

# Missoula Downtown Lowdown



Connecting our Community

Promoting, Supporting & Enhancing the Vitality of Downtown Missoula for the Betterment of Our Community

August 2015

- Spotlight: Community of Saint Columba
- River City Roots Fest 2015
- 11th Symphony in the Park
- Downtown Pianos

Please share with friends and colleagues!



MissoulaDowntown.com

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## President's Column

by Heidi Starrett

Missoula Independent  
 hstarrett@missoulanews.com



In the beginning of June, developers for The Fox Site unveiled their vision for a high-density, mixed-use project that would revitalize the Riverfront Triangle area with the largest conference center between Spokane and Billings. The conference center alone would result in approximately \$14 million in new economic activity for Missoula. The development of this site would include two hotels, office space, anchor retail space, boutique retail space, dining, housing and parking facilities.

The MDA is one of many community organizations that contributed to the study of this site. This project fits in with the mission of the Downtown Master Plan, as it entails increased economic growth and continued enhancement of

our Downtown as a place folks can work and live.

The Riverfront Triangle will be one of the largest urban infill projects in Montana history, encompassing high-density development in an area bound by the Clark Fork River, Broadway and Orange streets. We can all agree that economic development is a necessity for any city to move forward. There is no denying the economic potential of this project. However, for Missoula, it is imperative that we also think about preserving the quality of life that we currently enjoy. The pedestrian and bike friendly features we have in place are important feature to Downtown, as is the trail system and access to the river.

With that in mind, Hotel Fox Partners has put together a plan that will honor Missoula's natural beauty and vibrant culture with the inclusion of a pedestrian bridge and expanded access to the riverfront trail system. Additionally, develop-

*continues p. 2*

## 10th Annual Roots Fest Moves to Friday-Saturday Schedule: Aug. 28-29

With an eye towards accommodating the influx of visitors arriving for the Montana vs. North Dakota State football game, River City Roots Festival will open its 10th year on Friday, Aug. 28 at 11:00 am and will continue until Saturday evening at 10:30 pm.

The signature celebration of Missoula, Roots Fest welcomes new and returning students to the University of Montana. This year the Griz season opener against four-time defending National Champion NDSU was moved up one week as the showcase event for ESPN's

College Game Day program. With both major events culminating in the same weekend, Missoula will be rockin'!

The Juried Art Show on Main Street and the Family Fun Festival in Caras Park will open the admission-free Roots Fest, and the Missoula Parking Commission has graciously offered free parking throughout Downtown Missoula on Friday. Music on Main will commence at 2:30 pm with the Dead Winter Carpenters. Friday night's headliner is Goose Creek Symphony.

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**President continued**

ers have kept a focus on sustainability with plans to partner with a local deconstruction contractor to minimize waste and to maximize material reuse and recycling during construction. They are committed to energy efficiency and water savings both during the construction phases and in the operations of the buildings over time. Their design will preserve water quality, habitat and shoreline integrity of the adjacent section of the Clark Fork River.

To date, the planning process has been a thoughtful one. Hotel Fox Partners has collaborated with the City of Missoula and a number of agencies in the development of this project. They understand the vision for the Riverfront Triangle re-

mains deeply rooted in the needs of our entire community. The collaborative efforts behind this project speak to the character of our civic and community leaders. We are fortunate to have an abundance of community-minded agencies such as Destination Missoula, Missoula Redevelopment Agency, Mountain Line, the Missoula Bicycle/Pedestrian Program, Missoula Housing Authority, Clark Fork Coalition, HomeWORD, Missoula Tourism Business Improvement District, Downtown Business Improvement District, and others who share our vision for a vibrant Downtown. I encourage you to learn more about this project at [RiverfrontTriangle.com](http://RiverfrontTriangle.com)

**MDA Committee Meetings**

**Advocacy**

Wednesday, August 12  
8:30-9:30 am

Downtown Partnership Office

**Master Plan**

Thursday, August 20  
12-2 pm Downtown Partnership Office

**Membership**

Tuesday, August 18  
4-5 pm Downtown Partnership Office

**Roots Fest**

Fridays  
11:30am Downtown Partnership Office

**Using Google and Social Media for Business Success**

**H**ave you had customers say they couldn't find your number or address on Google? Do you know about Google My Business? Do you have a Facebook page, Twitter handle, and/or Instagram account and utilize them nearly every day or just a couple times a month? Would you like to have a stronger presence on social media to help you connect with potential customers?

