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DISCOVER ALL HELENA HAS TO OFFER

Helena and our surrounding area is a great place to explore. As summer approaches, I encourage you to discover – and rediscover – all our area has to offer. Whether you check out the amazing outdoor recreational opportunities like boating and fishing the lakes, or taking in the sight and scenes, there really is something for everyone.

This annual magazine produced by the Independent Record provides a definitive checklist for you and your family to put your summer plans into motion. There is page after page of things to help you fill your days with something fun and exciting. Enjoy a ride on the carousel, take a selfie next to the historic fire tower, stroll around the downtown walking mall or take a quick trip to a neighboring community like East Helena, Lincoln or Townsend to get the full experience.

For those traveling through, welcome! Please enjoy our renowned capital city hospitality and stay and play awhile. You won't be disappointed! For those of us lucky enough to call Helena home, I challenge you to think beyond your daily routine and find something new to explore. The dining and retail opportunities are exceptional and the arts, entertainment and sporting activities are second to none.

Thank you for reading! The staff of the Independent Record and I wish you a safe and happy summer.

Tyler Miller
Publisher



Tyler Miller

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ATTRACTIONS AND OUTDOOR RECREATION

HELENA GEOTOUR

Where are those off-the-beaten path hidden treasures of our community? Have you been to Two Camps Vista? When's the last time you hiked Mount Ascension or the back side of Mount Helena? The Helena Montana GeoTour is the tool you need to "cache" the very best of Helena, Montana. In a cooperative program with Geocaching.com, Helena has created this unique GeoTour. Helena was even recently won the title of "Best Small Town in America for Geocaching" by Rand McNally.

A GeoTour is a tailored series of geocaches hidden at a destination's point of interest. Tourists and adventurers search for geocaches—cleverly hidden containers that hold a logbook and often small trinkets for trade—using a GPS device or the apps for the iPhone, Android or Windows Phone. Geocaching is a free hobby that combines the outdoors, exercise, technology and fun. The series of geocaches in a Geocaching GeoTour helps visitors discover a destination by conveying a historical story, revealing hidden vantage points or bringing them to scenic locations.

The Helena Montana GeoTour stretches throughout the scenic Helena area from the heights of MacDonald Pass, along the historic gulch and South to Boulder and the Elkhorn Ghost Town. The Helena Montana GeoTour is a great way to discover all the treasures of Montana's Capital City. For more information about the GeoTour and for all the rules, visit www.helenamt.com/geocaching.



Eliza Wiley, *Independent Record*

Learn about wildlife at the Montana Wild exhibit hall, which includes fish tanks, animal displays, and a variety of hands-on elements.

CAMPING OPPORTUNITIES

Some 976,000 acres of the Helena National Forest around Helena offer numerous camping opportunities. State-owned land, also near Helena is home to nice camping areas. For information, stop by the Helena Ranger District office at 2880 Skyway Dr. or call 449-5201 or visit <http://www.fs.usda.gov/helena>. Fish, Wildlife and Parks also manages several area campsites. Call 444-2535 or visit <http://fwp.mt.gov>.

SLEEP IN A CABIN

Craving a little peace and solitude in the Montana woods? Try reserving your very own cabin and spend a weekend. Reserving a cabin is as easy as going to www.recreation.gov.

You can also go to this website to read more about the cabins available and see photographs. There's also the option of calling a toll-free number (877-444-6777) between the hours of 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. The reservation system works for most federal sites across the nation. Most cabins include beds and basic pots, plates and silverware. Firewood is also provided. However, the cabins don't have running water or electricity, and typically are heated by wood burning stoves.

MONTANA WILD EDUCATION CENTER

A place where children and families can reconnect to nature in Montana's

outdoors, operated by Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks. The site of the Montana Wild is on the western edge of Helena, 2668 Broadwater Ave., within Spring Meadow Lake Park. The center is open 8:00 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information about the center contact Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks Foundation at 444-9944 or <http://fwp.mt.gov/education>.

HORSE-DRAWN WAGON RIDES, MUSIC AND DINNER

Experience a memorable evening of good food and good times. Travel back in time via horse-drawn wagons through the high mountain forest to Montana's all green Moose Mountain Cabin. This

hand-crafted cabin features locally sourced lumber from Last Chance Ranch as well as solar electricity. Enjoy live Western entertainment, featuring Montana's own Bruce Anfinson and feast on a gourmet meal such as prime rib with fresh garden salad, homemade rolls, potatoes du jour and Grizzly Gulch succotash; finished off with huckleberry cheesecake and cowboy coffee served family style. For more information or to make reservations, contact Bruce Anfinson at 442-2884 or go to www.last-chanceranch.biz.

GATES OF THE MOUNTAINS BOAT TOUR

On July 19, 1805, Meriwether Lewis stopped to pen his observations of the Helena area's most awe-inspiring natural attraction—the Gates of the Mountains on the Missouri River just north of Helena. Suddenly, there loomed before them towering rock formations unlike anything they had ever seen. From both sides of the river, limestone cliffs rose to a spectacular height of 1,200 feet. “In many places,” wrote Meriwether Lewis, “the rocks seem ready to tumble on us.” At each bend in the waterway, great stonewalls seemed to block passage, only to pen like gentle giant gates as the expedition drew near. In his journal, Meriwether wrote: “I shall call this place: ‘GATES OF THE MOUNTAINS.’”

Today, visitors to the Gates of the Mountains can experience the rising cliffs and mighty river in nearly the same way Lewis and Clark did on their passage through the Missouri River corridor. Today, two passenger boats embark on guided scenic tours of the area every day beginning May 26. The ride is dependent on the weather and takes about two hours. Visitors are encouraged to arrive early for tours to be assured of a seat on the charters. Reservations are taken only for groups of 20 or more,



Montana State Parks photo

Lewis and Clark Caverns State Park is a popular destination for visitors.

and a small visitor center and snack bar offer a diversion before and after the tour. The tour boats dock at the Meriwether Picnic Area for 15 minutes before making the return trip through the passage. Many passengers choose to stay at the picnic area for hiking, swimming, exploring and, of course, picnicking and catching another boat back to the tour center later in the day. Prices are \$16 for adults (18-59), \$14 for seniors (60 and over), \$10 for kids (4-17) and children under for are free. Call 458-5241 to inquire about special dinner cruises. To view the complete seasonal schedule of tours, visit www.gatesofthemountains.com.

GUARDIAN OF THE GULCH FIRE TOWER

Due to the repeated destruction of Helena's downtown by fire, a Fire Tower was erected on Tower Hill to guard the city from future destruction. The third “Guardian of the Gulch” has been renovated and remodeled many times but

still watches over the city. However, due to an arson fire in August 2016, the structural integrity of the existing structure has prompted a potential plan to eventually demolish and reconstruct the fire tower, although some local groups are pushing to restore and preserve the tower. To reach the trailhead, follow Cruse Avenue just across Broadway. A number of planting projects and weed control programs have created a hillside park for picnicking and Frisbee tossing. Public access is not allowed on the fire tower.

LEWIS AND CLARK CAVERNS

Get a feel for Mother Nature's all natural air conditioning in the summer by journeying down into Lewis and Clark Caverns, one of the largest known limestone caves in the Northwest. Regardless of the temperature outside, the caverns maintain a constant temperature of about 50 degrees. Located south of Helena and 19 miles west of Three Forks, the caverns are a testament to the

power of water. Tiny droplets of water over thousands of years are responsible for the creation of stalactites, stalagmites, columns, ribbons and even walls that look like popcorn.

The park is open year-round, and guided tours are available May 1 through September 30. The two-mile, two-hour guided tour begins with a ¾ mile hike up a small hill to the cave's entrance. The hike is worth it though when within several hundred feet of the entrance the cave opens up into the Cathedral Room and the Paradise Room. In these rooms, visitors encounter immense columns formed when stalagmites and stalactites met. Some stooping is necessary along the 600 steps within the cave, but most of the walk is downhill. Rubber-soled shoes are recommended since the steps can be wet and slippery. Lighting and handrails are provided for your safety.

In addition to the caverns, the park contains a 40-space

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7



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campground with many amenities, three camping cabins, a teepee and picnic sites. In May 2010, a new visitor center was opened and includes interpretive and educational information about the park as well as offices, a small camp store, rest rooms and a community classroom and conference room. Lewis and Clark Caverns is open from May 1 through Sept. 30 from 9 a.m. until late afternoon, depending on month. Admission to the park is free for vehicles registered in Montana. Nominal fees apply to visitors from out of state. A guided cave tour is \$12 for adults, \$5 for children ages 6-11, and free for those under 6. For more information call 287-3541.

HISTORIC CEMETERIES

Helena's historic cemeteries are home to many of Helena's early heroes and villains. The Lewis and Clark Genealogical Society has recorded plots and listed those buried in the many cemeteries in this area. The information is on file at the Lewis and Clark Library. Some of Helena's cemeteries, well-known and unknown, include:

Benton Avenue Cemetery: Located in the 1900 block of North Benton Avenue, directly across from Carroll College, this cemetery marks the very beginning of Helena in the gold rush days. Territorial legislators, gunslinger, vigilantes and pioneers are interred here.

Benton Avenue Cemetery is Helena's oldest Protestant Cemetery. Begun in 1870 but containing remains and monuments from even earlier, Benton Cemetery is where you can find the final resting places of many of Helena's early founders. Listed in the National Register of Historic Places, at Benton Cemetery, you will experience what a Victorian cemetery looked like. Most cemeteries lost their individual iron fences during the metal drives of WWII, but Benton's somehow survived. You will also find footstones and original wooden monuments that have survived the years, as well as tombstones which mark the graves of veterans of the War of 1812 through the Cold War. Be sure to visit the graves of John Kinna, Helena's first mayor, as well as those of Fannie Spencer and Agnes Merrell, who were some of Helena's ladies-of-the-evening. The mayor is located in the first row to the right as you enter the cemetery, and the ladies are located within an iron fence, just west of the large Mausoleum.

Resurrection Cemetery: the local Catholic cemetery is on Montana Avenue, a mile north of Custer Avenue. The mausoleum belongs to Thomas Cruse, the colorful Helena pioneer who helped finance the St. Helena Cathedral.

Home of Peace Cemetery: Helena's Jewish cemetery and Helena's oldest is

tucked behind Capital High School, near the fairgrounds.

Helena Sunset Memorial Gardens: Located along Memorial Avenue, this is another of Helena's historic cemeteries.

County Poor Farm: there are no markers, only depressions in the ground where indigent residents and transients were buried. The grounds are off of Custer Avenue on private property near the old Cooney Convalescent Home.

Montana State Veterans Cemetery: located approximately three miles west of Helena.

St. Ann's Cemetery: East Helena's Catholic cemetery is on Highway 12, in the east part of town.

East Helena Cemetery: Located on Montana Avenue, this cemetery has graves dating from 1885.

The Odd Fellows and Forestvale Cemeteries: Clustered off McHugh Drive in the Helena Valley. Forestvale is a public cemetery listed on the Historic Register. Many of the State's "founding fathers" are buried here.

York Cemetery: on the hill, directly above the memorial across from the York Bar.

Boulder Bar Cemetery: This cemetery, located in Diamond city, is now on private ground.

Elkhorn Cemetery: On a dirt road off of Highway 69, above the ghost town

of Elkhorn.

Fish Creek Cemetery: In Jefferson County; was used until 1980. Maps and detailed instructions for both the Fish Creek and Elkhorn cemeteries are available from the genealogical society files at the Lewis and Clark Library in Helena.

Springvale of Hogen Cemetery: The Broadwater Museum in Townsend has more detailed information and directions.

Birdseye-Silver City Cemetery: On Birdseye Road near Highway 279. Graves date from 1873.

Hardgrove Cemetery: On Lake Helena Drive is private cemetery that has been in use since 1865.

Maryville Cemetery: On a rural road northeast of town. Markers date from 1894.

WATCH FOR WILDLIFE

Drive around Helena for just a few minutes and you're bound to run into a deer or two strutting around town. But deer are only one of a variety of wildlife that call the Helena area home. There are numerous opportunities to observe animals in their natural habitat.

A nearby place to start is Mount Helena, the city's largest park. While hiking along its trails you are practically guaranteed to encounter deer, squirrels and a variety of birds, including meadowlarks and bluebirds.

To see elk, you'll need to

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seek higher elevations where they take up residence for the summer. The Beartooth Wildlife Management Area is a good place to start. A possible bear or mountain goat may also be seen here. To get to there, take I-15 from Helena and head north to Wolf Creek. Exit at Wolf Creek and then go east to the bridge on Missouri River Road. Turn south on Beartooth Road, on the east side of Holter Lake, and keep following the signs.

Avalanche Gulch on the east shore of Canyon Ferry Reservoir is another place to scope out elk herds and mountain goats. While you're over there, head south to reach Canyon Ferry Wildlife Management Area. This vast wetland area, encompassing 5,000 acres, is a series of ponds providing a habitat to many nesting birds like Canadian geese, double-crested cormorants, American white pelicans, Caspian terns and ospreys. Keep your eyes open for white-tailed deer, beavers, raccoons, mink, red foxes, river otters and moose. There are also pheasants and wild turkeys in adjacent grasslands and osprey circling overhead.

Managed by the U.S. Forest Service, the 129,000-acre Elkhorn Wildlife Management Area is home to many indigenous animals, including big game. To get there, take the I-15 south from Helena to Boulder. Take the Boulder exit and travel south until you find the Elkhorn Wildlife Management signs.

Practical Tips for wildlife watching:

- Be prepared. Take along a map of the area, and be prepared to tackle muddy, rugged and precarious terrain. Dress appropriately for the weather and take extra water and snack foods. Take a camera, binoculars and a field guide, if you have them. Also, leave your dog at home to increase your chance of seeing wildlife.

- Go early or go late. Most animals are active at dusk

and at dawn, so plan your outing during these times so you'll be at that prime spot at the prime time. Like people, animals like to take easy during the hottest parts of the day and bask in some shade. Therefore, they're difficult to spot in the middle of the day.

- Fade into the woodwork. Wear natural colors and unscented lotions so as to not draw so much attention to yourself in the natural surroundings. Remove glasses that glint. Walk softly so as not to snap twigs, as this could alert animals to your presence and scare them off. Crouch behind boulders or vegetation to hide your figure or break up your outline.

- Let animals be themselves. Don't wave at them, yell and whistle at them, or try get them to move for your "perfect" picture. You're not at the zoo, you're in the wilds. Avoid sneaking up on animals as many animals may react negatively if startled, especially bears. In some cases, animals feel less threatened by a vehicle than a person on foot, so consider using your vehicle for viewing. Keep food to yourself. That tuna sandwich may taste great to you, but it can harm the digestive systems of wild animals and convince them to look for handouts from other people.

- Be nice and be careful. Although they may look friendly, resist the urge to get as close as possible to wild animals. Give them the space they need and watch from a distance. A good rule of thumb is that if you are close enough for the animal to react to your presence, you are probably too close. Even mild-mannered wildlife can respond unpredictably when they feel threatened, which puts you in danger.

- Leave baby animals alone. Although they may look like the cute, cuddly animals of Disney movies, their mothers are highly protective and always nearby. Injured animals are also dangerous, and, in the

throes of mating season, even birds can be aggressive. It goes without saying: Don't ever approach a bear.

- Respect the land. Before heading out in search of wildlife, make sure you won't be treading on private land. If you are, get permission first before accessing the area. Don't litter and be respectful of your fellow nature lovers around you who are also looking for a little peace and quiet in the great outdoors.

GREAT NORTHERN CAROUSEL

This ice-cream parlor and gift shop is a great place for visitors of any age to have a fabulous time. The carousel has 37 animals, one bench and one spinning tub. The hand-sculpted menagerie features creatures like otters, bears, horses, fish, rabbits, and even a dinosaur. The unique critters of the carousel were hand-painted by Bette Largent of Spokane, Washington. Since the carousel is enclosed, it operates year-round. Stained-glass scenery by local artist Mary Harris with scenes of the Capitol; the Fire Tower; the Helena Civic Center; elk, and a grizzly bear complement the workmanship of the carousel. The west-facing windows of the building are original stained glass from the Old Broadwater Hotel of Helena and are more than 100 years old.

After guest have had a few go-rounds on the carousel, they can visit the counter where the Great Northern Ice Cream Company serves over 24 flavors of locally made premium ice cream including a flavor of the month, plus Montana specialties like Flat-head Cherry and Griz Grub Huckleberry. Every Thursday during the summer, enjoy the Out to Lunch festivities from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. featuring live music and food vendors in the pavilion right outside the carousel. Rides are \$1.50 and you can try your luck at snagging the brass ring (redeemable for a free ride!)

that hangs near the spinning creatures. Located at 989 Carousel Way in the Great Northern Town Center, the carousel also offers various birthday and group party packages. For more information, call 457-5353 or visit www.gncarousel.com.

EXPLORATIONWORKS!

ExplorationWorks is Montana's Interactive Science Center at the Great Northern Town Center. The center offers a "hands-on" science experience to young (and old) people. Although the purpose is to interest more young people into careers in science, ExplorationWorks has something to offer everyone. It has become a popular destination for school field trips and family outings, including birth-days and after-hours events. Hours: Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. Closed Mondays. Located at 995 Carousel Way. For more information, call 457-1800 or visit www.explorationworks.org. You can download a complete 2018 Summer Science Camps catalog on their website.

ESCAPE HELENA

Escape Helena is a Montana escape room company that focuses on offering fun, adventure, and team building experiences.

Located in the back of the Bagel Company in downtown Helena, the escape room is a live-action gaming and entertainment adventure.

Participants are given a set amount of time to solve a series of puzzles and challenges using elements and clues within a themed room. Participants must communicate and work together to accomplish their mission and escape the room.

Escape rooms are not only fun, but are also a great tool for team-building.

For more information or to purchase tickets, visit www.escapehelena.com or call 406-422-0321.

Breweries OF HELENA

Enjoy local brewed beer in the heart of Montana!

