

**Winner: Valley Bank of Helena**  
**406-495-2400**

Valley Bank proudly serves the Helena Valley and surrounding areas, helping businesses and individuals achieve their financial goals every day. They are a division of Glacier Bank, which is owned by Glacier Bancorp, Inc. (GBCI), a regional bank holding company headquartered in Kalispell, Montana. The Glacier family has received numerous awards for stability and soundness over the years and has repeatedly ranked among the top 10% in the nation for financial strength. With more than 40 years of service in our communities, Valley Bank of Helena is to serve our communities with the same personal attention our customers have always known, all with the added resources of our expanded banking family.

**Favorite: Stockman Bank**  
**Favorite: Opportunity Bank of Montana**

### Best Car Wash

**Winner: Woody’s Car Wash**  
**1201 Cedar St. • 406-449-4840**

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, “Woody’s is a Helena staple, love the ease and hands on experience which isn’t frequent anymore given everything is automated these days! I’m always happy with my clean car when I go there!”

**Favorite: Rod’s N Dogs Car Wash**  
**Favorite: Town Pump**

### Best Construction Company

**Winner: : Dick Anderson Construction**  
**3424 Highway 12 East • 406-443-3225**

Founded in Helena in 1975, DAC has grown from a small, private client company to a regional general construction and contracting industry leader with a market-leading portfolio of commercial construction, GC/CM, and Design-Build projects. DAC is more than a company, we’re a team with decades of combined experience, skills, and commitment to ensuring our projects reach the highest quality possible. We credit our success to our tried-and-true work ethic and the over 110 Helena area world-class workers who elevate the company to something truly special. DAC appreciates everything the Helena Community has done for us over the past 48 years, and we strive to give back to our great town personally and professionally.

**Favorite: Steed Industries**  
**Favorite: BT Construction & Development**

### Best Co-Working Office Space

**Winner: Sidecar**  
**317 Cruse Avenue, Suite 202 • 406-282-1036**

Founded in 2017, The Sidecar began as a space for two friends and local entrepreneurs in Helena, MT to collaborate and get out of their home offices. Together they realized there was a significant need for a space for other creators and professionals to grow their businesses, ideas, and networks. Since then, The Sidecar has grown into a full-fledged co-working community. The Sidecar allows members to enjoy a social office experience and collaboration whilst experiencing the freedoms of remote work and/or entrepreneurship. From community memberships to private offices, they have a spot for you.

**Favorite: Virago Collaborative**  
**Favorite: TopFloor Coworking**



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Dr. Brandon Blank  
**FAVORITE**



Dr. Austin Blank  
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## Best Credit Union

**Winner: Intrepid Credit Union**  
**406-443-5400**

Intrepid Credit Union was established in Helena in 1936 as "Helena U.S. Employees Federal Credit Union". Since that time, their name has changed a few times but today is known as Intrepid Credit Union. Intrepid Credit Union 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, free rewards checking, various savings accounts for all ages, as well as IRAs, Share Certificates, and Mastercard credit cards and debit cards. Stop in, visit with their friendly staff, and see what you've been missing in a financial institution.

(Intrepid Credit Union was also the winner in the Best Auto Loan Officer category.)

**Favorite: Rocky Mountain Credit Union**

**Favorite: Vocal Credit Union**

## Best Daycare

**Winner: Nature Story Montessori**  
**607 W. Custer Ave. / 3 Microwave Hill (Montana City) /**  
**108 N. Monroe (Boulder) • 406-422-4009**

Nature Story Montessori is a nature based preschool and summer camp which utilizes the Montessori approach of "following the child." This means they work with each student on their academic ability and needs which are paralleled with their social and emotional development. Their programs also integrate the natural world around them, their connection,

and their own powerful influence within their environment. Moving at their own pace and focusing on their personal talents and skills increase their confidence in themselves and abilities, which is fundamental in the success of their future. They offer full-time and part-time schedules at three locations to accommodate our families.

