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COMMUNIQUE

**Pollner
Professorship
expands to run
year-round**
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REUNITED – Alumni and faculty get reacquainted in Don Anderson Hall. The event kick-started the J-School's 2014 centennial celebration last fall.

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CALLING ALL ALUMS:

Join us during Homecoming for two J-School events on Friday, Sept. 25.

We'll be hosting an Alumni Showcase at 2 p.m. in Don Anderson Hall 210 followed by our Homecoming reception from 3 to 4:30 p.m. in the Guthrie Reading Room in Don Anderson Hall 201. We hope to see you this fall!

New dean for a new century

Veteran NPR newsman Larry Abramson takes charge as the School of Journalism celebrates its centennial

Larry Abramson, a veteran correspondent and former senior editor at National Public Radio, took the helm at the School of Journalism in the fall of 2014, becoming the first broadcaster to hold the position.

Abramson was NPR's national security correspondent before coming to UM. He also covered education, technology, business and science during his 30 years with the news organization. For seven years he served as senior editor for NPR's national desk, overseeing reporters across the nation.

He joined NPR in 1985 as a production assistant for Morning Edition and served as deputy editor for the organization's science unit, which he helped win a national award

for a series on African Americans and AIDS.

A Bay Area native, he has a master's degree in comparative literature from the University of California at Berkeley. Abramson also studied overseas at Trinity College in Dublin, Ireland, and at the Free University in Berlin, Germany.

He begins his deanship at a time of revolutionary change for the news media. Meeting the challenge, he says, will require innovation and experimentation and holding true to the school's tradition that students "learn by doing." (See "A message from the dean," on page 3.)

Abramson is married to journalist Anita Huslin. His son, Seth, serves in the U.S. Air Force in Okinawa, Japan.



Larry Abramson



"There was no template for how to do this," said design specialist Ron Reason about the class he led on design and disruption. "So much change is happening in the industry right now, and it was great to fold topics into the course in real time."

Pollners expand professorship

New spring instructor will focus on visual journalism, design and business strategy

Since 2001, the Pollner Professorship has brought some of the nation's most distinguished journalists to the J-School each fall. Now, thanks to the generosity of the Pollner family, the professorship is offered year-round.

Ron Reason, one of the nation's top media designers, became the school's first spring Pollner Professor in 2015, and his course "Critical Thinking about Design and Disruption" was a runaway hit.

The new spring professorship will focus on visual journalism, design and the business of journalism. The fall professorship will remain centered on reporting and writing. The endowment was created by the family and friends of T. Anthony Pollner, a 1999 journalism graduate who died in 2001.

The different focus of the new seminar offered Reason a golden chance to re-envision journalism.

"There was no template for how to do this," he said. "So much change is happening in the industry right now, and it was great to fold topics into the course in real time."

The students studied major changes happening each month at *The New York Times*. They dissected the redesign of the *NYT Magazine*, the paper's push into mobile, its multimedia journalism and its leadership up close and personal, thanks to a class visit by Executive Editor Dean Baquet.

"All that combined with a number of other real-time case studies to make this a real once-in-a-lifetime teaching opportunity for me," Reason said.

Students praised Reason's expertise, energy and willingness to experiment. Sophomore Kayla Robertson said the course helped her understand the challenges facing journalism and the skill set future journalists must have.

"It's making me face the real world because he makes us think about how we can succeed in journalism," she said. "It's making me look at the skills I'll really need."

During the course, Reason introduced Larry Buchanan, a *Times* multimedia journalist, who Skyped with the class the week before Baquet's visit for the school's Dean Stone lecture.

For Robertson, Buchanan's job, which includes designing, photography, illustration and writing both stories and code, was a revelation.

"He's basically doing everything I want to do," Robertson said. "I saw that it's possible, and that's really cool."

During his time in Montana, Reason also led special training sessions for Montana high school journalists and the Montana Newspaper Association. Reason followed fall Pollner professor William Glaberson, an award-winning reporter for

The New York Times whose seminar focused on covering the courts.

Glaberson's work at the *Times* from 1987 through 2013 included coverage of the Guantanamo terror courts, the Unabomber's trial and the Bush v. Gore election challenge in 2000. He won the Daniel Pearl Investigative Award, and his work was nominated for the Pulitzer Prize on several occasions.



William Glaberson

Madelyn Beck, a senior who took Glaberson's course, said she enjoyed the tough questions he posed to class visitors, his high expectations for writing assignments and his down-to-earth way of relating to students.

"He showed us that we could be a *New York Times* reporter, and that these people weren't untouchable literary gods," she said. "They are just as confused and stressed by the world as the rest of us—just with more writing talent."

In an essay written about his time in Missoula, Glaberson wrote that the payoff came late in the semester.

"As the days turn cold, you notice some things are changing," he wrote. "One student had a way of hanging back so you might not notice him. And then you notice. His reporting is suddenly on fire with vivid details and quotes that catch the way people talk. You tell him how his lead read smooth and sweet. He tells you he worked on it all weekend. You know he gets journalism."

"Another student comes in, as she has before, with a question about how to handle some reporting problem. Back when the Montana days were long and warm, you found the questions easy to answer. Now, as winter sets in, you realize that the questions are getting harder because the questioners know so much more. You have a familiar sensation. Oh, yes, this is what it felt like back in the newsroom, talking with other reporters and editors about stories." **-30-**

A MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

Our students recently heard some advice from one of the nation's top journalism executives, advice that should sound very familiar to all of them. Dean Baquet, executive editor of *The New York Times*, told students to "hone your craft" rather than build a career. These are words to live by, and they are right in tune with the lessons we teach every day at the UM J-School.

As the new dean of this school, I was heartened to hear his basic message: be open to new technologies and modes of expression, but hold tight to the basic tenets of sound journalism. The faculty and staff of this school have been following this path for over a century now, and I feel so lucky to have arrived just in time to celebrate this milestone. As I settle into my job here, I've been trying to keep these two seemingly contradictory thoughts front and center: respect tradition, but foster innovation.

We respect tradition at the J-School in many ways. We stay in touch with our alums with newsletters like this one. We also follow the J-School mantra that students should "learn by doing," and that their energies should focus on real journalism, not on mere classroom exercises. We stay grounded in our community by finding work opportunities and internships at companies that support



our basic mission. But at the same time, we have to foster innovation.

We do this by creating pathways for new ideas, new technologies and experimentation in all areas. When faculty come to me with new ideas, my goal is to be in "yes" mode: I ask questions, but I lean toward giving them the thumbs up. The same goes for students who want to try new things. They need to be encouraged to play, to fiddle around with new platforms in social media. Many of these experiments may fail, yet our students need to learn how to get past those failures. A strong foundation is the best way to stay upright when you're trying to surf big waves.

—Dean Larry Abramson

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Sports reporter, photo editor named as 2015-16 Pollners

ESPN writer and alum brings his sports writing savvy back to UM; accomplished photo editor Sally Stapleton to share visual and global expertise

Two accomplished journalists will serve as T. Anthony Pollner Distinguished Professors for the 2015-16 academic year.

Kevin Van Valkenburg, a senior writer for *ESPN The Magazine*, will be the fall Pollner professor. Sally Stapleton, a former executive photo editor at the Associated Press who is now managing editor for online and photography at *The Day*, a public trust news organization in Connecticut, will hold the position for the spring semester.

Stapleton led two teams to Pulitzers as AP executive photo editor

Van Valkenburg is a 2000 graduate of the UM journalism school and a Missoula native. He worked as an enterprise sports reporter and online columnist for *The Baltimore Sun* from 2000 until 2012, when he joined ESPN to write in-depth features and investigative articles. His work has appeared in *The Best American Sports Writing*, and he has received a number of other awards for his writing and reporting. Last fall, he and fellow ESPN reporter Don Van Natta Jr. investigated the NFL's efforts to delay and misdirect inquiries into the Ray Rice domestic abuse scandal.

At UM he was a classmate and friend of Anthony Pollner, after whom the professorship is named. As sports editor of the *Montana Kaimin*, he created the popular *GameDay* publication.

His Pollner seminar is titled "Adapt, Survive and Thrive: Tackling the Modern Media Landscape."

Stapleton, who holds bachelor's and master's degrees from the Missouri School of Journalism, worked at a number of newspapers, including the *Tampa Tribune*,



Sally Stapleton worked at the *Tampa Tribune*, *Minneapolis Star Tribune*, *Miami Herald* and *Boston Globe*, before joining the AP, where she led two photo teams to Pulitzer Prizes.

Minneapolis Star Tribune, *Miami Herald* and *Boston Globe*, before joining the AP. At the news agency she led two photography teams to Pulitzer Prizes.

She received a Fulbright in 2002 to work with journalists in Rwanda. The relationships she formed with journalists and academics there led to the formation of the Great Lakes Media Institute, a non-profit organization that trains journalists in Africa's Great Lakes region. She serves as the group's director. She has also trained journalists in Latin America.

The family and friends of Anthony Pollner created an endowment for the Pollner professorship in 2001, just after his death in a motorcycle accident. Beyond teaching a course, the professors work closely with the staff of the *Montana Kaimin*.

The professors were selected this year by a committee that includes the Pollner family, former Pollner professors, the *Montana Kaimin* editor and members of UM's journalism faculty.



Jennifer McMenamin

Kevin Van Valkenburg worked as a sports reporter for the *Baltimore Sun* from 2000 to 2012 before moving to *ESPN The Magazine*.

The Kaimin goes weekly

Aiming to cut costs, stay relevant and better prepare students for shifts in media, the paper will go full-color and stand ready to deliver breaking news online

The *Montana Kaimin* rode through a perfect storm in 2014-15, but plans to emerge this fall as a modern news operation with the same independent flair and news intensity as ever.

In 2015, the Kaimin staff, with guidance from faculty adviser Nadia White and media disruption guru and Pollner Professor Ron Reason, started the transition from the beloved black-and-white four-days-a-week paper to a color, once-a-week tabloid with a commitment to breaking news online.

The revamped paper and a website enhanced for responsive mobile use should be in full production by fall semester.

WHY THE CHANGE?

The *Montana Kaimin* has long given J-School students professional training outside of the classroom and opportunities to make their own decisions, mistakes and triumphs.

The planned changes continue that tradition. Photographers and print designers will get to work in color. The change will also push the staff to deliver more news on the platforms most readers are using: web and mobile. The business side will be able to try such things as themed special sections.

WHY WEEKLY?

In a word: money. For six straight semesters the University of Montana has seen drops in enrollment. Because student fees largely fund the *Kaimin*, fewer students means less financial support.

Declines in display advertising have hurt the *Kaimin* too. With printing and payroll being the paper's two biggest costs, the staff trimmed the daily print run to 2,500 in 2015, but that wasn't enough. The shift to weekly publication should reduce production costs, and the staff is restructuring its payroll too.

WILL THE KAIMIN REMAIN UM'S NEWS SOURCE?

Absolutely. The staff is committed to providing more breaking news online and more forward-looking news, analysis and features in the press edition. Increasingly, audiences find news stories, photos and broadcasts through social media, and MontanaKaimin.com will continue to build its presence on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, Snapchat and other social media sites as they catch on.

WHAT CAN ALUMNI DO TO HELP?

J-School and *Kaimin* alumni have been a part of this transition from the start. *Flathead Beacon* Editor Kellyn Brown '02 has been a sage on weekly workflow, while John T. Cribb '08, publisher of the Carbon County, Red Lodge and Stillwater County newspapers, has helped us figure out rate cards and printing contracts and also helped secure the wisdom of his father, newspaper broker John Cribb.

While the staff has managed the immediate financial challenge, alumni help will be important as the *Kaimin* builds for the future.

Eight years after the *Kaimin* switched on the neon news sign outside of the T. Anthony Pollner Newsroom in Don Anderson Hall, the paper's technology and furniture are showing their age. Technology replacement is the main long-term concern, and so the *Montana Kaimin* is asking alumni to consider donating to the Kaimin Capital Campaign Fund to help



Here is a mockup of the *Kaimin*'s new full-color format.

with that. The fund will support state-of-the-art newsroom computers, new video and photography gear, a website redesign and an enhanced mobile product.

