

KALISPELL

Chamber of Commerce
Convention & Visitor Bureau

MAY 2018

IT'S FINALLY SPRING IN MONTANA! GET OUTSIDE AND BREATHE SOME FRESH AIR

KALISPELL CHAMBER NEWSLETTER

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Click each for more information

MAY 8

KalisPELL Public Schools Levy Vote

MAY 8

Chamber 101

3:00-4:30pm | Chamber Conference Room

MAY 8

UNWIND at Pierce RV Supercenter

5:00-6:30pm | 3138 Hwy 2 E, Kalispell

MAY 15

Monthly Luncheon - Tourism Defined

11:45am - 1:15pm | Red Lion Hotel, Kalispell

MAY 16

FAYP Espresso Yourself: County

Commissioner Candidate Forum

8:00-9:00am | Chamber Conference Room

MAY 22

Brave Leadership

5:00-8:00pm | KRMC Conference Rooms

MAY 29

Flathead Valley Public Lands Summer

Update for Visitor Season

FVCC AT 139 | 2:30-4:00pm

JUN 12

Assistance for Business Clinic

7:30am-5:00pm | Hilton Garden Inn

JUN 12

UNWIND with Professional Therapy

Associates

5:00-6:30pm | 102 Village Loop, Kalispell

JUN 19

Monthly Luncheon: Flathead's

Best 20 Under 40

11:45am-1:15pm | Red Lion Hotel, Kalispell

NATIONAL TOURISM MONTH

CELEBRATE WITH US

TOURISM DEFINED: ATTRACTIONS, ACCOMMODATIONS, ACCESS, & ADVERTISING

Tuesday, May 15 | 11:45am-1:15pm | Red Lion Hotel, Kalispell

Attractions, Accommodations, Access, and Advertising: these factors are what's important to creating a vibrant, year-round tourism economy that provides measurable economic impact to our community. As reported by the Institute for Tourism & Recreation Research (ITRR) in 2017, 12.45M non-resident visitors spent \$3.36B in the state, and, in 2016, 2.3M non-resident visitors spent \$505M in Flathead County.

This luncheon will look at the intersection of tourism, outdoor recreation, public land, and the important efforts behind tourism promotion.

Outdoor recreation is the link between residents and visitors. It's what attracts visitors to our area, and, for many of us, why we live here. In her article, *Outdoor Recreation Driving Population Boom in Rural Areas*, Jen Fifield says, "western rural counties with more protected public land have higher income levels and faster economic growth, according to a 2012 study by Headwaters Economics, a non-profit research organization based in Bozeman, Montana."

Rob Ratkowski, Director of Glacier Park International Airport will highlight plans for the proposed upcoming terminal expansion at GPIA. Speakers also include Dax Schieffer, Director of Voices of Montana Tourism, and Ryan Weiss, Montana's Public Access Specialist at the DNRC.

Sponsored by:



RSVP here before May 11 at 5:00pm

More tourism events





THINKING THURSDAY: PROMOTING UNIQUE VISITOR EXPERIENCES OUTSIDE GLACIER NATIONAL PARK

Thursday, May 17 | 8:30-10:00am | Kalispell Chamber Conference Room

Do you have visitors asking you about recreational opportunities when they visit your business?

It's no secret visitors flock to our area in the summer to get a taste of what it's like under the big sky, and most of them spend at least one day at Glacier National Park. As the busy summer season draws near, and crowds at GNP grow larger, consider this educational Thinking Thursday presentation to learn about unique recreation opportunities, and the huge number of guides, outfitters, and outdoor-centered businesses you can tell visitors about that are outside of Glacier National Park.

Janette Turk, Public Affairs Officer for the Flathead National Forest, will share fantastic experiences available in the 2.4 million acres of the forest. Sheena Pate, Project Coordinator for National Geographic's Crown of the Continent Geotourism program, will share a new interactive trail mapping system to help visitors better locate trailheads and keep up-to-date with trail statuses. And, Diane Medler, Director of our Convention and Visitor Bureau, will share recreation ideas that we think will not only provide an unforgettable visitor experience, but may help relieve a few cars off the Going To The Sun Road (hopefully!).

