November 2011 news releases

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MISSOULA –

Jakki Mohr has rehearsed her TEDx talk so many times now, she’s saying it in her sleep.

“There were a couple of nights where I was ostensibly sleeping, but I was actually giving my TED talk in my sleep,” said Mohr, a Regents Professor Marketing at The University of Montana. “This was still a month out, and I thought, ‘this is way too soon for this to be happening!’”

The dozens of hours spent fine-tuning will pay off when Mohr delivers her talk at the TEDxSanDiego event this Saturday, Dec. 3. “Unleashing the Promise of Biomimicry for Sustainable Innovation” will promote recent developments in biomimicry, which uses the designs and processes of nature to inspire solutions for human problems.

TED, which stands for Technology, Entertainment, Design, touts itself as a nonprofit organization devoted to “ideas worth spreading.” TED holds an annual conference that brings together inspired thinkers to give “the talk of their lives” in 18 minutes or less. Videos of the talks are posted to the popular TEDTalks website and attract millions of views worldwide. TEDx events, like the one Mohr will speak at in San Diego, allow independent organizers to provide TED-like experiences at a local level.

Mohr specializes in the marketing of high-tech products and is well-known at the University for her up-to-the-minute marketing classes. She developed an interest in biomimicry and how it can be applied to technology after hearing a lecture by Janine Benyus, a founder of Biomimicry 3.8 in Missoula and author of “Biomimicry: Innovation Inspired by Nature,” the 1997 book that jump started the biomimicry movement.

“It’s a transforming experience when you hear her speak,” Mohr said. “It’s like you put on a new pair of glasses and see the world completely differently.”

Mohr has used her autumn semester sabbatical to further delve into how biomimicry can be used to develop sustainable, problem-solving technologies. Examples she’ll give during her TEDx talk include a surface coating developed by Sharklet Technologies that resists bacteria by emulating the microbe-resistant properties of shark skin. It’s used in hospitals to combat antibiotic-resistant strains such as methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus, commonly known as MRSA.

Jack Abbot, curator of TedxSanDiego, contacted Mohr in August about giving a talk after reading about her work in biomimicry in Fast Company magazine. She’s worked intensively on polishing her talk since then, including coaching sessions via Skype that started in early October. She held a dress rehearsal for colleagues and close friends earlier this week to perfect the timing – her talk will last nine minutes exactly, no more, no less – and dissipate her nerves a bit before the big day.

“I’ve been excited all along, but clearly very nervous,” Mohr said. “The pressure feels enormous on such a public stage, but it’s a huge opportunity you really want to take advantage of.”

In addition to her talk, Mohr is looking forward to hobnobbing with fellow speakers at the conference, including actor Richard Dreyfuss, who will give the keynote address on his civic initiatives; Fernanda Gandara; a biotech and transformational technology specialist; marine biologist Mark Hixon; and east Africa field specialist Alexis Chavez.

She also flew to California a few days early to do some research for her sabbatical project ahead of the conference, as San Diego is trying to build a hub of biomimicry innovation.

Mohr is one of UM’s most popular professors and has received various accolades from the university to national levels during the past decade. These include UM’s Most Inspirational Teacher Award in 2002, the Carnegie Foundation’s Montana Professor of the Year Award in 2005, and Outstanding Marketing Teacher Award from the Academy of Marketing Science in 2008.

Before beginning her academic career, Mohr worked in Silicon Valley for Hewlett Packard and TeleVideo Systems. She has an extensive background in marketing high-technology products and services, and her book “Marketing of High-Technology Products and Innovations” is a standard text used in business schools at colleges and universities worldwide.

Mohr is slated to give her talk toward the end of the conference’s third session, scheduled for 2 to 4:30 p.m. MST. The session will stream live online at
UM Professor To Present Talk At TED Event In San Diego - UM News - The University Of Montana


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ALS

Western Montana, dailies

113011mohr

Contact: Jakki Mohr, UM Regents Professor of Marketing, 406-544-5837, jakki.mohr@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

In response to students’ interest in more dynamic learning spaces, The University of Montana has created a new Tech Lounge located in University Center Room 220.

A grand opening will be held at 4 p.m., Monday, Dec. 5. The event will include an introduction to the lounge technology and an ice cream social.

The Tech Lounge is open to UM students, faculty and staff, and users can access the technology by logging in with their NetID. It offers a comfortable, tech-friendly, collaborative learning and lounging environment. The lounge is open during regular UC hours: 6 a.m. to midnight Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to midnight Saturday and 9 a.m. to midnight Sunday.

Some Tech Lounge features include:

- Movable furnishings that can accommodate individuals or groups and chairs that are equipped with tablet arms for laptop or mobile device use.
- Convenient and accessible floor and wall electrical outlets.
- Movable whiteboards for collaborative study sessions.
- LCD monitors mounted in the lounge area and in two multimedia conference rooms for presentations or group study.
- Full-coverage wireless access points for Internet usage on demand.
- Internet access-only array of Netbooks mounted on an “email bar” that can be accessed with NetID authentication.
- Dedicated monitor to display digital art as an extension of the UC Gallery and UC art exhibits.
- Light fixtures made of natural bamboo and equipped with compact fluorescent lamps.
- An on-site IT student lab monitor to assist users.

The Tech Lounge is a collaborative project between the UC, the Student Computer Fee Committee, the Provost’s Office and the Information Technology Office.

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JS

Local

113011tech

Contact: Liz Roosa Millar, University Center director, 406-243-5638, liz.roosamillar@umontana.edu; Loey Knapp, UM chief information officer, 406-243-6309, loey.knapp@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

Almost every day, an old American bomb kills or maims a Laotian villager.

The Maureen and Mike Mansfield Center at The University of Montana will host a lecture and photographic essay about this tragedy titled “Eternal Harvest: The Legacy of American Bombs in Laos.”

The conversation will feature Karen Coates, T. Anthony Pollner Distinguished Professor at UM, and photojournalist Jerry Redfern. It will take place at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 6, in Todd Building Room 204. The event is free and open to the public.

Coates and Redfern are senior fellows at the Schuster Institute for Investigative Journalism at Brandeis University. For the past six years, they have documented the horrific aftermath of the U.S. bombings in Laos. The U.S. dumped 4 billion pounds of bombs on Laos between 1964 and 1973, the equivalent of one raid every eight minutes for nine years. Up to 30 percent of those munitions did not detonate at the time, and millions of explosives remain in the soil today. Since the end of the war, U.S. bombs have killed and injured more than 20,000 people in Laos. No one knows exactly how many explosives remain or where they are located.

The event is co-sponsored by the Mansfield Center, the UM School of Journalism, the World Affairs Council and the Jeannette Rankin Peace Center. For more information visit [http://www.umt.edu/mansfield](http://www.umt.edu/mansfield) or call 406-243-2988.

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DM/Js

Local

112911laos

**Contact:** Deena Mansour, UM Maureen and Mike Mansfield Center, 406-243-2988, [deena.mansour@umontana.edu](mailto:deena.mansour@umontana.edu)
MISSOULA –

Gus Chambers, a television producer at The University of Montana’s Broadcast Media Center and MontanaPBS, received a Programming Excellence Award from American Public Television for his documentary “Glacier Park’s Night of the Grizzlies.”

The film, co-produced with writer Paul Zalis, chronicles the harrowing night in 1967 when two young Glacier Park employees were killed in Grizzly bear attacks while hiking with friends in the park. The film juxtaposes the stories of the two women with the status of the Grizzly as an iconic representation of untamed wilderness.

The APT-distributed program was carried by nearly two-thirds of all public television stations. The award recognizes programs and series that have excelled in public television schedules nationwide. The annual award is given to programs and series that provide extraordinary content, above-average ratings and carriage, and demonstrate general production excellence.

APT released a statement saying, “APT is very pleased to present ‘Glacier Park’s Night of the Grizzlies’ to the public television system. This gripping, dramatic, well-made film was one of our most highly carried documentaries of the year. We congratulate MontanaPBS and producers Gus Chambers and Paul Zalis on their fine work and on receiving American Public Television’s Programming Excellence Award. Well deserved!”

The program was the highest-rated local program in the history of MontanaPBS when it premiered in May 2010.

Chambers also produces the popular MontanaPBS series “Backroads of Montana” and currently is working on a new documentary that follows six young Montana high school students through a year of 4-H activities.

For more information on “Glacier Park’s Night of the Grizzlies” go to http://www.montanapbs.org/GlacierParksNightoftheGrizzlies/.

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Contact: Gus Chambers, producer, MontanaPBS, 406-243-4093, gus.chambers@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

The University of Montana’s Women’s Resource Center, in partnership with the Missoula Women for Peace, will host a local event to observe 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence, an annual worldwide campaign that raises awareness about violence against women.

The Missoula event will begin at 6 p.m. Friday, Dec. 2, on the north side of the Higgins Bridge. Participants will light candles, walk north on Higgins Avenue in solidarity and will periodically blow whistles to echo metaphorical whistleblowing, which has drawn attention to the dangers of militarism and war culture that perpetuates violence against women. Organizers encourage participants to wear black, red or pink and to bring whistles, candles and glass jars. Some candles and whistles will be provided.

The campaign began Nov. 25, International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, and will end on International Human Rights Day, Dec. 10. This year’s campaign theme spotlights militarism and its role in perpetuating violence against women and girls.

The Women’s Resource Center, Missoula Women for Peace and Freedom and Community Action for Justice in the Americas, Africa and Asia are sponsoring the event.

More information is available online at [http://www.umt.edu/wcenter](http://www.umt.edu/wcenter) and [http://www.wilpf.org](http://www.wilpf.org).

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Contact: Rita Jankowska-Bradley, program coordinator, Missoula Women for Peace-WILPF, 406-544-9026; justpeace4all@yahoo.com; Emilie Loran, outreach coordinator, UM Women’s Resource Center, 406-243-4153, umt.wrc@gmail.com.
MISSOULA –

Using a 16- to 18-ounce flounder as their guide, two University of Montana Dining Services chefs will face off this week for a chance to compete in a regional competition.

From 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 30, UDS Executive Chef Patrick Browne and Executive Sous Chef Jeffrey Wilson will compete for a spot at the National Association of College and University Food Services Continental Regional Conference, which will be held in Grand Forks, N.D., in February. Wednesday’s competition will be held in the University Center Commons and is free and open to the public.

The competition requires Browne and Wilson to prepare four portions of an original hot entree featuring the mandatory ingredient of flounder, as well as side dishes and sauces, to create a balanced plate. They will have 15 minutes to set up, an hour to cook, five minutes to present their dishes and 15 minutes to clean up.

UM College of Technology culinary arts students also will compete from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 1, in the UC Commons. Five students will face off for a chance to showcase their skills at the American Culinary Federation’s Culinary Challenge in Reno, Nev., in March. A panel of three certified executive chefs from the COT’s Culinary Arts Program will judge the competition.

