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UM NEWS



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UM NEWS



August 31, 2011

MISSOULA –

The University of Montana Office for Civic Engagement will hold the annual Fall Volunteer Fair from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday, Sept. 6-7, in the University Center Atrium.

Students and community members can learn about the numerous volunteer opportunities available around Missoula from representatives of more than 20 nonprofit organizations at the fair. The event is free and open to the public.

The Office for Civic Engagement is a department of the Davidson Honors College. It was founded as Volunteer Action Services at UM in 1992 and serves as the University's primary agent of community activism and civic responsibility.

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Local, specialized western

083111volu

Contact: Colleen Kane, student programs manager, UM Office for Civic Engagement, 406-243-5128, colleen.kane@umontana.edu.

UM NEWS



August 31, 2011

MISSOULA –

The World Affairs Council of Montana will sponsor two lectures at The University of Montana to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

Retired U.S. Ambassador Philip Wilcox will present the first lecture, “Re-examining Terrorism in the Middle East: The View From Washington,” at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 7, in the University Center Ballroom. Wilcox now serves as the president of the Foundation for Middle East Peace.

In addition to the lecture, the Council in the Classroom program will sponsor a presentation by Wilcox at Hellgate High School, and students will have the opportunity to ask questions and discuss terrorism issues.

UM Regents Professor of History Paul Lauren will give a lecture titled “9/11 Ten Years Later: What Have We Learned?” at 7 p.m. Monday, Sept. 12, in the UC Ballroom.

The lectures, part of the council’s Distinguished Speakers Program, are open to the public. Admission is \$5 for the general public and free for students and members of the World Affairs Council of Montana.

The World Affairs Council of Montana is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization founded in 2000 by former U.S. Ambassador Mark Johnson that is dedicated to engaging Montanans in discussions on timely global issues. The council recently celebrated 10 years of connecting Montana classrooms and communities with international resources and has organized or sponsored more than 200 programs and events, including the Distinguished Speaker Program, Global Education Initiatives and Council in the Classroom workshops. For more information visit <http://www.montanaworldaffairs.org>.

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AL/als

Western Montana

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Contact: Aubrie Lyons, World Affairs Council of Montana, 406-728-3328, wacworldquest@gmail.com.

UM NEWS



August 31, 2011

MISSOULA –

The University of Montana has selected “Field Notes from a Catastrophe” by Elizabeth Kolbert as the 2011 First-Year Reading Experience book.

All first-year students at UM are invited to participate in the First-Year Reading Experience. The program provides incoming freshmen with a shared intellectual experience to encourage discussion, advance critical thinking and develop a sense of community.

The book chronicles Kolbert’s journey to communities clearly affected by global warming, including Greenland, England, the Netherlands, Alaska and Vermont. UM has a strong and deep commitment to studying climate change and its potential repercussions, and “Field Notes from a Catastrophe” will provide students a compelling introduction to the topic.

Kolbert’s book will be used and referenced in classes across campus, including Freshmen Interest Group seminars and WRIT 101. The book is available at The Bookstore at UM, located in the University Center.

Kolbert will be on campus Thursday, Oct. 27, to give an afternoon seminar with UM freshmen. Later that day, she will give a lecture as part of the President’s Lecture Series at UM. The event begins at 8 p.m. in the University Theatre and is free and open to the public.

UM freshmen are invited to participate in a writing contest based on the book and interactions with the author during the campus visit. More information about the author and the First-Year Reading Experience is available online at <http://libguides.lib.umt.edu/FYReading>.

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Local

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Contact: Arlene Walker-Andrews, UM associate provost, 406-243-4689, arlene.walker-andrews@umontana.edu.

UM NEWS



August 31, 2011

MISSOULA –

The public is invited to view works created by University of Montana School of Art faculty when the annual Art Faculty Exhibition opens Tuesday, Sept. 6, in UM's Gallery of Visual Arts. There is no charge for the exhibition, which runs through Sept. 27.

Several lectures will be held in conjunction with the exhibition, starting with a presentation by H. Rafael Chacón, professor of art history and criticism, titled "Napoleon in the Rice Paddies: It May Go Viral, but is it Art?" from 5:10-6 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 8, in Social Science Building Room 356. A reception for the Art Faculty Exhibition will follow from 6 to 7 p.m. in the Gallery of Visual Arts.

Valerie Hedquist, associate professor of art history and criticism, will present "That's Edutainment: Art History at Sea" from 5:10 to 6 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 27, in Social Science Building Room 356. A closing reception for the faculty exhibition will follow from 6 to 7 p.m. in the Gallery of Visual Arts.

Each year, School of Art faculty exhibit their work to introduce themselves to students, the campus community and Missoula-area residents. This year's exhibition will highlight permanent tenure-track faculty and adjunct faculty, including Chacón, Hedquist, Brad Allen, Kevin Bell, Mary Ann Bonjorni, Jennifer Combe, Julia Galloway, Matt Hamon, Trey Hill, Lisa Jarrett, Steven Krutek, Beth Lo, Cathryn Mallory, Nicole Pietrantonio, Edgar Smith and Shalene Valenzuela.

The Gallery of Visual Arts is located on the first floor of UM's Social Science Building. Gallery hours are 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays and 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursdays. Monday viewing hours are available by appointment only.

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CM/als

Local

082411visl

Contact: Cathryn Mallory, director, UM Gallery of Visual Arts, 406-243-2813, gallery.visarts@umontana.edu.

UM NEWS



August 31, 2011

MISSOULA —

University of Montana students interested in joining a fraternity can meet current members and explore the opportunities offered through Greek Life during fall recruitment Tuesday through Saturday, Sept. 6-9.

Fraternity membership allows students to enhance their college experience by developing leadership skills, engaging in community service and philanthropy, and participating in academic and social programming while forming bonds that last long after graduation.

Recruitment will start with an orientation at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 6, in University Center Room 331. Participants can get to know current members of the Kappa Sigma, Phi Delta Theta, Sigma Alpha Epsilon, Sigma Chi, Sigma Nu and Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternities and tour each chapter starting at 5 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 7.

Chapters will invite potential members to learn more about each fraternity and participate in social activities on Thursday, Sept 8. Each fraternity will host a formal alumni/preference dinner on Friday, Sept. 9, where men can meet alumni and learn more about the chapters' values. New members will join their chapters on Saturday, Sept. 10.

For a more detailed recruitment schedule or to register, call Tyson McLean, UM Greek Life adviser, at 406-243-2005 or email tyson.mclean@umontana.edu. More information also is available online at <http://life.umt.edu/greeklife>.

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ALS

Local

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

UM NEWS



August 29, 2011

MISSOULA –

The University of Montana's four sororities invite new and returning students to meet current members and explore the opportunities offered through Greek Life during fall recruitment Monday through Saturday, Sept. 5-10.