**Favorite: Little Angel Daycare & Preschool**

**Favorite: Discovery Kidzone Montessori**

## Best Employment Agency

**Tie Winners: Westaff**

**210 E. Lyndale Ave. • 406-443-7169**

Westaff of Helena provides flexible solutions for your business needs and are your source for temporary jobs and permanent employment. The Westaff team is dedicated to creating fun, exciting, and improved work experiences for both employers and employees. As a job seeker, you need a staffing service that not only provides the best jobs, but one that listens to your needs and understands exactly what you're looking for. For employers, Westaff gives you flexibility in your hiring process. All of their applicants have been screened, interviewed, and tested. You can opt to have Westaff send you resumes and you can choose someone, you can conduct your own interviews of the applicants, or Westaff can simply send you a qualified employee. Reach out to Westaff today for all your staffing and human resources needs.

**Tie Winners: A2Z Staffing Solutions**

**50 W. 14th Street, Suite 300 • 406-443-7664**

Established in 2003, A2Z Staffing Solutions works to better serve both the local community and those looking to relocate to Montana. With

# BEST CATERING COMPANY

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more and more people moving to the Treasure State and longtime locals seeking a change in work, A2Z saw a need for better connections to job opportunities in Montana and nationwide. In 2017, they expanded their reach to Bozeman with the formation of their sister firm, Adroit Employment Resources. They are proud to have served Montana for nearly 20 years, helping the local and national economy move forward by fostering a successful workforce.

***Favorite: Express Employment Professionals***

## Best Internet Provider

***Winner: Montana Internet***

***1424 National Ave. • 406-313-8379***

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. The Montana Internet team is laser-focused on strengthening their wireless network and bringing fiber optic internet to more people every day. Say goodbye to expensive cable and telephone bills forever by choosing locally owned and operated Montana Internet.

***Favorite: Spectrum***

***Favorite: Starlink***

## Best Landscape/Sprinkler Company

***Winner: Spieker Sprinklers***

***70 W. Custer Avenue • 406-443-3878***

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 lawn care services, spring sprinkler system startups and fall sprinkler system winterization. Since 1994, the staff at Spieker have provided nothing short of "top shelf" performance. They take great pride in their sprinkler installation and only use the very best products like Hunter and Rainbird Sprinkler systems.

***Favorite: Gardenwerks: Landscaping, Garden Center, Flower Farm & Florist***

***Favorite: Dawn 'til Dusk Landscaping***

## Best Pet Boarding/Grooming

***Winner: Diggity Dog***

***2828 Billings Avenue • 406-465-2135***

Diggity Dog offers full dog grooming services—from baths and hair cuts to nail trimming and ear cleaning in a safe, relaxing, and low stress environment. The team at Diggity Dog work very hard to learn about each

different dog breed and each dog's personality so that they can best accommodate each dog. They stay up to date on new techniques and classes so they can give your animal the care they deserve. They look forward to working with you and your fur babies.

***Favorite: Barking Mad Grooming and Boutique***

***Favorite: Paws 'N Go***

## Best Real Estate Agency

***Winner: Joyner Realty, LLC***

***1300 N. Montana Ave. Suite 3B • 406-558-4767***

Joyner Realty offers Montana real estate for sale with property listings ranging from land, homes, ranches, residential, cabins and waterfront to mountain property for sale. Their Montana real estate agents are dedicated to finding buyer's the perfect house, ranch, building lot or recreational property, including hunting and fishing parcels or farm and ranch acreage. Joyner Realty serves all Montana counties and provides real estate services for all your residential needs whether you are looking to build or purchase an existing country home.

***(Joyner Realty was also the winner in the Best Realtor/Broker category.)***

***Favorite: Big Sky Brokers, LLC Real Estate***

***Favorite: Capital City Realty & Property Management***

## Best Veterinarian Clinic

***Winner: Bridger Veterinary Hospital***

***3104 Green Meadow Dr. • 406-443-5874***

Bridger Veterinary Hospital is a mixed veterinary practice that is dedicated to caring for the animals of the Helena community. From wellness exams and dental care to surgery and vaccinations, Bridger is your go-to source when it comes to caring for your furry friends. As one online reviewer wrote, "The staff are super hard working and try so hard to empathetically meet my needs as a customer. I'm so grateful for their service."