The World Wide Web is indeed wide and indeed a web when it comes to navigating the best routes to promote your business online. While there are more tools than ever to use to help promote your business, it can be daunting for small business owners to learn how to utilize these tools properly and effectively. On top of figuring out how to use those tools, having the time to be consistent on social media can also pose obstacles for entrepreneurs.

The Downtown Missoula Partnership is here to help assist you as you navigate Google and Social Media. Please contact Kristen Sackett, Marketing & Events Director, if you would like a one-on-one session at your place of business to explore your listing on Google as well as your place in the Social Media world. Kristen can be reached at [kristen@missouladowntown.com](mailto:kristen@missouladowntown.com) or 406.543.4238).

**The MDA Wants YOU! Volunteer for:**

**Friday  
August  
28**



**Saturday  
August  
29**

<http://www.missouladowntown.com/volunteer/>

**Roots Fest continued**

In honor of the festival's 10-year anniversary, the Roots Fest Committee is showcasing bands that have historically played Missoula's signature celebration. Saturday's activities begin with the four-mile Fun Run at 9:30 am and continue throughout the day to finish with Acoustic Syndicate closing out Music on Main at 8:30 pm.

"We anticipate seeing a significant influx of folks in Missoula this weekend," said Roots Fest Committee Chair Ellen Buchanan. "Roots Fest is a great way to showcase who we are as a community and welcome UM families and visitors to Missoula. We are extremely grateful to those 35 Missoula-area businesses that sponsor this event and keep it admission-free for all!"

Major sponsors who help fund all the hard costs of the festival include the Missoulian, Big Sky Brewing, First Interstate Bank, the Good Food Store, Missoula Broadcasting Co., Farran Realty Partners, First Security Bank, Holiday Village Shop-

ping Center, Children's Dentistry of the Rockies, Community Medical Center, Opportunity Bank, Clif Bar, the Badlander, Montana Distillery, DJ&A P.C., Mountain Line, Shanti Guitars, Territorial Landworks, Runner's Edge, Stockman Bank, Five on Black, Bob Ward & Sons and many more. Production partners include the City of Missoula, Run Wild Missoula, Strongwater Mountain Surf Company and Climate Smart Missoula.

The full schedule of events can be found inside this month's Downtown Lowdown, and the Missoulian will publish the full Roots Fest program on Sunday, Aug. 23. The MDA encourages all members to engage as much as possible with Roots Fest, including sidewalk sales, food and beverage specials, Roots-themed window décor, welcome signage for UM families and NDSU fans, and volunteering for the event.

Visit [rivercityrootsfestival.com](http://rivercityrootsfestival.com) for more information, or contact Operations Coordinator Leidy Wagener ([info@missouladowntown.com](mailto:info@missouladowntown.com)).

## New Member Spotlight

### MDA Welcomes the Community of Saint Columba to Downtown

by Lynda Brown

Lynda Brown Human Resource Management Consulting

The Community of Saint Columba, one of the MDA's newest members, is described by their spokesperson as an intentional Christian community in Missoula. Father T. Justin Read-Smith explained that the Community is connected with the Anglican Church but their purpose in Missoula and more specifically, right in the center of downtown (113 W. Front St., Suite 300,) is to be a resource for people living and working here, not just to be a church. The real "heart" of the Community of Saint Columba is to help a great place like Missoula be an even stronger community by building strong relationships.

The Community started two

years ago with Father Read-Smith as rector. In keeping with the Abbe/Minster model of implanting a church as central part of a local community, Father Read-Smith has been living and working here for three years getting to know the community and its needs. He worked as an EMT and a teacher and is originally from Boise but was trained and ordained in the Church of England while living in London.

Father Read-Smith talks about "the vibe of Missoula" and how it moved him to come here to implant a church. He stressed how important it is for them to be a member of MDA and to have a physical presence in downtown in order to make connections and reach out to others, Christians and non-Christians alike, who share their belief in the importance of community in today's busy and often fragmented world.

Call: 406.219.1352 or email: rector@stcolumbamissoula.org

## Missoula Symphony Orchestra Presents 11<sup>th</sup> Annual "Symphony in the Park"

by Lucy Beigle

Missoula Symphony

For the eleventh year in a row, the Missoula Symphony Orchestra will take to the stage in Downtown Missoula for the ever-popular "Symphony in the Park." Known for its "something for everyone" repertoire, music director Darko Butorac will include movie scores, musicals, light classics, and romantic music. "Let's just say this is our most hummable concert of the year, and my favorite," he says.