Joining a sorority gives women a chance to enhance their college experience by developing leadership skills, engaging in community service and philanthropy, and participating in academic and social programming – all while forming bonds that last long after graduation.

"Whether you've planned to join a sorority your entire life or just have an inkling of interest, fall recruitment is the best way to see if joining one is right for you," said Stephanie Ralls, public relations chair for UM's Panhellenic Council, the governing body for sorority life at the University.

Sorority recruitment will begin with an orientation at 8 p.m. Monday, Sept. 5, in the University Center Ballroom, where recruitment counselors will go over the schedule and answer questions. Tuesday through Friday, Sept. 6-9, participants can get to know members of the Alpha Phi, Delta Gamma, Kappa Alpha Theta and Kappa Kappa Gamma sororities, tour chapter houses and learn about each chapter's philanthropy, scholarship and social programming.

Those who choose to join a sorority will meet their new chapters during Bid Day activities, which start at 10 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 10, on the Oval.

Chapters also will have booths set up in several residence halls, the University Center and on the Oval throughout the week of Aug. 29-Sept. 2 to answer questions and sign women up for recruitment. Registration costs \$20, and participants will receive a T-shirt and other Greek Life prizes.

A complete schedule and registration information are available online at http://life.umt.edu/greeklife/Prospective_Greeks/become_greek/ and on Facebook at <http://tinyurl.com/3qnncdv>.

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SR/als

Western Montana

082911srty

Contact: Stephanie Ralls, public relations chair, UM Panhellenic Council, 541-954-4813, pr.umtphc@gmail.com; Tyson McLean, UM Greek Life adviser, 406-243-2005, tyson.mclean@umontana.edu.

UM NEWS



August 29, 2011

MISSOULA –

The autumn semester Natural Resources and Environmental Policy Forum at The University of Montana begins at noon on Tuesday, Sept. 13, in Law Building, Room 101. Australia National University's Carina Wyborn will present on "Connectivity Conservation in Australia: The Science and Values of Large Landscape Collaboration." All forum series events are free and open to the public.

Wyborn is a doctoral student from the Australian National University in Canberra. Her doctoral research examines the cross-scale, collaborative governance dimensions of large landscape conservation initiatives in Australia and North America, such as the Crown of the Continent Initiative. She teaches in the human ecology program at the Fenner School of Environment and Society.

Two other forums will be presented this fall at noon in Room 101 of the Law Building:

- **Thursday, Oct. 13:** "Bull Trout's Gift: Bull Trout, Tribal People, and the Jocko River," presented by Germaine White, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes.
- **Friday, Nov. 18:** "Regulating Greenhouse Gases: Where We Stand and Where We're Heading," interactive discussion with Michael Gerrard, Columbia Law School.

Professor Gerrard will also be presenting the UM Department of History Hampton Lecture on Nov. 18.

The forum series is convened by the Center for Natural Resources and Environmental Policy in cooperation with the UM College of Forestry and Conservation, School of Law, Bolle Center for People and Forests, Resource Conservation Program, Department of Geography and Environmental Studies Program, the Department of History/H.D. Hampton Lecture Series, and the Indian Land Tenure Foundation.

For more information, call Sarah Bates at 406-207-9071 or email sarah@cnrep.org. The forum schedule is online at <http://www.cnrep.org> (click on "Upcoming Events.")

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SB/alw

Campus, Local, Weeklies

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Contact: Sarah Bates, UM Center for Natural Resources and Environmental Policy, 406-207-9071, sarah@cnrep.org.

UM NEWS



August 26, 2011

MISSOULA –

Drivers, bicyclists and pedestrians will find the area around the Madison Street Bridge and the north entrance to The University of Montana campus safer and easier to navigate when the Arthur Avenue traffic improvement project opens for business Friday, Aug. 26.

Drivers are encouraged to pay extra attention to new signs and signals and to lane markings. To read more about the specific changes to traffic flow or to see a map, visit the city of Missoula website at <http://www.ci.missoula.mt.us/>.

The project, officially called the Fifth/Sixth/Arthur and Maurice Intersection Safety and Circulation Improvement Project, dates back to the fall of 2005, when a Montana Department of Transportation proposal was not supported by the public and lacked funding. That sent UM and city leaders back to the drawing board, where with design help from WGM Group they came up with a project to address safety and traffic circulation improvements but not increase capacity.

UM funded the majority of the project with a \$1.25 million Special Improvement District in the neighborhood, for which UM will pay all of the assessments. The city and the MDT each contributed about \$200,000 in labor and materials. City crews provided street restoration with milling and paving, and MDT furnished and funded the new traffic signal at the corner of Fifth Street and Arthur Avenue.

"This project is a fine example of the power of working collaboratively to solve problems locally," said Missoula Mayor John Engen. "The basic design was conceived in a conference room at City Hall with all the partners at the table, and it does everything we need it to do: It handles a large volume of vehicles, puts traffic where it belongs, dramatically improves pedestrian safety, is aesthetically pleasing and costs a lot less than a version that was previously proposed and rejected. Good stuff all the way around."

The project improvements will be especially welcome on football and basketball days as well as during the numerous cultural events held on campus year-round, said UM Executive Vice President Jim Foley.

"It really is a testament to the city, MDT and UM working together to make the community better and to make a safer area around The University of Montana," Foley said. "The community, the University and the public should be proud of it."

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GM/js

082611traf

Campus

Contact: Jim Foley, UM executive vice president, 406-243-2311, james.foley@umontana.edu; Gregg Wood, senior project coordinator, city of Missoula, 406-552-6093, gwood@ci.missoula.mt.us.

UM NEWS



August 25, 2011

MISSOULA –

Former United States Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor will join members of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit to hear oral arguments in three cases during a special sitting at 9:30 a.m. Thursday, Sept. 1, in the University Theatre at The University of Montana.

The UM School of Law will host the hearing, which is free and open to the public.

O'Connor will hear the cases with 9th Circuit Judges Stephen R. Reinhardt, based in Los Angeles, and Sidney R. Thomas. Thomas, based in Billings, was named a finalist by President Barack Obama in 2010 to replace Justice John Paul Stevens on the U.S. Supreme Court.

The judges will hear three cases: United States v. Bear, Blair v. Schwan Food Company, and Gallatin County v. U.S. District Court.

In United States v. Bear, the defendants are appealing a district court's decision to deny their suppression motions, after which they entered conditional guilty pleas on methamphetamine-related charges.

Blair v. Schwan Food Company involves an alleged wrongful discharge of a former employee of Schwan Food Company, which the plaintiff claims was in violation of the Montana Wrongful Discharge from Employment Act.

In Gallatin County v. USDC, the county will petition the 9th Circuit to reinstate certain state law claims against petitioners, which arises from the case of Kathryn Leibrock-Josephs, who died in 2005 while in custody on charges of partner or family member assault.

