



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

## Pianos Jazz Up Downtown, Stored October 21

Who would have thought the pianos would be such a big hit? The pianos have connected people to our Downtown Missoula streets, to all types of music, and to each other. Through stories and photos, and the musical talents of many, the pianos have helped create another dynamic Downtown experience.

Like most good things, the piano project also takes resources to maintain. Keeping the pianos tuned, repaired, painted, and safe for everyone takes effort, time and money. There are many gracious community members to thank (see

*Piano Praise on page 3*), and on October 21, 2014 the pianos will be rounded up for winter storage.

It takes a community effort to take a trial project and make sure it continues for the enjoyment of the community in the future. Plans are underway to place up to 5 pianos on our Downtown streets in the spring of 2015.

To contribute funds or time to the piano project, or for more information email [Noreen@missouladowntown.com](mailto:Noreen@missouladowntown.com) or to share your Downtown piano story or photos post a comment on Missoula Downtown's Facebook Page. *continues p3*

The Downtown Dialog should be shared with all your staff members! Please pass it around your office.

## LIGHT OUR BRIDGES \$5000 AWAY FROM GOAL "LIGHT OUR WAY" CAMPAIGN LAUNCHED

Light our Bridges Missoula, the project to light two Missoula pedestrian bridges, has raised all but \$5,000 of its \$170,000 goal, and has launched the "Light Our Way" fundraising campaign to raise the remaining funds necessary to begin the project.

For \$25, donors can buy a "light" in honor or memory of a loved one. "It's a way to allow people to be part of the project," co-chair Tom Boone said. "I like the idea of people walking across the beautifully lit bridges knowing they had helped make it happen."

Boone stated that the remainder of the funds will be solicited from individuals and businesses and that no public funds will be used for the project, and no city or county budgets will be impacted. "We live in



a tremendously generous community," Boone said, "and the fact we've already raised as much as we have is outstanding. We're dedicated to raising 100% of the money before work begins, and we hope the community

will come together to help us reach our goal."

The Missoula City Council and the Missoula County Commissioners both approved the plan to light the Madison Street walking bridge and the Van Buren Street footbridge with tasteful non-blinking LED white lights. The project has also received endorsements from such agencies as the Missoula Public Art Committee, the Missoula Downtown Association, the University of Montana Safety Committee, Missoula Parks

*Light continues p2*

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### Light continued

and Recreation, and the Missoula Chamber of Commerce.

Beyond the aesthetic value, the project will also provide additional illumination to the heavily-used pedestrian bridges resulting in safer walkways. The new LED lighting will reduce current operating and maintenance costs. Co-chair Dan Lambros explained, "This project will not only enhance Missoula's river

landscape, but also provide a safer and more secure environment for pedestrians at night." He added that foot traffic will only increase after the development of the Missoula College on East Broadway, so the "timing is perfect."

**For more information, photos, and how to contribute to "Light our Bridges Missoula," visit [www.lightourbridgesmissoula.org](http://www.lightourbridgesmissoula.org) or email [lightourbridges@gmail.com](mailto:lightourbridges@gmail.com).**

## Festival of the Dead returns to Downtown and Caras Park Nov 2

**By Tarn Ream**

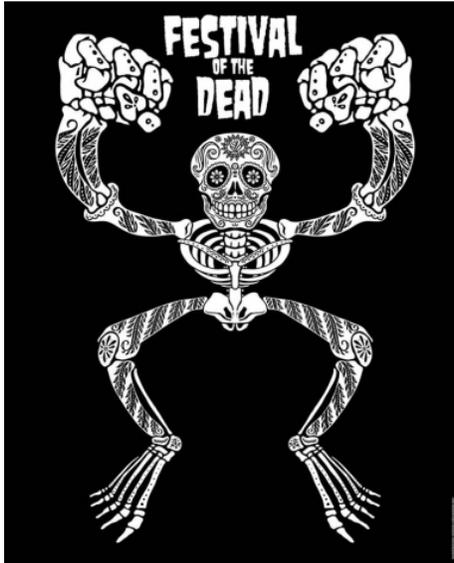
*Festival of the Dead Coordinator*

**D**owntown Missoula plays host to numerous festivals, one of which can seem scary, but the Missoula Festival of the Dead is all about celebrating the cycle of life and death, as well as honoring friends or loved ones (even the furry kind) that have passed on. The mission of this Festival is clear—it is "an all-inclusive, annual multicultural event that honors life and death through community involvement in the arts." A month of workshops and events culminates in a procession down Higgins Avenue to Caras Park on Sunday, November 2, 2014 with thousands of spectators and participants gathering, no matter what the weather dishes up.

The Missoula Festival of the Dead was founded by artists Bev Glueckert and Mike DeMeng in 1993. They were interested in integrating art into the community and were inspired by the traditions of the Mexican holiday, El Dia de los Muertos. Their vision to create a multicultural event that would allow Missoulians to explore and express issues of life and death has resulted in a festival that is uniquely Missoula.

