October 2012 news releases

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MISSOULA –

University of Montana’s Recycling and Waste Manager Eduard “Edi” Stan recently earned the title of certified recycling systems manager through the Solid Waste Association of North America.

The SWANA certification is the culmination of a yearlong online class and a rigorous national exam in Washington, D.C. To be eligible, applicants must have at least five years of municipal solid waste management, as well as two years of managerial experience in the applicant’s specific field.

SWANA is the leading professional association dedicated to solid waste and recycling professionals in the United States, Canada and beyond.

“The experience and knowledge gained by this certification puts the UM Recycling program in the lead of the recycling profession in Montana,” said Cherie Peacock, sustainability coordinator at UM’s Office of Sustainability.

For more information call Peacock at 406-243-6001 or email cherie.peacock@mso.umt.edu.

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Campus

103112stan

Contact: Cherie Peacock, sustainability coordinator, UM Office of Sustainability, 406-243-6001, cherie.peacock@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA –

A University of Montana student-funded program that supports on-campus, energy-saving projects was recognized in the Sustainable Endowments Institute’s “Greening the Bottom Line 2012” report.

The Kless Revolving Energy Loan Fund accepts proposals from UM students for projects that will reduce annual operating expenses, decrease greenhouse gas emissions and lower energy costs in campus buildings. Projects must demonstrate quantifiable savings and a return on investment.

Green revolving funds, like KRELF, invest in sustainability projects then use the cost savings to replenish the fund. Replenished funds can then be redeployed to finance new projects. “Greening the Bottom Line 2012” recognizes the importance of such funds at colleges and universities to offset rising operating costs and environmental impacts, address institutional environmental goals and foster cross-functional collaboration on campus.

“UM’s Kless Revolving Energy Loan Fund is a unique student initiative with tangible benefits,” said Cherie Peacock, sustainability coordinator in UM’s Office of Sustainability. “Energy-efficiency projects can be good investment opportunities if structured properly.”

Benefits of UM’s program noted in the report include strong student involvement through required student representation on the KRELF governing committee and working with student government before launching the fund.

KRELF began in 2009 and is funded by a $4 student fee. About $40,000 has been allocated for projects including installation of solar panels on University buildings, purchase of reusable to-go containers for the Food Zoo and the replacement of 16 washing machines in dormitories.

The KRELF is named in honor of Sonny Kless, a student who spearheaded the effort to create the fund during the 2008-09 school year. Kless died in a plane crash in June 2010.


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Local

103112grfs

**Contact:** Cherie Peacock, sustainability coordinator, UM Office of Sustainability, 406-243-6001, cherie.peacock@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA –

A new art exhibit by University of Montana students and staff combines fine art and taxidermy to create “An Aesthetic Taxonomy.” The dynamic exhibit, featuring artwork inspired by UM’s Philip L. Wright Zoological Museum, will be on display at the University Center Gallery through Friday, Nov. 30.

Biologists and other scientists view the empty skins and bare bones of specimens at the UMZM as a wealth of knowledge to be studied. But to an artist, the eyeless, oddly stuffed and awkwardly arranged specimens create an almost whimsical display. “An Aesthetic Taxonomy” is a celebration of the various stories these remains tell and about the mysterious transition of death.

An opening reception for the show will be held from 4 to 6 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 1, in the UC Gallery. Featured artists are Dave Dyer, Louis Habeck, Kadie Zimmerman, Hanna Spry, Samuel Case, Eric Carlson and Lesli Van Stavern Millar.

The UC Gallery, located in UC Room 227, is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday during the academic year. To learn more, visit http://www.umt.edu/uc/ucg.

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BP

Local

103012taxo

Contact: Gwen Landquist, University Center marketing and art manager, 406-243-5555, gwen.landquist@mso.umt.edu; Kristina Myer and Sabrina Charlson, UC Gallery student coordinators, 406-243-5564, ucartgallery@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA –

Montana’s 33 craft brewers represent a growing sector of manufacturing activity in the state, according to a new survey and economic impact study by researchers Colin Sorenson and Todd Morgan of The University of Montana Bureau of Business and Economic Research.

According to the report commissioned by the Montana Brewers Association and titled “The Economic Contribution of Craft Brewing in Montana,” the impact of the industry represents more than 430 jobs, nearly $50 million in private-sector sales, $9.8 million in private nonfarm compensation, $1.8 million in government compensation and $1.5 million in state government revenues.

Survey data collected by BBER show the brewing industry in Montana grew rapidly from 2010 to 2011. Production rose 18 percent, sales were up 20 percent, employment was up 39 percent, compensation increased 23 percent and expenditures were up 21 percent. Nearly 97 percent of Montana’s brewers participated in the survey and many reported offering a variety of employee benefits such as health insurance, retirement and paid vacations.

BBER’s study found that while the activity of craft breweries is concentrated in the more populous regions of the state, economic impacts of craft brewing extend into all regions. As of the end of calendar year 2011, there were 12 breweries in northwest Montana, seven in southwest Montana, four in north central Montana, eight in south central Montana and two in eastern Montana.

"These numbers show the tremendous potential for Montana’s breweries to continue to create jobs and wealth in Montana," said Tony Herbert, executive director of the Montana Brewers Association. "The economic impact of the brewing industry in Montana is large and growing, and the potential for breweries to generate more jobs, more statewide tax revenues and more happy customers should not be underestimated."

The Bureau of Business and Economic Research at UM is a research center producing economic and industry data for Montana. For more information visit http://www.bber.umt.edu/ or http://montanabrewers.org.

Contact: Colin Sorenson, research economist, UM Bureau of Business and Economic Research, 406-243-5113, colin.sorenson@business.umt.edu.
MISSOULA –

Griz for UNICEF, international student groups and the Associated Students of The University of Montana will host the second annual "Griz for UNICEF" fundraiser from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 10, at First Presbyterian Church at 201 S. 5th St. W. in Missoula.

The Brazilian, African and Persian student associations at UM sponsor the dinner-banquet fundraiser, which supports UNICEF’s efforts to help children in developing countries attain access to clean water, vaccinations, mosquito nets, food and school supplies.

The dinner is open to the public and tickets cost $15. They are available for purchase from Griz for UNICEF members, the UM Foreign Student and Scholar Office in Lommasson Center Room 219 and the Jeannette Rankin Peace Center.

The banquet will feature authentic food from Africa, Brazil and Tajikistan, and French macaroons for dessert. International students from Africa, Georgia, Tajikistan and Brazil will perform cultural dances such as the Brazilian Quadrilha and Georgian folk dance.

Griz for UNICEF President Julie DeSoto, a UM graduate student studying international development, said although not all Griz for UNICEF members are international students, they all are passionate about helping children worldwide.

“We believe that there should be zero preventable child deaths due to lack of clean water, basic medicines, food and vaccines,” DeSoto said. “Our action is limited by the fact that we are in a university now, but we are not content to sit by and do nothing. So we choose to contribute our time to volunteer for this group and raise funds for children in need.”

For more information call DeSoto at 406-218-1048 or email unicef.um@gmail.com.

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Local

103012unic

Contact: Julie Desoto, president, Griz for UNICEF, 406-218-1048, unicef.um@gmail.com.
MISSOULA –

Nationally acclaimed Assiniboine playwright William Yellow Robe Jr. will return to one of the places he called home when he lectures at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 7, in the University Center Theater at The University of Montana. The event is free and open to the public.

Yellow Robe will share his insights, stories and thoughts and read from his collection of published and unpublished poems and plays, allowing time for questions and discussion. He describes the event as “poetry, fiction, acting, poverty, playwriting and all other forms of decolonization by a Spam-eating Montana Indian” which includes “stories that would burn down Bill Cody’s Chautauqua tent.”

Originally from the Fort Peck Indian Reservation in northeastern Montana, Yellow Robe is a faculty affiliate in UM’s Creative Writing Program and an adjunct faculty member in the English Department at the University of Maine.

Yellow Robe’s appearance is sponsored by UM’s Day of Dialogue, Native American studies and English departments, the Missoula County Public Schools Indian Education Program, the Heartlines Project and the Hangin’ Art Gallery in Arlee.

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JS

Western Montana

102912robe

Contact: George Price, lecturer, UM history and Native American studies departments and African American Studies Program, 406-243-2302, george.price@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA –

The Maureen and Mike Mansfield Library at The University of Montana will display a fragment of a moon rock and host a series of lectures in honor of the 40th anniversary of the Apollo 17 moon mission. The rock will be on display from Friday, Nov. 2, through Friday, Dec. 14, in the Mansfield Library Lobby.

The rock is Montana’s fragment of the Goodwill Moon Rock, gathered from the moon’s Taurus-Littrow Valley in 1972. Nearly 185 pieces of the Goodwill Moon Rock were presented to states and countries. Montana’s moon rock is encased in Lucite and displayed on a plaque with the state flag.

The lecture series will include presentations on the past, present and future of the space missions, the moon rocks, space satellites and the influence of the moon on culture, art and literature. The Mansfield Library also will highlight NASA documents from its Federal Depository Collection.

All lectures will be held at 6 p.m. in the Mansfield Library East Faculty Office. The schedule is as follows:

- **Friday, Nov. 2:** "A Short History of the Goodwill Moon Rocks," Susanne Caro, government librarian for the Mansfield Library.
- **Friday, Nov. 9:** "The Mythic Moon," C. Riley Augé, Ph.D. candidate and adjunct instructor, UM Department of Anthropology.
- **Wednesday, Nov. 14:** "Moons: The Amazing Satellites of Our Planets," Dan Reisenfeld, professor, UM Department of Physics and Astronomy.
- **Friday, Nov. 16:** "Working on the Moon," Loren Acton, former astronaut and current research professor of physics, Montana State University Solar Physics Group.
- **Friday, Dec. 7:** "Ko’komiki’somm: The Moon in Blackfeet Mythology," Rosalyn LaPier, instructor, UM Environment Studies Program.
- **Friday, Dec. 14:** "Possessing the Moon: Recent Views in Science Fiction on the Future of Lunar Exploration," Rob Browning, visiting assistant professor, UM Department of English.

For more information call Mansfield Library Government Documents Librarian Susanne Caro at 406-243-4548 or email susanne.caro@umontana.edu.

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BP

Local

102912moon

**Contact:** Susanne Caro, government documents librarian, UM Maureen and Mike Mansfield Library, 406-243-4548, susanne.caro@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

University of Montana Lecturer Erin Brown Saldin will be reading from her new novel, “The Girls of No Return,” at 4 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 8, in the Davidson Honors College Ephron Student Lounge.

The event is free and open to the public and a book signing and reception will follow.

Saldin teaches for both UM’s Department of English and the Davidson Honors College. “The Girls of No Return” is her first novel, which touches on the tendency toward self-harm among adolescent girls.

“Often parents, teachers and counselors can have a positive impact on these kinds of dysfunctional behaviors by initiating conversation around fictional events and characters,” said James McKusick, dean of the Davidson Honors College. “This novel could be a good basis for creating those kinds of ‘teachable moments’ in families, classrooms and counseling sessions.”

Saldin’s work has been nationally praised by book reviews including Booklist and Kirkus. The New York Times Book Review calls the novel a “smart, absorbing story about damaged girls realizing how hard it is to connect with other people.”

Saldin’s writing has appeared in The New York Times and the Best New American Voices series, as well as multiple literary magazines.

For more information about the novel or the event, call Saldin at 406-243-5231 or email erin.saldin@umontana.edu.

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ALL

Local, campus

102612girl

Contact: Erin Saldin, lecturer, UM Department of English, 406-243-5231, erin.saldin@umontana.edu; James McKusick, dean, Davidson Honors College, 406-243-2541, james.mckusick@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

Higher education, government and business officials gathered Oct. 26 to celebrate the completion of a $3.5 million renovation and expansion of the Montana Technology Enterprise Center (MonTEC), a business and technology incubator operated by The University of Montana.

The project updated 15,000 square feet of labs and office space to facilitate expansion of Rivertop Renewables, a renewable-chemical company resulting from the work of UM Professor Emeritus Don Kiely. A new 2,000-square-foot addition will be outfitted as a semi-works facility, which will help Rivertop research, develop and produce cost-competitive, biodegradable chemicals.

“Rivertop is a great example of how the University’s research enterprise can impact our local economy,” said Joe Fanguy, UM director of technology transfer and MonTEC president. “This project will allow Rivertop to move its renewable chemicals more quickly to market and grow the company’s employee base here in Missoula.”

The project was made possible by a $1.75 million expansion and renovation grant from the U.S. Economic Development Administration, and that amount was matched by UM. Rivertop will invest an additional $2.5 million in private capital to fully equip the facility.

Rivertop now employs 20 workers and plans to hire 15 to 20 more during the coming year.

“This collaboration serves as a model for public-private partnership opportunities, combining scientific research at public institutions, entrepreneurial spirit and private investment,” UM President Royce Engstrom said. “As our technology-transfer program expands, more new companies will be created, bringing more investment, jobs and prosperity to Montana.”

Rivertop has developed proprietary technology that can produce sustainable, high-performing, renewable chemicals from natural sugars. The company currently develops products for the detergent and petroleum industries – $2 billion markets seeking replacement chemicals that fulfill price, performance and sustainability mandates. The facility also will expand development of Rivertop’s bio-based corrosion inhibitors for use in road deicers – a product already purchased by the Montana Department of Transportation.

Multiple longer-term opportunities exist in the company’s research with advanced biodegradable polymers, adhesives and other functional materials.

“This facility will speed our commercialization of new bio-based chemicals that are safer, cleaner and cost-competitive,” Rivertop CEO Michael Knauf said. “This project is a prime example of how private business can work with public institutions to create economic prosperity and solutions to important market needs and environmental issues.”

