

- Holiday "Shop Local" Campaign
- Downtown Parking
- Spotlight: Montana Public Radio
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- MDA Christmas Party



President's Message by John Horner *First Interstate Bank*

"Merry Christmas and a blessed and bountiful New Year to you all." This is how I started last year's December article. I went on to write about the importance of thinking of others during this holiday season. All those in our community who struggle to make ends meet, who may not have a home to celebrate Christmas in or to welcome in the New Year—these are the people we pass every day while we move about Missoula. The importance has not diminished, please do continue to think of others in our community—spend the time visiting and sharing, it will make a Happy New Year for not only you but those you spend time with.

The Missoula Downtown is looking forward to another great year in 2013, although we won't have Linda around for much of the year, we will continue to celebrate Missoula's Downtown and all it has to offer and continue to move forward. It is exciting to think of what lies ahead in 2013 as an organization and as a community. Your Board of Directors is committed to a stronger more vibrant downtown and we continue to need the help of all of you. By the time you read this, we will have moved through the crazy Thanksgiving weekend, the annual Parade of Lights, and will be in the middle of the hustle and bustle of Christmas time—enjoy it all. As you are well aware, it moves by too quickly and we are soon looking back at it wondering if we really took full advantage.

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First Night Missoula

The Missoula Cultural Council proudly presents a diverse collection of music, dance, theatre, and kid-friendly activities to ring in 2013. First Night Missoula is a community-wide, New Year's Eve celebration of local arts and culture. Now in its 19th year, this event has grown and will host over 90 artists and events running all day until midnight.

Whether you're into jazz, bluegrass, rock or even punk, we have a variety of musicians ready to entertain you. Our featured artist this year is Yemanja's Kitchen, an incredibly talented Brazilian jazz ensemble. You can also celebrate the New Year with the next generation of local talent at the First Night Star competition. But it's not all music. Montana Poet Laureate Sheryl Noethe and her band of poets will read aloud all day, as the Dana Gallery, Missoula Art Museum, and Murphy Jubb Fine Art Gallery offer up some of Missoula's best visual art.

First Night Missoula is a showcase of the abundance of talent and creativity our community creates. What better way to welcome the New Year than to embrace the creative energy that makes Missoula such a rewarding place to live.

Admission buttons are available now throughout Missoula and the Bitterroot at several retail locations as well as on the MCC website. Purchase your button early for only \$12 or on December 31 for \$15. First Night Star tickets are available at the MCC office or online.

First Night is a community effort and would not be possible without the sponsors, donors and volunteers that contribute every year. If you are interested in volunteering con-

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President's Message cont. from page 1
tage of the enjoyment of it all.

Please remember to share Downtown with family and friends when they visit. Come down and check out the shops and restaurants—it is especially wonderful when the snow is lightly falling and people are in good cheer. We live in a great place and should never take it for granted.

I would like to personally wish you and all your families a very Merry Christmas, a wonderful Holiday Season, and a Happy New Year.

Downtown Parking

One of the best aspects of the holiday season is shopping in downtown Missoula, and the Missoula Parking Commission wants to make that as easy as possible. Exactly one year ago, MPC initiated a First Hour Free program in Central Park parking structure, located at 128 W. Main. Your first hour is free and the second hour is only fifty cents. After that, it is a dollar an hour. What's good about this program is that you do not have to move your car after two hours and it is less expensive than parking at the meters on the street. Parking is free after 5pm and on the weekends. Please take advantage of these convenient and affordable benefits during the holidays.

After two years of construction on the new parking structure, Park Place Parking Structure, will be completed by Christmas. This is the biggest gift the Parking Commission can give to our downtown. Located at the corner of East Front and Pattee Street, Park Place will showcase lots of available lease spaces and a new "Pay on Foot" technology that will be easy to use for short-term users. Overall, it will be a tremendous asset to existing businesses, as well as add to the future economic development for the entire downtown.

The Parking Commission would like to wish everyone a very happy holiday season and prosperous New Year!

by Anne Guest
Parking Commissioner

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fact the Missoula Cultural Council at 406.541.0860 or matt@missoulacultural.org. For complete event listings, visit www.missoulacultural.org. As always, First Night is an all-ages and alcohol-free event.

