

ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

SUNDAY, JANUARY 23, 2022 | mtstandard.com | SECTION C

“There’s no better place to live than Butte. I don’t see why anyone would want to live anywhere else.”

— Dr. Mike Bartoletti, Butte dentist



PHOTOS BY TRACY THORNTON, TRACY.THORNTON@MTSTANDARD.COM

Dr. Mario Bartoletti, left, is now in practice with his father, Dr. Mike Bartoletti. The long-time Butte dentist, whose practice is located at 1501 Holmes Ave., celebrates 40 years of dentistry this year.

BUSINESS MAINSTAYS

Longtime owners, employees love living, working in Butte

TRACY THORNTON
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This story begins with a riddle — What do a dentist, candy-makers, a liquor store owner, peddlers of pork chops, and a manager of a well-established “club” have in common?

Need a hint? Well, they all share a common thread that many residents have as well and that thread is nearly impossible to break.

The bond that ties them together is their unwavering love for Butte, in good times and in bad. In short, the men and women featured here are some of Butte’s staunchest allies and all know how to run a business and do it well.

One such “ally” is Dr. Mike Bartoletti, a Butte dentist who will celebrate 40 years of practice this year.

“There’s no better place to live than Butte,” he said. “I don’t see why anyone would want to live anywhere else.”

Bartoletti is passionate when he talks about his hometown and those who helped him along the way.

When he started out in 1982, he was, in his words, “low man on the totem pole.” From the get go, he received sound advice, particularly from a longtime Butte dentist, Dr. Fletcher Jones, who told the young dentist, “Pay your dues.”

He took that advice to heart as some of his first patients were Head Start students. Helping him during that time was a beloved physician, the late Dr. Dennis McCarthy.

“He did more for dentistry,” said Bartoletti, “and he was a pediatrician.”

The Butte dentist had any number of mentors, most importantly his own father, Dr. Edward “Doc” Bartoletti. While growing up, he watched how his dad interacted with his dental patients.

“I followed in the footsteps of giants,” said an appreciative Bartoletti, “and I have learned so much from them.”

He also remains appreciative of the immigrants who left their homelands to make Butte their home.

As he sees it, those immigrants were adventurers, all of whom took a chance and their descendants profited from their daring and bold spirits.

“The genetic pool here is filled with over-achievers,” he explained. “That’s why Butte has been so successful.”

“Our job was to operate it in a manner that would make dad proud. It’s a successful business with a good reputation.”

— Ed Orizotti, Pork Chop John’s



Mary and Ron Gallardo are happy to continue the legacy at Shepperd’s Candy.

“It’s an old-fashioned business that generations have patronized ... We are pleased to be following in their footsteps.”

— Ron Gallardo, Shepperd’s Candy



Orizotti siblings, Ed and Charlie are proud to keep their dad John’s dream alive.

The dental legacy continues with Bartoletti’s son Mario, who now works alongside his dad.

“It’s refreshing to have him around,” he said.

No plans are in the works for the Butte dentist to retire, though.

“I still have quite a few years left in me,” laughed Bartoletti. “Dentistry is one of the most respected professions and to be part of that is pretty humbling.”

Ron and Mary Gallardo feel they, too, are following in the footsteps of giants.

Experienced candymaker Bruce Shepperd opened Shepperd’s Candy 68 years ago and the store was later handed down to his daughter and son-in-law, Roberta and Dave Egedahl.

In 1988, Ron was a high school freshman when he got an after-school job at

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Mainstays

From C1

Shepperd's. He explained that Dave Egedahl called up to Butte Central looking for a part-time worker.

"LaVerne Combo sent me down," smiled Ron.

Little did that young teenager, who went on to become a teacher at Central, know that he and his wife Mary would later become the newest owners of the "sweetest shop in town."

"Even as a teacher, I worked here after school," said Ron.

The couple believes the store's continued success is because, as Mary explained, "nothing has really changed since Bruce Shepperd started out all those years ago."