"The University of Montana School of Law has a long history of engagement with the federal judiciary," said School of Law Dean Irma Russell. "We are honored that the 9th Circuit will be holding a special sitting here at the school in connection with our centennial activities and that Justice O'Connor will serve as a member."

Security precautions will be in place for the hearing, and the court requests that those planning to attend bring valid photo ID (student IDs will be accepted). All visitors will be screened with handheld magnetic wands and required to open all bags, briefcases, purses and other containers for full inspection. Officials recommend leaving all nonessential items in vehicles or offices to prevent delay in entering the building. Audience members must enter or exit only at the scheduled break or between arguments and maintain silence while the court is in session. No food or drink will be allowed in the theater, and appropriate dress is requested.

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NOTE TO MEDIA: Members of the media planning to photograph, video or audio record the hearing must submit a request beforehand. Call Carla Caballero-Jackson at 406-243-6254 or email carla.caballero-jackson@umontana.edu for information on submitting a request.

ALS

Western Montana

082511cort

Contact: Carla Caballero-Jackson, director of external relations, UM School of Law, 406-243-6254, carla.caballero-jackson@umontana.edu.

UM NEWS



August 25, 2011

MISSOULA –

Pack your lawn chairs, blankets and a picnic to enjoy Shakespearean comedy and tragedy at The University of Montana Oval on Monday and Tuesday, Aug. 29-30.

Montana Shakespeare in the Parks will perform its summer tour headliners “The Merchant of Venice” at 6 p.m. Monday and “Much Ado About Nothing” at 6 p.m. Tuesday.

The events will be held on the Oval rain or shine.

Montana Shakespeare in the Parks is touring for its 39th season in towns throughout Montana, northern Wyoming and eastern Idaho. The UM performances are sponsored by the University Center.

For more information call Mary Lester at 406-243-5590 or email mary.lester@mso.umt.edu.

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JS

Local, specialized western

082411shak

Contact: Mary Lester, University Center Student Involvement, 406-243-5590, mary.lester@mso.umt.edu.

UM NEWS



August 25, 2011

MISSOULA —

It will be easier than ever to access The University of Montana campus when Park-N-Ride and UDASH buses resume service on Aug. 29. Both buses, operated by the Associated Students of the UM Office of Transportation, are free and open to the public.

The buses offer service to three Park-N-Ride lots: East Broadway, [South Campus](#) and College of Technology.

Buses from the South Campus lot to the mountain campus run every five to seven minutes, and shuttles between the mountain campus and the College of Technology run every 15 minutes. The East Broadway Park-N-Ride buses will offer increased frequency this year, providing service every 10 minutes.

The UDASH runs Monday through Saturday between South Campus and downtown beginning at 7 p.m. The schedule is as follows:

- Monday through Wednesday: every 30 minutes until midnight.
- Thursday: every 30 minutes until 2:30 a.m.
- Friday and Saturday: every 15 minutes until 2:30 a.m.

Complete autumn schedules for both Park-N-Ride and UDASH can be found at http://life.umt.edu/asum/asum_agencies/Transportation/.

New bicycle racks, donated by the Missoula Bicycle Pedestrian Office, will be installed at the Grizzly Pool. Additional racks have been ordered and will be placed throughout campus.

The Office of Transportation reminds people biking on campus to slow down and please alert others when passing. When walking on campus remember to walk in groups of two to avoid blocking traffic.

The construction project at Arthur and 5th and 6th streets is underway and projected to be completed by the beginning of autumn semester. The project will separate through traffic from campus traffic, enhance cyclist and pedestrian movements and improve safety.

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ALW

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Campus

Contact: Nancy Wilson, director, Associated Students of UM Office of Transportation, 406-243-4599, nancy.wilson@mso.umt.edu.

UM NEWS



August 24, 2011

MISSOULA –

The University of Montana recently set an all-time record for full-time equivalent students taking courses during summer semester.

An FTE represents 15 undergraduate or 12 graduate semester credits. FTEs hit 1,430.77 this past summer, which were 4.77 higher than a year ago.

Despite the record FTEs, total headcount enrollment this summer was 4,113, which was down 64 from summer 2010.

"We are pleased by the continued strong summer semester enrollment figures posted by the University," UM President Royce Engstrom said. "The enrollments continue to demonstrate that people are seeing higher education as a key to a successful future."

Resident FTEs were down 13.22, but nonresident FTEs rose 10.85 during summer semester.

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CBS

Local, Western Montana, Dailies

082411enro

Contact: Royce Engstrom, UM president, 406-243-2311, royce.engstrom@umontana.edu; Edwin Johnson, UM registrar, 406-243-2412, edwin.johnson@umontana.edu.

UM NEWS



August 24, 2011

MISSOULA –

William Yslas Vélez, a longtime advocate for minority advancement in higher education, will visit The University of Montana campus for several lectures and a workshop Tuesday and Wednesday, Sept. 6-7.

Vélez, a distinguished professor at the University of Arizona, is a former president of the Society for Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans in Science and has a long track record of supporting minority students. While at UM, he will share his methods for recruiting and advising minorities, as well as his conviction that mathematics is the language that essentially connects all of humanity.

The two-day event will feature several opportunities for students, staff, faculty and administrators to interact with Vélez. Vélez's first stop will be a student forum at 12:10 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 6, in University Center Rooms 330-331.

Other events are:

- **3:10 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 6, Mathematics Building Room 103:** Lecture titled "Mathematics Changed My Life."
- **12:10-1:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 7, UC 330-331:** "Strategies for Retaining Minority Students in the Major" workshop.
- **3 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 7, Main Hall Room 004:** Informational meeting on SACNAS, a society of scientists dedicated to advancing Hispanics/Chicanos and Native Americans in science. Those interested in the organization and increasing the University's involvement in it are encouraged to attend.

Vélez's visit is sponsored by UM's Diversity Advisory Council, the Department of Mathematical Sciences, Research Opportunities in Science for Native Americans, and the offices of the President, Provost and Student Affairs.

###

JM/als

Local

082211vlez

Contact: Jenny McNulty, associate dean, UM College of Arts and Sciences, 406-243-4458, mcnulty@mso.umt.edu.

UM NEWS



August 23, 2011

MISSOULA –

University of Montana President Royce C. Engstrom will host a question-and-answer session following the State of the University address on Friday, Aug. 26, in the Masquer Theatre of UM's Performing Arts and Radio/Television Center. The session is open to the public and will begin shortly after the annual address. Refreshments will be served.

Engstrom's State of the University address, which outlines UM's institutional priorities for the upcoming academic year, will start at 10 a.m. in the PAR/TV Center's Montana Theatre. Refreshments will be available starting at 9:30 a.m. in the Montana Theatre foyer.

A live video stream of the State of the University address will be available online at <http://www.umt.edu/president/sotu/stream>.