By making a gift to the *Kaimin*, you help ensure that it continues to offer students real-world experiences that translate directly into contemporary newsrooms.

To donate, please give online at www.supportum.org/give, choose "Other" as your designation and type in *Montana Kaimin*, or mail a check with "Montana Kaimin" in the memo line to:

UM Foundation, PO Box 7159,
Missoula, MT 59807

**Facebook,
Twitter,
Instagram
and other
social media
platforms
will carry
breaking
news**

Mapping a global presence

UM students visit India; Chinese students come to Missoula for summer course



Student Corin Cates-Carney (center) and Professor Emeritus Clem Work (right) interview a scientist who had just presented his research to their group, which included 23 students from the J-School. They visited India's Tadoba-Andhari Tiger Reserve just outside the village of Moharli.

It was before dawn on New Year's morning 2014. Twenty-three students and two faculty members arrived at the Missoula airport, bound for India. Three plane rides and a long bus trip later, they arrived on the campus of Flame University outside Pune, an Indian city of roughly four million.

Professor Emeritus Clem Work led the wintersession course after a year of work on the trip's many details. Associate Professor Denise Dowling and alumna Anne Bailey signed on to co-teach, with masters' students Apoorva Joshi and Alison Mills as teaching assistants.

The group spent a week on Tado-

ba-Andhari Tiger Reserve and in the village of Moharli documenting the trip with photography, audio and video. The students reported on tiger and habitat conservation, livestock predation and the economic impact of the reserve on the village. You can see that work at www.tigertourism.creatavist.com.

At Flame University they worked with students in the journalism program to report on environmental issues facing the city. Indian students acted as guides, translators and journalists, working in teams with the UM students. Their reports covered issues including air pollution, water quality and availability, avian habitats

and wild dog populations. You'll find that work at www.umt2india.com.

Despite minor glitches, the journey was a great success. It established a strong foundation for future study abroad programs for journalism students.

TO CHINA AND BACK

As a child, Professor Dennis Swibold spent six years with his family in Japan and Taiwan. He finally made it to China last spring when he was invited to teach a two-week intensive seminar on the American press and politics for Chinese graduate students at Shanghai International Studies University.

Besides teaching classes on the press coverage of the 2012 presidential election, Swibold navigated the crowds on Shanghai's historic Bund and Nanjing Road, gazed at 2,500-year-old artifacts at Shanghai's Art Museum and toured an ancient water town.

He also recruited a class of nine Chinese students from SISU to come to UM last summer for a month-long course, led by Swibold and Professor Emeritus Clem Work. The course focused on the workings of local media and their coverage of civic institutions. The students interviewed the mayor and county attorney, sat in on court sessions, followed local controversies in the news and shadowed journalists.

They also found time to dance at Arlee's annual Fourth of July Powwow, tour Glacier and Yellowstone national parks, visit the state capitol and Montana Historical Society in Helena, and become regulars on the bus route between campus and Southgate Mall.

You can learn more about what the students did and saw on the class blog: <http://sisuinmontana.org>.

WHAT'S NEXT?

Dean Larry Abramson and Professor Henriette Löwisch are planning to take journalism students to Germany next summer. Stay tuned. **-30-**



Students spent a week on the Tadoba-Andhari Tiger Reserve and in the village of Moharli.



Professor Dennis Swibold and the Chinese graduate students taking his seminar at Shanghai International Studies University in April of 2014.



From right: Students Jackson Bolstad, Amanda Bryant and Katie Bell wait as one of their guides at the Tadoba-Andhari Tiger Reserve attempts field repairs on their tour vehicle.



Nine Chinese students from Shanghai International Studies University toured Montana's Capitol during a month-long summer course taught in 2014 by Professors Swibold and Work.

Celebration of the century

J-School marks its 100th year with parties, publications and exhibits

What a great year we've had celebrating the School of Journalism's centennial.

We welcomed nearly 500 alums at Homecoming events in September with an army tent pitched outside Don Anderson Hall to pay homage to founding dean Arthur Stone. Campus buzzed all weekend as alumni met friends, classmates and former faculty members.

They toured Stone Hall and attended alumni showcases that featured appearances by some of the school's accomplished professionals. Presenters included producer Shane Bishop '86 of NBC Dateline, freelance photographer and videographer

Generous donations from attendees fueled the creation of a new centennial scholarship

Thomas Nybo '95, *New York Times* freelancer Nate Schweber '01, Elyse Hughes '06 of Ark Media/PBS, Lexie Verdon '77 of Kaiser Health news, WFTV technology director David Sirak '92, NPR reporter Nate Rott, former Professor Patricia Reksten

'90, *Houston Chronicle* reporter Jayme Fraser Ford '12 and Montana radio host Aaron Flint '04.

Alumni also attended a *Kaimin* reunion bash at the Holiday Inn and the all-class reunion at the Adams Center.

Those who attended met our new dean, Larry Abramson, who welcomed alumni from across the decades and around the world. Our oldest returning alumnus, Bill Forbis, came to the reunion with his granddaughter, Alison Kilts, a 2011 graduate. We were delighted and fortunate to see Bill then because he died a few months later.

CELEBRATING SERVICE

We took the centennial show on the road in January. Professor Jeremy Lurgio's students photographed centenarians



J-School students, alums and faculty built a float for the 2014 Homecoming Parade to help commemorate the main event of the Centennial Celebration that weekend.

around Montana in the fall and mounted a stunning show for the Capitol rotunda in Helena.

Gov. Steve Bullock addressed a crowd of friends and supporters to congratulate the school on its centennial and to honor the service of alums who have covered state government or worked for it in various capacities.

The governor singled out alumni Mike Dennison '81 and Charles Johnson '70 and longtime adjunct professor Sally Mauk for their years of dedicated state-house coverage. Two seniors, Madelyn Beck and Michael Wright, were introduced as this year's student legislative news reporters.

STUDENT CONTRIBUTIONS

In addition to the rotunda show, students participated in the school's centennial in many ways.

- Students wrote and designed last year's alumni magazine, "Covering A Century," under the leadership of alum and adjunct

Paul Queneau '02.

- Allison Bye '14 created the graphic display boards chronicling the J-School through the century.

- Former *Kaimin* Editor Amy Sisk '14 lead the team that created a special edition of the *Kaimin*, and 2015 Editor Ric Sanchez played host for the *Kaimin* reunion party.

- Television students reported on 100-year-old Montanans for a program on MontanaPBS, and KBGA opened its doors for tours.

We continued the celebration in February with a performance of the First Amendment Center's "Freedom Sings" program at the Dennison Theater. The performance by nationally renowned musicians told a rollicking story of the First Amendment through songs that were banned through the years.

The generosity of those who have reconnected with the J-School this year means we are able to give special centen-

nial scholarships to incoming freshmen in the fall.

We capped off the year-long celebration during May's commencement exercises, in which faculty and graduating seniors wore special stoles to mark the school's 100th anniversary.

It's been a busy, happy, fulfilling year, and we've loved celebrating a century with all of you. We're only sorry we won't be around for the bicentennial. **-30-**



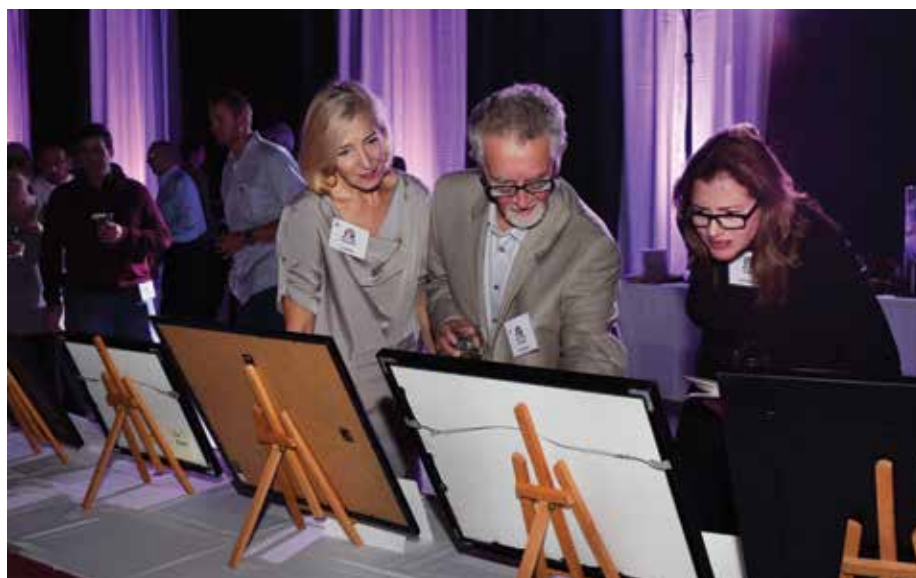
Alex Sakariassen '08 (left), Nate Schweber '01 (right) and Nate's wife, Kristen Couchot.



Gary Sorensen '57 joins in a class discussion.



Dean Larry Abramson and Jana Hood commemorate the legacy of Dean Charles Hood.



Frank Walsh '72, his wife Lisa, and Dean Abramson's wife, Anita Huslin, examine photographs in the silent auction at the all-alumni Centennial party last September at the Adams Center.



The daughters of Professors Lee and Jule Banville brought cheer to the parade float.



William Forbis '39, was the oldest alumnus in attendance on Homecoming. He died less than two months later.

Graduate program launches Crown Reporting Project

Inspired by conservationist Ted Smith, the program equips student-mentor teams with resources for in-depth coverage of climate, communities and conservation

For graduate students in the master's program for Environmental Science and Natural Resource Journalism, the Crown of the Continent offers a world-class laboratory for stories of science, conservation and community. This year, two students will pursue some of these stories in more depth and with additional support.

As fellows of the J-School's new Crown Reporting Fund, Celia Talbot Tobin and

Kenneth Rand are investigating the cross-border fallout from mining and the fight against aquatic invasive species in the region spanning Montana, Alberta and British Columbia. Two seasoned journalists—Christopher Joyce, of NPR, and Ted Alvarez, of *Grist*—are guiding them as they report, photograph, write and pitch their work.

Christopher Joyce of NPR and Ted Alvarez of Grist are guiding student reporters for 2015-16

The innovative mentoring model was inspired by conservation pioneer Ted Smith. In 2012, Smith and J-School alum Michael Jamison, M.A. '96, discussed the need for a next generation of journalists who could engage communities, explaining the science behind the policies that affect our backyards and our planetary future. They agreed that the J-School's graduate program, with its focus on the environment and its proximity to the Crown, offered excellent conditions to advance quality storytelling and, ultimately, informed decision-making.

Ted Smith died hiking in the Mission Mountains shortly after these initial plans were made. His legacy lives on through this new program the J-School created based on his vision. With the help of



Erik Petersen

Celia Talbot Tobin will report on the effect of the Canadian mining industry on rivers and lakes in British Columbia and Montana.

Smith's family and friends, the Crown Reporting Fund launched in 2015. It supports two student-mentor teams per year, giving them the resources for in-depth coverage of climate, communities and conservation.

While the students report, their mentors—professional journalists with a strong track record of covering science, conservation and natural resource policy and management—recommend sources, edit drafts and help publish the final product. Each team produces one story, with formats ranging from print features to multimedia packages.

The fund also facilitates collaboration and discussion between journalists, scientists and the public. Last November, the J-School held its first Crown Story Dinner in Missoula, bringing together graduate students, researchers, advocates and other



Erik Petersen

Ken Rand is exploring efforts to protect Flathead Lake and other waterways in the Crown region from aquatic invasive species.

stakeholders to exchange knowledge and brainstorm story ideas. Together with the graduate program's signature Story Lab course, the Crown project places the school at the center of a vibrant learning community that extends beyond Don Anderson Hall, across the University of Montana campus and deep into the state.