“This is a great opportunity for guests to see what contemporary chefs are producing, as well as glimpse into the upcoming talent coming from the COT’s Culinary Arts Program,” Browne said.

Contact: Jerry O’Malley, University Dining Services marketing director, 406-243-6433, jerry.omalley@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA –

Through a recently formed partnership, anyone with an Internet connection can now access hundreds of courses offered by The University of Montana’s College of Technology.

The COT has partnered with ed2go, which offers online courses through a network of more than 1,800 colleges and universities, to provide hundreds of high-quality, noncredit courses on subjects ranging from Microsoft basics and webpage creation to the fundamentals of accounting and grant writing.

Participants will gain knowledge at their convenience through the online lessons, expert instruction and interaction with fellow students. The courses can be accessed 24 hours a day, allowing participants to study at their own pace. Each course includes comprehensive lessons, quizzes, assignments and a discussion forum.

New sessions of each six-week course start monthly, with two lessons released each week. Dedicated instructors teach every course to pace learners, answer questions, give feedback and facilitate discussions.

Complete course information is available online at http://www.ed2go.com/cot/.

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NOTE TO RADIO MEDIA: A produced radio spot advertising the courses is free and available online at http://ed2golive.com/marketingsupport/media/radio%20spots/etg002.mp3. The COT requests that stations broadcast the website, http://www.ed2go.com/cot, and phone number, 406-243-7812, at the end of the spot.

MO/als

Western Montana

112911crse

Contact: Mary Opitz, UM College of Technology program coordinator, 406-243-7812, mary.opitz@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

The Bitterroot College Program of The University of Montana will host a gala event from 4-7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 9, to celebrate its recent expansion.

The open house is free and open to the public. It will take place at 274 Old Corvallis Road in Hamilton. From 4 to 5 p.m. guests will have the opportunity to visit with UM Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs Perry Brown and John Cech, Montana deputy commissioner for two-year and community college education.

Attendees can also meet with BCP faculty, staff and students, tour the facility and enjoy holiday food and drink. The event will also feature a tree of wishes where supporters can help fund future growth of the program.

The Bitterroot College Program provides responsive and sustainable adult and higher education opportunities to Ravalli County residents. BCP currently offers more than 30 UM courses in the Hamilton area. For more information, visit http://www.umt.edu/bcp or call 406-375-0100.

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JS

Western Montana

112811bitt

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

Author Deirdre McNamer could have spent last summer writing and relaxing, if she hadn’t accepted an invitation to read and judge the 315 novels entered in the 2011 National Book Awards.

“At one point, I was receiving 10 or 15 books each day,” said McNamer, a professor in the Creative Writing Program at The University of Montana.

As the chair of the fiction committee for the 2011 awards, McNamer was charged with sorting out the logistics of how the five-person committee would sift through the 300-plus entries.

“I wanted to make sure every book got a good look by at least two or three panel members, and we started a running tally of our favorites,” she said. “As we got toward the 30 and 20 mark, we all gravitated toward many of the same books.”

One selection in particular, “Salvage the Bones,” by Jesmyn Ward, had an eloquence and power that the panel just couldn’t forget, and McNamer had the honor of announcing it as the 2011 fiction winner at the National Book Awards Ceremony, held Nov. 16 in New York City.

McNamer said the committee met for lunch earlier that day to decide on a winner, and Ward’s haunting novel, which tells the story of an African-American family in Mississippi banding together in the days leading up to Hurricane Katrina, resonated the most.

“We didn’t have lengthy analytical discussion about the books in the narrowing field, though we each, of course, tried to articulate what struck us most forcefully about our favorites of the moment,” McNamer said during her presentation. “The discussions tended to revolve around what we felt about them, what responses they produced in us: admiration, exhilaration, transportation, that sense of amplified alertness that the very best fiction produces.”

McNamer, who has taught creative writing at UM since 1995, is quite the accomplished author herself. Her most recent novel, “Red Rover,” was named a best book of 2007 by Arthor International Magazine, The Washington Post, Los Angeles Times, Bloomberg News and Rocky Mountain News. She has published a total of four novels, and her essays and short stories have appeared in publications such as The New Yorker and Ploughshares, among others.

As former National Book Award finalists and judges nominate panelists each year, McNamer’s selection to chair this year’s committee offers evidence of her literary reputation.

“It was a huge honor to be chosen for this panel,” she said. “And it was heartening beyond words to read the many fine books that came our way. Eloquent, moving fiction is alive and well in this country, I can happily report.”

Established in 1950, the National Book Award is an American literary prize given to writers by writers and administered by the nonprofit National Book Foundation. The foundation selects 20 judges each year, five in each of the four award categories: fiction, nonfiction, poetry and young people’s literature. Judges are published writers who are known to be doing great work in their genre or field, and in some cases, are past award finalists or winners.

Video from the 2011 ceremony, including McNamer’s presentation, is available online at http://www.nationalbook.org.

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ALS

Western Montana

112311book
Contact: Deirdre McNamer, professor, UM Creative Writing Program, 406-243-6975, deirdre.mcnamer@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA –

William Robinson, an internationally acclaimed expert on the effects of globalization in Latin America, will deliver the next installment of the President’s Lecture Series at The University of Montana.

Robinson will present “Global Crisis: Immigration, Drug Trafficking and Financial Meltdown” at 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 1, in the University Center Ballroom. A prize-winning author of several books on the economic, social and political problems caused by globalization in Latin America, Robinson will discuss the latest developments in this crisis-ridden part of the Western Hemisphere.

Robinson also will give a seminar, “Latin America and the Global Capitalist System,” from 3:40 to 5 p.m. that day in Gallagher Business Building Room 123. The seminar is held in conjunction with the UM Philosophy Forum, and both events are free and open to the public.

Currently a professor of sociology, global studies and Latin American and Iberian studies at the University of California, Santa Barbara, Robinson worked as a journalist in Washington, D.C., and Central America before embarking on his academic career. After earning a doctorate in sociology at the University of New Mexico in 1994, he taught at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, and New Mexico State University before arriving at UCSB in 2001.

As a scholar-activist, Robinson links his academic work to struggles around the world for social justice, popular empowerment, participatory democracy and people-centered development. He has published six books, including his most recent, “Latin America and Global Capitalism: A Critical Globalization Perspective,” which received the 2009 British International Studies Association’s International Political Economy Group Book Prize.

More information on the President’s Lecture Series is available online at http://umt.edu/president/events/lectures.

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ALS

Western Montana

112311rbns

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

Gyasi Ross, author of “Don’t Know Much About Indians (but i wrote a book about us anyways)” will speak at The University of Montana from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 29, in The Payne Family Native American Center’s Bonnie HeavyRunner Gathering Place.

Ross provides a fresh, new voice among Indian writers, and his debut collection of stories and poems describes the lives of contemporary Natives. The unique characters in his 18 stories and poems are "regular Indians" – people who have day jobs, college students, insecure folks and kids in love – who defy stereotypes and are as diverse as the rest of America.

Ross is a member of the Blackfeet Tribe and his family also comes from the Suquamish Tribe. In addition to being an author, he is a father, an entrepreneur and an attorney. He is a Columbia Law School graduate and currently practices law representing tribes for the Crowell Law Office Tribal Advocacy Group. Ross also is co-owner and vice president of Red Vinyl Records and a frequent contributor to Indian Country Today Media Network. He also has contributed to The Seattle Times and the Huffington Post.

For more information about Ross and his book visit, http://www.dkmai.com. For more information about the lecture, call Fredricka Hunter, director of UM’s American Indian Student Services, at 406-243-6352 or email fredricka.hunter@mso.umt.edu.

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Contact: Fredricka Hunter, director, UM American Indian Student Services, 406-243-6352, fredricka.hunter@mso.umt.edu.
UM Graduate Receives Prestigious Award To Study In Ireland - UM News - The University Of Montana

MISSOULA –

University of Montana graduate Ashleen Williams has been named the University’s first Mitchell Scholar.

Selected from more than 300 applicants, Williams is one of 12 students who will pursue postgraduate studies at universities across Ireland and Northern Ireland during the 2012-13 academic year. Williams, who currently is a U.S. Fulbright English teaching assistant in Bahrain, will study peace and conflict studies at the University of Ulster in Northern Ireland.

Originally from Snohomish, Wash., Williams graduated from UM in 2011 as a University Scholar with a degree in political science. She served as president of the Associated Students of UM during her senior year. Williams also was an active member of the UM and Missoula communities, serving as a conversation partner to students from the Middle East and as an advocate to the Montana Muslim community.

“I nominated Williams for the Outstanding Leadership Award in fall 2009 and encouraged her to apply for the Mitchell Scholarship this year because she is a fearless and dedicated leader on issues that matter,” said Laure Pengelly Drake, UM director of external scholarships and advising. “She will be a force to be reckoned with in the field of ethnic conflict resolution, her area of study for the Mitchell Scholarship.”

The Mitchell Scholar program was established in 2001 and seeks leaders to effectively develop U.S.-Irish connections. Each year 12 scholars are chosen on the basis of academic achievement, service and leadership. Trina Vargo, former foreign policy adviser to Sen. Ted Kennedy, established the program and named it in honor of Sen. George J. Mitchell, who chaired the Northern Ireland peace talks.

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ALS

Western Montana, hometown (The Snohomish Times)

112211mchl

Contact: Laure Pengelly Drake, UM director of external scholarships and advising, 406-243-6140, laure.pengellydrake@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

A 19-year-old University of Montana student stands accused of fabricating master keys and possessing lock picks that opened doors in Pantzer Hall. UM is taking several steps in response to this incident.

First, the fabricated keys and tools have been turned over to campus authorities. The student, now facing a felony charge of criminal mischief, contends all the offending materials have been recovered. UM officials said the University also has enforced its Student Code of Conduct to address the issue.

Second, personnel with Facility Services are plugging the external key locks at Pantzer Hall. Students may still gain access with their Griz cards. The Residence Life Office is reviewing options for lock changes on exterior doors of all residence halls.

In addition, campus administrators are considering additional security measures, such as expanding electronic locks to all residence halls.

Finally, in the aftermath of this incident, Director of Residence Life Sandy Schoonover invites all UM students to be vigilant in their own security. Report any information on similar fabricated, stolen or lost keys and don’t allow people you don’t know to enter the residence halls. Report any concerns to the Office of Public Safety or a Residence Life staff member.

“Working together, we can make sure that student safety is our No. 1 priority,” she said.

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CBS

Local

112211lock

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

The University of Montana School of Art will present “Seeing Red Feeling Yellow,” a Masters of Fine Arts thesis exhibition by Randi O’Brien, in the Gallery of Visual Arts from Thursday, Dec. 1, through Friday, Dec. 16. An opening reception will be held from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 1. The exhibition and opening are free and open to the public.

