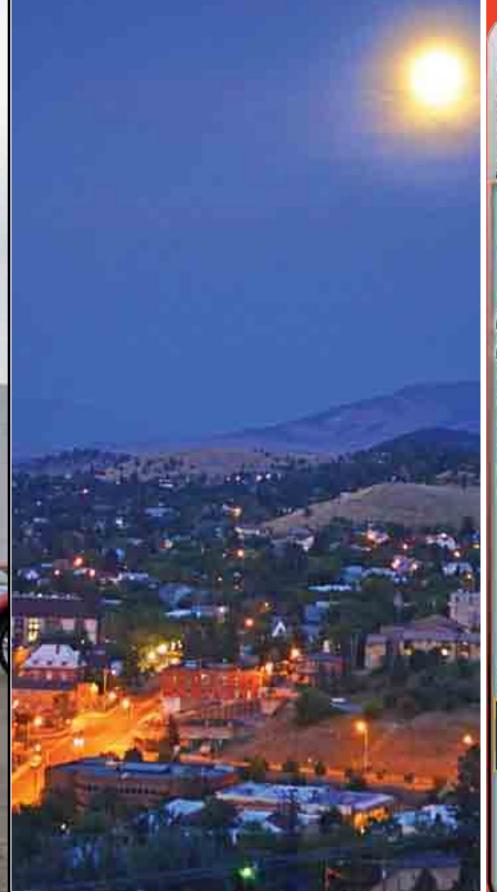
JANUARY 2016

PAGE 2 | Sunday, January 31, 2016 | BEST OF HELENA Independent Record | helenaticom Independent Record | helenaticom Best Of H







Photos in this section by Thom Bridge, Helena Independent Record

PAGE 4 | Sunday, January 31, 2016

BEST OF HELENA Independent Record | helena D.com Independent Record | helena D.com BEST OF HELENA



Best Art Galleries 1st place: Ghost Art Gallery

RETAIL & SERVICE

Best Art Galleries 1st place: Ghost Art Gallery 21 S. Last Chance Gulch, 443-4536

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

2nd place: Holter Museum, 12 E. Lawrence St. 406-442-6400

3rd place: Mountain Sage,

433 N. Last Chance Gulch / 406-457-8240

Best Local Band 1st place: Ten Years Gone

Founded in 2006 by lead vocalist and rhythm guitarist, Ben Fandry, Ten Years Gone made one of their first appearances as a youth band at an Alive at Five event in downtown Helena. The band, whose name derives from a Led Zeppelin song, enjoys playing almost every musical genre but focuses on Classic Rock from the

70s, Alternative rock and collective soul. Ten Years Gone makes regular appearances at Miller's Crossing and the Grubstake as well as performs at many Helena events like the Lost in Foundation, Kay McKenna Youth Foundation, East Helena Rodeo, and Bull Fest.

2nd place: Insufficient Funds 3rd place: The Clintons

Best Photographer 1st place: Jill Amsk Photography 2049 N. Last Chance Gulch, 439-0244

Jill Amsk specializes in newborn photography. As a mother of four, Amsk understands all too well how quickly babies grow up. Her goal is to provide parents with images of those sweet faces and tiny hands and feet so they can remember that tiny person that forever changed their life.

2nd place: Jackie Smith 3rd place: Eric Wordel Masterpiece Portrait, 406-431-ERIC (3742)

Best Artist

1st place: Bob Morgan (In memoriam)

Robert Morgan was born in Helena in 1929. Morgan was a realist painter who created scenes of a "Montana that is gone" and of wildlife. After serving in the Montana National Guard and as curator and acting

director of the Montana Historical Society for a year, Morgan began working as an artist full-time in 1970. Over the years, Morgan created nearly 3,000 art pieces. As he put it, "To research and interpret on canvas is to leave a legacy for others to enjoy and know what happened in the creation of this civilization. There is no greater place to do this than Montana." Sadly. Helena lost this renowned artist in June of 2015. But no doubt he is currently creating his greatest masterpieces side by side with many of hi artist friends, including mentor Charles M. Russell.

2nd place: Alan Snell, 2104 N. Last Chance Gulch 406-442-4151

3rd place: Connie Bergum

Best Eyewear 1st place: Montana EyeCare 550 N. Montana Ave., 443-2121.

Montana EyeCare has been proudly providing clearer vision to the people of Helena for over four decades. Built on the foundation of patient convenience and satisfaction, Montana EyeCare serves the whole family's eye care needs all under one roof. This past May, Montana EyeCare moved into a beautiful and spacious new office building built adjacent to their previous location. With four optometrists on staff, Montana EyeCare continues to "value our patient relationships and strives to improve your quality of life

and vision wellness through uncompromised service and state-of-the-art technology. (Montana EyeCare also won first place in the Best Eye Care category)

2nd place: Helena Vision Center, 534 N. Last Chance Gulch / 406-442-6814 3rd place: Shopko, 3101 N. Montana Ave. 406-443-4600

Best Jewelry 1st place: Eaton Turner Jewelry 1735 N. Montana Ave., 442-1940

Eaton Turner was founded in 1885. Today, the Johnsons—Don, Deanna and Corey along with Corey's wife Katrina—are the owners. Don, Deanna and Corey (husband, wife and son) are all artists with degrees in art from Montana State University. Deanna's medium is painting and her paintings have exhibited in numerous national art exhibitions and now hang in Eaton Turner. Corey and Don specialize in making custom jewelry and some of Corey's pieces were selected several years in a row as Best of Show at the Montana-Wyoming Jewelers' Association Design Competition. The Johnson's emphasis on the fine arts and its expression in their jewelry design sets them apart from mass produced designs available in many jewelry outlets.

2nd place: Dave's Pawn, 437 N. Last Chance Gulch / 406-449-5150 3rd place: Diamond Dream, 406-449-GOLD (4653)

THANKS FOR VOTING US BEST OF HELENA

Best Kids' Clothing 1st place: Target 3303 N. Montana Ave., 495-8368

Target traces its roots back to the Dayton Hudson Corporation—a rising star in the world of department stores in the 1950s. By 1961 the company was on the path to create a chain of mass market discount stores that would later be named Target. Their signature bullseye logo stemmed from the notion that a "marksman's goal is to hit the center bulls-eye." Today's Target stores have fulfilled its founder's dreams with 1,805 stores in the U.S. The company has 38 distribution centers in the U.S. and employs about 347,000 people.

2nd place: Macy's, 3405 N. Montana Ave 406-324-6000

3rd place: Pipsqueak Consignment and Baby Boutique, 330 N. Jackson St. / 406-443-7477

Best Men's Clothing 1st place: Macy's 3405 N. Montana Ave., 324-6000

Who would've guessed that a small, fancy dry goods store that opened on the corner of 14th Street and 6th Avenue in New York City in 1858 would become one of the largest retailers in the world? But that's exactly what happened! After several failed retail ventures, Rowland Hussey Macy's persistence finally paid off









LOOKING FORWARD TO SERVING YOU IN 2016



CAPPLETON FURNITURE

DESIGN CENTER LTD

1999 EUCLID AVENUE HELENA, MT т.406.495.0016

MONDAY-FRIDAY 10AM-5:30PM • SATURDAY 10AM-5PM www.appletondesigncenter.com

with the launch of R.H. Macy & Co. While the first day closed with only \$11.06 in sales, it grew to \$85,000 gross sales that first year. The store's original trademark emblem was a rooster, but Macy replaced it with a red star, inspired by a tattoo we got on his arm during his whaling days—a visual not to the star that guided him when he was at sea. Today Macy's operates about 900 stores in 45 states.

2nd place: Base Camp, 5 E. Broadway St 406-443-5360

3rd place: Murdoch's Ranch and Home Supply, 3050 N. Montana Ave. / 406-457-1700

Best Women's Clothing 1st place: Macy's, 3405 N. Montana Ave., 324-6000

2nd place: Sole Sisters, 327 N. Last Chance Gulch 406-449-4221

3rd place: Poppyseed Boutique, 318 N. Last Chance Gulch / 406-422-5680

Best Place to Buy Shoes 1st place: Shoe Carnival 2005 Cromwell Dixon Lane #3, 443-2120

Shoe Carnival is one of the nation's largest family footwear retailers, offering a wide variety of moderately priced dress, casual and athletic footwear for men, women and children. In 2010, Shoe Carnival was named one of the "100 Most Trustworthy Companies" by Forbes. As of 2014, Shoe Carnival was operating 404 stores in 33 states and Puerto Rico.

2nd place: Sole Sisters, 327 N. Last Chance Gulch

3rd place: Famous Footwear, 3329 N. Montana Ave. / 406-449-0077

Best Place for Men's Hair 1st place: Capital Hill Barber & Styling Salon 509 N. Sanders St., 442-6812

One online reviewer wrote, "I've been getting my hair cut by Randy (the owner) for almost 20 years....You don't keep going back unless you're getting the best. Few barbers in town will give you the straight razor with hot shaving cream but Randy still does if you ask."