Ted Smith made a career of finding the funds for his conservation vision, working in philanthropy around the world. At the end, he moved home—to the Crown—because he saw there the remarkable potential of both the people and the environment. Linking the two with a narrative of substance, he believed, would send ripples into cherished landscapes throughout the globe. Learn more about how you can support the Crown Reporting Fund at <http://jour.umt.edu/crown>.

Alum-led institute wins \$1 million MacArthur Award

In the age of Citizens United, tracking political cash and influence is more crucial than ever, and nobody does it like the Helena-based National Institute on Money in State Politics.

Edwin Bender '82 is executive director and co-founder of the Institute, which received a \$1 million grant in February from the MacArthur Award for Creative & Effective Institutions to further its work tracking state-level political donors.

The Helena-based nonpartisan institute (followthemoney.org) was one of nine nonprofit groups to win the awards, which are bestowed by the same organization that awards "genius grants" to individuals each year. The MacArthur Foundation does not seek nominations or applications for its awards.

"It was a lump-in-the-throat moment," Bender told The Associated Press after learning about the grant.

He said the institute plans to use the money to improve its technology, make its data more available and sustain its work for years to come.

Bender, formerly a newspaper reporter in Alaska, was part of a team that founded the institute in 1999, and he became its executive director in 2003. Several organizations track political spending in campaigns for Congress and the presidency, but NIMSP is the only group that gathers and analyzes campaign finance data in races for statewide and legislative races in all 50 states.



Edwin Bender '82 is executive director and co-founder of the National Institute on Money in State Politics, which received a \$1 million grant to further its work in tracking political donations.

NY Times, Nat Geo editors deliver Dean Stone Lectures



Dean Baquet (left) fields questions during his lecture.

In April 2015, UM's University Center Ballroom was packed with students, faculty and community members for the journalism school's 58th annual Dean Stone Lecture.

Dean Baquet, executive editor of *The New York Times*, discussed the steps his paper has taken to adapt to the new and ever-changing technologies of the modern era in his talk titled, "Quality Journalism in the Digital Age: Challenges and Opportunities."

"Roughly half of our traffic comes from people who use their phones," he said. "How can we not experiment with different ways of telling stories?"

Baquet said the *Times* is open to every new technology that comes along as long as it allows the staff to continue telling the biggest and most important stories.

"This is a revolution that has a happy ending for us and for the world," he said.

In addition to giving a public lecture, Baquet spent time with faculty and visited with students, including those in Pollner Professor Ron Reason's design seminar.

The school celebrated its annual Dean Stone Night the next evening at the Holiday Inn Parkside. Faculty and donors gave out more than \$130,000 in scholarships at the event.

In April 2014, Chris Johns, then editor-in-chief of *National Geographic*, delivered the 57th annual Dean Stone Lecture. Titled "Looking Beyond 125 Years," his speech paid tribute to the history of *National Geographic* while exploring the future of the magazine on television and other digital platforms.

Audio projects gain nationwide stage, earn praise on PRX

Roger Cox arrived in Vietnam in the middle of the night when it was 90 degrees. He walked to a field, dug a foxhole and stayed there. By the third night, his unit got hit and 30 of the guys around him died.

"There were nights you couldn't tell blood from sweat," Cox told Emily Proctor, a student in Assistant Professor Jule Banville's intermediate audio class.

Cox was one of 21 combat veterans interviewed by Banville's audio students. They filed their full interviews with the largest oral history archive of its kind, the Veterans History Project, through the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C. For class, they also cut each interview into a roughly 3-minute nonnarrated story with a beginning, middle and end.

You can find the series, "Vets on War and Why They Went," on Public Radio Exchange. PRX has become an invaluable tool for audio students. The site is not for student projects, though. It's where professional producers post their work and where public radio stations and shows license it for air. So it says a lot that our stories have been licensed 48 times, earning the J-School a uniquely named Zeitfunk Award for most-licensed debut group.



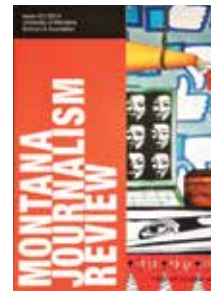
MJR makes waves with design, iPad editions

The *Montana Journalism Review*, one of the nation's oldest, has taken a leap into the digital world. For the first time, the review is available as a tablet edition. Student designer Abbey Dufoe produced iPad versions of issues 43 and 44, which can be downloaded free through iTunes.

Issue 43, themed "secrets," won a string of national design and editorial awards in 2014, from a Pinnacle for best magazine cover (designed by Allison Bye) to a third place in Hearst for Brett Berntsen's enterprise story, "No Place to Hide."

Issue 44, themed "shift," took a provocative look at the changes facing the media in Montana and across the West as changes in technology force them to find new ways to find, serve and build their audiences. It also examined how government agencies are reacting to the blurry lines between new and old media.

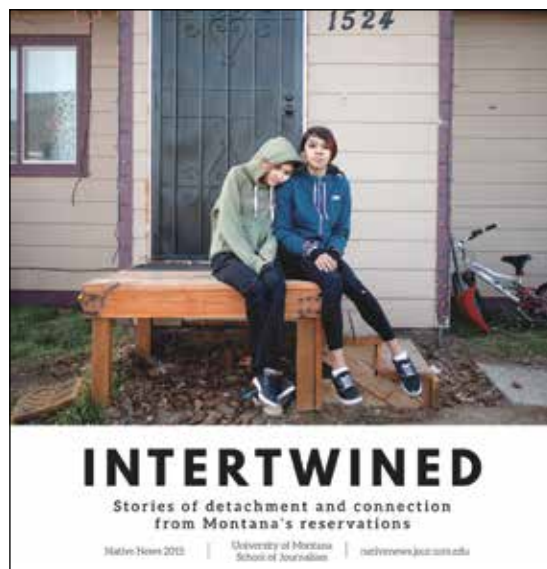
The issue also posed a different challenge for the students as several factual errors were discovered after the print magazine had been shipped to subscribers. Rather than wait a year for the next issue, editors decided to pull all the plugs online and run corrections on the magazine's website, social media feeds and in the digital edition. The next MJR will also include a candid reflection on what caused the errors.



Native News displays on tablets, pulls in awards

The Native News Honors Project published its 24th edition this summer, featuring eight stories centered on the different types of relationships throughout Montana's Indian Country. The project, called "Intertwined," included a tablet edition, which is now available in iBooks. As the work developed, the project received a tremendous response from its social media campaign as reporting teams provided constant updates while on assignment.

The 2014 edition, "Driving Forces," placed first in the Society of Professional Journalists regional awards for "Best Independent Online Student Publication." In addition, Bjorn Bergeson's story, "Split Decisions," which examined the people trying to make a grassroots push to fix the political turmoil on the Blackfeet Indian Reservation, placed seventh in the 2015 national Hearst awards for feature writing.



Made in Montana student TV project has profiled more than 200 businesses

The television magazine program “Business: Made in Montana” celebrated a milestone during the past year. Now in its 22nd year, the program has featured more than 200 businesses. Students taking Intermediate Video Photography and Editing produce the program each semester. Professor Ray Ekness teaches the class.

Working in teams, the students research, produce, capture video, write and edit the segments using only natural sound and sound bites from the characters. The segments are then assembled into half-hour programs featuring four to seven businesses. The programs air across the state on MontanaPBS. The class produced three new episodes during the 2014-2015 year.

Ekness and emeritus professor Greg MacDonald created the program in 1993 as a way to feature companies that make products in the state, hire Montanans and increase the tax base in Big Sky Country.

The programs are made possible with a



Student reporter Katy Hofschield talks with an employee of Montana Hydraulics.

grant from the Greater Montana Foundation. Some of the programs can be seen on the MontanaPBS website at

montanapbs.org/BusinessMadeInMontana.

Doc classes tackle distracted driving, small town survival

Seniors and graduate students in the television sequence continue to produce a long-form documentary each spring. In 2014, the class created “Distracted: Eyes Off the Road,” a program on the dangers of distracted driving.

The show followed a Miles City teenager after her sister’s death in a car accident. The program aired on MontanaPBS and North Dakota Public Television, and has been made available to driver and health education teachers across Montana and the United States.

In 2015, students explored White Sulphur Springs, Montana, as a case study in what it takes to keep a small town afloat. Students looked at the economic past and present of White Sulphur and explored the politics of change with a mining company poised to develop a copper deposit nearby. “Changing Home: Small Town Survival” aired on MontanaPBS in May.



In 2015, students in the long-form documentary class explored White Sulphur Springs, Montana, as a case study in what it takes to keep a small town afloat. The show aired on MontanaPBS.

Associate Professor **Lee Banville** has been awarded tenure. He spent much of the last year writing and editing a narrative encyclopedia about modern political coverage. The work, *Covering American Politics in the 21st Century: An Encyclopedia of News Media Titans, Trends, and Controversies*, is slated for publication in 2016 by Praeger. The two volumes will explore the major sources of political news, the critical issues affecting politics and the media business, and key figures in the evolution of political reporting. The book is Banville's second. In 2012, he published *Debating Our Destiny: Presidential Debate Moments That Shaped History*, an e-book with MacNeil/Lehrer Productions, examining the impact of presidential debates on the political process.

Associate Professor **Henriette Löwisch**, who directs our growing graduate program in Environmental Science and Natural Resource Journalism, also received tenure this year. In addition, she covered the trial of a Missoula homeowner who shot a German high school exchange student in 2014. She provided breaking news coverage for Agence France-Presse, including an exclusive interview with the victim's family, and wrote news stories and features for *taz. die tageszeitung*, a Berlin daily. She also acted as a liaison between local reporters and foreign correspondents in town for a trial that captured international attention over several months. Homeowner Markus Kaarma was found guilty of killing 17-year-old Diren Dede in December 2014 and sentenced to 70 years in prison in February of 2015. Beyond running the graduate program, Professor Löwisch supervises the Montana Journalism Review and teaches courses in global current events and international journalism.



Associate Professor **Jeremy Lurgio** was awarded tenure in 2014. His short film "Backcountry Baker," won Best Grassroots Film at the Winter Wildlands Alliance's Backcountry Film Festival. Following its November premiere in Boise, Idaho, the film was shown in 98 cities, four continents, six countries and 18 states. The film tracks a dog named Baker and his owner as they pursue their love of backcountry skiing in Montana's Bitterroot Mountains. Last summer, Lurgio presented his project "Lost & Found Montana" at the Montana Preservation Alliance's annual Montana Preservation Road Show in Lewistown, Montana. The project focused on small towns fighting for survival. This year, Lurgio's fall Advanced Photojournalism and Multimedia class documented 12 Montana centenarians in conjunction with the school's centennial celebration. The project "A Century of Stories," was exhibited at the Capitol rotunda in Helena in January. In February it was on display at Missoula's Repertoire Art & Design gallery.



Associate Professor **Nadia White** was awarded tenure in 2014. She also took on the challenge of serving as faculty adviser to the *Kaimin* during a time of great change. In the summer of 2014, White completed the 500-mile Yukon River Quest canoe and kayak race. This capped the "travels" portion of her "Travels with Josie" project, an adventure biography retracing the migration of White's great-grandmother, Josephine, from Oklahoma to Dawson, Yu-



kon Territory. The other travel segments included bicycling from Oklahoma to Tacoma, Wash., and a solo trip by sea kayak from Port Townsend, Wash., to Skagway, Alaska. The real adventure will be writing the book. Stay tuned, she says.

After serving two years as acting dean, Associate Professor **Denise Dowling** spent much of this year leading the centennial events for the J-School. She enjoyed seeing the alums, friends and supporters who attended. A highlight was meeting former *Time* magazine editor Bill Forbis just months before he died. Dowling returned to lead the Radio-Television Department and teach ethics, documentary and news courses. She also produced election night coverage for MontanaPBS, reported for KUFM radio and cooked for the two teenagers still at home. She will be on sabbatical this fall and hopes to produce a radio program on transgender youth in the rural West. She also plans to work for KING-TV's digital newsroom in Seattle, thanks to a grant from the National Association of Television Programming Executives. Denise and husband Chris have 15-year-old Kellen at home and a daughter, Erin, who leaves for college in the fall.