This event is free, but limited to the first 40 people who sign up [HERE](#).



FLATHEAD VALLEY PUBLIC LANDS SUMMER UPDATE

Tuesday, May 29 | 2:30-4:00pm | FVCC AT 139

Did you know there are over 3.4 MILLION acres of public land in Flathead County? Join us for an event with Flathead National Forest Supervisor, Chip Webber, Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks Regional Supervisor, Jim Williams, and Glacier National Park Superintendent, Jeff Mow, for an overview of what to expect from our public lands, and how you can use them to help promote unforgettable visitor experiences (and great experiences for yourself as well!). Sheena Pate, with National Geographic's Crown of the Continent Geotourism Program, will also share innovative trip planning resources you can use

to help people plan a great visit around outdoor recreation and hospitality services. All public land leaders will be available for questions and conversations following the program.

Consistent messaging and knowledgeable, friendly locals are key to providing successful visitor experiences. We strongly encourage all front-line staff to attend this free event. No registration required.



ADD YOUR INPUT TO THE FLATHEAD COUNTY TRAILS PLAN UPDATE

The Flathead County trails advisory committee wants to hear from you. Attend the community open house on May 22 from 6:00-8:00pm at the Fairgrounds Expo building.

In addition to the community meeting, you're encouraged to provide your input about local trail systems via the online survey [here](#).



Rep. Gianforte Honored During Kalispell Visit - KPAX, 5/4

Kalispell Chamber Announces Unanimous Support of School Levy - Flathead Beacon, 5/2

Bullock Selects Rural 'Opportunity Zones' to Stimulate Investment - Daily Inter Lake, 4/28

Kalispell Herberger's Facing Liquidation - Daily Inter Lake, 4/18

CHAMBER SCOOP:

Flathead Area Young Professionals Hosted Successful Breakfast with Senator Tester - On Friday, April 20, Flathead Area Young Professionals hosted a roundtable breakfast discussion with Senator Jon Tester. 20 leading young professionals from across multiple industries spoke on local issues most affecting them. Common themes included affordable housing, healthcare costs, local option tax, mental health services, public land management and access, and education.

Kalispell Chamber Foundation Will Contribute \$5,000 to FVCC College Center - The FVCC College Center will feature a Performance and Lecture Hall and house a multi-purpose activity complex that will support student activities, large events, and student performances. It will be the home of the Glacier Symphony. Other community projects the Foundation has supported include the Kidsport Youth Athletic Complex, FVCC Broussard Nursing Building, Legends Field, and the Veterans Memorial. For more information on the College Center, [click ONE Campaign](#).

Chamber Partners with Kalispell Public Schools to Highlight Elementary Art Education - Kalispell Public Schools recently adopted new national art standards to incorporate into everyday learning across multiple subjects. Art projects supplement student learning of 21st-Century skills, which are common skills used in the rapidly changing workforce and high-tech industries today. Visit these four businesses to see projects and learn more about 21st-Century skills: Glacier Park International Airport will display Russell Elementary projects, Ceres Bakery - Peterson Elementary, Kalispell Chamber/Visitor Information Center - Edgerton, Rocky Mountain Bank - Hedges Elementary.

Are You an Exporter or Considering Exporting? Exporter Workshop Coming to Kalispell May 23 - Are you an exporter or considering exporting? The "Take Montana Global" symposium will introduce you to experts in international finance, commerce, logistics, and grants to expand overseas business. The symposium will be on Wednesday, May 23, 1:00-3:30pm at Flathead Valley Community College, Room AT 207-208. There is no cost to attend. For more information, click [Take Montana Global](#), or reserve a place with carey.hester@trade.gov.

FLATHEAD AREA YOUNG PROFESSIONALS TO HOST COUNTY COMMISSIONER CANDIDATE FORUM

Wed, May 16 | 8:00-9:00am | Kalispell Chamber, 15 Depot Park



On Wednesday, May 16, Flathead Area Young Professionals will be hosting a county commissioner candidate forum as an avenue for young people to become better informed about candidates on the June 5 ballot and local issues.

