



# On the Gulch

A Newsletter For and About City of Helena Employees

## Did You Know?

### Highlights - Changes & New City Services

#### Employee News

##### Congratulations and welcome to:

Brenda Hicken, our legal administrative assistant in the City Attorney's office.



## May 19

City employees help our neighbors every year by rolling up our sleeves and painting, weeding, & mowing yards of those who cannot help themselves.

We need you this year! To sign up, call or email Greta Dige x8458 [gdige@helenamt.gov](mailto:gdige@helenamt.gov).

*Speak with your supervisor about taking time to participate.*

- ◆ ...utility/water bills can now be paid online with a credit or debit card?  
<http://www.helenamt.gov/departments/administrative-services-finance/utility-customer-services.html>
- ◆ ...credit cards are now being accepted for certain building permits and business & dog licenses?
- ◆ ...the engineering department is now posting budgeted capital project information on their webpage?  
<http://www.helenamt.gov/public-works/engineering/master-plans/budgeted-capital-projects.html>
- ◆ ...the large-screen monitor on the first floor of the city/county building is a great place to post information about city services, and upcoming city events?

To read more about how our budget is prioritized, check out last year's approved budget, page 27: [http://www.helenamt.gov/fileadmin/user\\_upload/City\\_Administration/Documents/FY2015\\_Report.pdf](http://www.helenamt.gov/fileadmin/user_upload/City_Administration/Documents/FY2015_Report.pdf)

Send content ideas to Sarah Elkins [selkins@helenamt.gov](mailto:selkins@helenamt.gov).

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## Had an accident in a city vehicle? Call the police! ...and then...

...don't say "looks like our fault, I'm sure the city will take care of it."

**Until an investigation is complete, we cannot promise anything!**

Be kind & considerate and give the person the following contact information to file a claim:  
Carrie Hahn ([chahn@helenamt.gov](mailto:chahn@helenamt.gov), x8406) or Liz Hirst ([lhirst@helenamt.gov](mailto:lhirst@helenamt.gov), x8402).

## City Employees - We're All in this Together

### February & March Training Opportunities

- \* Harassment, Diversity and Discrimination Training (required for new employees)  
February 5; 10-11:00 and  
February 18; 2-3:00
- \* Customer Service or Lip Service  
February 18; 11-12:00
- \* Supervisory Training  
February 26; 10-noon
- \* Roth vs. Traditional IRA  
February 26; 12-1pm
- \* Time Management  
March 11; 11-noon

Go to our city HR intranet site to see details on upcoming training opportunities.

Ask your supervisor to attend and sign up with Morgan Maynard 447-8333.

[https://intranet.helenamt.gov/fileadmin/user\\_upload/HR/Safety/Safety\\_Training/TRAINING\\_CALENDAR\\_2014-15.pdf](https://intranet.helenamt.gov/fileadmin/user_upload/HR/Safety/Safety_Training/TRAINING_CALENDAR_2014-15.pdf)

Another of our city employees was nominated for an award through MMIA! Congratulations to Ben Sautter, Street Superintendent for his nomination for a Bob Worthington Award:

Ben is very quick to respond to problems that may arise, as well as looking for effective solutions. Ben responds to requests to fill potholes in an exceptionally timely and well organized manner. He also promotes a great safety culture among his staff so his department ranks among one of the best in terms of low workers' compensation claim experience.

While Ben certainly deserves this nomination, the entire staff in the city streets, traffic & signal, and fleet divisions must be recognized for their outstanding internal and external customer service. The divisions work with almost every department in the city to keep our vehicles maintained, our streets and sidewalks clear and safe, and a number of other public related services in the city.

Part of what makes our city services exceptional is exactly what these divisions demonstrate for all of our departments - the understanding that we are a team; we are in this together because we care about our community.

When you see our city employees around town, whether they are driving plows or sand trucks, maintaining our parks, maintaining our water and wastewater systems, working with the public on business & dog licenses, or paying utility bills, thank your colleagues for their service to our city. Each one of us represents all city employees whether we are in uniform or not, be a good ambassador for all of us!



### Fish Tacos - Easy, Fast, & Healthy

Kirkland (Costco) brand fish sticks have more fish and less breading, which translates to fewer calories and more brain food. Use those to make this recipe healthier.

Bake the fish sticks as directed. While fish sticks are baking, mix in a saucepan a can of refried or black beans, a can of diced tomatoes, a small can of diced mild green chilies, 1/2 cup frozen corn niblets, and a sprinkle of taco seasoning (and chopped fresh cilantro if you have some). Heat corn tortillas on a griddle or skillet, then serve with fish sticks, the heated bean mixture, salsa, chopped lettuce and a dollop of sour cream for color.