2nd place: Great Clips, 613 N Montana Ave, 3325 N Montana Ave / (406) 443-2404, (406) 457-2547 3rd place: Studio 1047, 1047 N. Jackson St

406-449-7900

hand painted designs. Whether you're wanting to jazz up your nails with flowers, snowflakes, palm trees or the Easter bunny, Paradise Nails will decorate nails for any 2nd place: Luxury Nails & Spa,

3048 N Sanders St Ste D / 406-443-8888 3rd place: Pro Nails, 2030 Cromwell Dixon Ln 406-449-6477

Best Place for Women's Hair 1st place: Studio 1047 1047 N. Jackson, 449-7900

Best Place to Get Nails Done

1302 Prospect Ave., 449-5654

1st place: Paradise Nails & Spa

Studio 1047 is a full service salon/spa specializing in hair sculpture and hair color techniques. Services include color correction and reconstruction of damaged hair, permanent waving, straightening and keratin relaxing, nail art, spa manicures and pedicures, body waxing, hair extensions, eyelash extensions, massages, and scalp disorder treatments.

2nd place (tie): Hair Hair Salon and Spa, 440 S. Park Ave / 406-443-0055 Platinum Salon, 1040 Partridge Pl #5 406-442-7300



Best Kids' Clothing 1st place: Target



THANK YOU HELENA FOR YOUR LOYALTY!

1691 Blaine Street, Helena, MT 59601 406-449-7927



Leading the way to healthy living since 1975.

- Full-Service Deli with Hot Bar & Salad Bar
- Organic—Pesticide-free— Fruits, Vegetables & Groceries
- Local Antibiotic-free & Hormone-free Meats & Dairy
- Gluten-Free, Dairy-Free and Vegan products
- Vitamins & Natural Remedies
- On-Staff Naturopathic Physician

Thank you Helena, for nominating us best in four categories: organic, vegetarian, deli & produce.

Open Mon. - Sat. 8-8; Sun. 9-7 1096 Helena Ave. • 406.443.5150 realfoodstore.com facebook.com/realfoodstore







WestMont Flower & Trading Company Phone: 447-3123

3150 Mitchell Ave. Helena, MT 59602

Open Monday - Friday 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM **Walk-ins Welcome**

Offering fresh cut, beautiful floral arrangements for

Birthdays ~ Weddings ~ Anniversaries Funerals ~ Holidays or just because

Promoting Quality Work for People with Disabilities

Thank you for helping us *grow our business*!

PAGE 8 | Sunday, January 31, 2016

BEST OF HELENA Independent Record | helenatio.com Independent Record | helenatio.com Best of Helena

Best Spa 1st place: Hair Hair Salon & Spa 440 S. Park Ave., 443-0055

Nestled in the heart of historic downtown Helena. Hair Hair is a locally owned and operated business that is housed in the original B.K. Tatum home that dates back to 1868. Pamper your mind, body and spirit with one of the many treatments offered in their full service spa. Their massage therapist, Wendy Fox, was voted best massage therapist in Helena in 2011. (Hair Hair also claimed the first place slot in this year's Best Massage

2nd places: Calleis Salon & Spa, 3130 Saddle Dr. #1 406-440-3444

3rd place: Her Alibi Salon,

620 N. Last Chance Gulch / 406-442-2452

Best Antiques 1st place: Golden Girls Antique Mall 505 N. Last Chance Gulch, 443-3893

Satisfy the inner picker in you by visiting Golden Girls Antique mall in downtown Helena. The Shop provides shoppers with a multitude of choices all under one 10,000 square foot roof. The mall has over 40 dealers and the selection includes glassware, antique furniture and vintage clothing from traditional to eclectic. Golden Girls is open Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and Sundays noon to 5 p.m.

2nd place: Helena Industries, 2109 N. Last Chance Gulch / 406-442-2033 3rd place: Elements Consign and Design, 1336 Helena Ave. / 406-443-0019

Best Place to Buy a Used Car 1st place: Helena Motors 3365 U.S. Highway 12, 442-6310

Helena Motors sells three of America's top selling brands: Ford, Lincoln and Toyota. Their goal is to "exceed your expectations at all times." From helping you select, finance and purchase your vehicle to keeping it serviced and maintained throughout your ownership of it. Helena Motors is committed to its customers long after your first drive your new vehicle off the lot. (Helena Motors also took first place in the Best Place to Buy a New Car category).

2nd place: Placer Motors, 1516 Euclid Ave 406-442-2603

3rd place: Gary's Auto Plaza, 2038 N. Last Chance Gulch / 406-443-6682

Best Place to Buy a New Car 1st place: Helena Motors, 3365 US Highway 12 East / 406-442-6310

2nd place: Placer Motors, 1516 Euclid Ave. 406-442-2603

3rd place: Robert Allen Nissan, 3135 Prospect Ave. 406-442-2886

Best Auto Repair

1st place: Capital City Transmission & Auto 1405 Dodge Ave., 449-6823

Capital City Transmission is a locally owned, licensed, insured and certified auto body repair shop in Helena. Owner, Todd Harding, has worked in the automotive field for over 20 years and has ASE and ATRA certifications. Capital City's skilled technicians provide general and specialized automotive repairs for both domestic and foreign vehicles. Services include repairs on air conditioning systems, brakes, clutches, engines, full drive trains, and transmissions.

2nd place: J4 Automotive. 3 S Lane Ave 406-227-8622

3rd place: DJ's Automotive, 1691 Blaine St. 406-794-3412



Thanks for voting for us Helena! the best care



Bridger Veterinary Hospital

OPEN: 7:30 am - 6:00 pm 3104 Green Meadow Drive, Helena

(406) 443-5874



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Ashley HomeStore staff thanks all of our great customers and best wishes to all in 2016.



Gift Certificates Available www.montanavalleyfarms.com

THANK YOU **HELENA**

for voting for us **Best Nursery**

SEE

YOU

IN THE

SPRING

458-5528 • 250 Mill Road

Valley

find us on facebook

ram Farms

What a great year!

Corner of Green Meadow & Mill Road (2 Miles North of Capital High School)

1st place: Woody's Car Wash 1201 Cedar St., 449-4840

Woody's is a classic car wash combining 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. One online reviewer shared, "Great car wash for a reasonable price. A team of washers work out the mud and gunk while you wipe down the interior with a damp cloth they provide. They do a thorough job...then they towel dry your car as the end and even open the doors and clean out the interior of the door jambs. Finally, you get unlimited use of the vacuums...a really good deal in my

2nd place: Rods-N-Dogs Car Wash, 3580 Ptarmigan Ln. / 406-443-9274

Best Financial Institution 1st place: Valley Bank 495-2400

Valley Bank was founded in Helena in 1978. The bank has five branches in Helena and one in East Helena. Valley Bank is popular with customers because of its positive reputation in town and strong emphasis on customer service. Valley Bank has branches open on Saturdays and one branch is even open on Sunday.

Customers will be happy to know that Valley Bank is also known for employee longevity. When you go into your local branch, you'll likely see the same people week after week, month after month, year after year.

2nd place: Rocky Mountain Credit Union, 3400 N Montana Ave / 406) 449-2680 3rd place: Helena Community Credit Union, 915 Kessler St. / 406-443-5400

Best Place to Buy Furniture 1st place: Appleton Furniture Design Center 1999 Euclid Ave., 495-0016

Nearly 20 years ago, Appleton Furniture and Design Center began inside a green barn behind the historic Appleton Inn on Helena's west side. Since then, the business has progressively grown and now features two showrooms, one located in the three-story Victorian home. Appleton offers customers over 10,000 square feet of quality furniture shopping, lighting and home décor. Co-owner, Tom Woodall, and his design team construct quality hand crafted furniture in their client's choice of hardwoods. Appleton also offers Americanmade upholstery companies with your choice of fabrics leathers and custom detailing options. Come see why Appleton Furniture calls themselves your western Montana regional destination for fine furniture design.

2nd place: Rucker's Furniture,

1010 Dearborn / 406-442-7234 3rd place: Ashley Home Store, 3297 Dredge Dr. 406-996-1012

Flower Shop 1st place: Knox Flowers and Gifts 2005 Columbia Ave., 442-4070

Knox Flowers and Gifts is a family owned business "committed to offering only the finest floral arrangements and gifts, backed by service that is friendly and prompt." One online reviewer shared, "I ordered flowers for my mom's birthday online and Knox was the florist lucky enough to create the gorgeous bouquet my mom deserved. Thank you so much!

2nd place: Westmont Floral & Trading Company, 2708 Bozeman Ave. / 406-447-3100 3rd place: Leslie's Hallmark, 1600 11th Ave., 3321 N. Montana Ave. / 406-442-3933. 406-442-2777

Best Hardware Store 1st place: Rock Hand Ace Hardware 2414 N. Montana Ave., 442-7770

Rock Hand Ace Hardware has been part of the Helena community since 1939. As a fourth generation family owned business, Rock Hand is a Helena staple. Originally, Rock Hand was a farm implement dealer off

North Main Street selling and servicing farm machinery. Rock Hand moved to its current location in 1971 and slowly grew to a 20,000 square foot store with enough inventory to solve all of their customers' hardware needs. With endless inventory and friendly, prompt and expert customer service, Rock Hand Ace Hardware truly stands by its motto of "Ace the Helpful Hardware

2nd place: Power Townsend, 1387 E. Custer Ave. 406-442-2770 3rd place: Lowes, 3291 N. Sanders St.