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ALS

Western Montana, dailies

082311sotu

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

UM NEWS



August 23, 2011

MISSOULA —

The University of Montana's Division of Student Affairs invites all students, faculty and staff to "Get Your Griz On" during the 2011 WelcomeFeast from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 2, on the Oval.

Participants can enjoy free food, live music and games and access information on campus life. A closed-captioned, outdoor screening of "Kung Fu Panda 2" will be shown on the Oval at 9:30 p.m.

The event is free and open to members of the campus community. Sponsors include ASUM, The Bookstore at UM, Campus Recreation, Career Services, Curry Health Center, Disability Services for Students, Division of Student Affairs, Enrollment Services, Facility Services, Grizzly Athletics, Office of the President, Office of the Provost, Office of Sustainability, Office of the Vice President of Administration & Finance, Residence Life, ROTC, UM Alumni Association, University Center, University Dining Services and Coke.

For more information call Mary Lester in University Center Student Involvement at 406-243-5590 or email at mary.lester@mso.umt.edu. Groups interested in reserving a display table can call the University Center at 406-243-5082.

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Campus

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Contact: Mary Lester, University Center Student Involvement, 460-243-5590, mary.lester@mso.umt.edu.

UM NEWS



August 22, 2011

MISSOULA –

Montana businesses are discovering that engaging in sustainable business practices increases worker productivity, reduces costs, preserves the environment, offers opportunities and provides competitive advantages, according to the latest issue of the Montana Business Quarterly.

Sustainability is becoming a top priority for many of the state's business managers and owners who have developed green business strategies, implemented green business programs and hired sustainability coordinators to oversee them, authors Lisa Swallow and Jerry Furniss wrote in their article titled "Green Business: Reducing Carbon Footprint Cuts Costs and Provides Opportunities."

From small operations to high-tech startups and major corporations, Montana's business sector is using recycled and renewable materials, making investments in energy efficiency improvements, developing innovative technologies to solve environmental problems and attempting to reduce its carbon footprint, the article says.

"The impact that businesses have on the environment and society is becoming more important to customers, employees and investors," wrote Swallow and Furniss. "Customers and shareholders are shunning companies that do not include reports about their progress toward sustainability, or good corporate citizenship, or that fail to live up to consumer or shareholder expectations."

The article includes profiles of Montana businesses that are successfully engaging in green practices, including Rivertop Renewables, the Missoula Federal Credit Union, the East End Colony Salmon Farm, the Kettlehouse Brewing Co. and St. Patrick Hospital.

Other articles in the summer issue of the Montana Business Quarterly include a look into the rise of organic farming in Montana, an update on the state's struggling housing markets and a report on the growth earlier in the decade of vacation homes around the state's lakes and ski resorts.

The Montana Business Quarterly is published by Bureau of Business and Economic Research at The University of Montana and is partially supported by the Missoula Federal Credit Union. Annual subscriptions are available for \$35. For more information or to subscribe, go to <http://www.bber.umt.edu> or call 406-243-5113.

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SF/alw
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State

Contact: Shannon Furniss , editor, Montana Business Quarterly, UM Bureau of Business and Economic Research, 406-243-5113, shannon.furniss@business.umt.edu.

UM NEWS



August 19, 2011

MISSOULA –

Miranda Lambert, the reigning Academy of Country Music female vocalist of the year, will perform live in concert at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 11, in the Adams Center at The University of Montana.

Ticket prices range from \$32.25 to \$47.25, plus applicable fees. Tickets will go on sale at 10 a.m. Friday, Aug. 26, at all GrizTix outlets, including the Adams Center Box Office, The Source in the University Center, Worden's Market, Southgate Mall and the MSO Hub. Tickets also will be available online at <http://www.griztix.com> or by calling 888-MONTANA.

In addition to ACM female vocalist of the year honors, Lambert also received single of the year and video of the year accolades for her hit "The House That Built Me." Her other hit songs include "White Liar," "Only Prettier" and "Heart Like Mine."

Rising stars Justin Moore and The Randy Rogers Band will open for Lambert. The concert is presented by UM Productions.

For more information visit <http://umproductions.org>.

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AR/als

Western Montana

081911lamb

Contact: UM Productions, 406-243-6661, marketing@umproductions.org.

UM NEWS



August 19, 2011

HAMILTON –

The steering committee for the Bitterroot College Program of The University of Montana will hold its monthly meeting at 3 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 24, in the Human Resource Council Building Meeting Room located at 316 N. 3rd St. in Hamilton.

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

Agenda topics will include operational, educational planning and fiscal issues. The meeting agenda and supplemental meeting materials will be available Monday, Aug. 22, on the BCP website at <http://www.umt.edu/bcp> (click on "Meetings" under "Steering Committee"), by calling BCP Interim Director Victoria Clark at 406-375-0100 or by emailing victoria.clark@umontana.edu.

The BCP steering committee is a collaborative group comprised 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. The BCP will be offering more than 30 UM College of Technology and mountain campus courses in the Hamilton area during autumn semester 2011.

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VC/alw

Local, Bitterroot media

081811bstc

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

UM NEWS



August 18, 2011

MISSOULA –

Grizzly Athletics at The University of Montana received a big stamp of approval Aug. 18 when the NCAA announced it has renewed certification of UM's intercollegiate athletic programs.

Certification means the University operates its athletic programs in compliance with operating principles adopted by the NCAA Division I membership.

"This is a big deal for us and the culmination of months of hard work by many people on campus," UM Athletic Director Jim O'Day said. "It means Grizzly Athletics is in good standing with the NCAA and that we offer healthy, competitive programs here at The University of Montana."

The certification process started last summer with a self-study focused on governance, commitment to rules compliance, academic integrity, gender diversity and student-athlete well-being.

The committee responsible for the study included President Royce Engstrom, UM administrators Teresa Branch and Bill Muse, University employees, students, athletics department personnel and the community at large.

The NCAA requires UM to complete a self-study at least once every seven years. UM completed its first certification self-study in 1996. Its second certification self-study was done in 2003.

Twenty-seven NCAA member institutions nationally were certified on Aug. 18. Montana State University and Appalachian State University were among those to earn renewed certification at this time.

Grizzly Athletics has earned its share of good news this summer. In July the department was notified that UM had won the Big Sky Conference Sterling Savings Bank Presidents' Cup. The award honors the conference member institution with the best performances for both academics and athletics. UM has finished in the top three the past five years, claiming the cup in 2006-07 and posting a pair of runner-up finishes.

The NCAA is a membership organization of colleges and universities that participate in intercollegiate athletics. The primary purpose of the association is to maintain intercollegiate athletics as an integral part of the educational program and the athlete as an integral part of the student body. Activities of NCAA membership include formulating rules of play for NCAA sports, conducting national championships, adopting and enforcing standards of eligibility, and studying all phases of intercollegiate athletics.

