## **BY US**







A sip of wine, a bite to eat, boutique retail shops, and live concerts from local bands scattered along Lewiston's Main Street—you'll encounter and enjoy a lot during any of Beautiful Downtown Lewiston's First Friday events spread throughout the year.

Executive Director of Beautiful Downtown Lewiston, Brenda Morgan, brings together local businesses of all varieties for a once-monthly celebration. Retail stores, restaurants, bars, and more welcome the community to Main Street on First Fridays with wine tastings, special menu items, and limited-time discounts.

"First Friday really gives our local downtown business owners an extra opportunity or excuse to party after-hours," said Brenda Morgan, executive director of Beautiful Downtown Lewiston. "I love seeing all of the business owners on Main Street come together and find their voice, whether they've been on Main Street for years or they're brand new."

First Fridays have been taking place downtown since early 2023. Brenda Morgan and a volunteer committee of downtown business owners and supporters including Tobe Finch of Happy Day Restaurants, Deb Zenner of DZ Designs, and Brenda Barnes of Business Connections by Brenda Barnes, meet monthly to plan programming and reach out to other local businesses.

Joining First Friday through Beautiful Downtown Lewiston as a featured business is easy and free, but Tobe says the best part of his role on the committee is inviting business owners to the party.

"Businesses need that encouragement," Tobe said. "And during First Friday, people are coming to Lewiston to enjoy our businesses."

Deb Zenner of DZ Designs brings historical perspective to First Fridays, having been involved with the events since February 2023. She and Brenda Barnes both share excitement for the growth of the event and the potential for more businesses to come together for future First Fridays.

"First Fridays are a feast for all five senses," Deb said. "With appetizers, music, and beverages, it's all a fun way for those who work regular business hours to come downtown to enjoy everything downtown has to offer."

"Not only is there music in Brackenbury Square," Brenda Barnes said. "Many stores on Main Street are offering specials and music - it's a festival."

Monthly First Fridays are an opportunity for long-time locals, new visitors, and everyone in between to visit and invest in businesses along Main Street for a new and fun experience. Come watch the event and our business partners grow!

Join Brenda Morgan of Beautiful Downtown Lewiston, Deb Zenner of DZ Designs, Tobe Finch of Happy Day Restaurants, Brenda Barnes of Business Connections by Brenda Barnes, and many more downtown business owners and supporters at the upcoming First Friday event on September 1.

Learn more about First Fridays, upcoming events, and how to get involved with downtown happenings on Beautiful Downtown Lewiston's website:

https://www.beautifuldowntownlewiston.com/first-fridays.



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