Articles used with permission from the Helena Area Chamber of Commerce

Blackfoot River Brewing



Blackfoot River Brewing, whose motto is "Real Good Beer by Real Good People" will celebrate its 20th anniversary later this year. Blackfoot's staff is Cicerone trained and certified, which is to beer as sommelier training is to wine. The servers are trained to help match a customer's tastes with what's on tap and serve it properly. While you're hanging out at the brewery, you can try one of their wide varieties of beer—last year they brewed

47 different versions. They have a standard 7-8 beers that are always available, and a wide range of seasonal and experimental offerings. The brewery's location at the base of the Mt. Helena trail system gives it a unique vibe in warmer months. Hikers and mountain bikers stop in after their outings to snack and relax. The brewery's connections to the Helena community run deep. Every Monday is Community Monday, with \$1 of every glass sold going to a local charity. Since 2010, when started, Blackfoot has raised \$183,000 for local groups.

66 S. Park Ave. | 449-3005 | blackfootriverbrewing.com
Open: Mon-Thur 2-8pm | Fri-Sun 12-8pm

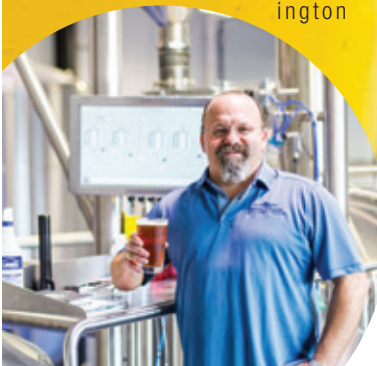


Lewis & Clark Brewing Co.

Max Pigman, owner of Lewis and Clark Brewing, has been part of the craft brewery business for 16 years, first in the basement of the Brewhouse on Euclid, and for the past 7 years in their location on Dodge Avenue, south of the tracks and west of Montana Avenue. That location has undergone a massive expansion in the past two years as they expand from a local brand to a regional one, with sales covering all of Montana and parts of Washington

and Idaho. Even with the regional expansion, Helena remains the anchor of the business. Keeping people interested by offering a wide variety of styles and tastes is also vital. In addition to the regularly offered beers, the brewery brews a wide variety of seasonal and experimental beers that are only available for a few weeks, until they are sold out. The brewery staff works to give the taproom a friendly feel, a place where people of all types can have a good time. The goal is to have a place where doctors and carpenters can rub elbows and enjoy each other's company.

1517 Dodge Ave. | 442-5960
lewisandclarkbrewing.com
Open: Wed-Sat 12 - 11pm
Sun-Tues 12-10pm



Crooked Furrow Brewing



selection from there.

They will be the only brewery in Helena with a reverse osmosis system for all the water used in brewing. This will



Crooked Furrow Brewing partners Nick Diehl and David McKeever have been homebrewing for years, and it was being introduced to Mick Mondloch that was the catalyst that got them all thinking about going into the business. "It's all about the beer," they say. They want to share their enjoyment of craft beer with the community, and to expand their customers' palates. The brewing

equipment was installed in mid-March, and the work on the taproom and the brewroom continues. The taproom will hold just under one hundred people, with plans on having outside seating sometime in the future. The bar will have twelve taps, with four or five being used upon opening, and expanding their

allow them to customize the water, which is 95% of any beer, to

each individual beer's preference. For example, soft water is good for light beers, while hard water is better for the darker beers. This will also help guard against problems in quality as Helena switches water sources from Ten Mile Creek to the Missouri over the course of a year.

2801 N. Roberts St. | crookedfurrowbrewing.com
Opening spring 2018

EXPLORE



See listing of East Helena events beginning on page 39.



East Helena RODEO

Thurs, July 12 • 6:30 PM
Lewis & Clark
In-County Rodeo

Fri, July 13 • 7:00 PM
East HELENA
NRA Rodeo Performance with
Pre-Rodeo, 6:00 PM

Sat, July 14 • 7:00 PM
East HELENA NRA Rodeo
Pre-Rodeo, 6:00 PM

Sun, July 15 • 2:00 PM
Family Day with Mini Buckers
by 406 Rodeo Company
Pre-Rodeo, 1:00 PM

Stop in and see us this summer!

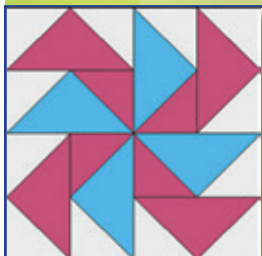


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East Helena City Hall
306 E. Main Street
(406) 227-5321



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SPORTS

GOLF

Bill Roberts Golf Course is a city-owned, public 18-hole course that has been open since 1925. It features a pro-shop, clubhouse with a bar and grill, driving range, practice green, power carts and club rentals. Hours are daylight to dark, seven days a week. The course is located at 2201 N. Benton Ave. Call 442-2191 or visit www.billrobertsgolf.com for more information.

Fox Ridge Golf Course is open to the public and offers an 18-hole championship golf course, 18-hole part 3 golf course, driving range, golf pro on staff, tournaments, corporate outings, men and women's leagues and golf lessons. Great food, spectacular views! Call 227-8304 or go to www.foxridgegolfcourse.com for hours and fees information. Course is located at 4040 Lake Helena Drive at York Road.

Green Meadow Country Club is a semi-private club with an 18-hole golf course at 2720 Country Club Ave. on Helena's west side. The golf course is a medium length, tight layout providing a test of skill and enjoyment for players of all ability levels. At 6,347 yards from the Championship tees and a modest 5,371 yards from the forward tees, a premium is placed on accuracy! Green Meadow Country Club takes great pride in its well-maintained golf course, their PGA professional and fabulous dining services and works to satisfy the needs of all members and their guest. The clubhouse provides a great place for members to host business meetings, birthdays, anniversaries, weddings and other special occasions. The club offers a full dining room for formal dinners and a causal lounge, which provides



Carole Herron chips a shot onto the green of the fourth hole at Bill Roberts Golf Course.

BMGphotos.com

appetizing food in a relaxed family friendly environment. With the whole family in mind, Green Meadow has a fitness center equipped with the newest exercise equipment and walk-in swimming pool. Great Meadow Country Club has various membership opportunities from senior golf to social memberships and even corporate membership options. For more information, call 442-5750. Anyone living more than 60

miles away can visit without an accompanying member; those within 60 miles must be accompanied by a member. Call our proshop for tee time details at 442-5750 extension 1025 or visit www.gmcch Helena.com.

Norwegian Wood Golf Course offers unique country-style golf for the entire family. This 9-hole, par three course is located near Canyon Ferry Lake, just minutes from Helena. The course meanders

carefree through beautiful Montana landscapes that all golfers can appreciate. The Highlander Bar and Grill offers gourmet fare with local ingredients and signature dishes featuring Scottish highland beef raised on site. For a natural setting and lots of space, consider Norwegian Wood for your next outdoor event. Call 475-3229 for more information. Norwegian Wood is located 1.3 miles past Kim's Marina on Canyon Ferry Road.

TENNIS

Helena has four public tennis courts for those looking to serve it up this summer. Courts are located at the Civic Center (Getchell and Stuart), Barney Park (Cleveland and Hudson), Lockey Park (Lockey and Broadway) and Capital High School (100 Valley Drive).

BOWLING

Sleeping Giant Lanes offers a unique Cosmic Bowling experience on Fridays from 9 to 11:30 p.m. Vegas Bowling is on Saturdays starting at 9 p.m. Vegas bowlers must be 18 years or older. Located at 3355 Tricia Street (Off Highway 12 East), Sleeping Giant Lanes is a large bowling alley offering two dozen lanes and a snack bar. There are also arcade games and lots of family fun, including mini-golf. Regular hours are noon to 10 p.m. Monday through Sunday. Call 442-2695 or visit <http://sleepinggiantlanes.com> for more information.

FOLF

If you're looking for a new summer sport, try your hand at Folf, or Frisbee golf. Helena is the birth place of Disc golf in Montana and has more Folf courses than any other town in the state.

Hyzer Hills—Disc Golf Course, 18 holes. South Hills has a course name of Hyzer Hills, hyzer being a type of throw in the game. To get to the course, take the South Hills exit off of I-15. Turn right onto Saddle Drive at the round-about. The course is on the south side of Saddle Drive. If you are truly into folf, you'd like to know that this is a true folf course, meaning that the course is outfitted with rubber tee pads to throw the disc from and basket targets with multiple pin placement area courses

Scratch Gravel Hills, 18 holes. From Green Meadow Drive go north to Franklin Mine Road and turn left. From there, go west to Tumbleweed Drive and take a right. The

road ends at the course parking lot. Beautiful, rocky, arid Folf course.

Shady Scratch, 18 holes. Hilly area west of Green Meadow Drive. Go past the turn to Regular Scratch Gravel (see above) and proceed North on Green Meadow Drive past the blinking light. As you pass over the irrigation canal, turn left onto Norris Road and follow it up to turn around in the parking area. Go through the wooden gate and veer off to the left, follow the trail and you will soon find yourself on the tee box for hole number 1. The course has great rock features, tight fairways and downhill shots. Wear appropriate shoes and bring water.

Sheep Mountain, 18 holes. Object Course. Very short drive from Helena. Take I-15 south to Clancy. Exit there and take a right. The road splits off to the left, stay on the right and turn right. Follow this road up to Sheep Mountain Road. Turn right and go up a mile or two and you will

see the course as you drive through it. Park on left side of road.

BlueCloud, 18 holes. Dirt Tee Pads, tight fairways. Go west out of Helena as you would go to Missoula, turn right at the Baxendale Fire Department. Take your first right and follow this road a few miles and go up through the gate and proceed straight. At the next "Y" intersection, go left. As you come to the next gate, go through and turn immediately to your right. Follow this down through the meadow and into the trees. Follow this road a little ways and you will come to another "Y" intersection. Go also to the right, and you find yourself in the parking area. The first hole will be to the east of the parking area throwing north. Truck recommended and bring applicable clothing and water.

Huckleberry Hollow, 18 holes. There is a temporary course at the top of Priest Pass on National Forest Land called



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Huckleberry Hollow. “Huck” as in hucking the disc and on the first few holes fairways, at the right time of the year, you can pick huckleberries. 18 holes with objects, multiple dirt tee pads, the Montana Disc Golf Championships were held here in 2011. Distance, if played from the long tee, is 6,343 feet long, and if played from the short tees the distance is 5,664 feet long. The course’s first nine holes finds you winding through the trees on logging roads and cattle trails through meadows and old timber. A fun mix of precision drives and up shots with some fun downhill shots to finish out the front. The back nine holes are wide open with plenty of room to let your discs fly while playing through majestic high mountain prairie, an aspen grove and while playing from holes 11 to 12, you actually cross the continental divide at just over 6,000 feet in elevation. This course is long and is very prone to fast weather changes and high wind, so dress accordingly and be prepared for inclement weather. Also, pack sufficient water. Camp anywhere around hole one. Directions from Helena are to go west out of town towards Missoula. Before MacDonald Pass at the bottom, take a right just after Priest Pass Road sign. Follow Priest Pass Road to the top of the pass. Turn right at the elevation sign that reads 5,994 and park in the field. The first hole is the logging



Troy Shockley, 406mtsports.com

Zach Clark of the Helena Brewers celebrates on his way to the dugout following a first-inning grand slam during an 8-7 win over Great Falls at Kindrick Legion Field.

road to the right.

Don’t want to get lost? If you’re visiting Helena and would like to go out with a local who knows the course, post to the Sleeping Giant Disc Golf Alliance Facebook page and one of the members may be able to join you or at the very least, give you some tips for the course.

BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL

The Helena Brewers are a Minor League Baseball team in the Pioneer League. They play home games at Kindrick Legion Field. Visit helenabrewers.net for schedules and more information.

Helena Babe Ruth offers games and tournaments for Cal Ripken 9-12, Babe Ruth 13-15, Babe Ruth Senior and Rookie divisions.

Rookie Programs: 8 year old tryouts are June 12. Every player will be assigned to a team! If you miss the tryout, you will be placed on a team after the draft. Everybody plays! For more tournament information and game dates for Helena Babe Ruth, visit <http://www.leaguelineup.com/welcome.asp?url=helenababeruth>

Helena Senators Class AA and **Helena Reps Class A** American Legion Baseball

Game are held at Kindrick Field, adjacent to Memorial Park, from April to July. Go to www.helenasenators.com for schedule.

More than 50 teams and 1,000 players take part in the Helena Softball Association’s leagues. League softball play is at the Batch Field complex between Carroll College and the Bill Roberts Golf Course. The four fields get steady use in the evenings from April through August. For a complete schedule and tournament information go to www.leaguelineup.com/helenasoftball or -call 447-6409 for more information.



HELP STOP THE SPREAD OF INVASIVE SPECIES

Clean: Remove all plants and mud from boat, trailer and fishing gear.

Drain: Pull your drain plug. Before you leave the area eliminate all water from your boat and gear.

Dry: Allow time for your boat and gear to dry completely before launching somewhere else.

All watercraft must stop at inspection stations



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MONTANA FISH,
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IN AND ON THE WATER

SWIMMING

Broadwater Hot Springs & Fitness recreation pools are located at 4920 Highway 12 West. Call 443-5777 or go to www.thebroadwater.com

Last Chance Splash Waterpark and Pool.

Families come join the fun this summer from June 18 through August 25. Play in the splash deck, float the lazy river, ride the slides, grab a snack at Miner's Diner or just relax in the 50-meter pool. Last Chance Splash not only offers open swim but also swimming lessons, water aerobics, lap swim, water walking and water polo. Waterpark has open swim from 12:15 to 7 p.m. Monday-Friday and 1 to 5 p.m. on weekends. The 50-meter pool and diving well hours are Monday-Friday from 1 to 7 p.m. and 1 to 5 p.m. on weekends. Located at 1203 N. Last Chance Gulch. For more information about lessons, exercise and pool parties, call 447-1559 or go to www.lastchancesplash.com

East Helena Pool. Open for swimming beginning June 8 until Aug. 28. Pool is located at Kennendy (JFK) Park, 402 N. Harrison Avenue. For hours and more information contact the East Helena Pool at 227-6443 or visit their website at easthelena.pool.weebly.com.

Crossroads Sports and Fitness has an indoor, 25-yard lap pool used for private lessons, master swim program, family swim times and hydro fitness classes. A spa area complete with a steam room, dry sauna and hot tubs are also available. Located at 1013 Dearborn, 442-6733. Visit www.crossroadsportsfitness.com for complete aquatics schedule.

YMCA Pool is open to



Children take turns on the waterslides at Last Chance Splash Waterpark & Pool in Helena.

Matt Neuman, matthew.neuman@helenair.com

the public for day use and includes the use of all fitness facilities. The Y also offers swimming lessons for kids year round. Located at 1200 N. Last Chance Gulch. Call 442-9622 or go to www.helenaymca.org for summer membership specials and rates for all programs.

Capital City Health Club has a lap pool and a rec/therapy pool. Located at 1280 N. Montana Ave. For more information about swimming call 442-6577.

Lions Swim Team is a competitive team of 6 to 18 year olds dedicated to making members successful at swimming and in life. Professional coaches and supportive team atmosphere. Striving to make participation challenging and fun. Swimming must be able to swim the length of the pool (25 yards). Contact Head Coach Kyle Kallin at kallinkyle545@gmail.com or visit hlst.org.

MARINAS

Yacht Basin Marina is a full-service marina with deep harbor docks and shore power. Yacht Basin Marina can be reached by taking Canyon Ferry Road to the north end of the lake. Open from May through October. Amenities include: convenience store, handicapped-accessible facilities, boat launch, beach, camping, paddle boats, and sailing. Both large and small private beach facilities are available for rent. Areas are perfect for reunions, company parties, weddings and birthday parties to complete your Canyon Ferry Lake vacation or event. Reservations are highly recommended. For more information or to make your reservation, call 475-3440.

Kim's Marina and RV Resort is a sportsman's paradise. If sailing, power boating, jet skiing, swimming, fishing, hiking or biking are your passions, you can do it all from

the private beaches of Kim's Marina and Resort. Kim's is located just 20 miles east of Helena on Canyon Ferry Lake. Kim's offers seasonal and daily boat mooring, camping spots and cozy cabins. Kim's can readily supply you with boat rentals, fishing tackle, food, beer, gas, espresso and clean clothes. This is all done from the easily accessible grocery, tackle and gift shop.



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LAKES

For detailed information about many of Montana's lakes go to www.fwp.mt.gov. Look under "State Parks," then "Visit a State Park."

Spring Meadow Lake is an urban, day-use-only park minutes from Helena and fed by natural springs is a popular spot for family afternoons of swimming, sunbathing, scuba diving, fishing, birdwatching and pure play. When you tire of the beach, walk the park's easy nature trail that circles the lake. It is home to a variety of birds and other wildlife. Hours are sunrise to sunset. Fees apply. There is also a group use shelter available to rent for gatherings. Call for fees, rental prices and general information at 495-3260. To get there, travel west on Euclid Ave., turn right on Joslyn Street, veer left onto Country Club Ave. and watch for the reception are on the left.

Park Lake Campground and Park Lake Fishing Access are actually two sites located on the same lake in the Helena National Forest. At an elevation of 6,500 feet, the site encompasses 10 acres. Park Lake Campground sits back slightly from the 3 1/2 acre alpine lake in a lodge pole timber forest. There is boating access but no boats with motors are allowed on the lake. The boat launch is



Eliza Wiley, *Independent Record*

Go for a dip in Spring Meadow Lake. The lake is also a great place to take out the canoe, cast a line or walk around the nature trail.

carry-in. Fishing is permitted on the lake. Hiking may also be enjoyed in this scenic area. For more information visit www.ci.helena.mt.us/play/recreation.html. There are two routes to Park lake: through Clancy or through Unionville. To travel via Clancy, exit I-15 at the Clancy off ramp and go a mile north on the west side of the highway before turning n to Lump Gulch Road. Keep to the left. To get there through Unionville, go through town until the road turns to dirt and continue over the pass into Jefferson County. Stay to the left until you come to a sign at Lump Gulch Road, where you make a sharp right and head up the mountain to the lake.

