



"What's Up Downtown"

The Laramie Main Street E-Newsletter

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December 2008

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Downtown Business Notices & Specials

Wyoming State Bank

Please consider Wyoming State Bank for your business lending and service needs. We are "Wyoming Proud and Proudly Independent".

3430 E. Grand Ave.
Laramie, WY
307-721-9100



Dear Jane

There's a lot going on downtown this month -- please read on and mark your calendars. Many holiday events are coming up early in the month, be sure to take note!

Thank you for subscribing to the monthly Laramie Main Street Program e-newsletter -- as always, please call (742-2212) or email (mainstreet@laramiewy.org) if you have news for the January newsletter.

Laramie Selected as a "Preserve America" Community!

Laramie Main Street would like to congratulate the City of Laramie on its recent designation as a "Preserve America" Community. On November 5th, First Lady Laura Bush, honorary chair of Preserve America, sent a letter to Mayor Hanson announcing our city's designation.

The designation was awarded due to Laramie's continued efforts to ensure that our community protects and celebrates its heritage, uses its historic assets for economic development and community revitalization, and encourages people to experience and appreciate local historic resources through education and heritage tourism programs.

We here at Laramie Main Street could not be more proud of our town! Our thanks to the many people whose hard work have made this designation possible. For more information on the designation or the Preserve America Program, please visit our website at www.laramiemainstreet.org.

Downtown Holiday Events for December: Mark Your Calender!

It's beginning to look a lot like the holidays downtown! The

www.wyomingstatebank.com

The Bead Shop Offers Special on Thursdays!

The Bead Shop is Located at 119 Ivinson Ave. Stop in to find out the "THURSDAY" Special during December!!!

Holiday Hours

- Sundays from noon-4pm
- Monday-Saturday from 10:30am-6pm
- Thursdays open till 8pm

Get Your New Holiday Look at Ambience Hair Design

Hurry down to Ambience Hair Design located at 218 E. Ivinson today for your holiday look! Or call 745-1533 to book your appointment today!



The Brown 'N Gold Outlet Offers New Line of LHS and Wyotech Gear!

The holiday season is here, and the Brown 'N Gold has got something for everyone! Stop by our location on 4th and University to stock up on our new line of LHS and Wyotech gear along with our discounted Wyoming apparel!

Downtown Laramie Business Association would like to remind you of the following events upcoming this holiday season:

- Christmas Tree Lighting: Dec 6th at 5:30 pm
- Downtown Christmas Parade: Dec 6th at 6pm (immediately following the Christmas Tree Lighting)
- Photos With Santa: Dec 6th (3:30-5:30pm) and Dec 13th (10-12am) location 216 Grand, across from Tommy Jack's
- Window Display Contest Judging: Begins Dec 5th at 5:45pm

If you have any questions regarding the Window Display Contest, please contact Nicholas at Laramie Main Street at mainstreet@laramiewy.org. To find a copy of the entry forms for the DLBA 2008 Downtown Christmas Parade, please visit Coal Creek Coffee at 1st and Grand. (Or, visit Main Street's website at www.laramiemainstreet.org -- a link for the forms is on the front page.)

The DLBA would also like to remind you if you are looking for gifts for your employees and family members this year, be sure to purchase downtown gift certificates that can be used at ANY downtown business. They may be purchased at First Interstate Bank, First National Bank Downtown Branch, Bank of the West, American National Bank and Wyoming State Bank. The DLBA offers a straight 10% discount to any organization, business or individual that purchases a minimum of \$2,000 or more in downtown gift certificates at one time.

Come and enjoy the festivities in your downtown. While there, don't forget to stop by and do some holiday shopping at our many great businesses! You're sure to find the perfect gift for whomever you are looking for!

Letter from the Board Chair

"The Laramie Main Street Program's director, as the organization's sole paid staff person, plays a key role in what Main Street can get accomplished. Our director coordinates the work of 45 volunteers, manages all administrative aspects of our program, and serves as the point of contact for the organization.