Both people are in awe of the fact that some of their customers have been so since 1954.

"It's an old-fashioned business that generations have patronized," said Ron. "We are pleased to be following in their footsteps."

As for Mary, she enjoys her daily interactions with her customers.

"Butte was so loyal to us during the pandemic," she said. "I look forward to seeing them every day."

Given the nature of their products, Shepperd's customers always seem happy.

"Which is refreshing," said Mary.

As for Ron, well he's happiest in his workshop, stirring the kettles and making the candy. An apprentice for about six years, the former teacher now feels comfortable in his candy-maker shoes.

"It's become a lost art," he said.

As for Mary, she readily admitted she had no clue what went into making candy until she came on-board six years ago.

"It's amazing to see," she said.

The McQueen Athletic Club may now be located at 3250 Hecla St., but its roots run deep in the not-so-forgotten neighborhood of McQueen. No one appreciates that more than its manager, Jerry Hogan.

"This place has a lot of history," said Hogan. "I love it dearly here."

Hogan, a retired teacher of 32 years who still coaches, has been at McQueen for 27 years. As his family grew, the long-time educator started moonlighting at the McQueen for some extra money.

"I started here when my wife was expecting our youngest," he said, explaining his strong work ethic came from his mom, Biddie, who worked in the medical field.

Many years later, the Butte man, now the manager, continues working at

Please see MAINSTAYS, Page C3