The gallery is located on the first floor of the Social Science Building and is open from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursdays and by appointment only on Mondays.

Highlighting the revived medium of fables, O’Brien conjures characters that reflect upon their circumstance, in search of a moral to their story. The exhibition pairs unassuming figurative ceramic forms with a complex and timeless bestiary. The sculptures’ universal, even sincere subjects, along with their intimate scale, seductive colors and rough distorted surfaces, seem lovely and yet suggest dark potential. The exhibit will feature more than 15 of O’Brien’s newest sculptural works.

For more information call gallery Director Cathryn Mallory at 406-243-2813 or email gallery.visarts@umontana.edu. Information about the School of Art is online at http://www.umt.edu/art.

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CM/all

Local, campus

111811mfat

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

A new study co-written by a University of Montana researcher may provide unique clues on the impact river soundscapes have on biodiversity.

The study, published in the most recent edition of the journal Limnology and Oceanography, examined the soundscapes of five rivers in North America and Europe, including the Middle and North forks of the Flathead River. The more complex rivers – those that had experienced the least human impact – tended to have more complex soundscapes.

Mark Lorang, an associate research professor at UM’s Flathead Lake Biological Station, and his co-authors say these underwater acoustic signals act as important information sources that allow aquatic organisms to adapt and survive in their environments. The fewer acoustic clues, the less likely an organism is to find suitable habitat niches, which can affect a river’s biodiversity over time.

The study represents a mostly unexplored avenue in river science. Lorang said he was actually skeptical when his colleague, Professor Klement Tockner, suggested recording river soundscapes.

"I started off thinking that everywhere underwater would sound the same, like white noise or static, and I was wrong," Lorang said. "That is how science works and moves forward. In this case, a huge door has opened in regards to rivers and river ecology."

Lead author Diego Tonolla, a doctoral student Lorang and Tockner advised, first used a hydrophone to document sounds in a flume to determine how to record sounds created by the flow of a river. The team then started out in the field by recording soundscapes in specific aquatic habitats, such as riffles and pools. This led to the idea of floating down 5- to 30-kilometer stretches of rivers to record soundscapes at different discharge ranges, from low-flow to flood conditions.

Lorang said future research will focus on exactly how organisms use soundscape information to react to their environments and how sound could be used to evaluate the effectiveness of river restoration efforts.

For example, Lorang said, it could help in understanding what river habitats sound like before and after restoration efforts and what contributes to those sounds, such as sediment being transported down a river. The research could help engineers and river ecologists examine the impact of turbines placed on bridge piers and across river beds, how the sound they generate could be minimized and how it could be used to direct fish away from harm.

The complete study is online at http://www.aslo.org/lo/pdf/vol_56/issue_6/2319.pdf.

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PHOTO CAPTION: Diego Tonolla, the study’s lead author, records the sound of a riffle on a river in Italy.

ALS

Western Montana

111811snds

Contact: Mark Lorang, research associate professor, UM Flathead Lake Biological Station, 406-982-3301, mark.lorang@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

More than 350 high school students from 18 Montana and Idaho schools will attend the Montana Model United Nations Conference Monday and Tuesday, Nov. 21-22, at The University of Montana.

At the conference, the high school students will represent 92 of the United Nations’ 192 member states, debating and writing resolutions addressing important international issues.

Students will participate on one of five UN committees: the Security Council, General Assembly Plenary, General Assembly First Committee (security issues), General Assembly Second Committee (economic and financial) and General Assembly Third Committee (social, cultural and humanitarian).

Each committee is staffed by a team of students in Associate Professor Karen Adams’ Model United Nations class, a service-learning course offered by the Department of Political Science. Last March, a 12-member team from UM attended the weeklong National Model United Nations collegiate conference in New York.

Events begin at 8:30 a.m. Monday, Nov. 21, with opening ceremonies in the University Theatre. The keynote address will be delivered by Katie Kane, UM professor of cultural studies, English literature and colonial studies. All events are free and open to the public.

Students then will move to the third floor of the University Center, where they will meet in their committees from late Monday morning through Tuesday afternoon. A list of topics each committee will consider is posted online at http://www.cas.umt.edu/munHSconference/topicGuides.cfm.

On Monday afternoon, each committee will hear from a faculty guest speaker. From 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Monday evening, country teams will meet with other high school groups from their regions to find out about politics, economics, history and culture of the region during Region Night. There will be trivia questions, presentations by UM international students from the region and discussion with MMUN staff who have studied and traveled in the region. An ice cream social will follow.

At closing ceremonies, held in the University Theatre from 4 to 5 p.m. Tuesday, Secretaries General Stephen Carnes and Robert Cahill will announce awards for delegates, schools and conference staff. Ten high school seniors will be awarded scholarships to attend UM.

The Montana Model United Nations Conference is funded by school and delegate fees, as well as contributions from UM’s Office of the President, Office of the Provost, Division of Student Affairs, College of Arts and Sciences and Department of Political Science.

For more information visit MMUN online at http://www.cas.umt.edu/mun or call 406-214-5451.

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CM/als

Western Montana

111811mmun

Contact: Karen Adams, associate professor, UM Department of Political Science, 406-214-5451, karen.adams@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

University of Montana Professor Richard Bridges joined an elite group Friday, Nov. 18, when the state Board of Regents unanimously voted to name him Regents Professor of Pharmacology and Toxicology.

Regents Professor is the top rank awarded to faculty members in the Montana University System. Bridges is only the ninth UM professor to earn the title since the policy of naming Regents Professors started in 1991.

“This is really a tremendous honor considering not only the many accomplishments of the other Regents Professors, but also all the high-quality faculty in our programs and centers who I have the pleasure of working with every day,” Bridges said. “What means the most to me is that this appointment recognizes that teaching and research are essentially inseparable and that the two must be increasingly combined to properly prepare our students to compete and succeed.”

Regents Professors must demonstrate unusual excellence in instruction, scholarship and service, as well as distinctive impact through their work. The rank is awarded by the Board of Regents upon the recommendation of the University president.

“Professor Bridges joins the ranks of individuals who exemplify the spirit of the faculty at UM,” President Royce C. Engstrom said. “We are proud to recognize him not just for his outstanding accomplishments, but his distinction as a University citizen.”

Bridges has chaired UM’s Department of Biomedical and Pharmaceutical Sciences since 2008. That department is part of the Skaggs School of Pharmacy in UM’s College of Health Professions and Biomedical Sciences.

“Professor Bridges really deserves this honor because he is an outstanding researcher,” said Dave Forbes, dean of the college. “He also uses his excellent problem-solving skills to deftly communicate complex biomedical concepts to the school’s health professional students using innovative computer technology.”

Bridges completed his undergraduate work in biochemistry at the University of California, Davis, and received his doctorate in biochemistry from Cornell Medical College in 1984. Following postdoctoral and faculty positions at the University of California, Irvine, he joined UM as an associate professor in 1993. He was promoted to full professor in 1998.

Bridges founded and for eight years directed UM’s Center for Structural and Functional Neuroscience, which is a National Institutes of Health Center for Biomedical Research Excellence. He now chairs the Montana Neuroscience Institute and was a founding member of the Montana BioScience Alliance and the Montana Neuroscience Institute.

Research in the Bridges group focuses on the neurochemistry of membrane transport proteins that regulate the movement of the signaling molecules into and out of cells within the nervous system.

Using chemically synthesized drugs, Bridges and his associates probe the pharmacological specificity and physiological roles of these transporters in the brain and spinal cord. Emerging evidence suggests that these systems, as well as the novel drugs that regulate their activities, are relevant to a wide variety of central nervous system diseases and insults, including Lou Gehrig’s disease, traumatic injury, stroke, Alzheimer’s disease, brain tumors, viral infection and drug addiction.

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Contact: Richard Bridges, professor, Department of Biomedical and Pharmaceutical Sciences, UM College of Health Professions and Biomedical Sciences, 406-243-4972, richard.bridges@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA —

The works of two of the state's most prominent early 20th century artists will be on display at the Montana Museum of Art & Culture at The University of Montana starting Friday, Dec. 2.

The major exhibitions feature the work of Fra Dana and Frances Carroll Brown, two significant females who played a compelling role in Montana art history. The exhibitions, "Fra Dana: American Impressionist in the Rockies" and "Frances Carroll Brown: Bitterroot Portraits," will reveal new research recently uncovered on each artist.

MMAC will host an opening reception for the exhibitions from 4 to 6 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 2, in the Performing Arts and Radio/Television Center lobby. The museum's Meloy Gallery will feature the Dana exhibition, and the Brown exhibition will be located in the Paxson Gallery. Both exhibitions are free and open to the public and will run through Feb. 25, 2012.

"Fra Dana: American Impressionist in the Rockies" will present Dana's work alongside works by artists she collected, including Alfred Maurer, William Merritt Chase and Joseph Henry Sharp.

Dana, a cattle rancher who lived near Great Falls, was one of the leading artists of the Rocky Mountain northwest. Born in Terre Haute, Ind., in 1874, Dana studied art at the Cincinnati Art Academy, the Art Institute of Chicago and the New York School of Art. In 1893, she moved with her family to Wyoming, where she met her future husband, Edwin L. Dana. The two married in 1896 and worked together to develop in Montana and Wyoming what would become America's largest purebred Hereford operation by 1918. Her desire to study and create art often conflicted with her obligation as a ranch wife.

Dana's bequest to the MMAC Permanent Collection in 1948 included her own artworks, as well as those by some of history's most accomplished artists. The Dana Collection is central to the richness of the MMAC Permanent Collection and integral to the development of American art.

The exhibition coincides with the release of the first-ever full biography of Dana. "Fra Dana: American Impressionist in the Rockies," co-written by Montana State University–Billings English Professor Sue Hart and University of Montana art history and criticism Associate Professor Valerie Hedquist, will be available in mid-December and can be ordered in advance through MMAC.

Brown was the granddaughter of Montana copper baron Marcus Daly, but despite the prominence of her family name, has never been the subject of art historical inquiry or a biographical compilation.

"To discover a hitherto little-known artist of the aesthetic caliber of Frances Carroll Brown with direct ties to Missoula and the Bitterroot is enormously exciting," said MMAC Director Barbara Koostra. "Preserving the history of art in Montana through works such as these is central to our mission."

Brown's paintings were recently cleaned and conserved and her drawings were reframed and stabilized using archival materials, thanks to a generous grant from the F. Morris and Helen Silver Foundation.

MMAC's fall hours are noon to 3 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturday and noon to 6 p.m. Thursday and Friday. For more information call 406-243-2019 or go online to http://www.umt.edu/montanamuseum.