406-495-9750

Best Hobby/Craft Store 1st place: Ben Franklin Crafts and Frame Shop 400 Euclid Ave. #8. 442-2040

Ben Franklin Crafts has been locally owned and operated since 1975. It is Helena's one-stop-shop for all things crafty. Ben Franklin offers a variety of craft paints and drawing supplies, beads, fabrics, yarn, home décor and silk flowers. They also have one of the largest selections of scrapbooking supplies in town and an in-house custon frame shop. A variety of adult and kid classes are also offered covering topics like scrapbooking, basic cake decorating, beading, and knitting.

2nd place: Hobby Lobby, 2013 Cromwell Dixon Ln. 406-442-0227

3rd place: Jo-Ann Fabric and Crafts, 3131 N. Montana Ave. / 406-443-2644

Best Attorney 1st place: Utick Law Firm 1424 National Ave., 443-7250

Utick Law is a small family firm practice in Helena. It all started with Andy Utick, who has been practicing law since 1969. Andy's wife, Annie Utick, later joined the firm along with their daughter, Andrea Utick Fox. Utick Law prides themselves on truly being a "Mom 'n' Pop" law firm. They prefer a personable and personal approach to practicing law and strive to do all within their professional power to deliver the best results to their clients.

2nd place: John Doubek III, 307 N. Jackson St. 406-442-7830

3rd place: Richard Pyfer, 307 N. Jackson St. 406-442-7830

Best Accountant

1st place: Anderson ZurMuehlen & Co., PC 828 Great Northern Blvd., 442-1040

Founded in 1957 in Helena, Anderson ZurMuehlen has grown to be the largest Montana-based accounting and business advisory firm with over 230 professional and administrative support personnel in offices throughout

customer service. Some 58 years into their history, they continue operating under that same principle. 2nd place: Wipfli, 910 N. Last Chance Gulch

the state. Anderson Zur Muehlen was built on the

principle of building relationships and providing superior

406-442-5520

3rd place: Atwood Accounting Services, 110 E. Lyndale Ave. / 406-442-1947

Best Pawn Shop 1st place: Dave's Pawn 437 N. Last Chance Gulch, 449-5150

Dave's Pawn in downtown Helena was founded by Dave Schlick in 2001. No doubt what helped them snag first place is their commitment to offering good prices, quality merchandise and staff that are always fair and friendly. One online reviewer wrote that Dave's Pawn is the "Best pawn shop I've ever dealt with! Friendly, clean and extremely great to deal with." Dave's Pawn is open Monday through Friday from 10:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. and Saturday from 10:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

2nd place: Alias Smith & Jones Pawn Inc., 1530 Prospect, 1130 Cedar St. / 406-442-6292, 406-449-6771

3rd place: Good Buddy Pawn Shop, 1202 Helena Ave. / 406-442-1519







440 SOUTH PARK • 443-0055

THANK YOU **HELENA** FOR VOTING US **BEST SPA**





"Breakfast and Lunch Among Friends"

Meridian Idaho

IN MONTANA - Business Insider



1225 East Custer - 444-5010 • 630 N. Montana - 449-6666 And...

www.stevescafe.com



Best Place to Buy Books 1st place: Hastings Entertainment 3215 N. Montana Ave., 443-1505

Founded in 1968, Hastings is a leading multimedia entertainment retailer that combines the sale of new and used books, magazines, videos, video games and CDs, trends and consumer electronics merchandise, with the rental of videos and video games in a superstore format. Hastings currently operates approximately 126 stores throughout the U.S. While you're busy perusing a new book or magazine in the Helena Hastings, be sure to stop by the Hardback Café located inside and pick up a tasty beverage.

2nd place: Montana Book & Toy Co., 331 N. Last Chance Gulch / 406-443-0260 3rd place: Aunt Bonnie's Books & Gifts, 419 N. Last Chance Gulch / 406-443-3093

Best Place to Buy Pet Supplies 1st place: Petco 3215 Dredge Dr., 449-7461

Petco's story began in 1965 when Walter Evans opened a mail-order veterinary supplies business. Over the years, the business continued developing to better meet the changing needs of the pet supply business and consumers. In 1980 Evans opened the first official Petco store in Oregon. Today, Petco has more than 1,200 stores nationwide that offer a wide selection of top

quality products to meet the needs of a variety of pets. Whether you're looking for food, beds and carriers, ID tags or even a funny outfit or two, Petco is the place to go. Petco also offers a full service dog grooming salon, dog training classes, pet vaccinations and pet adoption

2nd place: Wiggles Pet Shop, 2231 N. Montana Ave. / 406-465-5045 3rd place: Murdoch's Ranch & Home Supply, 3050 N. Montana Ave. / 406-457-1700

Best Plant Nursery 1st place: Valley Farms 250 Mill Rd., 458-5528

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

2nd place: Chadwick Nursery 3010 E. Custer Ave. / 406-442-3931 3rd place: Gardenwerks, 3225 Cooney Dr. / 406-442-5008

Best Store for Home Appliances 1st place: Sears Hometown Store in Helena 3120 Dredge Dr. #101, 442-4212

Sears Hometown Store in Helena is just one of 900 Hometown stores nationwide that are locally owned and operated destinations for all your home appliance needs. Helena Sears Hometown Store carries the best in 1st place: Helena Cycle Center quality, brand name appliances like Craftsman, Kenmore, Samsung, LG, Whirlpool and GE. It also carries power tools, lawn mowers, and other garden products. Helena Sears prides itself on offering a personalized shopping experience to its customers that is tailored to the community.

2nd place: Lowes 3291 N. Sanders St. / 406-495-9750 3rd place: The Home Depot, 1801 E. Custer Ave. / 406-442-7311

Best Veterinarian 1st place: Bridger Veterinary Hospital 3104 Green Meadow Dr., 443-5874

For many people, their pets are more than just animals to them—they're family. That's why when it comes to caring for them, they want the very best. One online reviewer wrote, "We have gone to Bridger Veterinary for eight years....We trust them and they always do what is best for our animals and have great compassion for our love for them. Bridger, thank you for all you do!"

2nd place: Alpine Animal Clinic, 1801 Cedar St. 406-449-7155

3rd place: Animal Center Veterinary Hospital, 3101 Cedar St. / 406-442-3160

Best Motorcycle/ATV 1825 N. Last Chance Gulch, 443-4631

Like many successful businesses, Helena Cycle Center was founded on passion. It all began over 35 years ago when motorcycle enthusiast, Glenn Middlestead, conceived a dream of opening a powersports dealership. He began by selling motorcycle parts and accessories out of his parent's garage. But over the course of three decades and three locations, Helena Cycle Center has transformed into the most successful powersports dealership in town for Suzuki, Kawasaki and Polaris. The business sells and services motorcycles, ATVs, snowmobiles, and sports utility vehicles. They also offer the latest in clothing, parts, and accessories. But besides an impressive showroom, what Helena Cycle Center is best known for is its crew of experienced, friendly and hardworking staff many of whom have been long term employees.

2nd place: One Way Marine, 3186 US-12 406-443-7373



Best Veterinarian 1st place: Bridger Veternary Hospital

Best Lodging 1st place: Best Western Premier Great Northern Hotel 825 Great Northern Blvd., 457-5500

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

2nd place: Residence Inn by Marriott, 2500 E. Custer Ave. / 406-443-8010 3rd place: Hampton Inn, 725 Carter Dr. / 406-443-5800



Thank you Helena, for letting us be your first choice for flowers!

KNOX FLOWERS & GIFTS

(406) 442-4070 2005 Columbia Avenue www.knoxflowershop.com discount on flowers, plants & gifts

when you bring in this ad.

Expires 2/29/16 (excludes Valentines Arrangements)

Over 35 years of flowers & gifts for Helena.

Thank you Helena! We Work For

DIRECT HIRE PAYROLLING TEMPORARY TEMP-TO-HIRE

443-7664 www.a2zmontana.com

ORGANIC SUSTAINABLE LOCAL

MAKING OUR HELENA HOME STRONGER TOGETHER

thecu4u.org

Helena Community

Credit Union

Best Place to Buy Unique Gifts 1st place: General Mercantile 413 N. Last Chance Gulch, 442-6078

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

2nd place: Birds & Beasleys, 2 S. Last Chance Gulch / 406-449-0904 3rd place: Leslie's Hallmark, 1600 11th Ave., 3321 N. Montana Ave. / 406-442-3933, 406-442-2777

Best Place for Fitness Equipment 1st place: Better Body Fitness 1400 Euclid Ave., 449-4672

Better Body Fitness has been selling exercise equipment in Montana and northern Wyoming to business and individuals since 1999. They promise to "take the hassle" out of choosing, buying, installing and repairing top quality fitness equipment." Better Body Fitness sells new and pre-owned equipment and clothing.

2nd place: Bob Ward's Sports and Outdoors, 3323 Dredge Dr. / 406-443-2138 3rd place: Big Sky Cyclery, 801 N. Last Chance Gulch / 406-442-4644

Best Employment Agency 1st place: A2Z Staffing Solutions 1824 N. Last Chance Gulch, 443-7664

A2Z Staffing Solutions is an independent, womenowned and run employment agency for all professions since 1995. A2Z provides clerical, professional, technical, light industrial and construction personnel for private and public employers. The staff at A2Z pride themselves on the fact that they "work for you". A2Z is dedicated to placing the best possible candidates that match the position not only with skills and experience but with the company's internal culture as well.

