February 2011 news releases

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02 2011 News

03/01/2011 - UM Marketers Win Awards - UM Enrollment Services

03/01/2011 - UM School of Journalism Students, Faculty Earn Broadcast Awards - Denise Dowling


02/25/2011 - UM Dining Services Holds Food Literacy Month Events - Jerry O'Malley

02/25/2011 - 'Vesta' Spotlights End-Of-Life Issues Across Generations - Megan Twohig

02/25/2011 - Visit Ireland Through UM Summer Programs - Traolach O' Riordain

02/24/2011 - 'Odyssey Of The Stars' Strikes Up The Band At UM March 19 - Linda Lussy

02/23/2011 - 'Lessons Of Our Land' Continues With Lectures In March - Jodi Rave

02/23/2011 - KBGA College Radio To Host Concert - Drew Larson

02/23/2011 - UM Spring Semester Enrollment Tops 15,000 - Royce Engstrom

02/22/2011 - 'Walk a Mile In Her Shoes' at UM March 9 - Stoney Sasser

02/22/2011 - State Legislative Leaders To Discuss Mid-Session Developments - Christopher Muste

02/22/2011 - Creative Writing Program Hosts Spring Reading Series - Karin Schalm

02/22/2011 - UM Offers Updated Educators' Career Fair - Roberta "Bobbie" Evans

02/18/2011 - Lecture Tackles Issues Of Reservation Land Ownership - Jeannie Thompson

02/18/2011 - Author To Speak About Cyberlibertairians At UM Colloquium - Lanell Curry

02/17/2011 - Middle East, North African Revolutions Topic Of Presentation - Brian Lofink

02/17/2011 - UM Law School Celebrates 100 Years - Irma Russell

02/17/2011 - MontanaPBS Documentary Examines Science Of Cannabis - Anna Rau

02/17/2011 - Suicide Prevention Training At UM Feb. 24 - Ryan Norton

02/17/2011 - UM Hosts Alumni Night With The Missoula Maulers - Jodi Moreau

02/17/2011 - UM Law School Trial Team Takes First At Regional Competition - Rebecca Krantz

02/16/2011 - Extended Learning Services Offers Free Webinar Sessions - Mariene Zentz
MISSOULA –

The University of Montana raked in eight awards during recent marketing competitions.

UM captured seven wins from the Higher Education Marketing Report during the 26th annual Educational Advertising Awards. The winners from this national competition were:

- **Gold**, UM total recruitment package. The award honors all the direct mailing materials sent to prospective students by Enrollment Services. UM mails to 240,000 prospective students during a 16-month recruitment cycle to meet the University’s enrollment projections. Materials were designed in collaboration with UM Printing and Graphic Services.

- **Silver**, the Montanan magazine. Produced by University Relations, the Montanan is mailed to 83,000 alumni and University friends three times a year. It's online at [http://www.umt.edu/montanan](http://www.umt.edu/montanan).

- **Silver**, the most recent President’s Report titled “Building a Better UM.” The report highlights UM achievements during the past year. It was produced by University Relations and UM Printing and Graphic Services. It’s online at [http://www.umt.edu/urelations/report](http://www.umt.edu/urelations/report).

- **Silver**, “Video Viewbook Recruitment Video: Amber.” Produced by Enrollment Services in collaboration with Kagan Yochim and UM’s Broadcast Media Center, the video highlights the experiences of a Blackfeet pharmacy student. It’s online at [http://admissions.umt.edu/main/?p=143](http://admissions.umt.edu/main/?p=143).

- **Bronze**, “Our Cubs Become Griz So Fast” magazine advertisement. The ad was produced by Enrollment Services.

- **Merit**, Research View newsletter. Produced by University Relations and Printing and Graphic Services, this twice-a-year publication highlights UM innovation and scholarship. It’s online at [http://www.umt.edu/urelations/rview](http://www.umt.edu/urelations/rview).

- **Merit**, poster prospectus titled “Balance.” Produced by Enrollment Services, the poster helps with recruitment.

The Montanan also won a Gold award for general excellence from the regional Council for Advancement and Support of Education. The CASE Gold was awarded in the print general-interest magazines category for the three 2010 issues of the Montanan. It the highest CASE general excellence win for the magazine.

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Local, dailies

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Contact: UM Enrollment Services, 406-243-6266, ; UM University Relations, 406-243-2523, .
MISSOULA —

The Broadcast Education Association will honor University of Montana students and faculty during its international Festival of Media Arts in April. The annual awards honor audio, video and film work produced by college students and professors from around the globe.

Ray Ekness, professor and chair of the Department of Radio-Television in the School of Journalism, earned the Award of Excellence in the faculty news competition with a video story titled “Senior Weightlifter Harold Smith.” The story was produced for the program “Backroads of Montana,” which airs on MontanaPBS.

The 2010 student documentary “Cannabusiness” earned an honorable mention in the long form documentary category. The program took an in-depth look at the business of medical marijuana in Montana and aired on MontanaPBS several times in summer 2010.

Seniors Dan LaDue of Bozeman and Jake Stevenson of Massachusetts took honors in the sports reporting category. Their piece titled “When Griz Fly” profiled UM’s snowboarding team and their practices in the Grizzly Pool.


The awards will be given at the BEA Festival of Media Arts in Las Vegas this April.

For more information call Associate Professor Denise Dowling at 406-243-4243 or e-mail denise.dowling@umontana.edu.

Contact: Denise Dowling, associate professor, UM Department of Radio-Television, 406-243-4143, denise.dowling@mso.umt.edu.

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MISSOULA —

MontanaPBS will air “Death Inc.,” a 30-minute “Montana Journal” episode at 7 p.m. Thursday, March 24. The episode will premiere at 7 p.m. Sunday, March 20, in the University Center Theater at The University of Montana. The event is free and open to the public.

The episode will explore the decisions people make after a loved one passes away. “Death Inc.” gives viewers an inside look into the unique lives and stories of Montanans who assist with those choices. People portrayed include a Red Lodge coffin maker, Lewis and Clark County’s coroner and other Montana businesses in the death industry.

“Montana Journal” is produced by seniors in the School of Journalism’s Department of Radio-Television at UM.

For more information call Kagan Yochim, UM School of Journalism adjunct instructor, at 406-243-6950 or e-mail kagan.yochim@mso.umt.edu.

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CM

Local, Dailies, Weeklies

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Contact: Kagan Yochim, UM School of Journalism, 406-243-6950, kagan.yochim@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA –

Throughout the month of March, University Dining Services will showcase an array of films, special meals and lectures at The University of Montana to celebrate Food Literacy Month.

The following films will be shown at 7 p.m. in the University Center Theater and are free and open to the public:

- **Monday, March 7:** “Fresh.”
- **Monday, March 14:** “Dirt!”
- **Wednesday, March 16:** “Nourish.”
- **Wednesday, March 23:** “Tapped.”

UDS also will feature two lunch events in the Food Zoo during March that are examples of plant-based diets, which are proven to reduce the risk of many health problems from diabetes to cancer while reducing a person’s carbon footprint:

- **Tuesday, March 15, 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m.** : Meatless Meal.
- **Thursday, March 17, 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m.** : Mediterranean Spreads Bar.

More information about the Food Zoo, located in Lommasson Center, is on the UDS website at [http://www.life.umt.edu/dining](http://www.life.umt.edu/dining).

UM’s Environmental Studies Program will sponsor two free lectures during Food Literacy Month in Gallagher Business Building Room 106:

- **Thursday, March 10:** 7:30 p.m., “Food and Thought: Our School at Blair Grocery.”
- **Monday, March 21:** 7 p.m., “Beyond the World Food Crisis: Ending the Injustices that Cause Hunger.”

For more information about Food Literacy Month events at UM, visit [http://life.umt.edu/dining/Nutrition/food_literacy.php](http://life.umt.edu/dining/Nutrition/food_literacy.php) or call registered dietitian Rebecca Shern at 406-243-2315.

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**Contact:** Jerry O’Malley, director of marketing, University Dining Services, 406-243-6433, [jerry.omalley@mso.umt.edu](mailto:jerry.omalley@mso.umt.edu)
MISSOULA –

The Institute of Medicine and Humanities will present “Vesta,” a play that explores the emotions and decisions a family must face through the end of a grandmother’s life, on Sunday, March 6, at The University of Montana.

The play, produced by the Montana Repertory Theatre, begins at 7 p.m. in the Masquer Theatre of the Performing Arts and Radio-Television Center. A dessert reception will be held at 6:30 p.m. Following the play, the audience and actors will participate in facilitated discussion with the playwright, Bryan Harnetiaux of Spokane, Wash., and local experts.

The event is free and open to the public.

The play features Megan Cole in the title role of Vesta and is directed by Greg Johnson of the Montana Repertory Theatre. It often evokes a strong emotional response from audiences, yet deals with the issues of aging and dying in a thoughtful, sometimes humorous manner.

“‘Vesta’ is a compelling production but at the same time entertaining,” said Dr. Peggy Schlesinger, executive director of IMH. “It provides a great opportunity for family members to watch together and discuss the issues with one another after the production.”

IMH encourages people to attend with a significant other – a spouse, grandparent, son, daughter or other person – who has played a prominent role in their lives.

“The play ‘Vesta’ increases our understanding of the needs of different age groups as they progress through the death of a loved one, which everyone will eventually experience,” Schlesinger said. “Such work is part of IMH’s ongoing efforts to raise awareness about end-of-life issues.”

Cole has had a long acting career on the professional stage, including guest-star appearances on “Seinfeld,” “ER,” “The Practice,” “Judging Amy,” “Las Vegas,” various “Star Trek” episodes and others. She originated the leading role in Margaret Edson’s Pulitzer Prize-winning drama “WIT” in 1995, for which she received the L.A. Drama Critics’ Circle Award for Outstanding Performance.

Cole also tours with “The Wisdom of WIT,” her solo version of the play. She is an artist-in-residence at the University of Texas, Houston, where she conducts workshops on both empathic physician/patient communication and on literature and the art of medicine. Cole takes the workshops to health care and end-of-life venues across the country and gives public talks on the human face of medicine. Learn more at http://www.megancole.net.

“Vesta” has been produced in a number of communities throughout the United States. Local productions for the purposes of education and discourse on end-of-life issues are licensed by the Duke Institute on Care at the End of Life in Durham, N.C.

IMH is a joint program of UM and St. Patrick Hospital and Health Sciences Center. Since its founding in 1987, the institute has fostered the human dimensions of health care by working at the interface of the humanities and medicine.

“Part of our mission is to explore the myriad issues surrounding death and dying,” Schlesinger said. “Producing this play is a great way to do that, as well as create an intergenerational dialogue.”

For more information, call Megan Twohig, IMH program coordinator, at 406-243-4576 or e-mail mtwohig@saintpatrick.org.

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MISSOULA –

The University of Montana offers two opportunities during May and June for those who would like to head to Ireland this summer.

