— WHERE YOUR STORY LIVES Monday, August 18, 2025 helenair.com

# **ENCORE!**



Grandstreet Theatre held it's 50th birthday block party Saturday in Helena. Over 200 people packed the parking lot at the City-County Building for food, games and music.



Grandstreet Theatre held its 50th birthday block party Saturday in Helena in the parking lot of the City County Building, across the street from the theater.



More than 200 people packed the parking lot Saturday at the City-County Building for food, games and music celebrating Grandstreet Theatre's 50th anniversary.

### Grandstreet celebrates 50 years with block party

#### INDEPENDENT RECORD

Grandstreet Theatre threw a block party Saturday to celebrate its 50th anniversary.

The event included an evening of live music, food from local food trucks, interactive games, a photo booth and the debut of limited-edition Grandstreet merchandise celebrating its half-century mark. Grandstreet Theatre has been a cornerstone of Helena's cultural life since 1975,

nurturing artists, entertaining generations, and building a home where creativity thrives.

The celebration was in the City-County Building parking lot, across the street

from the theater. The event was in partnership with the Helena Area Chamber of Commerce and the Helena Business Improvement District.

The event also served as a thank you to the volunteers, artists, patrons and supporters who have shaped Grandstreet's legacy, organizers said.

## No contaminants so far, but testing of Butte water continues

#### **DUNCAN ADAMS**

duncan.adams@mtstandard.com

Sonja Nowakowski slung a case of bottled water into the back of a Butte resident's SUV. Nowakowski, director of the Montana Department of Environmental Quality, participated Sunday at the main office of Montana Resources in distributing cases of

water to residents affected by current water

use restrictions. An errant hydrant connection at Montana Resources raised the possibility that process water from the sprawling copper and molybdenum mine in Butte might have mixed with municipal drinking water.

On Aug. 13, Montana Resources notified the Butte-Silver Bow Water Utility Division that an errant connection could have introduced unknown contaminants into the city's

water supply.

A Do Not Consume order was issued and refined for people living in the potentially affected area — located south of Farrell, west of Continental, north of Ottawa and east of Farragut and Howard.

On Sunday morning, vehicles arrived steadily at Montana Resources to receive

Nowakowski said she is aware of the burden imposed by the Do Not Consume order but said public safety is paramount.

She said sampling and testing to date have not detected contaminants but said DEQ believes additional analysis is required "in the off chance there are pockets of contamination."

Please see WATER, Page A2



**DUNCAN ADAMS. THE MONTANA STANDARD** 

Sonja Nowakowski, director of the Montana Department of Environmental Quality, surveys a bottled water distribution site Sunday morning in the parking lot of Montana Resources of Butte. Testing to date has not revealed contaminants but more testing is required, she said. To her right is J. P. Gallagher, chief executive of Butte-Silver Bow County.