Hauser Lake is a 3,200

acre reservoir on the Missouri River created by Hauser Dam. The lake yields kokanee salmon; for which it holds the state record; rainbow and brown trout; walleye and perch. It is an extremely

popular take-off point for weekend boating, fishing and water sports. There are two scenic public campgrounds on Hauser Lake. White Sandy and a few yards further is Black Sandy State Park.

Holter Lake, formed by Holter Dam on the Missouri River, is a very popular lake, both for fishing and for pleasure boating in Montana. The lake has very good fishing for rainbow trout as well as wall-eye and perch.

Canyon Ferry Lake was formed when Canyon Ferry Dam was built, blocking the Missouri River. Canyon Ferry Lake is very popular and receives the most use of any lake in the state. This is due to both its size and location. The lake is quite large, even by Montana standards, measuring more than 30 miles long and up to five miles wide. Since the lake lies just 15 miles from Helena, it receives heavy use during warm weather and on the weekends. Canyon

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Ferry Lake is an excellent lake for fishing for rainbow trout. The lake is heavily stocked each year, and the large size of the lake along with its fertility allow the rainbows to grow large quite quickly.

RIVERS

Rivers run through Montana—everything from raging rapids for kayakers and white water rafting to serene waters for the casual boater or floater.

Smith River. Some of the best floats near Helena are on the Smith River, which meanders between the Big Belt and Little Belt Mountains from Fort Logan to Eden. The river offers a little something for everyone, including beautiful scenery, some whitewater and good fishing. You can also view Native American pictographs along the limestone canyon walls. The river is popular so expect to see others on the water and in the campsites. Floaters who want to run the stretch from Camp Baker to Eden need permits, which are given out in a lottery system. The deadline for entries in the lottery is usually around mid-February. You can get an application at any Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks office. But you may also be able to “walk on” if there are cancellations or openings. Floats can also put in at the Smith River fishing access located six miles downstream from Fort Logan. This stretch of the river is recommended only for people with boating

experience as it has numerous small dams dotting the river. The trip from Camp Baker to Eden takes about three days; after mid-July the river is too low to float. Watch for fences and cables across the water. For more information on Smith River recreation, visit <http://fwp.mt.gov>.

The Missouri River has several fun day floats, all of which are calm and easy. The most popular segments are from Three Forks to Toston, from Toston to Townsend, from Wolf Creek to Craig and from Craig to Mountain Palace. Spring run-off north of Toston is strong enough that you'll need to stay alert for some stretches; also watch for later afternoon winds in Craig area. Dearborn Inn, Mountain Palace, and Missouri Inn are located about five miles apart and are convenient take-out areas.

The Dearborn River north of Helena isn't for timid or beginning rafters. For experienced floaters, the rewards of the Dearborn include beautiful scenery as the river flows out of the Bob Marshall Wilderness and into the Missouri north of Craig. For a long one-day trip on the Dearborn, you can float the stretch between the U.S. 287 bridge and the Missouri River. Get an early start, since there is no public land for camping. After mid-June the river often is too low to float.

Blackfoot River. Classic trout habitat and incredible scenery make the lower

stretch of Blackfoot River one of the most popular rivers in Montana. Fly fishing, camping, swimming, rafting or relaxing are some of the things you may enjoy along Blackfoot corridor. Corridor is a partnership between landowners, the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), who all work together to provide public safety along the 26 mile stretch of river. The Blackfoot River northwest of Helena offers exciting white water and beautiful scenery to daring floaters. Most floating takes place below Clearwater Junction west of Ovando, although the Lincoln area also offers nice views.

FISHING

Some visitors don't realize that there may be more wildlife in nearby rivers and streams than in the mountains and meadows. Trout of all sorts—including rainbow, cut-throat, brown, brook, bull and lake—are living in almost any stream, lake, or river in the Helena area. Or cold-water fish include kokanee salmon, arctic grayling, goldeye and mountain whitefish. Walleyes are usually only found east of the Continental Divide, usually in lakes, and once in a while in large rivers. The Helena area includes Holter, Hauser and Canyon Ferry reservoirs. In Canyon Ferry, it's not unusual for fishermen to catch five or six pound walleye. Other warmer-water fish in the area include northern

pike, large and smallmouth bass, bluegill, crappie, sauger, yellow perch and other species. Grayling fishing is best along the Continental Divide, including Park Lake and a few areas in southwest mountains. You can also find smallmouth bass in some of Helena's lakes and along the Missouri River. For more information on fishing in the Helena area visit, <http://fwp.mt.gov/fishing>.

Walleye Tournaments

Walleyes Forever is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting walleye fishing, walleye conservation, family recreation and hands-on, grassroots efforts to improve warm water fisheries of Montana. Throughout the year the group sponsors a host of walleye tournaments geared towards raising awareness for sound management of all species as well as raising money for many non-profits. For more information about walleye tournaments in the Helena area go to www.walleyesforever.com.

BIRDWATCHING

Birds of a feather flock together! The Last Chance Audubon Society promotes understanding, respect and enjoyment of birds through a variety of educational programs and exciting activities. Email lastchanceaudubon-society@gmail.com for more information. Find field trip schedule and download a birding brochure in PDF format at lastchanceaudubon.org.



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WALK, HIKE AND BIKE

HELENA OUTDOOR CLUB

The Helena Outdoor Club, a club for non-motorized recreation since 1972, is for everyone, regardless of age. Summer outdoor activities include hiking, backpacking, canoeing, kayaking and bicycling. Most of the club's activities are free, and members organize and lead trips for the casual recreationist. Grants to programs providing outdoor equipment or activities to youth groups are available. Free public program meetings include presentations on adventure travel in Montana and around the world. More information on the Outdoor Club and upcoming events can be found at www.helenaoutdoorclub.org or by emailing help@helenaoutdoorclub.org.

HISTORIC LAST CHANCE GULCH

Gold was discovered in Last Chance Gulch on July 14, 1864, and Helena, along with many millionaires, was born. Now the Gulch is Helena's main streets—part of which is the state's only downtown, outdoor walking mall. Starting at the 400 block, the Gulch features a wide variety of merchants. There are custom art galleries, one-of-a-kind apparel stores, unique gift shops, sporting goods stores and entertainment venues. All businesses in this area are locally owned and strive to provide excellent customer service. As you stroll down to the Downtown Walking Mall, embrace the fabulous architectural masterpieces dating back to the 19th Century. Be sure to keep an eye out for the gargoyles.

POPULAR TRAILS NEAR TOWN

The Helena area is abundant with over 2,000 acres of open public space with scenic

trails for walking, running or biking. Water-resistant pocket-sized Helena area trail maps are available for sale at local sporting goods and outdoor shops around Helena.

Mount Helena offers several trails where hikers can enjoy varied scenery and different levels of physical intensity. To get to the Mount Helena trailheads, drive, walk or bike south on Park Avenue, turn right at Reeder's Village Drive, turn right at Village Drive and continue until the road intersects with a blacktop road. Take a left onto the blacktop to reach the parking lot. All of the trails are displayed on a map at the kiosk at the trailheads. Mount Helena City Park is the largest and most obvious in town, and also the steepest at 5,468 feet above sea level.

Mount Ascension offers a fun but challenging single-track mountain bike trail in the South Hills. If you can make it to the top of the first summit of Ascension without stopping you are pretty good! Drive south on Beattie Street until it dead-ends in a dirt parking lot to reach the Mount Ascension trail head.

Davis Street/Dry Gulch can be reached by driving south on Davis Street. There are several trails along the way beginning just after Davis Street turns to a dirt road.

Tenmile Creek Park is Prickly Pear Land Trust's foremost community conservation project, comprised of 180 acres of former ranchland. As you are heading west out of town, turn right on Williams Street and follow it around until you see the fenced parking area on the right side of the road.

The Ridge Trail is a scenic ridge-top trail with access from the Mount Helena City Park. The length of the trail

is 5.7 miles. It begins at Park City, just south of town. Walk or bike this trail. Catch a free ride on the Trail Rider to Mount Helena's Ridge Trails! The shuttle is provided by Downtown Helena Business Improvement District (BID). The 2018 Trail Rider schedule is still being finalized but will be announced soon. For more information, call 447-1535 or visit www.bikehelena.com.

The Great Northern Town Center to Spring Meadow Lake Trail begins at the Great Northern Town Center and continues under Hwy. 12 to Centennial Park, which is home to the Vigilante Bike Park. From the park, head northwest toward the Helena Transfer Station. Cross Benton and Henderson, then walk south on Joslyn. Turn right onto Country Club Avenue and continue until you reach Spring Meadow Lake.

FURTHER AFIELD

Hiking trails crisscross the greater Helena area. Some lead to high mountain lakes, while others follow small streams to alpine meadows. When hiking in Montana, no matter how short the trip, always carry water, food, rain gear, warm clothing and maps. The following are a just a couple examples of Helena's scenic routes.

One of the most popular hiking trails in the Helena area is **Trout Creek Canyon Trail 270**, which heads into the Big Belt Mountains. The three-mile trail follows a segment of an old road that was washed out during a spring flood in 1981. This trail, closed to motorized vehicles, provides spectacular views of steep-walled limestone formations within the canyon. The hike is rated as easy, with only a minor elevation gain of 800 feet. To get there from

Helena, proceed northeast on Highway 280 (also called York Road) to town of York. Continue driving northeast past York to the end of road and Vigilante Campground.

The Casey Meadows Trail in the Elkhorn Mountains is another local favorite. It's an easy hike with a gradual elevation gain of about 1,300 feet on three-mile walk to the meadow. The trail meanders through an area of the 1988 Warm Springs Fire and provides panoramic views and a look at post-burn areas. From the meadow, there are views of nearby peaks and the lower part of Casey Peak. Other trails intersect at Casey Meadows for hikers wishing to go further. From Helena, take I-15 south to the Montana City exit, and go east. Turn right at Montana City School. Then turn right onto McClellan Creek Road. Continue on this road approximately 6.5 miles to the Crystal Creek/ McClellan Creek Junction and turn right. Continue another two miles to the Casey Meadows/ McClellan Creek trailhead.

After spending more than 20 years as a diamond in the rough of a defunct gold-mining operation, **Crow Creek Falls**, often called the "crown jewel" of Helena National Forest, has been returned to its former luster by Crow Creek Falls Citizens Group and the American Land Conservancy. One of only three waterfalls in Helena National Forest, Crow Creek Falls should be on every local hiker's list of destinations to visit and re-visit. Access into the falls is non-motorized. The easiest hiking route into Crow Falls is on Trail 109, which can be reached by driving Forest Road 424 (about 15 miles) from Radersburg. The trail follows the creek for about 2 miles, and climbs



Trace Williams, 10, catches air at Centennial Park in Helena.

Thom Bridge, *Independent Record*

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onto a bench where the “old road” once came down from Eureka Ridge. It’s about 1.5 miles upstream along the old road to the falls from this intersection. Horse users are encouraged to take trails 112 and 134 from Eagle Guard Station (some sections of 109 are unsuitable for stock). Trail 134 intersects Trail 109 very close to Crow Creek Falls. It’s about 5 miles one way on this route. Ambitious mountain bikers can also ride route. Hikers should bring sturdy shoes, sunscreen, a map of area and their own water as there are no potable water sources at the station. Contact Townsend Ranger District at 266-3425 for information about alternate trailheads, to Eagle Guard Station and Crow Creek Falls.

The bike trails in the Helena area are abundant and varied and too numerous to list them all, but you will find that www.BikeHelena.com is your one stop for anything cycling in Helena, Montana. Trail Maps, suggested routes, video, events, bike shops and hotel booking information can all be

found on BikeHelena.com.

A few routes worth mentioning:

Birdseye Loop, 30-35 miles: Take Country Club Avenue to Birdseye Road. Ride along Birdseye past Fort Harrison and across the railroad tracks twice. After the second crossing, the road has a series of climbs and dips as it winds for several miles to Silver City. Turn right at the Silver City Bar onto Lincoln Road and ride all way to Interstate 15, taking the freeway back into Helena. Returning via Green Meadow Drive shaves about five miles off the ride.

Clancy Frontage Road, 20-mile road trip: Ride Interstate 15 south from Helena and exit at Montana City. Turn right at the top of the exit and left at the intersection onto Frontage Road. Ride up and down moderate hills to Clancy, where the road passes under the freeway. Return the same route. Ride can be shortened to 12 miles round trip by beginning at Montana City.

Helena Valley Loop, approximately 50 miles: Take Highway 12 to East Helena.

Turn north onto Wylie Drive to York Road. Turn right and ride east to Lake Helena Drive. Turn left and ride north to the lake. Turn left onto Lincoln Road East and ride west all the way to Silver City. Turn left onto Birdseye Road and ride back into Helena.

Wolf Creek, 70-mile loop: Travel north from Helena on Interstate 15 to the "recreational access" road, an exit marked with a sign south of Wolf Creek. Unload bikes and ride north into Wolf Creek to Highway 434. Turn left and ride along the Rocky Mountain Front to Highway 200. Turn right and ride north to Bowman's Corners, to the intersection with Highway 287. Ride back into Wolf Creek, including a one-mile stretch on Interstate 15 and back to vehicle. Roads along this route are barren of traffic and the scenery is outstanding.

Crystal/Creek/Montana City Loop: This loop around Saddle Mountain

is a casual ride suitable for families. Begin at Montana City School and ride up the road to Crystal Creek Campground. From there, take the Forest Service Road to the left, which takes riders around Saddle Mountain, where housing developments line the road, and through the Wing Ranch. The trail comes out about two miles east of East Helena on Highway 12 East. Return by riding toward East Montana and taking McClellan Creek turnoff to Montana City.

Wakina Sky Gulch: For intermediate riders. Ride south on Park Avenue and take Grizzly Gulch, which forks to the right off the paved road. Follow the gulch uphill for about a third of a mile. Wakina Sky Gulch forks to the left, and is much narrower and less evident than Grizzly. Ride to the top of this narrow gulch to an open meadow, about 2/3 mile, then return by the same route.

Grizzly Gulch: Easy terrain for beginner riders. Grizzly Gulch forks to the right off the southbound lane of the paved road to Unionville. It eventually connects with Oro Fino Gulch just above Unionville after a loop of approximately 10 miles.

Mount Helena Ridge Trail: Intermediate to advanced riders. Ride up Grizzly Gulch to Park City, a cluster of houses about 4/5 mile up the road. After cresting a hill, watch for a row of mailboxes to the right and take that road. A sign about 1/2 mile up alerts riders to a trail on the right. This is the Ridge Trail, a single-track path that climbs, then drops down a series of switchbacks onto the backside of Mount Helena. The trail comes out on Le Grande Cannon Boulevard in Helena.

OUTDOORS WITH HORSES AND DOGS

The Helena Trail Riders is the oldest incorporated

saddle club in Montana. The club was organized in 1938 as a pleasure-riding group by cowboy artist Shorty Shope. The club opened its membership to the public in 1940 and in 1944 originated the sport of O-Mok-See. The word comes from the Blackfeet Indian for "riding big." Members meet on the third Wednesday of odd months at 6:30 p.m. at the clubhouse which is located at the Lewis and Clark Fairgrounds (across from the multi-purpose building). To find O-Mok-See and Trail Riding schedules or for more information on the club, please go to www.helenatrailriders.org.

While Spring Meadow Lake doesn't allow dogs, most of the other parks in the area do allow dogs. This said there are limitations to the freedom that your furry friend can enjoy. The Helena city code states: "Animals are not allowed to run at large in the city. All animals not confined within an enclosure or



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on the owner's property shall be kept on a leash not more than 10 feet long, securely restrained or held so as to prevent the animal from running at large, with the exception that a leash is not required for any animal on Mount Helena City Park as long as the animal is under the immediate, continuous and effective control of a person." Notice the word "control." That your dog may come most of the time will not help you if he or she decides to go chasing after deer. Deer can be dangerous, dogs can be lost and game wardens can be cranky as heck when they discover your pet disturbing the wildlife. (Be warned, there are fines involved here.) Pets are not permitted on swimming beaches, in sanitary facilities or in any other area posted to exclude them.

From April 1-September 15, unless otherwise posted, all pets must be on a leash not over 10 feet long. Persons bringing or allowing animals in designated recreation areas shall be responsible for proper removal and disposal of any waste produced by these animals. There are many areas around in the parks and the forests where you and your dog can have fun, but keep in mind that the restrictions were put in place because owners did not take responsibility for their pets. Please be respectful of others, the area and the wildlife; the future of enjoying our canine friends in the outdoors depends on it. Paws Park is located at Centennial Park, it's free and there are separate fenced areas. There is water available seasonally for your pets.

PARKS

For those of you skateboarders looking for a place to catch some air and practice your carving, kickflips and grinding, check out the Helena Skate Park. This 17,000-square-foot park has proven to be an increasingly

popular social and recreational destination for Helena's youth. It features quarter pipe corners with flat bank hips, two different gaps with ledges, a pyramid with a square tube rail and five benches. One of the benches has a curved edge, one is sloping, another has a step at the top and yet another has a rail that is two feet high. The Helena Skate Park, located at 1200 North Last Chance Gulch, is free to everyone and welcomes boarders and inline skaters. Scooters and BMX bikes are prohibited. For more information email helenaskatepark@yahoo.com or visit www.helenaskatepark.com.

Helena's city parks offer a number of different options for resting and recreating. The parks feature facilities ranging from simple picnic tables and shelters to playing fields, playground equipment and hiking trails. For information about parks, call 447-8463 or visit www.ci.helena.mt.us.

Barney Park: Cleveland and Hudson streets. Features barbecue pits, basketball hoops, a ball field, a picnic shelter, playground equipment, and tennis/pickleball courts.