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CBS

Western Montana, dailies

081811ncaa

Contact: Teresa Branch, UM vice president for student affairs, 406-243-5225, teresa.branch@mso.umt.edu; Bill Muse, UM associate vice president for planning, budgeting and analysis, 406-243-5661, bill.muse@umontana.edu; Jim O'Day, UM athletic director, 460-243-5419, odayjm@mso.umt.edu.

UM NEWS



August 18, 2011

MISSOULA –

Montana ranks 33rd overall in key indicators of child health and well-being, according to data recently released in the Annie E. Casey Foundation's 2011 KIDS COUNT Data Book.

"Between 2000 and 2011, Montana slipped from 21st to 33rd in the national rankings of child well-being," said Thale Dillon, the director of Montana KIDS COUNT. "This indicates that children in 32 other states have a better quality of life than they do in Montana."

This year's data book indicates that while Montana has experienced improvements in the child and teen death rates (down 33 percent and 18 percent since 2000, respectively) and stability in the percentage of babies born at low birth weight (7.4 percent of all births in 2008), the state also has seen an increase in the percentage of teen births and the child poverty rate (up 11 percent and 24 percent since 2000, respectively).

According to data compiled in the book, the economic and social gains U.S. children experienced in the 1990s began to stall even before the recession began. The country saw an 18 percent increase in the child poverty rate between 2000 and 2009, which translates into 2.5 million more children living below the federal poverty line.

The annual KIDS COUNT report features data about children and families in the areas of economic well-being, education, health, early childhood, safety and more. The book includes more than 100 indicators at the state level, including two new indicators this year: the number of children affected by home foreclosures and the percentage of households in which at least one parent is unemployed. In Montana foreclosures have affected 2 percent of children and an estimated 8 percent live in households with at least one unemployed parent.

"In terms of foreclosure levels, Montana has escaped the worst impact compared to other states," said Patrick Barkey, director of the Bureau of Business and Economic Research at The University of Montana. "However, there also are a number of states that fared considerably better. Additionally, foreclosure levels differ greatly between counties."

A result of those differences, he said, is that the less alarming statewide statistics could mask much greater hardships in some counties.

The KIDS COUNT Data Book, which includes state-by-state rankings and supplemental data, is available online at <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/DataBook/2011>. For interactive Montana KIDS COUNT data, visit <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/MT>.

Funded by the Annie E. Casey Foundation, Montana KIDS COUNT is a statewide effort to track the status and well-being of Montana children by collecting, analyzing and disseminating data.

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TD/als

Dailies, weeklies

081711kids

Contact: Thane Dillon, Montana KIDS COUNT, 406-243-2780, thane.dillon@business.umt.edu.

UM NEWS



August 17, 2011

MISSOULA –

The Jackie Britton Band, founded by University of Montana students more than 30 years ago, will reunite to perform live in concert at 8 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 29, in the University Theatre at UM.

Tickets cost \$12 for students and \$27 for general admission. VIP tickets also are available for \$75. VIP admission will include a hosted cocktail and hors d'oeuvres party with the performers. Proceeds from ticket sales will fund UM School of Music scholarships.

Tickets are available at Rockin Rudy's, all GrizTix outlets, by calling 800-MONTANA and online at <http://www.griztix.com>. Student tickets only are available at The Source in the University Center or at the Adams Center box office.

The concert will feature favorites from the Jackie Britton Band's most recent albums, "Throwback" and "Back to What Used To Be," produced by the band's acclaimed songwriters, John Boyle and Scott Sechman. The band's music, which features two guitars, mandolin, harmonica, keyboards, saxophone, percussion, drums, violin, cello and bass, has been described as "eclectic, dynamic and riveting."

For more information go online to <http://www.jackiebrittonband.com>.

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TW/als

Western Montana

081711jcki

Contact: Thomas Webster, University Theatre director, 406-243-2853, thomas.webster@umontana.edu.

UM NEWS



August 17, 2011

MISSOULA –

University of Montana President Royce C. Engstrom will outline UM's institutional priorities for the upcoming academic year during his first State of the University address at 10 a.m. Friday, Aug. 26.

The public is invited to the event, which takes place in the Montana Theatre of UM's Performing Arts and Radio/Television Center. Refreshments will be available starting at 9:30 a.m. in the Montana Theatre foyer.

During the event, the president will introduce new UM faculty and administrators and recognize faculty members who have earned promotions or tenure during the past year. A public question-and-answer session with the president will follow the address.

A live video stream of the State of the University address will be available online at <http://www.umt.edu/president/sotu/stream/>.

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ALS

Western Montana, dailies

081711sotu

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

UM NEWS



August 16, 2011

MISSOULA —

Community members 50 and older can explore topics ranging from literature, history and politics to mathematics and the natural sciences through courses offered by the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at The University of Montana this fall.

Courses are taught by dynamic UM and community educators and take place during September, October and November. Registration is now open for all fall courses.

A \$20 annual MOLLI membership fee is required to enroll. Most courses cost \$60 each, and MOLLI is offering a fall special that includes two courses for \$100, a 33 percent savings on the second class.

This fall MOLLI will offer a selection of evening courses in addition to its daytime schedule. Also, longtime Montanan and historian Hal Stearns will lead a three-day historical bus tour of Fort Benton and Great Falls with an overnight stay. Titled "Following Magical Montana Trails," participants will meet Monday, Sept. 12, for a pre-trip short course, followed by the bus tour Tuesday and Wednesday, Sept. 13-14.

In conjunction with the Montana Museum of Art & Culture's exhibition "War Torn: The Art of Ben Steele," MOLLI is offering a course titled Surviving Bataan: The Art of Ben Steele. This three-part series includes a breakfast meeting with Steele.

Additional fall 2011 course titles and instructor are:

Thursdays

- Constitutional Law & Philosophy, Tom Huff.
- World War II in the Pacific, James Koch.
- Time Traveling through Mathematics: A Cultural Voyeuristic View, Bharath Sriraman.
- Life Writing for Everyone, Joyce Hocker.
- Our Amazing Earth: Evolution through Volcanism, Plate Tectonics & Atmospheric Processes, Ian Muirhead Lange.
- Climate Change: Myths, The Science, Reality, Challenges, & What's Next, Don Hyndman.
- The Soul of Europe Today, Richard Drake.
- Nature's Critical Interactions: How Partnerships Run the World, Diana Six.
- Making Believe, Believing What You Make: Poetry of Frost & Stevens, Robert Pack.
- Justice: Classical Theories & Contemporary Problems, Dane Scott.
- Is There Hope for Burma?, Steven Levine.
- Biting Off More Than We Can Chew: Managing the Economy in a Twitter World, Dennis O'Donnell.

Thursday evenings

- The Art & Culture of Central Europe, Rafael Chacón.
- The U.S. & the Middle East: Dancing on the Heads of Snakes, Mark Johnson.

Fridays

- Forgiveness & Reconciliation, Gary Hawk.
- Montana in the Eye of the Beholder: One Hundred Years of Black & White Photography, Jim Sieg.
- Reading the Short Story, David Allan Cates.
- Introduction to India, Ruth Vanita.

