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



**President's
 Message
 by Todd Frank**

The Trail Head
 tfrank@trailheadmontana.net

Everyone take a deep breath. It's September in Missoula - by far my favorite time of year. I suspect it is genetically hardwired in many of us. Some string of code that lets us relax a bit and enjoy autumn as the best time of year. For our ancestors, September was the time harvests were in and food was put up for the year. A time to relax before the temperatures drop and the fall work needs to be done before snowfall. I think that genetic code still exists in us and drives much of how we feel about the seasons, and the drive to be ready for the next one. Yikes - I just had a thought that winter is not far away. Ouch!

We have had an amazing summer in Missoula, and as always the weather was a wild card. Hot and dry for the most part, intermixed with a deluge or two during a Downtown ToNight in August. With so many events at Caras Park every summer, it is fortunate how good the weather is to us in Missoula. Now with the new wall system at the pavilion, weather is even less of an issue than it used to be.

The changes and upkeep at the park, while subtle, are a constant reminder to the MDA of the need to remain focused on keeping the park in excellent condition so it continues to be the center of our community. A keen eye will notice the new wall system that is functioning excellently thanks to the hard work from Larry Brehm, Kent Watson and the whole Caras Park Improvements

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**Summer is Over –
 Festivities Are Not!**

At the Missoula Downtown Association, we've packed up our Out to Lunch and Downtown ToNight supplies for the last time in 2013 and look forward to recuperating from Roots Fest and the summer event season. You won't see us at Caras Park every week, but that doesn't mean Missoula's town square is closing up shop. With the installation of a new wall system in May, the pavilion is ready to accommodate events beyond the summer months. In fact, there are 11 events at Caras Park in September alone.

This busy month kicks off with the Maverick Brewfest, September 6, 4-10 pm at Caras. It's the annual fundraiser for the Missoula Athletic Council, featuring 40 brews from across the region. Check out Hempfest in Caras Park from 12-10:30 pm on Saturday, September 7 to learn how hemp can be used as a viable economic resource. Sunday the 8th is German Fest, 2-6 pm, a celebration of German culture and Missoula's relationship with its sister city, Neckargemünd. The following evening, Monday, September 9, is the Signature Chef's Auction from 5:30-9 pm, a fundraiser for the March of Dimes.

As mid-September rolls around, Townsquare Media will host a Griz Tailgate Party on the 14th. You can hang with fellow Griz fans as the North Dakota away game is broadcasted 4-9 pm at Caras Park. Then celebrate Missoula's impressive civic spirit at the Jeannette Rankin Peace Center's Annual Peace Party, Sunday, September 15, 4:30-8 pm. Saturday the 21st is the Missoula Baby Fair, a pregnancy and par-

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(President's message cont.)

Committee that oversees updates at the park. I want to extend a special thanks to Parks and Recreation doing some needed maintenance to pavers that get a workout from all the foot and vehicle traffic in Caras Park. All the changes at the park are sometimes hard to see, but they add up to a long list of constant repairs and updates. Does anyone remember the funky tent we had before the band shell?

I say all this because the next big project at the Park is going to be replacing the pavilion canopy. Already a few years past its expected life span, this is our next major project in the park. So get ready to jump in and help out. I will surely be making some calls asking you to get involved.

The park is already booked for most weekends next summer, and with the new walls, events are extending into late fall, early spring and even winter. Think about what a catastrophe it would be if the canopy failed before we had time to raise money for a new one!

Thanks also to everyone who stepped up to volunteer for all the events the MDA put on this summer. None of these events would ever happen without the dedication of hundreds of folks that give precious time and resources to get all the work done. You can see pride in the eyes of every person who is working their tail off to make community events run smoothly.

Have you done anything this summer that makes you exceptionally proud to be a member of the MDA?

(Caras Park cont.)

enting expo running 11am - 3pm. That Sunday is a Five Valleys Cluster ELCA church service, and Thursday is the Missoula Indian Center's annual community event. Friday, September 27 is Imagine: A Tribute to the Beatles, an all-ages concert benefitting the Missoula Boys and Girls Club, 7-9 pm. Closing out the month is the 5th Annual Montana Brewers Fall Festival, Saturday, September 28. Every Montana microbrewery will serve craft beers 1-8

(cont. next column)

Welcome New Members!

