

Missoula Downtown Lowdown



Connecting our Community

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

December 2015

- **Spotlight:** TrailWest Bank
- Red's Bar Gift Wrapping Benefit
- Downtown Holiday Party
- Holiday Window Display Contest
- Holiday Street Decor Update

Please share with friends
and colleagues!



MissoulaDowntown.com

President's Column

by Heidi Starrett

Missoula Independent
hstarrett@missoulanews.com



Winter is upon us, along with the hustle and bustle of the holiday season. For me, it's a time of reflection, as another year closes in on us. With one month left in my Presidency, I've chosen to take complete stock of the challenges and accomplishments of the MDA during 2015 in next month's column, which will be my last.

For now, I have one more opportunity to thank those who have supported us this past year. When I started my term I put a plea out to all of our members (new and existing) to consider more engagement in the MDA, whether that be through event or committee volunteer work, event sponsorship, or simply attending more of our networking socials. In fact, it has remained my mission throughout the year.

During the last eleven months, I had the opportunity to talk to new

and existing members about volunteering. Some people were new to Missoula and/or MDA and simply had a desire to become more involved in the community as a whole. Others were long-time members who paid their dues each year, attended events here and there and decided this year was the year to get more involved. These were the volunteers who intrigued me most. In each of these cases, the conversation would start with "What is the MDA doing about....?" It usually revolved around an issue facing our members and their ability to run their businesses. The MDA Advocacy Committee deals with issues that affect our membership and we speak on behalf of our membership as best we can, when we can. However, we depend on all of you to help us speak effectively. In essence, we can't do it without you. Inevitably the conversation would end with "I didn't realize MDA was doing all of this, what can I do to help?"

The MDA is all about "connecting our community", which means so much more than bringing the
continues p. 2

MDA Board & Staff

President

Heidi StarrettMissoula Independent

Past President

John HornerFirst Interstate Bank

VP of Advocacy

Aimee McQuilkinBetty's Divine

VP of Marketing & Events

Mario SchulzkeUniversity of Montana

VP of Master Plan Implementation

Matt EllisMissoula Osprey/Uptown Diner

VP of Membership

Julie TomasikAAA Mountain West

Treasurer

Rick EneasMontana CDC

Board of Directors

Trent BakerDatsopoulos, MacDonald, & Lind
Larry BrehmOZ Architects
Anders BrookerRunner's Edge
Lynda BrownBrown HR Consulting
Ellen BuchananMRA
Dan CederbergCederberg Law Offices, P.C.
Emily CostelloTreasure State Bank
Anne GuestMissoula Parking Commission
Kim Klages-JohnsMSO Hub
Diane LanningProvidence/St. Patrick Hospital
Scott MacIntyreBadlander/Global Pacific ATM
Brooke RedpathMissoulian
Chad StricklandLiquid Planet

Ex Officio Members

Corey AldridgeMountain Line
Shane StackMT Dept. of Transportation

Downtown Partnership Staff

Linda McCarthyExecutive Director
Topher WilliamsMembership & Events Director
Kristen SackettMarketing & Events Director
Robert GiblinFinance Director
Tom AldrichOperations Coordinator
Noreen HumesCommunity Development

Parking Meters "Go Live" December 9

Missoula's new multi-space LUKE parking meters will go live on Wednesday, December 9, bringing parking in Downtown into the 21st century. To accompany the "Go Live" date, the Missoula Parking Commission will be hosting a press conference, creating an online learning video, and publishing a list of Frequently-Asked Questions all aimed to educate the public and Downtown businesses on how to use the new meters.

The LUKE meters give customers the ability to pay via credit card as well as coins, extend their time via phone, and park for longer than two hours. The pay-by-plate technology also allows folks to carry time

from meter to meter; the time stays with the vehicle rather than with the parking space.

The Parking Commission has developed a brochure on how to use the LUKE meters and also has promotional key chains with a place for folks to record their license plate number for quick reference when using the LUKE meters.

Parking is free on weekends, after 5pm on weekdays and the first hour is free in the Downtown parking garages!

For more information and to get materials to distribute to Downtown patrons, please contact the Missoula Parking Commission at 406.552.6250.

President continued

community Downtown to shop, eat and play. It means bringing together folks who are passionate about our city and are willing to share their knowledge, skills and energy to keep Downtown vibrant. This is a message I've been putting out all year long through this column. I am happy to report that many of you took my plea to heart.