Born in the U.S.A.: American History Through Children's Eyes, Anya Jabour.

- Prayer & Civil Rights, Tobin Miller Shearer.
- Fostering Creativity, Eileen Rafferty.

Complete course descriptions, locations, times, instructor information and registration can be found on MOLL's website at <http://www.umt.edu/molli>.

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DF/als

Western Montana, dailies

081611mlli

Contact: Dannette Fadness, Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at UM, 406-243-2905, dannette.fadness@umontana.edu.

UM NEWS



August 16, 2011

MISSOULA —

Montana Public Radio and the Jeannette Rankin Peace Center have teamed up to present a public reading of "peace" literature and poetry at 7 p.m. Wednesday Aug. 24, in the Fireside Room of the University Congregational Church in Missoula, located at 405 University Ave.

Readers include Kevin Canty, Sheryl Noethe, John Engen, Kim Anderson, David Moore, Lisa Simon, Shaun Gant, Chérie Newman and Betsy Mulligan-Dague.

MTPR recently received grant funding to increase awareness for the upcoming five-part PBS series "Women, War & Peace" by creating community partnerships through its popular weekly literary radio program, "The Write Question." The Aug. 24 reading will be recorded and used to create two episodes of "The Write Question" that will air on MTPR during late September and early October.

Chérie Newman, producer of "The Write Question," said the grant also will help fund a partnership with the Missoula Writing Collaborative in which student responses to the series will be recorded for the program and published online and in print. Plans also are under way for a Sept. 11 poetry event at Fact & Fiction bookstore in downtown Missoula.

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CN/alw

Local

081611

Contact: Chérie Newman, producer, Montana Public Radio, 406-370-1069, cherie.newman@mso.umt.edu.

UM NEWS



August 11, 2011

MISSOULA –

The Institute of International Education has selected The University of Montana as one of 11 colleges and universities to foster higher education ties with India.

UM will participate in the institute's 2012 India initiative, part of its International Academic Partnership Program. Over the next year, UM will engage in a series of training activities arranged by the institute to help implement and sustain partnerships with Indian institutions, culminating with a study tour to India in early 2012 to meet with potential partner campuses and leaders in the Indian higher education system.

A steering committee composed of representatives from across the UM system has formed to facilitate the University's involvement in the project.

"India is a country of enormous importance today, and we have not had a coordinated approach to our involvement with it and its higher education institutions," said Perry Brown, UM provost and vice president for academic affairs. "To some extent this shortcoming will be rectified by our engagement with IAPP, and we will learn a lot more about how we might interact with Indian institutions."

The institute selected UM for the program because of the quality of its academic programming and its commitment to international education, said Peter Baker, the international development program officer for UM International Programs.

"India and its institutions are logical partners for the University because of the growing number of Indian students who come to the United States and because UM has areas of academic strength increasingly important to developing countries such as India," Baker said.

Mehrdad Kia, UM associate provost for International Programs, said the University already is establishing direct partnerships with several Indian universities, and a delegation from those institutions plans to visit Missoula in September and October.

"These new partnerships will allow UM to increase the number of Indian undergraduate and graduate students interested in studying on our campus," Kia said. "They will also allow us to provide UM students with new study abroad opportunities in a country with an ancient history and a rich civilization and culture."

UM joins Fort Hays State University, George Mason University, Northern Illinois University, Queens College, Rollins College, Rutgers, Suffolk University, Thomas College, the University of Kentucky and the University of Oregon as a partner in the program.

Founded in 1919, IIE is a world leader in the international exchange of people and ideas. IIE designs and implements programs of study and training for students, educators, young professionals and trainees from all sectors with funding from government agencies, foundations and corporations.

The International Academic Partnership Program was established in 2009 with funding from the Department of Education to help increase the number of partnerships between institutions of higher education in the U.S. and India.

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ALS

Western Montana, dailies

081111inda

Contact: Mehrdad Kia, UM associate provost for International Programs, 406-243-2289, mehrdad.kia@umontana.edu.

UM NEWS



August 11, 2011

MISSOULA, Mont. –

Sure, many bacteria cause disease, but most people don't realize how beneficial they can be. The human gut, for example, brims with bacteria that play critical roles in everything from immune system development and extracting energy from food to providing necessary nutrients.

They get a nice comfy home living inside people, and in return they help us. It's a symbiotic relationship.

However, these beneficial partnerships are nothing compared to the complex relationships between bacteria and citrus mealybugs recently discovered by biologists at The University of Montana and Utah State University.

The researchers had previously learned that one of the beneficial bacterial partners, *Moranella*, lives inside another bacterial symbiont called *Tremblaya*, which in turn lives inside the cytoplasm of the host insect cell.

"It's the only bacteria-within-a-bacterium symbiosis known," said John McCutcheon, an assistant professor in UM's Division of Biological Sciences. "It's a level of intimacy and partnership never seen before between two bacterial species."

McCutcheon's work and that of his research partner, Utah State's Carol von Dohlen, will be published in the Aug. 23 issue of *Current Biology*. The article is titled "An interdependent metabolic patchwork in the nested symbiosis of mealybugs."

McCutcheon said animal metabolism is extremely limited when compared to bacteria. At some point during the evolution of the lineage leading to animals, the ability to make 10 of 20 essential amino acids and several vitamins was lost, so animals must acquire those in their diets.

Sap-feeding insects eat only plant sap, which doesn't contain enough amino acids and other important compounds to support animal growth. What these insects have done is develop incredibly elaborate symbioses with bacteria to provide them with the nutrients that are limited by their diet.

"Some sap-feeding insects form stable relationships with one, two or even sometimes more symbionts to provision them with essential amino acids," McCutcheon said. "These bacteria live only within special insect cells, which form special organs in the insect exclusively to house these bacteria."

With the bacteria in the mealybugs, the researchers found an amazing metabolic patchwork in a pattern never seen before.

"For an organism to produce an amino acid, some number of enzymes are required in a certain linear order, which form biochemical pathways," he said. "In previous dual-symbiont systems we've studied, all of the enzymes in a certain pathway are always found either in one of the bacterial symbionts or the other, never in both.

"In the mealybug, we've found an amazing patchwork pattern in several amino acid pathways, where some enzymes in a single linear pathway are encoded in *Tremblaya*, and some are encoded in *Moranella*," McCutcheon said. "It's an unprecedented organization, and frankly it's a bit hard to understand how the whole thing works, but it clearly does.

"We think this crazy metabolic organization is the result of the nested structure of the symbiosis," McCutcheon said. "There are several signals indicating that the whole system has moved from just a couple of bacteria working together to something more akin to a mosaic between the organisms."