Jimmy John's

Dan Stevens
420 N Higgins
542-1100
dan@jjmontana.com

LC Staffing

LindaAbreu
1116 S. Reserve
542-3377
linda@lcstaffing.com

Maddux Real Estate Group

Dawn Maddux
321 N Higgins Ave
541-7020
dawn@madduxgroup.com

Shana's Heart of Healing

Shana Dieterle
127 N. Higgins #303
396-5788
shana@shanasheartofhealing.com

Your Energy Fix

James Fix
415 N. Higgins Ave.
(360)840-3492
info@yourenergyfix.com

pm, but you can buy Early Entry VIP tickets online now.

And while that event wraps up the month of September, it does not wrap up the Caras Park events season. Summer is done, but autumn is busy in Downtown Missoula. Enjoy what's in store for September and stay tuned as October nears. It's a fact of life in Missoula – there's something going on all year long.

Join the team!

Team Up Montana wants to rally the downtown community to support cancer patients and the fight against all types of cancers in Western Montana during the month of October. Team Up Montana is a program created by St Patrick Hospital Foundation as a resource for cancer patients to receive financial assistance. Starting in 2009, St. Patrick Hospital and the Grizzly Sports Association collaborated to create the Pink Football Game in October.

This year's "Pink" cancer awareness game will be held at Washington-Grizzly Stadium on October 19. (cont. next column)

Although October is recognized as National Breast Cancer Awareness Month, Team Up Montana believes in supporting individuals battling ALL types of cancer in the month of October. So, they encourage the community and specifically the Missoula Downtown Association to show its support of cancer patients and their families in any way possible. Decorate your front window in a show of support with a Team Up Montana logo or a personal message of encouragement for people battling cancer today.

For a list of additional ideas on how you can get involved and show your support, please email kim.williams3@providence.org or visit the Team Up Montana website at www.teamupmontana.org to learn more.



Professional Development Courses

The School of Extended & Lifelong Learning at the University of Montana is currently offering a series of Professional Development short courses. These courses are open to, and designed for, the public. Participants don't have to be enrolled as students at the University to take advantage of this program, and there are no tests or grades, just relevant and applicable information taught by UM faculty as well as regional experts. Topics include leadership, marketing, design, professional writing, social media, internet marketing and more. This series is designed to help local people gain practical skills that will make them more competitive in the job market and thus, spur our local economy. These courses are of particular interest to working professionals because they are conveniently offered primarily in the evenings, and some are offered online.

Get the edge you need to succeed and take your career to the next level! Enrollment in most courses is limited.www.umt.edu/profdev.

Downtown Spotlight

Maddux Real Estate Group 321 N Higgins 541-7020

Whether you are buying or selling your home in the Missoula area, Maddux Real Estate Group knows what it takes to find the right home or the right buyer. Maddux Real Estate Group has opened in the newly renovated 321 N. Higgins Ave. building (formerly Yellowstone Photo). The new brokerage consists of owner/Realtor Dawn Maddux, supervising broker Jason Suchecki, broker Kim Kahle, Realtors Melissa Mooney, Shayla Suchecki, Megan Twohig and Katie Moriarty. This "boutique" brokerage focuses on quality customer service for properties in all price ranges including residential, recreational, farm and ranch, developments and commercial in the Missoula, Bitterroot and Flathead/Lake County Multiple Listing Services.



Purveyors of Exceptional
REAL ESTATE OPPORTUNITIES

With over 20 years of experience in the marketing/advertising field, Dawn has been able to bring a fresh approach to the Missoula real estate market. Dawn has always been active in buying, building, remodeling and selling properties in the Missoula real estate market and uses her own personal real estate experience combined with her extensive marketing knowledge to connect properties and buyers.

Dawn prides herself in listening to the wants and needs of her customers and believes that the happiness of her customers is the measure of her success. In Dawn's first active year with Missoula Organization of Realtors, she was awarded the Newcomer of the Year Award for her sales volume and participation with the organization.

So when the time comes to buy or sell a home, think of the Maddux Real Estate Group in Downtown Missoula.

CONNECTING OUR COMMUNITY

MDA Committee Meetings

Advocacy

Tuesday, September 10
4-5pm MDA Office

Caras Park Improvements

Thursdays
10-11am MDA Office

Master Plan Implementation Team

Thursday, September 19
12-2 pm at 140 West Pine

Membership

Thursday, September 19
4-5 pm at MDA Office

Marketing Committee

Wednesday, September 25
10-11am MDA Office

FREE events for small business owners and entrepreneurs!