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

BK/als

Western Montana
Contact: Brandon Reintjes, curator of art, Montana Museum of Art and Culture, 406-243-2019, brandon.reintjes@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA –

The University of Montana invites local researchers, entrepreneurs and business owners to a presentation on how to navigate provisions of a recently enacted federal patent law.

The presentation, “Understanding the Impact of the 2011 America Invents Act,” will take place from 3 to 5 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 30, at the Montana Technology Enterprise Center, located at 1121 E. Broadway St. in Missoula. It will feature the expertise of Tim Worrall and Jennifer Lane, patent attorneys from the global law firm Dorsey & Whitney.

Worrall and Lane will discuss intellectual property and the legislation’s impact on businesses and higher-education research programs. Participants also will learn about the “first-inventor-to-file” system, how to use intellectual property as a strategic advantage and what steps must be taken to protect intellectual property and patents.

The presentation is free and open to the public, but seating is limited and attendees are asked to RSVP to debra.evans@mso.umt.edu by Tuesday, Nov. 29. UM’s Office of Technology Transfer and the Missoula Economic Partnership are sponsoring the event.

Passed by Congress in September, the America Invents Act represents the most significant change to the nation’s patent law in nearly 60 years. It is designed to shorten the average wait time for patent approval, reduce the current patent backlog, curb litigation, increase patent quality and help American inventors protect their intellectual property abroad.

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JF/als

Western Montana

111611invt

Contact: Joe Fanguy, director, UM Office of Technology Transfer, 406-243-2148, joe.fanguy@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

A graduate student at The University of Montana recently won a national award for an interactive campus map he created.

Erik Samsoe took first place in the interactive category of the North American Cartographic Information Society’s 13th annual Student Dynamic Map Competition. The award included $500 in prize money. Samsoe’s map also is displayed on the society’s website.

Samsoe worked with UM’s Information Technology department to use existing data and Google Maps technology to create a next-generation map. The final version of the map is still in development, and others can contribute information by visiting http://beta.umt.edu/map/.

The map includes the location of art galleries, parking lots, bus stops and dining options, as well as accessibility information such as curb cuts, snow routes and automatic door locations.

Once the interactive map is completed, it will appear on the UM home page.

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JS

Local, campus

111511cmap

Contact: Erik Samsoe, UM graduate student, esamsoe@gmail.com.
MISSOULA –

Raffle tickets will go on sale for a student-built home in Missoula on Wednesday, Nov. 16. Tickets cost $100, and 4,000 are available for the drawing to be held in fall 2012.

The home is being built by participants of the Building Futures Program, a community partnership bringing together the Missoula Building Industry Association, The University of Montana College of Technology and the Flagship Program to teach area students the construction profession.

The custom home, located at 4860 Jeff Drive, is valued at $300,000. The single-level home will have three bedrooms and two full bathrooms within 1,558 square feet. There will be a spacious foyer, a living room with vaulted ceilings and a large kitchen with a cook-top island. The home is scheduled for completion this spring.

Raffle tickets can be purchased at the following locations: the Missoula Building Industry Association; Rosauers; Pattee Creek Market; Orange Street Food Farm; First Security Bank; Junkermier, Clark, Campanella and Stevens; College of Technology East Campus; Caras Property Management Company; Culligan Water; the Missoulian and Karl Tyler Chevrolet.

Purchasers must be 18 or older, and prize winners must be Montana residents. The drawing will be conducted by the accounting firm Junkermier, Clark, Campanella and Stevens. Ticket purchasers need not be present to win.

Students in the COT Carpentry Program and the high school Flagship Program are building the home and receiving supervision and guidance from Kim Zupan, David Neu, and Scott Gratsky of the COT Carpentry Program, Mike Nichols of Tamarack Construction, Jim Schafer of Straightedge Construction and Wade Hoyt of Hoyt Homes, Inc. Proceeds from the raffle will fund future projects and scholarships to eligible students who were involved.

For more information, call 406-543-4423 or go online to https://www.facebook.com/Missoulastudentbuilthouse or http://www.buildmissoula.com/whymbia/about-mbia/building-futures.

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LS/all
Western Montana
111011hous

Contact: Lynn Stocking, associate dean, UM College of Technology, 406-243-7801, lynn.stocking@umontana.edu; Michelle Felde, chair, MBIA Building Futures Committee, 406-523-4479.
MISSOULA –

The Grizzly Scholarship Association’s State Board of Directors voted unanimously at its recent meeting to commit $500,000 in matching funds to the athletic facility improvement project at The University of Montana.

"Beginning now and continuing through the annual spring football game in mid-April, the GSA is asking Griz fans everywhere to commit to this project," said Mike Persha, president of the board. "The GSA will match all new donations to the much-needed facility improvements up to $500,000.

"It is time to step up and send a message to our wonderful student-athletes," Persha said. "The facilities they spend the bulk of their time in need to be improved. While this commitment does not complete this project by any means, it keeps the momentum going."

The athletic facility improvement plan calls for the construction of a new student-athlete academic center, renovation of the weight room and locker room, and the installation of lights at Washington-Grizzly Stadium. A fundraising goal of $6 million has been set, with nearly $2 million already collected and pledged.

At the May 2011 meeting of the Montana Board of Regents, UM was granted approval to hire a master plan architect. A&E Architects was awarded that bid with a timeline that calls for the plan to be complete by the end of this year.

"The commitment made by the GSA State Board of Directors sends a clear message that Griz fans are firmly behind this project," UM Director of Athletics Jim O’Day said. "Through the leadership of President Royce Engstrom, improving these infrastructure facilities has been identified as a top priority."

"These improvements directly impact student-athlete welfare and will provide the best tools possible for UM student-athletes to succeed in their competitions and academics," Engstrom said. "I am grateful the GSA would recognize this as a need and commit their energies to making this happen."

Supporters may commit one-time contributions to the project or pledge their support over a five-year period. All donations are fully tax-deductible and managed by the UM Foundation.

"In addition, the board decided to hold the 2012 spring football game at Washington-Grizzly Stadium, with the goal of attracting as many fans as possible," Persha said. "We will also direct proceeds from the game to the facility improvements as well."

The annual spring football game is typically held at various locations around the state and sponsored by GSA, a nonprofit fundraising organization with a primary focus on funding student-athlete scholarships at UM. The group also has a mission to provide private financial support to the UM athletic department.

To contribute to the project call Kent Haslam, associate athletic director for development, at 406-243-6294 or Greg Sundberg, assistant athletic director and GSA executive director, at 406-243-4509. Fans also may contribute by clicking the “Donate Now” link on the athletic department website at http://www.gogriz.com.

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GS/cbs

State

111511griz

Contact: Greg Sundberg, executive director, Grizzly Scholarship Association, 406-243-4509, sundbergg@mso.umt.edu; Kent Haslam, associate athletic director for development, 406-243-6294, kent.haslam@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA –

The University of Montana will host the 2011 Holiday Art Fair Thursday through Saturday, Dec. 1-3, in the University Center. The hours for the fair are 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday and Friday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday.

The art fair will feature unique hand-crafted art from local and regional artists, as well as live music and door prizes.

The event is free and open to the public. For more information call Gerre Maillet at 406-243-5622 or visit http://www.umt.edu/uc/artfairs.

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GL/ab

Western Montana

110911shop

Contact: Gwen Landquist, UC marketing and art program manager, 406-243-5555, gwen.landquist@mso.umt.edu; Gerre Maillet, art fair coordinator, 406-243-5622, ucartfair.student@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA –

Art lovers can view student work and purchase holiday gifts at the 26th Annual Holiday Juried Show and Sale Dec. 8-10 at The University of Montana.

Filled with works by UM School of Art students and faculty, events will be held in the Art Annex adjacent to the Grizzly Pool and the Adams Center. An opening celebration with live music will be held from 4 to 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 8, with an awards ceremony at 5 p.m. The sale will continue from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 9, and from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 10.

This two-part event is sponsored by UM Emerging Ceramic Artists, a student group formerly known as Starving Sculpture and Ceramic Students.

The exhibition will be co-juried for entry and awards and will feature UM graduate and undergraduate student work in 3-D areas, ceramics, sculpture and foundations. Jurors will be David Smith, professor of ceramics at Flathead Valley Community College, and visual artist Wes Mills, whose work has been featured in contemporary art venues worldwide.

The sale will offer pottery and sculpture and take place in the Art Annex Ceramics Studio. This year UMECA has invited selected alumni from the community to participate and support the group’s goals. Sale proceeds will be used for student projects such as scholarships, visiting artists and wood for the Anagama kiln firing.

This year the students have a significant goal: to attend the National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts conference in Seattle, where UM will be represented in two featured exhibitions.

For more information call art Professor Beth Lo at 406-243-6476 or the UM School of Art at 406-243-4181.

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BL/cbs

Western Montana

111411show

Contact: Beth Lo, UM art professor, 406-243-6476, elizabeth.lo@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

The University of Montana will hold events Monday through Friday, Nov. 14-18, to celebrate International Education Week. All events are free and open to the public.

The opening ceremony is at noon Monday, Nov. 14, in the University Center Atrium. Speakers include Associate Provost for International Programs Mehrdad Kia, Director of Foreign Student and Scholar Services Effie Koehn and International Student Association President Grecia Pacheco. Cultural performances by Chutzpah and the Rocky Mountain Ballet Theatre will be held before and after the address.

UM’s Director of Study Abroad Marja Unkuri-Chaudhry will lead an information session about study abroad opportunities for UM students at 4 p.m. in UC Room 326. A study abroad information table will be available throughout the week from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the UC.

The first day will conclude with a presentation at 7 p.m. in the UC Theater by Barbara Petzen, educational director of the Middle East Policy Council and president of the Middle East Outreach Council. Her lecture is titled “Making Sense: Untangling Americans’ Fears and Misconceptions of the Middle East and Islam.”

Other scheduled events include:

Tuesday, Nov. 15

- Noon, UC Room 330: Peace Corps information session. UM Peace Corps representative Dana Foster will talk about the benefits of joining the Peace Corps.
- 1 p.m., UC Room 330: Scholarships abroad information session. Director of Study Abroad Marja Unkuri-Chaudhry will provide information on scholarship opportunities for UM students interested in studying abroad. Also, recipients of scholarships will share insight on the application process.
- 3:30 p.m., UC Room 330: “Creating a Learning Environment for the Global Century – Fostering International Education by Improving Cross-Cultural Awareness and Communication for UM Students.” International and Global Studies Associate Director Udo Fluck will present on comparative intercultural research used to improve communication and collaboration among individuals of different ethnic backgrounds. This helps to cultivate cross-cultural mindfulness and aid people in developing important competencies necessary to be effective in the global work force and community.
- 7 p.m., Masquer Theatre, Performing Arts and Radio/Television Center: “The Tragedy of Bataan.” A film and lecture by Jan Thompson, Southern Illinois University-Carbondale associate professor and president of the Descendants Group Auxiliary of the American Defenders of Bataan and Corregidor. The film is narrated by Alec Baldwin.