Professor **Ray Ekness** worked on a number of projects for public broadcasting during the past year. Working with a student crew, he directed political candidate debate analysis coverage for MontanaPBS from the Don Oliver Television Studio in Don Anderson Hall. He also worked on election night coverage and an election wrap-up program. Ekness also found two historic radio drama scripts from the 1930s and 1940s that featured the Big Sky State. Using the voices of many of Montana Public

Radio's on-air talent and professors Denise Dowling and Ray Fanning, he produced and edited the two episodes into an hour-long radio drama that aired this winter on MTPR. Along with William Marcus, John Twiggs and Gus Chambers, Ekness continues to produce segments for the award-winning television program *Backroads of Montana*, which airs on MontanaPBS.

Assistant Professor **Joe Eaton**, who joined the faculty in 2013, continues to cover energy issues for *National Geographic*. His reporting ranged from Election Day coverage of initiatives to ban fracking in Ohio and Colorado, to multiple stories linking nonconventional oil and gas production to environmental problems. Over winter break, he traveled to the Bakken oil fields to document the impact of the oil boom on small Montana towns on the North Dakota border. He's also teaching classes in public affairs reporting, editing and investigations. He occasionally indulges his passion for working on old German cars.

Associate Professor **Ray Fanning** line-produced "MontanaPBS Debate Night" in October, featuring U.S. Senate candidates Steve Daines and Amanda Curtis. The program included analysis of the debate and fact-checking by UM School of Journalism faculty and students.

In January, he worked with MontanaPBS again as line producer for a live broadcast of Gov. Steve Bullock's "State of the State Address," from



Helena, including post-address interviews and analysis. In April, Fanning represented the School of Journalism at the Journalism Education Association convention in Denver, where he gave presentations on using smartphones for video and audio reporting and a primer on news literacy skills to help students

navigate the avalanche of information they face. Fanning also produced, voiced and edited an audio textbook for UM's Rural Institute, which helps people with disabilities succeed in the workplace.

Assistant Professor **Jason Begay** has been elected president of the national Native American Journalists Association, succeeding another former UM student in the role, Mary Hudetz. He had previously served as vice president of the organization that helps recruit, train and mentor Native American journalists. He also celebrated a milestone this year by graduating with a master's degree in business administration from UM, marking the end of what he calls the most stressful era of his life. He says he looks forward to spending entire weekends doing something other than working with spreadsheets.

Associate Professor **Keith Graham**, who grew up on a Mississippi farm, has long been interested in rural photo projects. He's done them on multi-generation family ranches in Montana and on women in rodeo. He's also been intrigued by one-room schools, which educated roughly half of Americans a century ago. This summer, he and photographer Neil Chaput de Saintonge brought two decades worth of photographic research on Montana's remaining one-room schools to the public with a photo and video exhibit in July at the Missoula Art Museum. Graham used a sabbatical in fall of 2013 to advance the project. A book and video documentary are also in the works.



Assistant Professor **Jule Banville** had remarkable success this year with her audio students. Senior Madelyn Beck earned praise for her radio coverage of the Montana Legislature, which aired

on Montana Public Radio and on commercial radio and television stations statewide. Beck also won second place in this year's national Hearst Awards competition in radio news. Two UM students—Christopher Allen and Ruth Eddy—finished first and second in that competition last year. Meanwhile, Banville's intermediate audio students profiled veterans for the Library of Congress. The stories also appeared on Public Radio Exchange (PRX.org) for use by public radio stations nationwide. Her advanced audio students this spring produced a series about elder care. Montana Public Radio's news director Eric Whitney helped with the editing and plans to air the reports. Meanwhile, check out Jule's latest venture: a podcast of Montana feature stories called "Last Best Stories." You'll find it online and at iTunes.

Professor **Dennis Swibold** continues to serve as chairman of the school's Print and Photo Department. Beyond administrative chores, he teaches courses in news writing, professional ethics and election coverage. Highlights of the past two years include overseeing student coverage of the 2014 election. Student work appeared on MontanaPBS, Montana Public Radio and in newspapers statewide. In late March of 2014 he taught a two-week graduate seminar on American political coverage for students at Shanghai

International Studies University. He also recruited SISU students to spend a month that summer at UM, studying local news coverage. Last year he advised the publication of the school's centennial publication, "A Century of Montana Journalism," edited by alumnus Paul Queneau. **-30-**



Regional Emmys

News

UM News, Fall 2014

News: General Assignment – Serious

Mackenzie Enich & Ed Huberman,
"Construction Jobs"
Allison Molin & Cole Havens,
"Mystery Odor"

News: General Assignment–Light

Holly Sinnema,
"BRIDGE Gravity Device"

Arts and Entertainment

Keeley VanMiddendorp & Cole
Havens, "Dance on Location"

Sports

Cole Havens & Jenna Heberden,
"Softball Field"

Long Form, Non-Fiction

Student Documentary Unit,
"Distracted: Eyes Off the Road"

Public Affairs/

Community Service

Mackenzie Enich,
"Sexual Assault Awareness"

BEA Awards

Broadcast Education Association
International Festival of Media Arts

Television Newscast

"UM News," third place, 2014

Short-form Documentary

UM Student Documentary,
honorable mention, 2014
"Distracted: Eyes Off the Road"

Long-form Documentary

Kate Walker,
honorable mention, 2014
"Missouri Compromised"

Radio Feature Reporting

Jessica Murri, first place, 2013
"Taxidermy Bootcamp"

Television Feature Reporting

Max Barnum, Dustin Askim
third place, 2013
"PEAS Farm"

CMA Awards

College Media Association
Pinnacle Awards 2014

Best Cover Design

Montana Journalism Review,
first place

Students earn top Hearst honors

UM nabs 1st and 2nd places in 2014 in the national radio news contest; 2nd in 2015 competition

For the third year in a row, a J-School student has won second place in the National Radio News Championship sponsored by the Hearst Awards, known as the Pulitzer Prizes of collegiate journalism.

Senior Madelyn Beck of Manhattan, Montana, finished second in the contest held in San Francisco, where five national finalists competed to produce a story on deadline.

UM has excelled in Hearst's radio news category over the past three years. Last year, seniors Christopher Allen and Ruth Eddy won first and second place in the same competition. Jessica Murri won second place the year before.

In other Hearst highlights this year, the University of Montana finished sixth overall in the 2014-2015 Hearst Awards Intercollegiate Writing Competition, ahead of Penn State, Iowa, Missouri and Oklahoma. Indiana University won the category.



Two-time Hearst award winner Madelyn Beck covering the Montana Legislature's 2015 session.



Seniors Christopher Allen and Ruth Eddy celebrate after taking first and second place in the 2014 Hearst Awards for the radio news category.

'UM News' wins an Emmy

The School of Journalism's long-running student television newscast, "UM News," wrapped up another successful season in the fall, after winning a student Emmy award for the previous year.

Students in the class worked as photographers, directors, reporters, writers, producers and anchors for weekly newscasts that aired on Missoula television stations KPAX (CBS) and KTMF (ABC) and their affiliates in western Montana.

Each week the program brings viewers a sampling of the wide-range of news and activities that originate from UM. The work included stories on the economic

impact of new campus buildings and the development of a new physical therapy device to help people recovering from leg injuries.

This year the newscast won a third place award from the Broadcast Education Association, and the Society of Professional Journalists also recognized "UM News" stories in the categories of general news reporting, news and feature photography, sports photography and sports reporting.

The program was again nominated for a best newscast student Emmy from the Northwest region of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences.



UM News students (from left): Alison Molin, Cole Havens, Holly Sinnema, Jenna Heberden, Mahkia Clark, Ed Huberman, Keeley Van Middendorp and Mackenzie Enich.



Five UM journalism student projects garnered Emmy Awards for excellence in broadcast journalism in 2014, including "UM News," which won in the best newscast category.

Hearst Awards

2015

National Radio Broadcast News

2nd: Madelyn Beck

Radio News & Features

4th: Madelyn Beck

Enterprise Reporting

3rd: Brett Berntsen

Sports Reporting

4th: Andy Bixler

Team Multimedia

5th: Gracie Ryan, Kristin Kirkland, Bronte Wittpenn, Mikensi Romersa, Sam Belanger, Rachel Leathe, Kyle Massick, Kevin Kenly, Rebekah Moderie, Ashley Stidham, Jessie Mazur, Braelynn Luedtke

Feature Writing

7th: Bjorn Bergeson

Photo Picture Story/Series

8th: Louise Johns

2014

National Radio Broadcast News

1st: Christopher Allen

2nd: Ruth Eddy

Radio News and Features

3rd: Ruth Eddy

5th: Christopher Allen

Multimedia Enterprise Reporting

4th: Rachael Leathe

Breaking News

9th: Zeno Wicks IV

Feature Writing

10th: Bjorn Bergeson

SPJ winners

2014

Feature Writing

Brea Gaudioso, national finalist

Sports Column Writing

Jesse Flickinger, national finalist

Best Independent Online Student Publication

Native News Project, national finalist, "Driving Forces"

2013

Non-fiction Magazine Writing

Brett Bernsten, national finalist, "No Place to Hide"

Life in Montana at 100



Elsie Nelson traveled 1,000 miles from Nebraska to Montana in a covered wagon in the 1920s.

See the project at <http://100jour.umt.edu>



Clarence Rostad: "Don't love your neighbor's wife; stick with your own. You never find a better wife than the one you've got."

As the University of Montana School of Journalism celebrated its 100th year, Jeremy Lurgio's multimedia class set out to tell the stories of Montanans who've been around for just as long.

A 2010 U.S. Census Report found 175 centenarians living in Montana, and Lurgio's class decided to meet some. The students traveled across the state to photograph 12 of them and listen to stories that spanned two world wars, the Great Depression and technological changes that ranged from household electricity to the Internet.

The elders also offered some timeless advice. "Live each day like it's your last," one told the students. "One day you'll hit it right." Another said, "Don't love your neighbor's wife; stick with your own."

The students' intimate photos reveal wisdom, wrinkles and passion. One shows a woman with her bingo board; another shows a man playing his harmonica on a bench near his family's ranch.

The exhibit was showcased at the state Capitol in January. In May, the portraits were displayed at a meeting of the Governor's Council on Aging. That same month the project won fifth place in the multimedia team category in the national Hearst Journalism Awards Program. The photos were also featured in Montana Quarterly's summer 2015 issue.

To see the all of the photos and short multimedia pieces that offer a deeper look into each centenarian's life, visit <http://100.jour.umt.edu>.



Henry Dahl: "I can't believe that I'm 100, but everybody says I am."



A gathering at the Capitol rotunda honored Montana's centenarians.



Henry Dahl stands next to his portrait, one of many displayed at a special event at the state Capitol attended by Gov. Bullock.

Editor's note:

*The J-School family marked the deaths of many members over the past two years. None of those deaths hit us harder than the passing of former Dean Charles E. Hood, whose life and contributions were celebrated in last year's centennial magazine "Covering a Century." You can also find a link to his Missoulian obituary at <http://bit.ly/1DfiKgr>. Here are the obituaries of other graduates who have died since the 2013 edition of *Communiqué*.*

WILLIAM HUNT FORBIS '39, an author and longtime Time-Life correspondent and editor, died Nov. 14, 2014, in San Diego, California. He was 96.

His death came less than two months after he returned to the J-School to celebrate its centennial. He was the oldest alumnus in attendance.

He was a senior editor at *Time* when the magazine published its iconic "Is God Dead?" issue in 1966. Criticized as blasphemous and praised as prescient, the article took an objective look at theology in the second half of the 20th century.

Forbis was born on Feb. 4, 1918, in Missoula, the eldest of four children. At age 14, he taught himself to use a small hand-operated press his father used at the office and began publishing a newspaper, *The Tiny Times*, which covered goings-on in his neighborhood.

He further honed his craft at UM, where he edited *The Montana Kaim-in*, transforming it from a weekly to a daily, which it remained until this year. After graduation, he found his way to Panama, where he took a job at the *Panama American*, an English-language afternoon paper.