Because of the work of Jane Daniels and of Cara Griffin, we've gotten a lot done in our first three years. Cara Griffin has recently submitted her resignation, effective at the end of December.

We are now looking for a new director - someone who will be able to pick up right where Cara left off. We have begun considering options for an interim staff person, if necessary, to ensure that we give ourselves time to find the right match for the position while continuing to press ahead with our projects.

Mountain Valley Bridal Renovates!

The Bridal Shop has a new face! Stop by and check out the new carpet, tile and paint. **We will be having a grand opening on December 13th**, be sure to stop by and see our progress in action. We cannot wait to show you the finished product!!



Mountain Valley Beauty
and Bridal Boutique
220 S. 2nd St.
742-9771

Big Hollow Food Co-op Taking Special Orders for the Holidays



Big Hollow Food Co-op is now taking special orders for holiday meats. Please call or stop by to place your order.

Business Hours

- **Monday-Friday 10am-7pm**
- **Saturday-Sunday 10am-5pm**

As always, leadership of the program still resides with the Board and we will continue to set the program's course. While staff turnover can be a challenge for any organization, challenges can also present opportunities for growth. I am confident that this will be an opportunity to reexamine and reaffirm the program's direction and the dedication of our volunteer Board and Committee members.

Jerry Schmidt
Board Chair"

For a position description and information on how to apply, visit www.laramiemainstreet.org

Downtown Gallery Walks Friday, Dec. 5th, 6:00-8:30

KEAG Gallery is an eclectic space next to All Terrain Sports. Opening reception for Patrick Kikut's work is December 5th, at 6pm. His exhibit is entitled Featured Attractions. Come and enjoy great art and conversation. A portion of all proceeds will be donated to the Biodiversity Conservation Alliance.

Refreshments provided.
414 Grand Avenue
(307) 745-3308
www.keaggallery.com

Big Hollow Food Co-op presents the 1st Annual Gallery Walk and Christmas Bazaar. This Friday, the Co-op features work from Dennis Fonfara, Garth Cossairt, Tad Anderson, and paintings of food by Terry R. Reid.

119 S. 1st St.
(307) 745-3586

The Copper Kettle features the digital Photography of Beth Buskirk and Polina Novikova-Kinney. Exhibit is co-sponsored by NorthernFront.

Refreshments provided.
209 S 2nd St.
(307) 742-1800

The Jeweler features artwork by NorthernFront artists Raymond L. Jordan, Ginnie Madsen, & Jon Madsen, and Terry R. Reid.

213 S. 3rd St.
(307) 721-3854

119 South 1st St.
307-745-3846

KEAG Gallery Shows

"Hello All-

Thank you for supporting the arts in Laramie . Currently, KEAG is exhibiting the fiber art of Dona Fleming. Her work is gorgeous. If you have not had the opportunity to enjoy her pieces, I encourage the trip. Dona's work is on display through December 3rd. There will be a drawing on the third one of her original pieces (a silk scarf that is beautiful).

Opening reception for Patrick Kikut's work is December 5th at 6pm. His exhibit is entitled Featured Attractions. Come and enjoy great art and conversation. A portion of all proceeds will be donated to the Biodiversity Conservation Alliance.

Happy Holidays!!!
Sarah Ramsey-Walters
KEAG Gallery
414 Grand Avenue
Laramie , WY 82070
(307) 745-3308
<http://keaggallery.com>

Many Downtown Businesses Open Late During December

Many downtown businesses will be open till 8pm on Thursdays in December before Christmas. Look for stockings in the windows of participating businesses.

Some of the participating businesses include: Cross Country Connection, Second Story Bookstore, The Copper Kettle, Sweet Pickles, Mountain Valley Bridal, Aspen Appliance, Antique Fever, The Music Box, The Bead Shop, Chickering Bookstore, Cowgirl Yarn, Mimi's, Augusta Mizzelwitt's Back of the Wagon Antiques, Alexander's and D & L Music. Staying open late should help light up the downtown on Thursday nights!