2nd place: Westaff. 210 E Lyndale Ave / 406-443-7169 3rd place: Helena Job Service, 715 Front St. / 406-447-3200

Best Thrift Store 1st place: Good Samaritan Thrift Store 3067 N. Montana Ave., 442-0780

Shopping in a thrift store is similar to eating a box of chocolates..." You never know what you're gunna get." And with a 40,000 square feet shopping area, you're bound to find something every time you visit. When you shop at the Good Samaritan you can also take pride in the fact that your dollars are contributing to the Good Samaritan Family Ministry, which helps hundreds of low income families in the Helena area. The ministry has

been able to donate over \$200,000 to families each year. The Good Samaritan is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Sundays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

2nd place: Helena Industries, 2109 N. Last Chance Gulch / 406-442-2033 3rd place: Helena Goodwill Store, 1100 Rd Runner St. / 406-457-1325

Best Bike Shop 1st place: Big Sky Cyclery 801 N. Last Chance Gulch, 442-4644

Big Sky Cyclery is a family-owned shop serving the Helena area since 1986. After 24 years in the same location off of 11th Ave, Big Sky moved into a roomier location off Last Chance Gulch. Big Sky offers a huge selection of bicycles including mountain, road, triathlon, cyclocross, hybrid, kids and BMX. In addition, they carry a variety of bike shoes, accessories and apparel. Big Sky is also a full service repair shop with highly trained, experienced, and passionate mechanics that will keep you pedaling.

2nd place: Great Divide Cyclery, 336 N. Jackson St. / 406-443-5188 3rd place: The Garage, 334 N. Jackson St. / 406-422-5388



Best Art Bike Shop 1st place: Big Sky Cyclery

Best Boat Shop 1st place: One Way Marine and Motor Sports 3186 U.S. Highway 12, 443-7373

One Way Marine and Motor Sports has been a locally owned and operated marine and motor sports dealer for over 30 years. While they claimed the prize of best boat shop, they carry a lot more than boats and outboard motors. From selling and servicing ATVs, side-by-sides, snowmobiles, snow plows, Honda generators and PWCs, One Way Marine is committed to making your outdoor sporting experience the best one possible. Or as they put "You'll like our full-line approach to fun."

2nd place: Montana Boat Center, 2531 N. Montana Ave / 406-443-6400 3rd place: Townsend Marine, 7809 US-287 Townsend / 406-266-5700

Best Health Club 1st place: Capital City Health Club 1280 N. Montana Ave., 442-6577

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

2nd place: Crossroads Sports and Fitness, 1013 Dearborn Ave. / 406-442-6733 3rd place: Helena Athletic Club, 3350 Colton Dr. / 406-442-6782

Best Sporting Goods Store 1st place: Capital Sports & Western Wear 1092 Helena Ave., 443-2978

For the last 45 years, Capital Sports and Western Wear has been Helena's go-to store for sporting goods. Since their inception, Capital Sports has made it their goal to offer the best quality and highest performance products at fair prices for the outdoor enthusiast. That's why they have always been a regional leader in sales of outdoor gear, clothing and footwear. Capital Sport's staff are just as passionate about outdoor recreation as you so come take advantage of their knowledge before your next

2nd place: Bob Ward's Sports & Outdoors, 3323 Dredge Dr. / 406-443-2138 3rd place: Base Camp, 5 E. Broadway St. / 406-443-5360





Thank You

for supporting us to be one of

HELENA'S **BEST SPAS!**

AVEDA



3130 Saddle Dr South Helena Exchange 406-440-3444







DR. HOWELL AND DR. SARGENT AT SAGE MEDICAL CLINIC SAY



KEEP UP YOUR SEVEN HEALTHY HABITS

- No tobacco use
 Wear your seatbelts
- Regular exercise at least five days a week
- Diet to limit cholesterol and control blood sugar
- Brushing and flossing teeth daily
- Keeping alcohol intake to two drinks per day or less
- Take 800-1000 IU Vitamin D daily

820 North Montana Avenue • 443-7733



Friday - Saturday • 11:00am - 10:00pm

Best Supermarket/Deli/Fresh Produce/ Meat Department 1st place: Van's Thriftway

306 Euclid Ave., 442-8645 One local Supermarket swept four of the contest's categories: Best Supermarket, Best Place to get Fresh Produce, Best Deli and Best Meat Department. Van's Thriftway, according to Helena voters, is the top local grocery store. The Vander Jagt family bought the Helena store in 1997. They also own stores in Browning, Great Falls, Bozeman, Billings and Forsyth. The Helena store is open 24 hours every day for all your grocery needs day or night.

2nd place in the Best Supermarket and Fresh Produce categories was Super 1 Foods. 2nd place in the Best Deli was the Real Food Market & Deli. 2nd place in the Best Meat Department category was Costco.

3rd place in the Best Supermarket and Deli categories was Safeway.

3rd place in the Fresh Produce category was the Real Food Market & Deli.

3rd place in the Best Meat Department category was Super 1 Foods.



Best Supermarket 1st place: Van's Thriftway

unch Monday-Saturday

Best Retail Beer Selection 1st place: Toppers Cellar 1221 Helena Ave., 442-9357

Toppers also placed first in the Best Place to Buy Wine in Helena. The secret behind Toppers' popularity is

its wide and unique selection of wine and beer as well as extensive knowledge available to advise customers. As one online reviewer shared, "Topper was fantastically helpful and accommodating. Thanks for the excellent service and phenomenal wine. Hundreds of wine and beer to choose from and he quickly made it easy to find the perfect selection for the price in mind."

2nd place: Super 1 Foods, 1822 E. Custer Ave. 406-442-2348 3rd place: Van's Thriftway, 306 Euclid Ave., 442-8645

Best Retail Wine Selection lst place: Toppers Cellar, 1221 Helena Ave 442-9357

2nd place: Island Liquor Store, 1225 E. Custer Ave. / 406-442-1090 3rd place: Super 1 Foods, 1822 E. Custer Ave. 406-442-2348

RESTAURANT & DRINK

Best Bar for a Stiff Pour 1st place: Miller's Crossing 52 S. Park Ave., 442-3290

Miller's offers a wide variety of regional and nation wide microbrews and cocktails made with liquor from Montana distilleries. Weekly events include Margarita Monday, Trivia Tuesday, Montana Made Thursday (with live music), DJ Dance Party on Saturdays and live music at least one Friday a month. The kitchen serves food until 9:30 p.m. The bar is open every day from 11 a.m. until 2 a.m. Whether you're looking for a cold beverage late night snack, or a round of pool with friends, Miller's Crossing is the place to be. (Miller's also placed 1st in the Best Pool Table category, 2nd in the Best Karaoke and Best Bar Food and 3rd in Best Happy Hour).

2nd place: Silver Star Steak Company, 833 Great Northern Blvd / 406-495-0677 3rd place: Haps Beer Parlor, 1505 Railroad Ave. / 406-443-2804

Bar with Best Beer Selection 1st place: Grub Stake Lounge and Restaurant 1450 Lincoln Road West, 458-9808

Located six miles north of Helena, right off of I-15 Exit 200, the Grub Stake is "your local roadhouse for great

food, cold beer and great service." Built in 1983, the Grub Stake opens every day at 8 a.m. and serves breakfast, lunch and dinner every day of the week. The Grub Stake has a full bar featuring a wide variety of beers on tap, including some locally brewed favorites from the Blackfoot and Lewis and Clark Breweries. In 2013 a large addition to the Grub Stake was built that features a dance floor. Live music by local bands is now offered Thursday through Saturday nights. Drive by the Grub Stake any weekend night and the crammed parking lot is the only indicator you'll need to know that the Grub Stake is the happening place to be in Helena

2nd place: The Brewhouse Pub and Grille, 939 Getchell St 406-457-9390 3rd place: Lewis and Clark Brewery, 1517 Dodge Ave. 406-442-5960

Bar with Best Beer Selection 1st place: Grub Stake Lounge & Restaurant

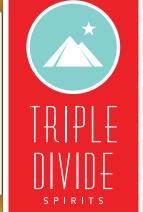






Thanks To All Our Local Farmers & Ranchers For Their Great Fresh Droduce And Meat

108 E. Sixth Ave. 443-0105 • bennysbistro.com





Thank you

Thank you Helena and Platinum Salon

clients for voting Platinum Salon a winner in The Best of Helena Woman's Haircut category

Your loyal patronage is greatly appreciate

1040 Partridge PI # 5 • (406) 442-7300 \$1 OFF Helena's Favorite Moscow Mule or Bloody Mary MON - SAT 4:00 - 8:00



3611 Brooks, Missoula, MT | 406-215-1388

Bar with Best Bloody Mary 1st place: Triple Divide Spirits 790 Front Street, 449-2393

Founded in 2013, Triple Divide Spirits is Helena's very own micro-distillery currently producing vodka, gin and spiced rum. In 2015, Triple Divide changed ownership from founders Karen Powell and JP Crowley to Steffen Rasile and Tyrrell Hibbard. The shift was a dream come true for Rasile and Hibbard who both envisioned creating Montana-made products that combine the state's pioneer spirit and with refined spirit production. Since taking over the distillery the pair has been hard at work revamping the menu and refining the distilling process, including making their first batch of single-malt whiskey. Come taste one of Triple Divide Spirits handcrafted Montana concoctions in their tasting room Monday through Saturday from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. (Triple Divide Spirts also placed first in the category of Bar with Best Moscow Mule)

2nd place: Last Chance Casino, 1001 N. Last Chance Gulch / 406-442-4474 3rd place: Lakeside on Hauser, 5295 York Rd. / 406-227-6076

Bar with Best Moscow Mule 1st place: Triple Divide Spirits, 790 Front St. 406-449-2393



Best Bar with Bloody Mary/Moscow Mule 1st place: Triple Divide Spirits

2nd place: Silver Star Steak Company, 833 Great Northern Blvd / 406-495-0677 3rd place: Fusion Grille, 825 Great Northern Blvd.