Wednesday, Nov. 16

- Noon, UC Room 332: “Open Distance Learning Mode of Teaching and Learning at the Open University of Tanzania.” A presentation by Irene Tarimo, visiting scholar, Open University of Tanzania.
- 3:30 p.m., Lommasson Center Room 154: “The World is Your Job Site: Work Abroad.” Learn about how to travel abroad without dipping into college funds. Also, a look at teaching abroad and starting an international career.

Thursday, Nov. 17

- Noon, UC Room 336: Internship opportunities abroad information session. Kevin Hood, UM internship coordinator, will talk about internship possibilities and the IE3 Global Internship Program.
- 3:30 p.m., UC Room 326: “A Strategic Approach to Maximize International Education at The University of Montana.” A presentation by UM International Programs Development Officer Peter Baker.
- 7 p.m., UC Theater: “Schooling the World: The White Man’s Last Burden.” Part of the Peace and Justice Film Series.

Friday, Nov. 18

- Noon, Law Building Room 101: “Regulating Greenhouse Gases: Where We Stand and Where We’re Heading.” A presentation by Michael Gerrard, Columbia Law
School.

- **1 p.m., UC Room 326:** "Traditional Marriage in Western and Eastern Africa." A presentation by African Student Association members Priscilla Lekakuli, Diana Anyango, Suzette Moseri, Udodirim Onwubiko, Noela Kinda, Rita Somda and Guedum Dara N’jekoronom.

For more information call Brian Lofink, UM International Programs, at 406-243-2299 or email brian.lofink@mso.umt.edu.

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JH

111011iedw

Western Montana

**Contact:** Brian Lofink, UM International Programs, 406-243-2299, brian.lofink@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA —

Montana Public Radio recently launched its annual “Go Public” campaign with the goal of raising $230,000 to fund its operating budget by the end of the year while helping area food banks keep their shelves stocked for the busy holiday season.

MTPR will host an on-air fundraising drive from 6 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 16, through 8 p.m. Friday, Nov. 18. During the pledge drive, instead of offering thank-you gifts in exchange for listener donations as the station usually does, Missoula Federal Credit Union will match 5 percent of donations to benefit food banks and feeding programs throughout Montana.

“We are proud to partner with Missoula Federal Credit Union, which is offering the matching funds, and with the Montana Food Bank Network, which will acquire and distribute food to their partner agencies,” said Linda Talbott, MTPR development director. “This way our donors are able to support Montana Public Radio while also keeping the shelves in their local food banks full this holiday season.

“There are many great ways for listeners to participate in our ‘Go Public’ drive,” Talbott said. “This campaign will attract new members and encourage special year-end donations. Listeners also can give MTPR gift memberships as a way to share something they love with the people on their holiday list. We were so happy to welcome hundreds of new members last fall because of this and hope to do so again this year.”

People can donate anytime by calling 800-325-1565 or by going online to http://www.mtpr.org. For more information call Talbott at 406-243-4215 or email linda.talbott@umontana.edu.

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LT/als

Dailies, weeklies

111011mtpr

Contact: Linda Talbott, Montana Public Radio development director, 406-243-4215, linda.talbott@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

The University of Montana’s newly formed Veterans Education and Transition Services Office will host events this week to honor the U.S. Marine Corps and to celebrate and remember veterans.

The first event, a traditional Marine Corps cake-cutting, will take place at 3:30 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 10, at the VETS Office, located at 1000 E. Beckwith Ave., and will celebrate the U.S. Marine Corps’ 236th birthday.

The second event, a Veterans Day cookout, will kick off at 11 a.m. Friday, Nov. 11, at the VETS Office. The cookout will feature free food and drinks, and veterans are encouraged to share their stories.

Both events are free and open to the public.

The VETS Office is open from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Friday and offers a wide variety of services, including a computer lab with printers, a study lounge, day-use lockers, a place for camaraderie and administrative assistance for UM students eligible for GI Bill benefits.

Contact: Justin Rapp, UM veterans’ coordinator, 406-243-2744, justin.rapp@mso.umt.edu.

November 10, 2011
MISSOULA –

According to Arnold “Smoke” Elser, three miles an hour – the speed of a horse – is the best way to see and savor a life well-lived. The retired backcountry outfitter’s vision of wilderness has always included people, and a new documentary from MontanaPBS takes viewers into the Bob Marshall Wilderness to share Elser’s history, passion and connection to the outdoors.

“3 Miles An Hour” premieres at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 22 on MontanaPBS.

In 1955 Elser made his first trip out West. The young man from Ohio took his love of the outdoors and turned it into a career. After arriving in Montana, the previous generation’s outfitters, Tom Edwards and Howard Copenhaver, taught him the art of packing and how to work with horses and mules. More than just practical skills, they taught him a wilderness ethic.

After 50 years in the business, Elser has led more than 700 trips and guided thousands of guests through the Bob Marshall Wilderness in western Montana. Now in his late 70s, Elser is making fewer trips into the Bob, so it’s time to share some of his experiences and the history he learned in the backcountry.

In interviews, fellow outfitters, backcountry horsemen, longtime guests who have become fast friends, family members and Forest Service district rangers all reflect on their experiences with Elser and the changes in wilderness management that he’s both witnessed and helped bring about.

Elser was among the first outfitters to adopt new regulations that lessened the impact of large pack trains and unlimited guests. He also was a quiet champion of the Great Bear Wilderness designation, agreeing in 1969 to take Missoulian reporter Dale Burk on as a crew member so Burk could observe Forest Service activity that seemed to undermine eventual designation of a wilderness area. The resulting series of newspaper stories solidified public support for the new wilderness area, which gained protected status in 1978.

The documentary captured footage using rare video camera access to one of the largest wilderness areas in the lower 48 states. It also combines vintage home movies from backcountry trips and historic photographs to display Elser’s passion and connection to the outdoors.

Funding for “3 Miles An Hour” was provided by the Montana Department of Tourism; the Greater Montana Foundation, which benefits the people of Montana by encouraging communications on issues, trends and values important to present and future generations of Montanans; and the Friends of MontanaPBS.

MontanaPBS is a collaborative statewide service of KUFM-TV at The University of Montana and KUSM-TV at Montana State University. Check local listings for channel information.

For more information or to acquire a screener copy, call John Twiggs at 406-243-4565 or email john.twiggs@umontana.edu. For high-resolution photographs and captions visit http://montanapbs.org/3MilesAnHour/pressroom/.

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Contact: John Twiggs, MontanaPBS producer, 406-243-4565, john.twiggs@umontana.edu; Alison Perkins, MontanaPBS producer, alison.perkins@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

Dr. Kevin M. Cahill, a leading expert on tropical medicine who has led humanitarian efforts throughout the world for nearly five decades, will present the next installment of the President’s Lecture Series at 8 p.m. Friday, Nov. 18, in the University Center Ballroom at The University of Montana.

Cahill is known for his outspoken views on the provision of medical services internationally, the U.S. health care crisis and the consequences for the general well-being of the people directly affected by America’s various wars. In his lecture, “Romance and Reality in Humanitarian Action,” he will speak about his experiences on the front lines of the world’s crisis areas. His presentation serves as UM’s annual Stan Kimmitt Lecture on Public Service.

Cahill also will deliver a seminar, “The Professionalization of Humanitarianism,” from 3:10 to 4:30 p.m. that day in Gallagher Business Building Room 123. The seminar is held in conjunction with UM’s Philosophy Forum. Both events are free and open to the public.

Cahill’s humanitarian efforts have taken him to Africa, Latin America and the Far and Middle East, including stints in Somalia, Sudan, Nicaragua and Haiti. He’s the author or editor of more than 30 books on tropical diseases, including “Tropical Medicine: A Clinical Text” and “To Bear Witness: A Journey of Healing & Solidarity.”

Cahill now serves as the president and director of the Center for International Humanitarian Cooperation in New York City and is a professor and director of Fordham University’s Institute of International Humanitarian Affairs. He served as professor and chairman of the Department of International Health and Tropical Medicine at the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland from 1969 to 2005. The college then created a chair of International Humanitarian Affairs, which he currently holds.

Cahill earned his bachelor’s degree from Fordham University in 1957, his medical degree from Cornell University in 1961 and his diploma in tropical medicine from the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine in 1963.

More information on the President’s Lecture Series is available online at http://umt.edu/president/events/lectures.

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ALS

Western Montana

110911chll

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

The University of Montana chapter of the Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity is currently accepting donations for its biennial “Run to Bozeman,” a fundraiser that benefits Watson Children’s Shelter in Missoula.

The fraternity, established at UM in 1918, holds the fundraiser every other year when Montana State University hosts the Griz-Cat football game in Bozeman. Starting Thursday, Nov. 17, 26 members of Sigma Phi Epsilon will take turns running relay shifts along the 201-mile stretch of Interstate 90 to Bozeman. The UM President’s Office donated one van, and a friend of the fraternity donated another, for members to rest in when they’re not running.

The fundraiser will benefit Watson Children’s Shelter, a haven for western Montana children who are victims of abuse, neglect or family crisis. Fraternity members hope to raise $3,000 this year.

“The run isn’t only important for us as a chapter, but is important for Missoula as a community,” said Torrence Gustafson, current chapter president. “We as a fraternity couldn’t be more proud or happier to help out with their cause.”

Those interested in donating can do so securely online at http://www.mtsigep.com/rtb.php. For more information, call Gustafson at 406-214-1366 or email torrence.gustafson@umontana.edu.

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ALS

Western Montana

110911sgep

Contact: Torrence Gustafson, Sigma Phi Epsilon chapter president, 406-214-1366, torrence.gustafson@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

Thirty students in Garry Kerr’s Introduction to Anthropology course at The University of Montana are among the winners of the Public Anthropology Award.

More than 4,000 students from 25 schools competed for the awards, which are presented by the Center for a Public Anthropology, a nonprofit that encourages scholars and their students to address public problems in public ways.

The center uses the Internet to draw students at various universities together into an intellectual community. Its Community Action Website encourages students to consider ethical issues that lie at the interface of anthropology and the contemporary world.

Students are asked to write professional-style op-ed pieces on various topics. The topic for this competition was “How should the Department of Health and Human Services achieve balance as they update their regulations for research?”

The names of the UM Public Anthropology Award winners and their award-winning opinion pieces are online at http://www.publicanthropology.org/CAW/11-Fall/CAP-2GKUM.htm.

Kerr was honored for showcasing the ability of UM students to learn effective writing skills while being active global citizens.

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BD/all

Western Montana

110911kerr

Contact: Garry Kerr, UM anthropology lecturer, 406-243-4414, garry.kerr@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

Montana artist, World War II veteran and Bataan Death March survivor Ben Steele will be profiled on Art Works, the official blog of the National Endowment for the Arts in honor of Veterans Day. The blog is online at http://www.arts.gov/artworks.