Rivertop Renewables was incorporated in 2008. It then licensed patented technology developed by Kiely while he was at the University. Glucaric acid, one of the company’s chemicals, can be made from corn and has been recognized by the U.S. Department of Energy as one of the top 12 chemicals of the future made from renewable resources.

U.S. Sen. Max Baucus helped secure the federal funding for the MonTEC improvements. “Good-paying Montana jobs rely on innovation and working together,” he said. “I’ve been proud to support this facility and all of our partners to create new opportunities in the cutting-edge field of renewable chemicals.”

In a shift of business model, Fanguy said, Rivertop now gives MonTEC an anchor tenant, providing an opportunity for enhanced focus on company assistance through joint programs with UM’s Office of Research and Creative Scholarship and School of Business Administration, as well as the Missoula Economic Partnership.

“MonTEC has also expanded common areas to stimulate networking opportunities, as well as added an additional conference room and library space,” Fanguy said. “Several new support programs also have been launched to support incubator companies and entrepreneurs across Missoula and western Montana.”

Looking toward the future, Fanguy said MonTEC now needs a few more great startup companies to join Rivertop and other current tenants, which now include an analytical services startup in oil and gas exploration, an Internet company with a platform for distributing legal information at the international level and a few global information system-focused companies.

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Project Enhances Missoula Business Incubator - UM News - The University Of Montana

Helpful links:

http://www.rivertop.com/

http://www2.umt.edu/montanan/w12/Team%20Chemistry.asp


http://www2.umt.edu/urelations/rview/winter09/chemical.html

CBS

Western Montana, dailies

102612mtec

Contact: Joe Fanguy, UM director of technology transfer and MonTEC president, 406-243-2148, joe.fanguy@mso.umt.edu; John Williams, Scoville Public Relations, 206-660-5503, jwilliams@scovillepr.com.
The NCAA recently announced that University of Montana scholarship athletes who enrolled in the 2005-06 academic year hold the highest federal graduation rate in the Big Sky Conference. According to the UM Department of Intercollegiate Athletics, the 77 percent graduation rate is the best in recent years.

Federal graduation rates count student-athletes a success if they graduate from their original school within six years.

"In theory it's a pretty straightforward formula," UM Director of Athletics Kent Haslam said. "Recruit the right type of student-athletes, help them achieve both in the classroom and in competition, and applaud when they graduate four or five years later, but we all know it's not that easy.

"This type of graduation rate only happens because of a lot of hard work by our coaches, academic staff and student-athletes. This is fantastic recognition for everyone who plays a role in the process."

UM and Montana State University were matched for the best graduation rate in the Big Sky Conference for the league’s 2005-06 classes. NCAA Football Championship Subdivision schools had an average graduation rate of 63 percent, and UM’s overall rate for the 2005-06 class was 47 percent.

UM’s most successful program for that class, both athletically and academically, was football. The Grizzlies won Big Sky Conference regular-season championships in 2005, ’06, ’07, ’08 and ’09 and played for the Football Championship Subdivision national championship in both 2008 and ’09.

Ninety percent of the players in that class graduated from Montana within the required six-year window, the highest rate in the UM athletic department.

On Thursday, the NCAA also announced the four-class averages, which takes into account the federal graduation rates for scholarship classes from 2002-03 to 2005-06.

UM’s four-class average was 65 percent, the best mark in the Big Sky Conference and 22 points higher than the campus average of 43 percent.

"This sets the bar for future classes," Haslam said. "As we move forward we will continue to focus on the department’s three pillars of academic success, athletic excellence and community service."

For more information visit [http://www.gogriz.com/genrel/102512aaa.html](http://www.gogriz.com/genrel/102512aaa.html).

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ALL

State

102512ncaa

Contact: Kent Haslam, athletic director, UM Intercollegiate Athletics, 406-243-5419, kent.haslam@mso.umt.edu.
UM Holds Highest Student-Athlete Federal Graduation Rate In Conference - UM News - The University Of Montana
UM Music Students Sweep Metropolitan Opera Auditions - UM News - The University Of Montana

The University of Montana
MISSOULA –

Three University of Montana School of Music students will advance to the Northwest Regional Finals for the Metropolitan Opera after sweeping the Oct. 21 National Council Auditions at the Fox Theatre in Spokane, Wash. Neila Getz, Arielle Nachtigal and John Knispel beat out 15 talented singers from the Pacific Northwest to move forward in the prestigious competition.

Getz, of Missoula, is a senior in vocal performance; Nachtigal, also of Missoula, is a junior in vocal performance; and Knispel, of Billings, is a senior in vocal performance and music education. Cynthia Bauder, of Spokane, who graduated from UM last May with a degree in vocal performance, received an Encouragement Award from the competition judges.

David Cody, a professor of vocal performance in the UM School of Music, accompanied the students to the competition and said their confidence and preparation helped the singers stand out.

“They not only sang well, but their characterizations and poise were very strong,” Cody said. “We try to train them that way and give them opportunities in live performance to learn how to deal with all aspects of the audition.”

Cody said the School of Music has produced strong competitors for the auditions before, but this is the first year UM students have swept the field. Judges are not limited in the number of singers they can select to move forward in the auditions, but are looking for singers who are ready to compete at a higher level. The three students each received a $1,000 prize to help cover the expenses of traveling to the next stage of the competition, which will take place in January in Seattle.

The Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions program is the most prestigious competition in the U.S. for aspiring young opera singers. The country is divided into 16 regions, and winners of the Northwest Regional Finals will compete in the National Semi-Finals round at The Metropolitan Opera in New York City in the spring. Winners of the final audition are selected for the Met’s Lindemann Young Artist Development Program, which provides training and performance opportunities.

For more information call Cody at 406-243-4691, email david.cody@umontana.edu or visit http://www.metoperafamily.org/metopera/auditions/national-council.aspx.

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BP

State, Spokane, Wash.

102412oper

Contact: David Cody, professor, UM School of Music, 406-243-4691, david.cody@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

Nominations are now being accepted for The University of Montana’s Robert T. Pantzer Presidential Humanitarian Award, presented each year to a person from the University or state who has substantially contributed to making campus a more open and humane learning environment.

The award honors Pantzer, UM president from 1966 to 1974, whose open-door policy was a hallmark of his administration. Pantzer also provided outstanding leadership in the preservation of unfettered academic inquiry and expression.

The Pantzer Award Committee seeks nominations of individuals who have demonstrated similar characteristics. Nominations should include the nominee’s resume and a statement describing how the individual fits the criteria. Previous nominations may be reactivated by request and by providing any additional or updated information.

The nomination deadline is 5 p.m. Friday, Nov. 16. The award will be presented at UM’s Charter Day ceremonies Feb. 13, 2013.

Nominations should be mailed to Pantzer Award Committee Chair, Office of the Provost, The University of Montana, 32 Campus Dr., Missoula, MT 59812, or emailed to officeoftheprovost@umontana.edu.

More information about the call for nominations is online at http://www.umt.edu/provost/PantzerAward.aspx.

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BP

Local

102512pant

Contact: UM Office of the Provost, 406-243-5937, officeoftheprovost@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

The University of Montana Folklore Society will host the annual Town & Gown Dance from 8 to 11 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 3, in the University Center Ballroom. The event is free and open to the public, but donations are appreciated to help cover expenses.

The dance will include a variety of traditional American folk dances, but will focus on contra, a form of old English country dancing which American colonists in New England eventually modified to fit into the long, thin floor spaces of barns. Two long lines of people dance a series of simple figures, continually moving along the line until each person has danced with everyone else.

A beginner’s workshop will be held at 7:30 p.m. before the main dance begins. Roy Curet will teach and call dances throughout the evening. Out of the Wood, a band that specializes in old-time fiddle tunes, jigs and reels, will provide live music. Dress is casual and eclectic.

For more information call Vicki Watson, UM Folklore Society adviser, at 406-243-5153, email vicki.watson@umontana.edu or visit http://missoulafolk.org.

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BP

Local

102512cont

Contact: Vicki Watson, UM environmental studies professor and UM Folklore Society adviser, 406-243-5153, vicki.watson@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

Every October, American Banker magazine names the top women in the industry. This year University of Montana alumna Debby McWhinney ’77 is recognized as one of the “25 Most Powerful Women in Banking,” and as a leader in the global business world.

The award evaluates leadership both within the banking industry and the greater community.

When asked what it means to be named one of the most powerful women in banking, McWhinney said, “Power is having a seat at the table, implementing decisions, helping make policy, being involved in your community and your country.”

McWhinney, of New York City, serves as chief operating officer at Citi Global Enterprise Payments. She served her alma mater on the UM Foundation Board of Trustees, which she chaired from 2002-03. McWhinney simultaneously chaired the Foundation’s “Invest in Discovery” campaign, which raised $131 million for the University.

She also has served on the UM Alumni Association Board of Directors. The University honored her with its Distinguished Alumni Award in 2005. McWhinney remains an active supporter of the University, frequently hosting New York-area donors and alumni at her home.

“Debby is a prime example of UM’s wonderful network of alumni and friends who are giving back to today’s students,” said UM President Royce Engstrom. “She has served our community in so many ways, and continues to keep on giving. We are very proud of Debby receiving this award.”

McWhinney attributes much of her success to her mentor in the beginning of her career. Now McWhinney is paying it forward. She mentors students through UM’s Global Leadership Initiative, and visited students in the program last spring. McWhinney understands the importance of a global perspective in today’s marketplace, and she’s doing what she can to encourage that perspective in today’s students.

“The world we live in is a global world. Grain in Montana is used to manufacture products in China,” she said. “There’s nothing in your office that’s not globalized. Students need to make a significant investment in other languages, other culture, other religions.”

Through the Global Leadership Initiative, UM students have the opportunity to learn from international business leaders. The program prepares students to solve problems in an interconnected world.

“My UM education prepared me for my future, both professionally and personally,” McWhinney said. “And the new Global Leadership Initiative will only make tomorrow’s graduates stronger, more competitive and more prepared for our increasingly global world.”

From one of the most influential women in business, that’s something truly powerful.

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EG/js

Statewide
102512mcwh

Contact: Erin Greenside, associate director of strategic communications and interactive media, UM Foundation, erin.greenside@mso.umt.edu
MISSOULA –

Amie Thurber, director for the National Coalition Building Institute Missoula and adjunct assistant professor of social work at The University of Montana, will present a lecture titled “What Can Northern Ireland Teach Us About Repairing Relationships Between Montana’s Indigenous and Settler Communities?” from noon to 1 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 1, in the Dell Brown Room of Turner Hall.

“Last year, during a prejudice-reduction workshop I led on campus,” Thurber said, “a white student remarked, ‘I don’t understand what the Indians are complaining about. What happened was a long, long time ago. They lost. We won. Get over it.’

“Comments like this have driven me to study the gaps in knowledge, history and context between Montana’s indigenous and settler communities.”

Thurber spent five weeks studying in Northern Ireland, a country with a history of violent conflict and a wealth of knowledge in the area of conflict resolution. According to Thurber, though distinct in significant ways, Northern Ireland and Montana share compelling parallels. Her presentation will examine these two contexts side by side and explore new possibilities for understanding and intervening conflict.

For the last 13 years Thurber has directed NCBI Missoula, a nonprofit leadership-development organization working to reduce prejudice, prevent violence and build more just and inclusive communities throughout Montana. Since 2006, she also has worked as an adjunct assistant professor in UM’s School of Social Work. Now a master’s in social work candidate, her research, teaching and practice interests center on guiding systems such as family, community or organizations to correct persistent inequities and repair social divisions.

For more information about her lecture, call Thurber at 406-550-1960 or email amie1.thurber@umontana.edu.

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AT/all

Local

102412ncbi

Contact: Amie Thurber, adjunct assistant professor, UM School of Social Work, 406-550-1960, amie@ncbimissoula.org.
MISSOULA –

Members of the public are invited to a ribbon-cutting event to celebrate completion of a $3.5 million renovation and expansion of Missoula’s Montana Technology Enterprise Center (MonTEC), a business and technology incubator operated by The University of Montana.

The event starts at 1:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 26, at 1121 E. Broadway Ave. U.S. Sen. Max Baucus, UM President Royce Engstrom and other speakers will make remarks, followed by tours, refreshments and an open house from 1:45 to 3 p.m.

The building project benefits Rivertop Renewables, a company generated by UM research that creates sustainable, biodegradable and nontoxic chemicals. The renovation improved Rivertop’s laboratory and office space and added a 2,000-square-foot semi-works facility, which will aid ongoing research and development of the company’s unique brand of environmentally friendly chemicals.

Rivertop now employs 20 workers and plans to hire 15 to 20 more during the coming year.

The project was made possible by a $1.75 million expansion and renovation grant from the U.S. Economic Development Administration, and that amount was matched by UM. Rivertop will invest an additional $2.5 million in private capital to fully equip the facility.

Joe Fanguy, UM director of technology transfer and MonTEC president, said the finished project provides a strong platform for supporting entrepreneurship and job creation in the region, while strengthening ties between research activities at the University and the state economy.

Jason Kiely, Rivertop’s vice president for marketing, said the renovation and expansion will enable Rivertop and MonTEC to become a Missoula hub for innovation, clean technology and economic development.

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CBS

Western Montana

102412mtec

Contact: Joe Fanguy, UM director of technology transfer and MonTEC president, 406-243-2148, joe.fanguy@mso.umt.edu; John Williams, Scoville Public Relations, 206-660-5503, jwilliams@scovillepr.com.
MISSOULA –

Acclaimed stand-up comedian Brian Regan will perform at The University of Montana at 7 p.m. Sunday, March 24, in the George and Jane Dennison Theatre.

Regan has released two hour-long Comedy Central stand-up specials and DVDs, and his 1997 CD *Brian Regan Live* has sold more than 150,000 copies. Regan also has appeared on the “Late Show with David Letterman” and the Country Music Television network. His nonstop theater tour has visited more than 80 cities each year since 2005 and continues through 2013.