He married Marie Vincent in New York City in 1943. He served as a radio operator in the U.S. Maritime Service during World War II, returning to Panama at war's end. There he edited the English-language daily, *The Nation*, worked as *Time's* Panama stringer, and then as its Caribbean correspondent.

In 1951, *Time* invited him to New York to discuss a full-time job covering Central and South America. He was

hired at a salary of \$6,500.

He resigned from *Time* in 1969 and returned to Missoula after his wife had a recurrence of the breast cancer that would claim her life. He taught a magazine writing course at the J-School and later wrote two books, *Japan Today: People, Places, Power* and *The Fall of the Peacock Throne*, which detailed the overthrow of Iran's shah. He also edited John Gunther's *Inside Australia*.

Forbis is survived by two sons, Peter and Steven, and a daughter, Barbara Kilts, from his first marriage; a son, Wil, from his second marriage to Deborah Hall; a sister, Mary Wyatt; and three grandchildren.

At age 72, he became reacquainted with the woman who would become his third wife, Ruth Margret. They married in 1990 and lived in San Diego.

JOHN LAWRENCE OWEN '51, a former sports editor of *The Seattle Post-Intelligencer* who covered the Olympics, World Series games, Super Bowls and world boxing championships, died Oct. 3, 2014, at his home in Edmonds, Washington. He was 85.

A native of Helena, Owen graduated from Great Fall High School in 1947 and came to the J-School, where he met Alice Kesler, a fellow journalism student. The two married in 1951 and celebrated their 63rd wedding anniversary in 2014.

An Army cryptographer in the Korean War, John later worked as sports editor of the *Bismarck Tribune* and wire editor for the *Yakima Herald* before joining the *Seattle Post-Intelligencer* as assistant sports editor in 1957. He was named sports editor 11 years later.

During his tenure at the paper, John was named Washington's Sportswriter of the Year seven times. He marked the beginnings of Seattle's Pilots, Mariners, Seahawks and Sounders. He also covered the "Rumble in the Jungle," the championship boxing match between Muhammad Ali and George Foreman in the Congo. His work frequently appeared in national magazines.

He wrote columns for the weekly *Edmonds Beacon* after his retirement. He is

survived by his wife, Alice, and children Kathy and David.

PATRICIA JEANNETTE O'HARE RHODES '55, whose career included 14 years as a writer for *The Ravalli Republic*, died Jan. 16, 2015, in Stevensville. She was 80.

She grew up in the Bitterroot Valley and graduated from Stevensville High School in 1951. She then enrolled at the J-School and graduated with high honors. That summer she married her high school sweetheart, Weston, and took a job in advertising at KGVO Radio while he finished college.

The couple bought Patti's family's farm and ranch east of Victor. While raising three children there, she was elected to the local school board and served as its chairwoman. In 1982, she was recruited to write for the *Republic*.

In her retirement she enjoyed music, gardening, astronomy and a rowdy game of "Trivial Pursuit." She is survived by her three children—two sons and a daughter—and their families.

DOROTHY ROCHON POWERS '43, whose four decades of award-winning journalism at *The Spokesman-Review* spotlighted people in need and blazed trails for women in a male-dominated profession, died on Oct. 18, 2014, in Spokane. She was 93.

She joined the *Spokesman-Review* at the height of World War II, fresh from the J-School.

Determined and self-sufficient, she took over beats left by male reporters gone to war and proved herself, writing dozens of stories per week, usually without bylines. It was also during the war that she met Elwood Powers, a young pilot from Tennessee, whom she married at the fighting's end.

"Unlike other women who left their good jobs after the war ended, Powers stayed at *The Spokesman-Review* and thrived," the paper wrote after her death. "She experienced her stories, rather than report them from her desk. She checked herself into Eastern State Hospital, undercover, to write about the mentally ill. She hung out in hobo

camps to understand the life of men who hopped on and off trains. In 1958, she flew in a KC-135 out of Fairchild Air Force Base, the first woman allowed to fly on a Strategic Air Command jet."

Through such stories and columns she "quickly became Spokane's best-known and beloved journalist." In 1959, she became the first woman to win the Ernie Pyle Award for Human Interest Writing.

She took leaves from the paper in the 1960s to make two unsuccessful campaigns for Congress. After her defeat in 1966, she returned to the paper, stripped of her column by an editor who assigned her to editing letters. But she outlasted him, and regained her column.

In 1977 she became the first woman in the paper's history to be named editorial page editor. She later became the paper's associate editor.

She retired in 1988. She wrote two books, one of which was a compilation of her columns, and added to her contributions to the School of Journalism by donating money to the construction and furnishing of Don Anderson Hall. A classroom, Room 316, was dedicated to her father. Her name also graces a major journalism scholarship.

Born in Alberta, Canada, in 1921, Dorothy was only 2 when she moved with her parents and brother to Anaconda, Montana. When her mother died just five years later, Dorothy's father, a school clerk, spurned suggestions that he put his children in an orphanage and took on the job of their upbringing.

The loss made her sensitive to the vulnerability of others, and that became a hallmark of her journalism. It also made her tough, she told the *Spokesman* at her retirement in 1988.

"It made me self-sufficient," she said. "I learned to compete and think in a male-dominated world."

RICHARD FOOTE '68, a longtime reporter and editor for *The Montana Standard* and later editor of *The Butte Weekly*, died Oct. 6, 2013. He was 68.

Foote's newspaper career began in 1964 at *The Montana Kaimin*, and he eventually became the student paper's

managing editor. Rick also wrote for the *Missoulian* and the *People's Voice*, a liberal weekly with a statewide following.

After graduation, he served 14 months in Vietnam, where he edited a newspaper for an artillery unit. After the war, he took a reporting job for *The Montana Standard*. He became editor in 1985 and held the title until he resigned in 1994.

That year he won a Knight International Press Fellowship, which allowed him to visit Albania and Romania. Upon his return, he studied to be a professional cook at the Southern Alberta Institute of Technology and then worked for the Butte Country Club.

In 1997, Rick joined *The Butte Weekly* as its editor. He was a longtime member and officer of the Butte Press Club.

He is survived by his wife, Nancy; a daughter, Lesley K. McDowell; and her two children.

RONALD M. SELDEN '86, who reported for *The Missoulian* and *The Great Falls Tribune* over a long freelance career, died Aug. 29, 2014, near Fort Peck Reservoir. He was 58.

Ron was born in Corvallis, Oregon, then moved to Eureka, California, where he finished high school. He attended Eureka's College of the Redwoods and Flathead Valley Community College before enrolling at UM in 1980. He studied briefly at the University of Maryland and Northern Michigan University before completing his bachelor's degree in journalism from UM in 1986.

He worked briefly as a reporter for *The Mining Journal*, a daily newspaper in Marquette, Michigan, before returning to Montana. His reporting appeared in *The Missoulian*, *The Great Falls Tribune* and publications such as *Indian Country Today* and *The Missoula Independent*.

In recent years, Ron worked for the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks as a public information officer for Region 6, headquartered in Glasgow.

He is survived by daughters Stella and Cecily; their mother, Lisa Fleischer, his wife, Beth Brenneman; his father, Charles; and his sister, Karen Addington.

CHARLES HARTLEY ROBEY '53, a devoted sailboat racer and longtime member of the advertising department at Cowles Publishing Co., died Jan. 14, 2015, in Spokane. He was 84.

He was born in Billings on April 28, 1930, during a total eclipse of the sun. His family moved to Spokane a few years later. He graduated from high school there in 1948 and decided to attend UM, his mother's alma mater.

After graduation, he served two years in Japan in the U.S. Army's counterintelligence corps. He then returned to Spokane where he worked at Cowles Publishing until his retirement in 1987.

He was a founding member of the Cougar Bay Sailing Club and Chowder Society, and his favorite place was Montana's Bob Marshall Wilderness. His wife, Ellen, whom he married in 1960, and a sister survive him.

EDWIN STENSON '55, a longtime ad salesman and manager for Lee Enterprises in Montana and Iowa, died March 6, 2012, in Pocatello, Idaho. He was 82.

Stenson was born in Spokane and raised on a farm south of the city. He earned a degree in education from Eastern Washington University, enlisted in the U.S. Army and was sent to Japan, where he served as a radioman during the Korean War. After the war, he enrolled at the University of Montana in journalism, receiving his second degree in 1955. He also met his future wife, Carol, at UM.

They married in Missoula in 1956, the same year he joined Lee Enterprises as an ad salesman. He retired from Lee in 1979 and moved to Pocatello, where he started a second career as a substitute teacher. He taught for many years at Highland High School. He is survived by his wife and a sister, Elaine.

KATHERINE HARDIN-HANSEN '77, a lifelong journalist who wrote for a string of Montana newspapers, died Aug. 3, 2013, in Missoula. She was 82.

Kay was born in Lewistown in 1931. She grew up in Butte and graduated from Butte High before attending the

University of Montana's School of Journalism. She received her degree much later, in 1977.

She wrote for many newspapers, including *The Madisonian*, *The Lewistown News-Argus*, Helena's *Independent Record* and *The Billings Gazette*. She also wrote a book about a cook who served eight Montana governors.

During her 35 years in Helena, she supported the arts and was active in the Montana Historical Society. She helped to create the Lewistown Art Center.

Kay and her first husband, Donald Hansen, were married in 1978. He died four years later. She and her second husband, Ben Hardin Jr., had five children.

DONALD E. MITTELSTAEDT '42, a World War II combat photographer who documented the damage done by the atomic bomb at Nagasaki, Japan, died on Aug. 3, 2013, in Sierra Vista, Arizona. He was 94.

Born in Butte on Aug. 19, 1919, he grew up in Arizona, Washington and Montana. He graduated from Missoula County High School in 1938 and enrolled at UM's School of Journalism, graduating in 1942.

He immediately joined the Army Signal Corps and was shipped to the South Pacific as a combat photographer. Awarded the Bronze Star, Don covered battles in Guadalcanal, the Bismarck Archipelago, the Solomon Islands, the southern Philippines and Luzon. After the war, he was stationed in Japan, where he photographed the devastation at Nagasaki and Tokyo.

After his service, he graduated from the Art Center College in Los Angeles and earned a master's degree in aerospace management and safety at the University of Southern California in 1971.

He worked as a commercial photographer in Houston and as a portrait photographer in California. He also worked as a copy editor, reporter, feature writer and editor for newspapers, including the *Spokesman-Review* and the *Las Vegas Sun*.

He served as a photographer for Pan Am World Airways and for various gov-

ernment projects, including some for NASA, and traveled to 38 countries.

After 50 years in photography and journalism, he retired in 1985. He was preceded in death by his first wife of 38 years, Margaret Smith Mittelstaedt; and by his second wife of 17 years, Betty Baker Mittelstaedt.

ROGER D. PETERSON '41, who served in World War II and the Korean War during a career in the Marine Corps, died Sept. 14, 2013, in Polson. He was 92.

Roger was born in Spokane in 1918, but his family soon moved to Montana. He graduated from Great Falls High School in 1937 and enrolled in UM's School of Journalism, earning his degree in 1941. He graduated from Officer Candidate School a year later.

He married June Forte of Polson, Montana, on May 23, 1942, and was shipped shortly thereafter to the South Pacific for a 24-month tour of duty. He also served in Korea and made career stops in Keypoint, Washington, and Camp Pendleton, California, before retiring in 1966 to Polson. He is survived by his wife and five daughters.

ANITA COFFRIN HULL '68, who wrote short stories and loved studying the meanings and origins of words, died Sept. 29, 2013, in Bellingham, Washington. She was 94.

She was born Sept. 14, 1919, in Mona, Montana. She graduated from UM's School of Journalism in 1968 and later studied in Avignon, France. She enjoyed literature and entertaining friends and family. She outlived three husbands—John Wilford, Roger Taylor and Norman Hull—and is survived by two sons.

ALCYON CARLSON WEYBRET '48, who worked as a riveter in a defense plant during World War II and reported for California newspapers, died Oct. 19, 2013, in Lodi, California. She was 87.