A three-credit course titled “Brain, Mind and the Literary Imagination” will take place in Dublin from May 19 to June 4. The course will be led by UM College of Arts and Sciences Dean Christopher Comer in conjunction with faculty from Trinity College, University College Dublin and St. Patrick’s College.

Those who are interested can apply through UM International Programs. For more information call 406-243-2288 or e-mail christopher.comer@umontana.edu. The application deadline is March 15.

Traolach O’Riordain, director of UM’s Irish Studies Program, will lead a tour to the south and west of Ireland from May 29 to June 8. The tour takes in the Burren, the Aran Islands, Connemara, Kylemore, Killyar Harbour, Westport, The Quiet Man Village, Ennis, Killarney, Kenmare, west Cork, Blarney and Bunratty. It is limited to 20 people.

For more information, call O’Riordain at 406-544-0311 or e-mail erin@irishmontana.com.

The Friends of Irish Studies also is holding a raffle to support the Irish Studies Program at UM. First prize is a trip for two to Ireland with 10-day car rental and $1,500 spending money.

Tickets cost $5 each or six for $25. They are available in Missoula at Rockin Rudy’s and from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. every Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday at the University Center on the UM campus. Raffle tickets also are available in Butte at Cavanaugh’s Country Celtic and Granite Mountain Bank, and in Helena at O’Malley’s Irish Bar.

The raffle drawing will take place March 20, and ticketholders do not have to be present to win. For more information about the raffle, e-mail erin@irishmontana.com.

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Western master, Butte and Helena area media
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Contact: Traolach O’Riordain, UM Irish Studies Program, 406-544-0311, 406-243-6359, toriordain@hotmail.com.
MISSOULA –

The University of Montana College of Visual and Performing Arts will "Strike Up the Band" on Saturday, March 19, during "Odyssey of the Stars – A Celebration of Artistic Journeys."

Each year "Odyssey of the Stars" features UM students and faculty members and honors performing and visual arts alumni, telling the stories of their artistic journeys and showcasing the many different roads to success an artist can take.

This year’s event begins at 7:30 p.m. in the University Theatre and honors Lt. Col. Timothy J. Holtan, commandant of the U.S. Army School of Music. Holtan received a Master of Music Education degree from UM in 1983.

Tickets are now on sale and cost $30 for the general public and $15 for students. They can be purchased at all GrizTix locations, online at http://www.griztix.com or by calling 406-243-4051 or 888-666-8262. Tickets also will be sold at the door.

Odyssey sponsorships that help underwrite the event also are available. Sponsors enjoy select seating to the show followed by a VIP champagne reception with Holtan. This year the Islanders Steel Drum Band will perform at the reception.

Two-ticket sponsorships cost $125, and four-ticket sponsorships are $200. A portion of an Odyssey Sponsorship is tax deductible. For more information call the College of Visual and Performing Arts at 406-243-4970.

Holtan’s professional artistic journey began near Missoula with his first teaching job in Superior. Through the position, he connected with UM music faculty when he brought high school students to the University for lessons. In 1981 he accepted a graduate teaching assistantship at UM. While at the University, he designed shows for the marching band and directed the jazz band that played at Grizzly basketball games.

After receiving a master’s degree at UM, Holtan embarked on a five-year career as director of bands at Great Falls High School. In 1988 he was accepted into the U.S. Army band program, which began a new career that would take him all over the world.

He assumed the position as commandant of the U.S. Army School of Music in July 2010 after spending the previous five years serving as the 22nd leader of the United States Military Band at West Point.

Holtan has presented concerts and clinics in 40 states, Canada, Japan, the U.S. Virgin Islands and Europe, and for organizations such as the International Association of Jazz Educators, North American Brass Band Association, Walt Disney World, the Atlanta International Band and Orchestra Conference, and the 1988 Winter Olympics. His ensembles have been seen on national broadcasts of network television, PBS, A&E, TNN and C-SPAN and have performed on the stages of the Kennedy Center, Avery Fisher Hall, DAR Constitution Hall, the Mormon Tabernacle and the Myerson Symphony Center.

For more information visit the "Odyssey of the Stars" website at http://www.umt.edu/umarts/odyssey.

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NOTE TO EDITORS: Photos of Holtan are available by e-mailing linda.lussy@umontana.edu.

Contact: Linda Lussy, assistant to the dean, UM College of Visual and Performing Arts, 406-243-4971, linda.lussy@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

The “Lessons of Our Land” speaker series will hold events on Wednesdays, March 2 and 9, featuring Narcisse Blood of Red Crow Community College in Stand Off, Alberta, and Cris Stainbrook, president of the Indian Land Tenure Foundation in Little Canada, Minn. Both events are free and open to the public.

Blood will share traditional knowledge about the connection between land, language and people from 4 to 5:15 p.m. Wednesday, March 2, in Payne Family Native American Center Room 105. He will explain how tribal identity is intricately connected to the power of place and how the language of tribal ancestors explains the community relationships to the Earth.

Blood is a current researcher and former director of Kainai studies at Red Crow Community College. He also teaches for the Kainai Studies program in the Department of Education at Lethbridge University and in the International Indigenous Studies Department at the University of Calgary. In 2003 he served as chair of the Mookaakin Cultural and Heritage Foundation of the Blood Tribe.

Stainbrook, an Oglala Lakota, will address Indian land consolidation issues and the American Indian Probate Act concerns for landowners across Indian Country from 4 to 5:15 p.m. Wednesday, March 9, in Payne Family Native American Center Room 105.

The U.S. Department of the Interior manages 56 million acres of trust land for American Indians, including tribes and land allotted to individuals. The Secretary of the Interior must approve nearly all land use decisions, such as selling, leasing or business development. That process often hinders land use and management, Stainbrook said. He said many Indian landowners cannot even locate their lands, and land management decisions are commonly made without their consent.

He will address how Indian trust lands are passed from one generation to the next and speak about national policy issues related to trust lands. He also will address the issue of putting private, or fee lands, into federal trust status.

The speaker series also will hold events March 23 and March 30, featuring Elouise Cobell, lead plaintiff in the Cobell v. Salazar lawsuit, and Julie Cajune, executive director of the Center for American Indian Policy and Applied Research at Salish Kootenai College.

The series is sponsored by the Indian Land Tenure Foundation, a community-based, nonprofit organization focused on the recovery, management and control of American Indian lands by Indian people. For more information, visit http://iltf.org, call Jodi Rave at 406-396-8537 or e-mail jodi.rave@umontana.edu.

Contact: Jodi Rave, Indian Land Tenure Foundation, 406-396-8537, jodi.rave@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA —

KBGA College Radio 89.9 FM at The University of Montana will host a concert by Asobi Seksu, BRAHMS and Stellarondo at 9 p.m. Thursday, March 3, at the Palace Lounge in downtown Missoula.

Admission to the show is $8 for those 21 and older $10 for those under 21. The event is open to ages 18 and older.

Asobi Seksu is from Brooklyn, N.Y., and pulls from a variety of styles. The band, one of the longest serving incumbents of Brooklyn’s ever-creative music scene could be described as veterans were it not for the youthful charm and elegant grace their music exudes.

Touring with Asobi Seksu is BRAHMS, an emerging synth-infused pop band also from Brooklyn.

The band Stellorondo from Missoula will open the show. Their music explores the sweet and the sinister, spilling out songs about stalkers, roadside anomalies, love and haunted hotels.

For more information visit the KBGA website at http://www.kbga.org.

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Local
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Contact: Drew Larson, KBGA promotions director, 406-243-6139, promotions@kbga.org.
MISSOULA –

The headcount enrollment at The University of Montana this semester is 15,106, a record enrollment for spring semester at UM. Enrollment jumped 484 above spring semester last year.

The new number includes the central mountain campus and the UM College of Technology. UM first topped the 15,000 mark with its highest fall semester enrollment in the University's history last year.

"Access to a successful higher education experience is among our highest priorities," UM President Royce Engstrom said. "People are seeing more and more how important college is to their own futures and the future of Montana. Both new enrollment and retention are strong at all degree levels on all of our UM campuses.

The number of students jumped 126 at the mountain campus, with an additional 358 at COT.

The University also set a record for spring semester full-time equivalent students at 13,029.87. That number is 352.17 more than spring semester 2010. (An FTE represents 15 undergraduate or 12 graduate semester credits.)

FTEs jumped 211.63 for the mountain campus and 140.53 for COT. FTE numbers rose in most categories, including 231.97 for resident students and 68.72 for nonresident students.

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BD Local, dailies 022311enrl

Contact: Royce Engstrom, UM President, 406-243-2311, royce.engstrom@umontana.edu; Ed Johnson, UM Registrar, 406-243-2412, edwin.johnson@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

The University of Montana Student Assault Resource Center will host its fourth annual “Walk a Mile in Her Shoes” event from noon to 1 p.m. Wednesday, March 9, on the second floor of the University Center.

During the march to support ending sexual assault and relationship violence, men will show their commitment by walking a mile around the UC in heels. Prizes will be awarded for the best walks and for the sponsoring group who raises the most funds.

The walk is open to the public, as well as to UM students, staff and faculty. Women can participate by cheering the men on or by sponsoring male friends, teachers, residence hall advisers and others to walk.

Participants can register online at http://www.umt.edu/SARC or from 10 to 11:45 a.m. at the UC the day of the event. The registration fee is a $5 donation. Registration is free for student athletes, Greeks and campus housing residents.

For more information about the event or registration, call Stoney Sasser, SARC outreach coordinator, at 406-243-6429 or e-mail stoney.sasser@mso.umt.edu.

SARC is the advocacy center on campus for survivors of interpersonal violence. The program also focuses on outreach, education and violence prevention.

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Western master

022211walk

Contact: Stoney Sasser, outreach coordinator, UM Student Assault Resource Center, 406-243-6429, stoney.sasser@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA –

Leading state legislators will be at The University of Montana to participate in a mid-session panel discussion on Thursday, Feb. 24. The panel will be held from 1 to 2:30 p.m. in the University Center Theater and is free and open to the public.

Legislative panelists will be Montana Senate President Pro Tempore Bruce Tutvedt (R-Kalispell), Senate Minority Leader Carol Williams (D-Missoula), House Speaker Pro Tempore Janna Taylor (R-Dayton) and House Minority Caucus Leader Betsy Hands (D-Missoula), all members of their parties’ leadership teams.

Posing questions to the legislators will be Sally Mauk of Montana Public Radio, UM journalism Professor Dennis Swibold and UM political science Assistant Professor Christopher Muste, who will moderate the panel.

The panel will discuss the progress of legislation in the first half of this year’s 90-day session, including major legislation such as the biennial state budget and bills on controversial issues. In addition, panel members will discuss what they expect the Legislature to accomplish in the remaining 45 days of the session.

The panel is presented by UM’s Epsilon Mu chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha, the national political science honor society. It is co-sponsored by the UM Department of Political Science and the University’s College of Arts and Sciences.