Tickets cost $42.50 and are available at all GrizTix locations and online at [http://www.griztix.com](http://www.griztix.com). For more information call Zoe Donovan, UM Productions marketing coordinator, at 406-243-4719 or email [marketing@umproductions.org](mailto:marketing@umproductions.org).

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BP

Western Montana

102312rega

Contact: Zoe Donovan, UM Productions marketing coordinator, 406-243-4719, [marketing@umproductions.org](mailto:marketing@umproductions.org)
MISSOULA –

The “Can the Cats” food drive will return for its 13th year of Griz-Cat competition Nov. 3-17.

“Can the Cats” is a contest between the University of Montana and Montana State University. The universities compete to collect the most pounds of nonperishable food for their local food bank. The event will benefit the Missoula Food Bank. The winner will be announced at the Griz-Cat football game Saturday, Nov. 17, in Missoula.

People are encouraged to donate items such as potatoes, rice and canned vegetables, fruit and tuna. Monetary donations also are accepted and will be converted to pounds on a $1.60 per pound of food ratio.

Donation boxes will be available in the following locations: Karl Tyler Chevrolet, UM residence halls, The Source in the University Center, Davidson Honors College, the Fraternity and Sorority Involvement office, Mansfield Library, all Noon’s convenience store locations, Lambros Realty, all Missoula Federal Credit Union locations, The Ranch Radio, The MSO Hub, Worden’s Market, all Albertsons locations, Orange Street Food Farm, Grizzly Grocery, Good Food Store and Rosauers. Pre-bagged food will be available for purchase at all Albertsons locations.

For more information visit http://life.umt.edu/fsi/ or call Maureen Ward, assistant director of UM Fraternity and Sorority Involvement, at 406-243-2005 or email maureen.ward@umontana.edu.

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MP

Campus

102312food

Contact: Maureen Ward, assistant director, UM Fraternity and Sorority Involvement, 406-243-2005, maureen.ward@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

The University of Montana Global Leadership Initiative will host a community discussion about how Americans can be change agents in mobilizing foreign policy on education, “Harnessing the Power of Education: RESULTS in Action.” The event is free and open to the public and will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 30, in the University Center North Ballroom.

Speakers Ken Patterson, global grassroots manager for RESULTS, a volunteer organization working to end global poverty, and Genevieve Chabot, co-founder of the Iqra Fund, which works to get overseas girls to school, will share inspiring stories on how Americans can be the global leaders for change.

Patterson has worked with Washington, D.C.-based RESULTS since 2005. He built the structure for a network of more than 70 RESULTS chapters in the U.S. The network supports solutions in the areas of microfinance, global health and education to combat global poverty.

Chabot, who lives in Bozeman, used her education degrees and background to develop teacher trainings and student scholarships for girls in Pakistan, Afghanistan and Morocco through the Iqra Fund. She also developed and maintained programs to monitor and evaluate community needs, programming effects and overall educational development impact through the fund.

The Global Leadership Initiative at UM is a four-year program open to all areas of study in which students engage in innovative seminars, tailored discussions on the President’s Lecture Series and one-on-one contact with inspiring leaders. The initiative creates an opportunity for UM students to ask some of the most pressing questions of the 21st century while gaining the skills necessary to find the answers.

For more information about the event or the initiative, call GLI Program Coordinator Jeanne Loftus at 406-243-5679 or email jeanne.loftus@umontana.edu.

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BP

Western Montana, Bozeman

102212resu

Contact: Jeanne Loftus, program coordinator, UM Global Leadership Initiative, 406-243-5679, jeanne.loftus@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

Allen Wood, the Ruth Norman Halls professor of philosophy at Indiana University, will deliver a lecture titled “Marx on Equality” as part of The University of Montana President’s Lecture Series at 8 p.m. Monday, Oct. 29, in the University Center Ballroom.

A prolific scholar with wide-ranging interests in the history of modern philosophy, Wood published a major study on Karl Marx in 1981, with an expanded edition in 2004. He views Marx as a humanist who had an unflagging hope in people’s desire to fight for their own freedom. He will speak about Marx as an important figure in the history of philosophy from whose insights and errors we can learn. Wood teaches courses in the history of modern philosophy, Kant and existentialism. His publications include “Kant’s Moral Religion,” “Karl Marx” and “Hegel’s Ethical Thought.”

Wood also will present a seminar titled “Kant on the Independence of Right from Ethics” from 3:10 to 4:30 p.m. earlier the same day in Gallagher Business Building Room 123.

The evening lecture is the Henry Bugbee Annual Lecture on Philosophy and the seminar is presented in collaboration with the UM Philosophy Forum. The seminar and lecture are free and open to the public.

The President’s Lecture Series consists of 10 talks on vital topics by distinguished guest speakers throughout the academic year. For more information on the President’s Lecture Series, visit http://umt.edu/president/events/lectures/ or call UM history Professor Richard Drake at 406-243-2981.

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BP

Local

102212lect

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

The University of Montana Global Leadership Initiative will host mountaineers Conrad Anker, Peter Metcalf and Rick Reese for a lecture titled “To the Summit! Mountaineering and Responsibility to the Planet” at 7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 2, in Urey Lecture Hall at UM.

The speakers will share conservation and life lessons they’ve learned among the world’s highest mountains. All three will present photography showing some of the planet’s loftiest peaks, and the images will be accompanied by colorful, instructional narrative. Each climber has a unique approach to conservation and a reputation for delivering exciting and educational programs.

Anker is an internationally renowned mountaineer and captain of the North Face Athlete Team. He has achieved notable summits and first ascents in North America, South America, Antarctica and the Himalayas. In 2012, he summited Mount Everest from the north side without oxygen.

Metcalf is the CEO and president of Black Diamond Equipment and is active in business conservation. Last spring he was named Rebel with a Cause by the Colorado Environmental Coalition, celebrating his long history of community service and environmental activism.

Reese was the director of the Yellowstone Institute in Yellowstone National Park. During that time, he was the principal founder of the Greater Yellowstone Coalition and wrote “Greater Yellowstone: The National Park and Adjacent Wildlands,” which provided an early articulation of the concept of the Greater Yellowstone ecosystem. He also is an accomplished climber and has participated in mountain rescues.

The Global Leadership Initiative at UM is a four-year program open to all areas of study in which students engage in innovative seminars, tailored discussions on the Presidential Lecture Series and one-on-one contact with inspiring leaders. The initiative creates an opportunity for UM students to ask some of the most pressing questions of the 21st century while gaining the skills necessary to find the answers.

For more information about the lecture or the initiative, call GLI Program Coordinator Jeanne Loftus at 406-243-5679 or email jeanne.loftus@umontana.edu.

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BP

Western Montana

102212moun

Contact: Jeanne Loftus, program coordinator, UM Global Leadership Initiative, 406-243-5679, jeanne.loftus@umontana.edu
MISSOULA –

Students are invited to watch the 2012 presidential election at the Presidential Fight Night hosted by the University Center at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 6.

Students can watch the results roll in on the large flat-screen TVs in the UC’s Tech Lounge and compete for prizes in political-themed games like buzzword bingo and state predictions. The event is free and open to the public.

The UC Tech Lounge, located in UC Room 225, is a collaborative learning environment open to students, faculty and staff.

To learn more about the Presidential Fight Night, visit http://www.umt.edu/uc or call Adrienne Donald, assistant director for student involvement and communications, at 406-243-6029 or email adonald@mso.umt.edu.

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BP

Campus

102212pres

Contact: Adrienne Donald, assistant director for student involvement and communications, University Center, 406-243-6029, adonald@mso.umt.edu; Conrad Scheid, student coordinator, Student Involvement Network, 406-243-6189, conrad.scheid@mso.umt.edu.
University of Montana Regents Professor Jakki Mohr has been appointed to the National Academies of Science Committee on Overcoming Barriers to Electric Vehicle Deployment. Mohr, who teaches marketing in the UM School of Business Administration, will help identify market barriers slowing the purchase of electric vehicles and plug-in hybrids in the U.S.

The committee will study the technological, infrastructure and behavioral aspects of introducing more electric vehicles into the country’s transportation system, and will evaluate past incentive programs and the different components of the electric/hybrid vehicle “ecosystem.” Based on market barriers the committee identifies, they also will consider optional roles the government could play in encouraging a greater shift to electric and hybrid transportation.

Mohr will apply her expertise in commercializing new technologies, evaluating the ecosystem of a product – for cars, this includes the vehicles themselves, oil and gas stations, mechanics, dealerships and the whole range of related services – and innovation in business models.

Mohr said by switching up the business model, companies are beginning to market products to consumers based not only on what the product is, but how to get it into people’s hands. One such innovation, by the company Better Place, proposes that rather than purchase an electric or hybrid vehicle, which can be expensive due to their complex batteries, consumers would pay for usage of a car based on their electricity needs, similar to how the price of cell phones is subsidized through the length and features of a monthly plan.

Though electric and hybrid vehicles have been available in different forms for several years, the majority of the U.S. vehicle economy is still based on gasoline-burning models. Study of business innovations and the country’s ability to adapt to a shifting product ecosystem will help the committee determine how electric and hybrid vehicles can more effectively permeate the market.

Mohr was contacted by the National Research Council in July about the possibility of joining the committee. After a thorough interview and vetting process, she was invited to serve on the task force for a two-year commitment.

The committee position is not paid, but offers Mohr a chance to hone and develop her business skills outside the classroom and also appeals to her on personal level.

“We’re really at a tipping point with global warming, and I feel a very compelling personal desire to make sure the work I do is actually for the good of society,” Mohr said. “Really, until we can understand how to wean ourselves from fossil-fuel dependency, we’re not going to solve a lot of the challenges we’re facing.”

Mohr will attend her first committee meeting Oct. 28-29, and looks forward to learning how the group works together to conduct research.

For more information call Mohr at 406-243-2920 or email jakki.mohr@business.umt.edu.

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BP

Local, Dailies

101912mohr

**Contact:** Jakki Mohr, Regents Professor of Marketing, UM School of Business, Department of Management and Marketing, 406-243-2920, jakki.mohr@business.umt.edu.
MISSOULA –

The University of Montana School of Music will present the fifth annual Pianissimo! concerts at 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Oct. 26-27, in the UM Music Recital Hall.

The dynamic event will feature a wide variety of music and styles for solo piano, piano duet, multiple pianos and more, with a total of eight pianos on the recital hall stage. Missoula’s most distinguished pianists will perform, including UM faculty members Steven Hesla, Christopher Hahn, Nancy Cooper and Barbara Blegen, community favorites Molly Morrison, Dorothy Beck-Peterson, Charlotte Kasl and Scott Billadeau, as well as several UM piano students.

The School of Music’s new Steinway & Sons concert grand piano, purchased with funds raised from past Pianissimo! concerts, will be inaugurated and prominently featured in the performances.

The concerts are a benefit for the UM Keyboard Society, and funds raised help students attend conferences, fund performance travel, sponsor events and bring in guest artists. Proceeds also will help with maintenance and care for UM’s pianos, providing instruments that will continue to attract the best students to UM’s music programs.

Tickets cost $20 for adults and seniors and $10 for students. They can be purchased online at http://www.umt.edu/music/event/pianissimo-v, by calling the UM Arts Box Office at 406-243-4581 or at the door the night of the concerts. A reception hosted by Liquid Planet will follow the performances in the foyer of the Music Recital Hall.

For more information call UM Professor Christopher Hahn at 406-243-6490 or email christopher.hahn@mso.umt.edu.

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B P

Local

101912pian

Contact: Christopher Hahn, professor, UM School of Music, 406-243-6490, christopher.hahn@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA –

Montana’s health care workforce is aging, and forecasts suggest the state will start losing 22 primary care doctors to retirement each year starting in 2014.

In an effort to lessen the effects of this looming rural health care challenge, The University of Montana has partnered with medical providers in Missoula and Kalispell to create a new family medicine residency program. UM officials were notified Oct. 15 that the program has been approved by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education.

The Family Medicine Residency of Western Montana will launch next summer with as many as 10 graduate physicians starting a three-year residency program. Up to 10 residents will be added each year thereafter, creating a program that will eventually train 30 resident physicians at a time, said Larry White, a UM associate professor and director of the Western Montana Area Health Education Center.

“This is a wonderful collaboration between UM and health care providers in western Montana,” UM President Royce Engstrom said. “It will begin the process to increase the number of primary care physicians for rural Montanans and be part of a long-term solution to our physician shortage.

“This program had to meet rigorous standards, and receiving accreditation is the recognition that this training will be of the highest quality,” Engstrom said.

“There are about 52 jobs associated with this project, and the average salary will be about $70,000 per year,” White said. “This will be a huge economic boost for western Montana.”

UM’s College of Health Professions and Biomedical Sciences will coordinate the program. UM’s partners in the effort are Community Medical Center, Kalispell Medical Center, Partnership Health Center in Missoula and St. Patrick Hospital.

“The creation of a second family medicine residency in Montana is the most effective mechanism available to improve access to medical care in rural Montana” said Dr. Ned Vasquez, who will direct the new program. “Our mission is to select and train family doctors to serve the many rural communities in the state that are chronically in need of physicians.”

Montana has no medical school, but each year the WWAMI program admits 20 Montana residents to the University of Washington School of Medicine, allowing them to pay in-state tuition. After four years of medical school, graduates elect to train in specialty areas by completing three to five years of residency training. Montana had no residency programs until the Montana Family Medicine Residency was created in 1996, and the Billings program now accepts eight residents annually.

Montana ranks 50th in the nation for graduate medical education slots, with only two residency positions for every 100,000 people. The U.S. average is about 25 per 100,000. This is a challenge for Montana because physicians tend to locate where they last trained, White said. More Montana family medical residencies will result in more doctors staying in Montana. Seventy percent of the Billings residency program graduates have stayed in Montana.