This September, don't miss the Innovation Initiative's fall lineup of events. Missoula Economic Partnership is featuring new roundtable discussions on Intellectual Property Law and the Essentials of Project Management. Plus, they're hosting two Brown Bag Lunches, where small business owners and entrepreneurs can learn how to recruit interns at no cost and receive professional guidance on the use of criminal background and social media checks for new hires.

MEP is also pleased to announce a panel discussion on Software Sales Strategies on Sept. 25th from 5-7pm at MonTEC, 1121 East Broadway. The goal of this session is to assist the increasing number of local software firms with sales and go-to-market strategies. It features expert panelists with hands-on experience in software startups and sales.

Space for this presentation is limited. Please RSVP to dstanley@missoulapartnership.com.

For more details and a complete listing of Innovation Initiative's fall events, visit www.missoulapartnership.com.

Friends of Mountain Line Launches Mill Levy Effort

For the last 35 years, Mountain Line has helped students get to school, employees get to work, and ensured that seniors and people with disabilities can remain independent. Now, for the first time since 1976, Missoula's community bus service is asking voters this November to approve an increase in the property tax mill levy that funds our bus system. If approved by the voters, Mountain Line will be able to meet increasing demand for curbside service for seniors and people with disabilities, extend bus service into the late evening hours, and increase bus frequency on busy routes.

On August 15, a coalition of bus supporters launched a new campaign – Friends of Mountain Line – to urge Missoula voters to vote for the bus and Missoula's future this fall. Mayor John Engen serves as the group's treasurer, and initial supporters include Montana Conservation Voters, MontPIRG, Montana Women Vote and Community Medical Center, as well as the Missoula Downtown Association.

Mountain Line benefits the entire community. Public transportation lowers traffic and parking congestion, and reduces single vehicle trips, which helps lessen air pollution in the Missoula valley. Public transportation is also essential for economic

development and attracting new employers to Missoula – a recent study by the Montana Department of Transportation found that Mountain Line contributes more than \$4 million in income, goods and services, while producing 63 local jobs. Now in its 35th year of operations, Mountain Line provides more than 900,000 rides annually in Missoula.

For more information about Friends of Mountain Line, and to learn about ways to support the effort, please visit www.FriendsOfMountainLine.org.





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

Melanie Brock Moves On

After eight months as the MDA's Acting Executive Director, Melanie Brock is on to something new. The MDA staff and board of directors recognizes our fortune in hav-



ing Melanie, even for a short time. Not only has she effectively managed the organization during Linda McCarthy's sabbatical, she has also tackled countless important issues, including graffiti prevention and education, Caras Park and event security, Downtown safety, sidewalk cafe seating and much more. The MDA is sad to see Melanie go, but looks forward to crossing paths with her in the future.

Thank you Mel!

**MISSOULA
 Downtown**
 CONNECTING OUR
 COMMUNITY



Member Shout-Outs

Volunteers for bike/ped counts needed. The Metropolitan Planning Organization conducts bicycle and pedestrian traffic counts twice each year to track success in promoting bicycling and walking trips. The counts help measure success by helping us understand where, when and how much our trails, sidewalks and bike facilities are used. The MPO relies on volunteers to help conduct these counts at nearly 30 locations across the city. Volunteer training sessions will take place on Monday, September 16, from 12-2 pm and Thursday, September 19, from 12-2 pm in the Development Services Conference room (the basement floor of City Hall). For more information or to sign up to volunteer, please contact David Gray at 552-6669 or e-mail dgray@ci.missoula.mt.us.

spectrUM Downtown is now open! After a fun grand opening ceremony on August 23, the new downtown spectrUM location is open and ready to start molding Missoula's young minds. The new space at 218 E Front is open 10am - 5pm Tuesday through Saturday and features a Brain Lab, a river ecology exhibit, a multi-media classroom and more. Admission is \$3.50 for ages 4 and older and memberships cost \$60. Visit spectrum.umt.edu for more information about their big move!

YWCA Missoula Secret Seconds Grand Re-opening - September 13. After a 5,600-square-foot expansion at the 1136 W Broadway location, Secret Seconds Thrift Store is celebrating opening its doors once again to serve Missoulians with greater capacity. The grand re-opening is Friday, September 13 starting at 10am, so join your local YWCA for this exciting milestone.

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