***Favorite: Animal Center***

***Favorite: Alpine Animal Clinic***

# SHOPPING

## Best Art Gallery

***Winner: Holter Museum of Art***

***12 E. Lawrence Street • 406-442-6400***

The Holter opened in 1987, providing a space for the Helena community to experience contemporary art in central Montana. The museum has grown tremendously since that time, thanks to a successful capital campaign in 2002, adding 6,500 square feet to create a dynamic 17,000 square foot



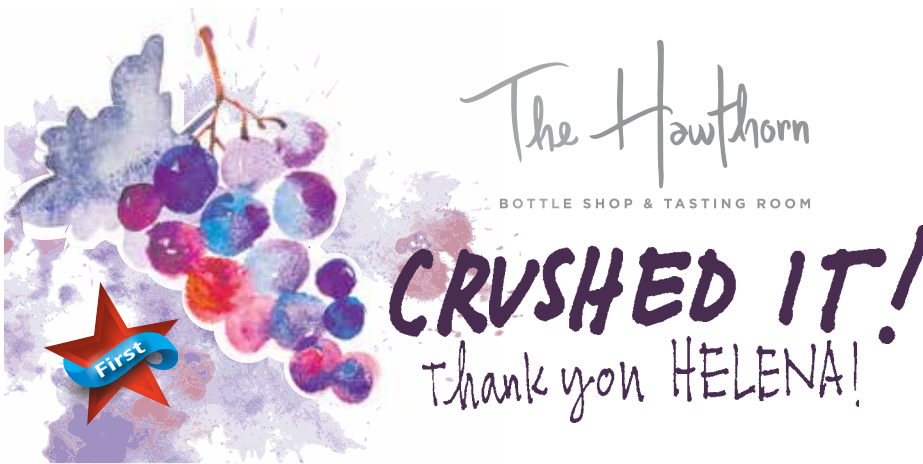
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facility. The museum is considered one of the finest in the state, consisting of five exhibition galleries, an education center, and a collections and research center. Offering between 15-20 rotating exhibitions each year, innovative art education for all ages, community-based events, artist residencies, lectures, receptions, and more – the Holter is among the premier cultural centers in the region.

***Favorite: Ghost Art Gallery***

***Favorite: 1+1=1 Gallery***

## Best Bike Shop

***Winner: Big Sky Cycling***

***801 N. Last Chance Gulch • 406-442-4644***

Jim Barnes and his wife, Melinda, have owned and operated Big Sky Cycling since 1986. With more than 45 years of experience in the industry, he is Helena's local expert on all things bicycle related. Barnes built a team at Big Sky Cycling, where their passion for riding is second only to their love for the community of cyclists they serve. In fact, they have been named one of America's Best Bike Shops numerous years by the National Bicycle Dealers Association. Whether you want to get back into biking for transportation or exercise, or you're ready to try mountain biking for the first time, the Big Sky Cycling team will guide you along the way.

***Favorite: Great Divide Cyclery***

***Favorite: The Garage***

## Best Boat Shop

***Winner: Montana Boat Center***

***2531 N. Montana Ave. • 406-443-6400***

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, Montara, Tige, and ATX. In addition, they have the complete line of the latest Arctic Cat ATVs and snowmobiles available.

***Favorite: Townsend Marine***

***Favorite: High Country Boats***

## Best Clothing Store

***Winner: 12 Tribes Boutique***

***901 N. Last Chance Gulch • 406-529-2534***

Established in 2021 by Bobbi Mickelson, 12 Tribes Boutique 12 Tribes Boutique sells cool, casual clothing for versatile women. Most women

play so many different roles - mom, wife, friend, business owner, teacher, nurse, SAHM. 12 Tribes sells clothes that you can wear for all of those roles while looking and feeling great. They are connecting women with fashion in downtown Helena and online.

***Favorite: Funky Trunk New Liberated Consigned***

***Favorite: Poppysseed Boutique***

## Best Convenience Store

***Winner: Canyon Ferry Mini Basket***

***3012 Canyon Ferry Rd. • 406-227-8506***

For convenient, fast, and friendly service, pay a visit to Canyon Ferry Mini Basket. They are a locally owned convenience store. Whether you need a fuel fill up on your vehicle or want to grab a bite to eat, the Mini Basket has you covered. They proudly serve Hot Stuff Pizza and Smash Hit Subs along with a variety of other hot sandwiches, appetizers, and breakfast items. In 2022 the Big Bull Bar & Grill located in Winston opened a second location right next to the Canyon Ferry Mini Basket called Raghorn Grill and Tavern serving up tasty burgers, sandwiches, and fries. Whether you are just passing by or are headed out to the lake for a day of fun, Canyon Ferry Mini Basket has all the goods and services you need.