For more information, call Muste at 406-243-4829 or e-mail christopher.muste@umontana.edu.

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BD

Western master

022211lpanl

Contact: Christopher Muste, assistant professor, UM Department of Political Science, 406-243-4829, christopher.muste@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

The University of Montana’s Creative Writing Program will present readings by highly acclaimed visiting writers in its 2011 Spring Reading Series on campus during March and April.

This year’s featured authors are novelist Rick Moody, nonfiction writer Susan Orlean and poets C.S. Giscombe and Peter Richards. All events are free and open to the public.

Moody, the author of nine books, will open the series on Friday, March 4, with a fiction craft lecture titled “Rules for Revision” from 12:10 to 1 p.m. in McGill Hall Room 210 and a fiction reading at 7 p.m. that day in the Dell Brown Room of Turner Hall.

His award-winning novels include “The Four Fingers of Death,” “Right Livelihoods,” “Garden State” and “The Ice Storm,” which was published in 20 countries with a film version directed by Ang Lee. He also has two collections of stories, “The Ring of Brightest Angels Around Heaven” and “Demonology,” and a memoir titled “The Black Veil: A Memoir with Digressions.”

In 1998 Moody received the Addison Metcalf Award from the American Academy of Arts and Letters. He received a Guggenheim Fellowship in 2000. His short fiction and journalism have been anthologized in “Best American Short Stories 2001,” “Best American Essays 2004” and “Year’s Best Science Fiction #9” and multiple times in “The Pushcart Prize Anthology.”

Susan Orlean, author of “The Bullfighter Checks Her Makeup,” “My Kind of Place,” “Lazy Little Loafers,” “The Orchid Thief” and “Saturday Night,” a New York Times Notable Book, also will be at UM in March to present events for the reading series.

Orlean will give a nonfiction craft lecture and a reading at UM on Friday, March 25. The craft lecture, titled “Telling True Stories,” will take place from 12:10 to 1 p.m. in McGill Hall Room 210. She will present a reading at 7 p.m. in the Dell Brown Room of Turner Hall.


Orlean has led workshops and seminars at the Breadloaf Writers Conference, the University of Oregon, Ithaca College and Yale University.

In April, poets G.S. Giscombe and Peter Richards will present readings in the Dell Brown Room of Turner Hall.

Giscombe will read at 7 p.m. Friday, April 15. He has written several books of poetry, including “Prairie Style” and “Two Sections from Practical Geography.”

Richards will read at 7 p.m. Friday, April 22. He is the author of “Helsinki,” “Nude Siren” and “Oubillette.”

The campus visits of Moody, Orlean and Giscombe are sponsored by the UM President’s Writers-in-Residence series. Richards’ poetry reading is sponsored by a UM Visiting Writer Hugo Fellowship.

Readings that feature students in the UM Creative Writing Program MFA class of 2011 will take place at various locations Saturday, April 23, through Sunday, May 8.

For more information about the series and the thesis readings, call Karin Schalm, program coordinator, at 406-243-5267 or e-mail karin.schalm@umontana.edu. Information about UM’s Creative Writing Program is online at http://www.cas.umt.edu/english/creative_writing.

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Local, specialized western

Contact: Karin Schalm, program coordinator, UM Creative Writing Program, 406-243-5267, karin.schalm@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

“Yeah! I just got a job!”

Such exclamations are common at The University of Montana’s Annual Multi-state Educators’ Career Fair, which will be held on campus Sunday and Monday, May 1-2. Mike Heuring, director of the UM Office of Career Services, said he’s seen many students attend the fair, get interviewed and sign a teaching contract all in the same day.

“It’s music to my ears when it happens,” Heuring said. “A lot of hiring goes on during this fair.”

Roberta “Bobbie” Evans is dean of UM’s Phyllis J. Washington College of Education and Human Sciences. She said the fair has become one of the Pacific Northwest’s top teacher-recruiting events. In addition to recruiting teacher candidates, school districts hire administrators, school counselors and speech-language pathologists.

This year’s career fair will offer some unique features. Junior-level education students are invited to attend the fair this year for the first time as part of a new program to network with school administrators for potential student-teaching positions. The program is designed to generate more student-teaching opportunities that lead directly to professional careers.

“It’s a new path to employment for our students,” Evans said. “Those taking advantage of the program essentially have the privilege of serving as student teachers, where they essentially audition for positions that might emerge in those schools the following year. We want to serve the needs of Montana’s many outstanding rural school districts, and this new program will help superintendents find and develop talented new employees.”

She said the new program will allow juniors to gain confidence in representing themselves in a professional manner, find focus for their final year of coursework and get prepared for their senior career fair, when they will be actively pursuing positions.

A key fair feature will be the Montana First! Reception, which allows teacher candidates to rub shoulders with Montana administrators in UM’s new state-of-the-art education building. The event is hosted by the Montana Rural Education Association, Montana School Boards Association, Montana Education Association/Montana Federation of Teachers, and the School Administrators of Montana.

Inspired by the leadership of Dave Puyear, MREA executive director, Montana First! is one of the premiere events on campus, featuring creative ways to connect job-seekers with prospective employers and the professors who serve to introduce them.

“Montana schools looking for teachers can spend an evening visiting with prospective candidates in a relaxed atmosphere,” Puyear said. “This event gives Montana schools one of the best organized opportunities to review and consider a diverse group of professionals and how they might fit in and contribute to the local school community.”

The UM education fair has averaged about 75 school districts from across Montana and the nation seeking employees during the past three years. About 300 prospective teachers have attended the fair in recent years, and that number is expected to jump significantly with the addition of the new opportunities for juniors.

Evans said 91 percent of last year’s graduates sought licensure in Montana, and most new teachers graduating from UM want to stay in Big Sky Country.

“Our graduates are in high demand, and we tend to see nearly everyone willing to leave Missoula find successful employment in education,” she said. “People place-bound to Missoula might struggle a bit more. Montana-educated teachers are a hot commodity in our state and across the country.”

The first day of the fair on Sunday, May 1, is titled “Montana Treasures.” All events will be in the Phyllis J. Washington Education Center. From 1 to 6 p.m. students will attend Montana school district information sessions, network with state school district personnel, have their resumes critiqued by Career Services counselors and attend a “Welcome and Strategy Session.” Events will include a live mock interview with a school district recruiter and UM candidate, followed by the Montana First! Reception.

The second day is titled “Educators’ Career Fair,” and all events will be held in the University Center. Information sessions for out-of-state school districts will be held from 8 to 10 a.m., followed by the career fair from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
For more information visit http://life.umt.edu/career/EducatorsCF.
MISSOULA –

Cris Stainbrook, president of the Indian Land Tenure Foundation, will speak about how the challenges of land ownership affect the sovereignty and self-determination of Indian nations on Tuesday, March 8, at The University of Montana.

Stainbrook will present “Recovering an Indian Land Base” at 7:30 p.m. in Gallagher Business Building Room L14. The event is free and open to the public.

Stainbrook, Oglala Lakota, has been president of the Indian Land Tenure Foundation since its inception in 2002. He said non-Indians own and control more than 65 percent of Indian reservation lands in the United States, and on some reservations the percentage is even higher. He will describe multiple efforts to address land tenure problems and opportunities as Indian people, tribal organizations and communities attempt to recover, manage and control American Indian lands.

The lecture is sponsored by UM’s O’Connor Center for the Rocky Mountain West. For more information, call 406-243-7700 or e-mail rocky@crmw.org.

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BD

Western master, Native American publications

021811ocon

**Contact:** Jeannie Thompson, administrative assistant, UM O’Connor Center for the Rocky Mountain West, 406-243-7700, jeannie.thompson@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA –

Patrick Burkart, author of "Music and Cyberliberties," will present a colloquium titled "The Cyberlibertarians" at The University of Montana on Friday, March 4.

The colloquium begins at 3 p.m. in Gallagher Business Building Room 123 and is free and open to the public.

Cyberliberties activism – activism around online privacy, access and free speech – blossomed in the wake of the shutdown of Napster in 2001.

Burkart will discuss why music fans were among the first to confront the curtailment of their civil liberties in cyberspace. He will address how prominent groups still use file sharing, hacktivism, culture jamming and lobbying to promote cyberlibertarian projects.

Burkart is an associate professor in the Department of Communication at Texas A&M University.

For more information about the colloquium, call Lanell Curry of UM's Department of Communication Studies at 406-243-4293 or e-mail lanell.curry@umontana.edu.

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Western master

021811cybr

Contact: Lanell Curry, administrative associate, UM Department of Communication Studies, 406-243-4293, lanell.curry@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

The Central and Southwest Asian Studies Center at The University of Montana will present “United States and Revolutions in the Middle East and North Africa” at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 22, in the North Ballroom of the University Center. The event is free and open to the public.

Presenters include UM Anthropology Professors Ardi Kia and Samir Bitar; Associate Provost for International Programs Mehrdad Kia; UM School of Law Professor Jeffrey Renz; and Robert Seidenschwarz of the Montana World Affairs Council.

The event is sponsored by the Central and Southwest Asian Studies Center and the Montana World Affairs Council.

For more information, call Brian Lofink, Central and Southwest Asian Studies Center program coordinator, at 406-243-2299 or e-mail brian.lofink@mso.umt.edu.

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JH

Local

021711revo

**Contact:** Brian Lofink, Central and Southwest Asian Studies Center program coordinator, 406-243-2299, brian.lofink@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA –

The University of Montana School of Law celebrated its 100th birthday Thursday, Feb. 17, during the University’s Charter Day ceremonies.

“The School of Law has become part of the fabric of Montana,” UM law school Dean Irma Russell said. “We look forward to celebrating our rich history throughout the coming year.”

During the University’s Charter Day activities in 1911, the Missoula legislative delegation telegrammed then-University President Clyde Augustus Duniway to inform him and those gathered that Montana Gov. Edwin L. Norris had signed the bill creating the School of Law.

Notable law school alumni include numerous members of the judiciary such as William J. Jameson, former U.S. District Court judge and president of the American Bar Association; James R. Browning, former chief judge of the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals and clerk of the U.S. Supreme Court; Judge Sydney R. Thomas of the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals; and many current members of the federal and state judiciary in Montana.

Former U.S. Sen. Lee Metcalf, former Montana Govs. Marc Racicot and Donald Nutter, former Montana Attorneys General Joseph Mazurek and Michael Greely, and present Superintendent of Public Instruction Denise Juneau also are graduates of the school.

Centennial events will continue through the year and culminate with the school’s reunions and gala dinner Sept. 8-11 in Missoula.

UM Charter Day celebrates the founding of the University by the Montana Legislature in 1893.

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JM/cbs

State, select national media

021711laws

Contact: Irma Russell, dean, UM School of Law, 406-243-4311, irma.russell@umontana.edu
MISSOULA –

As Montana legislators debate the future of medical marijuana, a new MontanaPBS documentary looks at an aspect that’s largely missing from the discussion: scientific research, or the lack of it, into the medical efficacy of the plant.