Symphony Carroll College and the Helena Symphony thank you for your support of Symphony Under the Stars

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING ALL OF YOU ON SATURDAY, JULY 16, 2016

Best Casino 1st place: Last Chance Casino 1001 N. Last Chance Gulch, 442-4474

You can gamble here on the 20 line games, keno or poker, but you'll always be a winner and treated right by the friendly staff who serve up great meals and drinks. The Last Chance Casino is a family friendly restaurant open from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Friday and Saturday. The casino is open from 8 a.m. to midnight Monday through Thursday and 8 a.m. to 2 a.m. on Friday and Saturday. 2nd place: Nickels Gaming Parlour, 2100 N. Last Chance Gulch #C

406-443-5554

3rd place: Motherlode Sports Bar and Casino, 1428 Cedar St. / 406-443-3510

Best Happy Hour 1st place: Silver Star Steak Company, 833 Great Northern Blvd / 406-495-0677

2nd place: Rialto. 52 N. Last Chance Gulch / 406-442-1890 3rd place: Miller's Crossing, 52 S. Park Ave / 406-442-3290

Best Karaoke 1st place: Haps Beer Parlor 1505 Railroad Ave., 443-2804

Located across from Helena's historic train depot off Railroad Avenue, one of Helena's last remaining brick lined roads, Haps is one of the original and most popular bars in town. Haps was first opened by Hap Schneider in 1935 when trains were still the favored cross country mode of transportation. Schneider ran the bar until 1941 The second owner, George Schneider, ran the bar from 1936 until 1974. The present owner, Don Lytle, bought Haps in 1974. Haps offers Mad Dawg Karaoke six night a week as well as hosts local league tournaments on its two league pool tables.

2nd place: VFW Post 10010. 117 W. Main St / 406-227-8163 3rd place: Miller's Crossing, 52 S. Park Ave / 406-442-3290

Best Pool Table 1st place: Miller's Crossing, 52 S. Park Ave / 406-442-3290

2nd place: Valley Hub, 4960 N. Montana Ave. / 406-443-1957 3rd place: Gold Bar. 406 N. Last Chance Gulch / 406-442-2250

Best Sports Bar 1st place: Buffalo Wild Wings

3190 N. Sanders St., 495-9464 (Buffalo Wild Wings also scored the top slot in the chicken wings category.) The Buffalo Wild Wings chain started in 1982 in Columbus, Ohio with a three part mission: wings, beer and sports. In fulfilling their mission they say they served more than a billion wings in 2013, 27 million each week. On Super Bowl Sunday 2015, they served 11 million wings. Buffalo Wild Wings is open Monday through Thursday and Sundays from 11 a.m. to midnight and Fridays and Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 1

2nd place: Bert & Ernie's, 361 N. Last Chance Gulch / 406-443-5680 3rd place: Motherlode Sports Bar and Casino, 1428 Cedar St. / 406-443-3510



CONGRATULATIONS HELENA and all of our BEST OF HELENA Winners!

Inspired By You









EASTSIDE 1900 9th Ave

WESTSIDE

306 Euclid (inside Van's Thriftway)

DOWNTOWN 321 Fuller Ave

EAST HELENA 101 Lane Ave

H.O.M.E. REAL ESTATE 3171 North Montana Ave



Division of Glacier Bank

www.valleybankhelena.com



Best Bar Food 1st place: The Brewhouse Pub and Grille 939 1/2 Getchell St., 457-9390

The Brewhouse opens daily at 11 a.m. and is one of the more popular spots in town for lunch, dinner, or a drink out on the town with friends. With 20 different beers on tap and a dozen or so malt beverages, it's a good thing the Brewhouse offers a smorgasbord of appetizers to nibble on between rounds. With choices like beerbattered cheese sticks, gusto garlic fries, Maui kettle chips and sautéed mushrooms, you're bound to find a good pairing for whatever you're drinking.

2nd place: Miller's Crossing, 52 S. Park Ave / 406-442-3290 3rd place: Buffalo Wild Wings, 3190 N. Sanders St. / 406-495-9464

Best Asian Food 1st place: Nagoya Japanese Steakhouse and 2790 Washington Dr., 449-2742

From the moment the doors first opened at Nagoya in Helena last winter, it's 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. Crowded in around the Hibachi grill, you are treated to dinner and a show as Nagova's chefs prepare your meal right in front of you over the grill.

Don't be surprised when the chefs start tossing food in the air and twirling their cooking tools about in a culinary acrobatics performance. Those more interested in the traditional sushi rolls have the option to either sit at a table or right up at the sushi bar to watch each and every roll prepared artistically by hand with the freshest

ingredients. (Nagova also claimed the first place prize for Best Sushi in Helena.)

2nd place: Jade Garden, 3128 N. Montana Ave. 406-443-8899 3rd place: Toi's Thai Cuisine, 423 N. Last Chance Gulch 406-443-6656

Best Sushi 1st place: Nagoya Japanese Steakhouse and Sushi, 2790 Washington Dr. 449-2742 2nd place: Suki Café, 15 W.

6th Ave. / 406-422-1795 3rd place: Wok-N-Roll Sushi Bar, 2058 Euclid Ave 406-502-1989

Best Bakery 1st place: Park Avenue Bakery 44 S. Park Ave., 449-8424

Park Avenue Bakery continues the tradition of hometown baking with its location in the old Eddy's Bakery building in downtown Helena. The bakery



Best Local Beer 1st place: Blackfoot River Brewing Company

also honors tradition with its business model from the "European tradition of community cafes and making of artisan breads and fine pastries." But Park Avenue Bakery offers much more than just bread and desserts. They also prepare homemade soups daily along with hearth-baked pizzas and calzones, sandwiches and breakfast guiches.

2nd place: Vanilla Bean Bakery and Café, 201 N. Rodney St. / 406-443-2257 3rd place: Van's Thriftway, 306 Euclid Ave. / 406-442-8645

Best Breakfast 1st place: Steve's Café 1225 E. Custer Ave., 444-5010 630 N. Montana Ave., 449-6666

Steve Vincelli has been serving home-style breakfasts (and lunches) in Helena since 2009 at "A casual café in the Heart of Montana." Steve's menu features unique offerings made with fresh ingredients. Some of the more popular breakfast items include Huckleberry stuffed French toast, slow roasted corned beef hash, and three varieties of house-made sausages.

2nd place: No Sweat Café, 427 N. Last Chance Gulch / 406-442-6954 3rd place: TNT Early Bird Café, 724 W. Custer Ave. / 406-457-1503

Best Budget Lunch 1st place: Taco del Sol 21 N. Last Chance Gulch, 443-3978 Taco del Sol is a hip, brightly colored friendly restaurant

right along the Walking Mall in downtown Helena. The restaurant first opened in the spring of 2004 and moved to its current location—the historic Placer Hotel—in February 2012. Taco del Sol's fish tacos are a local favorite but the carne asada in their Mission Burrito is pretty tasty as well. For a quick, flavorful and extremely filling meal, Taco del Sol always delivers.

2nd place: Qdoba Mexican Grill, 2080 Cromwell Dixon Ln. / 406-442-2255 3rd place: Cielo Cocina, 105 E. 6th Ave. / 406-996-1610

Best Coffee

1st place: Fire Tower Coffee House 422 N. Last Chance Gulch, 495-8840

Nestled in the heart of downtown Helena, FireTower has been roasting and serving up exceptional coffee for over a decade. Fire Tower prides itself on using the highest quality beans heralding from all over the world, including Brazil, Ethiopia, Columbia and Honduras. The majority of their beans are also certified organic and fair trade because Fire Tower is committed to protecting the integrity of the coffee industry. Swing by and try a cup of FireTower's fresh brewed goodness and don't forget they have breakfast and lunch eating options as well.



Best Budget Lunch 1st place: Taco del Sol

2nd place: Scenic Brew, 3091 N. Sanders / 406-204-0150 3rd place: Florence Coffee Co, 1822 E. Custer Ave. / 406-317-1820

Thank you for voting Capital City Health Club BEST HEALTH CLUB for 4 years running!

Commit to be fit with us in 2016

442-6577 1280 N. Montana Ave.