***Favorite: Bob's Valley Market***

***Favorite: Dave's Exxon***

## Best Flower Shop

***Winner: West Mont Flower & Trading Company***

***3150 Mitchell Ave. • 406-447-3123***

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 your floral needs. West Mont's services include floral arrangements for any occasion, wholesale flowers and supplies, locally made soap, handmade crafts, and much more.

***Favorite: Gardenwerks: Landscaping, Garden Center, Flower Farm & Florist***

***Favorite: Knox Flowers & Gifts***

## Best Furniture Store

***Winner: Ruckers Furniture***

***1010 Dearborn Ave. • 406-442-7234***

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

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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. Ruckers' knowledgeable staff is eager to help you navigate their showroom offering a broad selection of choices from trusted brands including Signature Design by Ashley, Flexsteel, Stressless by Ekornes, Serta, and more.

***Favorite: Funky Trunk Furniture***  
***Favorite: The Red Hen***

**Best Grocery Store**

***Winner: WinCo***  
***2995 N. Sanders St. • 406-389-7119***

WinCo Foods of Helena 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. (WinCo Foods was also the winner in the Best Produce Department category.)

***Favorite: Van's Thriftway***  
***Favorite: Super 1 Foods***

**Best Home Improvement Store**

***Winner: Rock Hand Hardware***  
***2414 N. Montana Ave. • 406-442-7770***

Rock Hand Hardware has been part of the Helena Community since 1939

and is a fourth-generation family-owned business. While originally a farm implement dealer selling and servicing farm machinery, Rock Hand has grown into a 20,000 square foot store with enough inventory to solve all of their customers' hardware needs. The friendly staff of Rock Hand are all committed to being "the helpful place" by offering their customers personal service, quality products and a convenient shopping experience from the local experts who know you best.

***Favorite: Lowe's Home Improvement***  
***Favorite: Home Depot***

**Best Jewelry**

***Winner: Big Sky Brilliance***  
***2728 Colonial Dr. Suite 203 B • 406-272-3000***

Looking for that perfect gift for one of life's big occasions? From diamonds and engagement rings to diamond earrings, necklaces, men's jewelry and so much more, Big Sky Brilliance is the place to go. Can't quite seem to find the perfect piece of jewelry for your loved one? Big Sky Brilliance offers start to finish custom design that allows customers to incorporate elements from different styles to craft the perfect piece of jewelry. Big Sky Brilliance also provides the full spectrum of jewelry repair services. From rebuilding prongs, to sizing rings, to repolishing your well-loved diamonds and gemstones. Breathe new life into your beloved pieces to make them truly last a lifetime. Broken or unwanted jewelry? They also purchase gold, silver, platinum and diamonds. Next time you're celebrating one of life's many milestones, look no further than Big Sky Brilliance.

***Favorite: Eaton Turner Jewelry***  
***Favorite: Jensen Jewelers***



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**Helena's Best Convenience Store!**

## Best Meat Department

**Winner: Costco**

**2195 E. Custer Ave. • 406-495-7064**

*(Costco was also the winner in the Best Hearing Aid Store category.)*

**Favorite: Van's Thriftway**

**Favorite: WinCo Foods**

## Best Place to Buy Books

**Winner: Montana Book Company**

**331 N. Last Chance Gulch • 406-443-0260**

Montana Book Company is an independent, LGBTQ+, locally owned bookstore located on Helena's historic Last Chance Gulch. They offer books for all ages, greeting cards, stationery, vinyl, gifts, author readings, book clubs, community events, and more! Their welcoming and inclusive space is the perfect place to find the latest book releases and classic titles. Stop in and browse their bookshelves and connect with our community, join us for an author event, or find a book club that's right for you!

**Favorite: Aunt Bonnie's Books and Gifts**

**Favorite: Costco**

## Best Place to Buy Fitness Equipment

**Winner: Play It Again Sports**

**3215 Dredge Dr. • 406-422-0655**

Play It Again Sports is your neighborhood sporting goods store offering new and quality used sports and fitness equipment. They buy, sell, and trade used and new sports equipment and fitness gear and pass along the savings to you. They pride themselves on providing exceptional customer service every day and believe that their selection of major brands and breadth of products will keep you coming back for years. They specialize in fitness and exercise, football, baseball and softball, volleyball, ice and field hockey, lacrosse, bicycles, track and field, winter sports, and soccer.

