1st Quarter 2016 Index

Great Falls metro (Cascade County) growth in total wages in last 2 years: 9.5%
   Additional dollars earned per year: $124 million
   Increase in average annual wages in last 2 years: 8%
   Increase in annual average earnings in last 2 years: $2,768
Great Falls metro average annual growth in manufacturing jobs in last 5 years: 6.2%
   Average growth in Montana: 2.9%
   In USA: 1.4%
Investment in Calumet Montana Refining expansion in Great Falls: $450 million
   Contractor hours invested in project: 1.8 million
   Number of construction workers on site at peak of project: 594
   New permanent manufacturing jobs created: 50
Investment in Greenfield Wind project in Teton County: $47 million
Net gain City of Great Falls expects to make on Med/Tech business park: $770,000
Value of building permits issued by City of Great Falls during quarter: $36,139,039
Record sales at C.M. Russell Museum’s 2016 The Russell art auction: $9.4 million
   Number of items in C.M. Russell Museum’s permanent collection: 12,000
Amount of historic 1906 water rights City of Great Falls secured in recent settlement:
   6,335 acre feet at flow rate of 6.0 cubic feet per second
   Number of new hotel units announced to be constructed in Great Falls: 323
   Number of new apartments in Great Falls under construction: 78
   Number of additional new apartments announced to start construction this year: 335
Ranking of Great Falls housing market amongst all 337 national metro markets: 19th
   Billings ranking: 28th
   Missoula ranking: 53rd
Great Falls ranking of most affordable Montana city: 1st
Average annual savings of Great Falls homeowners in mortgage, taxes and insurance over
   Billings homeowners: $1,574
   Over Helena homeowners: $3,023
Average annual Cascade County homeowner savings over Gallatin County: $6,105
   Missoula County: $4,947
   Flathead County: $3,732
City of Great Falls acres of parkland: 1,215
   Number of developed City parks: 57
   Miles of recreational trails: 52
   Estimated number of park trees: 36,000
United States per capita use of wheat flour in 2015: 133 pounds
Number of proposed redevelopment properties being assessed so far under GFDA’s new brownfield program: 6
Pounds of chickpeas harvested in Golden Triangle in 2015: 55,837,500
Pounds of hummus commercially produced in Golden Triangle: 0
Current annual global sales of gluten free products: $3.2 billion
Estimated annual sales by 2020: $4.4 billion
Number of local businesses coached during quarter: 89
Number of coaching sessions: 356
Number of business training sessions offered during quarter: 6
Number of business participants: 68
New contracts won by PTAC clients during quarter: $288,880
New capital investment secured by small business clients during quarter: $2,050,800
Total of GFDA gap and bridge financing loans closed during quarter: $500,000
GFDA loan funds disbursed during quarter: $1,133,671
GFDA and HPF loan commitments at end of quarter: $1,793,000
Active loan portfolio balance at end of quarter: $17,807,833
Percentage of delinquent loans: 0%
Current SBA 504 loan 20 year fixed interest rate, including all fees: 4.320%
Equity required on SBA 504 loan deals: as low as 10%
Downtown renovation and construction permits issued during quarter: 25
Value of permits issued during quarter: $2,644,308
Downtown Great Falls volunteer hours during quarter: 9,532
Number of new businesses opened downtown during quarter: 2
Number of women entrepreneurs in USA: 10.6 million
Percent of U.S. businesses owned by women: 30%
Increase in U.S. women entrepreneurs from 1997 to 2015: 73%
Montana’s share of DOD annual spending in the 50 states and District of Columbia: 0.1%
Montana state ranking for DOD expenditures: 48th
DOD funds spent in Montana within Cascade County: 53%
Montana tax rate rank amongst states: 3rd lowest
Rank after adjusting for cost of living: 3rd lowest
U.S. manufacturers reporting moderate or serious shortage of skilled workers: 82%
Projected United States inflation in 2016: 2.4%
Projected in Venezuela: 720%
U.S. personal savings rate average 1950-1984: 11%
Savings rate in 2005: 3%
Today’s estimated savings rate: 6%
Speed bump the SEC supports to thwart high frequency trading: 1,000 microseconds
Heavy industrial rail-served acres available for immediate construction in Great Falls AgriTech Park: 31.5