She was born in Los Angeles on Feb. 21, 1926, and graduated from that city's University High School in 1944. She earned a journalism degree from UM

four years later.

During the war, she worked as a riveter for the Douglas Aircraft Company. After graduating from UM, she worked as a reporter for newspapers in Montana and Salinas, California. It was in Salinas that she met Fred Weybret, and the two were married in 1950.

The couple moved to La Grande, Oregon, where Fred was owner and publisher of *The La Grande Evening Observer*. The couple acquired *The Daily Press* in Paso Robles, California, in 1954. They sold the two papers and bought *The Lodi News-Sentinel* in 1959. The couple had two sons, and were world travelers. Alcyon is survived by her husband and sons.

CARL HILLIARD '59, a longtime Associated Press reporter and columnist who chronicled "the warts, heroes and history of Colorado," died on Nov. 11, 2012, in Commerce City, Colorado. He was 76.

In an AP obituary, Hilliard's son Bronson said his father reported on the foibles of government leaders but believed most of them did well by their constituents. He also enjoyed having fun with lawmakers. He once tied a rope to a rubber chicken and banged it against the window of Colorado's House of Representatives. When he retired, lawmakers put a brass plaque at his regular seat at the press table.

He was born on Oct. 25, 1937, in Gebo, Wyoming, but the family later moved to Bridger, Montana, where Carl graduated from high school. He enrolled at UM in 1955 and earned his journalism degree four years later. He began his career as a reporter with *The Missoulian* and *The Albuquerque Journal*. He also worked for the base newspaper while stationed at Colorado's Fitzsimons Army Medical Center from 1960 to 1962.

Carl joined the AP in November of 1964 and worked in its Cheyenne bureau before being assigned to the Denver bureau three years later. He retired in 1991. Survivors include his wife, Lana, and sons Bronson and Brendan.

SUSAN HANSON PARKES

MULLINS '76, who rose to be the marketing director for McDonald's Corp., died at her home in Simi Valley, California, on Nov. 17, 2013. She was 59.

She was born in Livingston, Montana, and spent her early years among the tourists and bears at Mammoth Hot Springs in Yellowstone National Park. Her family moved to Billings in 1958. She graduated from Billings West High School in 1972 and earned her journalism degree from UM four years later.

Her career began with a move to Chicago and a job with the Leo Burnett advertising agency. McDonald's Corp. hired her in 1985. She worked as a marketing supervisor and a manager in New Orleans and Phoenix, where she married Tom Mullins.

The family moved to Simi Valley in the Los Angeles area in 1998. She was named the corporation's marketing director three years later. She held the post until her death from a heart attack.

Survivors include her husband, Tom, and her son, Tyler, who attends UM.

JUDSON NAPOLEON MOORE '48,

a combat aviator in World War II and a longtime public information officer for the U.S. Forest Service, died Feb. 19, 2015, in Kalispell. He was 93.

Born in Memphis on Jan. 18, 1922, he graduated from high school there in 1940 and studied at Memphis State until war was declared. He joined the Army Air Corp and served as a bombardier and navigator on B-17s based in England.

After the war he took the train west to study journalism at UM, earning his degree in 1948. A year later he married Mary Alyne Marie Kidd and moved to Walla Walla, Washington, to work as a reporter for *The Union Bulletin*.

He returned to UM for a master's degree in 1955 and worked for the Montana Lung Association and state health and rehabilitation agencies in Helena. He joined the Forest Service in 1962 and worked there until his retirement in 1996. Survivors include his son, Willy, of Portland, Oregon; and his daughter, Susan, of Whitefish, Montana.

JIM ROGER KITTLE '94, whose career including teaching journalism and advanced writing to high school students in Idaho, died on Feb. 12, 2015, in Polson, Montana. He was 68.

He was born in Celina, Ohio, on Oct. 11, 1946. He grew up there and in Texas. After a brief stint at John Brown University, he left to join the Army as a helicopter pilot. Disabled in a training accident, he left the Army to teach school in Celina, where he met and married Linda Barger in 1969. He underwent many surgeries over the years.

Besides teaching, he worked as a petroleum chemist, telephone lineman and telephone company manager before enrolling at UM, where he studied journalism and earned his teaching degree in 1994. He then taught journalism and writing for many years at Hillcrest High School in Idaho Falls, Idaho. Survivors include his mother, Ruth; his wife, Linda; and a son, Jess.

RICHARD JAMES CHAMPOUX '58,

a delegate to Montana's 1972 Constitutional Convention and a founding faculty member of Flathead Valley Community College, died Nov. 1, 2014, in Kalispell. He was 83.

A native of Arlington, Massachusetts, he was born in December 1930. He served in the Navy during the Korean War. He earned bachelor's degrees in journalism and history from UM in 1958 and a master's degree a year later. He did post-graduate and doctoral work at the University of Iowa and at UCLA.

He married Marilyn Ann Gray in 1961 and began his college teaching career at North Idaho College. He joined the founding faculty of Flathead Valley Community College in 1967 and retired 20 years later.

In retirement, he published three novels and enjoyed lecturing on history. Survivors include his wife, Marilyn; daughters Carolyn and Carla; and a son, Mark.

KARI GAYLE FRIEDMAN '07 died as the result of a car accident on April 16, 2014, near her home in Bozeman. She was 30.

Kari graduated from Kenston High School in Bainbridge, Ohio, and earned a journalism degree from UM in 2007. She was enrolled in the master's program in guidance counseling at Montana State University at the time of her death.

MARCY C. VERPLOEGEN '50,

a Havre High graduate who became women's editor of *The Honolulu Star-Bulletin*, died on May 28, 2014, in Ewa, Hawaii. She was 88.

She was born on May 26, 1927, in Cottonwood, Montana, a community north of Havre. She graduated from Havre High in 1945 and attended Northern Montana College, where she earned teaching credentials. She taught briefly at Pine Grove School near Kalispell. She then enrolled at UM, graduating with a bachelor's degree in journalism in 1950. She worked as a reporter at *The Havre Daily News* before moving to Honolulu in 1952, where she worked as a reporter and later as women's editor.

She also worked for the Honolulu Board of Water Supply and eventually earned a teaching certificate from the University of Hawaii at Manoa. Survivors include three brothers, Hans and Bill, both of Havre, and Al of Great Falls; and a sister, Hildegard of Ewa Beach, Hawaii.

BRUCE TAKESHI BURK '85, the founding editor and publisher of *The Lolo Peak News* and an advocate for Montanans with disabilities, died on Jan. 28, 2012, in Lolo, Montana. He was 53.

A graduate of Kalispell's Flathead County High, he earned a bachelor's degree in radio-television from UM in 1985. He went on to earn a master's degree in education counseling from Portland State University in 1993. He returned to Montana and started a community newspaper in Lolo. In his spare time he worked on a doctorate at UM.

Diagnosed with muscular dystrophy, Bruce advocated tirelessly for the federal Americans with Disabilities Act, passed in 1990. He also promoted legislation to aid disabled hunters, and helped

to develop the first wheelchair gun mounts.

Survivors include a son, James Burk of Butte; his mother, Katie DuPuy of Kalispell; his father and stepmother, Dale and Patricia Burk of Stevensville; and three sisters.

PETER JAMES KELLY, a gifted pianist and longtime *Missoulian* reporter and columnist, died on Aug. 7, 2014, in Missoula. He was 46.

Although he was born in Helena, Missoula became his home. Baseball and music dominated his youth, but writing was a passion too. After attending the School of Journalism, he joined *The Missoulian* and worked for years as a copy editor and reporter. He also wrote the popular column "Fatuous Twaddle."

He later returned to Missoula College, where he earned an associate degree in paralegal studies in 2014. Survivors include his mother, Helen; his sister, Kristin English; and two brothers, Todd and Brent.

VERNA SMITH '40, an educator and journalist who also carried the Olympic torch in 1996, died on Feb. 15, 2015, in Torrance, California. She was 95.

A native of Glasgow, Montana, Verna was an education researcher of national stature who was honored for her contributions to the field by Stanford University and the University of Montana.

After graduating from Glasgow High School, she earned a bachelor's in journalism from UM and became a journalist for *The Great Falls Tribune* and *The Glasgow Courier*. She taught English and worked as a school public information officer in the St. Louis suburb of Overland, Missouri, before earning a master's degree in education from Washington University and a doctorate in education from St. Louis University.

Through her former UM professor and lifelong friend, U.S. Senate Majority Leader Mike Mansfield of Montana, she secured funding for educational research through the U.S. Department of Education, the Rockefeller Foundation and Congress.

She also worked as a volunteer coordinator of oral history and library archives projects. She carried the Olympic torch as it traveled through St. Louis on its way to the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta. She is survived by her three sons: Philip of Ponca City, Oklahoma; Alfred of Redondo Beach, California; and Stuart of Sequim, Washington.

PRINTER BOWLER '63, a poet, author, teacher and the longtime editor and designer of this magazine, died April 28, 2014, at his Missoula home. He was 72.

He was born Larry Chester Bowler on Aug. 1, 1941, to weekly newspaper publishers Larry and Beth Bowler in New England, North Dakota. He grew up in the family's newspaper offices, hence his name, and later enrolled in the School of Journalism under the guidance of his lifelong friend, Dean Nathaniel Blumberg. Printer became associate editor and then editor of *The Montana Kaimin*.

Printer also joined the Army ROTC. He graduated from UM in 1963 and attended a year of graduate school in Missoula before entering the Army full time in 1964 as a lieutenant. He volunteered to go to Vietnam in 1966 as an intelligence specialist. He spent a month in Saigon and 10 months in Da Nang. Printer described his service in Vietnam as largely a process of disillusionment with the war.

After the war, Capt. Bowler went to San Francisco, where he joined the flower power movement and kept his hand in journalism, working for *The Bay Guardian* newspaper and as a cameraman for a local TV news channel.

He eventually returned to Montana, where he organized Montana's first organic farming co-op, brokering organic Montana hard red spring wheat to distributors and bakeries in California and Montana.

He met Jana Darwall in Bigfork, where they married and started the Bread Board Bakery. They had two sons, Barley Zarathustra and Liam Robert.

Printer was a co-founder and manager of the International News Network in

Bigfork, an early online news service, and he occasionally wrote for *The Bigfork Eagle*.

In 1997, Printer moved from Bigfork to Missoula, and continued to focus on his writing and editing. He published *The Cosmic Laws of Golf (and everything else)* in 2001.

Printer fell in love with Kim Lugthart, owner of Mammyth Bakery Cafe and partner in Caffé Dolce in Missoula, in late 1997. They married in 2005, and Printer's family expanded to include Kim's son, Krin, and her daughter, Sierra, and Sierra's husband and son.

BETSY COHEN '96, a hard-driving journalist and gifted equestrian, died of metastatic breast cancer on March 3, 2014, at St. Patrick Hospital in Missoula. She was 49.

Elizabeth Ann Cohen was born Oct. 25, 1964, to Deborah and Dr. Gary Cohen at San Diego Naval Hospital. She grew up in Amherst, N.Y., and graduated from Amherst High School in 1982. She headed west after graduating in 1986 from Hobart and William Smith Colleges, in Geneva, N.Y., where she had earned a bachelor's degree in English and played varsity lacrosse. After a summer job in Glacier National Park, she moved to Missoula, where she waited tables, worked with at-risk children and served on the Snowbowl Ski Patrol and Pro Patrol.

She also discovered journalism in Missoula, earning a master's degree at UM in 1996. She interned at *The Missoulian* and worked for two years as a reporter for Butte's *Montana Standard*. During those years, Betsy partnered with the love of her life, Missoulian photographer Michael Gallacher.

In 1998 she returned to *The Missoulian*. Her beats over time included the economy, higher education, public schools and the justice system. She also worked as an associate editor, fine-tuning copy and mentoring interns and younger reporters.

She found special joy in collaborating with Michael on assignments. When news broke that the FBI had captured the Unabomber near Lincoln, Montana,

Michael and Betsy, then an intern, raced to the scene of the biggest story of 1996.