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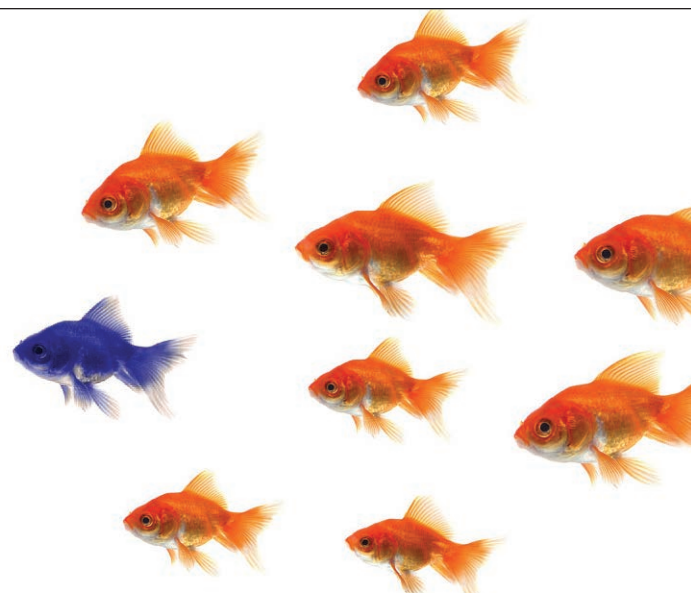
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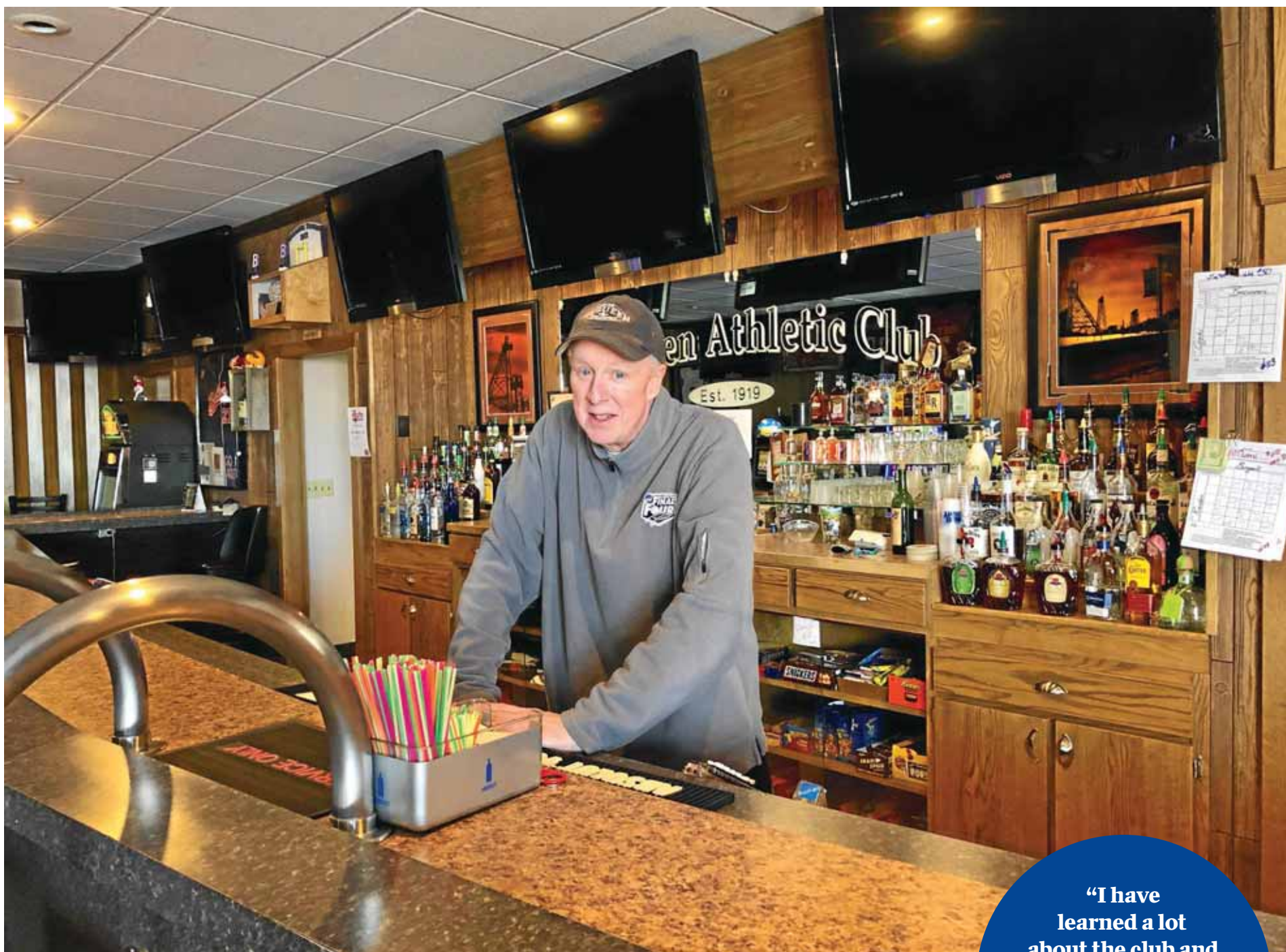
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Jerry Hogan manages one of Butte's 'institutions,' the McQueen Athletic Club.

"I have learned a lot about the club and Butte from our older customers. I love to listen."

— Jerry Hogan, McQueen Athletic Club

Mainstays

From C2

a place that remains committed to Butte and has lived up to a motto started from its inception. He explained that the club was always about helping others, whether it be through local charities, sporting events or sponsoring teams, and that has not changed in more than 100 years.

"Kids' sports are near and dear to me," he said.

Hogan has also relished the numerous stories he has been told over the years as customers bellied up to the bar.

"I have learned a lot about the club and Butte from our older customers," he said. "I love to listen."

Hogan's Mining City roots run deep but he is quick to point out that Anaconda also has a place in his heart as well. No surprise there as he taught in the Smelter City for 28 years.

A proud Butte native, Hogan is well aware of life's ups and downs.

He was just two months old when his 33-year-old father, Jack Hogan Jr., was killed in an accident Nov. 18, 1961, at the Steward Mine. At present, he is undergoing cancer treatment.

Soon after his diagnosis in 2018, club

members and customers hosted a Jerry Hogan Appreciation Day

"I never had a day like that," said Hogan. "There is no better place than Butte, there really isn't."