In addition to the amazing group of hard working people we have on the MDA board and staff, we had sponsors and volunteers show up in force. Not only did folks help the MDA accomplish numerous successes in 2015, they had the oppor-

tunity to shape the success of the MDA. As active participants in our events and committees, our volunteers have the opportunity to be an integral part of our accomplishments.

As the busy holiday season approaches, it provides us the chance to look back and "take stock" of the year. I hope you have the time to reflect on the successes of your business or organization. For me, I can say the success of the MDA would not have been possible without folks choosing to be involved. For that, we are grateful and thankful!

MDA Committee Meetings

Advocacy

Wednesday, December 9
8:30-9:30am
Downtown Partnership Office

Annual Dinner

Wednesdays
3 - 4pm
Downtown Partnership Office

Membership

Tuesday, December 15
4 - 5 pm
Downtown Partnership Office

Master Plan

Thursday, December 17
12 - 2 pm
MRA Conference Room

MDF Poker Tournament

Fridays
9:30 - 10:30 am
Downtown Partnership Office

THANK YOU FOR
ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL
SEASON OF MUSIC!



The Artists!

Rollie Dotz - Dotz Piano Tuning & Sales

Jeff Stickney - Piano Tuning & Repairs

First Interstate Bank

Kent Watson

Heather Adams - Downtown Dance Collective

UM Keyboard Society

Alpha Graphics

Missoula Cultural Council

City of Missoula Community Forum



missouladowntown.com/pianos

and EVERYONE ELSE SUPPORTING THIS
PROGRAM AND THOSE WHO TICKLE THE IVORY KEYS!

Red's Bar Holiday Wrapping Benefit



This year, Red's Bar will offer free holiday wrapping daily on December 21-24 from 4:30-10pm with all donations benefiting Easton Klemundt. Easton has been diagnosed with a desmoplastic small round cell tumor. This is a very rare and aggressive tumor that is part of the sarcoma family. It was classified as Stage 4 when he began treatment that has included surgery and chemotherapy. He has been in treatment in Seattle since April 2015. Red's is hoping to raise funds to assist this family in their travel and other expenses related to his treatment.

Red's Bar has been hosting benefit wrapping for over 13 years in the hopes of brightening various families' holidays. The event is hosted by Red's Bar, Party America, and numerous volunteers.

How it works: Bring in your presents and drop them off for volunteers to wrap. You can wait for the presents or continue shopping. Volunteers will wrap and tag your gifts. You donate whatever amount you wish to benefit Easton.

For more information, call Laurie Clark, Administrative Services Manager for the Missoula Police Department at 406.552.6320.

The Decor is Up Downtown, Thank You to Our Donors!

At the end of September, the Missoula Downtown Foundation (MDF) kicked off a 'Light-A-Pole Campaign' to fund holiday décor repairs in order for installation to take place prior to Thanksgiving. Roemer's Tire Factory donated to the effort through tires purchased during the month of October.

In addition, a \$10,000 gift from a community member, funding from the City of Missoula, Light-A-Pole sponsorships from local businesses such as First Security Bank, Choices Counseling, Blackfoot Telecommunications Group, Datsopoulos, MacDonald, & Lind, and contribu-

tions from the MDA and its partner organization, the Downtown BID were secured in four weeks. An in-kind donation of labor was given by Liberty Electric, the contractor hired for the repairs.



THANK YOU to the MDF for spearheading this effort, and to all who have donated to this project. A total of \$35,000 was needed for both phases of repairs

and \$10,500 is needed to reach the goal. To donate to this project, to the MDF's annual fall Friends of Downtown Campaign, or to other Downtown projects, go to www.downtownMISSOULAfriends.org or call 406.543.4238.

New Member Spotlight



By John Horner

TrailWest Bank, a locally-owned and operated community bank in Western Montana, considers its customers family and values relationships as the key to mutual success. Since opening in Lolo, Montana in 1982 as Bitterroot Valley Bank, they have worked to bolster local economic development.

By 2014, the single bank in Lolo expanded to include 13 offices in Missoula, Ravalli, Mineral, and Flathead counties. Planning to introduce three additional branches to Missoula in 2016, the bank unified

all locations under one name, TrailWest Bank.

