

KALISPELL

Chamber of Commerce
Convention & Visitor Bureau

Making MT Manufacturing & Technology Expo: February 15-16

KALISPELL CHAMBER NEWSLETTER - FEBRUARY 2019

FEBRUARY LUNCHEON: DEVELOPMENT INCENTIVES IN DOWNTOWN KALISPELL

Tuesday, February 19 | 11:45am - 1:15pm | Red Lion Hotel, Kalispell | \$20 member/\$25 non-member

Tax increment, new market tax credits, zoning, and opportunity zone benefits on the agenda

A vibrant, prosperous downtown is critical to the success of Kalispell and for workforce attraction. Our February 19 luncheon will feature three experts on investment incentives for developers and owner-users in downtown Kalispell and the Core Area.

City Manager, Doug Russell, will present on the urban density characteristics of the B3 zone and opportunities in the two downtown tax increment districts: the Core Area TIF and the new Downtown TIF.

Jordahl and Sliter, CPA Partner Bryson Pelc, will present on the benefits of the recently approved Economic Opportunity Zones and Qualified Opportunity Funds, which provide the city with a new economic development tool to attract investment capital through the deferral, reduction, or possible permanent exclusion of capital gains.

MoFi Vice President, Heidi DeArment, will present on the New Markets Tax Credit program that provides additional capital to qualified projects.

This program will be a good opportunity to learn about the special package of incentives for downtown Kalispell that are unavailable anywhere else in Northwest Montana. We invite you to join us on February 19. [Click here to register.](#)

Sponsored by:



BBER ECONOMIC OUTLOOK SEMINAR: FACING THE CHALLENGE OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING

February 12 | 8:00am - 1:00pm | Hilton Garden Inn, Kalispell | \$90

During this informative, half-day seminar, Bureau of Business and Economic Research (BBER) economists from The University of Montana will present national, state, and local economic forecasts for Kalispell. Industry experts will also give their outlook for Montana's important sectors including tourism, healthcare, real estate, housing, agriculture,

manufacturing, energy, and forest products. [Click here to register.](#)

The Bureau of Business and Economic Research has been providing information about Montana's state and local economies for 70 years. Located at the University of Montana, the bureau is the research and public service branch of the College of Business.

IN THE NEWS



Editorial: Skilled Labor Jobs Vital to Flathead's Economy, Daily Inter Lake

Childhood Trauma Can Have Effect on Workplace, Daily Inter Lake

Chamber Looks at Another Year of Growth, Daily Inter Lake

Time for Trades Students Get Firsthand Look at Skilled Labor Jobs, Daily Inter Lake

KALISPELL BUSINESS AGENDA: CHAMBER ANNOUNCES PRIORITIES FOR 2019

On January 15, Chamber of Commerce President and CEO Joe Unterreiner laid out the business community's top policy priorities for the coming year, casting the organization's agenda as a means for preserving, strengthening, and expanding the Flathead Valley economy.

Setting the stage for our work in 2019, the luncheon presentation began with a focus on the need for innovative efforts in workforce to close the gaps that exist between employers and educators in the talent marketplace. At the luncheon, the Chamber announced it will embark on a multi-year workforce initiative in cooperation with our education and workforce partners to ensure that local employers have a steady supply of talented, hard-working people to do the work of a modern economy so that Northwest Montana can compete and lead.

The Chamber also announced that it will extend the work of the Development Information Center through a marketing campaign to inform developers, the public, and our members about the outstanding investment opportunities available, especially downtown, with tax increment, opportunity zone, and new market tax credit incentives.

The final priority for 2019 is to continue the focus for infrastructure improvements. Last year, we lead advocacy efforts to help secure \$12.75 million of BUILD funds to widen the Bypass. This year we will drive forward on the next generation of highway projects including Reserve Drive and Willow Glen, and will support Glacier Park International Airport on its terminal expansion plans to build additional gates for new American Airlines flights to Dallas, Los Angeles, and Chicago and Allegiant Airlines flights to Phoenix.

A LOOK AT THE LEGISLATURE

Action has begun on priority bills in the 66th Legislative Session. Action over the last two weeks has included:

- HB 2 - Community college budget: supported the college and their good work to provide a steady supply of talented, hard-working people.
- SB 111 - Extend the termination date of the qualified endowment tax credit: supported this tax vehicle used extensively by local foundations for community development.
- HB 81 - Eliminate fuel credits for commercial aircraft: opposed as a bad deal for Kalispell and our efforts to attract new airline routes and hubs.

Meeting Presenters:

On Jan 18, Sen. Regier presented to the committee on LC 2888, a bill to revise airport municipal tax levies in ways that would allow bonding for projects like the terminal expansion at Glacier Park International Airport.

On Feb 1, Sen. Olszewski presented on SB 71, a bill to regulate health insurers' administration of pharmacy benefits for consumers.

The Government Affairs Committee meets from noon-1:00pm in our conference room every other Friday during the session.



FLATHEAD AREA YOUNG PROFESSIONALS

WINTER NETWORKING: LET'S PLAY SOME BINGO!

