



TIME OF CELEBRATION



GARY MARSHALL PHOTOS, BMGPHOTOS.COM

The annual Montana Pride parade is held Saturday along the Helena walking mall.

Montana Pride parade hits streets of downtown Helena

INDEPENDENT RECORD

The Montana Pride parade marched through downtown Helena on Saturday, part of a weeklong celebration of the LGBTQ+ community.

The parade went down Last Chance Gulch, along the walking mall, and ended at Anchor Park, where there were vendors and informational booths.

Montana Pride Week in Helena, which runs July 27-Aug. 3, is touted as a celebration of love, diversity, and equality. The weeklong event included a parade, various activities, and numerous -focused events.

Those events included an educational fair, a make your own T-shirt party, bingo, hikes, dance parties, yoga

There are now 13 pride celebrations across the state at different times, said Kev Hamm, who founded Montana Pride in 2014.



The annual Montana Pride parade is held Saturday in downtown Helena.

‘Anaconda Strong’: After shooting, town grieves for four of its own

CHRISTINE COMPTON AND KATY MCCUMBER
Helena Independent Record and
The Montana Standard

Just 26 hours after four people he knew were shot by a fifth, a patron of Anaconda’s JFK bar raised a plastic cup.

“To a good day,” Dan Grinolds said, swallowing half his drink.

Outside, scraps of police tape roll down the torn concrete road, floating from the Owl Bar a block away.

The roads are quiet Saturday afternoon. Cars and trucks slow as they pass the Owl and its neighboring two houses, still roped off.

The lights are out. Bundles of pink, yellow and purple flowers sit at the feet of the Owl’s street sign, the corner of Washington and 3rd Street.

No one speaks outside. No one is seen outside.

But inside JFK, people talk.

“There was always something about him,” Dave Jarabek said.

“Too many tears last night,” Grinolds said.

At 10:30 a.m. Aug. 1, 45-year-old Michael Paul Brown left his home next to the Owl Bar and fatally shot four — a bartender and three patrons, authorities said.

He escaped in a white Ford F-150 pickup. Hours later, authorities found the pickup but not Brown. He’s still at large.

Brown was an Owl regular, Jill Rowles said.

In a town like Anaconda, 9,800 people strong, everyone feels everything. You have an untied shoe, in 30 minutes, half the town has heard, JFK owner Keith Wilkins said.

All that to say, as a fellow Owl regular, Rowles knew Brown, too. She knew

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DUNCAN ADAMS, MONTANA STANDARD

A sign on the front door of the Ranch Bar west of Anaconda says “Closed Active Shooter on the Loose.” As of Saturday night, the shooter was still at large.