The new UM-based program is expected to cost about $6.7 million by the third year. The costs of residency training are financed primarily through federal dollars received by the three involved hospitals for acting as teaching centers. By year three, up to 24 residents will be based in Missoula and six in Kalispell.

Organizers expect that, in addition to 30 residents, the program will employ seven faculty members, four administrative staff and 10 contract clinical-practice employees. About 35 local specialists also will serve as adjunct faculty on a voluntary basis.

“We plan to recruit top medical school graduates for our program,” said David Forbes, UM interim vice president for research and creative scholarship and the designated institutional official for the new program. “The addition of these new positions gives Montana WWAMI medical graduates a greater opportunity to finish their training in Montana.”

White said the effort to start the residency began in May 2009, when representatives from the University of Washington School of Medicine met with Montana health care leaders in Missoula to discuss the urgent need for increased family medicine physician training in Big Sky Country. White and the Western Montana AHEC then launched a feasibility study focused on creating the residency, which is now becoming a reality.
“Our aging population really makes this program necessary,” Forbes said. “Montana has one of the most rapidly aging populations in the United States. Older individuals use significantly more health care services than younger people.

“In addition, the health care reform act will begin providing access to insurance coverage to many more Montanans in 2014,” he said. “These factors will increase demand at a time when our state health care workforce is shrinking. Expanding the number of family physicians created in Montana is a crucial tool to deal with this dilemma.”

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Contact: Larry White, UM School of Public and Community Health Sciences associate professor, Western Area Health Education Center director, 406-243-4859, larry.white@mso.umt.edu; Dr. Ned Vasquez, director, Family Medicine Residency of Western Montana, 406-644-9289, ned.vasquez@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

Monica Bauer, a featured artist of the current University Center Gallery exhibit, will present “Art. Class. Nation. Location.” at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 25, in the UC Theater as the closing lecture for the 2012 Day of Dialogue.

Bauer will lecture on the collective inspiration and subject manner of her work and the work of fellow featured artists Bev Beck Glueckert and Christine Pinney Karkow. The three artists collaborated to create the current UC Gallery exhibit “20 years and Counting.” Bauer also will discuss how she uses her art to address issues of social justice.

The event begins at 5:30 p.m. with refreshments, and Bauer will present at 6 p.m. Day of Dialogue is a campuswide symposium on diversity held in the UC throughout the day.

For more information visit http://www.umt.edu/dod or call Gwen Landquist, UC marketing and art manager, at 406-243-5555 or email gwen.landquist@mso.umt.edu.

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Contact: Gwen Landquist, University Center marketing and art manager, 406-243-5555, gwen.landquist@mso.umt.edu; Kristina Myer and Sabrina Charlson, UC Gallery student coordinators, 406-243-5564, ucartgallery@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA –

The Institute for Educational Research and Service at The University of Montana has received a $195,000, three-year grant from the U.S. Department of Justice Office of Victims of Crime to develop a training academy for volunteers across Montana who assist victims.

The grant, which involves a one-year planning period and two years of implementation, will create the Montana Victims Advocate Academy to train volunteers from each county and reservation in the state. The project is the result of collaboration between the Montana Attorney General and U.S. Attorney’s Offices, the Montana Board of Crime Control, the Montana Law Enforcement Academy and UM.

Montana Attorney General Steve Bullock believes the grant will improve the treatment of victims of sexual and domestic violence across the state.

“I’ve met many of the outstanding advocates who work with victims in county attorneys’ offices, domestic violence shelters and on Indian reservations throughout Montana, and I know they are incredibly dedicated individuals,” Bullock said. “This grant will allow us to provide high-quality training worthy of their dedication.”

“The new academy and the partnership behind it will help educate and create an even stronger victim-advocate network across the state,” said Brooke Marshall, executive director of the Montana Board of Crime Control.

Providing a venue for consistent training opportunities and improved information sharing on a broad set of crimes including drunk driving, child abuse and identity theft are some of the objectives of the grant.

“Perhaps the most fundamental right of a crime victim is the right to be kept informed by the criminal justice system,” Marshall said.

The project will incorporate curriculum developed by the National Victims Advocate Academy and will explore the addition of course work specific to working in Indian Country, developed by the University’s National Native Children’s Trauma Center, and with student populations. One example for consideration is the PETSA (Personal Empowerment Through Self Awareness) training recently created at UM to help prevent sexual assaults.

The grant also builds on collaboration between the Montana Law Enforcement Academy and UM to create an associate of arts degree in police science.

Work across multiple campus departments and state agencies is part of the University’s commitment to safer communities, said Christine Fiore, professor of psychology and leadership fellow at the UM Office of the President.

“I can think of nothing better than the addition of this important award for the Montana community,” Fiore said. “This will allow us to better our work together and to meet the needs of victims.”

The academy will select both national- and state-level trainers and the trainings will be held on UM’s mountain campus during the summer months of the second and third year. John Frederikson, director of justice resource services at IERS, will lead the project.

For more information call Rick van den Pol, IERS director, at 406-243-6756 or email rick.vandenpol@mso.umt.edu.

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Contact: Rick van den Pol, director, Institute for Educational Research and Service at UM Phyllis J. Washington College of Education and Human Sciences, 406-243-6756, rick.vandenpol@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA –

With Halloween approaching, The University of Montana School of Theatre & Dance will once again hold its Costume Closeout Sale from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday, Oct. 23-24, at the southwest entrance to the Performing Arts and Radio/Television Center. In the event of inclement weather, the sale will be moved inside to the PAR/TV lobby.

The cash-only sale is open to the public and organizers encourage shoppers to bring their own reusable shopping bags.

Sale items include everything from wedding and prom dresses to funky hats, coats and specialty costumes. Items are priced at 50 cents and up. Some pieces were bought and some were handmade. Almost every item was worn in a UM Theatre & Dance production.

To learn more about the items for sale or the UM costume shop call Costume Shop Manager Paula Niccum at 406-243-5271 or email her paula.niccum@umontana.edu.

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Contact: Paula Niccum, costume shop manager, UM School of Theatre and Dance, 406-243-5271, paula.niccum@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

After a nationwide search, The University of Montana will conduct campus interviews and public forums with four finalists for the position of vice president for research and creative scholarship.

The four finalists are Richard Billo, associate vice president for research at the University of Texas at Arlington; Scott Whittenburg, vice president for research and economic development at the University of New Orleans; James Petell, associate vice president for intellectual property management and commercialization and executive director of the University of Rhode Island Research Foundation at URI; and Patrick Pellicane, vice provost for research and dean of the graduate school at the University of Arkansas.

“ This recent phase of the search has moved quickly, yet produced a large pool of talented individuals,” said Chris Comer, dean of the UM College of Arts and Sciences and chair of the search committee. “The finalists display a diverse array of experience, and we are eager to see where there will be strong matches between the aspirations of UM and these talented administrators.”

The four candidates each will speak at a forum where members of the Missoula and campus communities will have opportunities to ask questions and provide feedback to the search committee. The schedule follows:

- Richard Billo: 3:10 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 18, University Center Theater
- Scott Whittenburg: 3:10 p.m. Monday, Oct. 22, UC Theater
- James Petell: To be announced
- Patrick Pellicane: To be announced

Billo has worked at the University of Texas at Arlington since 2005, starting as a professor of computer science and engineering and eventually serving as associate dean for research in the College of Engineering. He also has held teaching and director positions at Oregon State University and the University of Pittsburgh and was a faculty associate at Arizona State University. He is the president of Lone Star Advanced Technology LLC of Dallas-Fort Worth, Texas, and has held other private-sector positions in technology and research companies. Billo has both a master’s and a doctorate in industrial engineering from Arizona State University and a master’s in psychology with a concentration in neuroscience from the University of the Pacific in Stockton, Calif.

Whittenburg has worked at the University of New Orleans since 1979, starting as an assistant professor of chemistry and eventually serving as dean of the graduate school before taking over as vice president for research and economic development. He received a physical chemistry doctorate from the University of Utah and completed his undergraduate degree at Oregon State University.

Petell has worked at the University of Rhode Island since 2011. He served as the executive director of the University of North Dakota Research Foundation in Grand Forks, N.D., from 2005 to 2010 and held leadership roles in private technology and research organizations across the country since 1988. From 1985 to 1988, he was an assistant professor in the departments of pediatrics and biological sciences at the State University of New York in Buffalo, N.Y. Petell completed his postdoctoral fellowship in cellular and molecular biology at Roswell Park Memorial Institute in Buffalo and earned a doctorate in chemistry from the University of California at San Diego.

Pellicane has worked at the University of Arkansas since 2009. Before that he served as dean of the graduate schools at East Carolina University and Colorado State University. He was the president for the Center for Advancement of Forest Ecosystem Resources Utilization and Management Inc. for ten years and taught in the Colorado State University Department of Forest Sciences from 1981 to 2006. He earned a doctorate in wood science and engineering from CSU, as well as a master’s in wood science. He also received a master’s in mathematics from St. John’s University in New York City.

For more information call Comer at 406-243-2632 or email christopher.comer@umontana.edu.

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Contact: Chris Comer, dean, UM College of Arts and Sciences, 406-243-2632, christopher.comer@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

Tom Martin believes his upcoming research on two superfamilies of birds in southeast Asia will have a major impact on science’s understanding of how species form, how physiology may influence longevity and the implications of climate change on their development and survival.

The National Science Foundation obviously sees potential in the research, too, because the Montana Wildlife Cooperative Research Unit senior scientist and University of Montana professor, together with four other scientists, just received a $2 million grant from the organization to pursue the study.

Martin leads the study titled “Dimensions: Collaborative Research – Historical and contemporary influences on elevational distributions and biodiversity tested in tropic Asia” with partners from the Smithsonian Institution, the University of Kansas and Louisiana State University. A large sum of the NSF grant, $1.3 million, will come to UM for the study, and Martin will lead a group of student researchers to the tropical island Borneo to study birds in the Sylvoidea and Muscicapidae families.

The study will examine the effects of elevation and temperature change on the tropical birds, who are ideal test subjects due to their narrow tolerance for environmental shifts. Martin said that in the wild species in the same genus are stacked on each other elevationally and latitudinally. As you move higher up a mountain or to higher latitudes, you will see species change with little to no bleed-over. Martin and the team of researchers on the project hypothesize that these species’ ranges aren’t based solely on competition or physiology, but rather a result of an interaction of competition and physiology with fecundity and survival strategies.

“One of the things that’s becoming increasingly recognized, especially in the tropics, is that as things warm up, some species don’t have the physiological tolerance to deal with global warming,” Martin said. “So they’re being pushed up the mountain, and the species that are at the top of the mountain are then being pushed off. There’s no habitat that’s suitable for them.”

Martin will use a team of three doctoral students and about 10 postgraduate students to perform an on-the-ground study of the birds in their tropical habitat. They will find nests, measure eggs, take temperature probes, record video of the parental behavior and more. The group also will measure the metabolism of eggs, nestlings and adults in the lab – before returning them safely to the wild – to see how changes in temperature affect the most basic bodily functions of the birds.

Martin said the two bird superfamilies have broad variation within their species, which allows for detailed study of the impact of small changes on related subjects. Even the wild behavior of the birds is a good indicator of the importance of temperature on their development.

“If you look at the Sylvoidea, you have a species there where parents will spend 90 percent of the time on the nest and the embryos will develop in 13 days,” Martin said. “And then you have another species there that takes eight-hour off-bouts every day in the middle of the day, and so they’re only on the nest 40 percent of the time and their embryos – same size – take 24 days.

“So the exact same size eggs grow in 13 days versus 24 days because of the differences in the way parents take care of them.”

Researchers at the Smithsonian, Kansas and Louisiana will study separate data gathered from the birds, such as genetics of the populations and the potential parasites identified in blood smears. The team will take a cross-disciplinary look at the biology, behavior and impact of external factors on the birds to develop a better understanding of what causes species to separate. The predominant theory of competition doesn’t explain current developments, according to Martin.

“The fact that we see species moving elevationally as temperature rises suggests that there is an influence of physiological tolerance and not competition,” he said. “If it were competition, they shouldn’t move.” Yet, studies also show that competition can be acting too.

The study will examine factors such as competition alongside physiological tolerance to see how several things could have a cumulative influence on species development. Martin said these hypotheses have hardly been discussed in the scientific community, let alone studied.

“If the hypotheses work out, we’re going to make major changes in thinking about speciation events, elevation distributions and even possible extinction events,” he said.
The team of UM students and researchers will conduct their study in the Malaysian state of Sarawak on Borneo from the beginning of February to the middle of June. Aside from collecting samples and taking measurements, the team will record videos that will be edited and posted to YouTube by UM students on campus. Martin said the videos will allow the group to share interesting bird behavior with the public such as nest building, nestling rearing and predation of nestlings.

“Everything, it turns out, likes to eat baby birds,” Martin said.

Martin said the study is happening at the crucial time for the tropics. Tropical habitats around the world are being destroyed and with them a whole dearth of information about species – some of which have never been described or studied.

“The incredible tropical diversity is just getting lost at a phenomenal rate,” Martin said. “Things like what we’re doing, where we’re actually doing intense study of actual breeding, nobody does that in the tropics. We don’t have hardly any information.”

The investigators on the grant at other institutions are Robert Fleischer and Ellen Martinson at the Smithsonian, Robert Moyle at the University of Kansas and Frederick Sheldon at Louisiana State University.

The Montana Wildlife Cooperative Research Unit is a national cooperative between the U.S. Geological Survey and state universities. Martin works in the UM unit and holds joint faculty appointments in the Department of Wildlife Biology and the Division of Biological Sciences. He has conducted a wide array of research on birds, including breeding biology and the effects of climate change on bird abundance and diversity. For more information call Martin at 406-243-5372 or email tom.martin@umontana.edu.