Over the years the duo covered subjects ranging from the 2007 Black Cat fire near Frenchtown to the grace and beauty of the Pryor Mountains' wild horse herd.

In 2002, Betsy won a reporting fellowship and traveled to Northern Ireland to track down Catholics and Protestants who, through the Project Children program, had spent childhood summers in Montana. She returned with a powerful series of stories connecting Montanans to the peaceful future emerging thousands of miles away. Michael joined her and combined his photographs with her words to make an award-winning package.

She threw herself into work until the end, with her last *Missoulian* byline appearing on Jan. 8, 2014. Betsy made time for freelance writing, too. From 2006 to 2008, she was a contributing editor at *Modern Arabian Horse*.

Betsy had owned horses and competed in equestrian events since childhood. Just weeks before her death, she was gearing up to show her horse in hunter and equitation classes at top shows throughout the West.

Surviving her is her partner, Michael Gallacher, of Missoula; her parents, Gary and Debby Cohen of Amherst, N.Y.; and two brothers, Jonathan Cohen and sister-in-law Clara of Saratoga Springs, N.Y., and David Cohen and sister-in-law Norah of Buffalo, N.Y.

KALEE NICOLINE JACOBSON SCOLATTI '05, news director at Missoula's KTMF-TV, was killed May 6, 2015, at her home by her estranged husband. She was 34.

She was born in Missoula on Jan. 25, 1981, to Kathleen and Bob Jacobson. Her parents described her as "our strong, willful child who attended local schools until she decided not to."

She gave birth to her first daughter, Izabele, in 1998, and she married Nicholas Scolatti in 1999. She completed her last two years of high school by achieving her GED in just six months.

She gave birth to her second daughter, Marly, in 2000.

She enrolled at UM in 2001 and graduated with honors from the School of Journalism in 2005. She interned at and was hired upon graduation by Max Media's KTMF-TV in Missoula.

She gave birth to her third daughter, Sophia, in 2009.

She was promoted to news director in January and was two days away from her 10th anniversary at ABC Fox Montana at the time of her death.

She is survived by her daughters, Izabele Nicoline, Marly Francesca and Sophia Kathleen Scolatti; her parents, Kathleen Vavrovsky, Bob Jacobson and Thomas Plovanic; a brother, Chad Jacobson; her grandmother, Gladys Jacobson of Malta; many aunts, uncles, cousins, friends; and her supportive Scolatti family, Mike, Danette, Adam, Jordan, Alex and Bubbi.

Donations for her family can be made online at gofundme.com/scolattigirls, youcaring.com (search for Kalee Scolatti) and directly at First Security Bank of Missoula.

DONALD FREDERICK GRAFF '51, whose journalism career included stints at United Press, Radio Free Europe and the United Feature Syndicate, died May 9, 2014. He was 87.

Born in Billings and raised in Laurel, Montana, Don earned a bachelor's degree in journalism in 1951, followed by a master's in history and political science in 1952. After two years in the Army, he worked as a United Press newsman in Los Angeles, Pittsburgh and Newark, New Jersey. A move to Radio Free Europe in 1957 took him to Munich, Stockholm and Vienna. Returning to the U.S., he worked in public relations for Western Electric before becoming managing editor at the Newspaper Enterprise Association, first in Cleveland and after 1971 in New York City, where he later served as managing editor of the United Feature Syndicate and wrote a nationally syndicated column. In his later years he worked as a freelancer and a tour guide in the Washington, D.C., area before finally moving to

Manhattan, Kansas.

He is survived by sons David and Donald; a grandson, William; and a brother, James. His wife, Margaret, died in April.

BERNARD KIM FORMAN '56, a journalist, cowboy and minister, died on May 10, 2015, at his beach house on Treasure Island in Allyn, Washington. He was 81.

He was born on Nov. 9, 1933, in Lodge Grass, Montana, one of six children. Kim earned a bachelor's degree in journalism from UM where he served as editor of *The Montana Kaimin* and was a member of the Sigma Nu fraternity.

After graduation, he trained as a Navy pilot in Pensacola, Florida, and was discharged in 1957. He married Mary Travis in December of 1957. They had three children and lived happily together in Magnolia, Washington, with a brief interlude in Fort Worth, Texas, until Mary's death in December 2011.

Early in his career, Kim wrote for the Associated Press in Michigan, Wyoming and Montana before accepting a public relations position with Burlington Northern Railroad. Later, he completed a master's degree in theology at Dallas Theological Seminary, and was ordained a priest in the Episcopal Church, Diocese of Olympia.

He was a Boy Scout leader, a member of Toastmasters International and the Public Relations Society of America, and he taught public relations at Seattle University. He served with Operation Nightwatch, and was a longtime board member for the Diocese of Olympia's Camp Huston. He served as the Total Common Ministry Missioner for several years and was loyal to both St. Hughes Episcopal Church in Allyn, Washington, and Church of the Ascension in Magnolia.

Kim is survived by his children: the Rev. John Forman, Betsy Serdar and Susan Blakely. In his last two years of life, he was a dedicated companion to his Montana childhood friend, Joanne Frizzell. **-30-**

1940s

Bill Cooney '49, now "transplanted" to Spokane, Washington, had this to report: "If surviving for 65 years since leaving the then-Playground of the Northwest is a milestone, I guess I would qualify. But leaving Montana after some 76 years in 2004 puts a damper on all of that."

1960s

John J. Schulz '62 and his wife recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. They live in Cape Charles, Virginia, where John helps produce "The Intake," a journal of the Super Sabre Society, which honors those who flew the F-100 Supersabre. John is also the author of *Songs From a Distant Cockpit*, the story about pilots who "flew so high, and down so low, so fast, so far away, that only God could find us."

Emily Melton '65 and her husband sold their home in Greenville, South Carolina, and moved to a retirement community on the Furman University campus. "If I can't live in Montana, this is certainly a great second choice," she wrote.

Carl Gidlund '67 has been retired for 17 years from his job as public affairs officer for the Idaho Panhandle National Forests. Since then he has been a correspondent for *The Spokesman-Review* and a volunteer for organizations that include a hospice, a library board and a veterans' commission.

He has also worked with the National Smokejumper Association. *American Legion* magazine recently published his article on African-American smokejumpers of World War II.

Jane (Stahl) McCarter '67 and her husband, **Don McCarter** '66, live in Livingston, "at the foot of the Absaroka Range." Jane's novel, *Where All Good Dreams Are Real*, was published in April

by Omnific Publishing. Her early career was in outdoor tourism marketing. She has also worked as a writer and wildlife advocate for the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish.

1970s

John Shook '70 is enjoying retirement in Knoxville, Tennessee, after a 45-year career in production at the public television station there. "I had a good time and education at UM, and I hope to get back there for a visit and see the changes of the past 45 years," he wrote.

F. James Greco '71 published his second historical novel, *Jerkwater Town*, a murder mystery that has won acclaim from Clarion and Kirkus Reviews. James blogs at www.fjamesgreco.wordpress.com, and can be found at www.fjamesgreco.com.

James Grady '72 has published *Last Days of the Condor*, a sequel to his first

Johnson retires as Lee closes Capitol bureau

Charles S. Johnson '70, has retired after a 43-year career that included covering the birth of Montana's 1972 Constitution and leading the capitol bureaus for *The Great Falls Tribune* and Montana's Lee newspapers.

Johnson, 67, had planned to retire this fall, but the Lee's closure of the state bureau forced the issue. He and Lee State Bureau colleague Mike Dennison '81 accepted buyouts late this spring.

Johnson's retirement elicited tributes from both of Montana's U.S. senators, Democrat Jon Tester and Republican Steve Daines, and from politicians, sources and colleagues across the state, many of whom have wondered what he plans to do next.

"I'll be happy in retirement," Johnson told Steve Jess of Montana Public Radio recently. "I'll miss this job. It was a lot of fun. I don't know. Maybe I'll do some writing projects. Maybe I'll travel. I haven't really figured that out."

Johnson received his bachelor's degree in journalism in 1970. He earned a master's degree in history in 1977. His thesis detailed *Helena Independent* editor Will Campbell's role in suppressing dissent in World War I. Johnson also studied a year at Oxford University on a Rotary Club scholarship.

A former *Kaimin* sports editor and managing editor, Johnson worked for the Associated Press, *The Missoulian* and the Lee State Bureau before joining *The Great Falls Tribune's* Capitol Bureau, where he worked for 15 years. He was hired to run the Lee State

Bureau in 1993.

Respected for his incisive and impartial reporting, Johnson also mentored many young journalists, including J-School alums Sue O'Connell '81, David Fenner '98, Erin Billings M.A. '95, Kathleen McLaughlin, Jennifer McKee '05, Erica Curless '98, Courtney Lowery Cowgill '03 and Ericka Schenck M.A. '03.

The number also includes the many students who have covered legislative sessions for the J-School's Community News Service and Legislative News Service.



Johnson celebrates retirement with (from left) Jennifer McKee, Erica Curless, Ericka Schenck and Courtney Lowery Cowgill.

novel, *Six Days of the Condor*, which became a Robert Redford movie four decades ago. Grady lives near Washington, D.C. He is married to writer and former private investigator Bonnie Goldstein. Their son, Nathan Grady, published his first short story in an anthology last summer, and their daughter, Rachel Grady, an Academy Award nominee for documentaries, makes films out of New York while caring for James' grandson, Desmond Jack Grady.

Heidi M. Thomas (Gasser) '72 has published her fourth book, *Cowgirl Up!*, which offers a history of women's rodeo. She is also the author of three books in the *Cowgirl Dreams* series, based on her rodeo-riding grandmother.

Larry Bruce '73 retired four years ago from a career in rural electrical cooperatives and 40 years of covering high school sports for the weekly *Circle (Montana) Banner*. "I cherish my education at the J-School and have so

many fond memories (and challenges) from the likes of Blumberg, McGiffert, Hood, Holloron, Dugan and so many more wonderful, caring educators."

Kay Joslin '73 recently retired from the National Center for Appropriate Technology in Butte. For the past 26 years she had been director of the center's Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program Clearinghouse, a national information service on energy programs for low-income people. She edited the project's newsletter and oversaw its website and publications. Kay lives near Conner, Montana, on the West Fork of the Bitterroot River, on land her family has owned since 1944.

Kevin Giles '74 has logged 40 years in daily newspaper journalism. He is currently an editor and reporter at the *Star Tribune* in Minneapolis-St. Paul. "It's a world away from my hometown of Deer Lodge, Montana," he wrote.

Rich Laws '74 celebrated 20 years at Missoula's KPAX-TV this summer. He started in 1975 as a master control operator. From 2000-2011 he directed the station's "Montana This Morning" newscast. Seeking more normal hours, he went back to his original job.

Michael Roney '75 runs his own marketing communications and publishing consultancy in northern New Jersey. As president of Highpoint Executive Publishing, he publishes business books for senior corporate executives and entrepreneurs looking to enhance their brands. He also writes sponsored sections in *Forbes* magazine for American Express, Alcatel Lucent, AT&T, British Airways, Lufthansa, Microsoft, Nokia, Novell, Qantas, Samsung, Toshiba, Verizon and other global organizations. He has been married for 34 years, and has two daughters and three grandchildren.

Michael Pantalone '75, head soccer coach at Prescott, Arizona's Yavapai

William Marcus retires after 40 years at UM

William Marcus '74 remembers little about the first time he taught basic audio production at the School of Journalism. But hundreds of Radio-Television students recall his guidance and mentoring. Now, after a 40-year career at the University of Montana, Marcus is retiring.

A Wibaux native, Marcus graduated from UM with a RTV degree in 1974. He was hired at the J-School in 1975 as a producer and on-air host for KUFM Radio. The job also required him to teach a class. It wasn't easy at first.

"It was pretty much just play (recorded) radio shows because we didn't have portable recorders," he recalled. "It was mostly making commercials, reading news and hosting." He would go on to teach the class for more than 30 years.