Though TrailWest Bank's name is new, their steer head logo has deep roots in Bill and Ramona Holt's longhorn cattle ranch. Recognized for resilience during adversity, the longhorn is the quintessential western symbol and represents qualities embodied by the bank throughout generations.

TrailWest Bank customizes flexible commercial and retail loans. Many of their Executive Officers have owned businesses themselves, allowing them to better understand Montana business owners' financial needs.

Welcome to the MDA TrailWest Bank. We are thrilled to have you as part of our community.

Welcome New Members

Deep Tissue Massage Group, Inc.

Camarin Metcalf
725 W. Alder Street, Ste 20
(406) 493-1115
camarinmetcalf@msn.com
deeptissuemassagegroup.com

Mauka Gallery & Studio

Susan Crawford
1425 S. Higgins Ave.
(203) 253-4186
susancrawfordart@gmail.com
www.maukagallery.com

Wally & Buck

Travis Walnum
506 South Ave. W.
(406) 370-8264
facebook.com/wallyandbuck

Sound Creations

Steve Jacobs
18525 Sorrell Springs
Frenchtown, MT 59834
(406) 544-6624
jacobs@montana.com

Thrivent Financial

Mike Darrington
2825 Stockyard Road
(406) 541-4665
www.thrivent.com
mike.darrington@thrivent.com

Vote for Your Favorite Downtown Window Display

Once again, we will be holding the Downtown holiday window decorating contest! Gather your employees and friends to create a festive storefront that will leave a great impression on customers and Downtown patrons.

Voting will officially kickoff during First Friday, December 4 to encourage Downtown patrons to walk around, check out all the windows, and vote for their favorite. Ballots will be available at participating stores and at the MSO Hub. We will also have online voting again this year to get the rest of the community involved

in the contest! Visit missouladowntown.com/holiday-vote to cast your ballot, voting closes on Wednesday, December 16.



Photos of your decorated window must be provided to the MDA by Wednesday, December 2 if you would like to participate in the online portion of the voting. Voting will begin on the evening of Friday, De-

cember 4 and will run online through noon on Wednesday, December 16. Prizes will be awarded on Friday, December 18. Contact Kristen at kristen@missouladowntown.com or 406.543.4238 for more information.



Give anyone the gift of Downtown with a Missoula Downtown Gift Card!

Accepted at over 160 Businesses!

Available for purchase at the Downtown Missoula Partnership, MSO Hub and missouladowntown.com



Holiday Happenings Downtown

Carriage rides are returning to Downtown Missoula! Every Saturday and Sunday from November 28 to December 20, the horses from Paws Up Resort will be in Missoula to pull Missoulians up and down East Pine Street. Carriage rides start at 11am in front of Adventure Cycling and continue throughout the day until 4pm.

Bring the kids Downtown to visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus at Liquid Planet on December 12 and 19 from 2-6 pm. Moms and Dads can get their gifts wrapped for free beginning Saturday, Nov. 28 through Sunday, Dec. 20 at the MSO Hub at 140 N. Higgins.



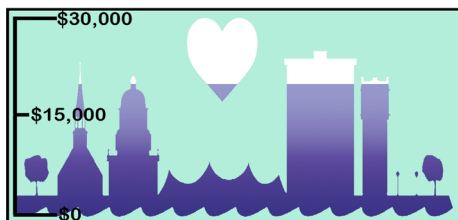
218 E Main St, Suite C
Missoula, MT 59802
Ph: 406.543.4238
MissoulaDowntown.com

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



Downtown Holiday Party Thursday, Dec. 10

The Missoula Downtown Association and the Holiday Inn Downtown invite you and your staff members to the annual Missoula Downtown Holiday Party on Thursday, Dec. 10 from 5-7 pm at the Holiday Inn Downtown (200 S. Pattee). Please join us for complimentary hors d'oeuvres and a variety of beverages, and help us celebrate the holidays in Downtown Missoula. Please RSVP before 5 pm on Friday, Dec. 4 at www.missouladowntown.com/rsvp or via phone at 543-4238.



Help Fill DOWNTOWN with Friendship!

We are nearly 2/3rds of the way there!
We know you have MANY choices in Missoula to support a cause. We hope to be one of your top 5 favorite organizations to contribute to.