The hour-long documentary “Clearing the Smoke: The Science of Cannabis” reveals how the plant’s compounds act on the brain and body to potentially treat myriad conditions and diseases. Personal stories of relief from pain, nausea and epileptic seizures frame a scientific discussion of both the therapeutic potential and the very real side effects of cannabis as a medicine.

“Clearing the Smoke: The Science of Cannabis” airs on MontanaPBS at 8 p.m. Monday, Feb. 28, and at noon and 7 p.m. Thursday, March 3. Check local listings for channel information.

Dr. Igor Grant, director of the Center for Medicinal Cannabis Research, speaks about the government restrictions and financial difficulties of doing research on the plant.

“Marijuana is an illegal substance,” Grant says in the documentary. “I think a lot of investigators and even organizations don’t want to get involved in something that is so controversial and could mire them down.”

The federal government’s stance against marijuana is underscored by Dr. Eric Voth, a vocal critic of the medical marijuana movement and drug policy adviser to Presidents Ronald Reagan, Bill Clinton, and George W. and George H.W. Bush.

“What this really is,” Voth says, “is the marijuana legalization lobby taking advantage of sick patients. Legitimate sick patients need legitimate medication.”

The documentary also highlights the legitimate work being done by scientists across the nation, including one South Carolina researcher who is uncovering the plant’s potential to treat auto-immune diseases and certain types of cancer.

MontanaPBS investigative reporter Anna Rau researched the topic for more than six months and says the intent of the program is to provide more information for the debate.

“The medical marijuana initiative passed without any significant discussion about the scientific research into what the plant could or could not do medically,” Rau said. “We thought we should bring more attention to the scientific side.”

According to MontanaPBS general manager William Marcus, the program follows the path of other investigative reports by Rau that include an examination of the alternative school movement in Montana and the story behind power deregulation in the 1990s.

“Anna is a tenacious reporter,” he said. “She has worked very hard to bring new facts to this report. It’s part of our mission to produce programs that share diverse stories and find common ground for public discussion.”

MontanaPBS is a collaborative service of KUFM-TV at the University of Montana and KUSM-TV at Montana State University.

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NOTE TO MEDIA: High-resolution photographs are available at http://www.montanapbs.org/ClearingTheSmoke/pressroom/. Advance screeners are available for press review only. Call Rau at 406-243-4250 or e-mail anna.rau@mso.umt.edu.

AR/js

Local, state, daily, weeklies
Contact: Anna Rau, MontanaPBS reporter, 406-243-4250, anna.rau@mso.umt.edu; William Marcus, MontanaPBS general manager, 406-243-4154, william.marcus@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

Counseling and Psychological Services at The University of Montana will hold a training seminar Thursday, Feb. 24, on how to assist someone who is having suicidal thoughts.

The free seminar, titled “Help Someone – Help Yourself: First Responder Training,” will be led by Dr. Brian Krylowicz, director of CAPS at UM. It will be held from 4:30 to 6 p.m. in University Center Room 207. The event is open to all UM students, faculty and staff. To reserve a spot, call 406-243-2809.

The training, designed to help raise awareness about suicide issues on campus, presents several basic strategies and techniques that can be helpful when dealing with the subject of suicide. The seminar will focus on best ways to assist students, colleagues and friends who are experiencing depression or suicidal thoughts, available helping services such as CAPS and the national suicide hotline, and how to refer those who may need professional help.

For more information about the seminar, call Ryan Norton of the UM Office of Health Enhancement in Curry Health Center at 406-243-2809 or e-mail activemindsofum@yahoo.com.

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RN/js

Campus

021611suic

Contact: Ryan Norton, Office of Health Enhancement, Curry Health Center, 406-243-2809, activemindsofum@yahoo.com.
MISSOULA —

The University of Montana will host an alumni night at the Missoula Maulers hockey game at 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 26, in the private party area at the Glacier Ice Rink.

Tickets are $20 and include beverages, chili and a game ticket. The cost is $12 for those with season tickets. Tickets can be purchased through the UM Alumni Association and will be sold until Thursday, Feb. 24.

For more information call Jodi Moreau, outreach coordinator for the Office of Alumni Relations, at 406-243-6124, e-mail jodi.moreau@umontana.edu or visit http://www.grizalum.org/.

Contact: Jodi Moreau, Office of Alumni Relations outreach coordinator, 406-243-6124, jodi.moreau@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA —

Tracey Neighbor-Johnson and Tim Dailey, third-year students in The University of Montana School of Law, took first place in the regional tournament of the Texas Young Lawyers Association National Trial Competition, held Feb. 11-13 in Portland, Ore.

The UM team competed against 22 other teams from law schools throughout the West in a round-robin format. The team tried three cases against the University of Oregon, Willamette University and the University of North Dakota before advancing to the semifinals. Seeded No. 2 of eight, Neighbor-Johnson and Dailey defeated the team from Gonzaga University to move onto the final, where they bested Lewis and Clark College in a closely contested trial.

Neighbor-Johnson and Dailey will compete next April 6-10 at the National Trial Competition in Houston.

Second-year law students Zachary Franz and Justin Cole also had a strong showing in the competition, and students Kaylan Minor, Noah Stout, Nat Jacob and Anna-Rose Sullivan traveled to the competition to serve as trial witnesses.

Established in 1975, the National Trial Competition aims to encourage and strengthen students’ advocacy skills through quality competition and valuable interaction with members of the bench and bar. District Court Judge Karen Townsend and Boone Karlberg attorney Randy Cox coached the UM teams, who participated in rigorous practice trials with faculty, students, local judges and attorneys before the regional competition.

For more information call Rebecca Krantz at 406-243-5730 or e-mail rebecca.krantz@umontana.edu.

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ALS

Western master, dailies

021711trlt

Contact: Rebecca Krantz, UM School of Law, 46-243-5730, rebecca.krantz@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

University of Montana faculty and student support services are invited to attend a two-part webinar titled “Engaging and Retaining Online Students.”

The sessions will take place Wednesday, Feb. 23, and Friday, Feb. 25, and are free to attendees. Each session will be held from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the James E. Todd Building Room 210.

The Wednesday session is titled “Approaches to Engaging, Connecting and Retaining Online Students.” The Friday session is “Using Data and Metrics to Improve Student Persistence.”

The webinar is sponsored by UM’s Extended Learning Services in conjunction with the Office of Student Success and the Undergraduate Advising Center.

For more information call Marlene Zentz of UM Extended Learning Services at 406-243-6434 or e-mail marlene.zentz@umontana.edu. More information about the webinar is available online at http://www.academicimpressions.com/events/event_listing.php?id=1058.

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JS

Campus

021511webi

Contact: Marlene Zentz, UM Extended Learning Services, 406-243-6434, marlene.zentz@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

Land rights attorney Marcella Giles will give the next presentation in the “Lessons of Our Land: The Indian Land Tenure Foundation Speaker Series” at The University of Montana on Wednesday, Feb. 23.

Giles will address pertinent issues about trust land in Indian Country in her presentation titled “What Every Allottee Should Know” from 4 to 5:15 p.m. in Payne Family Native American Center Room 105. A reception will follow in the center’s Bonnie HeavyRunner Gathering Place. All speaker series events are free and open to the public.

Giles will tackle important questions that need to be asked about ownership and management of Indian trust land and offer guidelines about accepting payment from the Claims Resolution Act of 2010, considering each landowner’s unique situation.

A Muscogee Creek lawyer who specializes in protecting oil and gas leases, Giles works in Washington, D.C. She is a member of the Indian Land Working Group and serves as attorney general for the Seminole and Creek Nations in Oklahoma. She said allotment policies dating to 1887 have left today’s landowner with obscure titles, deficient probates, lost records, unidentified parcels of restricted land, mineral-ownership chaos and other myriad problems.

“Lessons of Our Land” continues with presentations in March by Narcisse Blood, Cris Stainbrook, Elouise Cobell and Julie Cajune. A full series schedule and more information about speakers are available online at http://buffalosfire.com.

The Indian Land Tenure Foundation is a community-based, nonprofit organization focused on the recovery, management and control of American Indian lands by Indian people. For more information, visit http://iltf.org, call Jodi Rave at 406-396-8537 or e-mail jodi.rave@umontana.edu.

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Contact: Jodi Rave, Indian Land Tenure Foundation, 406-396-8537, jodi.rave@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

“Faces of Diversity,” a project of The University of Montana’s Office for Civic Engagement, will be on display Feb. 18-March 18 in the entrance of UM’s Maureen and Mike Mansfield Library.

The display, held in conjunction with several current diversity-related events and projects on campus, is the outcome of the Diversity ContinuUM project, in which participating UM students, staff and faculty wrote statements about diversity and had their portraits taken.

Now in its second year, the project captures and highlights what diversity can mean and look like on the UM campus and offers participants a unique opportunity to serve their community by making their voices heard.

Through personal stories, the Diversity ContinuUM project promotes an understanding of individuality, tolerance and inclusion in the UM community and beyond. It is coordinated each year in January to honor Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

The Office for Civic Engagement, a department of UM’s Davidson Honors College, serves as the University’s primary agent of community activism and civic responsibility and promotes civic engagement as a means to develop actively engaged citizens.

For more information, visit http://www.umt.edu/oce.

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KK/bd

Western master

021511face

Contact: Katie Koga, UM Office for Civic Engagement, 406-243-5531, katie.koga@mso.umt.edu.
HAMILTON –

The steering committee for the Bitterroot College Program of The University of Montana will hold its monthly meeting at 3 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 23, at the Human Resource Council Building Meeting Room, located at 316 N. Third St. in Hamilton.

The BCP steering committee is a public board and welcomes residents to observe and participate at its meetings.

Agenda topics will include operational, educational planning and fiscal issues. The meeting agenda will be available Friday, Feb. 18, at http://www.umt.edu/bcp (click on “Meetings” under “Steering Committee”), by calling BCP Interim Director Victoria Clark at 406-375-0100 or e-mailing victoria.clark@umontana.edu.

The BCP steering committee is a collaborative group composed of Ravalli County stakeholders, UM officials and state higher education representatives. The committee is charged with planning an entity to provide responsive and sustainable adult and higher education opportunities to Ravalli County residents. It currently offers 21 UM College of Technology courses in the Hamilton area.

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Western master

021511bcpm

Contact: Victoria Clark, interim director, Bitterroot College Program of UM, 406-375-0100, victoria.clark@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

The Diversity Advisory Council at The University of Montana will accept nominations for the Student Achievement Awards until Friday, March 11.

The awards honor students whose leadership promotes campus diversity. All students, faculty and staff are invited to submit nominations online at http://life.umt.edu/diversity/studentachievementaward.php.