Steele is the subject of the Montana Museum of Art & Culture exhibition “War Torn: The Art of Ben Steele: Paintings and Drawings from the Bataan Death March” through Nov. 19 at The University of Montana. His artwork documents the Japanese invasion of the Philippines, the capture of American and Filipino POWs, and the degradation and cruelty to which the prisoners were subjected.

Steele, who celebrates his 94th birthday this month, will return to Missoula on Tuesday, Nov. 15, for a 7 p.m. film and lecture titled “The Tragedy of Bataan” by Jan Thompson, associate professor at Southern Illinois University-Carbondale and past-president of the Descendants Group Auxiliary of the American Defenders of Bataan & Corregidor. Events will be held in the Masquer Theatre of UM’s Performing Arts and Radio/Television Center.

The public is invited to this special screening, which is narrated by Alec Baldwin and co-presented by the Montana Broadcast Media Center. A birthday celebration also will take place in Steele’s honor.

MMAC galleries will be open from noon to 6 p.m. Friday in honor of Veterans Day. Regular fall hours are noon to 3 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturday and noon to 6 p.m. Thursday and Friday. For more information call 406-243-2019 or go online to http://www.umt.edu/montanamuseum.

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

BK/cbs

Western Montana, Billings Gazette, Roundup Record

110911btan

Contact: Brandon Reintjes, curator of art, Montana Museum of Art and Culture, 406-243-2019, brandon.reintjes@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA –

Climate change law expert Michael Gerrard will deliver the 2011 Hampton Lecture at 7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 18, in Gallagher Business Building Room 106 at The University of Montana. The lecture is a collaboration between the UM Department of History and the School of Law.

Gerrard will explore how law, politics and science shape international and national approaches to addressing climate change in his lecture, “Climate Change, Politics and Law.” He also will speak about the future of coal in a carbon-constrained world at the UM Natural Resources and Environmental Policy Forum at noon that day in Law Building Room 101.

Gerrard is the Andrew Sabin Professor of Professional Practice at Columbia University Law School and director of the university’s Center for Climate Change Law.

For more information about the Hampton Lecture, call UM history Professor Jeff Wiltse at 406-243-2987 or email jeffrey.wiltse@umontana.edu.

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JW/als
Local
110911hmpt

Contact: Jeff Wiltse, UM history professor, 406-243-2987, jeffrey.wiltse@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

One stop on the new “Backroads of Montana” program is little more than an exit off the interstate. Another is a town with only one business. But both places harbor the kinds of unique stories and people who have become hallmarks for the popular MontanaPBS travelogue series. The latest program will air at 8 p.m. Monday, Nov. 14, on MontanaPBS.

Producer Gus Chambers stopped by Nemec’s Parts and Repair in Coffee Creek. The business started in a small Quonset hut but now occupies several buildings north of town. Nemec’s stocks hundreds of parts for farm implements and vehicles – from pickups to 18-wheelers. And with a staff of eight, it’s the biggest employer in the area.

Chambers also spent a day with piano technician Mike Edwards at the Nevada City Music Hall, home to America’s largest public collection of antique music machines – many of them from Butte.

Further west near the Idaho border, producer John Twiggs found the historic 1907 Savenac Tree Nursery at Haugen. Once closed and rundown, volunteers have spruced up the grounds and revived the nursery’s history, including the story of how seedlings from Savenac were used to reforest the 3 million acres burned in the 1910 Big Burn fire.

In the final story, producer Ray Ekness profiles the owners of the Mediterranean restaurant When in Rome in Bigfork. They’ve put Montana pizza on the national map with an award at an international pizza competition in Las Vegas earlier this year. Their story is romantic, yet filled with the challenges of culinary partnership.

Our Lady of the Rockies in Butte is the backdrop for host William Marcus’ introductions. The “Backroads” crew visited the statue that was built in the 1980s as a testament to Butte’s resilience in the face of economic decline.

“Backroads of Montana” is supported by grants from the Greater Montana Foundation, which encourages discussion of issues and trends of importance to Montana; the Montana Office of Tourism; and The University of Montana.

The show is produced by MontanaPBS station KUFM-TV at UM. MontanaPBS is a collaborative statewide service of KUSM-TV at Montana State University and KUFM-TV. Check local listings for channel information.

For more about the series, visit http://www.umt.edu/montanan/s01/backroads.html.

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NOTE TO MEDIA: A program log and crew shots are available online at http://montanapbs.org/BackroadsofMontana/pressroom/. New episode photos are online at http://montanapbs.org/BackroadsofMontana/episode135/pressroom/.

WM/cbs
State
110911back

Contact: William Marcus, director, UM Broadcast Media Center, 406-243-4154, william.marcus@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

Members of The University of Montana’s fraternities and sororities will do their part to contribute to the 10th annual “Can the Cats” food drive against Montana State University before the annual Griz-Cat football game Saturday, Nov. 19, in Bozeman.

Members of the Greek community will drop off contribution bags to be filled with nonperishable food items to Missoula residences on Sunday, Nov. 13. Members will pick up the bags Thursday, Nov. 17, and deliver donations to the Missoula Food Bank in time for the busy Thanksgiving season.

In addition to helping out with the food drive, UM Greeks also will continue their annual fall leaf-raking tradition in the University neighborhood on Sunday, Nov. 13. Members will help rake leaves at homes around the neighborhood before the city leaf pick-up scheduled for early next week.

UM’s Greek chapters have been busy with philanthropic projects this semester, including the debut of Delta Gamma sorority’s Anchor Slam, a three-on-three basketball tournament that supports Service for Sight; and Alpha Phi sorority’s Red Dress Gala and Casino Night, which raised more than $5,000 to benefit women’s cardiac care research. Members of the Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity will collectively run the 201 miles to Bozeman ahead of the Griz-Cat game to raise money for Missoula’s Watson Children’s Shelter during the chapter’s biennial Run to Bozeman fundraiser.

The Greek community has grown steadily over the past few years, and this fall its population soared over the 400 mark for the first time in more than a decade. UM’s sixth fraternity, Phi Delta Theta, rejoined the ranks of the chartered chapters on campus when it initiated more than 40 members over Homecoming weekend.

For more information on UM Greek chapters or to contribute to the food drive, call the UM Office of Greek Life at 406-243-2005 or email greeklife@mso.umt.edu.

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MW/als

Local

110811grks

Contact: Maureen Ward, fraternity and sorority involvement coordinator, UM Office of Greek Life, 406-243-5527, maureen.ward@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA –

The Montana Museum of Art & Culture will present a lecture and film, "The Tragedy of Bataan," by Jan Thompson at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 15, in the Masquer Theatre in of the Performing Arts and Radio/Television Center at The University of Montana.

The event is held in cooperation with the Montana Broadcast Media Center and is free and open to the public.

"The Tragedy of Bataan" is narrated by Alec Baldwin and features interviews with 22 survivors of the Bataan Death March, including Montana artist Ben Steele. Thompson, the film’s producer, is an associate professor at Southern Illinois University-Carbondale and president of the Descendants Group Auxiliary of the American Defenders of Bataan & Corregidor.

The presentation is held in conjunction with the MMAC exhibition "War Torn: The Art of Ben Steele: Paintings and Drawings from the Bataan Death March." The exhibition features oil paintings and drawings by World War II veteran Steele.

MMAC's fall hours are noon to 3 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturday and noon to 6 p.m. Thursday and Friday. For more information call 406-243-2019 or go online to http://www.umt.edu/montanamuseum.

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

BK/als

Western Montana

110711film

Contact: Brandon Reintjes, curator of art, Montana Museum of Art and Culture, 406-243-2019, brandon.reintjes@mso.umt.edu.
POLSON –

University of Montana Professor Jack Stanford recently received two prestigious awards for his work in the field of river ecology: one recognizing lifetime achievement and the other for exceptional conservation.

The International Society for River Science recognized Stanford’s 40 years of research and contributions to river ecology by awarding him its Lifetime Achievement Award this past July.

Noted river scientist Professor Geoff Petts, vice chancellor of Westminster University in London, presented the award at the Second Biennial ISRS Symposium in Berlin.

During the award presentation, Petts summarized Stanford’s career achievements, commenting specifically on 13 major papers Stanford published in the society’s journal, River Research and Applications. One of those papers, “A General Protocol for Restoration of Regulated Rivers,” is the most cited paper ever published in the journal.

Petts also acknowledged Stanford’s achievements in producing the data and interpretations that formally link rivers and groundwater in a landscape context, and recognized him for providing the rationale for worldwide freshwater conservation by writing or co-writing more than 180 scientific papers and books.

“Stanford’s science has informed policy from local issues at Flathead Lake to global issues relating to climate change,” Petts said.

Stanford accepted the Lifetime Achievement Award, saying his achievements were, in large measure, made possible by the many competent and dedicated students and colleagues who have served with him at the biological station over the years.

Stanford received the second award in West Yellowstone this past August. The 20,000-member Federation of Fly Fishers presented Stanford the Aldo Leopold Conservation Award for his scholarship in ecosystem science.

Richard Williams, national conservation adviser for the Federation of Fly Fishers, presented the award, noting the importance of Stanford’s research on the Flathead River-Lake ecosystem in Montana. He recognized Stanford for his systems ecology approach to implementing conservation of river flows regulated by dams, and lauded Stanford for fostering an understanding of worldwide wild salmon ecosystems through his unparalleled research.

Stanford has spent his entire career working at UM’s Flathead Lake Biological Station, where he directed the development of the ecological research program, which has achieved worldwide prominence. He has mentored 44 graduate students and 12 postdoctoral scholars who have contributed to the protection of clean water.

For more information about Stanford and the biological station, go to http://www.umt.edu/flbs.

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MK/alw
Western Montana, dailies
110311awrd

Contact: UM Flathead Lake Biological Station, 406-982-3301, flbs@flbs.umt.edu.
MISSOULA –

The University of Montana will participate in a unique 50-city event, “CHINA Town Hall: Local Connections, National Reflections,” on Wednesday, Nov. 16.

Zbigniew Brzezinski, former national security adviser to President Jimmy Carter, will discuss U.S.-China relations during a live webcast. The event will be held on campus at 5 p.m. in Todd Building Room 210. It is free and open to the public.

Brzezinski will respond to questions from audience members nationwide, including Missoula. He served President Carter during the normalization of relations with the People’s Republic of China and the severing of ties with the Republic of China.

"China’s role in the world and the U.S.-China relationship are in the news and at the center of foreign policy discussions around the U.S.,” said Terry Weider, director of UM’s Maureen and Mike Mansfield Center. "This event is just one component of the Mansfield Center’s programming to promote increased understanding between the United States and China, which will better serve vital U.S. and Montana interests."