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CBS

Local, dailies, select national media

081111bact

Contact: John McCutcheon , assistant professor, UM Division of Biological Sciences, 406-243-6071, 406-243-6106, john.mccutcheon@umontana.edu.

UM NEWS



August 10, 2011

MISSOULA –

More than 45 independent bands from across the continent will descend on Missoula Thursday through Saturday, Aug. 18-20, for the 10th annual Total Fest music festival.

The volunteer-driven festival, sponsored by Wantage USA and KBGA 89.9 College Radio at The University of Montana, will take place at several venues around Missoula and feature headlining band Big Business, as well as Hammerhead, Vaz, Helms Alee, Japanther and others.

Three-day Total Fest passes, which include admission to all shows, cost \$45 in advance and are available at Ear Candy Music in Missoula and online at <http://www.totalfest.org>. Passes cost \$50 at the door. A complete schedule and list of venues are available on the website.

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

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DL/als

Western Montana

081011fest

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

UM NEWS



August 09, 2011

POLSON —

Two large instrumented buoys, developed in tandem by The University of Montana's Flathead Lake Biological Station and Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, will be placed in Flathead Lake on Wednesday, Aug. 10. These buoys provide a platform for a suite of instruments that allow continuous, automated measurements of water quality in the water column and meteorological conditions on the lake.

Researchers will install the buoys at two places along the deep trench in the middle of the lake — one west of Yellow Bay and the other west of Woods Bay. Conditions in the water column are measured by sensors on a device called a profiler that travels up and down a cable from the buoy to the bottom of the lake. The meteorological sensors are mounted on the buoys.

WHOI originally designed the monitoring systems for use in the Arctic Ocean, but, together with FLBS, they modified them for use in Flathead and Crater lakes. A grant from the National Science Foundation to the FLBS provided funding for the buoy-tethered profiling systems.

The data will provide scientists at FLBS better information about the changing conditions in the lake's water quality and surface meteorology. Data generated from the surface meteorological sensors will be radio-telemetered back to the FLBS while water quality information from the automated subsurface profiler will be telemetered via satellite to WHOI and the FLBS. All data will be available, in near real-time, to the public at <http://umt.edu/flbs>.

The meteorological stations will measure and report instantaneous wind speed, wind direction, barometric pressure, air temperature, solar radiation and humidity every five minutes. The subsurface automated profiler will travel down through the water column at least four times a day. Sensors will measure water temperature, dissolved oxygen, conductivity, algal pigments, light and dissolved organic matter every 25 centimeters as the profiler travels from the surface to the bottom of the lake.

Boaters planning open-water travel can access mid-lake weather conditions collected by the meteorological sensors on the buoys. Fishermen will have access to temperature changes throughout the water column, allowing them to concentrate on fishing particular thermal regions. Federal, state, county and tribal agencies, as well as local schools, will be able to use the wide array of water quality information.

Boaters are asked to stay at least 50 yards away from the buoys so as not to disturb the measurements or destroy the sensitive equipment. Video surveillance for security purposes will be present on both buoys.

Information from the instrumentation on the buoys is extremely important for conservation of Flathead Lake, and FLBS officials ask that everyone become a lake guardian and support efforts that provide information to keep Flathead Lake blue.

For more information call FLBS during the day at 406-982-3301 or in the evening at 406-250-1006 or 406-250-0911.

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TB/BE, alw

Western Montana

080911buoy

Contact: Bonnie Ellis, research assistant professor, UM Flathead Lake Biological Station, 406-982-3301, ext. 239, bonnie.ellis@umontana.edu.

UM NEWS



August 09, 2011

MISSOULA –

Researchers at The University of Montana and the U.S. Geological Survey recently developed a new tool for modeling fish populations in rivers. An article detailing the Cost Distance FISHerics simulator appears in the August issue of the science journal Conservation Genetics Resources. It is available online at <http://www.springerlink.com/content/v728723336j5ut10/>.

CDFISH was developed by UM research Assistant Professor Erin Landguth, Associate Professor Gordon Luikart of the Flathead Lake Biological Station and USGS scientist Clint Muhlfeld. The project was funded by the USGS through a grant from the Great Northern Landscape Conservation Cooperative.

CDFISH is a population dynamics model for aquatic systems to track individual fish as they move through a river system. It is different than existing models because it incorporates biological rules for fish movement and migration as functions of complex stream features such as water temperature and flow, habitat complexity, physical barriers, elevation and slope. CDFISH also tracks the genetic makeup and demographic vulnerability of fisheries through time.

"It allows you to ask questions about how riverscapes influence fish movement, dynamics and genetics," Landguth said. "In light of climate change and changing riverscape scenarios, we could use CDFISH to help us produce vulnerability maps to guide restoration strategies for protection of the most threatened stream segments and subpopulations at risk of extinction."

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JS

Local

080811fish

Contact: Erin Landguth, computational ecologist, UM Division of Biological Sciences, 406-243-2393, erin.landguth@mso.umt.edu.

UM NEWS



August 08, 2011

MISSOULA —

Folk musician and Missoula favorite Greg Brown will perform live in concert at 8 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 25, in the University Theatre at The University of Montana.

Tickets are \$25 in advance or \$28 at the door, and all seating is reserved. Tickets are available at all GrizTix locations, by calling 888-MONTANA or online at <http://www.griztix.com>.

A singer/songwriter hailing from the Midwest, Brown has spent 25 years as a chronicler of life and is known for his personal and intimate concerts. He's performed in Missoula several times throughout the past decade.

For more information call University Theatre director Thomas Webster at 406-243-2853.

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TW/als

Western Montana

080811brwn

Contact: Thomas Webster, University Theatre director, 406-243-2853, thomas.webster@umontana.edu.

UM NEWS



August 08, 2011

MISSOULA —

Employers and student workers will have an opportunity to connect at the fall Student Job Fair, slated for 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 1, in the University Center Ballroom at The University of Montana.

The fair, hosted by UM's Office of Career Services, is free and open to any business, organization or department that needs college students for part-time jobs, internships or volunteer opportunities. Employers looking to hire students for work-study and non-work-study positions on and off campus are invited to participate.

Last year 40 employers and more than 900 students participated in the Student Job Fair.

Registered employers will receive a career fair booth, snacks and free parking. The Office of Career Services will have students on hand to help employers bring in their job fair materials and assist with setup.

Employers can register online at <http://www.umt.edu/studentjobs/employer>.

For more information call Janay Whisman, student employment coordinator, at 406-243-5627 or email studentjobs@umontana.edu.

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JW/als

Local

080811fair

Contact: Janay Whisman, student employment coordinator, UM Office of Career Services, 406-243-5627, studentjobs@umontana.edu.

UM NEWS



August 05, 2011

MISSOULA —

Teams are forming now for the annual Heart Walk and 5K Run on Saturday, Sept. 24, at The University of Montana. The event, a fundraiser for the American Heart Association, begins at 10 a.m. on the Oval with a ceremony to introduce heart disease survivors and remember those who have passed away because of the disease.