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Photo captions:

**Top image:** A Bornean Stubtail (Urosphena whiteheadi), an endemic species, at the entrance of its nest. This species has an unusually long embryonic period for its size, 23 to 25 days, because it leaves eggs exposed to cold, ambient temperatures for six- to eight-hour off-bouts from incubating each day.

**Bottom image:** The Chestnut-capped Yuhina (Yuhina everetti), pictured carrying food for its offspring, is slightly larger than the Bornean Stubtail, but has a much shorter embryonic period of only 13 days because parents incubate almost continuously to keep eggs warm. Differences in embryo sensitivity to temperature during development may constrain where these birds can exist along elevational gradients.

Contact: Tom Martin, senior scientist and professor, Montana Wildlife Cooperative Research Unit at UM, 406-243-5372, tom.martin@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

Professor Dennis Ojima will deliver a lecture titled “Emerging Challenges for Natural Resource Management under Changing Climate” as part of the Montana Institute on Ecosystems Distinguished Speaker Series on Tuesday, Oct. 23, at The University of Montana. The event will be held at 7 p.m. in Interdisciplinary Science Building Room 110.

Ojima is a professor at the Warner College of Natural Resources at Colorado State University and a senior scholar at the Heinz Center for Science, Economics and the Environment. He also is the university consortium coordinator for the recently established U.S. Geological Survey North Central Climate Science Center. His research focuses on global change effects on ecosystems, including climate and land-use changes, carbon-accounting methods for forest carbon sequestration and adaptation, and mitigation strategies to climate change.

Ojima is an Aldo Leopold Leadership Fellow and has received recognition for his international contributions to the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment. He received the 2005 Zayed International Prize for the Environment and the International Panel on Climate Change 2007 Nobel Peace Prize.

The Institute on Ecosystems Distinguished Speaker Series provides opportunity for faculty and students to connect with the brightest, most interesting scholars in environmental disciplines.

Approved by the Montana Board of Regents in November 2011, the Institute on Ecosystems is a community of 200 scholars across the Montana University System with the goal of advancing integrated discovery, education and engagement in the environmental and ecosystem sciences. The institute, co-located at Montana State University and UM, is supported by a five-year grant from the National Science Foundation Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research.

For more information about the lecture call Program Manager Gay Allison at 406-243-2617 or email gay.allison@umontana.edu.

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Contact: Gay Allison, program manager, Montana Institute on Ecosystems at UM, 406-243-2617, gay.allison@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

The Southwestern Crown of the Continent Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program monitoring committee will host a discovery day with Seeley-Swan High School on Tuesday, Oct. 30.

More than 100 students will spend the day measuring forest attributes at the Auggie Fuels project site on U.S. Forest Service land just outside Seeley Lake. During the discovery day students will learn about forest management and monitoring and will use the data they collect in classroom exercises after the visit.

Each class will work in small groups to collect data on one of the following topics: wildlife use in areas where roads will be decommissioned; forest understory and overstory in areas where mechanical thinning is planned; and soils and fuels in plots where prescribed fires are planned.

The College of Forestry and Conservation at The University of Montana is working with Seeley-Swan High School, Blackfoot Challenge, Seeley Lake District of the U.S. Forest Service, the Montana Forest Restoration Committee, Northwest Connections and the Swan Ecosystem Center to plan the discovery day.

Dean of the college, James Burchfield, and several college faculty members are on the CFLRP’s monitoring committee.

“We’re really excited to talk about forest management and monitoring with the students, especially in their own backyards,” said Cory Davis, coordinator of the committee.

Local land managers and professionals will talk to the students about careers in forest management and then discuss the forest treatments and their objectives. Students also will complete preparatory materials before the field day, covering subjects such as tree identification, wildlife signs and forest succession.

The CFLRP encourages and funds collaborative, science-based ecosystem restoration of priority forest landscapes. The Southwestern Crown Collaborative brings together conservation groups, federal and state land agencies, forest-products industry partners, local community groups, UM and other stakeholders to provide solutions that support forest health and rural communities in the Blackfoot, Clearwater and Swan River valleys.

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Contact: Leana Schelvan, director of communications, UM College of Forestry and Conservation, 406-243-6693, leana.schelvan@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

The University of Montana brims with researchers trying to advance human knowledge and puzzle out the mysteries presented to us by the natural world.

To highlight some of the great science being conducted here in western Montana, the University will host a first-ever "UM Research Spotlight" from 2 to 4:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 1, in the University Center Theater. The event is free and open to the public and will be followed by a social.

“We are trying a novel approach with this presentation,” said David Forbes, UM’s interim vice president for research and creative scholarship. “The researchers on our panels will each show a few slides, with everyone commenting on what’s presented. We’ll do it in a way that’s understandable and accessible to everyone, and we hope to get interaction with the audience.

“Our researchers will touch upon aspects of their respective projects that intersect with local, national and international needs,” he said. “They also will discuss project financing, collaboration opportunities, potential commercialization and end-user impacts.”

The event will be divided into two panels. The first, “Select UM Mind and Body Research,” will feature:

- Moderator and Professor John Gerdes, “Central Nervous System Neurotransmission – Research Related to ALS, Alzheimer’s, TBI, etc.
- Associate Professor Erica Woodahl, "Pharmacogenomics and Native American Populations.
- Assistant Professor Catherine Off, "Speech Therapy after a Stroke – Word Finding.’’
- Assistant Professor Matt Bundle, "Movement Assessment after Amputation – Running is Different than Walking.”
- Professor Tom Seekins, “Community Participatory Research – Each Community has Different Issues.”

The second panel, “Developing Technologies for Monitoring Humans, Animals and the Global Environment,” will offer:

- Associate Professor Bret Tobalske, "Monitoring Methods that Have Gone to the Birds.”
- Professor Steve Gaskill, "Obesity in Children and the Growing Need for Physical Activity.”
- Research Associate Dave Ausband, “Who’s Afraid of the Big Bad Wolf When You Can Howl Back?”
- Regents Professor Steve Running, “Recent Inferences from the Global Carbon Cycle.”

“This will be an exciting event, and I hope everyone will come out to learn a bit about what we are up to,” Forbes said. “I think people will be surprised and fascinated by what’s happening right here at UM.”

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Contact: David Forbes, UM interim vice president for research and creative scholarship, 406-243-4766, david.forbes@mso.umt.edu
MISSOULA –

Three children of Missoula businesswoman Rachel Sprunk Smith are honoring their mother through the creation of a sizable scholarship for students in The University of Montana College of Visual and Performing Arts. The Rachel Sprunk Smith Scholarship will provide $4,000 scholarships each year to two students in the college. Smith’s children, Eric Sprunk of Portland, Ore.; Greg Sprunk of Phoenix; and Rochelle Sprunk of Vancouver, Wash. worked with the UM Foundation to set up the fund.

“We are deeply grateful for the wonderful commitment and support of Rachel Sprunk Smith and her family,” said Stephen Kalm, dean of UM College of Visual and Performing Arts. “This gift will positively impact the lives of many students.”

Smith earned her communication studies degree at UM in 1984. After graduation, she established a career in real estate and within three years, she became Missoula’s “Businesswoman of the Year.”

A loyal supporter of the University and the college, Rachel gives her time and resources generously. She was the first woman to serve on the University’s Excellence Fund Steering Committee in 1985. She also participated in the UM Alumni Association’s House of Delegates and Alumni Board, then on the college’s Advisory Council. In that role, she promoted the college’s annual scholarship fundraiser, “Odyssey of the Stars.” Although Smith’s term on the Advisory Council ended in 2011, she continues her advocacy of UMArts and “Odyssey of the Stars.”

The first two recipients of the scholarships are Campbell Youngblood-Petersen of Missoula, a senior percussionist and music major, and Karlie Kahl, a senior in media arts, also of Missoula.

For more information call Peggy Nesbitt, assistant to the dean of the College of Visual and Performing Arts, at 406-243-4971 or email peggynesbitt@umontana.edu.

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Contact: Peggy Nesbitt, assistant to the dean, UM College of Visual and Performing Arts, 406-243-4971, peggynesbitt@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

The Montana Anthropology Student Association at The University of Montana will host a Halloween Banquet at 7 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 20, at the DoubleTree Edgewater Hotel Ballroom, located at 100 Madison St. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers archaeologist Michael “Sonny” Trimble and UM Provost Perry Brown will speak at the event, which is a fundraiser for the student organization.

During Operation Iraqi Freedom, Trimble served as director of the Iraq Mass Graves Investigation Team. He recovered evidence of genocide committed by the regime of Iraqi President Sadaam Hussein. Trimble also is the director of the Arlington National Cemetery historical gate reconstruction and the Veterans Curation Program.

Tickets for the event cost $10 and can be purchased from the UM Department of Anthropology in Social Science Building Room 203. Costumes are encouraged and the banquet will feature live and silent auctions, refreshments, music, photo booths and costume contests.

For more information call Rehanna Olson, UM Department of Anthropology administrative associate, at 406-243-2693 or email rehanna.olson@mso.umt.edu.

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Contact: Rehanna Olson, administrative associate, UM Department of Anthropology, 406-243-2693, rehanna.olson@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA –

Missoula-based Xplorer Maps will present The University of Montana’s Flathead Lake Biological Station and the Flathead Lakers with the first installment of fundraising proceeds from sales of its antique-style map of Flathead Lake at 11 a.m., Wednesday, Oct. 24, at the FLBS.

The company has sold about half of the 300 signed, limited-edition prints of the map, which was released over the summer to raise money and awareness for continued monitoring, research and protection of Flathead Lake.

Greg Robitaille, co-owner of Xplorer Maps, will present a check in support of programs run by the station and the Lakers. The FLBS will use its portion of the donation as a matching contribution to the ongoing Flathead Lake Monitoring Challenge Grant. Xplorer Maps agreed to donate $20,000 of the revenue generated by the map to the FLBS and the Lakers.

In addition to the remaining $300 Giclee prints of the hand-drawn map, the original ink and watercolor artwork is being auctioned on the Xplorer Maps website until Nov. 1, with the proceeds also benefiting the FLBS and Flathead Lakers.

To view, purchase or learn more about the maps and the programs they support, visit http://www.xplorermaps.com, http://www.flatheadlakers.org or http://www.umt.edu/flbs; or call FLBS Research Scientist Tom Bansak at 406-982-3301 ext. 229 or email tom.bansak@umontana.edu.

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Contact: Tom Bansak, research scientist, UM Flathead Lake Biological Station, 406-982-3301 ext. 229, tom.bansak@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA —

The University of Montana’s seventh annual Day of Dialogue will be Thursday, Oct. 25. The Day of Dialogue is a campuswide series of events focused on diversity topics. Students, faculty, staff, alumni and community members discuss, present, perform and exhibit art throughout the day.

Participants can explore topics such as race, gender, ethnicity, ability/disability, religion, sexual orientation, class, social hierarchy and privilege. Day of Dialogue events, which are participatory in nature, are created by UM students, faculty and staff and community members.

The Day of Dialogue will begin at 9:10 a.m. in the University Center South Atrium. Participants then can choose from more than 17 free educational sessions that begin at 9:40 a.m., 11:10 a.m., noon, 1:10 p.m. and 2:40 p.m. on the third floor of the University Center.

A closing cultural session will include the lecture by Monica Bauer titled “Art. Class. Nation. Location.” in the UC Theater. Doors will open at 5:30 p.m. for a light reception before the 6 p.m. lecture.

To learn more about this event, visit the Day of Dialogue website at http://www.umt.edu/dod. For more information call Peter Donaldson, Day of Dialogue coordinator, at 406-243-5032 or email dayofdialogue@mso.umt.edu.

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**Contact:** Peter Donaldson, Day of Dialogue coordinator, 406-243-5032, dayofdialogue@mso.umt.edu; Jamar Galbreath, program adviser, UC Student Involvement Network, 406-243-5776, jamar.galbreath@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA –

The Maureen and Mike Mansfield Center at The University of Montana is hosting 10 women who are emerging leaders from Vietnam, Thailand, Cambodia and Laos Oct. 4 through Nov. 11 as part of the U.S. Department of State’s Professional Fellows Program.

The Professional Fellows Program, an exchange program of the State Department’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, promotes international cooperation and builds networks of people and organizations working on critical issues worldwide. During their one-month fellowships with governmental and nongovernmental agencies in Missoula, Helena and Pablo, participants gain experience working alongside their American counterparts.

The goal of the exchange is to foster collaborative action to address women’s concerns that have global repercussions. Participants in the Professional Fellows Program are placed in public, private and nonprofit organizations, where they learn firsthand how issues in their field are addressed in the U.S. The fellows also gain an understanding of American culture through community-based events.

The Mansfield Center hosted its first group of 10 leaders through the program last March. In August, their Montana counterparts traveled to southeast Asia for their fellowships.

"Based on the first-stage exchange that occurred earlier this year, the program has proven to be a fantastic opportunity to expand global partnerships for our Montana communities," said Deena Mansour, associate director of the Mansfield Center. "The first group of eight Montana travelers recently returned from southeast Asia enthusiastic about their travel and looking forward to continuing global relationships beyond the scope of the grant."

At the conclusion of their fellowships, participants will take part in the Professional Fellows Congress Nov. 7-10 in Washington, D.C. The congress provides a forum for participants to discuss best practices with other young leaders in their profession and to develop concrete projects that they can implement when they return home. The Montana participants for this exchange cycle will travel to Asia for their fellowships in January 2013.

The Mansfield Center is one of 17 U.S.-based nonprofit organizations and universities chosen to host foreign professionals in 2012 for the Professional Fellows Program from more than 50 countries and territories worldwide.

The Mansfield Center at UM promotes better understanding of Asia, ethics and public affairs in the spirit of longtime U.S. Sen. Mike Mansfield and his wife, Maureen. Project partners include the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, the Department of Public Health and Human Services, the Women’s Foundation and the YWCA of Missoula.