“These awards recognize student heroes who are helping the University become more welcoming to all groups and individuals regardless of background,” said Juana Alcala, the DAC member overseeing the award program. “These students help us create the diverse, dynamic learning environment needed to succeed in today’s world.”

Student nominees must have attended UM for one full academic semester during the award year and be in good academic standing. Students may receive this recognition more than once. A DAC subcommittee receives all nominations and selects students most worthy of the award.

“Student selection is made with special care and deliberation,” Alcala said. “This honor is very special and provides an incentive for all our students.”

To nominate a student, describe in 200 words or less how he or she has demonstrated leadership, served as a role model and contributed substantially to the ideals of diversity through academic, community, campus or service contributions.

The awards are presented each spring during a ceremony and reception sponsored by the UM president and the vice president for student affairs.

For more information e-mail Alcala at jalcala@mso.umt.edu.

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021511divr

Contact: Juana Alcala, UM Diversity Advisory Council member, 406-243-2049, jalcala@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA —

The University Center at The University of Montana will screen "Tony," a documentary by the nonprofit organization Invisible Children, at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 22, in UC Room 330-332. This event is free and open to the public.

The film follows the life of a Ugandan boy named Tony who is fighting to stop other young boys like him from being forced into becoming child-soldiers.

For more information call Tyson McLean at 406-243-2005, e-mail tyson.mclean@mso.umt.edu or visit http://www.umt.edu/uc/diversity.

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CM

Local

021411tony

Contact: Tyson McLean, UC student program adviser, 406-243-2005, tyson.mclean@mso.umt.edu.
BOZEMAN –

The Montana University System’s 2011 Extended Learning Institute will be held Monday and Tuesday, March 7-8, at Montana State University in Bozeman. Registration is open now and costs $30.

The two-day event is designed to share best practices and new ideas for those who teach online or support online students. Sessions will cover student support services, course design and accessibility, promoting student engagement and success, assessment of learning and quality assurance, and current issues, trends and technological innovations.

For more information or to register, visit http://eu.montana.edu/XLi/.

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Campus

021411xli

Contact: Robert Squires, interim associate director of instructional design, UM Extended Learning Services, 406-243-6056, robert.squires@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA –

The Montana Disability and Health Program, a partnership of The University of Montana’s Rural Institute and the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services, is one of four state programs funded to implement the Centers for Disease Control Prevention’s “Right to Know” campaign in Montana.

The campaign is designed to raise awareness about the importance of breast cancer screening and to promote mammography as an accessible health screening among women with physical disabilities.

In Montana, nearly 800 women are diagnosed with breast cancer each year. The current recommended guidelines for mammography advise women age 40 to 49 to talk with their doctors about when and how often they should have a screening mammogram. Recommendations are that women 50 and older have a screening mammogram every one to two years. Women with disabilities are significantly less likely to have been screened within the recommended guidelines.

“Right to Know” campaign efforts led to the creation in 2009 of the Montana Mammography Directory, which provides information about facilities in the state, including their hours and average costs and accessibility details. The directory is available online at http://mtdh.ruralinstitute.umt.edu/mammography.htm. It includes a tip sheet that offers useful information to help patients schedule a mammogram.

The campaign also led to the development of the exhibit “Every Woman Matters: Faces of Montana Women Living with Disabilities,” which features black-and-white portraits of 12 Montana women with physical disabilities. Some are breast cancer survivors, and all are role models and advocates. A multimedia video project produced by UM School of Journalism students and Assistant Professor Jeremy Lurgio augments the portraits, which were taken by internationally acclaimed photographer Steven Begleiter. A grant from Susan G. Komen for the Cure’s Montana affiliate supported portrait production.

“Every Woman Matters” has been on view at events around the state to increase awareness about the “Right to Know” campaign. It will be available for viewing in Missoula from 12:30 to 4 p.m. Friday, March 4, at the Hilton Garden Inn. The exhibit then will travel to Butte for a March 5-6 viewing at the Butte Plaza Mall. A “High Heel Walk and Roll” down the mall will take place from 12:45 to 3:30 p.m. Saturday, March 5, to celebrate the premiere of the exhibit in Butte.

“Every Woman Matters” also will be in Helena on May 21 for the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure and will travel to other locations around the state this year.

More information about the project and the exhibit is available on the Montana Disability and Health Program website at http://mtdh.ruralinstitute.umt.edu or by calling Meg Ann Traci, project director, at 406-243-4956 or e-mailing matraci@ruralinstitute.umt.edu.

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NOTE TO EDITORS: Photos are available by calling Traci at 406-243-4956 or e-mailing matraci@ruralinstitute.umt.edu.

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Local, state

021411rurl

Contact: Meg Ann Traci, project director, UM Rural Institute, 406-243-4956 or 888-268-2743, matraci@ruralinstitute.umt.edu.
Project Aims To Raise Awareness About Breast Cancer Screening - UM News - The University Of Montana
MISSOULA –

The BioMax, a mobile biomass gasifier and electricity generator owned by The University of Montana, will operate at Paws Up Ranch in the Blackfoot Valley this month.

Beetle-killed trees and waste biomass will be processed by a Vermeer chipper to provide feedstock to the BioMax, which will then produce electricity.

The public is invited to watch the BioMax operate and enjoy a short presentation about the equipment from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 23, at the Paws Up Ranch. Refreshments will be served.

To get to the ranch, travel up Highway 200 East to mile marker 25.75 and follow the signs to the parking area. Because the demonstration is outdoors, those who plan to attend should dress for the weather. The open house is hosted by the Seeley Swan Blackfoot Biomass Working Group.

“This is an exciting collaboration among motivated stakeholders in portable biomass technology,” said Brian Kerns, UM project engineer and BioMax operator. “Wood residues are usually left at site of production to be burned because such material is uneconomic to gather and transport. This demonstration changes that dynamic by bringing the generator to the source of supply. This is the first time such a project has been attempted.”

The electricity will be fed directly onto Missoula Electric Cooperative’s power lines. Once on the grid, the cooperative will use it to power homes and ranches in the area.

“When our board of trustees was approached regarding participation in the project, the support was unanimous,” said Mark Hayden, Missoula Electric Cooperative general manager. “The idea of distributed biomass generation would certainly improve the economics relating to biofuel transportation costs.”

The demonstration was made possible by Missoula Electric Cooperative, UM, Paws Up Ranch, Seeley Swan Blackfoot Biomass Working Group, Natural Resource Conservation Services, U.S. Forest Service Products Lab and Vermeer Corp.

For more information call Kerns at 406-532-3228 or e-mail brian.kerns@umontana.edu or call Erin Zwiener, Blackfoot Challenge forestry coordinator, at 406-793-3900 or e-mail erin@blackfootchallenge.org.

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BK/bd

Western master, Blackfoot area media

021411bmax

Contact: Brian Kerns, UM project engineer, 406-532-3228, brian.kerns@umontana.edu; Erin Zwiener, Blackfoot Challenge forestry coordinator, 406-793-3900, erin@blackfootchallenge.org.
MISSOULA –

The first of four events in “A Springtime of Irish Traditional Music” will bring James Kelly, one of Ireland’s most outstanding traditional fiddle players, to The University of Montana’s Music Recital Hall at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 18.

Kelly is the son of the great fiddler John Kelly from County Clare, who taught him the fiddle beginning at age 3. He went on to become a champion fiddle player, a composer of more than 800 Irish tunes, a master fiddle teacher and a performer who has played with all the greats of Irish music.

Tickets for all four events in the series cost $45. Individual concerts cost $15. Tickets are available online at [http://www.griztix.com](http://www.griztix.com). They also can be purchased in Missoula at The Source in the University Center and the Adams Center Box Office on the UM campus and at Southgate Mall, Worden’s Market and Rockin Rudy’s.

Kelly also will offer a master class from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 15, at UM. The class costs $30. For more information e-mail [erin@irishmontana.com](mailto:erin@irishmontana.com).

The concert series is co-sponsored by the Irish Studies Program and School of Music at UM, Humanities Montana, Culture Ireland and the Friends of Irish Studies. For more information call Terry O’Riordain of UM’s Irish Studies Program at 406-544-0311.

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Local, specialized western, dailies

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**Contact:** Terry O’Riordain, UM Irish Studies Program, 406-243-6359 or 406-544-0311.
MISSOULA –

Pamela S. Karlan, one of the nation’s leading experts on voting and the political process, will give the next installment of the President’s Lecture Series at The University of Montana.

Karlan is the Kenneth and Harle Montgomery Professor of Public Interest Law at Stanford University and co-director of Stanford’s Supreme Court Litigation Clinic. She will present “Keeping Faith with the Constitution” at 8 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 24, in the University Theatre.

Earlier that day from 3:40 to 5 p.m., she will give a seminar titled “The Gay and the Angry: The Supreme Court and the Battles Surrounding Same-Sex Marriage” in Gallagher Business Building Room 123.

Both events are free and open to the public.

Karlan is the co-author of the book “Keeping Faith with the Constitution,” which was published in 2009 by the American Constitution Society for Law and Policy and reissued in 2010 by Oxford University Press as part of its acclaimed Inalienable Rights series. The book articulates a vision of the Constitution and an approach to its interpretation that have enabled it to retain its relevance for every generation of Americans while remaining faithful to the original document.

UM history Professor Richard Drake, who organizes the lecture series, said Karlan has been a penetrating critic of the constitutional doctrine of original intent, according to which, in the words of historian Joseph J. Ellis, “the ‘miracle at Philadelphia’ was a uniquely omniscient occasion when 55 mere mortals were permitted a glimpse of the eternal verities and then embalmed their insights in the document.”

“Karlan takes the Jeffersonian view that the Constitution should be interpreted as a living document meant to serve the needs of an evolving society, not as a mummified relic, too sacred to be touched,” Drake said.

Karlan received bachelor’s and master’s degrees in history from Yale University and a juris doctor degree from Yale Law School. She is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and of the American Law Institute and serves on the board of directors for the American Constitution Society.

More information about the President’s Lecture Series at UM is online at http://www.umt.edu/president/lectures.

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BD

Western master

021011pres

Contact: Richard Drake, UM history professor and lecture series organizer, 406-243-2981, richard.drake@umontana.edu
MISSOULA –

University of Montana researcher Dave Naugle was instrumental in launching what he calls "one of the largest recent conservation success stories in the West."

Naugle is a wildlife biology professor with UM's College of Forestry and Conservation. He also serves as science adviser for USDA’s Sage Grouse Initiative with the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

SGI affects 56 million acres of sage grouse habitat across 11 Western states – places where these ground-dwelling birds engage in some of nature’s most elaborate courtship dances. Last year the initiative received $18.5 million to remove sage grouse threats and sustain working ranches. It was recently announced that another $53 million is available in fiscal year 2011. SGI leverages multiple farm bill programs to benefit both ranching and sage grouse.

"This initiative is one of the most rewarding things I've ever worked on," Naugle said. "We're helping the U.S. Department of Agriculture shape proactive and incentive-based approaches for solving complex natural resource issues."