Executive Director John Driscoll has been involved with Symphony in the Park since the beginning, and shares Butorac's enthusiasm for the event. "This concert is our 'thank you' to the community, which is incredibly supportive of the MSO. We started this free event back in 2005, hoping we'd get a thousand people to show up. And now, 11 years later, it's one of Missoula's most popular events—we couldn't



be more thrilled," he says.

Concert-goers have the option of purchasing dinner, cocktails and treats from on-site vendors or, of course, bringing picnics. Regardless, Driscoll recommends getting to the concert early to get a good spot, and bringing a lawn chair or blanket to sit on.

Symphony in the Park is Sunday, August 9 at 7 p.m. in Caras Park. For more information on Symphony in the Park and the Missoula Symphony Orchestra, call 406-721-3194 or visit [www.missoulasymphony.org](http://www.missoulasymphony.org)

## Welcome New Members

### Taste Buds Kitchen Missoula

Christine Fregerio  
131 E. Main Street  
Missoula, MT 59802  
(406) 616-2837  
[missoula@tastebudskitchen.com](mailto:missoula@tastebudskitchen.com)

### The Montana Distillery

Sharie McDonald  
631 Woody St  
Missoula, MT 59802  
(406) 541-1889  
[themontanadistillery.com](http://themontanadistillery.com)

### Montana Repertory Theatre

Greg Johnson  
UM School of Theatre & Dance  
Missoula, MT 59812  
(406) 243-6809  
[gregory.johnson@umontana.edu](mailto:gregory.johnson@umontana.edu)

## Play It Missoula!

Stories that connect us to Downtown Missoula through piano music and art continue to flood our office. For the second year in a row, the Downtown pianos



are a hit. Visitors and community members alike are enjoying all the pianos offer our Downtown streets, and beyond. There are three Downtown pianos located at the Roxy Theater, in the Bank Street Pocket Park near Hunter Bay Coffee, and near Worden's Market. The two outside of Downtown are at The Starving Artist Cafe on Reserve Street and The Broadway Bar & Grill at the Broadway Inn. Recently, the Downtown BID hosted a piano for Sunday Streets, and the Missoula Downtown Foundation will host one at the Missoula County Fair, August 11-16, 2015. Look for a Play It Missoula! piano in front of the Culinary Building if you are a Fair-goer. Visit [www.missouladowntown.com/pianos](http://www.missouladowntown.com/pianos) for all locations, sponsors, and details of the Play It Missoula! pianos. The Downtown pianos will continue to be out through September.



218 E Main St, Suite C  
Missoula, MT 59802  
Ph: 406.543.4238  
MissoulaDowntown.com

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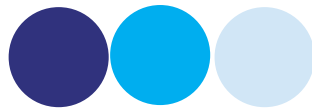


## Thomas Meaghar Bar Supports MDF August 10

The Thomas Meaghar Bar's Community Monday is hosting the Missoula Downtown Foundation on August 10. From 6 pm to closing time, 20% of proceeds from all food and drink will be donated back to the MDF. Spread the word and bring your co-workers, friends, and family to the Thomas Meaghar Bar at 130 W Pine St for a fun evening and to support a great cause.

## Lake Missoula SUP Race Registration Open

Register now for the Lake Missoula SUP Classic 1-mile or 5-mile race on August 29. Your \$50 registration fee is good for both the 5-Mile & 1-Mile races. You may participate in just one race if preferred. All levels of ability are encouraged to participate and the race is capped at 75 participants. Produced by the MDA and Strongwater, the event is sponsored by Bob Wards and Five On Black, all participants will receive Roots Fest Lake Missoula SUP Classic swag and winners will receive cash prizes. Visit [rivercityrootsfestival.com](http://rivercityrootsfestival.com) to register or call Strongwater Mountain Surf Company (406) 721-2437 for more information.



## Shout Outs

### UM Welcome FEAST & Merchants Week

**Celebrate the return of new students and share goods and services with thousands of people August 31 - September 4.** Merchants week tables available in the University Center from August 31 to September 4. Welcome FEAST tables are available Friday, September 4 from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm. Welcome FEAST Table fees are \$150 (Nonprofits \$75) & Merchants Week table fees are \$50 (Nonprofits \$10) Reserve your space now by calling (406) 243-4114 or email [jessica.shontz@mso.umt.edu](mailto:jessica.shontz@mso.umt.edu).

### Missoula Community Theatre 2015-16 Season on sale!

**The Missoula Community Theatre season tickets went on sale to the public Wednesday, July 1.** Season subscriptions offer the best pricing and flexibility, yet single tickets will also be available for sale. MCT is pulling out all the stops with time-honored musicals; a mad-cap romp of the great works of the Bard; and a lesser-known, extremely silly musical spoof. All productions will take place at the MCT Center for the Performing Arts. Visit <http://mctinc.org/> to purchase your tickets today!