The webcast will be followed by an on-site discussion with Ambassador Darryl N. Johnson, an expert on People’s Republic of China-Taiwan relations that remain a serious source of contention in U.S.-China ties as the world marks the 100th anniversary of the Republic of China.

Extremely familiar with China, Taiwan and the Sino-American-Taiwan triangle, Johnson has had a long and distinguished career as a foreign service officer, culminating in his service as U.S. ambassador to Thailand.

“Everyone who has worked in the diplomatic field on either China or Thailand knows and respects Ambassador Johnson,” Weidner said. “We were thrilled that we could get him to campus for this program.”

UM’s CHINA Town Hall event is co-sponsored by the Mansfield Center, the UM School of Extended & Lifelong Learning, the Montana World Affairs Council and the National Committee on United States-China Relations.

For more information, visit http://www.umt.edu/mansfield or call 406-243-2988.

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NOTE TO MEDIA: Ambassador Johnson will speak at 2:10 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 15, in the Mansfield Center, located on the fourth floor of the Maureen and Mike Mansfield Library. While the session is closed to all but students of a select China course, members of the media are welcome to attend.

CBS

Western Montana

110411chna

Contact: Deena Mansour, project manager, UM Maureen and Mike Mansfield Center, 406-243-2713, deena.mansour@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

The University of Montana Office for Civic Engagement will team up with the Salvation Army, the Poverello Center and Valor House this holiday season for the 15th annual Adopt-A-Family and third annual Adopt-A-Veteran programs.

The programs assist people who cannot afford to provide for themselves and their families during the holiday season in effort to ensure everyone in the Missoula area is able to celebrate the holidays.

UM departments, student groups and individuals are encouraged to adopt an area family or to help a veteran through Valor House, the Poverello Center’s transitional facility for homeless veterans.

Adopt-A-Family and Adopt-A-Veteran participants can select families and veterans in need to provide gifts, food and other requested items. Last year UM participants were able to meet the needs of 150 people in the Missoula community.

The Bookstore at UM will host a free gift-wrapping party for participants from 1 to 5 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 8.

For more information or to sign up to adopt a family or a veteran, visit the OCE in Room 015 of the Davidson Honors College, call 406-243-5531 or email shanna.ungate@mso.umt.edu by Tuesday, Nov. 29.

OCE is a department of the Davidson Honors College that serves as UM's primary agent of community activism and civic responsibility.

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BDIALS

Local

110311adpt

Contact: Shanna Ungate, UM Office for Civic Engagement, 406-243-5531, shanna.ungate@mso.umt.edu
MISSOULA —

Join the Montana Grizzlies football team and the rest of Griz Nation in supporting local children as the seventh annual Griz for Kids Toy Drive continues at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 8, at The Bookstore at The University of Montana.

Members of the Montana Grizzly football team and coaching staff will be on hand until 7 p.m. to greet fans and help collect new, unwrapped children’s toys.

The bookstore will offer a 20 percent discount on all Griz logo merchandise, and the players will autograph purchases for the public.

Griz linebacker Jordan Tripp, the chair of this year’s drive, will attend the event.

“Griz for Kids is a great cause that allows the community to give to those less fortunate,” Tripp said. “The true gift is that children in need will have a better holiday season because of the fans’ generosity.”

Mountain Broadcasting, a toy drive sponsor, will broadcast live from The Bookstore during the event. According to Sheila Callahan, general manager for Mountain Broadcasting, last year was the most successful Bookstore event yet.

“Families traveled across town to make a donation so their own children could meet Monte and collect autographs from their favorite players,” said Callahan.

Tripp hopes fans can top the number of donations received at last year’s event.

Toys will go to Mountain Home Montana, Head Start, Early Head Start, Child and Family Services, Youth Homes Inc., Watson Children’s Shelters, Big Brothers Big Sisters, WORD Futures Program, A.W.A.R.E and Teen Challenge Montana.

Event sponsors include UM and the Montana Grizzlies in partnership with Mountain Broadcasting, Max Media (ABC 23 and FOX 23.1), Missoula Federal Credit Union and Beach Transportation. The event is held in conjunction with 102.5 Mountain FM’s Mountain of Giving Toy Drive.

For more information, call University Relations at 406-243-4853.

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ALS/alw

Local, specialized western

111510gfkb

Contact: Andrea Lewis, event coordinator, University Relations, 406-243-5478, andrea.lewis@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

A snowy forecast for Friday has forced the dedication ceremony for the Fallen Soldier Memorial at The University of Montana indoors.

The ceremony, previously slated to take place at Memorial Row, will now start at 5 p.m. in the Montana Theatre of the Performing Arts and Radio/Television Center. An unveiling at the memorial site will follow outside on Memorial Row and also will be streamed live in the Montana Theatre. The event will wrap up with a reception in the Phyllis J. Washington Education Center.

Several invited dignitaries will speak at the event, including U.S. Sen. Max Baucus; Brig. Gen. Matthew Quinn, assistant adjutant general of the Montana Army National Guard; and Grateful Nation Montana co-founder and UM alumnus David Bell. Current UM President Royce Engstrom and President Emeritus George Dennison also will speak, and Col. Kenneth Duvall, state chaplain of the Montana Army National Guard, will serve as chaplain for the ceremony.

The Fallen Soldier Memorial, a collaboration between UM and Grateful Nation Montana, features five larger-than-life bronze statues by Lincoln artist Rick Rowley. The names of the 40 service members from Montana who have been killed in Iraq and Afghanistan will be engraved on granite markers surrounding the memorial.

The dedication ceremony coincides with the Nov. 3-6 Military Reunion at UM and Military Appreciation Day at the Saturday, Nov. 5, Grizzlies football game against Western Oregon. If weather allows, 300 men and women – including current service members, veterans, family members of those honored by the Fallen Soldier Memorial and UM alumni – will unfurl a giant American flag across John Hoyt Field before the 1 p.m. kickoff. Members of the Montana Air National Guard in Great Falls also will fly F-15 fighter jets over Washington-Grizzly Stadium before the game.


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ALS

Western Montana, dailies

110311milt

Contact: Susan Cuff, associate director, UM Office of Alumni Relations, 406-243-4089, susan.cuff@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

A new study co-written by University of Montana Regents Professor Steve Running suggests that climate change, insect attacks, diseases and fire will cause many tree species across the Northwest to migrate, decline or even die out over the next few centuries.

The study, published in the journal Remote Sensing and the Environment, outlines the impact that a changing climate will have on which tree species can survive, and where. The study suggests many species that were once able to survive and thrive are losing their competitive footholds, and opportunistic newcomers will eventually push them out.

In some cases, once-common species such as lodgepole pine will be replaced by other trees, perhaps a range expansion of ponderosa pine or Douglas fir. Other areas may shift completely out of forest into grass savannah or sagebrush desert.

“In Montana, our forests overall have been expanding over the past century, mostly as a result of wildfire suppression and grazing controls,” said Running, an ecology professor in UM’s College of Forestry and Conservation. “Some of the recent large beetle-kill forests may now come back in today’s warmer climate as savannah grasslands or shrub lands.”

Running collaborated with Oregon State University’s Richard Waring and the University of British Columbia’s Nicholas Coop on the study, which used remote sensing to survey large areas over a four-year period. It compared 15 coniferous tree species found widely across much of the West and explored impacts on 34 different “eco-regions” as far north as the Yukon highlands in Canada and as far south as the Sierra Nevada in California.

It projected which tree species would be at the highest risk of disturbance in a future that’s generally expected to be 5 to 9 degrees Fahrenheit warmer by 2080, with perhaps somewhat more precipitation in the winter and spring, and less during the summer.

“Ecosystems are always changing at the landscape level, but normally the rate of change is too slow for humans to notice,” Running said. “Now the rate of change is fast enough we can see it.”

“Some of these changes are already happening, pretty fast and in some huge areas,” Waring said. “In some cases the mechanism of change is fire or insect attack; in others it’s simply drought.”

According to Waring, tree species that are native to a region are there because they can most effectively compete with other species given the specific conditions of temperature, precipitation, drought, cold tolerance and other factors that favor one species over another in that location.

As those climatic conditions change, species that have been established for centuries or millennia will lose their competitive edge and slowly decline or disappear.

“We can’t predict exactly which tree will die or which one will take its place, but we can see the long-term trends and probabilities,” Waring said. “The forests of our future are going to look quite different.”

Though the rate of change has increased, these processes will take time, the scientists said. A greater stability of forest composition probably will not be attained for centuries.

“There’s not a lot we can do to really control these changes,” Waring said. “For instance, to keep old trees alive during drought or insect attacks that they are no longer able to deal with, you might have to thin the forest and remove up to half the trees. These are very powerful forces at work.”

One of the best approaches to plan for an uncertain future, the researchers said, is to maintain “connective corridors” as much as possible so that trees can naturally migrate to new areas in a changing future and not be stopped by artificial boundaries.

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Contact: Steve Running, UM Regents Professor, 406-243-6311, swr@ntsg.umt.edu.
MISSOULA –

Chinese novelist Yu Hua, whose recent book “Brothers” was acclaimed in the West but perturbed many of China’s leaders, will speak at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 15, in Todd Building Room 204 at The University of Montana.

Hailed by many as the “voice of the New China,” Yu has gained fame by his insightful -- and most recently, ribald -- depictions of Chinese society and culture. According to Mansfield Center Director Terry Weidner, Yu’s acclaim in the West gained momentum with “Brothers.” The book, Yu’s fifth, views four decades of profound change, including the Cultural Revolution period and China’s transformation into capitalist prosperity and greed, through the misadventures of two small-time mobster brothers.

“Probing touchy subjects like the Culture Revolution, the dark side of Chinese capitalism and criminality in China alone make the book notable,” Weidner said. “Doing it with such incisive and probing wit makes it more impressive still. Having Yu Hua here is a rare opportunity.”

Yu’s remarks, titled “A Writer’s China,” will include personal anecdotes, an analysis of China and its society, and comments on his most recent book, “China in Ten Words,” which was just released in English. A book signing will follow.

Yu’s presentation is sponsored by the Maureen and Mike Mansfield Center at UM, in collaboration with Fact & Fiction bookstore. The Department of Modern Languages and Literatures at Montana State University was instrumental in bringing Yu to Montana.

For more information visit http://www.umt.edu/mansfield or call 406-243-2881.

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TW/ls

Local

110311yuha

Contact: Terry Weidner, director, UM Maureen and Mike Mansfield Center, 406-243-2281, terry.weidner@mso.umt.edu
MISSOULA –

The Creative Writing Program at The University of Montana is now accepting submissions for the 2011 Merriam-Frontier Award.

The annual writing competition is open to all undergraduate and graduate students enrolled at UM during autumn semester 2011. The award was established by H.G. Merriam, UM professor of English and creative writing from 1919 to 1954, and consists of a $500 prize and publication of the winning entry as a chapbook.