Batch Fields: Benton and Cole avenues. Includes a picnic shelter, covered playground equipment and four softball fields.

Beattie Park: Helena Avenue and Roberts Street. Includes historic sites, picnic shelters.

Centennial/Bausch Park: Across the street from Memorial Park at 1200 N. Last Chance Gulch. Facilities include the Helena Skate Park for skateboarding, soccer fields, softball fields, dog park, bike track, horseshoe pits, and trailhead for Rails to Trails walking trail. The skate park provides dawn to dusk exercise for skateboarders and in-line skaters. Bikes, scooters and motorized vehicles are prohibited. Spectators and food

and beverages should stay out of the immediate skate park area.

Cherry Hill Park: Columbia Street and Cherry Avenue. Picnic facilities, playground equipment, shelter and basketball court.

Clinton Park: State and Beattie streets. Features basketball hoops, a picnic area and playground equipment.

Constitution Park: Sixth Avenue and Last Chance Gulch. Features historical information and monuments.

Cunningham Park: Flowerree Street and Cleveland Court. Features basketball hoop, picnic area and a playground.

Fire Tower Park: Surrounds Helena's Guardian of the Gulch, a wooden fire tower perched over downtown. The tower was built in 1874 to house men watching for fires in the valley. The tower is fenced in and not available to the public, but you can still get a similar view from the park area. To reach the park, walk up the winding path near Lewis and Clark Library at the end of Last Chance Gulch.

Heritage/ Pioneer Park: East of the Lewis and Clark Library at 120 S. Last Chance Gulch. It includes historic monuments and playground equipment.

Hill and Women's Parks: Two parks on opposite sides of Fuller Avenue. Hill is on the corner of Neill and Park avenues; Women's is on Fuller and Neill avenues. Features include historic monuments and picnic facilities.

Kay McKenna Park: Neill and Benton Avenues. This park adjoins the city's Civic Center entertainment facility. It includes historic sites, play equipment, tennis courts and picnic facilities. Kessler Park: Davis and Beattie streets. Features a picnic area.

Lockey Park: Lam-born Street and Broadway. Includes basketball, football,

tennis, baseball and softball facilities as well as barbecues, shelter and playground equipment.

Memorial Park: 1200 N. Last Chance Gulch, the site of an elaborate playground called Frontier Funtown. The playground, with features for park-going kids of all ages, was built by community volunteers. The park also features an outdoor public waterpark, barbecue pits and picnic shelters. During the summer, it is the center for band concerts every Thursday night and adjoins Kendrick Legion Baseball Field.

Mount Helena Park: A more than 1,000-acre natural city park featuring Douglas fir forests and expansive grassland areas. Two trails leave the parking area and circle the mountain. The park adjoins National Forest land and is a good spot for observing a variety of wildlife, including prairie falcons, meadowlarks and deer.

Nature Park: Cole and McHugh. A natural area with wildlife and a paved, accessible trail.

Northwest Park: 101 Valley Drive. Features softball, soccer fields and walking trail.

Pocha Park: Ewing and Miller streets. Features a picnic area and playground equipment.

Ramey Park: Corner of Missoula and Roberts. Offers soccer field, playground equipment, basketball court, and two softball fields.

Robinson Park: Livingston and Townsend avenues. Features a football field, soccer field and picnic shelter.

Sixth Ward Park: Montana Avenue and Bozeman Street. Picnic area and playground.

Waukesha Park: Waukesha Avenue and Garrison Street. Football/soccer field, community garden plots and playground equipment.

Wesleyan Park: Helena Avenue and 4th Street. Features a picnic area and playground equipment.

ARTS & CULTURE

MYRNA LOY CENTER

The mission of the Myrna Loy is to present the arts, including media, performing, literary and visual, in an educational context, with challenging and culturally enriching programs that would not otherwise appear in the Helena area or Montana. The Myrna is named after Montana's First Lady of Film, Myrna Williams.

Myrna was born in 1905 in Radersburg, Montana, 40 miles southeast of Helena. By the time Myrna passed away at the age of 88, she had appeared in a phenomenal 129 motion pictures. At the Myrna, productions of theater, dance, jazz, folk, performance art and cinema are all presented in a more intimate setting. Films are

shown in the 250-seat proscenium arch theater and the 50-seat screening room. There are films shown daily, including independent works and foreign films not brought to the larger Cinemark movie theater. Educational programs are also available. For more information, visit www.myrnaloycenter.com or call 443-0287. Located at 15 N. Ewing St.

GRANDSTREET THEATRE

Situated in a beautiful and historic building over 100 years old, which previously served as a house of worship and a library, Grandstreet Theatre gives front row seats to Helena's blooming acting community. The summer season boasts four shows filled with professional

talent, community talent and amazing young actors as well. Grandstreet, one of Montana's oldest community theatres, began in 1975 in the Placer Hotel's ballroom. It provides hands-on learning in all aspects of theater production and management for aspiring actors. Summer Theatre School classes are enrolling now! Visit GrandstreetTheatre.com for more information.

Grandstreet Theatre, 325 N Park Avenue. 447-1574.

Grandstreet Summer Productions

June 1-3: Madagascar Jr.

June 14-24: Falsettos

July 6-21: Mamma Mia!

August 2-18: Newsies

September 6-16: Every Brilliant Thing

STATE CAPITAL BAND

Helena's State Capital Band is one of the longest continually performing bands in the country. The band was organized in 1902 and features 50 to 60 of the area's finest musicians, who volunteer to continue this tradition. Free band concerts are offered every Thursday at 8 p.m. from June 28 through Aug. 2, in the Memorial Park Band Shell. The programs include marches, classical wind ensemble pieces and Broadway musical and movie score arrangements. The audience votes on favorites from each concert. The favorites are then featured in the sixth and final concert of the series. Picnics, blankets, lawn chairs and children in the playground help make the



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Call us at: 447-8463

 [Helena Parks and Recreation](https://www.facebook.com/HelenaParksandRecreation)

Kay's Kids Summer Youth Program

FREE recreation program for youth ages 6 - 13!

Online Registration Starts 5/1

June 11 - August 10 (No July 4th)

Weekdays 9 AM - 3 PM

Barney Park ~ Lincoln Park ~ Memorial Park



Last Chance Splash Waterpark & Pool

Open June 18

Weekdays: 12:15 - 7 PM

Weekends: 1 - 5 PM



Visit lastchancesplash.com for information on
Swim Lessons ~ Water Activities ~ Fitness Classes

Youth & Adult Tennis Lessons

Session 1: June 18 - July 12 (No July 4th)

Session 2: July 23 - August 16

Monday - Thursday ~ For more info visit our website!



Yoga in the Parks

FREE Yoga in Women's Park
Saturdays @ 9:30-10:30 AM

June 9

July 14

August 11

September 9



Family Yoga in Memorial Park
Tuesday, June 19 5-6 PM



Full schedule of free & paid
outdoor yoga classes online!

State Capital Band concert a beautiful way to spend a summer evening in Helena. Interested musicians are most welcome. Interested musicians should contact conductor Rob Loveridge at 324-2342 or 461-1885.

MUSIKANTEN MONTANA

Musikanten Montana will host its 11th Helena Choral Week June 11-17 – an intense six days of classes, lessons, rehearsals and concerts for the passionate choral singer (and passionate audience).

This year's festival highlight is the final concert, "The French Connection," on Saturday evening, June 16, with music by iconic French composers Duruflé, Poulenc, Milhaud and Saint-Saëns, as well as John Corigliano's setting of "L'Invitation au Voyage" and Swiss composer Frank Martin's "Ode à la Musique." The HCW chorus will be joined by an octet consisting of piano, string bass, 1 trumpet, 2 French horns and 3 trombones.

Mornings are dedicated to classes and private lessons taught by the guest artists; offerings include Renaissance Singing (madrigals and motets), Musical Skills (sight-reading and theory), Group Voice, and "The Meaning Behind Our Music." The public is encouraged to enroll in daily classes, or drop in any morning to individual sessions. All classes and rehearsals will be at the Cathedral Center, next to the Cathedral of St. Helena.

The chorus is auditioned and rehearses evenings, with the dress rehearsal Saturday morning and concert that evening. The week concludes with the HCW choir singing at the 11 am Sunday morning Mass at the Cathedral of St. Helena. Please visit www.musikantenmt.org for concert details, class times and registration information, or email Festival Director kerrykrebill@aol.com.

SYMPHONY UNDER THE STARS

On July 21 the Helena Symphony and Carroll College present the 15th Annual Symphony Under the Stars as a gift to Helena and its guests. This year's concert will feature the award-winning music of the Star Wars franchise, composed by the legendary John Williams. Music will be chosen from all eight of the saga movies.

Be sure to bring your boogie shoes (or bare feet in the grass) to this uniquely Helena tradition. Roll up your blankets, pack your picnic basket and come enjoy the food, music, and fireworks under the Big Sky. Many come early to soak up the summer sun, enjoy a picnic dinner with friends, or to just relax and people-watch on the hillside. A crowd favorite is the spectacular fireworks display that ends the concert. Vendors will be on-site providing a variety of food and drink including beer and wine. Of course, you're more than welcome to bring your own!

Specific details regarding seating, parking and other production information will be made known at a later date. Those interested in sponsorship opportunities, or with general questions can contact the Helena Symphony office at 406.442.1860 or visit <http://helenasympphony.org>.

MUSEUMS

Holter Museum of Art:

The Holter Museum is an art museum in the heart of downtown Helena that fuels artistic creativity and imagination in Montana through exceptional contemporary art exhibitions, collections and educational programming. Admission is always free! On display in the galleries during the 2018 summer are several exhibitions. Summer classes for ages 5 to 18 are ongoing throughout the summer, encouraging children to explore a variety of art forms and media. The Holter



Dylan Brown, *Independent Record*

The sun sets over the Continental Divide during the Symphony Under the Stars in Helena.

is located at 12 E. Lawrence Street. Hours are Tuesday-Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and Sunday from noon to 4 p.m. For more information call 406-442-6400 or visit www.holtermuseum.org.

Montana Military

Museum: The Montana Military Museum displays items from more than two centuries of military experience in Montana. Exhibits include uniforms and equipment worn and used by fighting men for more than a century. To reach the museum, drive to Fort Harrison on Highway 12 West. Once inside the main gate, take a right at the first intersection. The museum is located in the cluster of buildings on the left. The museum is free and open to the public from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. every Thursday. Visit www.montanaguard.com or montanamilitarymuseum.org for more information.

Masonic Grand Lodge

Museum: Helena Masonic Grand Lodge Museum along with the Grand Lodge Office and Library were built on a former placer mining claim. The cornerstone was laid on July 18, 1936. The museum contains many items of historic significance to Masonry and early Montana history. Items on display include the Masonic apron of Meriwether Lewis, the hand-written manuscript of Paris Pfouts

(the first mayor of Virginia City), and Olaf C. Seltzer's depiction of the first recorded Masonic meeting in Montana on Mullan Pass. Located at 425 Park Avenue, the museum's hours are Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. or by appointment. For more information call 442-7774 or visit www.grandlodgemontana.org.

Montana Historical Society Museum:

A state as rich in history as Montana would not be complete without a museum dedicated to preserving that history and the people who shaped it. The Montana Historical Society, Montana's Museum, is located at 225 N. Roberts (just east of the Capitol) in the Montana Historical Society building. This kid-friendly museum contains fine art and historical, archaeological and ethnological artifacts pertaining to Montana's history, people and geography.

Museum hours are Monday-Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Closed Sunday and holidays. Admission costs \$5 for adults, \$1 for children and \$12 per family. Group tours are available by reservation. Admission to the society is free to all on the second Saturday of every month and from 5-8 p.m. on Thursdays. Call 444-2694 for more information or visit mhs.mt.gov.



19th Annual **SHODAIR** SOCCER CLASSIC

Saturday, July 7

**Kickoff for the
Women's game 3 p.m.**

**Kickoff for the
Men's game 5 p.m.**



Shodair Children's Hospital brings 80 of Montana's best men and women high school soccer players to Helena to play in the 19th Annual Shodair Soccer Classic. The games will be played at Carroll College - Nelson Stadium.

FREE KIDS' SOCCER CLINIC AGES 5-12



The Shodair Soccer Classic Kids' Clinic is hosted by players in the Soccer Classic. The clinic will be held on **Friday, July 6th, from 9 AM - 11 AM** at Carroll College Nelson Stadium. The first 300 registrants will receive a t-shirt. Snacks and refreshments will be provided. Kids' Clinic managed by Helena Youth Soccer Association.

100% of the proceeds from the Shodair Soccer Classic benefit the children and adolescents served at Shodair Children's Hospital.

**To learn more about the Shodair Kids' Soccer Clinic
and the Soccer Classic,
call (406) 444-7560, or vcundall@shodair.org**



ART GALLERIES

Archie Bray: Located at 2915 Country Club Drive, just west of Spring Meadow Lake, the Archie Bray opens its doors to all those serious about devoting themselves to ceramic arts.

No matter your level, the Bray offers educational opportunities. Community classes in hand building and throwing are offered quarterly for beginner through advanced students. There are also classes for young artists ranging from kindergarten through high-school age. Call 443-3502 for more information or visit www.archiebray.org. Gallery hours are Monday-Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and on Sunday from 1 to 5 p.m. in June, July and August.

Bear's Den Gallery specializes in custom framing and giclée printing and is the exclusive gallery of owner/artist Alan Snell's artwork. The gallery is located at 2104 N. Last Chance Gulch. Hours are Monday-Friday 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Call 442-4151 for more information.

Birds & Beasleys's at 2 S. Last Chance Gulch features original works of art by Montana artists. It also sells a variety of gifts, bird feeders, bird baths, and bird seed. Birds & Beasleys is open 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday, 9:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. Wednesday, 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday, and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday. Call 449-0904 for

more information. www.birdsandbeasleys.com

1+1=1 Gallery: Located at 434 North Last Chance Gulch, the gallery is a welcoming space where children and adults practice creative expression, new artists have a chance to be exhibited, and locals can listen to experimental music. Hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday. Call 431-9931 or visit www.1plus1is1.com.

Mountain Sage Gallery (formerly Upper Missouri Artists Gallery) is a unique gallery displaying original works of art by member artists, who are Montana artists local to the Helena area. Artwork displays are changed monthly, and include original oil, watercolor and pastel paintings as well as fused/sculpted and etched glass, bronze sculptures, photography and rock mosaics. The gallery is located at 433 North Last Chance Gulch. Summer hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; and Sunday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Come in and meet the artists. Visit mountainsagegallery.com or call 457-8240 for more information.

The Ghost Art Gallery specializes in original western and wildlife art done by over 80 of Montana's finest artists. A selection of pottery, copper bowls, house angels and jewelry is also featured. A full service

custom frame shop is also located above the gallery. The Ghost Art Gallery is located at 21 South Last Chance Gulch, on the Downtown Walking Mall. Hours are Monday-Friday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information call 443-4536 or visit www.ghostartgallery.com.

Clay Arts Guild of Helena Find out what masterpieces can be created when nimble fingers delve into a ball of soft, moist clay by taking a class at the Clay Arts Guild of Helena. Whether you make an intricate sculpture worthy of a gallery or a bowl for your morning cereal, you will have fun while learning the art of ceramics. The Clay Arts Guild, located at 3025 Bozeman Ave., was founded in 1999 by a group of enthusiastic ceramic artists who sought to immerse themselves in their passion for ceramic arts. Since then, the guild's success has resulted in continued expansion, more than tripling the size of the original facility. The Guild has two high fire gas kilns, a salt kiln, a raku, a pit fire, a barrel fire and four electric kilns. The guild embraces all levels of clay enthusiasts and provides opportunities for everyone to test their skills and learn something new. Adult beginning and intermediate and occasional kids' classes are offered throughout the

year. Classes guide students through the process of hand-building, throwing, making glazes, glazing and firing the kilns, with all the equipment and materials provided. Monthly fees to become a member with tub and shelf space or a private studio, range from \$50-\$130. Members have 24/7 access to the facility, including wheels, worktables, the slab roller, the pugmill, the spray booth, shelving, glazes and kilns. Kilns range from low-fire through mid-fire and up to high-fire and are all available for any ceramic project. They are located at 3025 Bozeman Ave., directly one block south of UPS. Call 449-6080 or visit helenaclayarts-guild.blogspot.com for more information.

STATUES OF HISTORICAL HELENA FIGURES

Take the time to visit some of Helena's historical figures, but don't be shocked when you find out they're made of stone. Scattered throughout Helena are statues depicting noteworthy individuals from Montana.

Standing in the Capitol rotunda is a bronze statue of legendary U.S. Sen. Mike Mansfield and his wife, Maureen. The statue shows the politician walking forward while his wife gazes at him lovingly from the side. Former Montanan Gareth Curtiss crafted the statue. It stands seven feet tall atop an 18-inch pedestal. Also inside the Capitol is a depiction of Jeanette Rankin, located on the first floor landing at the rear of the building. Rankin became the first woman elected to the U.S. Congress in 1916. She is best remembered for being the only member of Congress to vote against the U.S. entering both world wars — once in 1917 and again in 1941. The figure that crowns the Capitol dome is a personification of Lady Liberty. She is armed with a torch and shield to light the way and

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protect the populace. This piece was created circa 1900 by Artist Edward Van Langdeghe (1865-1955). Sitting on a horse with his sword valiantly drawn up in the air is Thomas Francis Meagher. Meagher was an Irish revolutionary, flamboyant orator and Union veteran of the Civil War who twice served as acting governor of the Montana Territory. Located in the middle of the Last Chance Gulch walking mall is the "Bullwhacker" statue. This statue reminds of the determination of freight wagon teams, driven by bullwhackers, who transported supplies to traders during Helena's gold rush days. Also on the walking mall is "Extra, Extra," a detailed bronze statue of a newsboy of the early 1900s by Helena artist Becky Eiker.