The U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Exchange supports exchange programs that increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and other countries. Approximately 50,000 individuals take part annually in exchange programs managed by the U.S. Department of State.

For more information call Mansour at 406-243-2713 or email deena.mansour@umontana.edu, or call Anna Griffin with the U.S. Department of State at 202-632-6452 or email ECA_PASC@state.gov. Additional information is available online at http://exchanges.state.gov/citizens/profs/professional-fellows.html and http://www.umt.edu/mansfield.

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Contact: Deena Mansour, associate director, UM Maureen and Mike Mansfield Center, 406-243-2713, deena.mansour@umontana.edu; Anna Griffin, U.S. Department of
MISSOULA –

The University of Montana Paleontology Center will host several events Wednesday, Oct. 17, to celebrate National Fossil Day.

The celebration will begin with a fossil lecture by Paleontology Center Director George D. Stanley at 4 p.m. in the C.H. Clapp Building. Tours, kids’ activities and lectures will follow from 5 to 8 p.m. in the atrium outside Clapp Building Room 131. The event is free and open to the public.

In addition to celebrating the history of ancient life, National Fossil Day promotes public awareness and stewardship of fossils and fosters a greater appreciation of their scientific and educational value.

The Paleontology Center contains more than 100,000 fossils from Montana, the West and around the world. Fossils provide a significant record of past and changing life.

"The public should know that we have a nationally recognized research collection of fossils on campus," said Stanley.

More information about National Fossil Day is online at http://www.nature.nps.gov/geology/nationalfossilday.

For more information on the Paleontology Center or the upcoming events, call Kallie Moore, collections manager of the Paleontology Center, at 406-243-5151, email kallie.moore@mso.umt.edu or visit the center’s website at http://www.cas.umt.edu/paleontology.

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Contact: Kallie Moore, collections manager, UM Paleontology Center, 406-243-5151, kallie.moore@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA –

Chain saws will rev as the 96th Foresters’ Ball holds its first materials collection day and University of Montana students gather about 400 support poles during the Pole Run at Lubrecht Experimental Forest on Saturday, Oct. 13.

The Foresters’ Ball, scheduled for Friday and Saturday, March 22-23, is entirely student-run and has been a significant part of the University, Missoula and Montana culture since 1915. Students collaborate with UM, Missoula entities and the natural resources community to put on the event.

The poles collected Saturday will be used to build the 1800s logging town that is the hallmark of the music- and dance-filled scholarship fundraiser.

"By working with Lubrecht we were able to find a spot that has the ideal-sized lodgepole pine needed for construction," Construction Officer Evan Neal said. "And we’re giving valuable on-the-job experience to College of Forestry and Conservation students."

Older students teach new participants about safe chain saw-operating procedures while gaining leadership experience.

"If it weren’t for the Foresters’ Ball, I’d know next to nothing about working in the woods. It’s where I learned to saw, learned some tree ID, and about keeping my head up and looking at what’s going on around me," said Dylan Brooks, a third-year participant and member of the seven-member Foresters’ Ball Committee. "Now, I’m one of the guys teaching new people, which is pretty cool because moving up in my career as a wildland firefighter, leadership is everything."

Work on the 96th Foresters’ Ball started last spring when the Ball began operating under a new strategic plan. The plan reaffirms the Foresters’ Ball core values of leadership, scholarship generation, hard work, networking and the celebration of the history and traditions of natural resource management. A few changes have been made to the traditional two-night dance schedule, as well.

This year the Foresters’ Ball will expand to host a Careers in National Resources Day and Community Forestry Day in partnership with the Forestry Scholarship Association. The new events broaden the scope of the Ball to more directly include Missoula and the surrounding community. The Careers in Natural Resources Day will be geared toward high school juniors and seniors interested in pursuing an education or career in natural resources, while the Community Forestry Day will be a family-oriented event with informative presentations, demonstrations, and fun, hands-on activities.

The dance hours are 7-11 p.m. with entry between 7 and 9 p.m. Increased screening of attendees by security will enforce sobriety as a condition of entry. The “Passion Pit” will be replaced with an exhibit focused on the 96th Foresters’ Ball theme “Lightning Striking, Crews A’ Hiking,” exploring initial-attack wildland firefighting and giving attendees a more well-rounded and accurate understanding of the deep roots of the Foresters’ Ball.

Students or community members interested in the learning experiences, receiving a scholarship or participating in the Pole Run or other events can call Brooks at 785-550-2642 or email forestersball@gmail.com. More information is online at http://www.forestersball.com.

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Contact: Dylan Brooks, UM Foresters’ Ball publicity officer, 785-550-2642, forestersball@gmail.com.
MISSOULA –

University of Montana students soon will enjoy produce grown in their own backyard year-round thanks to the Class of 2012. This past spring’s graduates partnered with the UM Foundation to donate a new greenhouse that will be located at the University Dining Services Garden between the Lommasson Center and Craig Hall.

Construction of the greenhouse will take place during October, with a community build day Tuesday, Oct. 16, when volunteers will help put up the main walls of the structure. The final unveiling will take place Monday, Oct. 22.

Each year, the UM Foundation works with graduating students on the Senior Class Gift Campaign to encourage donations for a gift from the class to the University. The Class of 2012 chose to partner with UM’s Farm to College program to purchase a solar greenhouse constructed by a local company, Bad Goat Forest Products. The solar greenhouse, which will be constructed from repurposed beetle-kill lumber, was chosen because its unique design allows growing year-round.

“I joined the Senior Class Gift Campaign as a way to give back to The University of Montana,” said Becca Millsap, 2012 Senior Class Gift Campaign chair. “The University will always be a place I call home and I wanted to do my part to continue to make it great.”

A group of seven seniors served on the steering committee for the 2012 Senior Class Gift Campaign. They polled fellow seniors and deliberated on the best possible campus gift, and came up with a solar greenhouse. With the assistance of UM Foundation staff, they received gifts from 160 classmates and raised $3,500. They asked fellow seniors to make a gift of $20.12 to commemorate their class year. The committee unanimously decided to reach out to UM’s Farm to College Program to ask them for a “match.”

“We are thrilled the greenhouse won the seniors’ vote,” said Ian Finch, Farm to College Coordinator at University Dining Services. “The impact of a campus greenhouse pairs nicely with the Garden Project in a holistic sense, as it relates to growing sustainable food on campus.”

The Farm to College program matched the dollar amount the seniors raised in order to purchase a solar greenhouse for the UM community. Food grown in the greenhouse will be eaten in the Food Zoo and other University Dining Services facilities.

“We are focused on building a culture of philanthropy here at UM, and this campaign provides a visual for all UM students,” said Tara Udall, associate director of annual giving - internal programs at the UM Foundation. “Graduating seniors continue to give back to UM through great senior class gifts, like a campus map on Mount Sentinel, trees on the Oval and a new bike rack outside The Payne Family Native American Center.”

The 2013 Senior Class Gift Campaign Committee is organizing now. The goal is to raise more than $4,000 for a gift to UM. To volunteer or give, call Tara Udall at 406-243-2575 or email tara.udall@mso.umt.edu. Learn more about the Senior Challenge at http://supportum.org/guidetogiving/annualgifts/Seniorchallenge/.

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NOTE: A map of the UDS Garden location can be found at http://bit.ly/QVIJaKO.

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Western Montana

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Contact: Tara Udall, associate director of annual giving, UM Foundation, 406-243-2575, tara.udall@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA –

Leading scholar of American foreign policy Bruce Jentleson will deliver a lecture titled “American Foreign Policy in a New Era” at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 17, in the University Center Theater at The University of Montana. The free public lecture is presented by the Maureen and Mike Mansfield Center at UM.

Jentleson is a professor of public policy and political science at Duke University and served as a senior adviser to the Department of State policy planning director from 2009 to 2011. He will discuss ways he believes are effective in promoting U.S. foreign policy interests geared to the realities of the world as it is, not the way it used to be. He contends a varied approach to foreign policy, such as the different strategies pursued in Libya, Iraq and relating to global financial reform, best suit the international environment of the 21st century.

Jentleson is a frequent commenter who has appeared on the Lehrer News Hour, BBC, Al Jazeera and NPR. His recent publications include “American Foreign Policy: Dynamics of Choice in the 21st Century” and “The End of Arrogance: America in the Global Competition of Ideas.” Before teaching at Duke, Jentleson held research appointments at the U.S. Institute of Peace, the Brookings Institution, Oxford University and the International Institute for Strategic Studies. He also served as a senior foreign policy adviser to Vice President Al Gore during his 2000 presidential campaign and currently is a member of the Obama 2012 campaign on the National Security and Advisory Steering Committee.

The lecture will be co-sponsored by the Mansfield Center, the World Affairs Council of Montana and the UM Global Leadership Initiative. The Center works to promote an understanding of Asia, public affairs and ethics.

For more information call Mansfield Center Associate Director Otto Koester at 406-243-2050 or email otto.koester@umontana.edu.

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Contact: Otto Koester, associate director, Maureen and Mike Mansfield Center at UM, 406-243-2050, otto.koester@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

Washington Post TV critic Hank Stuever will deliver The University of Montana’s annual T. Anthony Pollner Lecture at 7 p.m. Monday, Oct. 22 in the University Center Theater.

Stuever, the 2012 Pollner Distinguished Professor in UM’s School of Journalism, will present “Liner Notes for the End of the World: My Adventures in Covering American Pop Culture.” Stuever has worked at The Washington Post as a features writer since 1999 and is the author of “Off Ramp,” an essay collection about American life, and “Tinsel,” a nonfiction book about the emotional and economic impact of Christmas.

Stuever’s lecture will focus on the ways our everyday lives intersect with mass media and entertainment culture and how to get real, human stories out of those encounters. Stories such as people sleeping in front of stores on Black Friday to buy the new i-device, trying to become Miss America (or Miss Anything), experiencing hubris as they start a rock band or try to become a TV star and planning an extravagant wedding like they see on reality TV.

“Most of us are born, live and will die in an America of box stores and quasi-celebrities,” Stuever said. “My work always has been about telling those stories as intimately as possible. But also being a wry observer, even a critic, of where society is headed. These stories can be funny or sad, depending on the reader’s point of view, but they should always make you think more deeply, even about the things that seem trivial and nonsensical. That’s good journalism.”

The T. Anthony Pollner professorship was created in 2001 in memory of Anthony Pollner, a UM journalism alumnus who died two years after graduating. A distinguished journalist is in residence at the school each fall semester and teaches a course, advises the student newspaper and delivers the Pollner lecture. Stuever is UM’s 12th Pollner professor.

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Western Montana

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Contact: Angela Heiser, administrative assistant, UM School of Journalism, 406-243-4366, angela.heiser@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

U.S. Ambassador to China Gary Locke will speak in a webcast titled “China Town Hall: Local Connections, National Reflections,” at 6 p.m. Monday, Oct. 29, in James E. Todd Building Room 210 at The University of Montana. The event is free and open to the public.

The event will be broadcast to 50 select U.S. cities and is organized by the National Committee on United States-China Relations and the Maureen and Mike Mansfield Center at UM.

Locke will discuss the U.S.-China relationship in a live webcast and respond to questions from audience members at nationwide venues, including Missoula. The webcast will be followed by an on-site discussion with local China experts Terry Weidner, Mansfield senior fellow in Asian affairs and Steven I. Levine, UM research faculty associate, who will discuss U.S.-China relations from the perspective of the Chinese party congress in November.

Locke has served in Beijing since August 2011. Previously, he served as U.S. secretary of commerce and as governor of Washington state. Along with his longstanding commitment to public service, Locke has extensive experience working with China, particularly in trade. Locke is the first Chinese-American to serve in these government posts.

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

For more information call Deena Mansour, associate director of The Mansfield Center, at 406-243-2713, email deena.mansour@mso.umt.edu or visit http://www.umt.edu/mansfield.

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

Results from a five-year study involving University of Montana plant ecologist John Maron suggest plants can evolve quickly to lose anti-insect defenses when those defensive traits are no longer needed.

Maron collaborated on a study of evening primrose wildflowers in experimental plots growing in New York. The study found that primroses lost defensive traits that protected them from plant-eating moths in only three or four generations when the insects were experimentally suppressed.

"The research demonstrates that evolution can occur quite rapidly in a field setting," Maron said. "It also shows that in the absence of herbivorous insects the frequency of plants possessing traits associated with herbivore resistance can change rapidly."

The National Science Foundation funded the research, and results were published in the Oct. 5 issue of Science. Anurag Agrawal of Cornell University was the principal investigator, and he worked with researchers at UM, the University of Toronto and the University of Turku, Finland.

Through natural selection, the wildflowers evolved away from having high concentrations of insect-deterring chemicals and later flowering, which protects against plant-eating larvae that peak early in growing seasons. The primroses also evolved traits making them better able to compete against dandelions, which unexpectedly thrived in the experimental insect-suppression plots.

"When dandelions were liberated from their own herbivores, they became more abundant in the plots," Maron said. "This altered the competitive environment and selected for primrose genotypes that could handle this increased competition.

"This rapid change in primrose competitive ability was unexpected," he said. "It shows how interactions influencing one species in an assemblage can in turn affect the evolution of other community members."

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CBS

State

100912prim

Contact: John Maron, UM biology professor, 406-243-6202, john.maron@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA –

The University of Montana School of Business Administration and the Montana Academy of Distinguished Entrepreneurs will honor Greg Gianforte, founder of RightNow Technologies, with the 2012 Pioneer in Industry Award. Gianforte will present a talk titled “Improving K-12 Education in Montana” and participate in a question-and-answer session from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 11, at the George and Jane Dennison Theatre.

Gianforte is a serial entrepreneur in the computer-networking and software industries, and an innovator in the customer-experience market.