Become a Friend of Downtown to help us meet our \$30,000 goal.
Your gift of any size will help with these Downtown Projects:

**Downtown Wayfinding
Holiday Decor Repairs
Caras Park Improvements**

DONATE TODAY at
downtownMISSOULAfriends.org
or call 406.543.4238.
Thank you Missoula!

Shout Outs

First Night Missoula will take place on New Year's Eve, Thursday, Dec. 31 with events all over Missoula. Each year, 80 to 100 First Night Missoula performing groups take over downtown, the University of Montana campus and Southgate Mall to help Missoula ring in the New Year. Presented by the Missoula Cultural Council and one of the most celebrated local festivals held in Missoula each year, First Night Missoula runs from noon to midnight and features Missoula's best music, dance and theater performers, along with plenty of family-friendly activities. For more information, visit <http://www.missoulacultural.org/first-night-missoula>.

Radius Gallery in Downtown Missoula would like to invite you to its second annual Holiday show, a collection of fine art at truly affordable prices. These collectable artworks are by top artists like Monte Dolack, James Todd, Courtney Blazon, Bobbie McKibbin and more than 70 others. This year, give a gift that resonates: give art. Radius Gallery is located at 114 East Main Street, half a block off Higgins. The show runs through December 24. A sampling of the artwork can be seen at radiusgallery.com.

Opportunity Resources is hosting its annual Holiday Art Sale daily from 8am to 5pm, December 7-24 in the lobby at 2821 South Russell. All arts and crafts are handmade by ORI clients, featuring the Artist of Opportunity Three-Handed Pottery, digital and acrylic Paintings, ORI wood products and more! Call (406) 721-2930 for more information.

Ecology Project International is hosting a free screening event of the family-friendly TV show Ocean Mysteries with Jeff Corwin, featuring a collaboration with EPI in Costa Rica. The free event is Tuesday, December 1 at 6:30pm at the Montana Natural History Center (120 Hickory St.) as part of Giving Tuesday and comes complete with popcorn, fun kids' activities, beer, wine, and hot cider. Contact Jessica Zephyrs at 406.721.8784 or jessica@ecologyproject.org.

Please submit member shout outs by the 18th of each month.

DECEMBER 2015

more info at missouladowntown.com

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3 The Sound of Music Opens @ MCT	4 First Friday Gallery Night Festival of Trees	5 Parade of Lights 6pm on Higgins Ave. Festival of Trees
6 Hanukkah Begins	7	8	9	10 Downtown Missoula Christmas Party @ Holiday Inn Downtown 5-7pm	11	12 UM Jazz Program Holiday Swing @ The Missoula Winery
13 Holiday MADE Fair @ The Adams Cen- ter 11am - 6pm	14	15	16	17	18 Garden City Ballet Presents The Nutcracker	19 Garden City Ballet Presents The Nutcracker
20 Garden City Ballet Presents The Nutcracker	21	22	23	24	25 Christmas Day	26 Kwanzaa Begins
27	28	29	30	31 First Night Missoula New Year's Eve		

JANUARY 2015

more info at missouladowntown.com

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 New Year's Day First Friday Gallery Night	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	19	20	21	22	23
24	25 UM Spring Semester Begins	26	27	28	29	30
31						



Missoula Downtown Association Annual Awards Program 2015 Nomination form 2015 Awards



MISSOULA
Downtown
CONNECTING OUR
COMMUNITY

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 Business of the Year

Introduced in 2014, the Downtown Business of the Year recognizes a remarkable business who is devoted to downtown Missoula and the business district. This business must be a 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 affiliated with the Missoula Downtown Association.

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 affiliated with the Missoula Downtown Association.

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.

Volunteer of the Year

The Volunteer of the Year award honors an individual who has gone above and beyond to make Downtown a better place. This person has a "yes" attitude and is never afraid to do any task big or small. This person must work to further the MDA mission to promote, support and enhance the vitality of Downtown.

Missoula Downtown Association Annual Awards Program

2015 AWARD

Subject: Annual Awards Nomination

Message:

Nominee: _____

Business: _____

Address: _____

Award nominated for: _____

In your own words, please describe why you believe this nominee should be recognized. Please include activities, contributions, visibility, etc.



Nominations can be submitted via email to
topher@missouladowntown.com
or
online at missouladowntown.com

Nominations are due in the MDA office or
online by January 6, 2016.