### International Mustang Meet Set for Labor Day Weekend

**The 36th annual International Mustang Meet will take place in Downtown Missoula September 3-7** with hundreds of mustang cars parked on Front, Main and Woody streets and the Riverfront parking lots on Friday and Saturday, Sept. 4-5. Hosted by the Five Valley Ford Club of Missoula, more information can be found online at [www.fivevalleyford.com](http://www.fivevalleyford.com). Call Jerry Brenner (406-626-4401) or Marty Bourassa (406-728-0324) to get involved.

Please submit member shout outs by the 18th of each month to [info@missouladowntown.com](mailto:info@missouladowntown.com)



# Member Socials **40 Years** August 2015 CONNECTING OUR COMMUNITY

## Membership Luncheon

**Tuesday, August 11 from 11:30am to 1pm - A Carousel for Missoula ( 101 Carousel Dr. )**



A Carousel for Missoula is celebrating 20 years of service to Missoula in 2015. Help us celebrate at the August MDA Luncheon! Learn a bit of history, find out what the Carousel and Dragon Hollow are up to now, and hear about their plans for the future. Come prepared to ride the ponies and sing Happy Birthday! See you at the Carousel for the party Tuesday, August 11 from 11:30-1 pm! Please RSVP by August 7 at 3:00 pm by visiting [missouladowntown.com/RSVP](http://missouladowntown.com/RSVP).

## Coffee Talk

**Wednesday, August 19 from 8 to 9am – Missoula Food Bank ( 219 S. 3rd St W. )**



This month, join the MDA at the Missoula Food Bank to learn more about the Food Bank. Working to address hunger in Missoula County through emergency food assistance since 1982, the Missoula Food Bank provides critical services to Missoula's most vulnerable citizens. Join us Wednesday, August 19 to 219 S. 3rd St W. from 8-9 am for a cup of joe!

## Downtown On Tap


**Tuesday, August 25 from 5 to 7pm – Children's Museum of Missoula ( 225 W. Front St. )**



The Children's Museum and Families First programs work to empower parents and children to learn through fun. First established in 1994, Families First expanded into the Children's Museum of Missoula in 2002. With vibrant exhibits and engaging activities, the Children's Museum encourages positive parenting and lots of fun! Come down to 225 W. Front Street on Tuesday, August 25 from 5-7 pm for a beer or glass of wine and good time!

# AUGUST 2015

more info at [missouladowntown.com](http://missouladowntown.com)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						<b>1</b> Montana Food Bank Network BBQ @ Caras Park 4:00 pm Osprey Home Game
<b>2</b> Clark Fork City Church Service @ Caras Park 10:00 am Osprey Home Game	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 	<b>6</b> 	<b>7</b> First Friday Gallery Night	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b> Symphony in the Park @ Caras Park 7:00 pm	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> MDA Luncheon @ Missoula Carousel	<b>12</b> 	<b>13</b> 	<b>14</b> Osprey Home Game	<b>15</b> Osprey Home Game
<b>16</b> Osprey Home Game	<b>17</b> Osprey Home Game	<b>18</b> Fringe Fest Begins Osprey Home Game	<b>19</b>  Osprey Home Game Coffee Talk @ Missoula Food Bank	<b>20</b>  Osprey Home Game	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> Downtown on Tap @ Children's Museum Osprey Home Game	<b>26</b>  Osprey Home Game Mamalode 'Em Up @ Top Hat 9 am	<b>27</b> 	<b>28</b> 	<b>29</b>  Griz Home Game
<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> UM Fall Semester Begins					

# SEPTEMBER 2015

more info at [missouladowntown.com](http://missouladowntown.com)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3 DOWNTOWN TONIGHT Osprey Home Game	4 First Friday Gallery Night Mustang Meet Osprey Home Game	5 Mustang Meet Griz Home Game
6	7 Labor Day	8 MDA Luncheon	9	10 DOWNTOWN TONIGHT	11 Maverick Brewfest	12 Hemp Fest
13 German Fest Grandparent's Day	14 Friends of DT Campaign begins Jewish New Year	15	16 Coffee Talk	17	18 PARKing Day	19 Clean Energy Fair
20 Homecoming Week	21 BikeWalkBus Week	22	23 Yom Kippur	24	25	26 Baby Fair UM Homecoming
27	28	29 Downtown on Tap	30 Jeanette Rankin Peace Party			