**Favorite: Capital Sports**

**Favorite: Costco**

## Best Place to Buy Pet Supplies

**Winner: Murdoch's Ranch & Home Supply**

**3050 N. Montana Ave. • 406-457-1700**

Murdoch's Ranch & Home Supply is a modern day mercantile devoted to carrying lots of "down-to-earth merchandise." They don't forget your furry best friends either. Murdoch's carries a wide variety of top-quality pet friendly products for your dogs, cats, birds, and rabbits. From pet beds, food, treats, and toys to kennels, collars and leashes, and feed bowls, Murdoch's has everything you need to care for your pet. Stop by today to check out their selection.

**Favorite: PetSmart**

**Favorite: Petco**

## Best Place to Buy Unique Gifts

**Winner: Wild Child Collective**

**438 N. Last Chance Gulch • 406-558-9891**

Located in the heart of downtown Helena on the 400 Block of Last Chance Gulch, Wild Child Collective is a local family owned gift shop. Inspired by life's most important moments, adventures, and occasions, the shop is thoughtfully curated for all your gift giving needs. Whether it's a new addition to the family or a special Montana made item, you will have no trouble finding a unique and one of a kind gift. Proudly supporting over

40+ Montana artists, along with regional artists and small businesses.

**Favorite: General Mercantile**

**Favorite: Cutting Edge Laser Works**

## Best Plant Nursery

**Winner: Gardenwerks: Landscaping, Garden Center, Flower Farm & Florist**

**3225 Cooney Dr. • 406-442-5008**

Locally owned and operated, Gardenwerks is your place for plants, gardening materials, garden design and floral design. They are stocked with plants tried and true for our region and carefully selected from growers in Montana, Idaho, and Canada. Enjoy their display gardens, water features, walkways and patios, and vegetable gardens to inspire your gardening. Browse our complete line of eco-friendly products for your garden, as well as tools, seeds, containers, gloves, and other gardening necessities. Order quality bulk materials for daily pick-up or delivery including: topsoil, compost, bark mulches, and custom-mixed soils. Come and consult Helena's largest gardening library and certified plant professionals to jump start your outdoor project today.

**Favorite: Chadwick Nursery**

**Favorite: High Country Growers**

## Best Produce Department

**Winner: : WinCo Foods**

**2995 N. Sanders St. • 406-389-7119**

*(WinCo Foods was also the winner in the Best Grocery Store category.)*

**Favorite: Costco**

**Favorite: Super 1 Foods**

## Best Retail Beer Selection

**Winner: Super 1 Foods**

**3120 Queen Anne St. • 406-442-2348**

Open since 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, beer and wine, and fresh bakery items. Whether you are looking for ciders, craft, domestics, imports, singles, or spiked seltzers, Super 1 Foods offers an extensive beer selection worth browsing. Super 1 is owned and operated by the McIntire family, which owns and operates over a dozen stores in Montana and Idaho.

**Favorite: Island Liquor Store**

**Favorite: WinCo Foods**

## Best Retail Wine Selection

**Winner: The Hawthorn Bottle Shop and Tasting Room**

**46 N. Last Chance Gulch • 406-422-4622**

*(The Hawthorn Bottle Shop & Tasting Room was also the winner in the Best Retail Wine Selection at a Bar or Restaurant category.)*

**Favorite: Island Liquor Store**

**Favorite: Costco**

## Best Shoe Store

**Winner: The Base Camp**

**5 West Broadway • 406-443-5360**

The Base Camp is a Montana owned company since 1975 with folks that love to share the grand experience of Montana and the Northern Rockies. They love where we live, work, and play and want to help customers enjoy our part of the country to the fullest. The Base Camp has knowledgeable staff to direct you to all of Montana's special places and what you need



***Favorite: Shoe Dept. Encore***

***Favorite: Montana National Guard Thrift Store***

**3320 Dredge Dr. • 406-459-6470**

***Favorite: Miller's Crossing***

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