PUBLIC ART

The Helena Public Art Committee, (HPAC) whose mission is to restore art, acquire new art, and educate the community about the city's rich public art collection, is composed of a diverse volunteer group of artists, citizens at large and art administrators. The committee was appointed by the mayor in 1999. HPAC projects include the Women's Mural located on Broadway between Jackson Street and Park Avenue; repairing the sculpture of George Washington now located inside the courthouse;

installing "All of the Above, None of the Above" behind the Lewis & Clark County Library; installing "Take It Easy" in the Butte-Sanders traffic circle; and the Memorial Park Bandshell mural with the City Parks Department. For more information on Helena's public art call 447-8493 or visit www.helenapublicarts.com.

Other works of public art include:

- Red Shift Rocker, Richard Swanson, 2005, Holter Museum of Art, 12 E. Lawrence
- Lewis & Clark Experience Bear, Eric Thorsen, 2005, Great Northern Town Center
- Crabapple Ridge, Clarice Dryer, 2002, Holter Museum of Art, 12 E. Lawrence
- Queen City Gateway, Robert Harrison, 1997, 6th Ave. and Hibbard Way
- Window, Barry Hood, 2005, Grandstreet Theatre, 325 N Park Ave.

■ The Prospectors, 1974, Lyndon Pomeroy, Broadway and Last Chance Gulch

■ Facade Carving, Cathedral of St. Helena, Lawrence and Warren Streets

■ Bison, 1890, Lewis & Clark Library, 120 S. Last Chance Gulch

■ City Commission Chamber Mural, Bob Morgan, 2005 Commission Chamber, City-County Building, 316 N. Park Ave.

■ Soar, Richard Swanson, 2008, UM-Helena College of Technology, 1115 N. Roberts St.

■ Imagine That Ironworks & Flower Garden, Jon P. Becker, 1317 N. Lamborn

■ Potter's Shrine, Robert Harrison, 1985, Archie Bray Foundation

■ Odyssey Arch, Chip Clawson, 2001, Archie Bray Foundation

■ Infinity Street, Yukinori Yamamora, 2001

■ Sladich Fountain, Rev. Daniel Peter Hillen, 1990,

Carroll College

■ Mary Seat of Wisdom, Marble Statue, Carroll College

■ Kirchen Pastoral Center Windows, Rev. Daniel Peter Hillen, Carroll College

■ Herd Bull, Benji Daniels & James Hadcock, 1994, The Montana Historical Society

■ Standing Stones, Richard Mayer, 1976, Lazy Green Park on Rodney Street, across from Helena Middle School

■ Bronze plaques, Lindy Miller, Helena Downtown Walking Mall

■ Spider Woman Initiative, Molly Madden and Sarah Nyquist, approximately 2000, 6th Avenue parking garage, youth-designed and created mural featuring female forms

■ "Heart of Gold" mural, Ryan Christenson, north side of Jackson Street Parking Garag



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TOURS

HELENA'S HISTORIC WALKING TOUR APP

Want to bridge the gap between Helena's historic gold rush days and today in a whole new way? Then download Helena's Historic Walking App Tour to your smartphone. Both Android and iPhone versions of the app are available at www.helenamt.com. You can also search "Helena Montana" on your app store and look for the application produced by Madden Media. The app allows visitors to tour an unfamiliar area with a GPS tracking map so they always know what they are near and where they should go next. All of the historic content for the app was provided by historian Ellen Baumler. The historic tours are divided into three different areas: The Central Courthouse District, The Downtown Area and the Mansion District. There are also three hikes available as well as a museum and gallery tour. The app guides visitors through Helena's story while highlighting museums, galleries and eateries along the way. The interactive aspects of the Historic Walking App also allow visitors to check in at locations on their Facebook at Twitter accounts.



Montana State Capitol building

Thom Bridge, *Independent Record*

CATHEDRAL OF ST. HELENA

The Cathedral began as a vision founded in faith by Bishop John Carroll and wealthy miner turned banker, Thomas Cruse. According to Louie Gloege, parish business manager for the Cathedral, Bishop Carroll selected the site for the building after scaling Mt. Helena and surveying the area with a bird's-eye perspective. He wanted the mother church for the Diocese of Helena to be visible from anywhere in town. The land was purchased in 1905

through a generous contribution by Thomas Cruse. Construction on the cathedral began in 1908 with the cornerstone laid on Oct. 4 of that year. The church wasn't fully completed until June of 1924.

The cathedral was modeled after Vienna's Votive Church of the Sacred Heart and is an outstanding example of Geometric Gothic architecture. The size of it, although smaller than originally planned, "is so imposing," said Gloege. The external building is built with limestone from

Bedford, Indiana, considered to be sturdier than Montana sandstone. White marble altars, statues carved in Carrara marble, and genuine gold leaf gilding decorate the sanctuary space. The crowning features though are the 59 elaborately detailed stained glass windows made by the F.X. Zettler Company of Germany. The Cathedral's windows depict intricate scenes of events from the Bible and church history. Before there were printed Bibles and people could read, stained glass

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served to tell these stories through pictures.

Visitors are welcome to visit the cathedral daily. Docents are available to give guided tours during the summer months the week after Memorial Day through Labor Day, from 1-3 p.m. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Group tours can be arranged by calling in advance. There is no charge for the tour, but donations are gratefully accepted. Call the cathedral office at 442-5825 for more information.

STATE CAPITOL ROTUNDA

No trip to Helena is complete without visiting the Montana State Capitol. Discover its history and classical architecture and view the paintings and murals of renowned western artists. Around the stunning rotunda are four round paintings showing four important kinds of people in Montana's early history: the Native American, the explorer, the gold miner and the cowboy. As the result of budget cuts imposed by the 2017 Legislature guided tours of the Capitol are no longer given. However, you can still explore the Capitol on your own with the aid of self-guiding tour booklets and a scavenger hunt for kids. These are available at the information desk on the first floor of the Capitol.

LAST CHANCE TOUR TRAIN

Take a ride aboard the Last Chance Tour Train. You can enjoy historic tours of Helena aboard open-air tour trains. A beautiful and informative tour of the Queen City of the Rockies awaits you. Learn about the discovery of gold in Last Chance Gulch in 1864 to how Helena became the capital city of Montana after a controversial election process. Tours leave from the Montana Historical Museum (225 N. Roberts) at the corner of 6th Avenue and Roberts Street located on the east side of the Capitol building. The fare for the tour is \$9 for adults, \$8



Independent Record

Reeder's Alley in Helena.

for seniors and \$7 for children 4-12. Children under 4 ride for free accompanied by an adult. The train departs June 1 through June 14 at 11 a.m. and 3 p.m.; June 15 through June 30 at 11 a.m., 1 p.m., and 3 p.m.; July and August at 11 a.m., 1 p.m., 3 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.; and Sept. 1 through Sept. 15 at 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. (Please plan to arrive at least 15 minutes prior to tour departure time.) The trains are also available for charter for special groups. Go to www.lctours.com to download a brochure or call 442-1023 for details.

HISTORIC REEDER'S ALLEY

Situated in the southwest corner of downtown, Reeder's Alley is the oldest intact piece of early Helena. The year 1864

marked the beginning of a tiny settlement and Helena's transition to a mining boomtown. Four prospectors found gold in a small stream they dubbed "Last Chance." In fewer than 10 years, the population had reached 3,000 people. The Pioneer Cabin, just north of the entrance to Reeder's Alley, is the oldest documented dwelling in Helena. The Pioneer Cabin is available for both guided and self-guided tours throughout the day. Self-guided tours are offered from June through August from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday. Guide tours are also available Monday through Friday from 2:30-3:30 p.m. and Saturday from 12:30-1:30 p.m. Visit

www.reedersalley.com to view pictures and learn more about this wonderful place to explore. The alley also provides access to Mount Helena. Today, the Pioneer Cabin is preserved with furnishings and historic artifacts and is open to the public for tours. The buildings in Reeder's Alley are designated as an historic district listed in the National Register of Historic Places with the National Park Service.

Reeder's Alley Block Party – Celebrate the beginning of summer at the Reeder's Alley Block Party on Thursday, June 7 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Event will feature food and adult beverages for purchase, open tours of the historic Pioneer Cabin and live music.

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EVENTS

FARMER'S MARKET

The Helena Farmers Market takes place downtown on Fuller Avenue starting April 28 and ending in late October. Montana's longest-running market is a great place to meet friends, listen to local musicians and purchase a variety of locally grown produce, bedding plants, cut flowers, jewelry, handmade crafts, T-shirts and ready-made foods. The popular market is the largest attended weekly event in Montana with crowds numbering up to 5,000 in the summer. For more information call 437-1855.

ALIVE @ FIVE

The 21st season of Alive @ Five kicks off June 6 and runs every Wednesday from 5-9 p.m. through Aug. 30. People of all ages are welcome to attend Alive @ Five, a weekly summer community gathering every Wednesday night from 5-9 p.m. Come enjoy good food and great music in a family atmosphere each week at a different downtown location. It's a great way to kick back and enjoy a beautiful evening along the most historic mile in Montana. For more information, call 447-1535. Visit www.downtownhelena.com for the Alive @ Five schedule, locations and band information.

HELENA BICYCLE CLUB RIDES

Helena Bicycle Club (HBC) features a wide array of cycling events for mountain bikers and road riders of all abilities including multi-day rides and evening rides. HBC also holds regular road rides Tuesday and Thursday nights beginning May 1, 2018. Tuesday nights start at Reber Park Cupola at 6 p.m.



Thom Bridge, thom.bridge@helenair.com

Tucker Down performs during the first Alive @ Five concert of 2017 at Women's Park in Helena.

Thursday night mountain bike rides leave from Echo Drive in the Scratchgravel Hills at 5:30 p.m. The HBC membership runs from Jan. 1-Dec. 31. Membership Fees, \$20 for an individual, \$30 for a family per year. Visit www.helenabicycleclub.org.

2018 Regional Rides

- May 6 Unravel the Scratchgravel (Helena)
- May 12-13 STOKR (Libby, MT)
- May 18-20 Bike Helena Spring Shuttle Fest (Helena)
- May 19 York Burger Boogie (Helena)
- May 26-27 Helenduro (Helena)
- TBA TOSRV

West (Missoula)

- TBA Gears for Beers Mountain Bike Poker Ride (Virginia City, MT)
- TBA Lemhi Valley Century Ride (Salmon, ID)
- June 16 Chafe 150 (Sandpoint, ID)
- June 16 Cascade 66 (Cascade, MT)
- June 21 Tour de Sol Solstice Ride (Helena)
- June 23 RATPOD (Dillon, MT)
- June 30 Missouri River Scenic Century (Cascade, MT)
- June 30-July 1 North American Enduro Cup
- July 4 Boulder Ice Cream Ride (Helena)

- July 14-15 Ladies AllRide Mountain Bike Skills Camp (Big Sky, MT)
- July 14-15 Enduro Pescado (Whitefish, MT)
- July 14-15 Seattle to Portland (Seattle, WA)
- TBA Pancake Ride (Whitefish, MT)
- July 28, Butte 100 (Butte)
- August 3-5 Bike Helena Shuttle Fest (Helena)
- August 4-5 RATSWEET (Wise River, MT)
- August 11 Tour de Koocanusa (Libby, MT)
- August 11-18 Cycle Greater Yellowstone (Red Lodge, MT)
- August 18-19 Jackson

Hole Enduro

■ August 25 York 38 Special (York, MT)

■ August 25 Three Rivers Century (Bozeman)

■ August 25-26 Grand Targhee Enduro (Grand Targhee, WY)

■ August 11-18 Cycle Greater Yellowstone One Day (Bozeman)

■ September 8 Kootenay Rockies Gran Fondo (Cranbrook, BC Canada)

■ TBA Cruise 4 Kids Charity Ride (Great Falls)

GOVERNOR'S CUP WEEKEND

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Montana invites you to be part of the 45th Annual Governor's Cup. This year's race is charting a new course with major changes to the marathon and half marathon routes, and minor changes to the 5K and 10K routes. Maps are updated and available online. Participants can then join their family and friends in Anchor and Pioneer Parks for great food, vendor products, live music and lots to do for kids and families. Start planning now. Visit www.govcupmt.com.

Friday, June 8

■ 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. — Packet pickup and late registration (Hotel Helena, 22 North Last Chance Gulch)

■ 6:30 p.m. — New Kids Marathon and Fun Run (Centennial Park)

Saturday, June 9

(No race day registration)

■ 4:15-5:45 a.m. Marathon/Half Marathon packet pickup for non-Helena residents. Packets available near the marathon/half marathon buses at 301 S. Park Ave.

■ 4:15-5:45 a.m. Marathon/Half Marathon bus loading, 301 S. Park Ave. Buses will leave promptly at 4:45 a.m. (marathon) and 5:45 a.m. (half marathon)

■ TBA — 10K/5K Packet Pickup for non-residents ONLY!

■ 6 a.m. — Marathon — Must take bus to start. Buses will leave from Lewis and Clark County Library

at 4:45 a.m.

■ 7 a.m. — Half Marathon — Must take bus to start.

Buses will leave from Lewis and Clark County Library at 5:45 a.m.

■ 8 a.m. — 10K Behind the Holter Museum on Cruse Avenue.

■ 10 a.m. — 5K Behind the Holter Museum on Cruse Avenue.

■ 8 a.m. — Race Day Celebration. Finish Line, Anchor and Pioneer Park

■ 11 a.m. — Awards Ceremony, Finish Line

CAR SHOW AND DRAG RACES

The Helena Valley Timing Association is proud to present the 13th annual Blast from the Past Car Show and Drag Races. This year's festivities kick off on Friday, June 29, at Jorgenson's Inn and Suites at 1714 11th Ave. Registration is from 3 to 9:30 p.m. The Kickoff Party starts at 4 p.m. with live music and the flame thrower contest. The fun continues on Saturday, June 30, with festivities on the Old Broadwater Hotel Complex on Highway 12 with the Show & Shine. Gates will open at noon for the public and the admission is \$5 per person and kids under 12 are free. Participant registration will also be available at the grounds from 7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Come early and get a good spot under one of the large shade trees. It will be a fun day! Activities will include a kids jumping playground, engine meltdown, auction of custom items, trophies to the top cars and also a people's choice award based on public voting, a free barbecue for participants and club members, food and beverage vendors galore, and much, much more!

To top off the weekend, drag races will be held the Helena Regional Airport on Sunday, July 1. Tech inspection is scheduled from 7-9 a.m. with races slated to begin at 10 a.m. Fee to race

is \$25 per car and you can race that car as much as time will allow. Public admission is \$5 per person at the gate with kids under 12 free. For more information call 406-202-4699 or visit www.helenavalleytiming.org. Money raised by the Helena Valley Timing Association goes towards scholarships for education.

MARYSVILLE PICNIC

The 50th Annual Marysville Picnic will be held on Saturday, July 14, from 9 a.m. till 5 p.m. The event includes free admission, vendors, gold panning, a live auction with Dan Pate, live music by the Third Street Band and tons of games. The Beer and Burger Barn and Candy Shack will be open all day. Explore the Shaffer Museum and other buildings. Raffle prizes include: a \$200 gas card, mountain bike, Yeti cooler, gas barbecue grill and more. From Helena, take I-15 north 6 miles, Lincoln Road

9 miles, follow Great Divide Ski area signs, 6 miles up paved road. For more information, call 443-0545.

CARDBOARD CUP REGATTA

The Spring Meadow Lake Cardboard Cup Regatta is a family fun event on Saturday, July 14, sponsored by Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks and Spring Meadow Resources. Building a boat requires some imagination, there are no size restrictions, and the boat may be as big or small as the participants wish. However, the boat must be made of corrugated cardboard and pass a boat inspection before racing. No matter how fast, slow, big or small, sensible or outrageous, the first rule is to have fun. Come out to Spring Meadow Lake and join the fun; this event is as much fun to watch as it is to participate in. Interested individuals are invited to call Spring Meadow Resources at 443-2376 for more details.

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People ride carnival rides during the Last Chance Stampede and Fair at the Lewis and Clark County Fairgrounds.

Thom Bridge, thom.bridge@helenair.com

SOUTH HILL TRAIL SERIES (SHATS)

SHATS is a crazy but delightful series of short and medium-length trail races for runners of all ages and experience. Races are scored like cross-country matches with the low score winning. No need to run the whole series. Racers can enter just one or all of the four events in the 2018 SHATS series.

■ Goats in the Meadow Aug. 18, 9 a.m.

■ Goats in the Dark Sept. 14, 9 p.m.

■ Goat Pursuit Oct. 13, 9 a.m.

■ Goat Grind Oct. 21, 10 a.m.

Entry forms, course records, previous years' results and much more about

the Helena running scene are available online at www.bquickrunning.com.

CHALK-UP HELENA!

Join the Helena Public Art Committee for Chalk-Up Helena! on Saturday, July 21, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. with awards at 4 p.m. Celebrate the delightful art, draw your own, or team up with friends or family to create a chalk painting. All ages are welcome at this family-friendly event on the Downtown Walking Mall, Trolley Block. The 2018 theme is Out of This World! Prizes will be awarded to the winners. Register early with the entry form at www.helenapublicarts.com Or get the entry form at the main entry or

room 320 on the third floor of the City-County Building, 316 N. Park Ave. Call 447-8493 for more information.

LAST CHANCE STAMPEDE AND FAIR

Helena's 56th Annual "Last Chance Stampede and Fair" is scheduled for July 25-28 at the Lewis and Clark County Fairgrounds. You are invited to check out the exhibits, ride the Northstar Amusement Carnival Rides and enjoy this annual summertime extravaganza! The event includes great entertainment throughout the day, a night show and three exciting nights of Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association (PRCA) action. As always, 4H will be a big part

of the fair.

Fair hours

■ Wednesday, July 25 5 p.m. – 11 p.m.

■ Thursday, July 26 2 p.m. – 11 p.m.

■ Friday, July 27 2 p.m. – 11 p.m.

