



Downtown Helena
Business Improvement District
Downtown Helena, Inc.
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Do You Know? April 15, 2010

Amnesty From Overdue Fines!

Do you know that if you bring in a non-perishable food item the library will waive your overdue fines?

Your Lewis & Clark Library is offering amnesty on overdue items during National Library Week, **April 11-17**.

Some restrictions do apply. Patrons must have all over-due items turned in and must present their food share donations in order to have their account cleared. Also, patrons with accounts in collections, or who owe for damaged or lost items, will not be able to benefit from Amnesty Week. Patrons must present one non-perishable food item per overdue item.

The Lewis & Clark Library will donate all collected food items to the Helena Food Share.



Steven Young Lee at the Holter

Steven Young Lee, a former Archie Bray resident artist and current Archie Bray Foundation resident artistic director, is currently showing his work at the Holter Museum of Art.

In his "Beneath the Surface" exhibition, Lee uses traditional ceramic glaz-

The next
Downtown
Helena, Inc.
General
Membership
Meeting will be
Wednesday,
April 21,
at 8:30 a.m. in
the Chamber
Building
Conference Room
at 225 Cruse Ave.,
Lower Level.

es or colors to "ask viewers to confront their contemporary context."

The show runs through **May 11**.



Have a Beer for a Good Cause

Do you know that the Blackfoot River Brewing Company is now holding Community Mondays Fundraisers? Every Monday from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., the brewery will donate all proceeds from their fundraiser to a different local nonprofit. Supporters will receive a pint of Blackfoot's handcrafted beer and a slice of gourmet pizza from MacKenzie River.

Upcoming Community Mondays will benefit the following local nonprofits:

April 19: S.A.V.E. Foundation (Student Advocates for Valuing the Environment/Savemobile.org). Help support expanded recycling in Helena.

April 26: The Growing Community Project. The proceeds will go to support the Growing Community Project's expansion of the Plymouth Community Garden.



Thursday, April 22 • Make it Sparkle!

Do you know that it's time to say goodbye to the winter grime and hello to spring? Downtown Helena is encouraging all business and property owners to join in on **April 22**, Earth Day, and make Downtown sparkle.

Everyone is asked to take some time to clean up their property and landscaping. Downtown Helena is encouraging all businesses to participate on **April 22**. It's a great time for team building, employee interaction out of the work place as well as personal satisfaction to make a clean difference in your working neighborhoods! Please take charge, contact your neighbors, business or office, get them involved, convince them and make it happen. If everyone pitches in the task will become easy and fun. It's a great time to pick up your surrounding area, sweep, and wash down the area in front of your business, windows and sidewalks. If you're short on employees grab some kids from home. Your customers will notice it and appreciate your efforts.

So, bring your brooms, rakes, gloves and cleaners! Contact Dave Hewitt, BID/HPC Operations Manager at 447-1535 for more information.

John Jasperse Co. Coming to the Myrna

Do you know that the John Jasperse Company will be performing at the Myrna Loy Center on Friday, **April 23**, at 7:30 p.m.?

The show is called "Truth, Revised History, Wishful Thinking, & Flat Out Lies" and explores the fluid boundaries between fantasy and reality.

Tickets are \$15. The performance is sponsored by Associated Dermatology.



Do You Know?

is a free weekly electronic newsletter published and produced by Downtown Helena, Inc. (DHI),

a non-profit business membership organization established in May of 1964.

Are you a supporting member of DHI? Join today and live to play with the best!

Incumbent Worker Training Grant Funds

Do you know that employers can take advantage of grant monies made available to Montana small businesses? The grant monies are to help employers train their current workers to enhance business productivity and efficiency, reduce employee turnover, and provide a direct benefit to the employee's occupation. Training can be as simple as upgrading or learning a new skill, such as a QuickBooks class. It can be more specific such as advanced equipment training.

If you are a small business with less than 50 employees statewide and no more than 20 employees in one location, you may qualify.

The grant allows a maximum of \$2,000 per year per full-time employee working 35 or more hours a week or \$1,000 per part-time employee working 20-34 hours a week. For training taking place in Montana, the employer has to match \$1 for every \$4 requested for training costs. For training taking place outside of Montana, the employer must match 50 percent of the employee's travel expenses excluding meals, taxi's or car rental services. The match could be the wages/benefits the employee receives during the training period.

Contact MBAC at 447-1510 for help applying for the funding.

Downtown Helena



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833 Fans and Counting!

Helena Chamber Singers and The Premiere Dance Company

Do you know that the Helena Chamber Singers and The Premiere Dance Company will be combining to present Cantos Alegres? The show will be **May 1** at 7:30 p.m. and **May 2** at 2 p.m. at the Helena Civic Center. The music is by Paul Basler, text by Gabriel Navar.

Tickets are available at the Creative Arts Center and the Civic Center.

OGM Secret Garden Tour

Do you know that you can tour and get inspiration from six of Helena's most beautiful gardens?

The Original Governor's Mansion "Secret Garden Tour" is coming up Sunday, **June 27**, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

In addition to a self-conducted tour of six beautiful and interesting gardens, this will be your chance to get ideas and tips on how to improve your own garden, enjoy a "Garden Party" luncheon provided by Benny's Bistro on the grounds of the Mansion, and tour the Original Governor's Mansion. Perhaps you will even pick up a treasure or two from the marketplace taking place in front of the Mansion on Ewing street, buy a winning raffle ticket or purchase a copy of this year's Third in a Series artists proof "Blush" by Kathryn Fehlig.

Tickets are \$12 in advance and \$15 the day of the event and are available beginning May 1 at the following locations:

- Leslie's Hallmark stores (Montana Avenue and in the Capital Mall)
- Mountain West Bank (Cedar and Colonial branches)
- Montana Historical Society Museum Store

Tickets are exchanged for a map to the gardens beginning at 10 a.m. at the Original Governor's Mansion, 304 N Ewing.



Singin' in the Rain at Grandstreet

Do you know that a musical extravaganza for the whole family will be playing soon at Grandstreet Theater? "Singin' in the Rain" will open **April 23** and run through **May 22** with shows Thursday through Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday matinees **May 2 and 16** at 2 p.m.

The Spring Art Walk is Friday, April 30, with 40 Downtown Helena businesses participating.

Don't miss it!

Welcome New Downtown Businesses

Downtown Helena welcomes two new businesses to the neighborhood.

Tread Lightly is a running store that carries shoes, clothing, hydration equipment and products for man's best friend. Tread Lightly is located at 104 E. Broadway.

Big Dipper Ice Cream is now open at 54 N. Last Chance Gulch. Stop by for a cone filled with an exotic flavor like Irish Whiskey or Yellow Cake, or an American classic like chocolate or vanilla.



Helena Institute Showcase Weekend

Do you know that the Helena Institute will be holding a Showcase Weekend **April 30-May 2**? There will be several courses on tap. For more information, visit www.helenainstitute.com.

- **Easy and Unusual Home Decor Quilt Projects.** A quilt project workshop for table runners, placemats, and small wall quilts.
- **Making a Leather Bound Journal.** Create a masterpiece to treasure forever.
- **A Weekend of Wine.** Learn about wine from the Northwest's finest winemakers.
- **Light It Up!** Learn primitive fire skills for wilderness travel.
- **Landscape Bargello Quilt Workshop.** Create an artistic quilt that brings the beauty of Montana into your home.
- **A Rendezvous With Raku.** A beginning hand-building clay class that will use Raku firing and glazes.
- **Helena Photography Workshop.** Learn the fundamentals of photography while exploring a piece of Montana's gold rush past.