MDA Seeks Nominations for Downtown Awards

Each year the MDA takes great pleasure in honoring four outstanding individuals during the Annual Membership Dinner held in mid-January. With nearly 450 member businesses, 20 board members, 10 committees and more than 6,000 MDA member employees, there are plenty of potential nominees for these awards. Please help us recognize the people who greatly contributed to the heart of our city in 2012 by nominating them for one of the following:

Downtowner of the Year

One of Missoula's most prestigious honors, the Downtowner of the Year is awarded to an individual who has made Downtown Missoula a better place by his/her unselfish and extraordinary efforts, activities or contributions. This person must be a business owner, manager, employee, staff member or professional member affiliated with the Missoula Downtown Association.

Downtown Employee of the Year

The Downtown Employee of the Year is awarded to an exceptional employee or an employee providing outstanding customer service. This person must be a business owner, manager or employee.

Committee Member of the Year

The Committee Member of the Year award recognizes the dedicated efforts of an individual who goes above and beyond the call of duty to produce an MDA event or serves as a leader on an MDA standing committee. This person must be a business owner, manager, employee, staff member or professional member.

Nominations cont.

Board Member of the Year

The Board Member of the Year award honors an MDA Board Member for his/her engaged, enthusiastic and dedicated stewardship and active leadership in Downtown Missoula and the Missoula Downtown Association. This person must be a Board Member of the Missoula Downtown Association.

Please email your nominations to jenny@missouladowntown.com by Friday, December 14.

CONNECTING OUR
COMMUNITY

Welcome New Members

Bankers Life and Casualty and Colonial Penn

Julie McFarland
2825 Stockyard Ste. F3
www.bankers.com
julie.mcfarland@bankers.com
541-6755

Einstein Brothers Bagels

Mark Schmidt
150 W. Broadway
www.einsteinbros.com
markschmidt.ms3@gmail.com
544-1410

Home ReSource

Brody Klemer
1515 Wyoming, Suite 100
www.homeresource.org
brody@homeresource.org
541-8300

Lake Missoula Tea Company Heather Kreilick

126 E. Broadway #22
lakemissoulateacompany.com
kreilick@lakemissoulatea.com
529-9477

The University of Montana Foundation

Beth Hammock
PO Box 7159, 600 Connell Ave.
www.supportum.org
beth.hammock@umontana.edu
243-4609

Downtown Spotlight

Montana Public Radio

www.mtpr.org

243-6400

Montana Public Radio is one of the MDA's newest members. MPR started in 1965 at UM as a part-time operation student training facility with 10 watts of power that barely broadcast past the campus boundaries. Today MPR has numerous transmitters statewide that broadcast 24 hours per day, 365 day a year to nearly 50% of the state. MPR recently began broadcasting on FM frequency 91.5 in addition to 89.1 in the Missoula area to increase its coverage. MPR has grown from its initial all-volunteer staff to 15 full-time and 9 part-time employees.

Programming provided on MPR is incredibly diverse. MPR received national programming from National Public Radio and has 25 local hosts who produce diverse programs ranging from jazz to classics to children's programming like the Pea Green Boat and literary programming like "The Write Question". One recent interview program featured Jim Messina, UM graduate and President Obama's 2012 campaign manager.

UM provides studio and production facilities for MPR and some production staff. The remainder of its funding is derived 65% from members and sponsors, 22% from the State of Montana and 13% from federal funding.

MPR membership manager Anne Hosler said MPR recently joined the MDA because MPR likes to partner with local groups that are active in getting things done in the community, and MDA fits that bill. Strong partners like MPR allow MDA to accomplish what it does. MDA looks forward to working with new member MPR to continue accomplishing things in Missoula.

Dan Cederberg



**Montana
Public Radio**

enrich • inspire • connect

Holiday Think Local Challenge

Shopping local this holiday season doesn't have to end on Small Business Saturday. Keep small business on your mind all month long! The Sustainable Business Council is here to help you shop local with its Holiday Think Local Challenge.