Gianforte founded Bozeman-based RightNow Technologies, a customer service and support solutions company, in 1997. Under his leadership as chairman and CEO, RightNow enjoyed continuous growth, with nearly 2,000 consumer-focused companies around the world using its products, including British Airways, Cisco and Sprint. The company had more than 1,100 employees worldwide and more than $225 million in annual revenue. He took RightNow public in 2004, and in 2011 he sold the company to Oracle for more than $1.5 billion.

Gianforte is involved in a number of philanthropic endeavors through the Gianforte Family Foundation, including Bootstrap Montana, a micro-loan program designed to assist rural entrepreneurs with zero-interest loans, and the expansion of ACE Scholarships into Montana, which provide $2,000-per-year scholarships to low- and moderate-income families to send their kids to private schools of their choice.

The Pioneer in Industry Award was created to enhance the entrepreneurship opportunities for UM students and to inspire Montana’s future generation of entrepreneurs. It is presented to pioneers and innovators who have been recognized as leaders in their industry and who demonstrate a sense of social responsibility through positive contributions they make to the communities where they live.

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Contact: Tammy Yedinak, UM School of Business Administration assistant to the dean, 406-243-6195, tammy.yedinak@business.umt.edu.
MISSOULA –

University of Montana alumnus Aníbal Pauchard recently published a book titled “Observation and Ecology: Broadening the Scope of Science to Understand a Complex World.” Pauchard, who earned a doctorate from UM's College of Forestry and Conservation in 2002, co-wrote the book with University of Arizona research scientist Rafe Sagarin.

The book promotes the use of observational methodologies to understand environmental problems. Pauchard and Sagarin lay out the techniques of an observational approach to ecology and explain how this can provide a greater understanding of quickly changing ecological processes.

“I am extremely enthusiastic of the potential to increase direct observation of nature, especially in younger students who are just starting their careers in ecology,” Pauchard said. “I think the science that can be achieved is more comprehensive and more relevant the more the students go to the field and get to know their study systems. It's more relevant to understanding nature and also to its conservation.”

The authors argue that the need to understand and address large-scale environmental problems that are difficult to study in controlled environments – issues ranging from climate change to overfishing to invasive species – drives the field of ecology in new and important directions.

“Observation and Ecology” documents the transformation, exploring how scientists and researchers are expanding their methodological toolbox to incorporate an array of new and reexamined observational approaches. These range from traditional ecological knowledge and animal-borne sensors to genomic and remote-sensing technologies that track, study and understand current environmental problems and their implications.

Since 2003, Pauchard has worked at the faculty of Forest Sciences at the University of Concepción, where he is associate professor and director of the Laboratorio de Invasiones Biológicas. He has led Concepción’s undergraduate program of Natural Resource Conservation since 2010.

He also is an adjunct researcher at the Institute of Ecology and Biodiversity in Chile, as well as an adjunct professor at both UM and North Carolina State University.

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LS/cbs

Local

100512fors

Contact: Leana Schelvan, director of communications, UM College of Forestry and Conservation, 406-243-6693, leana.schelvan@umontana.edu
MISSOULA —

The Chi chapter of Alpha Phi at The University of Montana was recognized for its success in recruitment at the Alpha Phi International Fraternity’s 69th Biennial Convention this past summer. The fraternity presented UM’s chapter with the Award for Outstanding Continuous Open Bidding.

More than 500 Alpha Phis and guests from across the U.S. and Canada attended the convention, which was held June 27-July 1 in Phoenix. The event featured awards ceremonies, initiation, special events and displays, live entertainment, dynamic speakers and educational sessions.

Alpha Phi International Fraternity was founded at Syracuse University in 1872 as one of the first Greek societies for women. Alpha Phi is dedicated to promoting sisterhood, cultivating leadership, encouraging intellectual curiosity and advocating service. The organization is comprised of more than 155 collegiate chapters and more than 140 alumnae chapters throughout the United States and Canada.

For more information call Maureen Ward, program adviser, UC Student Involvement Network, at 406-243-2005 or email maureen.ward@mso.umt.edu, call Kristen Mitchell, Alpha Phi Marketing and Communication Program manager, at 847-316-8938 or email kmitchell@alphaphi.org.

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Contact: Maureen Ward, program adviser, UC Student Involvement Network, 406-243-2005, maureen.ward@mso.umt.edu; Kristen Mitchell, manager, Alpha Phi Marketing and Communication Program, 847-316-8938, kmitchell@alphaphi.org.
MISSOULA –

With the start of autumn semester, University of Montana students in an Archaeological Survey class began conducting research on the underground features that were once part of Missoula’s historic downtown landscape. The project is called “Underground Missoula.”

Taught by UM anthropology Associate Professor Kelly Dixon, the class of 15 students has teamed up with Philip Maechling of the Missoula Historic Preservation Commission to document, photograph and catalog any information pertaining to Missoula’s historic underground.

Maechling said there is a mix of urban myth and fact about the various vaults and tunnels used by people needing to work in these underground spaces.

“Opium dens, Chinese tunnels, brothels, steam tunnels, the ‘John Wayne’ tunnel, laundry and money running, speakeasies – all of these are stories about the downtown underground,” Maechling said. “This project is exploring the underbelly of some notable buildings on Higgins and Front streets in Missoula’s Downtown Historic District. We’ll see what is myth and what may be true. So if you have maps, photographs or stories about Missoula’s tunnels, please let us know.”

Students are working closely with UM’s Maureen and Mike Mansfield Library faculty, including Archivist Donna McCrea and Government Documents Librarian Susanne Caro, to locate historical maps, photos and other records that will help Dixon and the students piece together the facts, folklore and general story of activities that took place beneath the bustling streets of historic Missoula.

Anyone with relevant information to contribute to the project should contact UM anthropology graduate student Nikki Manning at 978-684-2341 or email nikki.manning@umontana.edu. Any information will be greatly appreciated by the students participating in this project.

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PHOTO CAPTION: Mary Bobbitt, a UM anthropology graduate student, peers down into the basement of the Missoula Mercantile building during a tour on Sept. 26.

KD/cbs
Western Montana
100812undr

Contact: Kelly Dixon, UM anthropology associate professor, 406-243-2450, kelly.dixon@mso.umt.edu; Philip Maechling, historic preservation officer, Missoula Historic Preservation Commission, 406-258-4706, pmaechli@co.missoula.mt.us.
MISSOULA –

The University of Montana Physical Therapy Student Association will offer 20- and 40-minute massages during campus fundraising clinics in October and November.

Clinics will be held from 6 to 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday, Oct. 22-25, Oct. 29-Nov. 1, Nov. 5-8 and Nov. 12-15 in Skaggs Building Room 129. Massages cost $12 for 20 minutes and $20 for 40 minutes.

Proceeds will help UM physical therapy graduate students attend local and national educational and research conferences.

Appointments are required and can be made by calling 406-243-4753. For more information call PTSA Massage Clinic Board Director Samantha Morigeau at 406-546-5991.

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BP
Western Montana
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Contact: UM Physical Therapy Student Association, 406-243-4753, .
MISSOULA –

The University of Montana chapter of the Alpha Phi sorority will host its third annual Red Dress Gala and Casino Night at 7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 12, in the University Center Ballroom.

The event will feature casino games and prizes, a silent auction, desserts and drinks and is a fundraiser for the Alpha Phi Foundation, which supports women’s cardiac-care research. The chapter raised more than $5,000 at the event last year, and Alpha Phi collegiate chapters across the country raised a collective $2.8 million in 2011.

Tickets purchased in advance cost $45 each, $70 per couple and $25 for UM students. They are available by calling Carly Drain, Alpha Phi’s vice president of marketing, at 406-209-6772, or by emailing chi.vpmarketing.alphaphi@gmail.com. Tickets at the door will cost $50 each or $80 per couple.

Attendees are asked to wear formal red attire or red accents to raise awareness of heart disease, the No. 1 killer of women in the United States.

“Heart disease takes the lives of more women in the country than any other disease each year, yet so many don’t even know they’re at risk,” Drain said. “Alpha Phi is committed to raising awareness and money for cardiac-care research with this fun event for the UM and Missoula communities.”

Alpha Phi International Fraternity was founded at Syracuse University in 1872 as one of the first Greek societies for women. Alpha Phi is dedicated to promoting sisterhood, cultivating leadership, encouraging intellectual curiosity and advocating service. The organization is comprised of more than 150 collegiate chapters throughout the U.S. and Canada. Chi chapter of Alpha Phi was established at UM in 1918.

The Alpha Phi Foundation is the sorority’s philanthropic and educational partner. Through contributions from chapters, individual members and friends, the foundation supports women’s cardiac health and other charitable and educational projects.

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BP
Western Montana
100812dres

Contact: Carly Drain, UM Alpha Phi vice president of marketing, 406-209-6772, chi.vpmarketing.alphaphi@gmail.com.
MISSOULA –

University of Montana counseling Associate Professor John Sommers-Flanagan will lead a community conversation titled “Parents are the No. 1 Influence” from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 16, on the third floor of the University Center. The discussion is presented by the Missoula Forum for Children and Youth in partnership with Missoula Underage Substance Abuse Prevention.

The first of a three-part Community Conversation Series, the discussion will address the importance of parents’ impact on youth. Research indicates that parents are the primary influence on children, including when youth make choices about engaging in risk behavior or experimenting with substance abuse.

“Parenting is a wonderful gift, but it also can be difficult at times,” said Brandee Tyree, MUSAP coordinator with the Missoula Forum for Children and Youth. “John Sommers-Flanagan will give concrete tips on how to influence your child’s behavior for the best. As a community we can support each other as parents, which in return supports our youth in making healthy decisions.”

The event is sponsored by UM, Missoula Indian Center, the Missoulian, St. Patrick Hospital Foundation and Montana Marketing Group. It is free and open to the public, and refreshments will be provided.

The Missoula Forum for Children and Youth and MUSAP work to support and enhance prevention efforts in the community.

For more information call Tyree at 406-721-3000 ext. 1021 or email btyree@co.missoula.mt.us.

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BP
Local
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Contact: Brandee Tyree, underage substance abuse coordinator, Missoula Forum for Children and Youth, 406-721-3000 ext. 1021, btyree@co.missoula.mt.us.
MISSOULA –

A book published by the Montana Museum of Art and Culture at The University of Montana has been selected as a finalist for a 2012 High Plains Book Award.

"Fra Dana: American Impressionist of the Rockies" was written by UM art history and art criticism Associate Professor Valerie Hedquist and Montana State University-Billings Professor Sue Hart. The biography traces the life and travels of the late 19th-, early 20th-century impressionist painter. The book also features rich images of Dana’s work, housed at the MMAC.

"We are honored to be among the terrific finalists for this award and are proud to present this superb book about one of our important Permanent Collection artists," said Barbara Koostra, MMAC director.

The Parmly Billings Library in Billings established the High Plains Book Awards to recognize the regional authors and literary works that examine and reflect life on the high plains, including Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wyoming, Nebraska, Colorado and Kansas, as well as Alberta, Manitoba and Saskatchewan in Canada.

The High Plains Book Awards will be presented at the BookFest in Billings Thursday through Saturday, Oct. 18-20.


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BP
Local
100512dana

Contact: Barbara Koostra, Montana Museum of Art and Culture director, 406-243-2019, barbara.koostra@mso.umt.edu.
Renowned historian, author and Princeton University Professor Emeritus James McPherson will deliver the inaugural University of Montana Arnold Swanberg Lecture on Military History titled "Tried by War: Abraham Lincoln as Commander-in-Chief" at 8 p.m. Monday, Oct. 15, in The George and Jane Dennison Theatre.

McPherson also will deliver a seminar earlier the same day titled "Why Military History? Antietam as a Case Study" from 3:10 to 4:30 p.m. in Gallagher Business Building Room 123.

McPherson is known as the “dean” of American Civil War scholars and has written 21 books including the Pulitzer Prize-winning “Battle Cry of Freedom: The Civil War Era.” During a teaching career spanning more than 40 years, McPherson served as the president of the Society of American Historians and the American Historical Association, received the Ford’s Theatre Lincoln Medal, Samuel Eliot Morrison Prize, the Pritzker Prize for Lifetime Achievement in Military Writing and was awarded honorary degrees from ten colleges and universities.

The Arnold Swanberg Lecture on Military History is a new annual lecture presented by the UM History Department. Swanberg earned a bachelor’s degree in history from UM in 1970. A Seattle resident, he is the former publisher of Flightline Magazine – a publication devoted to North American military aviation after 1945 – has amassed an extensive collection of military aircraft photos and also writes nonfiction.

Swanberg worked with the UM History Department to create the annual lecture, which he hopes will stimulate public interest in military history and an appreciation for its importance. UM history Professor Richard Drake said McPherson, whose book "Battle Cry of Freedom" has sold more than 700,000 copies, was the perfect inaugural speaker.

“We were looking for a master military historian who also possessed the power to reach and to inspire a town-grown audience,” Drake said. “To an extent unrivaled by any other living historian, Professor McPherson met both of these requirements.”

The afternoon seminar is presented in collaboration with the UM Philosophy Forum. For more information contact Drake at 406-243-2981 or email richard.drake@mso.umt.edu.

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BP
Local
100512swan

Contact: Richard Drake, UM history professor, 406-243-2981, richard.drake@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA –

The Center for Environmental Health Sciences at The University of Montana recently received a five-year, $1.25 million Science Education Partnership Award from the National Institutes of Health. The grant will support environmental science education for 4,300 middle and high school students throughout Montana, Alaska and Idaho.

The project, the Clean Air and Healthy Homes Program, builds on CEHS’s successful Air Toxics Under the Big Sky Program, which was funded by SEPA in 2003.

Researchers and educators will develop inquiry-based science lessons that will prepare students to conduct their own research projects focused on air pollutants that can affect human health, such as particulate matter, radon and carbon monoxide. Teachers will receive training, curriculum and air-sampling equipment to guide environmental health science education and research in the classroom.