Naugle said the strength of SGI is its grounding in science. Naugle and colleagues from The Nature Conservancy and the Audubon Society created maps that identify sage grouse population centers across the West.

"SGI uses these core-area maps to target conservation delivery to maintain large and intact sagebrush landscapes where compatible agriculture is the prevailing land use," he said.

NRCS conservation practices implemented include sustainable grazing systems to improve hiding cover for birds, marking or moving "high-risk" fences near breeding sites to reduce bird collisions, and removal of encroaching conifers to allow recolonization of otherwise suitable sage grouse habitat.

In 2010, NRCS placed 71 percent of SGI projects within the core areas identified by the core-area maps, and 92 percent of the projects were within the species’ occupied range.

Naugle says this new "conservation triage" approach enables NRCS to ensure that enough of the right conservation practices are implemented in the right places to expect a positive population response. He and other independent scientists now are working to measure the biological response of sage grouse populations to NRCS conservation practices. This will allow them to assess effectiveness and adaptively improve program delivery.

SGI soon will implement grazing systems across an area equivalent to Yosemite and Glacier national parks combined. Last year SGI implemented grazing systems across 1,000 square miles of large and intact sagebrush to increase hiding cover for nesting birds, and residual grass cover is anticipated to increase nest success by 8 to 10 percent. SGI also works to remove high-risk fences that can save thousands of sage grouse annually.

Naugle says conservation triage was once viewed as a defeatist approach, but it is now viewed as crucial to maintaining rangeland resources. He details these and other rangeland conservation paradigms in a new book he edited, "Energy Development and Wildlife Conservation in Western North America," which is available at http://www.wildlifeandenergy.com.

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CBS

Local, specialized western, dailies
Contact: David Naugle, UM forestry professor, 406-243-5364, dave.naugle@cfm.umt.edu.
MISSOULA –

The University of Montana will celebrate its 118th birthday on Thursday, Feb. 17, with a noon-hour party and the Charter Day awards ceremony and reception.

The birthday festivities are held each year to celebrate the anniversary of UM’s chartering by the Montana Legislature in 1893 and to honor the University and its dedication to excellence. All events are free and open to the public.

The noon-hour birthday party, featuring free cupcakes and UM entertainment, will be held in the University Center Atrium. The annual Charter Day awards ceremony, which begins at 5 p.m. in the University Center Ballroom, will recognize exemplary campus and community members.

Special remarks to honor the centennial anniversary of UM’s School of Law will be part of this year’s Charter Day events.

Missoula Mayor John Engen will attend the 5 p.m. Charter Day awards ceremony to present an official proclamation of University of Montana Day. A reception will follow the ceremony.

UM Provost Perry Brown will preside over the presentation of 2011 Charter Day awards to the following recipients:

**Montana Alumni Award:** Donalee LaBar, a 1965 UM graduate. The award recognizes a former UM student for extraordinary service to the University. LaBar organized and helped create UM’s Greek Task Force. She also was instrumental in establishing “Bringing the U to You,” a Great Falls community lecture series co-hosted by the UM Alumni Association and the Montana State University Alumni Association. The series is now in its ninth year.

**ASUM Student Service Award:** Alina Calianu, a UM senior majoring in marketing and international business. The award recognizes distinguished service and achievement. Calianu serves as president of UM’s International Student Association. Born in Drobeta Turnu Severin, Romania, she came to the United States at age 16 and speaks fluent English, Romanian and Spanish.

**Neil S. Bucklew Presidential Service Award:** R.H. “Ty” Robinson, a 1940 and 1948 UM alumnus. The award recognizes Montanans who have been notable in their efforts to enhance the bonds among the community, state and University. Robinson is a founding member of the Missoula law firm Garlington, Lohn and Robinson and has been active in civic affairs at the city, county, state and federal levels for more than 58 years.

**George M. Dennison Presidential Faculty Award for Distinguished Accomplishment:** Rick Billstein, a 1969 and 1972 UM alumnus and professor in the University’s Department of Mathematical Sciences. The award recognizes distinguished accomplishments that have brought significant recognition to UM at the regional and national levels. Billstein, who has taught mathematics at UM for 45 years, is one of the top recipients of grants in the history of the University. He is co-author of textbooks used around the nation and the world.

**George M. Dennison Presidential Staff Award for Distinguished Accomplishment:** Mona Sandberg Mondava, program coordinator and foreign student adviser with UM Foreign Student and Scholar Services. The award recognizes distinguished accomplishment within the employee’s work unit that brings excellence, merit, distinction or glory to UM. In 1988 Mondava founded UM’s Global Partners Program, which is still going strong after 23 years. In 1991 she helped found the International Culture and Food Festival at UM, which will celebrate its 20th anniversary this year and has since grown to be one of the largest festivals at the University.

**Montana Faculty Service Award:** Christine Fiore, professor and director of clinical training at UM. The award recognizes dedication and unflagging commitment to the University and its faculty. Fiore’s research interests have included violence against women and children, disruptive behavior disorders in children and teens, motivational interviewing, and diabetes in Native Americans.

**Robert T. Panter Presidential Humanitarian Award:** Ray Carlisle, a 1974 UM alumnus and former director of the University’s TRIO Student Support Services. The award recognizes those who create a more humane learning environment at UM. Over the span of his career, Carlisle focused on educational opportunity and academic support for low-income students and generated funding of more than $10.8 million for student-support activities.

For more information about Charter Day activities, call the UM Office of Alumni Relations at 406-243-5211.
NOTE TO EDITORS: Photos of the award recipients are available by calling Jay Kettering, UM Office of Alumni Relations on-campus events coordinator, at 406-243-6439 or by e-mailing jay.kettering@umontana.edu.

Contact: Jay Kettering, UM Office of Alumni Relations, 406-243-6439, jay.kettering@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

Registration is now open for a tour of the Crown of the Continent region offered through the School of Extended and Lifelong Learning at The University of Montana.

The seven-day travel tour will cover the region’s unique history, culture, geography and ecology. It will take place July 23-30 and will include discussions with Crown of the Continent experts and UM faculty members.

Participants will start at the UM campus in Missoula and then travel throughout the region, visiting locations such as the Blackfoot Valley, Continental Divide, Rocky Mountain Front and the country of the Blackfeet Nation.

Choteau will serve as tour base camp for three days so participants can get out in the field to discover the history and geography, wildlife (present and prehistoric), human interaction (present and ancient), and majesty of the Rocky Mountain Front. Two days will be spent in the splendor of Glacier National Park, and the return trip to Missoula will provide time to learn about and explore Flathead Lake, the largest natural freshwater lake west of the Mississippi.

The tour costs $1,795 for those who register by May 11. Registration after that date will cost $1,920. The final registration deadline is June 1. UM will offer three academic credits for $150 and some additional trip requirements.

The tour registration fee covers most meals and all travel and lodging. Space is limited, and payment is due at the time of registration. Fees include a $200 nonrefundable deposit.

To register or for a complete tour itinerary and more detailed information, visit http://www.umt.edu/xls/summer/programs/crown/default.aspx, call Clare Kelly at 406-243-6496 or e-mail clare.kelly@umontana.edu.

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NOTE TO EDITORS: Photos of areas included in the tour are available by calling Clare Kelly at 406-243-6496 or e-mailing clare.kelly@umontana.edu.

BD

Local, state

020811crwn

Contact: Clare Kelly, UM School of Extended and Lifelong Learning, 406-243-6496, clare.kelly@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA –

University of Montana art history and criticism Associate Professor Valerie Hedquist will give a lecture titled “A Good Likeness: Portraiture in the 18th-20th Centuries” at 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 10, in the Montana Theatre, located in UM’s Performing Arts and Radio-Television Center.

The talk, which is free and open to the public, is held in conjunction with the current exhibition “Renoir, Magritte, Gauguin and Other European Masterpieces from a Private Collection” on view through March 12 at the Montana Museum of Art & Culture at UM.

The museum’s Meloy and Paxson galleries, located in the PAR/TV Center, will be open from noon to 7 p.m. before Hedquist’s presentation. Docents will be available from 6 to 7 p.m. to walk viewers through selections from the exhibition.

Beginning at 5 p.m., free parking only for the MMAC event will be available in UM lots N and N-1, located between the Law Building and the Music Building and between the PAR/TV Center and the Phyllis J. Washington Education Center.

For more information about MMAC’s extended gallery hours for the exhibition, visit the museum’s website at http://www.umt.edu/montanamuseum or call 406-243-2019.

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NOTE TO MEDIA: Digital images of select items included in the exhibition are available by calling 406-243-2019.

BR/bd

Local, state

020711mmac

Contact: Barbara Koostra, director, Montana Museum of Art and Culture, 406-243-2019, barbara.koostra@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA –

The Montanan, the alumni magazine of The University of Montana, has been awarded a Gold award for general excellence from the regional Council for Advancement and Support of Education.

The CASE Gold was awarded in the print general-interest magazines category for the three 2010 issues of the Montanan. This is the highest general excellence win for the magazine, which is produced by UM's University Relations office.

"I think this award acknowledges the innovative, quality work our office is doing with what has become a very dynamic magazine," Montanan Editor-in-Chief John Heaney said. "It will be fun and challenging to build on the momentum this award gives us."

With 83,000 alumni and friends of the University receiving the Montanan, the publication is the state's highest-circulation magazine and is partially supported by advertising revenue. The Montanan is online at http://www.umt.edu/montanan.

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CBS

Local, dailies

020711gold

Contact: John Heaney, Montanan editor-in-chief, 406-243-2488, john.heaney@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA —

The University Center will sponsor several events during Leadership Week, slated for Monday through Saturday, Feb. 21-26, at The University of Montana.

Events will kick off with a workshop titled “Health, Fitness and Leadership” at 12:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 22, in UC 330. The workshop will focus on the ways fitness, good eating habits and positive body image can make a person a stronger and more confident leader. Peers Reaching Out from Curry Health Center will lead an interactive conversation that tackles the topic of how good health can contribute to better leadership.

The following is a schedule for other Leadership Week activities. All events are free and open to the public unless otherwise noted.

- **Tuesday, Feb. 22, 6-8 p.m., UC 330:** Film presentation by Invisible Children, a nonprofit organization that documents the lives of those living in regions of conflict and injustice. Representatives from Invisible Children will lead a discussion following the screening of a documentary that highlights the struggles of Tony, a teen from war-torn Uganda.

- **Wednesday, Feb. 23, 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m., UC Atrium:** Student Leadership Fair. The fair is a perfect chance for participants to connect with student groups and learn about leadership opportunities on campus and in the community.

- **Thursday, Feb. 24, 4-6 p.m., UC 330:** “Trust Your Gut: Speak Up, Speak Out and Become a Leader!” This interactive workshop will enhance community leadership by encouraging individuals to listen to their intuition in situations that don’t feel right.