Ed Orizotti was in the eighth grade when he got a job working with his dad, John, at Pork Chop John's. The dad had purchased the already long-established business 53 years ago.

All these years later, Ed still heads to work at 8 W. Mercury St.

Eventually, John retired and Ed, along with his brother Charlie, took over and the brothers have no regrets.

"Our job was to operate it in a manner

that would make dad proud," said Ed. "It's a successful business with a good reputation."

Charlie, like his brother Ed, has been working at the sandwich shop for decades and has done just about everything — food preparation, cooking and delivering.

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Plenty of business licenses approved in 2021

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More than 200 new businesses filed for a license in 2021 with the Butte-Silver Bow County's Treasurer's Office.

The bulk of the businesses are based right here in Butte, but more than 40 Montana companies filed in 2021, too, from as close as Anaconda to as far away as Billings.

In all, 17 out-of-state business licenses were issued for businesses in Arizona, California, Florida, Idaho, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Nevada, Oregon, Texas, Washington, Wisconsin and Wyoming.

Construction businesses topped the list. Nearly 40 in all got licenses last year. A few more roofers applied as well.

Some of the businesses have unique names such as Exotic Peach, Flying Needle or Karma Korner. Still, seven businesses went with the "tried and true" and have Montana in the title. Two businesses included Butte in their name.

Featured below is a complete list. According to Maliena Bumgarner, a tax and license clerk for Butte-Silver Bow, most of these businesses are, indeed, new. Others, however, may look familiar, only because these businesses have renewed licenses.

A to F

- Abigail St. Lawrence, Attorney at Law, P.C., 125 W. Granite St.
- Ace Roofing, 10 Shawnee Way, Bozeman
- Affordable Gas Solutions, 2715 Phillips St.
- Alco Repairs & Resources, 901 W. Quartz St.
- All About You Handyman Services, 961 N. Main St.
- A Lucker LLC, 16 N. Montana St.
- All State Sign Group Inc., 5907 2nd Ave., North, Great Falls
- All Taped Up, 19 Pioneer, Dillon
- Ameresco Inc., 111 Speen St., Framingham, Massachusetts
- American Auto Company LLC, 3000 Harrison Ave.
- American Made Construction, 16 W. Galena St.
- Apogee Gardens LLC, 123 N. Main St.
- Asphalt Plus Inc., 425 Johnson Lane, Billings
- Atlas Power Holding LLC, 200 Technology Way
- Bar B Bar, 310 1st St., East, Whitehall
- Beautiful Things on Broadway Real Estate LLC, 27 W. Broadway St.
- Beauty by Kayla Picotte, 100 E. Broadway St.
- Be Connected, 35 Penny Lane
- Bee's Crafts & Wood Burning, 841 W. Mercury St.
- Bee's Concrete Finishes, Snow Removal & More, 841 W. Mercury St.
- Bellathia Psychiatry LLC, 271 Lily Meadows
- Big E Pruning, 1721 Grand Ave.
- Bill's Floors, 28 Palmer St., Ramsay
- Bluelake Web Services, 900 Terra Verde Drive
- Blue Line Contracting, 3338 Kennedy St.
- Bluestream Professional Ser-



MEAGAN THOMPSON, THE MONTANA STANDARD

Tricia Handy, owner of She Brews Coffee, makes a cup of coffee for a customer at the coffee shop on south Montana Street in Butte.

- vices, 3305 Highway 60 West, Faribault, Minnesota
- Brad Conway Construction LLC, 1941 Oregon Ave.
- Bright Beginnings Childcare LLC, 3400 Hill
- Brooke Refrigerator & Heating, P.O. Box 146
- Brown Enterprises, 963 Stagecoach Rd.
- Built It Best LLC, 3609 Oregon Ave.
- Butte Blackjack Operating LLC, 1401 N. Idaho St.
- Butte Real Estate Group, 820 W. Platinum St.
- C&C Construction of Pacific N.W. UNC, 3925 Birdseye Road, Helena
- Caddy Cottage, 17 N. Alabama St.