The event will be held in the Kalispell Chamber conference room, and Maven Coffee Works, a coffee company owned and operated by young professionals, will have made-to-order coffee available for purchase.

For more information, please contact fayp@kalispellchamber.com or call (406) 758-2801.

Flathead Area Young Professionals is open to anyone living and working in the Flathead Valley between the ages of 21-39. All employees of Kalispell Chamber members receive free annual memberships to FAYP. Non-members can join FAYP for \$50 per year.



MT YOUNG PROFESSIONALS ANNUAL SUMMIT: JUNE 21-23

Now in its third year, the Montana Young Professionals Summit will be held in Butte June 21-23. Develop your statewide network, enhance your leadership skills, and learn how to ignite change in your community. Take 25% off with early-bird pricing and mark your calendars for this exciting conference.

To register, and for more information, visit: MontanaYoungProfessionals.com/Summit2018



KALISPELL CONVENTION AND VISITOR BUREAU

KALISPELL CONVENTION AND VISITOR BUREAU SEEKING PROPOSALS FOR CREATIVE SERVICES & MEDIA BUY, WEBSITE REDESIGN, AND PR/PUBLICITY SERVICES

The Kalispell CVB is seeking professional services for 1) creative sales and media buy, 2) website redesign, and 3) PR and Publicity Services. Offerors can respond to one or more of the bid requests. Each component will be scored separately.

Timeline:

- May 8: Deadline for receipt of written inquiries
- May 10: Written responses distributed
- May 24: Proposal due date
- May 30-June 6: Evaluation committee meetings
- June 13-18: Oral interviews/site visits (if deemed necessary)
- June 28: Intended date for contract awards
- July 1: Contract commences

For more information, and to read the complete request for proposals, [please click here](#).



LEADERSHIP FLATHEAD WILL GRADUATE 37 PARTICIPANTS ON MAY 15

Tuesday, May 15 | 5:30-7:30pm | Hampton Inn, Kalispell

Leadership Flathead will celebrate the graduation of 37 members from the Class of 2017 on May 15th. These participants have successfully completed the two-year program involving leadership skills development, heightened awareness of community issues and resources, and a connection with local leaders and organizations. All participants have demonstrated initiative by assuming a leadership role in a chosen local organization. The continual growth of new leadership from among us benefits our entire community into the future.

Our congratulations to the following graduates and thanks to their employers for supporting their involvement in the program.

Allison Linville, North Valley Hospital • Amber Paulson-Hofseth, FVCC • Annika Harris, First Interstate Bank • Ashley Woodworth, Valley Bank of Kalispell • Brett Damaskos, PayneWest Insurance • Britta Joy, J2 Business Products • Cameron Johnson, Freedom Bank • Chrystal Keeney, Park Side Credit Union • Dale Linhart, TrailWest Bank • Dawn Jackson, Kalispell Convention & Visitor Bureau • Ed Visnovske, Glacier National Park • Eric Smith, Glacier National Park • Greta Espenson, Glacier Bank • Heidi Escalante, Alliance Title • Hedi Hickethier, FVCC Foundation • Janette Turk, USDA Forest Service • Jason Cronk, Immanuel Lutheran Communities • Jennifer Young, KRMC • Jesse Mahugh, Big Brothers Big Sisters • Jill Lewis, Glacier National Park • Justin Green, Montana Acupuncture & Wellness Pharmacy • Karen Paulson, Kramer Enterprises/Best Burger Enterprises • Kate Lufkin, Kalispell Chamber of Commerce • Kevin Hodik, Flathead Electric Cooperative • Krista Lammers, City of Kalispell • Kristin Ahonen, Flathead Beacon • Kyle Cram, Weyerhaeuser • Lune Axelsen, ImagineIF Libraries • Melissa Steiner, Jackola Engineering & Architecture • Michele Draggoo, Flathead National Forest • Muffie Thomson, Kalispell Regional Healthcare • Nicole Stickney, Montana Department of Natural Resources • Susanne Lucas, Fidelity National Title • Tammy Cusick, Glacier Bank • Terri Cebulla, J2 Business Products • Travis Sallee, Loren's Auto Repair • Trevor Gonser, Montana Department of Natural Resources