- **Saturday, Feb. 26, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., UC third floor:** Student Leadership Conference. Open to all students, this year’s conference will focus on group leadership dynamics and will emphasize the leadership values of collaboration, common purpose and conflict management. Students can register in advance for the conference, which costs $10 and includes lunch, at The Source or UC Room 209C. Participants also can register from 8:30 to 9 a.m. the day of the conference.


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**Contact:** Michael Paine, program adviser, UC Student Involvement, 406-243-5527, michael.paine@mso.umt.edu
MISSOULA —

KBGA College Radio 89.9 FM at The University of Montana will host its annual EndoFthon benefit concert at 9 p.m. Friday, Feb. 18, at the Badlander and Palace Lounge in downtown Missoula to celebrate the RadioThon pledge drive that runs Feb. 12-18.

Admission to EndoFthon is $5 in advance and $7 at the door. Presale tickets are available for purchase at the KBGA office in University Center Room 208. The event is open to ages 18 and older.

This year’s event features three bands and four artists from Los Angeles and Missoula.

The group Greenhorse (Los Angeles) is an emerging post-pop duo featuring Chris Hackman and Shawn Day. Missoula’s own Rooster Sauce rises from the grave for their first show since the spring of 2010. The band 10yo GF is one of Missoula’s newest bands and blends garage-rock and punk.

DJ TOKiMONSTA (Los Angeles) creates vast textural soundscapes using live instruments, percussion, digital manipulation and dusty vinyl. TAKE (Los Angeles) brings a blend of electro-leaning synth-lines and lopsided beats nudged with an L.A. flavor. BOOIZ features an electronic duo from Missoula.

All proceeds from KBGA’s EndoFthon support the student-run, educational, nonprofit college radio station.

For more information, visit the KBGA website at [http://www.kbga.org](http://www.kbga.org).

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DL/als

Local, specialized western

020711thon

**Contact:** Drew Larson, KBGA promotions director, 406-243-6739, promotions@kbga.org.
KBGA College Radio To Hold Pledge Drive Feb. 12-18 - UM News - The University Of Montana

MISSOULA —

KBGA College Radio 89.9 FM at The University of Montana will host its annual RadioThon pledge drive Saturday through Friday, Feb. 12-18. The station hopes to raise $14,000, which symbolizes $1,000 for each year KBGA has served the Missoula community.

The KBGA staff and volunteers will be in the office from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. each day of the drive to accept calls from the KBGA listening community. Listeners can donate by calling 406-243-KBGA or by going online to http://www.kbga.org. In return for donations, listeners will receive premium packages that include KBGA merchandise and gift certificates, as well as merchandise and services from local and regional businesses.

KBGA will celebrate the week of fundraising with the EndofThon benefit concert at 9 p.m. Friday, Feb. 18, at the Badiander and Palace Lounge in downtown Missoula. The show will feature the bands Rooster Sauce, Greenhorse and Smile Brigade and DJs TOKiMONSTA, TAKE and BOOtZ. More than 900 people attended KBGA’s last event in September.

For more information, call Drew Larson, KBGA promotions director, at 406-243-6139 or e-mail promotions@kbga.org.

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DL/als

Local, specialized western

020411kbga

Contact: Drew Larson, KBGA promotions director, 406-243-6139, promotions@kbga.org.
MISSOULA –

Tom Brokaw, one of the most trusted and respected figures in broadcast journalism, will speak at The University of Montana’s 114th Commencement ceremonies on Saturday, May 14.

Commencement will begin at 10 a.m. in Washington-Grizzly Stadium. UM also will simulcast the ceremony via the Internet, and viewing will be available at numerous campus locations.

Individual ceremonies for the College of Arts and Sciences and the College of Technology will follow at noon. Individual ceremonies for professional schools will begin at 2 p.m.

During Commencement UM will present Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degrees to Brokaw and to Bernard Osher, founder and treasurer of the Bernard Osher Foundation, which seeks to improve quality of life through support of higher education and the arts.

“We are honored to recognize these gentlemen, both of whom have affected the lives of Montanans and people around the nation,” said UM President Royce Engstrom.

In 2004, Brokaw stepped down after 21 years as the anchor and managing editor of “NBC Nightly News.” He remains active in broadcast journalism as a special correspondent for NBC News, producing reports such as “Separate and Unequal,” which took an honest look at the progress that has been made and the problems that persist after the civil rights movement, and “Tom Brokaw Reports: The Long War,” which is about the war on terror.

His documentary reporting has been recognized with numerous awards, including the prestigious Peabody award in 2004 for “Tom Brokaw Reports: A Question of Fairness,” in which he examines the issue of affirmative action. In 2003 he won an Emmy for Outstanding Interview for “America Remembers: 9/11 Air Traffic Controllers.”

Brokaw is the best-selling author of several books, including “The Greatest Generation” – stories of those Americans who were born around 1920, came of age in the Great Depression, fought in World War II and rebuilt the postwar world – and “A Long Way from Home,” a reflective look about growing up in the American heartland.

Originally from South Dakota, he and his wife, Meredith, now spend time at their ranch in Montana. The couple have been very supportive of UM’s School of Journalism, particularly its Native News Honors Project and the school’s new home on campus, Don Anderson Hall.

Osher, known as “the quiet philanthropist,” created the Bernard Osher Foundation in 1977. The foundation provides postsecondary scholarship funding to colleges and universities across the nation and supports selected centers in integrative medicine. In addition, it supports a growing national network of lifelong learning institutes for older adults, including the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at UM. Known as MOLLI, the institute annually offers courses to about 1,000 people 50 and older.

Osher is an active community leader in the San Francisco Bay Area. A native of Biddeford, Maine, and a graduate of Bowdoin College, he pursued a successful career in business, beginning with the management of his family’s hardware and plumbing supplies store.

In 1970 he purchased the fine art auction house of Butterfield & Butterfield and oversaw its growth to become the fourth-largest auction house in the world. He sold the company in 1999 to eBay.

Osher was a founding director of World Savings, the second-largest savings institution in the United States, which merged with Wachovia Corp. He and his wife, Barbro, conduct their philanthropy through the Bernard Osher Foundation, the Bernard Osher Jewish Philanthropies Fund and the Barbro Osher Pro Suecia Foundation, which supports Swedish cultural and education projects in North America and Sweden.

UM will post Commencement updates on the Registrar’s Office website at http://www.umt.edu/registrar.

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Contact: Jim Foley, UM executive vice president, 406-243-2311, james.foley@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program will be offered every Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Feb. 5-March 12 in Gallagher Business Building Room 119 at The University of Montana.

The VITA Program provides certified volunteers from UM who offer free tax help to people with an annual income of less than $49,000. Tax help will be available on a first come, first served basis.

For a list of items interested people must bring, visit http://www.irs.gov/individuals/article/0,,id=107626,00.html. For more information call Kathryn Faircloth, VITA student coordinator, at 406-241-9180 or e-mail kathrynmauss@gmail.com.

Contact: Kathryn Faircloth, VITA student coordinator, 406-241-9180, kathrynmauss@gmail.com.
MISSOULA —

Dozens of current and alumni members of the Montana Alpha chapter of Phi Delta Theta Fraternity held a ceremony Sunday, Jan. 30, in the University Center to mark its recolonization at The University of Montana.

Representatives from the national organization have been on campus since October to help recruit students interested in the fraternity, and the colony currently has 25 members. They hope to become a chartered chapter with 50 members in time for October Homecoming activities.

Phi Delta Theta was originally established at UM in 1921, and the fraternity initiated more than 1,500 members before closing its doors in 2002. Local alumni and the UM Office of Greek Life have led the recolonization effort over the past several years.

Phi Delta Theta was founded in 1848 at Miami University in Ohio under the principal objectives of “the cultivation of friendship among its members, the acquirement individually of a high degree of mental culture and the attainment personally of a high standard of morality.” In 1997, Phi Delta Theta became the first national fraternity to institute an alcohol-free housing policy for all its chapters.

For more information, call UM Greek Life adviser Tyson McLean at 406-243-2005 or e-mail tyson.mclean@mso.umt.edu.

###

ALS

Western master

020211delt

Contact: Tyson McLean, UM Greek Life adviser, 406-243-2005, tyson.mclean@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

The University of Montana School of Law has hired two new faculty members in constitutional law and contracts and has promoted a current faculty member to direct the school’s law library.

Anthony Johnstone, solicitor for the state of Montana in the Office of the Attorney General, has been selected as the law school’s new faculty member to teach constitutional law. He replaces Rob Natelson, who retired last year to accept a position as senior fellow in constitutional jurisprudence at the Independence Institute in Colorado.

As the state’s solicitor, Johnstone advises and represents Montana in constitutional and complex litigation matters in state and federal courts at the trial and appellate levels. He has taught constitutional law at Carroll College in Helena.

Before joining the state attorney general’s office, Johnstone practiced litigation as an associate at Cravath, Swaine & Moore in New York City and clerked for Judge Sidney Thomas of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit in Billings. He holds a bachelor’s degree from Yale University and a juris doctor degree from the University of Chicago Law School. He is admitted to practice in state and federal courts in Montana and New York, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit and the U.S. Supreme Court.

The UM law school also has hired Sam Panarella, a practitioner with notable experience in wind energy, as its new assistant professor of contract law. Panarella is CEO of Crux Consulting, a legal process and management consulting firm. He replaces Scott Burnham, who accepted an offer to be the Frederick N. and Barbara T. Curley Professor in Commercial Law at the Gonzaga University School of Law.

Panarella earned a bachelor’s degree from UM and received a juris doctor degree from Lewis & Clark Law School in Portland, Ore. After graduation he served as a judicial clerk for Judge Otto R. Skopil Jr. of the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, and then as a partner at Stoel Rives LLP. Since then he has worked as a senior operating executive for two leading consulting companies focused on commercial contracting, intellectual property portfolio management and electronic discovery.

Stacey Gordon will begin her new duties as the director of the school’s law library July 1. Fritz Snyder, who now holds the position, will retire June 30.

Gordon has served as the associate law librarian for public services and adjunct professor of law librarianship at UM’s William J. Jameson Law Library since 2000. She is president of the Missoula County Public Library board and vice president and president-elect of the WestPac chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries.

Gordon received a master’s degree in library and information science from the University of Washington and a juris doctor degree from UM. She is the author of the book “Online Legal Research: A Guide to Legal Research Services and Other Internet Tools.”

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Contact: Irma Russell, UM School of Law dean, 406-243-4311, irma.russell@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA —

The American Bar Association and the Association of American Law Schools recently announced it will renew accreditation for the School of Law at The University of Montana.

A report sent to law school Dean Irma Russell cited the highly innovative and stimulating courses and the clinical experience requirement as particular strengths of the school.

"Montana is one of just eight law schools in the country that requires each student to complete a clinic experience," Russell said. "The clinic requirement is the capstone of a curriculum in which professional skills instruction has been woven into the curriculum from the very beginning of the first-year program.