Entries must qualify in one of the following categories:

- Poetry: 20-25 poems
- Fiction: two or more stories (40-60 double-spaced pages)
- Creative nonfiction: two or more essays (40-60 double-spaced pages)

Submissions are limited to one per student and must include a cover page with the title of the manuscript, name, email, phone number and address. All entries must be delivered to Karin Schalm, assistant to the director of the Creative Writing Program, in Liberal Arts Building Room 133 by 3 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 15.

The manuscripts will be judged by a committee of local writers, including Bridget Carson, Ginny Merriam and Lois Welch. A winner will be announced by Feb. 20, 2012, and will be invited to give a public reading.

Frontier, later titled Frontier and Midland, was a distinguished quarterly journal founded and edited by Merriam and published at UM from 1920 to 1939. Contributors included then-emerging talents Wallace Stegner, A.B. Guthrie Jr., William Saroyan, Dorothy Johnson, John Mason Brown, Weldon Kees, Thomas McGrath and many others. A particular strength of the journal was its frequent publication of work by young authors, a custom the Merriam-Frontier Award honors and continues.

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KS/als

Campus

110311writ

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

House of Bounce, a dubstep concert sponsored by the University Center Student Involvement Network at The University of Montana, is set for Thursday, Nov. 17, in the University Center Ballroom.

Doors open at 7 p.m., with the first performance at 8 p.m. by local producers Simpleton and MetaTron. Minnesota will take the stage at 10 p.m. Along with dubstep music, there will be bounce castles, henna tattooing and face painting.

Tickets are on sale now at The Source, located on the first floor of the UC, and cost $7 in advance and $10 at the door.

For more information call Rene Scott, UC annual and special events student coordinator, at 406-243-6357, email ucanevents@mso.umt.edu or go online to http://umt.edu/uc.

###

ADjh

Local

110311bnce

**Contact:** Adrianne Donald, UC interim associate director, 406-243-6029, adonald@mso.umt.edu; Rene Scott, UC annual and special events student coordinator, 406-243-6357, ucanevents@mso.umt.edu.
University of Montana political science Professor Peter Koehn will present “Symmetry, Synergy and Serendipity: Reflections on Transnationalism” at 6 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 10, in the University Center North Ballroom. Koehn’s presentation is part of the Provost’s Distinguished Faculty Lecture Series at UM.

He will address reasons why transnationalism is important for higher education in the 21st century, particularly at UM. Koehn will approach the topic through different lenses, including international development, health, engineering, music, fine art, poetry and serendipity.

Koehn directs UM’s undergraduate minor in International Development Studies and the Peace Corps Prep Program. He also teaches courses in several programs across campus. In 2007 Koehn developed the International Research and Development Project Database as the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities’ first faculty fellow and participated in the Africa-U.S. Higher Education Initiative. During the course of his career, he has taught and conducted research at universities in Africa, Asia and Europe. Koehn has published eight books, 45 chapters in edited volumes and 57 articles in peer-reviewed journals.

Koehn is a recipient of the 2011 Michael P. Malone Award for International Leadership, granted by the APLU. He also received UM’s Distinguished Scholar Award in 2005 and is a Fulbright New Century Scholar.

For more information call the Office of the Provost at 406-243-4689, email provost@umontana.edu, or go online to http://www.edu/provost.

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JH

Local

110311prov

Contact: UM Office of the Provost, 406-243-4689, provost@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

In observance of Veterans Day, the Montana Museum of Art & Culture will present “War Poetry: Poetry is in the Pity” by University of Montana English Professor Lisa Simon at 5:15 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 10, in the Montana Theatre of the Performing Arts and Radio/Television Center at UM.

The presentation is part of the Humanities Montana Speakers Bureau program and is free and open to the public.

Simon, who earned a doctorate in English literature from the University of Washington, uses poetry generated by conflict to emphasize the experiences of war from the viewpoints of those who feel its effects at home and on the battlefields.

The talk is held in conjunction with the MMAC exhibition “War Torn: The Art of Ben Steele: Paintings and Drawings from the Bataan Death March.” The exhibition features oil paintings and drawings by Montana artist, World War II veteran and Bataan Death March survivor Ben Steele.

MMAC's fall hours are noon to 3 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturday and noon to 6 p.m. Thursday and Friday. For more information call 406-243-2019 or go online to http://www.umt.edu/montanamuseum.

Partial funding for the Speakers Bureau program is provided by a legislative grant from Montana’s Cultural Trust and from the National Endowment for the Humanities’ “We the People” program.

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

BK/als

Western Montana, Billings Gazette, Roundup Record

110311ptry

Contact: Brandon Reintjes, curator of art, Montana Museum of Art and Culture, 406-243-2019, brandon.reintjes@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA –

This fall, Montana Public Radio trained students at Willard Alternative High School to record and produce oral histories for the Veterans History Project. The students collected firsthand audio accounts of Montana veterans' service experiences and are now editing the interviews into a one-hour audio special.

The special, "Students and Soldiers" will air on veterans Day at 1 p.m. Friday, Nov. 11, on MTPR stations and will stream online at http://www.mtpr.org. The raw interviews will be cataloged and archived in the American Folklife collection of the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C.

"We hope the students walk away with a new understanding and respect for the service veterans provided our country," said Amanda Opitz, the AmeriCorps Vista volunteer who is heading up the Students and Soldiers project at MTPR.

According to Opitz, students have also been learning practical skills such as historical research, interview techniques, audio recording and editing.

"This is an excellent example of the kind of project-based learning we're striving for in the Missoula County Public Schools with the 21st Century Schools Initiative," said Jane Bennett, Willard School principal.

Bennett said the project teaches students how to use technology while fostering human connections between the young people and the participating veterans.

Listeners who tune in on Nov. 11 will hear captivating stories from Montana veterans — from surviving the Bataan Death March and the first air raids over Japan after Pearl Harbor, to accounts of spy missions in Korea and Agent Orange in Vietnam, to stories from recently returned Iraq veterans who tell of IEDs and mortar attacks.

"These stories are part of the fabric of American history," Opitz said. "Capturing the soldiers’ voices takes the information you read in textbooks and gives it new dimension. The personal stories have texture and relevance – they come alive.”

For more information or to schedule an interview, call 406-243-4214.

Montana Public Radio, a public service of The University of Montana, broadcasts across western and central Montana. Its studios are located on The University of Montana campus in Missoula, with a news bureau in Helena at the state Capitol.

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AO/alw

State, government

101911vets

Contact: Amanda Opitz, MTPR outreach coordinator, 406-243-4214, amanda.opitz@mso.umt.edu; Susan Jamerson, MTPR membership manager, 406-243-4214, susan.jamerson@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA —

The marketing of higher education is at the forefront of discussion at The University of Montana this week. On Tuesday, Nov. 1, the University Council heard a presentation about the development of a brand strategy at UM.

Beth Hammock, vice president, strategic communications and marketing for the UM Foundation, is assisting UM President Royce Engstrom by managing the project. She told the council how the brand development process will work and the expected outcomes.

“We all know The University of Montana has many outstanding characteristics,” Hammock said. “The first step will be discerning which qualities are uniquely ours. Then, we will define and refine the UM brand in a way that helps the University better meet its goals.”

Hammock says expected outcomes include:

- Enhanced faculty, staff and student recruitment and retention;
- Increased alumni engagement;
- And more philanthropic and legislative support.

A 20-member task force made up of faculty, staff, alumni and a student is advising University leaders on the project. Jakki Mohr, an internationally recognized marketing professor and Regents Professor at UM, serves on the task force. She explains why branding is so important to UM.

“Successful organizations recognize that a strategic branding initiative is a necessity in a competitive environment where people have many choices,” Mohr said. “In fact, most successful companies would not imagine they could be successful without strategic branding.”

Mohr says branding is particularly important to organizations that provide services – including educational institutions – “given the difficulty in evaluating quality and experience.”

The UM branding campaign will include all facets of the University.

“A branding campaign requires a careful blending of programs, quality delivery of those programs, and communication about those programs to the market,” Mohr said.

The University will contract with a higher education marketing firm that has worked with other public universities in developing brand strategies. The firm will collaborate with the task force to listen to representatives of all of the University’s constituencies. The process will include a research and discovery phase, development of a verbal and visual messaging platform, and creation of a plan for integrating the brand strategy into UM marketing and communications. The goal is to complete the work by June 30, 2012.

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University of Montana students can purchase 3OH!3 concert tickets for $20 during a presale Wednesday and Thursday, Nov. 2-3. Only floor and upper seat general admission tickets will be available during the presale, which begins 10 a.m. Wednesday. All other tickets go on sale Nov. 4 and cost $35.

3OH!3 will perform live in concert at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 9, in the Brick Breeden Fieldhouse at Montana State University in Bozeman.

Tickets will be sold through the Bobcat Ticket office, MSU’s AskUs desk and Rosauers stores. They will also be available online at http://ticketswest.rdl.com or by calling 1-800-808-5940.

To redeem the $20 presale rate, students must visit a ticket outlet location and provide the password: CHAMP.

Formed by Sean Foreman and Nathaniel “Nat” Motte, 3OH!3 broke out of their hometown of Boulder, Colo., in 2008 with their first single “Don’t Trust Me.” Quickly, they hit the limelight with appearances on “Jimmy Kimmel Live” and “Last Call with Carson Daly.”

The duo is currently working on their fourth album, and on June 29, 2011, released their latest single, “Robot.”

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Campus

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Contact: Aaron Reynolds, marketing coordinator, UM Productions, marketing@umproductions.org.
MISSOULA –

The World Affairs Council of Montana, in partnership with the Montana World Trade Center, will host a community Distinguished Speakers Program to explore Europe’s financial crisis and why it matters to Montanans.

Featured guest João Vale de Almeida, European Union ambassador and head of the EU delegation to the U.S., will speak at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 9, at The University of Montana’s University Theatre. The event is open to the public, and admission is free to students and Council members. The event costs $5 for nonmembers.

Vale de Almeida will discuss the European debt crisis and its global implications and answer questions from the audience.

Vale de Almeida also will visit Hellgate High School from 8:30 to 9:20 a.m. on Thursday, Nov. 10. He will speak to students as part of the Council in the Classroom program, which aims to enrich the learning experience through the examination of current issues, cross-cultural exchange and by fostering dialogue of progressive ideas.

The WACM is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization founded in 2000 by former U.S. Ambassador Mark Johnson and is dedicated to engaging Montanans in discussions on timely global issues.

Located on the UM campus, MWTC works to increase international trade through public-private partnerships, business networking and student education.


Contact: Aubrie Lyongs, executive director, World Affairs Council of Montana, 406-728-3328, alyons@montanaworldaffairs.org.