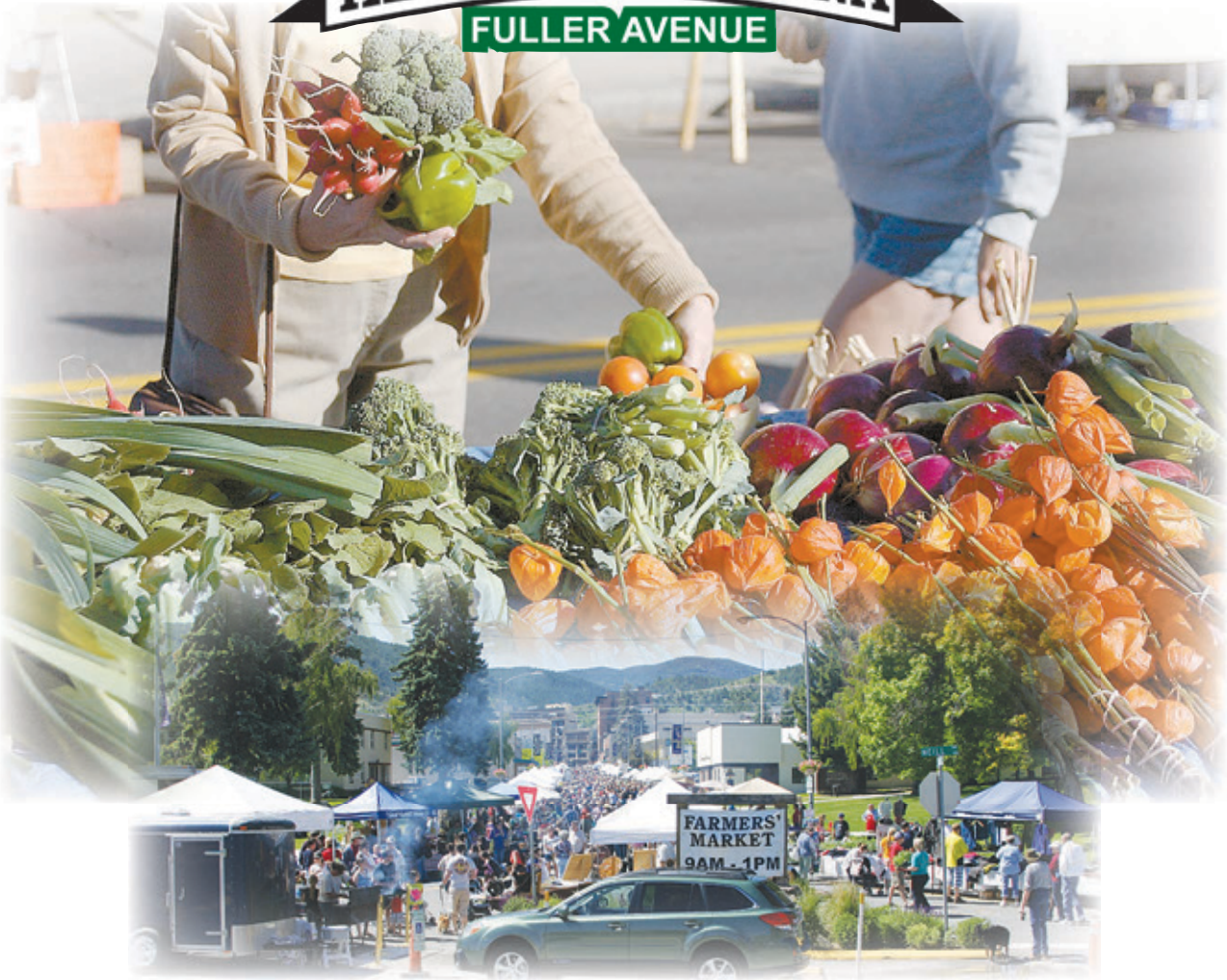
■ Saturday, July 28 1 p.m. – 11 p.m.

Gate admission is \$3 per person per day (12 and under free) for walk or drive in.

Night Show: July 25 at 7:30 p.m.

One of the hottest acts in modern country music, Dustin Lynch, headlines at this year's Last Chance Stampede and Fair. It is sure to be the event of the summer! Ticket prices are

CONTINUED ON PAGE 36



HelenaFarmersMarket.com

Montana's Longest Running Market

Saturdays 🌿 through October 27th, 2018

9:00 am - 1:00 pm on Fuller Ave. **Downtown Helena**

Tuesdays 🌿 July 17th - September 18th, 2018

4:00 pm - 7:00 pm 🌿 East Helena City Hall parking lot



BMGphotos.com

A rider starts off during the annual York 38 Special Mountain Bike Ride from York.

\$40 each in advance and \$45 the day of for reserved and general admission seating. Tickets purchased in advance will include outside gate admission. Get tickets online at www.lastchancestampede.com. Or at the Fairgrounds office.

Last Chance Stampede PRCA Rodeo: July 26, 27, 28

■ Thursday, July 26 – General Admission, \$18; Child (3-12) \$5

■ Friday, July 27 – Reserved Seating, \$21

■ Saturday, July 28 – Reserved Seating, \$21

Go to www.lastchancestampede.com for more information and Last Chance Stampede Parade

entry forms.

All presale tickets include outside gate admission; bring your tickets or confirmation email to enter the Fairgrounds.

(Presale ends Wednesday, July 25, at 4 p.m.)

SHODAIR SOCCER CLASSIC

A summertime favorite for soccer fans! The Shodair Soccer Classic draws top high school soccer players from around the state, who gather in Helena to compete and support a good cause. This year's classic is Saturday, July 7 at Carroll College Nelson Stadium. For more information, call 406-444-7500.

Shodair Soccer Classic Kids Clinic: Whether your child is a beginner or an experienced soccer player, this free kids' clinic, is the perfect opportunity for them to sharpen their soccer skills and learn more about the game. The clinic is July 6 from 9 – 11 a.m. at Carroll College Nelson Stadium. The clinic is free and open to ages 5-12. The first 300 participants will receive a free T-shirt. Snacks and refreshments will be provided. For more information call 406-44-7500.

YORK 38 SPECIAL

Burgers, beer and bike riding. Could there be a more perfect combo on a hot

August day?

Every summer, bicyclists converge on a dusty dirt road just behind the renowned York Bark for a scenic mountain bike ride through the Belt Mountains that tests their will and endurance. This year, the 14th Annual York 38 Special Mountain Bike Ride will be held on Saturday, Aug. 25.

The 38 Special was started in 2004 by a member of the York community as a fundraiser for the York Volunteer Fire Department. According to Rita Naylor, coordinator for the 38 Special, about 50 riders showed up that first year to strap on their helmets and brave the course.

Since then, the ride has only grown in popularity and participants.

The ride typically takes about four hours but has been completed as quickly as one hour and 40 minutes and as long as six hours. Upon completing the ride, participants can refuel themselves on a famous York burger and beverage, which is included in the registration fee.

The ride's logo is a mountain goat riding a bicycle and is featured on the jerseys each participant receives. Upon finishing the grueling ride, many of the riders no doubt associate with the determined and fearless nature of the goats. But the riders aren't the only committed ones at the ride each year. There are upwards of 20 volunteers from the York community that staff six different aid stations along the ride. The stations offer EMS services, mechanical assistance, water and Gatorade and even homemade

baked goods.

Register for this year's ride at york38special.org. Proceeds benefit the York Volunteer Fire Department.

43rd ANNUAL MOUNT HELENA RUN

On Saturday, Sept. 22 at 10 a.m., start the 43rd Annual Mount Helena Run on historic Last Chance Gulch in downtown Helena. This 5.6-mile course starts on historic Last Chance Gulch in downtown Helena. It quickly changes from urban running to mountain trail running in Mt. Helena City Park. The course takes runners to the top of Mt. Helena, 1,300 feet above the starting line, and offers outstanding views of the city of Helena, Prickly Pear Valley, and Elkhorn and Belt Mountains. The course then descends back to the finish area on Last Chance Gulch. For more information on the race or the Helena Vigilante Runners Club, please visit

<http://vigilanterunning.org> or call 459-5838.

6th ANNUAL HEAT MEET

The 6th Annual Helena Elementary Area Track (HEAT) Meet will take place at Vigilante Stadium on Thursday, May 31 at 6 p.m. This free competition is for youngsters age 9-11. Events include the 100 meter straightaway, 200 meter half lap, 400 meter full lap, long jump and softball throw. Registration is now available online at runsignup.com/Race/MT/Helena/HEAT. For more information or to volunteer, contact Sean at 406-465-2033 or sean@big-skyacoustics.com.

"THE AUGUST" RACE

Montana's second oldest footrace will be now be held as a trail race for its 51st running. The race brings together runners of varying ages and abilities, all looking for a late-summer speed check and a friendly contest

against each other and the clock. The 51st August Road Race will take place Thursday August 16, 2018 at 7:15 p.m. at Tenmile Park (west of Spring Meadow Lake). For more information, contact Patrick Judge at 406-459-5838 or visit <http://vigilanterunning.org/our-events/august-road-race-history>.

4TH ANNUAL HELENA SUN RUN

The Helena Sun Run, which includes a 5 km run, a 1 mile walk, and a clean energy fair, will take place on Saturday, October 6th at 9 a.m. near Centennial Park and Carroll College. The goal of the event is to raise funds for the purchase of a solar energy system for Carroll College, and to inform the Helena community about local clean energy and energy efficiency solutions. For more information, contact Shiloh Hernandez at 406-479-3017 or visit <http://vigilanterunning.org/our-events/helena-sun-run>.



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NAMI WALK

The Montana chapter of NAMI (National Alliance for the Mentally Ill) is a grass-roots organization offering support and training for persons with mental illness and their families. Each fall, a group of dedicated volunteers and staff hold the NAMI Walk to generate the resources and awareness that allow NAMI Montana to complete its critical mission of supporting, educating and advocating for Montanans with severe mental illnesses and their families. NAMI Montana will hold its 15th Annual NAMI Walk in Helena at Memorial Park on September 23. Call 443-7871 for more information, or visit www.namimt.org.

LAST CHANCE COMMUNITY POW-WOW

The Last Chance Community Pow-Wow will host its 20th annual celebration at the exhibit hall at the Lewis and Clark County Fairgrounds exhibit hall Sept. 28-30. The Last Chance Community Pow-Wow is held at the beginning of Native American Week in September. The Pow-Wow is a spiritual celebration to join together in dancing, singing, visiting old friends and making new friends. For more information, call 439-5631 or visit <http://lastchancepowwow.com>.

SUMMER SLAM 3-ON 3

The 6th annual Summer Slam 3-on-3 basketball tournament will take place Saturday, July 14, on the blacktop at the YMCA parking lot. The tournament is open to players of all ages and abilities, with 3-4 players per team. All teams are guaranteed a minimum of three games.

The youth divisions are for girls and boys entering third through eighth grades. High school and adult divisions each host female, male and co-ed. Youth and high school divisions: Cost is \$25 per player. All participants

receive a player T-shirt, and champions shirts will be awarded in all divisions. Visit helenaymca.org/summer-slam or call 442-9622 for more event details.

OUTDOOR FESTIVAL

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks and several other local organizations will provide a free youth Outdoor Festival at Montana WILD and Spring Meadow Lake State Park. The Helena Outdoors Festival is an opportunity for youth and families to participate in a variety of hands-on, outdoor recreation activities, including rafting, kayaking, fishing, archery, target shooting, and many more. The free event is set for 4-8 p.m. on July 19. Participants can access the event at the Montana Wild Education Center at 2668 Broadwater Ave. or Spring Meadow Lake State Park access off of Country Club Road.

PPLT WORK DAYS

Join Prickly Pear Land Trust staff and volunteers in giving back to the trails that are such a big part of living in Helena. For trail workdays, meet at the designated area at 5:30 p.m. where there will be a short discussion of the project for the day before dividing into smaller work groups. Tool and gloves will be provided, if you need them. For more information regarding trail day location and project specifics, visit www.pricklypearlt.org or call 442-0490.

Trail Days

- May 21
- June 18
- July 16
- September 17

PPLT Family events and activities

- May 12 — Don't Fence Me In Trail Run
- May 18 — Ales for Trails Fundraiser held in Pioneer Park

TIZER GARDENS EVENTS

- June 17 — Father's Day (Dads get in free)

- June 30 — 16th Annual Fairy & Wizard Festival 10 – 4 p.m. Admission is \$7

- July 22 — High Tea in the Garden. Reservations Required. Cost is \$35

- Aug. 12 — High Tea in the Garden. Reservations Required. Cost is \$35

- Aug. 24-26 — Celebration of Herbs and Natural Healing

- Sept. 29-30 — Fall Festival and Craft Show
Tizer Gardens is located at 38 Tizer Lake Road, Jefferson City. Call 933-8789, email info@tizergardens.com, or visit www.tizergardens.com. Details will be updated at www.tizergardens.com, or check the Tizer Gardens Facebook page.

ARCHIE BRAY FOUNDATION BENEFIT AUCTION & BRICKYARD BASH

Come celebrate 67 years of the Archie Bray's dedication to the enrichment of the ceramic arts by attending the 22nd annual Bray Benefit Auction and Brickyard Bash. We're inviting you to join us for an eccentric and colorful evening on Saturday, July 28. Boasting work dozens of ceramic artists, the Bray Benefit Auction includes the cup and silent auctions as well as a live auction.

Details are still to come on this exciting annual event. For ticket prices and more information, please call 443-3502 or visit www.archiebray.org.

BIRD SOIREES

Birds & Beasleys offers bird walks every Saturday from May 12 to August 25. Meet in front of the store (2 S. Last Chance Gulch) at 7:30 a.m. and enjoy two hours of local bird fun! Locations include Spring Meadow Lake, Fairgrounds Pond, Cement Plant, Jane Beasley's backyard and other local sites. Reservations are not necessary, but would be appreciated. Call 449-0904 for more information. www.birdsandbeasleys.com.

BIKE HELENA SHUTTLEFEST/MONTANA BREWERS BREWFEST

The 5th Annual Bike Helena Shuttle Fest is taking place Aug. 3-5, 2018. Get ready for three days of FREE bike shuttles to Helena's best single track and a Montana's Brewers Association Summer Brewfest on August 4 that will feature all of the Montana-made beer you can shake a stick at. A detailed schedule is coming soon and can be found at bikehelena.com/shuttle-fest.

HISTORIC LEWIS & CLARK SITES

Crimson Bluffs: Mentioned in Lewis and Clark's Journal, July 24, 1805: "Set out at sunrise, the current very strong; passed a remarkable bluff of a crimson colored earth on Starboard intermixed with stratas of black and brick red slate..." This striking claret-colored slope that Meriwether Lewis wrote about can still be seen today, exactly as it was over 200 years ago. This is one of the few sites noted in the Journals that remain virtually unchanged. A second site, York Island, named by the explorers for the only black man on the trek, is three miles south of Townsend on Highway 287. Get directions to either site at the Townsend Ranger District at 415 South Front Street in Townsend or on a self-guided auto tour map from the Townsend Area Chamber of Commerce, 110 Broadway, on Townsend. The map was produced by the Crimson Bluffs Chapter of the Lewis & Clark Trail Foundation.

Missouri River Wildlife Refuge is just north of Townsend and lists 67 kinds of birds, plus antelope, deer, moose, fox, coyote, wild turkey, sand hill cranes and pelicans. It includes a 6.5-mile hiking trail on the dikes where the Missouri enters Canyon Ferry Reservoir.

Tom Kuglin, *Independent Record*

Kennie Williams, left, and Travis Scott, winners of the 2015 Canyon Ferry Walleye Festival, show off a 28-inch walleye caught during the tournament.

sites as well as much more can be seen by floating the river. Boats may be put in at the Toston Bridge or at York Island.

CANYON FERRY WALLEYE FESTIVAL

The Canyon Ferry Walleye Festival will be held on June 23 and 24 at the Silos Recreation Area with a sunrise start at 6 a.m. Come early and watch the Sunrise start, then spend the day at the lake, it can't get much better than that. Contact Shawn Jacobs at 406-431-0742 for more information. There is maximum of 150, two-person teams. The entry fee is

\$300 per team if received by June 8th.

MONTANA WOMEN'S TRIATHLON

The Montana Women's Triathlon is a beginner-friendly multisport event for women and girls of all ages, shapes, sizes, and abilities. The event will be held July 22 at Memorial Park Pool beginning at 8 a.m. The 500 meter swim will be in the city pool, the 10 mile bike ride is a flat course through city trails and paths to McHugh and back, followed by a 3 mile run/walk in Centennial Park.

The event is supported by weekly group training

sessions throughout the summer to encourage more women to get out and get active. This event can be done as an individual or on a team of three. Grab your Tri Generation Team, your two best friends, your mother and or your daughters and come try a tri. More information can be found at www.mtwomenstri.com or at facebook.com/mtwomenstri. Race sign-up can be found at <https://runsignup.com/Race/MT/Helena/MTWomensTri>.

QUILTS ON MAIN STREET

Saturday, Aug. 18, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. in East Helena.

Travel along Main Street from Montana Quilts/Parker Snowe/Art in the Garden at 215 W. Main St. to Glorious Day, Coffee, Gift & Quilt Shoppe, 401 E. Main St.

Lots of events in between. Various vendors and items for sale. Come and be inspired by all the creativity and beautiful works of art.

MEMORIAL DAY PARADE & COMMEMORATION

Held on May 28 at 11 a.m. at Main Street and Main Street Park, 15 E Main Street in East Helena. . Parade begins at VFW on Main Street and moves to Main Street Park



Marga Lincoln, *Independent Record*

World War II Navy veteran Richard Stafford carries the American flag in front of the Pipes and Drums of the Black Devils during the East Helena Memorial Day parade.

for a Memorial Day Commemoration. For more information, contact the VFW at 594-2306.