Montana owned. National resources. **Customized solutions.**



Billings ■ Bozeman ■ Butte Great Falls ■ Havre ■ Helena Missoula azworld.com



Across from Helena High

Best Dessert 1st place: Silver Star Steak Company, 833 Great Northern Blvd., 495-0677

(Silver Star also landed first place in the Best Happy Hour, Best Steak, and Best Appetizer categories)

2nd place: Park Avenue Bakery, 44 S. Park Ave. 406-449-8424 3rd place: Shellie's Country Café, 3122 US-12 / 406-442-0033

Best Hamburger Ist place: Windbag Saloon & Grill 19 S. Last Chance Gulch, 443-9669

Established in 1978, the Windbag's burgers are not only legendary, but the so is the building they're served in. The current location of the Windbag was once know known as Big Dorothy's after the famous madam who operated a brothel on the second floor of the building. The Windbag offers the finest steaks, seafood, burgers, salad and chicken. Everything is made fresh and their steaks are hand cut. And if you enjoy French fries with your thick cut burger, you'll adore their hand-sliced steak fries. After 35 years as owner of the Windbag owner, Randy Beckner recently announced that he will be passing down the restaurant and its legacy to new owner Mike Schmechel, whose family also owns the Montana Brewing Company in Billings and Thomas Meagher Bar in Missoula. (The Windbag also took first place in the

Best Salad category)

2nd place: York Bar, 7500 York Rd. / 406-475-3751 3rd place: Brewhouse Pub and Grill, 939 Getchell St / 406-457-9390

Best Ice Cream 1st place: Big Dipper Ice Cream 58 N. Last Chance Gulch, 513-1051

With over 4,000 "likes" on its Facebook page, there is no doubt that Helenans love the creamy concoctions scooped up at Big Dipper. On any hot summer evening on the Walking Mall, there is always a line at the Big Dipper. "Great flavors, made and served by great people, at a great location in Downtown Helena. I make the Big Dipper Helena at least a once a week indulgence. So should everyone else! They make ice creams and sorbets with great taste, distinction and style," wrote Brad Robinson from Helena.

2nd place: Frozen Moose Yogurt, 1015 Boulder Dr. #1D / 406-996-1350 3rd place: Great Northern Carousel, 989 Carousel Way / 406-457-5353

Best Local Beer 1st place: Blackfoot River Brewing Company 66 S. Park Ave., 449-3005

Founded in 1998 by three passionate homebrewers and beer aficionados, the Blackfoot River Brewing Company is one of the most hopping microbreweries and taprooms in town. You will always find an intriguing line-up of hand-crafted beers, good friends and a great atmosphere at the Blackfoot taproom. (The Blackfoot also snagged first place in the Best Microbrewery category).

2nd place: Lewis and Clark Brewery, 1517 Dodge Ave. / 406-442-5960 3rd place: Miner's Gold, Lewis & Clark Brewing Company, 1517 Dodge Ave. / 406-442-5960

Best Mexican Food 1st place: Fiesta Mexicana 1600 Prospect Ave., 513-1672

Fiesta Mexicana offers "a little bit of Mexico right here in Montana." Their large menu offers a diverse selection of delicious and authentic Mexican fare.

2nd place: Karmadillos Southwestern Café, 139 Reeders Alley / 406-442-2595 3rd place: Cielo Cocina, 105 E. 6th Ave. / 406-996-1610

Best Microbrewery 1st place: Blackfoot River Brewing Company 66 S. Park Ave / 406-449-3005

2nd place: Lewis and Clark Brewery, 1517 Dodge Ave. / 406-442-5960 3rd place: Ten Mile Creek, 46 N. Last Chance Gulch / 406-231-0575



Thank you Helena for voting FESTIVAL OF TREES one of Helena's best events! We couldn't do it without our many volunteers, sponsors, designers and community friends! Your support of the Festival of Trees is support for our mission-Healing through Healthy Relationships intermountain Caring Solutions # Strong Families # Healthy Communities intermountain.org | 500 S. Lamborn St. Helena, MT | 406-442-7920





THANK YOU HELENA

FOR VOTING FOR US **IN BEST RETAIL** BEER SELECTION, **BEST SUPERMARKET AND BEST FRESH PRODUCE!**



361 N. Last Chance Gulch, 443-5680 Nothing to worry about at Bert and Ernie's with over 40

years of serving simple, classic American food, fine wines and beer and an emphasis on great service. Bert and Ernie's prepares any of their menu items to go and has an area that can be reserved for groups of 12 to 35. Bert and Ernie's hours are simple and easy to remember too: 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily.

2nd place: Mediterranean Grill, 42 S Park Ave / 406-495-1212 3rd place: Silver Star Steak Company 833 Great Northern Blvd / 406-495-0677

Best Pizza 1st place: Bullman's Wood Fired Pizza 1130 Helena Ave., 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 all of their pizzas are prepared in a wood fired oven. Wood fire baking, Bullman's says, "produces a crisp, slightly chewy crust with just a hint of smoky goodness." Bullman's ovens are heated to 800 degrees and it takes just four minutes to cook a pizza.

2nd place: Pizza Hut, 2955 Prospect Ave, 3267 N Montana Ave / 406-449-7111, 406-495-9996

3rd place: Domino's Pizza, 700 N. Last Chance Gulch / 406-443-2454

Best Restaurant 1st place: Lucca's Italian 56 N. Last Chance Gulch, 457-8311

If you're looking for a fancy night out on the town with a hint of Italian flair, Lucca's is the place to go. Lucca's is a fine dining dinner only Italian restaurant. They are dedicated to providing authentic Italian dishes made with the highest quality of ingredients. With superb service and an intimate atmosphere with only 15 dining tables, Lucca's is the perfect date night destination. In 2015, Lucca's was also awarded the esteemed honor of being named Best Restaurant in Montana by Business Insider Magazine. 2nd place: On Broadway,

106 E. Broadway St. / 406-443-1929 3rd place: Silver Star Steak Company, 833 Great Northern Blvd / 406-495-0677



Best Restaurant 1st place: Lucca's Italian

MHPT

MANGER HARRINGTON PHYSICAL THERAPY

2525 Colonial Drive Suite B • 449-4279 www.mhpt.com

Services:

- Orthopedic & Sports PT
- Spine Rehab
- Womens Health
- Total Joint Rehab

THANK YOU for choosing us **Best Physical Therapy** 2016! **6 YEARS IN A ROW!**

- Orthotic Evaluation and Intervention
- Vestibular and Concussion Rehab
- Cervical Pain and Headaches
- Hand Therapy, Job Site Evaluation

John Harrington, MPT Don Harris, PT Stacy Tureck, PT Christel Harrison, OTR/L CHT Tana Cromwell, MPT Jamey Williams, PT Dusty Lindeen, DPT Heather Park-Skogen, MPT Mike Harvey, PT Tech Maggi Kuxhaus, Reimbursement Specialist Hillarie Troyer, Front Office and Scheduling

MHPT has been dedicated to providing high quality therapy services for nearly 19 years. We thank you for your continued support and making us your choice for Physical Therapy. Please visit our website at www.mhpt.com to learn more about our staff and services.

Best Salad 1st place: Windbag Saloon and Grill, 19 S. Last Chance Gulch / 443-9669

2nd place: MacKenzie River Pizza Company, 1110 Rd. Runner St. / 406-443-0033

3rd place: On Broadway, 106 E. Broadway St.

406-443-1929

Best Sandwich Shop 1st place: Staggering Ox 400 Euclid Ave., 443-1729

Known by locals simply as "The Ox," the Staggering Ox has been serving up ginormous and uniquely shaped sandwiches for over 30 years in Helena. One of Staggering Ox's feature sandwiches, "The Nuke." has received national recognition appearing in articles in Food Network Magazine, Maxim and Family Circle. Their wide assortment of sandwiches provide some humor as well with names like "Yo' Momma Osama, Mouse Trap, Rabbit Habit (a veggie sandwich), ISIS Crisis and Mount St. Helens. Staggering Ox not only keeps people's hunger for food satisfied, but their cultural appetite as well with a large area for displaying local artists' work. The Ox also offers live music on Thursday and Fridays nights. **Best Sandwich**

2nd place: Jimmy John's, 619 N. Montana Ave. 406-442-3278 3rd place: Steffanos U-Bake Pizza and Subs.

2100 N. Last Chance Gulch #1 / 406-442-2070

Best Seafood 1st place: On Broadway 106 E. Broadway St., 443-1929

"Fine, fresh food made and served by fine, fun people," is how On Broadway describes themselves. On Broadway specializes in Italian and seafood served in a relaxed and intimate setting in the heart of downtown Helena. The restaurant is open Monday through Saturday at 4:30 p.m. Dinner is served starting at 5:30 p.m. Entrees range in price from \$17 for a linguine dish to \$42 for Alaskan King Crab. When you've got seafood options like Creole lobster and crab cakes, pan blackened Yellowfin Tuna, and Northern Italian clam sauce over linguine, you know your seafood cravings will be met! Live music is also offered on every Thursday night from 6 pm. To 9 2nd place: Lucca's, 56 N. Last Chance

Gulch 406-457-8311

3rd place: Nagoya Japanese Steakhouse and Sushi, 2790 Washington Dr. / 406-449-2742

Best Steak 1st place: Silver Star Steak Company 833 Great Northern Blvd., 495-0677

When Silver Star Steak Company opened in 2002 their goal was simple: to become "Montana's undisputed (best) source for gourmet steaks, seafood and fine dining," The Silver Star Steak Company describes themselves as "A rich inviting atmosphere, an endless wine list, quality service and fantastic steaks, seafood, burgers, salads and more...." Judging by their placement at the top of three other categories this year (Best Happy Hour, Best Dessert, and Best Appetizer), Helena agrees.