Celebrating 40 Years
The BIG EVENT

A NIGHT TO
CHANGE
A LIFE

Thursday, May 10
Hilton Garden Inn, Kalispell
Social & Bucket Raffle @ 5:30 pm
Dinner @ 6:30 pm

\$200 - 2 tickets • \$125 - 1 ticket • \$950 table of 10

FOR TICKETS CONTACT 406.752.0092

BRAVE

LEADERSHIP

LEADERSHIP FLATHEAD ANNUAL ALUMNI EVENT



PRESENTING MONTANA NATIVE AND AUTHOR OF BRAVE LEADERSHIP
KIMBERLY DAVIS
AN ENGAGING PRESENTATION AND BOOK SIGNING

5-6PM - COCKTAIL HOUR

6-7PM - PRESENTATION &
AUDIENCE DISCUSSION

with Chris Parson

7-8PM - BOOK SIGNING

05.22.18

5PM - 8PM | TUESDAY

KALISPELL REGIONAL MEDICAL
CENTER CONFERENCE ROOMS

VALET PARKING AVAILABLE

**\$20 GENERAL ADMISSION / \$10 FAYP MEMBERS /
FREE - CURRENT LEADERSHIP FLATHEAD & DUES PAYING ALUMNI
TO REGISTER, VISIT KALISPELL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ONLINE CALENDAR**

MEMBERSHIP CELEBRATIONS THIS MAY



SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER OR SHOW UP TO DONATE!

OUR GOAL IS TO RAISE 40,000 LBS OF FOOD FOR OUR FOOD BANKS!

THURSDAY, MAY 10TH FROM 10:00AM-2:00PM

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



Dancing Spirit Ranch
NORTHWEST MONTANA



Peter Dale



30+ YEARS

- Hooper's Garden Center
- Pizza Hut

10 YEARS

- Mountain West Farm Bureau Insurance

5 YEARS

- Homewood Suites by Hilton
- Bigfork Summer Playhouse
- AAA of Montana
- Laurel Wehr
- Old Sun Properties

1 YEAR

- Alaska Airlines
- Talcott Construction
- The UPS Store
- Atanaha Event Center
- Colter Coffee Roasting
- Wrap Hive
- Freedom Weaver - ItWorks Global



RIBBON CUTTINGS!



Professional Therapy Associates, 105 Village Loop, Kalispell



Bergeson RV Corporation, 4095 HWY 93 S, Kalispell

Coming up:

- May 11: Kalispell Volkswagen, 5:00-8:00pm. Ribbon cutting 5:30pm, Live music & Dickey's BBQ
- May 16: Kalispell Legion Baseball Association, 5:30pm
- May 18: Flair Gifts and Cards, 4:00pm
- May 19: SunRift Beer Company, 12:00pm
- May 24: Compass Chiropractic, 5:00pm

For more information on grand openings and ribbon cuttings, follow our events calendar on Facebook!



What Can SCORE Do For You?

Get to know the Northwest Montana chapter on Wednesday, May 30, at Kalispell Brewing Company from 5:00-7:00pm. SCORE members will be on hand to provide information and answer questions. Whether you are currently in business, thinking about doing so, or would like to become a mentor yourself, SCORE would love to talk with you.

SCORE is a non-profit association committed to helping small businesses grow and thrive. Volunteer mentors from many different industries share their expertise and provide confidential guidance. For more information, contact Michelle Johnston at michelle.johnston@scorevolunteer.org or (406) 442-5966



ASSISTANCE *for* BUSINESS CLINIC

KALISPELL

Tuesday, June 12, 2018

8:00a.m. – 5:00p.m.

Hilton Garden Inn

1840 US Hwy 93 South

Registration 7:30 – 8:00a.m.

COST \$45

SPONSORED BY

Kalispell Chamber of Commerce



Montana Department of LABOR & INDUSTRY

Register for this event on www.kalispellchamber.com

REGIONAL
LEADER



COMMUNITY
LEADERS



DIAMOND
MEMBERS



DAILY INTER LAKE