Events leading up to the procession include free workshops for people of all ages hosted by VSA Montana and ZACC and sponsored by Hospice of Missoula. These workshops, such as shrine building, print-making, and "wearable big heads," allow folks to create artwork as ca-

tharsis for loss or just to celebrate the Day of the Dead, and as a way for people fully participate in the procession, rather than just attend as spectators.



The Missoula Festival of the Dead is entirely community-driven and depends on volunteers and donations. This event fills the streets, the restaurants, and businesses of downtown Missoula. The Festival organizing committee is extremely grateful to the businesses that have supported this event through the years, as well as the Missoula Downtown Association.

For more information visit the Missoula Festival of the Dead Facebook page. AND don't forget to join us on November 2 in downtown Missoula!

Tarn Ream is the Festival of the Dead coordinator and can be reached at 549-7933.

### MDA Committee Meetings

#### Advocacy

Tuesday, October 14  
4-5 pm Downtown Partnership Office

#### Master Plan

Thursday, October 16  
12-2 pm at 140 West Pine

#### Membership

Thursday, October 16  
4-5 pm Downtown Partnership Office

#### Marketing

Thursday, October 23  
1-2 pm Downtown Partnership Office



**OUR MISSOULA**  
*Looking inward. Moving forward*

### Help Map Missoula's Treasures

**O**n October 1st, 2nd, and 3rd, the public is invited to share their thoughts for use in the Missoula Assets Mapping Project which will help identify shared values and show visually where Missoula's assets and treasures exist. This information will be used by focus groups during the OurMissoula project for developing a community plan. The city is partnering with the Sonoran Institute's Community Builders on this exciting mapping project. See more at [communitybuilders.net](http://communitybuilders.net).

#### October 1

-Public Discussion in the Doubletree Hotel from 6:00 until 8:00 pm.

-Open House in the Rocky Mountain School of Photography from 9:00 until 5:00 pm.

#### October 2

-Public Discussion in the Florence Hotel Governors Room 6:00 until 8:00 pm.

-Open House in the Rocky Mountain School of Photography from 9:00 until 5:00 pm.

#### October 3

-Open House in the Florence Hotel Lobby from 3:00 until 8:00 pm.

**CONNECTING OUR  
COMMUNITY**

## Member Spotlight:



**By Aimee McQuilkin**

*Betty's Divine*

The 100-year-old neon sign outside of Stockman's Bar at 125 W. Front advertises the bar and café within, but it also serves as an iconic marker of the rich Western history of Missoula. Mike Larson bought the bar with his younger brother in 1995 from their dad, who had owned the bar since 1956. Mike tells me Stockman's has been a bar at that location since the early 1930's. That old neon sign needs work from time to time, but it lends itself to the identity of Stock's just as much as the cattle skull theme does throughout the warm and inviting interior.

Mike grew up washing dishes at Stockman's, and started bartending in 1976 when he turned 18. Though his dad has passed, his mom is still alive today, and can testify to the fact that no changes



aside from regular maintenance have occurred. Now that's staying true to your roots!

The clientele of Stockman's Bar is as diverse as the City we love, and Mike's been able to maintain a loyal customer base for a good long time. At the time of our interview, he looks around and tells me there are coaches, bankers, construction workers, retiree's and at least 3 or 4 college students enjoying his selection of \$2 microbrews from frosty 14 oz. mugs. Yes, you heard me right. Mike keeps at least five \$2 local microbrews on tap at any given time as something special to bring in the crowds. Mike's a good businessman.

Stockman's is a popular spot during Griz game days, where people can meet up, watch the game and

snack on the unique fare offered by The Blue Bison, the café that has been located inside the bar for the last three years. Their specialties

are certainly not your normal pub fare and include Bison salads and sandwiches, chicken curry over rice and the uber-popular fish tacos. Apparently, a few members of MDA's staff are known to be lunchtime regulars...

Stockman's Bar is open every day from 11 am to 2 am. Be sure to like them on Facebook.

### **Piano Praise..**

Show your appreciation and visit the following businesses or voice your thanks for the piano project when you see these people in the community:

**-Dotz Piano & Rollie Dotz** – Hauling & transport

**-Stickney Piano Service & Jeff Stickney** – Tuning & repairs

**-Zootown Arts YAAP group** – Painting the Bank Street piano. It looks great!

**-Hunter Bay Coffee & MT Legal Justice** – Working around & with the pianos

**-First Interstate Bank** – Providing winter storage

**-Downtown Business Improvement District of Missoula** – Funding & a leap of faith

**-Christopher Hahn & UM Keyboard Society** – Comradery & passion

**-The Missoula Community** – “Ownership” by integrating pianos into Downtown events, donating more pianos, covering them in the rain and caring about them, & tickling the ivory keys

