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MISSION BAY SPLASH



New Business Opens in Polson

A PLACE FOR STUFF: 15 BUSINESSES CALL TREASURE STATE MERCANTILE HOME

Reprinted from Missoulian 9/29/09 By Vince Devlin. Photo by Michael Gallacher



POLSON - Karen McMullen had known since March that the fitness center that leased the Main Street storefront she and her husband own in Polson would be leaving.

Filling the space wasn't a problem - there was interest from attorneys, insurance companies and a mortgage company.

But McMullen didn't like the idea of turning what she considers a great downtown retail space into offices.

When no other retailer entered the picture, she and her husband, Bob Marsenich, did.

Now downtown Polson has not one new merchant, but 15 of them.

Treasure State Mercantile evolved as summer arrived - along with the tourists who flock to Flathead Lake - and the building was still sitting empty.

And boy, did it evolve quickly.

A friend, Ellen Buchanan - director of the Missoula Redevelopment Agency - told McMullen what was happening to vacant buildings back East, where old five-and-dime stores like Woolworth's had closed.

"These two- and three-story buildings were re-opening, filled with artisan booths," McMullen says.

The seed planted, McMullen came up with a plan. She pictured her store filled with arts and crafts made by local people, and advertised for such.

What she ended up with was something a little different.

There is that element to Treasure State Mercantile - artists such as Marvie Redmond, Sara Gunderson and photographer Kathy Shore have leased wall space from McMullen. In one of the small glass display cases that can be leased, 11-year-old Emma Franz of Missoula and her grandmother, Pat Wolfe of Portland, Ore., offer Emma's handmade earrings and Wolfe's tiny watercolor paintings.

But the bulk of the store's 1,800 square feet of retail space is taken up by other retailers.

Shiree Dupuis Ryan, who owns the Family Health Pharmacy and Gift Gallery in Ronan, leased two sections of the store and stocked it with everything from bear, elk and deer carvings, to kitchen utensils and monogrammed wine stoppers.

Maren Rae, whose store across the Armed Forces Memorial Bridge in Polson - Maren's Rare Gifts - might be seen as the competition, is instead part of the fledgling business. She, too, leased space and brought some of her largely imported inventory into town.

Robin Ohriner, who has a summer home on Flathead Lake but owns a business in Las Vegas, rented a 27-foot truck and hauled dolls, fairies, Christmas decorations, children's books, games - even a case of \$300 Ed Hardy sunglasses - from her Gifts of Distinction store in Nevada to sell at Treasure State Mercantile.

Roberta Anderson of Polson designs jewelry that is made by silversmiths in Rajasthan, India, and mostly sells it internationally as a wholesale distributor - but she rents two cases of retail space in the store.

Store manager Bobbie Goldberg has a space to sell satchels and purses. McMullen's sister, Linda Suson, has a space offering collectible dolls. Even McMullen rents a small area from herself, where she and Goldberg offer women's plus-size clothing.

McMullen believes the eclectic offerings, with prices that run from a couple of bucks to \$1,000, make for interesting shopping.

"I don't have anything to compare it to," McMullen says, "but we've provided more shopping in Polson, the vendors are getting checks every month, and it really seems to work for a small-town Main Street."



- October 5, 7, & 9, 2009, "ENCAUSTIC ART" workshop at the Sandpiper Art Gallery
The Sandpiper Art Gallery presents "Encaustic Art" by Helen McMillan. (Encaustic Art also known as "hot wax painting", involves using heated beeswax to which colored pigments are added.) Contact The Gallery at 883-5956 for more information
- October 7, 2009 7:30am-5:00pm, ABC CLINIC
The Assistance for Business Clinics are developed to assist NEW and ESTABLISHED employers, accountants, bookkeepers and lawyers in constructing a proactive approach to prevent unnecessary claims and/or charges by providing updated information of state withholding, unemployment tax requirements, wage & hour laws, civil rights laws, and federal tax incentives.