Thursday, February 7 | 5:00-6:30pm | Blue Canyon Kitchen & Tavern, Kalispell

Join Flathead Area Young Professionals for their first networking event of 2019! Meet at the Blue Canyon and mingle with other young professionals between playing two rounds of BINGO. Cash prizes for the winners: 1st BINGO round prize: \$100 and 2nd BINGO round prize: \$150. This event is free and open to all young professionals between the ages of 21-39.

ESPRESSO YOURSELF: TOP ISSUES FACING THE FLATHEAD

Wednesday, February 13 | 8:00 - 9:00am | Kalispell Chamber Conference Room

What are the top issues influencing crime in our area? How has crime changed over the last several years? What can young professionals do to make a positive difference in our community? These are all topics that Kalispell's Chief of Police, Doug Overman, and Flathead County Sheriff, Brian Heino, will be addressing as they spend their morning sharing coffee with Flathead Area Young Professionals. Come prepared to ask questions!



ONLINE HOTEL BOOKING

With the recent launch of our new Discover Kalispell website, we are excited to be the only CVB in Montana to offer an online BOOK NOW option for our member hotels. Visitors to the Discover Kalispell website can book reservations directly through the embedded booking platform without clicking out of the site. The option to book directly from the site will create a more seamless and less confusing user experience since only Kalispell lodging facilities will be listed whereas other travel booking sites offer well over 100 surrounding area hotels and vacation rentals under the 59901 zip code.

KALISPELL TO HOST MT LEAGUE OF CITIES & TOWNS

We are pleased to announce that Montana League of Cities and Towns (MLCT) has selected Kalispell for their October 2020 conference. Doug Russell, Kalispell City Manager, and Council Woman, Kari Gabriel, were instrumental in steering MLCT in our direction. The organization rotates around the state when choosing conference locations to give different cities the opportunity to host. Kalispell last hosted the conference in 2011. Discover Kalispell will assist MLCT organizers with event logistics and will serve as boots-on-the-ground to help support their conference goals.

KALISPELL LEADERSHIP FLATHEAD

Leadership Flathead

APPLICATIONS FOR LEADERSHIP FLATHEAD DUE MAY 1

Leadership Flathead is intricately designed to develop tangible leadership skills, increase awareness of significant local issues, and build a tightly-knit network of community leaders, all while strengthening the ability of current and emerging leaders to spearhead positive change in the Flathead Valley. Throughout the course of the program a variety of custom-designed sessions from community and industry leaders focus on topics such as education and workforce training, public safety, culture and tourism, human services, and planning, growth and government. Additionally, a skills-building theme is integrated into each of the sessions, which includes activities that reflect on conflict resolution, strategic planning, organizational change, collaboration, and more.

Applicants will be notified of their acceptance into the program in July and will begin the program's two-year commitment with an overnight development retreat in September, followed by nine monthly skills-building sessions through June 2019. To supplement the training received during the first year of the program, participants will assume a new leadership role with a community organization or engage in a community-based project of their choosing during their second year.

For more information on the program, and for the online application, visit www.kalispellchamber.com/leadership-flathead.



JANUARY SESSION FOCUSED ON HEALTHCARE IN THE FLATHEAD

The January Leadership Flathead session focused on healthcare in our valley for all ages of life. We have the ability to care for our very young, beginning with neonatal care, to our aging population with a variety of independent and assisted living arrangements. The class had special tours of Immanuel Lutheran Communities, the newly expanded and redesigned Emergency Department of Kalispell Regional Medical Center, and the new Montana Children's Center. Many thanks to Immanuel Lutheran Communities for graciously hosting this session.

Immanuel Lutheran
— COMMUNITIES —

IN THE NEWS



Take Flight, Flathead Beacon

FBI Stats: Kalispell Safest Town in Montana, KPAX

Allegiant to Offer Direct Flight to Phoenix, Daily Inter Lake

Allegiant Adds Phoenix Flight from Kalispell, Flathead Beacon

UNWIND WITH EXPRESS EMPLOYMENT PROFESSIONALS AND THE FLATHEAD COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS

Tuesday, February 12 | 5:00-6:30pm | Fairgrounds Expo Building

Come to February's Kalispell Chamber UNWIND with Express Employment and the Flathead Country Fairgrounds in a Rodeo themed event!

Dress to impress in your best western attire and be ready to walk the catwalk to be judged for best dressed, with the winner claiming TWO tickets to the Thursday night Rodeo the week of the 2019 NW Montana Fair!

There will be all sorts of activities to enjoy the fun of the Fair in February! Participate in at least 2 of these events and be entered to win a 4-Pack of tickets to any rodeo during the fair donated by The Fairgrounds and a Stoller Wine gift basket donated by Express Employment!

There will be stick-horse relay races, tractor races, bean bag toss, roping steer bales, line dancing, and special guests!

Enjoy appetizers from Chick-Fil-A, non-alcoholic beverages from Pepsi and adult beverages as well!

FEBRUARY THINKING THURSDAY: AGING DEMOGRAPHICS AND BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

Thursday, February 21 | 8:30 - 10:00am | Kalispell Chamber

Jennifer Crowley, owner of Eagleview West, will speak about how aging demographics can provide opportunities for entrepreneurs, community partners, and stakeholders. Explore emerging and exciting business ideas, including information about the latest technology and innovations improving the lives of older adults.