- Carpus Construction, 702 E. 6th St.
- Cheap Cars & Trucks, 3839 Harrison Ave.
- Clarity Space Improvement Services, 1835 Oregon Ave.
- Clearwater Federal Credit Union, 34 E. Granite St.
- CMT Remodeling, 200 N. West St., Deer Lodge
- Communication Resources LLC, 5340 Momont Rd., Missoula
- Continental Divide Home Health Care, 3240 Edwards
- Coolsy's Commercial & Industrial Solutions Inc., 145 S. State College Blvd., Brea, California
- Copper City ISR, 2019 Utah Ave.

- Copper Mountain Crafts LLC, 2426 Moulton St.
- Cub Power, 1369 Harrison Ave.
- Currency Solutions, 2127 Ottawa
- Delunas Construction, 2762 S. Montana St.

- Demo Pros LLC, 249 Montana Way, Ennis
- Dig It Solution's Inc., 6070 Greenfield Loop, Helena
- Dilly Dally Dolly's, 337 E. Park St.
- Don Davis Construction Inc., 203 Prairie Dr.
- Double B Construction LLC, 707 College Ave., Deer Lodge
- Doppler Auto LLC, 501 E. Front St.
- Dunnley Construction, 1019 5th St., Deer Lodge
- Earthworks Landscape & Nursery, 6200 Highway 2
- Earth Work Solution Inc., 2506 Little Powder River Rd., Gillette, Wyoming
- Eirianwrites, 1825 LaFayette Ave.
- Electrify America LLC, 122000 Browns Gulch Road
- Elizabeth Lowney LCPC, 305 W. Mercury St.
- Emma C Project Management, 2207 Harvard Ave.
- Exotic Peach LLC, 122040 Nissler Rd.
- Finn Construction, 815 13th St.
- First Montana Productions, 2525 Harrison Ave.

- Fleecer Mountain Home & Land Services, 2079 Seven Springs Road
- Flying Needle, 565 Hobson
- Freedom Empowerment Therapy LLC, 1959 Florida Ave.
- From the Heart Creations, 2226 Elm St.

G to M

- Gallatin Valley Signs, 400 E. Bryant St., Bozeman
- Gold Property Group LLC, 2601 Floral Blvd.
- Greenhouse LLC, 1250 Harrison Ave.
- Green Line Lawn Care LLC, 24 Karly Drive, Anaconda
- Greystone LLC, 119007 Battle Ridge Rd.
- Grizzly Guard LLC, 104 N. Parkmont
- Gruber Excavating Inc., 32 Bitterroot Lane
- Guest House, 1919 Harvard Ave.
- Guiding Light Mental Health PC, 501 E. Front St.
- Handy's Construction LLC, 223 Peru Flat

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Licenses

From C4

Hanson Builders, 12708 Highway 91, Divide
 HC West LLC, 2825 Stockyard Road, Missoula
 Headwater's Contracting LLC, 1817 Thornton Ave.
 Healing Lodge Counseling & Consulting Service, 1216 Schley Ave.
 Health Services Montana, LLC, 3100 Harrison Ave.
 Heath Contracting, 79 Toole St.
 Higgins Heating & Cooling LLC, 6674 Maltese Lane, Bozeman
 High Mountain Heating & Air Inc., 410 Express Way, Missoula
 High Traverse Builders Inc., 200 Jansma Lane, Manhattan
 Honyocker Rentals Inc., 5919 Highway 41, Whitehall
 House Keeping Maid Easy, 848 W. Silver St.
 Huft Inc., 44 Lost Moose Bend Road, Whitehall
 Imperium Tool & Instrument, Inc., 118 S. Parkmont
 Integrity Roofing & Construction LLC, 296 Scorio Butte Road, Willard
 Jaeger Construction & Design, 1540 A St.
 Jake Masters Real Estate & Marketing, 739 N. Montana St.
 Jay's Handyman & Construction Service, 1917 Stuart Ave.
 JCC Handyman & Contracting Services Inc., 1101 Nissen Lane, Dillon