Between Saturday, Nov. 24 and Dec. 20, visit SBC members that display the SBC logo or posters in their windows. Look for the Holiday Think Local Challenge code printed on in-store posters while shopping for unique gifts. You can enter weekly prize drawings by submitting the code online at <http://www.sustainablebusinesscouncil.org/buy-local>. You can visit multiple members and enter multiple times! It's a great way to show your loved ones that you care enough about our community to buy local gifts. Think Local Challenge drawings are held at 4 pm on Nov 29, Dec. 6, Dec. 13 and Dec. 20. Prize winners are announced on Friday morning radio shows.

If you are a business owner, join the SBC and the Challenge by going to www.sustainablebusinesscouncil.org. Help spread the word about the Challenge and the importance of buying local.

Visit www.sustainablebusinesscouncil.org to see the Challenge rules, prize packages, the benefits of buying local and a list of members or email Susan at info@sbc-montana.org. Join in on the fun of shopping small!

Holiday Missoula MADE Fair December 9

Come enjoy a full day of creative indulgence and holiday shopping at the Holiday Missoula MADE Fair, Sunday, December 9 from 11am-6pm at the Holiday Inn – Missoula Downtown. Over 120 local and regional artists will be presenting their unique handmade creations. Buy locally this holiday season and bring home a one-of-a-kind present



that will be treasured for years to come.

This is not your ordinary craft fair. The Holiday MADE Fair is the place to shop for locally handmade hip holiday gifts. Looking for that perfect gift won't take you long. Check out the new additions to the event to keep it family and hipster friendly.

You can even have your gifts wrapped while you wait. The Zootown Arts Community Center (ZACC) will be providing this donation-based service. Help support an amazing local organization dedicated to the creative arts in Missoula. Donations of a new or gently used art supplies will also be collected by ZACC to be used for workshops and programs.

The Early Bird door buster event (11am-noon) will again be happening in addition to the Last Best sale (5pm-6pm). Receive additional discounts, savings, or free gifts with purchase from a variety of participating vendors for the first and last hour of the show. Sign up on the website to get a preview of these special offers be emailed to you prior to the event.

Check the website for more up-to-date details: www.missoulamade-fair.com or email missoulamade-fair@gmail.com.

CONNECTING OUR COMMUNITY

MDA Committee Meetings

Advocacy

Tuesday, December 11
4-5 pm MDA Office

Caras Park Improvements

Thursdays, 10-11am
MDA Office

Master Plan Implementation Team

Thursday, December 20
12-2 pm at MRA Conference Room

Membership

Thursday, December 20
4-5 pm MDA Office

Join us for the
MDA
Membership
Christmas
Party!!

Tuesday, Dec. 6
5pm - 8pm

Holiday Inn
Missoula Downtown
200 S. Pattee St.

'Tis the season to enjoy hors d'oeuvres and drinks with fellow members of the MDA family at the greatest Christmas party in town. Don't miss out on the fun!



**CONNECTING OUR
COMMUNITY**

Member Shout-Outs

Tangles 20th Anniversary

The Missoula Downtown Association would like to congratulate Tangles Hairstyling on its 20th year in businesses. Tangles was established by Kim DeAnda in 1992 and has 12 "Best of Missoula" and "Missoula's Choice" awards to date. The salon offers an experienced staff and high performance professional products. Visit them at 275 West Main to see why they've gained countless fans in their 20 years. Congratulations!

Barney Jette Jewelry closing Dec 25-Feb 3

Barney Jette Jewelry Design will be closed December 25 – February 3. Barney and Nancy will return on February 4 with the same exceptional customer service and new creative design ideas. Be sure to stop in during the holiday shopping season to see what's new for Christmas.

Clark Fork Coalition Holiday Party & Wine Raffle

Do you love wine? Check out the Clark Fork Wine Raffle on First Friday, Dec. 7 at 5pm. Buy a wine raffle ticket, and you could go home from the holiday party with 30, 40 or 50 bottles of wine. Purchase 1 ticket for \$10 or 3 for \$25 at the party at 140 South 4th St. West or at clarkfork.org. Be sure to check out the coalition's online auction to shop from your couch while giving back to the river you love. Bid on exclusive guided trips, world-class golfing, skiing vacations, and more. The auction runs December 1 through 10 at clarkfork.org.

Stay up-to-date by visiting www.missouladowntown.com.