This seminar is designed to help prepare business owners with valuable information and the tools to better assist their older adult clients.

Jennifer began conceptualizing Eagleview West in 2002, building on a vision to provide services in the community while establishing as a pivotal leader in the aging industry. Eagleview West's professional services continue to be in high demand with steady growth annually. It is the only privately-held care management and consulting company in Montana, offering a suite of services not available elsewhere.

Limited to 35 participants. [Click here to register](#). No cost.

WE ❤️ OUR MEMBERS

FEBRUARY MEMBERSHIP MILESTONES

30 YEARS

- Glacier Wholesalers

15 YEARS

- TruGreen

10 YEARS

- Pacific Steel & Recycling
- Flower & Stone, Ltd.
- Builders FirstSource, Inc.
- MedNorth Kalispell Urgent Care
- Alpine Theater Project
- Cellular Plus
- Intermountain

5 YEARS

- Champion for Success, Inc.
- Univision, Inc.

1 YEAR

- Montana Modern Fine Art
- Farmers State Bank
- Rivals Bar & Casino
- Saf's
- Vilya Spirits Distillery
- Flathead Chiropractic
- The Artisan Oyster
- Wendy's of Kalispell
- MNW Destinations
- Kalispell Legion Baseball Assoc.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



THE CFO AGENCY



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FAYP Networking & BINGO

Thursday, February 7
5:00pm
Blue Canyon Kitchen & Tavern

Ribbon Cutting with Monarch Chiropractic

Monday, February 11
4:00pm
2450 MT HWY 93 South, Kalispell

BBER Economic Outlook Seminar

Tuesday, February 12
8:00am
Hilton Garden Inn, Kalispell

UNWIND with Express Employment & Flathead County Fairgrounds

Tuesday, February 12
5:00pm
Fairgrounds Expo Building

FAYP Espresso Yourself

Wednesday, February 13
8:00 - 9:00am
Kalispell Chamber

President's Day - Offices Closed

Monday, February 18

February Luncheon: Development Incentives in Downtown Kalispell

Tuesday, February 19
11:45am - 1:15pm
Red Lion Hotel, Kalispell

Thinking Thursday

Thursday, February 21
8:30 - 10:00am
Kalispell Chamber

Skijoring at Rebecca Farm

March 2-3
1385 Farm to Market Rd, Kalispell

ABC CLINIC RETURNS TO KALISPELL

Tuesday, May 7 | 7:30am - 5:00pm | Hilton Garden Inn | \$55

The Assistance for Business Clinics are designed to assist new and established businesses, accountants, bookkeepers, human resource professionals, and attorneys with proactively preventing unnecessary claims and/or charges by providing updated information on unemployment insurance tax requirements, workers' compensation coverage, safety and OSHA regulations, tax incentives, minimum wage, overtime, new hire reporting, USERRA laws and regulations. Continuing education credits are available for: CPE, CLE, SHRM, HRCI. To register for this event, [click here](#).



TIME IS RUNNING OUT! ADVERTISE IN THE OFFICIAL FLATHEAD VALLEY MAP!

The official Flathead Valley Map is produced here in Kalispell and is distributed to both U.S. and international visitors, lodging accommodations, Northwest Montana visitors centers, surrounding area chambers of commerce, attractions and museums, real estate brokerages, car rental businesses, Glacier Park International Airport, and more...

The map includes the areas of Kalispell, Bigfork, Columbia Falls, Evergreen, Lakeside, Somers, and Whitefish, and is updated with new streets and destination highlights each year.

ADVERTISEMENTS START AT JUST \$200!

Contact our Membership Development Manager, Krista Borgardt, to take advantage of this great advertising opportunity: k.borgardt@kalispellchamber.com or (406) 758-5054.

Great Northern Gourmet

2/14 & 2/15

All Ladies Get a Complimentary / Glass of Pink Champagne!

Valentine's Menu Highlights

A ver / special Baked Brie or Duck F risicciutto Flatbread

Bucatini & Spic / Wa / gu Meatballs

Arroz Negro Seafood Faella

Cedar F lank Salmon Dijon Beurre Blanc

Moroccan Lamb & Tagine

2-Sauce Tomahawk Steak w/ Croquette

Cherr / Fie w/ Fisticchio Ice Cream

Chocolate & Strawberr / Cupcake

425 Grand Drive, Bigfork
837-2715

FLATHEAD LAKE BREWING CO.
15th
ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION
FEBRUARY 11TH THROUGH FEBRUARY 15TH
www.FlatheadLakeBrewing.com

EMPLOYER
of
CHOICE
AWARDS
2019

Now
Accepting
Nominations!

Love where you work?
Nominate your company Today!

Email JSEC Coordinator Betsy Nelson betsy.nelson@mt.gov for a link to the nomination form or call Job Service Kalispell 758-6200



MONTANA
YOUNG PROFESSIONALS
SUMMIT 2019
KALISPELL

COMING TO KALISPELL
JUNE 12-14

REGISTER NOW!