Jeld LLP, 1255 Waterline Rd. Jersey's Sports Bar & Casino, 3703 Harrison Ave.
 J.H. Link Remodeling, 612 S. 19th Ave., Yakima, Washington
 JNJ Management LLC, 2407 Harrison Ave.
 J-Tech LLC, 1018 Missoula Ave.
 Just Listen To It, 739 N. Montana St.
 K&K Metal Works, 119005 Juniper Acres Rd.
 Karma Korner, 1635 Harrison Ave.
 Kelli's Designs Co., 2909 Gregson St.
 Kent Sweet Inspections Inc., 4305 Wild Eagle Terrace, Reno, Nevada
 Kevin Nordahl Construction, 3650 Nordahl Dr., Helena
 K-Nails Spa, 3703 Harrison Ave.
 Kobe Steak & Sushi LLC, 2121 Amherst Ave.
 Landing Recovery Peer Support, 1071 Beef Trail Rd.
 Laird Collectables, 1467 Sunrise
 La Sirena LLC, 815 N. Western Ave.
 Lea F Images, 3202 S. Colorado St.
 Leaf and Shroom LLC, 215 W. 5th St., Anaconda
 Legacy Services LLC, 1223 Steele St.
 Lookout Guy, 1132½ Farrell St.
 Lorengo Contracting LLC, 327 Fairview, Anaconda
 Lost River Properties, 10671 Treeline Court, Boise, Idaho

Martel Construction Inc., 1203 S. Church Ave., Bozeman
 Mascott Equipment Company Inc., 435 NE Hancock, Portland, Oregon
 Meadowlark Digital, 5241 Keir Lane, Helena
 Measure Up Handy Man Service, 71 Rodeo Drive
 Michels Pipeline, 817 Main St., Brownsville, Wisconsin
 Mick Construction LLC, 455 Haggin View Rd., Ramsay
 Mining City Counseling Services, 400 W. Park St.
 MK III LLC, 1239 Grizzly Trail
 MQs Inc., 3253 U.S. Highway 93 North, Stevensville
 Mr. Fish's Firearms LLC, 501 S. Colorado St.
 Mr. Handley, 8 W. Park St.
 Montana Construction & Consulting Inc., 5540 Rainbow Dr., Helena
 Montana Contracting & Consulting, 8 S. Montana St.
 Montana Design Company, 2926 Elizabeth Warren Ave.
 Montana Movie Travel LLC, 1817 Thornton Ave.
 Montana Outdoors Adventures, 62 W. Broadway St.
 Montana Precision Rifles LLC, 1125 Hobson Ave.
 Montana Structure Design & Build LLC, 130 N. Main St.
 Moore Inspections LLC, 1830 Howard St.
 Morales Artistic Wrought Iron LLC, 1710 W. Linden St., Phoenix, Arizona
 Mountain Construction & Consulting Inc., 2017 Harrison Ave.

Mountain Media Blasting LLC, 3208 State St.
N to S
 Native Rod Company, 2255 Center Drive
 Northwest Mountain Appraisal Group LLC, 3454 Whar-ton St.
 Nova Health, 3545 Harrison Ave.
 Ohana Island Grinds, 120 Winkey Way
 OIR Antonio's Photography, 429 W. Iron St.
 On the Hook Fish & Chips LLC, 3717 Cherrywood West Loop, Laramie, Wyoming
 Patriot Construction, 1601 Gaylord St.
 Personal Development LLC, 305 W. Mercury St.
 Pickett Construction LLC, 9 Lexington Terrace
 Pitt Casting & Supply, 315 W. Daly St.
 Poppy Amber Counseling, 305 W. Mercury St.
 Premier Choice Denture & Implant Center, 800 W. Platinum St.
 QRS Signs, 317 N. Main St., Boulder
 Radiance Skincare & Waxing, 700 E. Front St.
 Raybold Construction, 3314 Mantle St.
 R.C. Scott Enterprises LLC, 310 2nd Ave., NW, Choteau
 RDO Equipment Company, 257 Laura Louise Lane, Boze-man
 Red Mountain Construction, 1901 Majors St.