Contact Todd Erickson or Patti Paterson at 883-7885 or 883-7883 for more information

- October 9th and 10th, Grand Opening Treasure State Mercantile. Fri. 4-8 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Live entertainment Fri. 5-7 p.m. 215 Main Street.
- October 15, 2009, SPLASH!!
The Polson Chamber of Commerce invites you to join us for the Support Polson Late Afternoon Social Hour Thursday, October 15, from 5 pm to 7pm. Your host will be Papa Don's at 113 Bayview Dr. at the Polson Bay Golf Club. Invite your business associates and friends and stop by for some great food, drinks and best of all....NETWORKING!
Contact The Chamber at 406-883-5969 for more information
- October 23,24,25 & Oct 30,31 & Nov 1, 2009, "ANNIE" presented by The Port Polson Players
"Annie" a Broadway Musical (reservations advised). Friday, Saturday, Sunday for 2 weeks.
Curtain time is 8pm. Sunday matinees 2pm.
Contact Call Box Office for reservations at 406-883-9212 for more information
- October 24, 2009 at 10:00am, Live Locally 5K Run/Walk
In honor of Lung Health Awareness and National Pasta Month, Health Care Plus and Country Pasta have teamed up to offer a 5K run/walk. Enjoy a healthy morning run or walk, followed by food, fun and the opportunity to win several prizes donated by local businesses.
Contact Health Care Plus at 406-883-3910 for more information
- October 31, 2009, "HALLOWEEN PARTY" at the Mission Valley Elks Club
More information to come.....
Contact Mission Valley Elks Club at 406-883-1695 for more information

E-How Tip:

How to Guide to Winterizing Your Home

http://www.ehow.com/how_5411653_guide-winterizing-home.html

Featured Property #1

**UNDERSTATED ELEGANCE EXECUTED WITH
QUALITY CONSTRUCTION AND AN EYE FOR DETAIL**

Priced at: \$389,000



Two lots, one new home: Home is bank owned and \$71,000 under recent appraisal plus seller will throw in an additional 1.12 acres view-shed lot which allows walking access to Flathead Lake.

- Enjoy the peaceful, timbered setting atop northernmost tip of Finley Point.
- Luxurious single-floor elegance in this architecturally designed, custom home with Polson, Narrows & main lake views.
- Includes extensive use of granite countertops on kitchen cabinets, island, and L-shaped eating counter.
- Attention to a variety of natural elements including native fir interior arbor, quarter-sawn oak cabinetry, wide plank
- oak flooring, clear redwood casement extensions, and select cedar ceilings.
- Master suite boasts a view down to the islands of the narrows, a propane fire place, jetted tub, double-fixture tiled shower, double sinks, and toe-warmer.
- 2262 square feet of flowing space on 1.94 acres. 3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths, attached Double Garage with storage room.

Call Mac Swan 253-0855
Mission Bay Realty

Featured Property #2

RIVERFRONT LUXURY CONDO

River Landing Unit 3-C

Priced at: \$950,000



River Landing homes have been designed to provide the ultimate in both Montana elegance and carefree lake living. Sweeping views of Flathead Lake and River as well as the Mission Mountains from living areas and decks of this Gallery Level home. This upper-end unit provides additional light and privacy. River rock, log and timber accents. This price includes a boat slip valued at \$25,000.

- Slate entry
- Massive timber trusses in vaulted great room, kitchen and dining area
- Gas fireplace with river rock surround and timber mantel
- 7-foot solid alder interior doors
- Hand scraped wood plank floors in great room, kitchen and dining area
- Knotty alder trim with 5" baseboard
- French doors open onto deck and patio

Call 883-1730

Mission Bay Realty

Featured Photos

By Jan Myers



Along the highway to Columbia Falls



A new fawn in Apgar in Glacier National Park



Along the highway in Glacier National Park



Hope you enjoyed this issue of Mission Bay Splash. Please stop by with any real estate questions. We'd love to assist you however we can. See you soon.

Mac Brooke Brandy Jan Dennis

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