2009 High School Football Championships to be Held in Laramie

"The 2009 Wyoming High School Football Championships are a year away, scheduled to be held in Laramie November 12th-14th, 2009. The decision to hold this first ever event was voted on by the Wyoming High School Activities Association board. All classes, 4A-1A, will play their championship games in War Memorial Stadium on the University of Wyoming Campus.

The economic impact to Laramie and Albany County should be significant. It is hoped that members of Laramie Main Street, Downtown Laramie Business Association and the Laramie Area Chamber of Commerce will put forth ideas to make sure we all put out the "red carpet" to help insure this becomes an annual event.

Anyone who wishes to contribute ideas and/or time to this endeavor can contact the Albany County Tourism Board at 307-745-4195 or 800-445-5303. You can also reach me via email at director@visitolaramie.org or check out our website at www.visitolaramie.org."

Fred Ockers
Executive Director
Albany County Tourism Board

Fox Theater News

The City Council has discussed demolition of the Fox Theater at several recent council meetings and worksessions. While final plans and timeline for demolition have not been made, the City is contracting with ESA, Inc (demolition contractors out of Denver) to demolish the roof in December. This is expected to take about one day, and will involve use of a crane. The roof is being demolished in December, in a safe and controlled manner, in order to avoid an uncontrolled collapse that could be caused by heavy snowfall over the winter. A full demolition plan for the theater is not known at this time, nor is the timing of the demolition or what the

potential impacts on traffic flow or neighboring buildings might be.

The city has applied for an emergency funding grant from SLIB (State Lands and Investment Board) to demolish the building; whether or not this application is successful should be known in December.

Laramie Main Street Board Chair Jerry Schmidt appointed an ad hoc task force to oversee a redevelopment plan for the site post demolition and abatement. A redevelopment plan would identify potential economically viable uses that would complement existing downtown businesses, potential redevelopment partners, and outline a course of action for redeveloping the site.

There have been several articles on demolition of the Fox Theater in The Laramie Boomerang. Please consult our website at www.laramiemainstreet.org for links to these articles.

Postcards with historic images of Downtown Laramie available

Laramie Main Street has printed postcards with historic images of Downtown Laramie. Postcards are on sale at the Curiosity Shoppe and Ludwig Photography. Or, contact Laramie Main Street at 742-2212 or mainstreet@laramiewy.org. Each postcard is \$1, or buy a package of all four for \$3.

You can view the images online by clicking [here](#).

If you are a business interested in selling these postcards, please contact Laramie Main Street for wholesale pricing.

Proceeds benefit Laramie Main Street Program.

Railroad History Threatened

Larry Ostrech, who works to preserve Laramie's Railroad heritage, sent this email this morning. (If you are interested in helping to save this car, contact mainstreet@laramiewy.org and we will put you in touch with Larry Ostresh.)

"Another piece of Laramie's railroad legacy will soon be lost: The "Pink Car" in the West Side next to Spiegelberg Lumber is scheduled to be scrapped in the next week or two. The car was built for the Union Pacific in 1929 by Ralston Steel Car Company as an automobile car, class A-50-12, one of 500 cars in the series 152001-152500. It was later converted to a bunk car and renumbered. A photo of a similar car appeared in The Streamliner, Vol. 16, No. 3 (see below). The car is in excellent condition and is still on its original trucks.

Smiley's Salvage owns the car and has offered to sell it for \$6,000.

Best wishes,
Larry"



Six man Bunk Car UPMW 906111 was converted from an outside-braced A-5012 Automobile Car with Dreadnought ends originally built by the Ralston Steel Car Co. in 1929. Company records indicate that 498 of the 500 cars built by Ralston in series 152001-152500 were converted and renumbered for other service. Photo dates from November 1970. - Union Pacific photo, Bob Odland collection

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THE STREAMLINER Vol. 16 No. 3

Location Change for Preservation Summit in Casper

The 2008 Preservation Summit in Casper has changed locations. It will now be taking place on December 5th at 10am at the UW Cooperative Extension Building, 2011 Fairgrounds Road.

For more information on this event please consult our website at www.laramiemainstreet.org.

Sincerely,
The Laramie Main Street Program Team

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