This will be the first year for the 5K Heart Run, which will start at 11:10 a.m. The course will begin and finish on the UM Oval, offering views of campus and the Clark Fork River in between. The top finishers in each of seven age divisions, as well as the overall men's and women's winners, will receive prizes in the timed event.

The race fee is \$20, and participants can register at <http://www.missoulaheartwalk.org>. Trisha Miller, the 2010 Missoula Marathon women's champion, will serve as race director, and local running club Run Wild Missoula is donating its equipment for use during the race.

The Heart Walk, in its 16th year at UM, will start on the Oval at 11:15 a.m. Registration for the walk is free and available online. Participants can choose to form a new team, register with an existing team or sign up individually. Several UM departments and local businesses have already formed teams and can be found on the website.

Team members will solicit donations to support education and research efforts of the American Heart Association, a nonprofit that raises awareness of cardiovascular disease and promotes heart-healthy lifestyles. No fundraising minimum is required to participate.

For more information call the American Heart Association at 406-531-8281.

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BM/als

Western Montana

080411hart

Contact: Beckie Christiaens, UM Heart Walk campaign chair, 406-243-4611, beckie.christiaens@umontana.edu; Bill Mathews, regional director, American Heart Association, 406-531-8281, bill.mathews@heart.org.

UM NEWS



August 04, 2011

MISSOULA --

The University of Montana's Institute for Tourism and Recreation Research collects and reports nonresident visitor data. This data, typically accessed by businesses, tourism promoters, land managers and policymakers, is now available to the general public in a new format.

As part of a public service to the state, anyone interested can log on to the ITRR website at <http://www.tourismresearchmt.org/> to find answers to nonresident travel questions, including who is coming to Montana, why they come here, and what they do while here. Users also can generate trend graphs using various data compiled from two to three decades of information, from airport deboardings and attitudes toward tourism to expenditures by nonresidents.

"This new functionality allows us to upload new data as quickly as possible so everyone can benefit from the information," said Norma Nickerson, ITTR director. "In the past, we collected nonresident data once every five years and used that as our data set. Now, we hope to be only six months away from providing recently collected information. In this day and age, we can't assume that 5-year-old data is still appropriate for decision-making. With this interactive website, people don't have to wait for us to generate the reports. They can do it quickly themselves."

Starting this month, small, locally owned accommodations such as motels, bed and breakfasts, campgrounds, guest ranches, vacation home and cabin rentals will be able to participate by providing their occupancy data through a secure and anonymous portal. Individual business-owner data will be combined with all others to provide occupancy trends for the year.

Tourism is a large and growing industry in Montana. In 2010 the combined economic impact of nonresident visitors to Montana exceeded \$2.6 billion. According to ITTR, the research helps state tourism officials and business owners better understand their target audiences and create more specific marketing strategies. It helps land managers know their clientele and is used by banks to decide the risk level of new business loans.

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NN/aw

State, dailies, weeklies

080311tour

Contact: Norma Nickerson, director, UM Institute for Tourism and Recreation Research, 406-243-2328, norma.nickerson@umontana.edu.

UM NEWS



August 04, 2011

MISSOULA –

The University of Montana Dining Services was recently recognized for meeting or exceeding the sustainable business standards for restaurants set by the Western Sustainability Exchange.

University Dining Services Director Mark LoParco accepted the Certificate of Sustainability at a ceremony held July 28 at the Buttercup Cafe in Missoula. UDS was one of eight Montana dining establishments to receive the certificate.

UDS met or exceeded the criteria for restaurants by purchasing more than \$612,000 of local food this year. A significant portion of that money was spent on purchasing beef from eastern Montana through the UM Farm to College Program. The certificate also recognizes that UDS spends 16 percent of its total budget on Montana foods, has reduced food waste in the main dining room through the Trayless Program, and has decreased solid food waste by 90 percent using a food pulper and waste dehydration system.

"The newly created Certificate of Sustainability from WSE acknowledges our achievement in creating an institutional model for sustainable food service," LoParco said. "It is an honor to be recognized as such and we are committed to strengthening our efforts every year, from reducing our carbon footprint on campus to growing our own food."

WSE is a nationally recognized nonprofit that advocates environmentally sustainable business and agricultural practices. The organization connects food producers practicing sustainable agricultural methods with new markets in search of sustainable food products.

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JM/js

Western Montana

080211sust

Contact: Jerry O'Malley, University Dining Services, 406-243-6433, .

UM NEWS



August 01, 2011

MISSOULA –

The University of Montana has joined a group of 29 higher education institutions across the country to launch “Gig.U: The University Community Next Generation Innovation Project.”

The project aims to accelerate the deployment of ultra-high-speed networks in communities near leading U.S. universities. Planners hope that growing high-speed networks will drive economic growth in those communities and stimulate a new generation of innovators to address critical needs in areas such as health care and education.

“We are pleased that our campus is one of the initial launch sites for Gig.U,” UM President Royce Engstrom said. “We intend this to spark economic development between the University and surrounding community.”

Universities increasingly depend on high-speed networks to educate their students. Educators and researchers use the networks for collaboration and to share massive amounts of information almost instantaneously.

Gig.U’s mission is to increase the collaboration between research institutions and the communities that surround them. It promotes world-leading computer networks that will extend into the communities to accelerate the pace at which advances can be tested and applied off campus.

“This venture will be a major step forward for the University community,” said Ray Ford, the UM chief technology officer who encouraged participation in Gig.U. “This is important because it will give UM faculty, staff and students the same level of network access off campus as they have on campus.”

Ford said network speeds are about 100 times faster on campus than what is available to consumers in the community. He said the Gig.U project and UM will encourage a dialogue between private vendors, the city and the county to provide the same network capability off campus that is available on campus. This will make it easier for people to telecommute and hopefully spur greater economic activity through enhanced connectivity.

Ford said the first real tangible step will be Gig.U issuing a national request for information in September, inviting a dialogue among vendors, the university communities and the institutions themselves on services that could be provided.

Ford said UM already has been instrumental in building faster computer networks in Montana. In 2010 the University held a Northern Tier Network Consortium “Golden Spike Event” to celebrate the completion of a new 10-gigabit-per-second computer pathway across campus and the northern states between Chicago and Seattle.

Besides UM, the partners in Gig.U are Penn State, Arizona State University, Case Western Reserve University, Colorado State University, Duke University, George Mason University, Howard University, Indiana University, Michigan State University, North Carolina State University, University of Alaska, University of Chicago, University of Florida, University of Hawaii, University of Illinois, University of Kentucky, University of Louisville, University of Maryland, University of Michigan, University of Missouri, University of New Mexico, University of North Carolina, University of South Florida, University of Virginia, University of Washington, Virginia Tech, Wake Forest University and West Virginia University.

For more information on Gig.U visit <http://www.gig-u.org>.

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