**-Asaph Adonai** – The #1 player.



## Welcome New Members!

### Covered Wagon Hot Dogs

Bryant Knoll  
2025 Trail St.  
(847)337-6824

coveredwagonvending@gmail.com

### Fuel MT Media

Garin Gustafson  
111 N. Higgins Ave.  
240-9287

garin@fuelmtmedia.com

### Tia's Tamales

Kim West  
1017 Sherwood  
830-5710

batoutarenal@yahoo.com

### University of Montana Bureau of Business and Economic Research

Shannon Furniss  
32 Campus Drive  
shannon.furniss@business.umt.edu

## Wanna Learn How To Play Texas Hold 'Em?

The Missoula Downtown Foundation will be hosting lessons on the following dates:

**Saturday, October 25, 2014**

6:30pm @ Granger's Poker Palace

**Sunday, November 16, 2014**

2-4pm, Location TBA

**Sunday, January, 25, 2015**

2-4pm, Location TBA

**Sunday, February, 22, 2015**

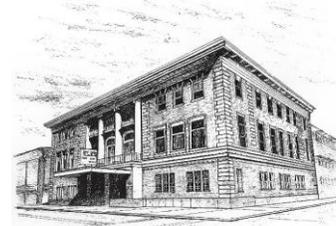
2-4pm, Location TBA

**Texas Hold'em Tournament,**

**Sunday, March 22, 2015** 2pm, at The Hell Gate Elks Lodge 383.

The charity tournament is for the benefit the Missoula Downtown Foundation, which strives to beautify and vitalize Downtown Missoula with its partners.

**For more information or to sign up for a free Texas Hold'em lesson, email: Noreen@missouladowntown.com or call 543-4238.**



Historic Photo of the Hellgate Elks Lodge



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Ph: 406.543.4238  
Fax: 406.543.9831

www.missouladowntown.com

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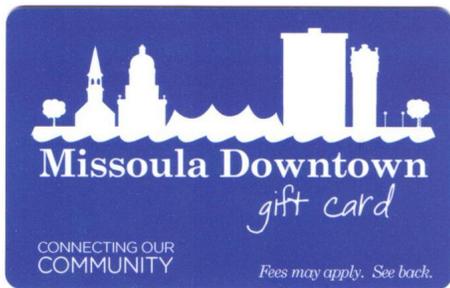
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## Order Gift Cards Online

With the holiday season fast approaching, the MDA's Downtown gift card ordering portal on our website has been revised to accommodate larger and easier ordering options. You can now place orders in advance for pickup or delivery and provide more specific order details than ever before.

Holiday season is gift card season for the Partnership office and we expect record gift card sales. We encourage all businesses who plan to place bulk orders to do so on our website as far in advance as possible so we can process orders effectively and accurately.

Check out our new gift card portal at [www.missouladowntown.com](http://www.missouladowntown.com).



## BID Expands Snow Removal

The multi-use Downtown vehicle developed by the Downtown Missoula Partnership will be converted to 'winter mode' in mid-October. The watering system will be removed and a shiny new snow plow installed. This means the BID's snow removal service will be expanded, offering both full-sized snow removal service and still maintaining the iconic Kubota's mini-plow for those hard-to-reach areas.

Call BID Maintenance Manager, Daniel Tulk, to set up service: 406-370-7540. Starts at \$45/hr.



## Shout Outs

**Noteworthy\* Paper & Press**, has been selected by Martha Stewart and her panel of judges as a finalist in the 2014 Martha Stewart American Made Awards in the Crafts/Paper Crafts category to win \$10,000 straight from Martha's purse. VOTE beginning September 15th on Martha Stewart's American Made website. Vote for Noteworthy Paper & Press up to 6 times per day through October 13th: <http://www.marthastewart.com/americanmade/nominee/88524/crafts/noteworthy-paper--press>

**The UM School of Music presents the 7th annual Pianissimo! concerts** October 10 and 11, 7:30 p.m., at the Music Recital Hall. Featuring nine pianos, over 30 pianists and a rollicking good time, this fun and lighthearted concert has something for everyone. For tickets go to [www.griztix.com](http://www.griztix.com), call 406-243-4581, or stop by the Adams Center Box Office.

**Missoula Symphony Orchestra Concert**, "Music, Love and Other Drugs." Their 60th anniversary kicks off with charismatic violinist Tim Fain, best know for his Grammy-nominated playing in the films, Black Swan and Twelve Years a Slave. October 4 at 7:30 p.m. and October 5 at 3 p.m. Dennison Theatre. [www.missoulasympphony.org](http://www.missoulasympphony.org) or 406-721-3194 for tickets

**The International Choral Festival of Missoula and the UM School of Music** will present their annual benefit performance of George Frederic Handel's "MESSIAH" on Sunday, November 30th at 7:30 p.m. in the Dennison Theatre on the UM campus. This free concert is a beloved community sing-a-long with a volunteer chorus, which has delighted local singers and audiences annually since 1995. **Join the Chorus at [www.choralfestival.org](http://www.choralfestival.org) or [www.umt.edu/music](http://www.umt.edu/music)**