Renewitco LLC, 4 9th St., Livingston
 Renovation By Design, 931 Utah Ave.
 Reve Exteriors LLC, 800 Kensington Ave., Missoula
 Rez-Neck Construction & Repair LLC, 50 W. Broadway
 Richard Joseph Construction Inc., 1325 Airmotive Way, Reno, Nevada
 Roaming Red Head Consulting Inc., 16 N. Montana St.
 Rocky Mountain Drain Rescue, 1704 Ogden, Anaconda
 Rocky Mountain Roofing, 44 Antler Lane, Toston
 Ron Fournier Painting, 2301 S. Main St.
 Roofing Center, 190 Skyway
 Sacred Birth Doula Services LLC, 1009 W. Platinum St.
 Satya Yoga Therapy & Ayurveda LLC, 2713 Harvard Ave.
 Scapeshift LLC, 3025 Eagle St.
 Shadow Services, 517 W. Daly St.
 Shawna Schrapps, 3009 Goodwin St.
 Shebrews Coffee LLC, 1759 S. Montana St.
 Shelby Carver Real Estate LLC, 1554 Harrison Ave.
 Showcase Contracting LLC, 1610 Raiders Way, Henderson, Nevada
 Signature Solutions & Design, 517 W. Daly St.
 Sign Products, 1425 Monad Rd., Billings
 SK Landscape Sprinklers Construction, 2900 Hecla

Small Jobs Handy, 66 W. Park St.
 Strande Construction LLC, 1110 E. 5th St., Anaconda
 Sunrise Nutritional Therapy, 2280 Skyway Ave.
 Superior Concrete Fence of Texas, Inc., 1203 Raider Dr., Eu-less, Texas
 Synergy Medical Systems, 28050 SW Boberg Rd., Wison-ville, Oregon
 Taylor Bradley Roofing & Construction, 750 Dewey Blvd.
 Templar Construction & Building, 2040 Aberdeen St.
 Teri's Solutions, 1236 Farrell St.
 Timber Ridge Services, 800 Dawson Loop Road, Ramsay
 TK Summit LLC, 217 Lyndale Lane
 Turney Repair & Towing LLC, 2801 Montana St.
 Uptown Novelty, 101 W. Ga-lena St.
 Vargco LLC, 7029-5 Com-monwealth Ave., Jacksonville, Florida
 Victory Final Mile LLC, 3941 Wynne Ave.
 Wall to Wall, 307 N. Washing-ton St.
 WDS Construction, 396 Wa-terloo Rd.
 We Care Behavioral Health LLC, 130 N. Main St.
 Willow Spur, 726 W. Daly St.
 Yoga Cooperative, 14 S. Da-kota St.
 Z&C Contracting, 1706 Elm St.
 Zapple Property Manage-ment, 4 E. Mullan, Kellogg, Idaho

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Mainstays

From C3

“Our family always worked while in high school and during the summers,” said Charlie. “It was fun.”

Pre-pandemic, Charlie thoroughly enjoyed hearing all the stories from long-time customers who sat on one of the 10 stools in the sandwich shop. Many of them, like Carl Hafer and Earl Britton, have passed on and he misses their shared stories of “old-time Butte.”

Sheila St. Pierre Yerkich was not a teen when she started working at the Uptown John’s. But with nearly 30 years under her belt, she has so many memories to share.

“I have met such wonderful people over the years,” said Sheila.

Like many Butte residents, her favorite holiday is St. Patrick’s Day and at Pork Chop John’s, Yerkich described it as “crazy busy” and always thankful for the experience.

“We see so many locals,” she explained. “It’s a fun,

fun time.”