Marcus hadn't planned to stay in Missoula. "But things here always got a little more interesting," he said. "The new building was coming along, and you're looking at blueprints with studios and control rooms. The possibilities there were just really exciting."

The Performing Arts/Radio-Television building opened in 1985—a year after KUFM Radio became part of the future Broadcast Media Center. In 1993, the BMC director quit, and Marcus replaced him. "I ended up as interim for two years," he said. "And after that I thought, 'I know how to do this job. I'll apply for it.'"

He also helped establish KUFM-TV. Besides his Monday



The voice of William Marcus has become instantly recognizable across Montana's public airwaves.

morning radio show, Marcus hosts and co-produces the popular "Backroads of Montana" television series and has been executive producer for four Emmy Award-winning shows.

"I think that Montana is a better place because of public broadcasting," he said. "I think we've done important work that has helped Montanans understand each other better. And it's been fun to be part of that."

College, received the National Soccer Coaches Association of America's Letter of Commendation in January. Pantalione is entering his 27th season as Yavapai's first and only head soccer coach. He has the best all-time winning percentage of any collegiate men's soccer coach (555-47-26). His teams have captured 72 conference, regional, district and national titles, including seven national championships.

John Weaver '75 is the host for "Morning Edition" on Arizona Public Media in Tucson. He has had the job since 2012. Before that he was a newscaster and host for Minnesota Public Radio in St. Paul.

Rich Ecke '77 has been named Viewpoints and Engagement Editor at the *Great Falls Tribune's* "Newsroom of the Future."

Steve Harris '77 left Missoula's KPAX-TV in September to accept an interactive sales position at KVOA-TV in Tucson, Arizona.

Larry Elkin '78 and his colleagues at Palisades Hudson Financial Group published a book, *Looking Ahead: Life, Family Wealth and Business After 55*. It covers a range of topics dealing with personal finance and family wealth, and was edited by Larry's daughter, Ali Elkin, a journalist with *Bloomberg Politics* in New York.

Kelly Roberts Weibel '78 has finished her 25th year of teaching English to international students at Edmonds Community College, north of Seattle. She's also written tests for the ESL Grammar Series and tests for online grammar assessment. "I'm looking forward to visiting Montana this summer," she wrote.

Tom Harvey '79, a reporter for *The Salt Lake Tribune*, has won numerous awards for reporting alleged corruption in the Utah attorney general's office. He received first-place awards for investigative/enterprise reporting in the 2014

Top of the Rockies Contest, which recognizes the best journalism in Utah, Colorado, New Mexico and Wyoming. The Utah Headliners chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists awarded him two of its top five prizes for 2014: the Don Baker Investigative Reporting Award and the Quintus Wilson Ethics Award. The latter was for a story Harvey and reporter Tony Semerad broke about a deal between the hedge fund that owns *The Salt Lake Tribune* and *The Deseret News*, the *Tribune's* partner in a Joint Operating Agreement that stripped the *Tribune* of 48 percent of its profits.

1980s

Kyle Albert M.A. '85 is a freelance writer and editor for websites, email campaigns, direct mail, catalogs, print and broadcast media. His clients at Copy Chef Inc. include tech companies, corporations and advertising agencies nationwide. He lives in Eagle, Idaho, with his wife, Judi, and their two sons.

Kevin Brooke '85 teaches English at Billings Skyview High School. Along with his wife, Lisa, and two daughters, Brooke also owns and operates a cattle ranch near Grass Range, Montana.

Ford Stuart '86 writes that classmate Ed Kemmick wrote a nice piece for the lastbestnews.com about Ford's partnering with the University of Montana Alumni Association to lead a beer tour in Belgium this summer. Ford, who lives in Traverse City, Michigan, hopes to do the tour again in 2016.

Judi Blaze '87 discovered fiction after graduation. She has published three novels, including the award-winning *On Indian Time* and a book of short stories.

Her latest effort was a feature-length screenplay, "Squid Jiggers," a semi-finalist at the Nashville Film Festival. She also works as a ghostwriter, editor and consultant. "I live most of my time in

the Pacific Northwest, but winter in Arizona," she wrote.

1990s

David Glass '90 is doing audio production from his home studio in Bigfork, Montana. He's also doing audiobook narration and production for Audible.com. Since 2013, he has finished 19 audiobook projects. He writes that he has also produced an audio version of the federal Affordable Care Act, which he posted at mtwindybits.com.

Meg Oliver '93 is back at CBS, freelancing as a correspondent and anchor. She's anchoring at CBSN, the company's new digital channel, and reporting for different platforms. You can catch her on your smartphone, computer or on a livestream to your TV. "It's so fun to be back," wrote Meg, who worked at CBS from 2006 to 2009 as a correspondent and anchor of "Up to the Minute."

Tom Nybo '95 has a knack for being where news happens. In late April of this year, the Atlanta-based freelancer was in Katmandu, Nepal, working on a project when a massive earthquake rocked the nation, causing almost 9,000 deaths and destroying more than 600,000 homes. Tom's photos appeared within hours on *The New York Times'* website and later on the newspaper's front page. His reports also appeared on CNN. News of the quake also raised concerns about the fate of Nepalese television journalist Rajendra Dev Acharya M.A. '06, but he eventually reported that he and his family were safe.

Chris Goode '96 is CEO and president of Enterprise Electronics, a leader in the design and manufacture of weather radar. "While I have a meteorology background from my studies and training in the Air Force, the writing and communication skills I acquired during my time at UM have been incredibly impactful throughout my career," he writes.

Katie Oyan '99 married Brian Skoloff in July. Both work for The Associated Press in Phoenix.

2000s

Matt Thompson '00 is assistant public affairs officer at the U.S. Embassy in Riga, Latvia. Beyond serving as the primary contact for information about the U.S. and the mission, Matt manages the embassy's educational, professional exchange and cultural programs. He also maintains the embassy's websites and social media pages in English, Latvian and Russian. This is Matt's second post in the Foreign Service. He was stationed at the U.S. Consulate General in Matamoros, Mexico. He and his wife, Deena, will be posted in Riga for two years. Deena will coordinate the English for Speakers of Other Languages program at the International School of Latvia.

Sam DeWitt '01 is a pillar of Colorado's Democratic Party, working as an aide to a state legislator representing Steamboat Springs, Hayden, Vail, Eagle and Edwards. He was recently elected to the Colorado Democratic Party's State Executive Committee. He lives with his dog, Missoula, in south-central Denver.

Krystal Spring Steinmetz '01 reports that after seven years as director of community planning at Bear Paw Development in Havre, she is now working as a freelance writer for *Money Talks News*, a personal finance news site that helps consumers save money and avoid scams. Working from home allows her to take care of her two children, ages 4 and 1.

Kristen Inbody '03 recently moved to Helena to take over *The Great Falls Tribune's* Capitol Bureau. It's been 10 years since she covered the statehouse for the J-School's Community News Service. "Back in the basement broom closet office in the Capitol after all these years!" she wrote. Last year Kristen and

Erin Madison '06 published *Montana State Parks: Complete Guide and Travel Companion* (Riverbend Publishing).

Joseph Friedrichs '05 is a guide and manager for Rockwood Lodge & Outfitters in Minnesota's Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness. He is also a frequent contributor to *Northern Wilds*, *The Boundary Waters Journal* and WTIP Public Radio in Grand Marais, Minnesota.

Elyse Hughes '06 left her job in the Digital Media Services Library at Fox News Channel and Fox Business Network two years ago. Today she works at Ark Media in Brooklyn as the production coordinator on PBS's "Finding Your Roots with Henry Louis Gates Jr." She writes, "Season 2 aired last fall to great ratings and I was promoted to production manager for Season 3, which we are filming now to air in Fall 2015."

Brianne Burrowes '07 and her consumer marketing team at Phoenix International Raceway won the 2014 Best Advertising/Marketing Campaign award given by NASCAR. She also leads the website iwantherjob.com, working with fellow J-School alum **Keriann Strickland** '07 and other UM alums.

Caitlin Copple M.A. '07 works for Hilltop Public Solutions, a public affairs and communications firm based in Washington, D.C., with offices in New York, Billings, Boise, Denver, Los Angeles, Las Vegas, and Portland, Oregon.

The Billings office is managed by Barrett Kaiser, a UM Communications alumnus and longtime top aide to former U.S. Sen. Max Baucus. Copple has also joined the campaign board of the Victory Fund & Institute, a bipartisan national organization dedicated to electing and appointing openly LGBT officials.

Stacy Gray '09 is living in Malawi, where she works for a rape-prevention program called "No Means No Worldwide." It helps young girls learn verbal and physical skills to better defend

themselves. After graduation from UM, she earned a master's degree in public health and preventative medicine from the University of Utah.

Kayla Matzke Newbanks '09 is an adjunct journalism instructor and the faculty adviser for Colorado Northwestern Community College's student newspaper, *The Spartan Times*.

2010s

Shane Thomas McMillan '10 wrote us from Portland, Maine, where he is teaching photography at the Salt Institute for Documentary Studies. After graduation he won a Fulbright to study in Berlin. He remained there as a freelancer, working on documentary films and personal photography projects. Last summer he was invited to work at the Salt Institute. Since then he has split his time between freelancing in Berlin and teaching in Maine.

Allison Bye '14 interned at *Mamalode* magazine in Missoula after graduation, then landed a job as a designer at *The Orange County Register* in California.

Nicole Wren '14 was hired recently at iHeartMedia Inc. in Los Angeles. "I'm currently a board-op, but I'm also working on developing their online video presence," she writes. **-30-**

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THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS!

Learning about the J-School's fundraising abilities has taught me more than I expected. It's shown me just how strong our past is, and just how central fundraising is to our future.

I got the biggest surprise from our Centennial party itself. Friends and supporters helped us stage a gathering for more than 200 alumni here at the Mountain Campus. Old friends got together for the first time in decades, and I got to meet many of them for the first time. I had heard about the strength of the alumni network, but this event made it real. Alums really believe their time here changed their lives forever, so they keep giving back to the school.

I've also learned a lot from the Pollner Professorship, which this year was extended to include the spring semester. Media consultant Ron Reason arrived just in time to help a critical redesign for the *Montana Kaimin*. Thanks to the generosity of the Pollner family, students are getting a crash course in the way media organizations are responding to changes in the publishing landscape. They also had a first-class education in the rigors of court reporting from former *New York Times* reporter Bill Glaberson last fall. This program shows that money alone cannot buy quality instruction. It takes a well-designed program, and a stellar cast of applicants.

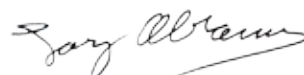
We had a major success for our graduate program this year with the arrival of The Crown Project. Friends of the late conservationist Ted Smith have provided support for this program, which provides mentors to two graduate students in environmental journalism. Celia Talbot Tobin and Ken Rand are the first selectees in this effort to expand coverage of the Glacier National Park area. They will work with mentors Chris Joyce of National

Public Radio and Ted Alvarez of the e-zine *Grist* in a collaborative effort that aims for national publication of their work. The Crown Project is off to a great start, and we are already looking for funds to keep the project going beyond its two-year lifespan.

The project embodies many of my priorities for future fundraising. The program came together quickly, and involves working journalists on a project that produces real journalism. I hope another initiative will follow the same model. The "Dean's Innovation Fund" is a new pot of money that will help the school build programming around social media and digital journalism. Many of our alums have expressed great enthusiasm about our need to keep the school ahead of the curve when it comes to social media. This area is critical as we seek to grow our enrollment, and to stay on top of trends in the industry.

Alumni loyalty promises to keep the J-School strong for a long time. We received commitments this year from alum Jane Baldock and her family for a major bequest to support education of Native American students and coverage of issues on Montana's reservations. The Baldocks' support for Native American students is something I hope to expand. We are in the process of developing more scholarships that focus on building a diverse student body. UM is challenged by our population base, as you know, but I believe we can make strides if we can offer the right financial incentives.

The base of support for the J-School that has been built up over the years is truly impressive. I am hoping to build on that base, and push this partnership forward.



—Dean Larry Abramson

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