EAST HELENA SUMMER READING PROGRAM

Contact: East Helena Library at 227-5750

■ **June 12 at 1:30 p.m.**

Theme: Cecil's Magic Show (Young Children must come with an adult please)

■ **June 19 at 1:30 p.m.**

Theme: Princess Fearless (Young Children must come with an adult please)

■ **June 26 at 1:30 p.m.**

Theme: Puppet Show with Markie Scholz (Young Children must come with an adult please)

■ **July 10 at 1:30 p.m.**

Theme: Jack & Kitty (Young Children must come with an adult please)

■ **July 17 at 1:30 p.m.**

Theme: Sing Along with Jack Oberweiser (Young Children must come with an adult please)

■ **July 24 at 1:30 p.m.**

Theme: American Folksinger Adam Miller (Young Children must come with an adult please)

■ **July 31 at 1:30 p.m.**

Theme: Party/Games/Prizes & music by The Drum Brothers from Arlee, MT (Young Children must come with an adult please)

EAST HELENA SUMMER FUN KIDS RECREATION PROGRAM

June 18 – Aug. 10
9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Kennedy (JFK) Park, 402 N. Harrison Avenue
Drop in summer recreation program for kids 6-11 years

old. Activities include games, crafts, and swimming.

Contact: East Helena City Hall 227-5321

EAST HELENA FIREWORKS (TENTATIVE)

Annual East Helena fireworks shows will be held on July 4 at dusk.

Contact: East Helena City Hall, 227-5321

EAST HELENA RODEO

The 54th Annual East Helena Valley Rodeo will be held July 12-15 at the East Helena Rodeo Grounds just south of U.S. Highway 12 on Highway 282. Events include bareback bronc riding, barrels, cowgirl barrel racing and breakaway roping, junior barrel racing and bull riding, ranch saddle back, saddle bronc, steer riding and wrestling, team

roping and tie down roping. For more information contact Katie Bakke at 459-5872 or visit www.facebook.com/EastHelenaValleyRodeoAssociation.

EAST HELENA RODEO PARADE

Held on July 14 at 1 p.m., along Main Street. Parade begins at Cory Dullum VFW Post 10010 and runs east up Main Street to Grand Avenue. For more information contact Tabitha at 594-2306.

HELENA STREET RODDERS HORSEPOWER ROUNDUP

Enjoy the 7th annual Helena Street Rodders Horse Power Roundup car show held in conjunction with the East Helena Rodeo on July 14 in Kennedy Park (JFK),

East Helena at 402 Harrison Ave. Hot rods and muscle cars from all areas will be on hand and parked on the grass. There will be music and vendors. All proceeds from the 50/50 ticket sales will be going to the Montana Hope Project.

Car registration is 8-11:30 a.m. and show and shine is from noon-4 p.m. Admission for all spectators is free. No bicycles or skateboards allowed in the park during the show for the safety of people and the cars. Bike racks are provided. For more information, go to helenastreetrodders.com or contact Loretta at 406-439-3675, Mike at 406-465-3590, or John 406-442-6746.

EAST HELENA FOOD/ CULTURE HUB

June 18-July 18 and June 30-July 19 (time TBA), East Valley Middle School.

A summer cooking camp for teens. Learn cooking techniques and fun tips,

familiarity with kitchen equipment, food safety and sanitation, along with some gardening and budgeting.

Contact: ehfoodstories@gmail.com

HEADWATERS COUNTRY JAM

Celebrating its 11th year and just hitting stride... June 14-16 at Three Forks. What started out as strictly a three day Country music concert has evolved into three days jam- packed with redneck games, karaoke, dance contests and yes, great country music. Artists this year include Gary Allan, Kip Moore, Josh Turner and many more. Call 851-821-9212 for tickets or log on to www.HeadwatersCountryJam.com for more information and join us on Facebook to keep up to date.

MONTANA FOLK FESTIVAL

The Northwest's Largest FREE Outdoor Music Festival. Butte, Montana July

13-15. The festival grounds open at 5 p.m. on Friday evening with a grand opening ceremony at "The Original" Stage at 6:30 p.m. Music starts at 7 p.m. All performers will be featured at one or more of the seven venues throughout the weekend, including the Montana Tourism Dance Pavilion. The Montana Folk Festival is a new and exciting event each year at the same time it remains very familiar to anyone who has attended in previous years. The 2018 festival will include more than 20 groups representing a broad diversity of musical and cultural traditions. Go to <http://montanafolkfestival.com> for complete festival information and schedule of events.

ROCKIN' THE RIVERS

"You can't stop rock 'n' roll!" Three days of live rock music erupts at Rockin' the Rivers, August 10-12. Located near Three Forks

in the Jefferson River Canyon, the venue consists of a sprawling 140 acres that form a natural amphitheater with sound quality second to none. The arena has affectionately been dubbed "The Bridge" by Rockin' the Rivers devotees in tribute to the historic Sappington Bridge whose final resting place is just outside the concert area. Each year, a crowd of more than 6,000 people of all ages come to "The Bridge" to enjoy this unique experience under Montana's big sky. For over 10 years, Rockin' the Rivers has combined phenomenal music, great company and unparalleled natural beauty to throw one of the most entertaining and largest music festivals in the Northwest."

The 2018 lineup includes 17 bands and singers; for the complete line up, vendors and to buy tickets go to www.rockintherivers.com or call Butte Civic Center Box Office at 866-285-0097.

Boat Tours GATES of the MOUNTAINS



Some of what you'll see: 1.3 billion year old Precambrian rock • 300 million year old fossiliferous limestone • Meriwether Lewis campsite Prehistoric Native American rock art • Mann Gulch fire area • Wildlife • Over 100 species of birds.

CRUISE SCHEDULE

OPENING MAY 26TH, 2018
CLOSING SEPTEMBER 23RD, 2018

JUNE

Weekdays

11:00 AM & 2:00 PM

Weekends

10:00 AM, 12:00, 2:00, & 4:00 PM

JULY & AUGUST

Weekdays: **10:00 AM, 12:00 & 2:00 PM**

Saturdays, Sundays, & Holiday

One Boat Leaving Every Hour from

10:00 AM until 4:00 PM

Friday Evening Dinner Tour: **6:00 PM**

(Dinner tour by reservation only)

1-406-458-5241

SEPTEMBER

(CLOSED ON MONDAYS & TUESDAYS
AFTER LABOR DAY)

Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday

11:00 AM & 2:00 PM

Saturday, Sunday, & Labor Day

11:00 AM, 1:00 & 3:00 PM

(Last Day September 23RD)

To get here: Take Interstate 15 north of Helena 20 miles or south of Great Falls 68 miles. Exit #209, Gates of the Mountains.

EXPLORING NEARBY

A SCENIC AND HISTORIC TOUR OF BLACKFOOT CITY

Just four miles south of John Barnes Wilson's gold mine northeast of Avon, in the Blackfoot City area, 19th century miners washed out \$5 million in gold during four years. The lucrative Carpenter Bar deposit was discovered in 1865.

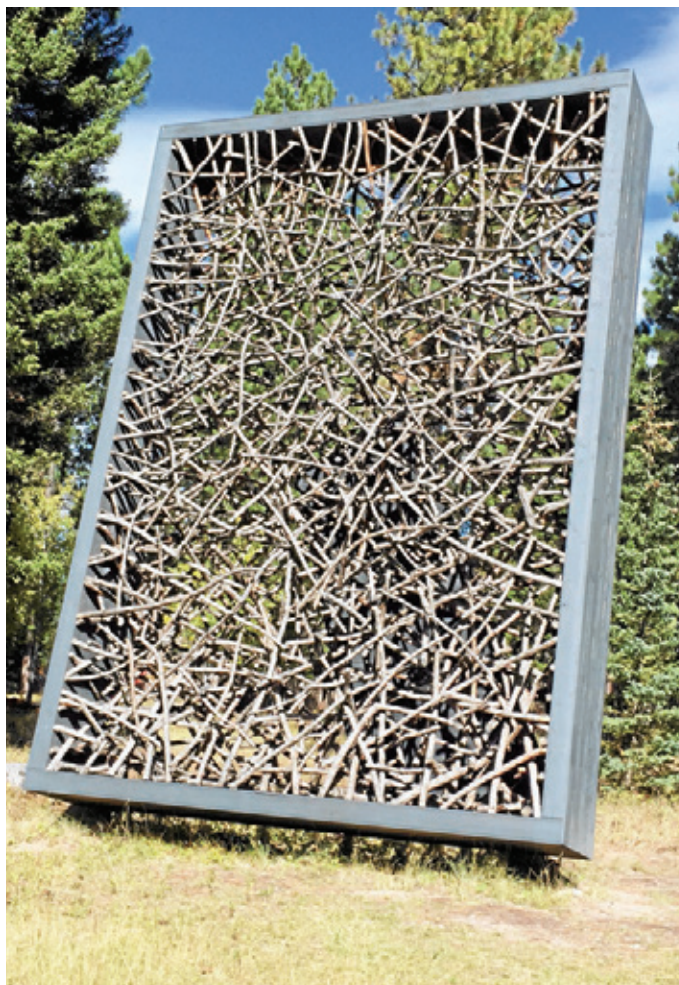
Wilson's mine was in Blackfoot City, a booming mining camp of about 2,000 people at its peak in the 1870s. Blackfoot City for a while had a post office, hotel, saloons, a judge and a Chinatown.

Wilson's mine did not pan out. Long term, Blackfoot City didn't pan out either. Today there's little evidence left of the men who lived in Blackfoot City and worked the 30 or so mines that were there. A few remnant structures—weathered remains, blackened and silvery collapsed buildings—piles of lumber, scarred land and mounds of mine tailings are all that remain.

The heart of Blackfoot City is five miles from State Highway 141. A Forest Service sign points right to Carpenter Creek and a left arrow shows the way to "Marysville 16 miles" and "Ophir Creek." The aesthetics of the scenic drive up Ophir Creek are enriched with an understanding of its history. The miners' stories give a visitor much more to explore than just the beauty of the forest and creeks.

ALL ROADS LEAD TO LINCOLN

While in Lincoln, visit the recently established Blackfoot Pathways: Sculpture in the Wild International Sculpture Park celebrating the environmental and industrial heritage of the Blackfoot Valley. For more information go online to <http://www.sculptureinthewild.com/>



Marga Lincoln, *Independent Record*

"Portrait" by Jaakko Pernu, a Finnish artist, is among the artwork at Sculpture in the Wild.

Nestled near the magnificent Bob Marshall and Scapegoat Wilderness with the Blackfoot River flowing nearby, Lincoln has something to offer everyone. From Helena, take I-15 to the Lincoln Road exit; follow Lincoln Road west for about 40 miles until you reach Highway 200 and turn left. For more information, contact the Lincoln Chamber of Commerce at 362-4949 or go to www.lincolnmontana.com.

AUGUSTA, GATEWAY TO THE 'BOB'

Augusta, gateway to the Bob Marshall Wilderness, offers

visitors true Western hospitality. Buildings with Western facades still line the street, not to mention the old-fashioned Buckhorn Saloon where you can sit back, relax and enjoy a cold beverage. For some good down-home cooking, check out Mel's Diner, where the walls are covered with framed old newspapers and pictures of Augusta's history and 16 flavors of ice cream are served up all summer long.

American Legion Rodeo, June 24

Augusta is the home of the biggest and oldest one-day PRCA rodeo in Montana. The annual American Legion

Rodeo is celebrating 82 years in 2018 – held on the last Sunday, of June, at 2 p.m. at the rodeo grounds. This is one of the largest one-day rodeos in Montana, featuring the parade on Saturday, June 23, at 1 p.m., the Old-Time Wild Cow Milking and of course, the rodeo. 406-562-3387.

WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS

If you're in the neighborhood of White Sulphur Springs, be sure to stop and take a dip in the naturally heated pools at the Spa Hot Springs Motel, which have often been compared to the famed Baden-Baden hot springs in Germany. Both the indoor and outdoor pools are free of charge to motel guests. To swim Adults- \$7, Senior Rate (over 65 years)- \$6, 13-17 years old- \$6, 6-12 years old- \$5, 3-5 years old- \$3, and under 3 years old- \$2. Towels/Suits are \$1 each. Pool hours are 6 a.m. to 11 p.m. Call 547-3366 or visit www.spahotsprings.com for more information.

July 26-29, Red Ants Pants Music Festival

The Red Ants Pants Foundation is hosting the 5th annual Red Ants Pants Music Festival, July 26-29, in beautiful White Sulphur Springs. The event kicks off with a Thursday night street dance in downtown White Sulphur Springs and continues with Friday, Saturday and Sunday music festival. Main stage, kids' area, food and beer vendors, craft vendors, agricultural demonstrations, camping available. All profits from the festival will benefit the Red Ants Pants Foundation, a non-profit organization in support of women's leadership, working family farms and ranches and rural communities. The festival will take place on the Jackson Ranches



Adam McCaw, Independent Record

Eilen Jewell at the "Red Ants Pants Music Festival" in 2016.

in the best cow pastures around. Go to redantspants-musicfestival.com or call 406-209-8135 for lineup and other festival info.

September 2-3, Labor Day PRCA Rodeo

PRCA Rodeo action in the Smith River Valley, sponsored by Meagher County Rodeo Club. Sunday and Monday, parade at 11 am. Rodeo starts Sunday at 5 p.m. and Monday at 2 p.m. Sixty five years of rodeo in White Sulphur Springs! An exciting time in the area. The entire population has a part in this two day event. The last PRCA Rodeo for the summer. Big parade includes floats, horses, kids, grandpas and grandmas; this is also true of the street dance on Sunday evening. This open air rodeo with a backdrop of the Castle Mountains is the last chance for many cowboys to qualify for the NFR making

the White Sulphur Springs Labor Day Rodeo one of the fastest growing premier rodeos in the state of Montana. Call (406) 547-2192.

BAIR FAMILY MUSEUM

Located in the Harlowton area, the Bair Family Museum is a monument to good ol' American hard work and luck. Charles M. Bair came to Montana in 1883 as a conductor on the Northern Pacific Railroad and went into the ranching business in 1891. He made his fortune in the Alaska gold rush and went on to invest in mining, oil and real estate.

The state-of-the-art museum is on the grounds of the Bair Family Home in Martinsdale, Montana. The 7,300 square-foot building features a variety of gallery spaces. The museum sits adjacent to the Charles M. Bair family home and features large galleries

that present the Bair family's Native American collection, Western paintings by Charles Russell and Joseph Sharp, Edward S. Curtis photographs and modern European and American paintings. Explore the museum, stroll the grounds, tour the Bair Home, enjoy the barn history and ranching display and find your own treasures in The Gift Shop featuring books by Montana authors, baskets, jewelry and pottery.

The museum is open Memorial Day Weekend through Labor Day, 7 days a week, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Fall hours: Wednesdays through Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. through October 31. Closed Mondays and Tuesdays during the Fall. The museum is closed during the winter. Visitors can see the new museum exhibition, tour the home and explore the

agricultural-related artifacts and photographs in the barn and visit the Museum Shop all for one ticket price of \$5 for adults, \$3 for seniors 62+, \$2 for 6-16 years old and ages 5 and under are free. Find the Bair Family Museum on U.S. Highway 12 East between Harlowton and White Sulphur Springs, the museum is one mile south from the junction of U.S. Highway 12 East and MT Highway 294. On U.S. Highway 89 between Ringling and White Sulphur Springs, the museum is 28 miles from the junction of US Hwy 89 and MT Hwy 294. Follow the signs to the Visitor Center parking lot. 406-572-3314 or www.bairfamilymuseum.org.

HELENA AREA GHOST TOWNS

Unionville ghost town is located just southwest of Helena. Helena's Last Chance Gulch was panned clean of

gold quickly after the metal's discovery in 1864, but hard rock mining in Unionville kept Helena afloat from 1870-85. To get there, take Park Avenue south out of town and bear left on Orofino Gulch. Park City, Dry Gulch and Springtown are settlements beyond Unionville and farther up Grizzly Gulch where the Park City Mine yielded ore worth millions of dollars.

To get to **Blackfoot City** and **Marysville**, head west on Highway 12 over MacDonald Pass to Avon. Take Highway 141 north from Avon for three or four miles and jog right for five miles to Blackfoot City, an 1865 town that still can be recognized. Keep going past Blackfoot City and the loop takes you back to Belmont and Marysville. There's not much to recognize in Belmont anymore; it was active around 1880. With a brewery, 27 saloons, 3,000 residents and three newspapers, Marysville once was one of the most thriving gold towns in the area. It remains one of the best preserved. The local Catholic Church was fully restored in the 1980s, and old, abandoned buildings still line Marysville's street. Dating from the second wave of Montana's gold and silver rushes.

Elkhorn has survived as one of the better ghost towns in the West. Its principal mine, the Elkhorn, was discovered around 1872 by Peter Wys, a native of Switzerland, and has changed hands repeatedly. Booming in the 1880s and '90s before tapering off in this century, the Elkhorn reputedly produced some \$14 million in silver during its long life. Elkhorn has been designated one of the most important historical sites in the West and renovation has been undertaken by the Western Montana Ghost Town Preservation Society.

Reportedly, the town had 2,500 residents, with 500 woodcutters, mostly of French and Norwegian descent who were employed to supply wood for the town and the

mill. Elkhorn can be reached from Boulder off of I-15. Go 7 miles south on Highway 69, left over the small bridge then right onto the gravel road 13 miles, bearing left at each of two forks in the road.

Bannack State Park and Ghost Town is one of Montana's best-preserved ghost towns, dating back to the 1800s. Camping facilities are available. To get there, take I-15 south of Dillon to exit 59 (the Highway 278 exit). Head west on Highway 278 for 20 miles, then turn south onto the paved Bannack road.

Diamond City you can drive to the east side of Canyon Ferry on Highway 284, and then take Highway 360 up Confederate Gulch. Nine miles along the gravel road is the recognizable site of Diamond City. The road continues past Watson and the site of the now vanished Fort Logan.

