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OUT TO LUNCH & DOWNTOWN TONIGHT - DOWNTOWN MISSOULA'S WEEKLY FREE SUMMER CONCERTS - COMMENCE JUNE 1 AND JUNE 2

After five months of planning and preparation, the Missoula Downtown Association (MDA) will launch the 31st annual *Out to Lunch Summer Series* on Wednesday, June 1 and the 16th annual *Downtown ToNight Summer Series* on Thursday, June 2. These free summer outdoor concerts events take place every week through June, July and August in Caras Park in the heart of Downtown Missoula.

The *Out to Lunch Summer Series* was started in 1986 and is the longest-standing outdoor food and music event in Montana. Each Wednesday during lunchtime from 11 am to 2 pm, folks can enjoy live music free of charge and/or purchase lunch from one of 23 food trucks and vendors in the park.

Missoula's **Mike Bader Blues Band** will grace the stage on the June 1 Opening Day for *Out to Lunch*, and the Jeannette Rankin Peace Center will provide free activities for children. The 2016 season will feature the **Big Sky Mudflaps** on June 8, the **Ed Norton Big Band** June 22, the **International Choral Festival** kickoff on July 13, and several other interesting Missoula-area bands. New to the stage this year are the **Salamanders** and the **Retro-Tones** June 15, **You Knew Me When** July 27, and the **Western Union Swing Band** at the season finale August 24.

Folks are encouraged to bike, walk and bus into Downtown for *Out to Lunch* on Wednesdays, and the *Out to Lunch* Trolley will run each week from the University of Montana South Campus Parking Lot to/from Downtown. Those interested in driving can park in the Central Park Garage on West Main or the Park Place Garage on East Front. Parking is free for the first hour in both garages.

The *Downtown ToNight Summer Series* was created in 2001 and modeled after the very successful *Out to Lunch* program. Every Thursday after work from 5:30-8:30 pm, Missoula families and their guests enjoy adult beverages, food trucks, live music and children's playtime in Caras Park.

Jameson & the Sordid Seeds, a rock, reggae and blues band from Whitefish, Mont., will open the *Downtown ToNight Summer Series* on June 2, and Traveler's Rest State Park will offer complimentary children's activities. New to the *Downtown ToNight* lineup for 2016 are **Black Mountain Moan** June 23, **Full Grown Band** June 30, **Bent Bones** July 14, **Luke Dowler** July 21, and **Moneypenny** August 11. Highlights include **Gladys Friday** on June 9, the **Missoula Independent's Best of Missoula Awards** on July 7, and **County Line** and the Great Griz Encounter at the season finale on August 25.

Seven new food trucks and vendors will be joining the fun, bringing lots of interesting and dynamic food choices to the mix. Those new vendors include Big Thai Country Food Truck, Butte Pasty Company, Ina's Indian Tacos, Kayle, Knuckleheads BBQ (returning after a 10-year leave), the Taco Treat Truck, and Wally & Buck. Of course many of Missoula's beloved favorites will also be serving up a wide variety of excellent foods for both programs.

"Downtown Missoula is the envy of many communities across the west because of these wonderful weekly gatherings in the heart of our community," said Aimee McQuilkin, President of the MDA Board of Directors and owner of Betty's Divine clothing boutique on the Hip Strip. "These 26 events create opportunities for engagement, enjoyment, commerce and comradery."

Drawing close to 80,000 attendees over the course of the 13-week schedule, *Out to Lunch* and *Downtown ToNight* are funded entirely by Missoula-area businesses or organizations that purchase sponsorships, as well as vending fees. Nearly 70 businesses and organizations are supporting the programs this year, including Zip Beverage, Mountain Line, Blackfoot Telecommunications, Missoula Pediatric Dentistry, TrailWest Bank, MCAT, Zillastate, Missoula in Motion and many, many more.

For more information on *Out to Lunch*, contact Leidy Wagener (leidy@missouladowntown.com). For more information on *Downtown ToNight*, contact Kristen Sackett (kristen@missouladowntown.com).

FOOD OPTIONS FOR OUT TO LUNCH AND DOWNTOWN TONIGHT 2016

FOOD TRUCKS & VENDORS	OWNER/MANAGER	MENU
1. Baskin Robbins	Matt Loomis	16 flavors of Ice Cream, milkshakes, floats, and more
2. Big Dipper	Bryan Hickey	13 flavors of Ice Cream, served in cones and cups
3. Big Thai Country Food Truck	Jume Saowalak Slover	Crispy shrimp, pork skewers, specialty items
4. Butte Pasty Company	Scott MacIntyre	Pastries filled with meat and potatoes, gravy optional
5. Clove Cart Pizza Peddlers	Emma Poole	Pizza made to order and organic salads, gluten-free too
6. Covered Wagon Hot Dogs	Bryant Knoll	Hot dogs, Polish sausages, Bratwurst, and more
7. El Cazador	Alfredo Hernandez	Mexican Cuisine made to order
8. Ina's Indian Tacos	Kathryn Reddies	Indian Tacos, fry bread, French fries and much more
9. Isla's Lemonade	Noemi Jijon	Hand-made, fresh-squeezed lemonade
10. Kayle	RJ Wimett	Healthy, organic salads, wraps, eggs and smoothies
11. Knuckleheads BBQ	Matt Crain	Smoked meat sandwiches, ribs, rice, beans, salads
12. Lil' Orbits of Montana	Jim & Mary Fisher	Hand-made mini donuts and specialty coffee drinks
13. MacKenzie River Pizza Co.	Joe Edelen	Pizza by the slice, beverages
14. Masala	Theo Smith, Ryan Scott	Eastern Indian curries and masalas
15. Pagoda Chinese & Thai Food	Sudarat Khiedoduangdee	Chinese chicken dishes, tofu dishes, eggs rolls and more
16. Pita Pit	Chris Butz	Made-to-order Pita sandwiches, beverages
17. Polka Dot Patties	Mindy Bowman, Karin Brier	Grilled sandwiches, nachos, fries and more
18. Sa Wa Dee	Am Penny	Pad Thai, Chicken Curries, egg rolls, potato balls, more
19. Taco Sano	Chris Butz	Specialty tacos made to order, beverages
20. Taco Treat	Jody Kralich, Tracy Lewis	Seasoned beef tacos, cheese crisps and more
21. Tia's Tamales	Kim West	Hand-crafted, gluten-free, organic tamales
22. Vietnam Noodle	Julie Wang	Spring rolls, pot stickers, chicken dishes
23. Wally & Buck	Kelsey Buckley & Travis Walnum	Specialty burgers with toppings of all kinds

Downtown Missoula: Connecting Our Community!