2nd place: Chubby's Bar and Grill, 9 Clancy Creek Rd. / 406-933-5547 3rd place: On Broadway, 106 E. Broadway St. / 406-443-1929

Best Vegetarian Food 1st place: Real Food Market and Deli 438 N. Last Chance Gulch, 431-2886

For those who insist on unadulterated food, the place to shop is Helena's Real Food Market and Deli, open since 1975. The Real Food Market is a certified organic supermarket. All the food they sell is grown and processed without any toxic pesticides, petroleum fertilizers or synthetic additives. Real Food Market and Deli is open Monday through Saturday from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. and on Sundays from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. (Real Food Market and Deli also won first place in the Best Organic Food category).

2nd place: Murry's Café, 438 N Last Chance Gulch / 406-431-2886 3rd place: Benny's Bistro 108 E. 6th Ave. / 406-443-0105



Shop 1st place:

Staggering Ox

Thank you Helena for your continued support! Bring this Coupon in for a Free Application of RainX with CAR WASH the purchase of a WORKS Wash

> 1201 Cedar St. Helena, MT 59601 (406)449-4840

HEALTH & WELLNESS

Best Chiropractic Office

1st place: Town Center Chiropractic

827 N. Last Chance Gulch, 449-4445

practicing the principals of chiropractic care."

1732 Prospect Ave. / 406-449-7458

2722 Billings Ave. / 406-443-7000

1st place: South Hills Dental

2480 Tracy Dr., 443-2780

Best Dental Office

2nd place: Capital Chiropractic Center,

3rd place: Cornerstone Wellness Center,

Doctors V.J. Maddio, Michael Morris, Jeffrey Fife and

Sheridan Jones team up at Town Center Chiropractic

spans the entire chiropractic spectrum. Town Center

better health and a better way of life "by teaching and

At South Hills Dental, Dr. Joe Maes and his niece, Dr.

Katie Sealey, provide a wide range of dental services to

patients of all ages. Both doctors have also completed

dentistry. South Hills Dental's strives to offer the best

dental care for the community and is always striving to

further the education and skill level of their doctors and

continuing education programs in cosmetic and implant

Chiropractic is committed to bringing their patients

to treat their patients with skills and expertise that

3rd place: Claeys Family Dentistry, 2600 Winne Ave. / 406-443-8000

Best Physician Ist place: Dr. Todd Wampler (St. Peter's Medical Group) 2550 E. Broadway St., 457-4180 Dr. Todd Wampler is a Capital High graduate who

also obtained his undergraduate degree locally at Carroll College. He earned his medical degree at the University of Michigan and completed his family medicine internship and residency at Poudre Valley Hospital in Fort Collins, Colorado. He served as Chief Resident and was named Colorado's Family Medicine Resident of the year in 1999. Following his residency, he served as a family physician in the U.S. Air Force at Buckley Air Force Base. But eventually Dr. Wampler longed to return to his roots in Montana and now practices family medicine at St. Peter's Medical Group.

2nd place: Dr. Sheri Howell (St. Peter's Hospital Sage Medical Clinic), 820 N Montana Ave / 406-443-7733

3rd place: Dr. Richard Sargent (St. Peter's Hospital Sage Medical Clinic), 820 N Montana Ave / 406-443-7733

Best Massage Ist place: Her Alibi Salon, 620 N. Last Chance Gulch / 442-2452

2nd place: Jamie Frederickson— Deep Tissue Muscle Therapy, 36 S. Last Chance Gulch / 406-581-3469 3rd place: Hair Hair Salon and Spa, 440 S. Park Ave / 406-443-0055

Best Eye Care 1st place: Montana EyeCare, 550 N. Montana Ave. / 443-2121

2nd place: Helena Vision Center. 534 N Last Chance Gulch # 1 / 406-442-6814 3rd place: Helena Eye Clinic, 301 Saddle Sr. #5 / 406-443-4040



Best Wings 1st place: Buffalo Wild Wings, 3190 N. Sanders St. / 406-495-9464 2nd place: Overland Express, 2250 11th Ave. / 406-449-2635 3rd place: Grub Stake Lounge and Restaurant, 1450 Licoln Rd.W / 406-458-9808 **Best Organic Food** Ist place: Real Food Market and Deli, 1096 Helena Ave., 443-5150 2nd place: Natural Grocers. 3061 N Montana Ave. / 406-442-1000 3rd place: Benny's Bistro, 108 E. 6th Ave. / 406-443-0105 Best Appetizer 1st place: Silver Star Steak Company, 833 Great Northern Blvd 406-495-0677 2nd place: Applebee's,

3rd place: On Broadway,

106 E. Broadway St. / 406-443-1929

1212 W. Custer Ave. / 406-449-7300 Best Organic Food 1st place:

Real Food Market & Deli

Always respect tradition and a

is to be shared with those you love.

mother's advice, namely that Italian food

Rule No 4

SHAIRE

Lucca's

406.457.8311 LUCCASITALIAN.COM

56 N LAST CHANCE GULCH HELENA

RESERVE YOUR CULINARY EXPERIENCE

THANK YOU, HELENA!

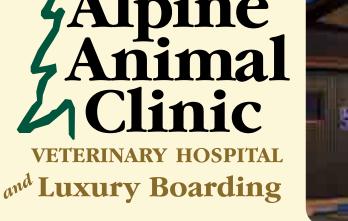
For Voting us Best Pool Tables in Helena. Thank you, Helena! **OPEN 8am TILL 2am | LARGEST POOL HALL 365 DAYS/YEAR** IN TOWN WITH 8 POOL TABLES

ONLY 50¢ PER GAME!



We're very honored to be nominated.







1801 Cedar Street * 449-7155 * AlpineAnimalClinic.com

Best Physical Therapy 1st place: Manger-Harrington Physical Therapy, 2525 Colonial Dr. #B / 449-4279

Manger-Harrington Physical Therapy is focused on providing high-quality service and patient satisfaction. Their business is based on the belief that their patients' needs are of the utmost importance. They offer everything from exercise programs and bike fittings to ergonomics and foot orthotics. This is their 5th consecutive win for Best of Helena, come and experience the difference for yourself.

2nd place: Heuiser Physical Therapy, 3180 Dredge Dr. #F / 406-449-0654 3rd place: Arnold Physical Therapy, 251 Saddle Dr. / 406-457-0480

Best Orthodontist Office 1st place: Helena Orthodontics 900 N. Last Chance Gulch #101, 442-0288

Having first opened their doors in 1975, Helena Orthodontics has a long history of creating great smiles in the community. Dr. Jeffrey Foster took over Helena Orthodontics in 2011 and is committed to providing families with orthodontic care that is "comfortable. flexible, and always puts you first." As Dr. Foster explained, "My goal is to help all our patients achieve such beautiful, healthy smiles that they cannot help but to confidently show their new attractive teeth to the

2nd place: Dr. Timothy Ballweber, 905 Helena Ave / 406-449-5576 3rd place: Jackson Orthodontics. 301 Saddle Sr. / 406-442-1899



Best Pediatrician 1st place: Dr. Thomas Strizich (Partners in Pediatrics) 2525 E. Broadway Suite # 101, 447-2885

A Helena native, Dr. Thomas Strizich graduated from Capital High School and completed his undergraduate studies at Gonzaga University. After receiving his medical degree from the University of Washington School of Medicine, he completed his internship and pediatric residency at the University of Utah. Partners in Pediatrics began as Strizich Pediatrics in 2003. In 2005 the clinic expanded in size and continued adding

additional doctors and patients. In 2006 it was renamed Partners in Pediatrics. Dr. Thomas Strizich and Partners in Pediatrics as a whole strive to create a fun and friendly atmosphere for their patients.

2nd place: Dr. Michelle Danielson (Partners in Pediatrics). 2525 E. Braodway St. #101 / 406-447-2885 3rd place: Partners in Pediatrics (general), 2525 E. Braodway St. #101 / 406-447-2885

JUST FOR FUN

Best Day Hike

1st place: Mount Helena

Towering over Helena at 5,468 feet above sea level, Mount Helena is one of the community's most recognized and beloved natural landmarks. There are numerous trails that zig zag all over the mountain's expanse, including the 1906 Trail, Prairie Trail, Hogback Trail, and Prospector's Shaft trail. Hikers and mountain bikers alike have a seemingly endless number of trails to explore. For trail information, contact the Helena Chamber of Commerce at 442-4120 or Toll Free at (800) 743-5362.

2nd place: Mount Ascension 3rd place: Refrigerator Canyon



Best Day Hike 1st place: Mount Helena











COFFEE IN HELENA! Coffee House Complimentary Cup of **Hand-roasted** onsite organic **Fair Trade** Coffee with coupon 422 N. Last Chance Gulch

422 North Last Chance Gulch • 495-8840

Firetowercoffee.com

Thank You

FOR VOTING US BEST



The doctors and staff at TOWN CENTER CHIROPRACTIC would like to thank the Helena community for once again voting us...