One of her favorite people was the “Original” Orizotti, John, who died Feb. 22, 2016. Yerkich, who works mostly in the office, would get visits from John from time to time.

“He always had a good story,” she said. “It was fun hearing them.”

The uptown shop is located near Butte High School, so over the years Yerkich has watched teens place their orders hundreds of times.

“The kids that are now all grown up – well, their own kids are coming in now,” laughed Sheila. “People love it because it’s such a tradition.”

Looking toward the future, the Orizotti men can’t help but feel some pride in their continued success on Mercury Street and at their additional shop at 2400 Harrison Ave., which opened in June 1975.

“We’re very thankful for Butte,” said Ed.

Not only is their “original pork chop sandwich” a favorite among their local customers, it’s also a fa-

vorite among expatriates across the country.

“It’s a Butte tradition,” grinned Ed.

Charlie wholeheartedly agreed.

“I’m proud that our sandwich is considered a Butte tradition,” he said.

According to Yerkich, besides providing pork chops to different companies across Butte and other parts of Montana, the product is shipped all across the United States.

“It’s a little taste of home,” she said.

Ed admitted running both businesses can be daunting at times, but rewarding as well.

“We’re just here doing our thing,” he said. “It’s been good.”

Thom Southwick started at the decades-old Uptown Butte business, Park Street Liquor, 16 years ago. Five years ago, he became its owner.

“I have been running this place for years,” said Southwick. “It’s ‘old hat’ now.”

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The BLDC is focused on growing entrepreneurship and employment opportunities, increasing population and tax base, and assisting our existing businesses to grow and compete in a global economy. We do this by providing high-quality services and programs designed to make relocation, expansion, or start-up as smooth as possible. The BLDC has an impressive portfolio of loan programs that, when coupled with business development assistance services, create a winning combination for businesses. The BLDC works closely with Butte's and Montana's other economic development organizations to package services specifically to meet your business needs. The Butte Local Development Corporation, working with our members and partners, have helped create or retain over 4,591 jobs!

HOW WE HELP

The BLDC will work with the public and private sector to provide or coordinate business start-up, retention, expansion and recruitment services including technical assistance as required.

The BLDC owns and operates its own Revolving Loan Fund, which is an excellent financing option available for Butte businesses. The purpose of the BLDC's loan program is to encourage and accelerate quality job creation, as well as retention and recruitment of businesses and workforce to Butte-Silver Bow.

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REAL ESTATE ASSISTANCE:

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- Information regarding available buildings and space (industrial & office properties)
- Information regarding available land, rates, and values
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FINANCING ASSISTANCE:

The professionals at the BLDC can provide your company with information regarding financing assistance available for any aspect of your business including:

- Construction loans
- Small business loans
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- Export/trade financing
- Other financing resources
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“I have lived and worked on Park Street since 1988, and attended Tech as well. I wouldn’t go anywhere else.”
 — Thom Southwick, Park Street Liquor

Mainstays

From C6

Not surprising, Southwick feels right at home just where he is, on Park Street, a place he considers the heart of Uptown Butte.

“I have lived and worked on Park Street since 1988, and attended Tech as well,” explained Southwick. “I wouldn’t go anywhere else.”

Along with two other employees, Southwick runs the liquor store six days a week.

He is thrilled to witness how much his neck of the woods, Uptown Butte, has improved through the years.

“It’s so great to see,” he said.

The liquor store owner has enjoyed the fact that he’s his own boss in this venture and describes his time at the store as extremely enjoyable.

“Spending time talking with customers – I like that,” he said.

ABOVE: Thom Southwick, owner of Park Street Liquor, looks out his front window to view Park Street in Uptown Butte.

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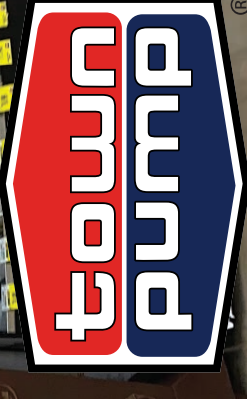
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