"Since the founding of the school 100 years ago, our mission has been to prepare competent and ethical lawyers to represent Montanans and others," Russell added. "While many law schools emphasize legal theory, we integrate theory with practice experiences so students are better prepared to fulfill their professional obligations as lawyers upon graduation."

The addition to the law school building, completed in 2009, also played a role in the decision. Following a site visit in 2001, a team of ABA and AALS officials expressed concerns that the original building did not comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act. The new building addresses those concerns, said Associate Professor Andrew King-Ries, associate dean of the law school, and also offers improved teaching and learning space.

"In addition, the new classroom technology permits more integrated learning, and the clinical wing provides professional workspace for our in-house clinics," he said. "All of these improvements allow us to further our mission of preparing students for the practice of law."

The law school must be reaccredited by both organizations every seven years. The accreditation process was a multiple-year investment by all law school faculty and staff that culminated with a visit by an ABA and AALS team last April.

King-Ries chaired a self-study committee, which also included Regents Professor Martin Burke and Professor Elaine Gagliardi, charged with coordinating the strategic planning process and preparing a thorough self-assessment of the law school’s strengths and strategic challenges for the site-visit team.

The report did cite the need for the law school to continue finding additional money for student scholarships and other aspects of the educational program, but was overwhelmingly positive.

"Our ABA accreditation indicates we are upholding high standards in areas essential to providing our students with a quality legal education while fostering innovation in teaching and theory," Russell said.

For more information, call Russell at 406-243-4311 or e-mail irma.russell@umontana.edu.

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Contact: Irma Russell, dean, UM School of Law, 406-243-4311, irma.russell@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA —

The University Center at The University of Montana will host three “International Coffee Hour” events featuring a UM cultural student group during spring semester. Events will be held at 7 p.m. Wednesdays in UC Room 332.

The dates and presentations are:

- Feb. 9, Black Student Union
- March 2, French Club
- April 13, North India’s Rhythms

Each student group will offer short presentations about their culture, and hold a discussion afterward. The events are free and open to the public. Coffee, tea and cookies will be provided.

For more information call Molly Collins, UC assistant director for student involvement, at 406-243-5754 or e-mail molly.collins@mso.umt.edu.

###

CM

Local

020211coff

Contact: Molly Collins, University Center Student Involvement, 406-243-5754, molly.collins@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA —

U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder will present a lecture titled "Justice Through Service: Extending America's Greatest Tradition" at The University of Montana on Wednesday, Feb. 9. The event will be held at 2 p.m. in the University Theatre and is free and open to the public.

The lecture is part of the UM School of Law's Judge William B. Jones and Judge Edward A. Tamm Judicial Lecture Series.

Holder will speak for about 15 minutes and then will answer questions asked by prominent Washington, D.C., attorney Robert Bennett, who helped found the Jones-Tamm series at UM. The questions were submitted by UM law students and faculty members.

President Barack Obama nominated Holder in December 2008, and he was sworn in as the 82nd attorney general of the United States by Vice President Joe Biden in February 2009. Holder previously served as deputy attorney general — the first African-American to hold the position — under President Bill Clinton, and as U.S. attorney for the District of Columbia. While attending law school at Columbia University, he clerked for the NAACP’s Legal Defense Fund and the Department of Justice’s Criminal Division. Before he was named attorney general, Holder was a litigation partner at Covington & Burling LLP in Washington, D.C.

The UM School of Law established the Jones-Tamm Lecture Series in 1997 to honor the memory of William B. Jones and Edward A. Tamm, two distinguished federal judges with strong ties to Montana. Jones practiced in the state from 1931 to 1937 during the early years of his career, while Tamm graduated from Butte Central High School and studied at Carroll College in Helena and UM before embarking on his judicial career in Washington, D.C.

Though they spent the majority of their careers in Washington, Jones and Tamm never forgot their Montana connections, and the lecture series named for them now attracts leading jurists and scholars to UM to address relevant legal topics, such as judicial ethics, judicial decision-making and selection and education of judges.

For more information, call Carla Caballero-Jackson, the law school's director of external relations, at 406-243-6254 or e-mail carla.caballero-jackson@umontana.edu.

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NOTE TO MEDIA: Members of the media are asked to arrive and be set up by at least 1:45 p.m. Videographers will be placed in designated locations. Still photographers must remain at least three rows back from the front but may use the side and central aisles. Photographers may shoot photos for the first four minutes of Holder's speech but then should refrain until the question-and-answer session with Bennett concludes. For more information, call Cary Shimek at 406-243-5914 (office) or 406-240-9582 (cell) or e-mail cary.shimek@umontana.edu.

ALS

Local, dailies, specialized western

020211hold

Contact: Carla Caballero-Jackson, UM School of Law, 406-243-6254, carla.caballero-jackson@umontana.edu.
The University of Montana ranks No. 14 on Peace Corps’ 2011 rankings of colleges and universities in the medium category, which includes universities with between 5,001 and 15,000 undergraduates.

Currently, 33 UM undergraduate alumni serve as Peace Corps volunteers, up from last year when 29 undergraduate alumni served.

President Kennedy established the Peace Corps in 1961. This year the Peace Corps will commemorate 50 years of promoting peace and friendship around the world.

"For the past 50 years, colleges and universities across our country have been an integral part of the Peace Corps family, from developing young leaders, to hosting trainings and teaching the importance of lifelong learning," said Peace Corps Director Aaron Williams.

More than 200,000 Americans have served with the Peace Corps to promote a better understanding between Americans and the people of 139 host countries. Since 1961, 765 UM alumni have served as Peace Corps volunteers.

Today 8,655 Peace Corps volunteers work in 77 countries in the areas of education, youth and community development, health and HIV/AIDS, business information and communication technology, agriculture and environment.

George Washington University ranks No. 1 in the medium category for the third year in a row, with 72 undergraduate alumni serving overseas. Montana State University-Bozeman placed No. 18 in the 2011 medium category rankings.

For more information about the Peace Corps at UM, visit the Office of Career Services, located in Lommasson Center Room 154, or go online to http://www.umt.edu/career/peacecorps.

Contact: Tenly Snow, Peace Corps representative, UM Office of Career Services, 406-243-2022, peacecorps@umontana.edu.

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 MISSOULA –

Big Sky Conference Commissioner Doug Fullerton will visit The University of Montana on Wednesday and Thursday, Feb. 2-3.

During that time he will present a community forum titled “Update on the Big Sky Conference and the NCAA with Commissioner Doug Fullerton” from 4 to 5 p.m. Wednesday at the Doubletree Hotel Missoula/Edgewater, located at 100 Madison St. The event is free and open to the public.

A Hamilton native, Fullerton has led the Big Sky Conference since 1995. He earned a master’s degree in higher education from Montana State University in 1985. After teaching stints in Ennis and Bozeman, he worked at MSU, where he served 11 years as athletic director.

The commissioner has a full slate of campus meetings planned both days. Among those, he will have lunch with UM student government and members of the Student Athletic Advisory Council from noon to 1 p.m. Wednesday in University Center Room 329. He also will hold an open forum that day from 1:30 to 3 p.m. with athletics staff and coaches in Adams Center Room 008.

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CBS

Local, specialized western

020111cmsh

Contact: Jim Foley, UM executive vice president, 406-243-2311, james.foley@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

University of Montana students and alumni can meet with company recruiters from local, regional, national and international employers at the 22nd Annual Big Sky Employment Fair at UM on Wednesday, Feb. 23.

The fair, hosted by UM’s Office of Career Services, will take place from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the University Center Ballroom. It is free for UM students and alumni.

The event offers recruiting opportunities for students in all academic disciplines and includes professional full-time positions, internships, part-time employment and summer jobs. Recruiters have elected to stay the following day to interview students and alumni for open positions within their organizations.

Employers can register for the fair online at http://www.umt.edu/career/fairs.htm. Students and alumni also can see which companies are attending, get a schedule of events or be added to a mailing list on the website. For more information, call the Office of Career Services at 406-243-6150.

Through Griz eRecruiting accounts, UM students also can see who will be on campus recruiting this semester and sign up for on-campus interviews that will be held the day after the Big Sky Employment Fair and throughout spring semester. For more information about the free Griz eRecruiting accounts for UM students, call 406-243-2022.

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Contact: Daphne Felker , career fair coordinator, UM Office of Career Services, 406-243-6150, daphne.felker@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA –

University of Montana students will read their prose and poems at free events at the University Center during spring semester.

The reading series, Prose and Poems, will take place at 7 p.m. Tuesdays, Feb. 1, March 1, April 12 and May 3, in the University Center Art Gallery, located in UC Room 227.

The readings are hosted by UC Student Involvement and The Oval, UM’s undergraduate literary magazine. Coffee, tea and desserts will be provided.

For more information, visit the UC Student Involvement website at http://www.umt.edu/uc/ucsi or call 406-243-5754.

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Contact: Molly Collins, University Center Student Involvement, 406-243-5754, molly.collins@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA –

Three resident artists from the Archie Bray Foundation in Helena – Aaron Benson, Sean Erwin and Courtney Murphy – will demonstrate their skills in ceramic art during Archie Bray Day on Tuesday, Feb. 15, at The University of Montana.

Events will run from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. and are free and open to the public. Artist demonstrations will take place from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 2 to 5:30 p.m. in the Ceramics Studio of UM’s Art Annex, located south of the Adams Center. Slide lectures of the artists’ work will be shown from 6 to 7 p.m.

Benson received a Bachelor of Fine Arts in ceramics from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, and was an intern at Anderson Ranch in Colorado. He uses a combination of clay, metal, wood, plastic and Styrofoam to create works that mimic architectural forms.

Erwin received a Bachelor of Fine Arts in studio art from Stetson University in Deland, Fla., and a Master of Fine Arts from the University of South Florida. His most recent exhibitions include the 2009 National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts Biennial and a solo exhibition at the Atlantic Center for the Arts, Harris House Gallery. His work questions the validity of behavioral expectations prescribed by social norms and employs humor in an attempt to reinvent these expectations within the timeless medium of ceramic sculpture.

Murphy began working with clay while living in Brooklyn, N.Y. After several years of working for potters around the city, she moved to Portland, Ore., to study ceramics at Oregon College of Art & Craft. After graduating, she spent 3 ½ months at a ceramic residency in Denmark. In 2006 she returned to the U.S. and began a two-year ceramic residency at Odyssey Center for the Ceramic Arts in Ashville, N. C.

More about the artists and their work is on the Archie Bray Foundation website at http://archiebray.org (click on “Artist Residencies” and then “Long-term Residents”).

Information about the UM School of Art’s Ceramic Program is online at http://www.umt.edu/art/programs/ceramics.

For more information, call UM Professor Beth Lo at 406-243-6476.

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NOTE TO EDITORS: Photos of selected works by the artists are available by calling UM Professor Beth Lo at 406-243-6476.

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Contact: Beth Lo, UM art professor, 406-243-6476.