SOME SCENIC ROUTES

Augusta Route Tour is about three hours' drive time. Begin this 131-mile tour by driving north on Montana Avenue to Lincoln Road, then take Highway 279. When you get to the sign for Marysville, turn left for a seven-mile side trip to the site of the Drumlunnon Mine and surrounding ghost town. Head back down to Highway 279 and proceed northwest to Canyon Creek. Eight miles farther north is Highway 200. Continue on the Augusta Route by turning right on Highway 200. Along the way you will find Flesher and Stemple passes. These passes offer scenery perfect for hikers, photographers and wildflower seekers and provide great opportunities for biking and hiking on side trails. To get to either pass, travel west through Canyon Creek and watch for the Stemple Pass turn off to the left. Stay on the Lincoln Road to the top of the divide to find Flesher Pass.

The Continental Divide offers breathtaking scenery

just half an hour from Helena. These passes offer camping, biking and hiking opportunities. You will cross the Continental Divide again at Rogers Pass soon after the turn from 279. Gravel roads north of Augusta take you to Willow Creek Reservoir, Nilan Reservoir or to Gibson Dam on the Sun River. When you turn back from Augusta, follow Highway 287 all the way to I-15 and head to Wolf Creek. You can exit the Interstate to take a look at Holter Lake and the Missouri River. I-15 takes you up the canyon and all the way back to Helena.

Lincoln Route Tour (130 Miles) To make your loop tour in another direction, begin on 279, as noted on the Augusta route above, but turn left of 279 when you reach Highway 200 from Flesher Pass. As you head toward Lincoln, you'll begin to see the Blackfoot River as it winds its way through this valley. This area is great for snowmobiling, fishing, camping and hiking. Lincoln is a great place to stop for refreshments before continuing on your tour westward on 200. Browns Lake, a designated wildlife viewing area, is further ahead. You can continue on to the small town of Ovando, enjoying your view of the Scapegoat Wilderness to the north. Then backtrack on Highway 200 to the junction with Highway 141 and turn south. This road will take you to the ranching community of Helmville at the foot of the Garnet Range. From Helmville, get back on 141 and make your way through this agricultural valley to the town of Avon on the Little Blackfoot River. You may see beaver slide hay stackers in the fields, unique to this part of the country. Turn left on Highway 12. Stop at the viewpoint at the top of MacDonald Pass for a glorious view of Helena and the surrounding mountains. From the top of the pass, you'll descend swiftly back into Helena.

BASECAMP TO YELLOWSTONE PARK

Created as the perfect headquarters for mountain adventures, Basecamp, located front and center in the Mountain Village offers information on all the exciting attractions like zip line, high ropes course, bungee trampoline, golf, scenic lift, biking, hiking, and solace spa. Basecamp can also help you plan everything from dinner reservations to Yellowstone National Park tours. Email basecamp@bigskyresort.com for more information. See more at www.bigskyresort.com

BROADWATER COUNTY

Goose Bay Glass blows glass most days into beautiful useful & decorative items. This is quite an art form to see in action & worth the trip to Townsend to see how all glass items used to be made. Goose Bay Glass is located at 101 S Front St. For more information, call 266-4496 or email cactusflat.gundersen5@gmail.com

Broadwater County Museum is open daily May 15 through September 15, Monday through Sunday 1 pm to 5 pm [Closed July 4th]. For more information, call 266-5252 or email bwcomuseum@mt.net.

Slice of Summer. Old Fashioned Family Fun! Heritage Park in Townsend; June 21, July 19, and August 16, starting at 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. Food, live music, dancing & children's activities. Festivities start at 2 p.m. with the kids' activities and free use of the swimming pool and bouncy rooms. The pool will open at 1 p.m. A band will play from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Rotary and Lions will be selling hamburgers, nachos, bratwurst and hot dogs at very reasonable prices. Contact: Ron Salladay at 266-3077 for more information

July 4, Fly-in at Townsend Airport, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Planes and ultra lights from all over the state



WE KEEP GETTING BETTER. SO YOU CAN TOO.

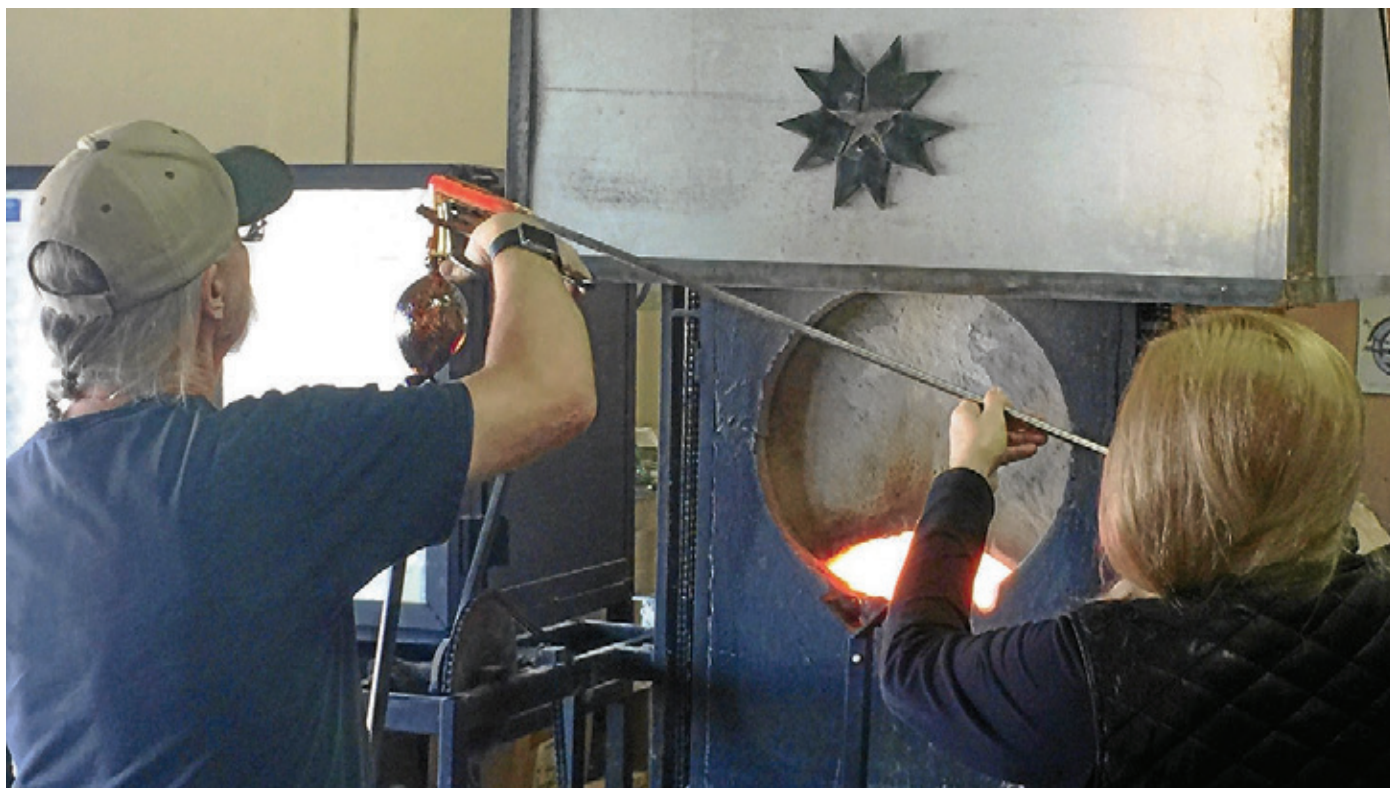
Today is a new day at St. Peter's Health. We're expanding our services, building regional collaborations and raising the bar for the care we provide. Your grandma was probably delivered here, but this is not your grandmother's St. Peter's. We're a nationwide iVantage "Top 20 Rural & Community Hospital" and one of just three hospitals in Montana to earn an A grade for safety from The Leapfrog Group. But the most exciting part is—we're just getting started. We're not only committed to helping you get better, but also to getting better ourselves. And we will never stop striving for **a higher state of care.**

Alissa Abentroth, MD, FACS
Surgeon and breast cancer prevention advocate



St. Peter's Health
sphealth.org



Angela Brandt, angela.brandt@helenair.com

The Gundersens work together to make a wine goblet at Goose Bay Hand Blown Glass in Townsend.

of Montana will gather at the Townsend Festival of Flight for the 4th of July every year. Breakfast will be available for those that fly in or drive in. Airplanes of various vintages will be on display in the tie down area. The EAA chapter of Helena will sponsor free airplane rides for children ages 8-17, between the hours of 9 a.m. and 11 a.m., with a licensed EAA pilot. Parental permission must be signed before a flight can be done. A courtesy car is available for pilots that do fly in and want to go into Townsend for the city's 4th of July activities. Other rides into town will also be available. There is a pilot's lounge and picnic area. Airplane fuel is also available. Live music will also be performed on the field. Go early & have breakfast from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m., don't forget your camera. For more information contact Neil at Bueno Aviation 406-980-0544. For Young Eagles flight information contact Lance Seaman 406-442-8459.

June 21–September 30, Townsend Farmers Market, Every Thursday 3 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., Location: Wi-Fi Park on Front Street, Contact Hettingers at 266-4330.

July 4, Old Fashioned 4th of July, Heritage Park, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sponsored by the Townsend Area Chamber of Commerce, the event hosts a potluck picnic with hamburgers and hot dogs, sodas and other drinks are also available. If you can, please bring a salad, side dish or dessert to share with the others, but your presence is what we desire most. Please bring your children or grandchildren as this is a family event with games & prizes for the children. Food is served from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. This event is growing every year, with people looking to enjoy an old fashioned 4th of July in small town rural America. This event allows quality time with friends and family. Contact Shanna at 266-4101 or Marcia at 980-1524.

July 20, Shakespeare in the Park, Play – Othello,

Heritage Park (behind swimming pool) 6 p.m. Contact Shanna at 266-4101 or visit www.shakespeareintheparks.org/

August 2-5, Broadwater County Fair & Townsend Rodeo

Thursday – local youth rodeo 5 p.m., Friday – live-stock show 8 a.m., NRA Rodeo 7 p.m., Saturday – live-stock show 8 a.m., market sale 5 p.m., Townsend Fire Department steak dinner 5 – 9 p.m., NRA Rodeo 7 p.m., Sunday – Rotary rodeo barbecue 11 a.m. – 2 p.m., rodeo parade noon, local adult rodeo 2 p.m., For more information visit www.townsendfairgrounds.com, www.townsendmt.com or call Fair Manager Jessica at 266-9251.

October 5-7, Townsend Fall Fest & Antique Car Show, Friday Evening – Music – Beer & Brats, Saturday Events 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.: Parade, Art & Craft Fair, Music, Music & more Music, Sunday Events 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.: Art & Craft Fair, Car Show and Live Music all

day. Little bit of everything with lots of Old Fashion fun for the entire family will be found at the Townsend Fall Fest. There's something for every taste, age, and interest with 90 plus Craft Vendors, Numerous Food Vendors including Rotary's Famous Brats & Beer, Music-Music-Music & Kids Games. The Townsend Car Show starts Sunday with antique and classic cars from Montana & the Northwest. 300 cars showed in years past. More information & entry forms can be found at www.townsendmt.com. For information & Booth Rental, contact Laura 980-1648, Car Show Information, contact Jamie 266-4336.

Miniature Golf at the Silos KOA Campground located between Townsend & Winston at 81 Silos Road on Canyon Ferry Lake. The Marina themed course consists of 9 holes. Bring your family and friends for some quality time on a fun outing and eat at the Famous Flamingo Grill (open for breakfast, lunch and dinner).

For more information www.canyonferrylakekoa.com
Phone 266-3100, email info@canyonferrylakekoa.com

Old Baldy Golf Course:

Play 9 holes of golf with a beautiful view and serene surroundings. Relax and enjoy the camaraderie of friends. Located east of Townsend, turn north off Broadway onto North Harrison Ave. Call 461-5116 or visit oldbaldygolfcourse.org for more info.

Broadwater County Events and Attractions

Canton Church (St. Joseph's Church) is on the East Side of Canyon Ferry Lake ten miles from Townsend. Open every other Friday from 3-6 p.m. beginning May 30. This over 135 year-old Catholic Church was built at Canton, which is now under Canyon Ferry Lake. The church was moved in 1954 to make way for the lake. Volunteers restored the New England style church over a ten year period beginning in 1997. It was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1999. The building is no longer used for liturgical services, but can be reserved for events, meetings or family reunions. More information and entertainment schedule can be found at canton-church.org. The following events are scheduled on Fridays at 5 p.m.:

■ **June 8** Stephen Sylvester speaking of "The Corp of Discovery"

■ **June 22** Robin Williams Folkvord and Mickey Brown

■ **July 13** Helena Handbasket

■ **July 27** TBA

■ **Aug. 17** Neal Lewing performing Gary Cooper: First, Last and Always

■ **Aug. 24** Christensen Family Band

June 9, Townsend Chamber of Commerce

ATV Poker Run. This ride is all about fun and of course, beating everyone else at poker! This year's ride is in the Elkhorn Mountains approximately 75 miles. Contact 406-521-0935 for more information.

July 14, Broadwater Rod & Gun Club, Walleye Derby.

Broadwater Rod & Gun Club Walleye Derby is a fishing derby for adult/child, male/female or female/female teams, starting and ending at Silos Campground. This is a one-day Walleye Derby on Canyon Ferry Lake, limited to 75 teams with a \$1,000 cash first prize. Cash prizes will be awarded in all categories. It will be a catch-and-release format, but one fish per entrant can be kept as a trophy. Contestants may have four people in a boat, but only two fishing. Contact Doug Breker for more information 266-5279, Fax 266-5520, or email te@townsend-electric.com

July 14 & 15, "Shoot for the Cure" Susan G. Koman Foundation Benefit, Sponsored by Lewis and Clark Archers, Huth Ranch—589 Gurnett Creek Rd. Self-contained camping available on site, concession stand. This is probably the most fun shoot you will go on all year and every year it gets bigger and better. Even if you don't shoot you should drive up & see this event & visit the concession stand. If you would like to donate items for the silent auction, door prizes or just want more information, please contact Mary or Al Bodle at 266-3659 or visit www.shoot-forthecuremontana.com.

BOULDER (JEFFERSON COUNTY)

Jefferson County Fair & Rodeo—"A Fair of the Heart." The Jefferson County Fair & Rodeo, "A Fair of the Heart," is August 23-26, 2018, at the Jefferson County Recreation Park one-half mile south of Boulder.

The old-fashioned county fair, Jefferson County's 35th, is affordable fun for the whole family. The fair features live music, rodeos, parades, and fair and 4-H exhibits. Inflatable slides and other playground equipment share the park with the Boulder River Carousel. Food vendors

tempt folks with goodies from ribbon fries to snow cones. Admission to the fairgrounds is free, with a \$2 per car parking fee.

Plenty of rodeo and horseback action lures rodeo fans to Boulder all weekend. Kids have their own horse show, parade and rodeo on Friday, August 24. Friday evening at 4 p.m., local cowboys and cowgirls compete in the Wrangler Roundup In-County Rodeo. All Friday events are free!

Events on Saturday, August 25, include a rodeo parade in Boulder starting at 1 and live bands all afternoon. The Jefferson County Rodeo Association puts on the fast-paced Jefferson County NRA Rodeo, starting at 5 p.m.

Sunday, August 26, events include a dog show, a kids' stick horse rodeo and free treasure hunt in the straw for kids. The second performance of the Jefferson County NRA Rodeo kicks off at 2 p.m. on Sunday. More live music, exhibits, and vendors round out the weekend. Everyone is invited to enter fair exhibits from quilts to photography to chickens. There is no fee to enter exhibits and no residency requirement.

For a schedule of events, fair & rodeo information, or how to enter the fair, go to jeffersoncounty-mt.gov/fair, or call 225-4316.

Boulder Farmer's Market Thursdays, July 5- September 27, 9 a.m.—2 p.m., weather permitting Veteran's Park on Main Street, Boulder. Contact Connie Grenz at 225-3288 for more information or to register.

Boulder 26th Annual Classic Car Show Saturday, August 25, Registration 9—11:30 a.m., Judging Noon—2 p.m. The Boulder Car Show is held in Veterans Park. Approximately 100 classic and antique cars are expected to be on display. Concessions, music, poker walk and more is planned for the day. More information on these and other events can be found at www.bouldermitchamber.com

or call 225-4228

Boulder/Basin Radon Mines Despite the negative publicity radon occasionally receives, the radon health mines near Boulder and Basin continue to boast great business. Visitors to the mines travel underground to sit in lighted chambers and breathe radon gas. People go to the mines seeking a complement or alternative to current methods of disease symptom management of immune system disorders, to ease or eliminate chronic pain, and to break reliance on pharmaceuticals.

Merry Widow: I-15 Exit #156 at Basin, 38 miles south of Helena. Open 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. in May and 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. June 1-September. Call 225-3220.

Earth Angel: I-15 Exit #156 at Basin, 38 miles south of Helena. Open 365 days a year to "help people" 24 hours a day. Call 225-3516.

Free Enterprise: I-15 Exit #164 at Boulder, 30 miles south of Helena. Call 225-3383.

Sunshine: I-15 Exit #160 at High Ore Road, 34 miles south of Helena. Always open by request from the mine site telephone or reservation. Call 225-3670.

Boulder Hot Springs is becoming a central figure in the health resort industry in southwest Montana. Some of the services include bed and breakfast facilities, indoor and outdoor mineral hot spring pools, cold-water plunges, steam rooms and massages. There are facilities for conferences, meetings, retreats, weddings and receptions. The ancient hot spring pools are included with guest rooms and open to the public for day use. To get there, travel south on I-15 and take the Boulder Exit #164. Turn left onto Main Street (Highway 69), travel through town, curving left at the bridge past the fairgrounds about 2 miles, and look for the sign on the right. Call 225-4339 or visit www.boulderhotsprings.com.

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