Dr. V.J. Maddio • Dr. Michael Morris

...Best Chiropractic **Office** in Helena

Thank you for voting for us. **Helena** CONSIGN + DESIGN you Because every element counts' rock!

Paul Bonar, Owner • 1336 Helena Ave, Helena • (406) 443-0019

Dr. Jeffrey Fife • Dr. Sheridan Jones 449-4445 • 827 N. Last Chance Gulch, Helena • www.helenatcchiro.com PAGE 32 | Sunday, January 31, 2016

Best Church Choir 1st place: Cathedral of St. Helena

530 S. Ewing St., 442-5825

What better place to absorb all of the musical wonder of a church choir than at the Cathedral of St. Helena? With towering ceilings and an awe-inspiring sanctuary space and historic organ, even the simplest of hymns sounds spectacular. The Cathedral Choir sings at all 11 a.m. Masses on Sundays during the fall, winter, and spring seasons. The St. Cecilia Youth Choir sings regularly once a month for the 5 p.m. vigil Mass.

2nd place: St. Paul's United Methodist Church, 512 Logan St. / 406-442-5643 3rd place: Helena First Assembly of God, 2210 Dodge Ave. / 406-442-6851



Best Festival or Event 1st place: Alive @ 5

Alive @ 5 is a summer concert series that takes place every Wednesday during the summer months of June through August. The series offers a fun, family friendly event where food and craft vendors, local bands and members of the community can celebrate summer in various parks and hot spots in downtown Helena. The event runs from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. and has a rotating location each week.

2nd place: Symphony Under the Stars (July 16, 2016) 3rd place: Intermountain Festival of Trees (Christmas holiday season)

Best Park 1st place: Memorial Park

Located along historic Last Chance Gulch, the facilities include a 50-meter heated outdoor swimming pool and waterpark, band shell with outdoor stage, outdoor ice skating rink and warming house, large accessible playground, picnic facilities, open field areas, basketball court and veterans memorials.

2nd place: Centennial Park 3rd place: Mount Helena City Park

Best Place for Kid's Fun 1st place: Exploration Works 995 Carousel Way, 457-1800

Exploration Works is a hands-on interactive science center with experiences for the whole family to enjoy. Two floors of exhibits offer fun and educational activities. Exhibits change seasonally so the experience is different each time you visit. Exploration Works also offers an extensive line-up of award winning classes, camps and programs for students and preschoolers.

2nd place:

Memorial Park 3rd place Great Northern Carousel,

989 Carousel Way / 406-457-5353

Sunday, January 31, 2016 PAGE 33

Best Place for Kid's Fun 1st place: **Exploration Works**

Thank you Helena for your confidence in One Way Marine and Motor Sports

Don't miss the 33rd Annual Helena Boat Show

Motor Sports Too! Feb 12-14 at Lewis & Clark County Fairgrounds



406-443-7373 3186 Hwy. 12 East, Helena www.onewaymarine.com



Nickels staff thanks all of our great customers and best wishes to all in 2016.

Join our players club and get rewarded for your play in cold-hard cash.

Nickels has a variety of machines and games to challenge your luck.
PLAY RESPONSIBLY, PLAY FOR FUN!

Live poker nightly at six pm. Contact the dealers about tournaments held regularly at NICKELS.

2100 North Last Chance Gulch

(next to Stefano's, next to Gary's Auto Plaza, and directly across from Caesar's pizza)

443-5554

BEST OF HELENA Independent Record | helenaticom Independent Record | helenaticom BEST OF HELENA PAGE 34 | Sunday, January 31, 2016 Sunday, January 31, 2016 PAGE 35



Best Place to Take Out-of-Towners 1st place: Downtown Walking Mall

We appreciate your

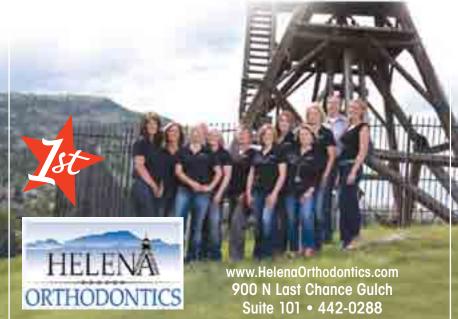
votes making us the

best thrift store!

MINISTRIES

THANKS HELENA

for the nomination and continued support, we are fortunate to be a part of this great community!



Best Place for People Watching 1st place: Downtown Walking Mall

The Downtown Helena Walking Mall is a unique and vibrant compilation of shopping, dining, lodging, events, services and entertainment. There is something for everyone! Helena's walking mall is also Montana's only downtown, outdoor walking mall, making it a truly unique experience.

2nd place: Alive @ 5 3rd place: Walmart

Best View 1st place: Mount Helena

2nd place: Gates of the Mountains 3rd place: Sleeping Giant

Best Place to Take Out-of-Towners 1st place: Downtown Walking Mall

2nd place: Gates of the Mountains, 3131 Gates of the Mountains Rd. / 406-458-5241 3rd place: Last Chance Tour Train, 225 N. Roberts St. / 406-442-1023

UTICK LAW FIRM



Thank you Helena, we take pride in being Helena's **Best Attorneys!**

Specializing in:

- Personal Injury
- Collaborative Law
- Workers' Compensation
- Meditation



1424 National Ave. Telephone: 406.443.7250 • Fax: 406.495.2999 Email: ulfirm@gmail.com



WE WANT TO SAY THANK YOU HELENA FOR VOTING US YOUR **Best Hobby & Craft Store!**

BEN FRANKLIN CRAFTS & FRAME SHOP HAS BEEN LOCALLY OWNED & OPERATED

BY THE SAME FAMILY FOR OVER 40 YEARS! BY SHOPPING AT BEN FRANKLIN CRAFTS YOU HELP US GIVE BACK TO THE HELENA COMMUNITY. IN RETURN WE ARE ABLE TO SUPPORT:

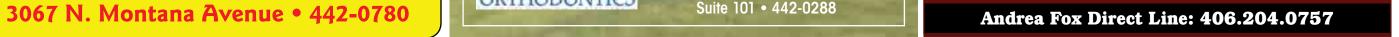
> Local School events Helena Food Share The Florence Crittenton Home Church Organizations The Friendship Center The Last Chance Stampede & Rodeo Lewis & Clark Humane Society And many other community events

OUR BEN FRANKLIN FAMILY LOOKS FORWARD TO PROVIDING ALL YOUR CRAFTING & FRAMING

Store Hours; Monday - Friday: 9am - 8pm Saturday: 9am - 6pm Sunday: 10am - 4pn

Our Commitment To You

400 Euclid Ave, Helena MT • 406-442-2040 • Lundy Shopping Center • Open 7Days A Week Locally Owned & Operated www.benfranklincraftshelena.com Föllow & On 📑 😰 🐻



am honored to be Helena': Best Photographer!

Thank You for your support!!

439-0244

6-5 KENO - Buy 5 Cards, Get 1 FREE!

442-4474 • 1001 N. Last Chance Gulch

CASINO OPEN 8 A.M. TO 1 A.M.

RESTAURANT OPEN 7 A.M. TO 10 P.M

THANKS FOR **YOUR VOTES HELENA**

2480 Tracy Drive, Helena, MT 59601

406-443-2780

www.southhillsdental.com









OUR MANY THANKS TO THE HELENA COMMUNITY for Voting the **CATHEDRAL CHOIR** as one of the "BEST CHURCH CHOIRS" OF OUR COMMUNITY! We are honored to have been selected.



RESTAURANT © FOUNCE 1450 Lincoln Rd. NE, Helena, MT • 406-458-9816

Close to Campground & Lodging, Great location, right off of I-15

EXCELLENT health care to our community Todd Wampler, M.D. is a family medicine physician who has been at St. Peter's since 2005. New patients welcome. For an appointment, call 457-4180



2 YEARS RUNNING! **CONGRATULATIONS** Dr. Wampler!

for delivering

TSt. Peter's Medical Group

2 Years in a Row!

1302 Prospect Ave #B - Next to Starbucks • 406-449-5654

Gift Certificates Available

Appt. & Walk-ins Welcome!

Hours: Mon-Fri 9-7 • Sat 9-6 • Sun 11-5



CELEBRATING 75 YEARS

We're here to help you through all life's events, big and small 406.449.2608 • RMCU.NET



CONGRATULATIONS!

to our very own Ed Stofko

> **CEO** of ROCKY MOUNTAIN CREDIT UNION

Woo Hool

Ed was just named the 2015 Helena Chamber of Commerce Boss of the Year!



"I feel very strongly that my CEO is not only Boss of the <u>Year</u>, but has proven to be one of the best bosses of my career."

"Ed may be the most approachable and kind leader that I have had the privilege to work for."

"He shows great respect for his staff and therefore we highly respect him."



Certified Angus Beef® brand steaks cooked to order

Dine at Silver Star Steak Company and enjoy a rich, inviting atmosphere with exceptional steaks, seafood, burgers, salads, an endless wine list, and impeccable service.

833 Great Northern Blvd. Helena, MT 59601 406-495-0677 www.silverstarsteakco.com