UM Associate Professor Tony Ward said students will learn practical applications for the scientific concepts they’re studying. Corvallis High School students already have started studying the effects of recent forest-fire smoke in their homes and school. Student participants in the program also will look at the impacts of carbon monoxide and radon inside their homes, with the aim of preventing future exposures.

“The kids are doing real-world science,” Ward said. “They’re learning the principals of how to think like a scientist, but they’re addressing the issues that affect their homes and their families.”

In addition to the in-school program, 30 CAHHP teachers will have the opportunity to pursue graduate coursework in environmental health and science, technology, engineering and mathematics education, also known as STEM.

Teachers will be eligible for up to 12 graduate credits that can be applied toward a new online master’s program currently being developed by UM. It is anticipated that the first cohort of teachers will be enrolled in the program next summer.

For more information call Ward at 406-243-4092 or email tony.ward@umontana.edu, or call CEHS Director Andrij Holian at 406-243-4018 or email andrij.holian@umontana.edu.

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100512cehs

Contact: Andrij Holian, professor and director, Center for Environmental Health Sciences at UM, 406-243-4018, andrij.holian@umontana.edu; Tony Ward, associate professor, CEHS, 406-243-4092, tony.ward@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

Anne Castle, assistant secretary for Water and Science in U.S. Department of the Interior, will deliver an address during the fourth annual symposium on Columbia River Governance held Wednesday through Friday, Oct. 10-12, at KwaTakNuk Resort in Polson.

The symposium begins at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 10, and concludes at 3:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 12. It will include an update on the formal treaty review process, along with panel discussions on aboriginal rights and interests, ecosystem values and services, and strategies for shared governance. Castle will speak at 12:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 12. There also is a field trip to learn about the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes’ work to manage Kerr Dam and restore land and water resources along Flathead Lake.

Registration is available at [http://www.columbiarivergovernance.org](http://www.columbiarivergovernance.org).

The symposium – designed to inform and invigorate ongoing deliberations over the future of the Columbia River Treaty – is organized and convened by the Universities Consortium on Columbia River Governance in partnership with all of the Native American tribes and First Nations in the basin. The event is convened and facilitated by The University of Montana Center for Natural Resources & Environmental Policy in collaboration with tribes, First Nations and several other organizations.

“The focus of the symposium is to highlight the needs and interests of tribes and First Nations in the Columbia River Basin,” said Matthew McKinney, director of CNREP. “We are honored to be working closely with the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes to convene this regional policy dialogue on the shores of Flathead Lake.”

“One of the highlights of this symposium is a series of roundtables that allows all participants to jointly develop a statement of principles to guide the process of revising and updating the Columbia River Treaty,” McKinney said. “This will be a highly interactive, very informative dialogue.”

For more information on the symposium, visit [http://www.columbiarivergovernance.org](http://www.columbiarivergovernance.org). To learn more about UM’s Center for Natural Resources & Environmental Policy, visit [http://www.cnrep.org](http://www.cnrep.org).

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MK/js

Statewide

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Contact: Matthew McKinney, director, UM Center for Natural Resources and Environmental Policy, 406-459-5166, matt@cnrep.org.
The University of Montana School of Journalism has been awarded a $250,000 grant from the National Science Foundation to enhance the quantity and quality of environmental science news reaching Montana’s reservations and rural areas.

Residents in these areas face new and perplexing environmental resource decisions at a time when access to local news on these issues has waned. The grant will help develop a model for reporting environmental science news called Science Source, using student reporters from the UM’s graduate program in Environmental Science and Natural Resource Journalism, as well as partner news organizations across the state.

Science Source will serve as a news desk, working with editors in radio, television, print and online to identify and produce news stories that fulfill the needs of these organizations and reach the greatest possible audience – especially audiences on Montana’s seven Indian reservations.

The partnerships developed through Science Source may serve as a model for sharing stories and resources among news organizations to enhance the availability of local environmental science news in Montana and the region.

Science Source was developed by Alison Perkins, a UM journalism adjunct faculty member. Perkins, an interdisciplinary research scientist and educator, works in television production, journalism, science education and the ecological sciences. She also teaches Story Lab, a course that partners graduate students with research scientists to help journalists understand the process of science.

The NSF grant was awarded through the Directorate for Education and Human Resources. EHR goals include building the capacity for citizens to address societal changes, as well as inspiring and engaging the public as science learners.

Contact: Denise Dowling, interim dean, UM School of Journalism, 406-243-4001, journalism@mso.umt.edu; Alison Perkins, UM journalism adjunct instructor, 406-243-4854, alison.perkins@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA –

In an effort to address the effects of post-football celebrations on the University District neighborhood, The University of Montana Off-Campus Renter Center is partnering with The Associated Students of UM to create a new program called “Sunday Sweepers.”

Using the existing UM Neighborhood Ambassador structure, each Sunday after home football games and the Foresters’ Ball student organizations will “adopt” a section of the University neighborhood and work alongside a Neighborhood Ambassador to clean, rake and/or shovel snow in exchange for a monetary bonus from ASUM to their group’s account.

With increased support from ASUM, the Off-Campus Renter Center expanded the Neighborhood Ambassador Program, which launched this past spring.

The program aims to improve relations between student renters and homeowners living in the University District. The ambassadors focus on student-community relations by working in their assigned neighborhood as a liaison between campus, homeowners and student renters in order to enhance communication, collaboration and problem-solving in the University District community.

“Sunday Sweepers” already has received support from community and student groups. Greek Life is working to adopt one Sunday specifically for students in fraternities and sororities, members of President Engstrom’s cabinet committed financial support, and members of the Missoula City Council praised the program as a way to continue improving the status of University-community relations.

“The ‘Sunday Sweepers’ program is a positive step toward addressing real-time concerns by community members,” ASUM President Zach Brown said. “But the program also takes an active role in improving the long-term communication and positive interaction between University District homeowners and The University of Montana, proving that many students want to be good neighbors, and that UM is invested in our relationship with neighbors in the community.”

For more information call Off-Campus Renter Center Director Katherine Brady at 406-243-5458 or email katherine.brady@umontana.edu.

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ALL

Local, campus

100312swpr

Contact: Zach Brown, ASUM president, 406-243-2038, asum.president@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA —

University of Montana Regents Professor Emeritus William Kittredge will give a fiction reading at 7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 19, in the Dell Brown Room of Turner Hall. The event, which is sponsored by UM’s Creative Writing Program and the Kittredge Visiting Writer Fellowship, is free and open to the public.

Kittredge taught in UM’s Creative Writing Program for 29 years. He returned for another semester this autumn as the Kittredge Visiting Writer, an eminent position named in his honor.

Kittredge is the author of two collections of short fiction, a novel, a memoir and three collections of essays. He was co-editor of “The Last Best Place: A Montana Anthology” and co-producer of the film “A River Runs Through It.” Kittredge has published essays and articles in more than 50 magazines and newspapers, including Atlantic, Harper’s, Esquire, Time, Newsweek, The Washington Post and The New York Times. He has received numerous awards for his writing, including a Stegner Fellowship, two National Endowment for the Arts Fellowships and the Los Angeles Times Award for Lifetime Achievement.

For more information call Karin Schalm, UM Creative Writing Program coordinator, at 406-243-5267, email karin.schalm@mso.umt.edu, or visit http://www.cas.umt.edu/english/creative_writing.

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Contact: Karin Schalm, UM Creative Writing Program coordinator, 406-243-5267, karin.schalm@mso.umt.edu.
The University of Montana Creative Writing Program is accepting student submissions for the 2013 Merriam-Frontier Award writing contest.

The contest, established by UM English and creative writing Professor H.G. Merriam, recognizes distinguished achievement in student creative writing by awarding $500, funds to publish a chapbook and the opportunity to give a public reading. The deadline for submissions is 5 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 18.

Merriam taught creative writing at UM from 1919 to 1954. He and his first class of students founded a literary journal that became the distinguished quarterly journal Frontier and Midland, published at UM from 1920 to 1939. Contributors included Wallace Stegner, A.B. Guthrie Jr., William Saroyan, Dorothy Johnson and other emerging talent. The journal frequently published the work of young authors, a custom the Merriam-Frontier Award honors and continues.

Submissions are limited to one per student and writers must be an undergraduate or graduate student enrolled at UM this semester. Poetry submissions should be 20 to 30 pages and fiction and nonfiction should be 40 to 60 double-spaced pages. A cover page with the writer’s name, email, phone number and address must be included. Manuscripts can be placed in Creative Writing Program Coordinator Karin Schalm’s mailbox in the Department of English in Liberal Arts Room 133.

For more information call Schalm at 406-243-5267, email karin.schalm@mso.umt.edu or visit her in Liberal Arts Room 221.

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BP

Campus

100312merr

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

City Club Missoula and The Montana Museum of Art and Culture will host “Hidden Treasure in the Treasure State,” a presentation of the museum’s Permanent Collection by MMAC Director Barbara Koostra at 11:30 a.m. Monday, Oct. 8, at the Holiday Inn Downtown.

The presentation will summarize the museum’s recent development by highlighting the diversity and depth of the collection. The collection began in 1895 and includes nearly 11,000 items. It is composed of a wide variety of objects, from European and American artwork and ceramics to period art, clothing and furniture in historic buildings.

MMAC is located on The University of Montana campus. Main Hall and the Performing Arts and Radio/Television Center display exhibits, but the majority of the collection is stored in seven locations across campus.

City Club Missoula organized the event, which has an optional lunch. The event is open to the public, but registration is required. Reservations can be made before noon Friday, Oct. 5, at 406-541-2489 or at http://www.cityclubmissoula.org. For more information call Koostra at 406-243-2020 or email barbara.koostra@umontana.edu.

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MP

Local

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Contact: Barbara Koostra, Montana Museum of Art and Culture director, 406-243-2020, barbara.koostra@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

More than 2,000 Montana students drop out of high school every year, limiting their employment options and causing them to earn $143 per week less on average than those who finish school.

In an effort to encourage kids to graduate and boost their potential, more than 920 freshmen from Missoula County Public Schools will gather Thursday, Oct. 11, for the second annual Graduation Matters Freshman Rally at The University of Montana.

The event kicks off at 10 a.m. in Washington-Grizzly Stadium. Students will be greeted by the UM Marching Band and dignitaries such as MCPS Superintendent Alex Apostle, UM President Royce Engstrom and UM geosciences researcher Rebecca Bendick. Missoula Mayor John Engen will emcee the event, and Larry Simkins, president and CEO of the Washington Companies, will be the keynote speaker.

“This experience provides an opportunity for our freshmen to see and hear how much Missoula and the entire state support them and want them to be successful and graduate,” Apostle said. “For some students, this will be the first time that they set foot on a college campus. We want that to be impactful and inspiring.”

UM and MCPS students will speak, and entertainment will include a musical performance and videos on the massive stadium screen.

“This event has become an important collaboration between UM and Missoula public schools,” Engstrom said. “By bringing these students to campus we hope to encourage them to complete high school and plan for college. We need the contributions to society these young people will make because of their college experience.”

Participating MCPS schools are Big Sky, Hellgate, Sentinel, Seeley-Swan and Willard Alternative. Students will be bused to the rally, which dovetails with the efforts of Graduation Matters Missoula, a school-community partnership that encourages students to stay in school through graduation. The event also complements UM’s strategic plan, Building a University for the Global Century, which promotes helping K-12 students and assisting them with the transition to college.


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CBS

Local, Western Montana, Dailies

100212grad

Contact: Peggy Kuhr, UM interim vice president for integrated communications, 406-243-2311, peggy.kuhr@umontana.edu; Alex Apostle, superintendent, Missoula County Public Schools, 406-728-2400 ext. 1026, papostle@mcps.k12.mt.us.
MISSOULA –

The University of Montana and UM Productions will host the vibrant Imperial Acrobats of China in a production of “Chi of Shaolin: The Tale of the Dragon” on Friday, Oct. 26, in the George and Jane Dennison Theatre.

The performance tells the story of a thief left for dead after attempting to steal a prized Chinese relic, and the Shaolin monk who finds compassion for the thief and brings him back to the temple for healing. The audience will witness the thief’s quest for healing, his recovery and ultimate, timeless transformation.

The acrobatic troupe infuses the performance with Shaolin warrior skills and circus talent. Brilliant backdrops and costumes, dramatic original music, lighting, illusions and choreography combine to create a spectacular and dazzling experience for audiences of all ages.

Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and the show begins at 7:30 p.m. Tickets cost $35 for general admission and $25 for students. They are available at all GrizTix locations, including Worden’s Market, Southgate Mall, The Source at the University Center, MSO Hub and the Adams Center Box Office, as well as online at http://www.griztix.com or by calling 406-243-4051.

For more information call Zoe Donovan, UM Productions marketing coordinator, at 406-243-4719, or email marketing@umproductions.org.

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Contact: Zoe Donovan, UM Productions marketing coordinator, 406-243-4719, marketing@umproductions.org
MISSOULA –

The University of Montana Student Involvement Network will host "Chill Out" from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday, Oct. 15, in the University Center Atrium.

"Chill Out" is a collaboration of campus groups and local organizations that offer activities to help students relax and recharge while learning stress-relief techniques and developing healthy habits. Booths include health and wellness resource Water Lilies, nonprofit healing center Red Willow Learning Center, UM Campus Recreation, the Acupuncture Clinic of Missoula, health expert Ellin Spearin and more.

This is the second year the SIN has presented "Chill Out." The group of students plans programming for the UC to enrich campus life by providing student-focused opportunities, programs, services and space.

For more information call SIN Student Coordinators Layokat Rasulova and Alison Wren at 406-243-6189 or visit http://www.umt.edu/uc.

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Campus

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Contact: Layokat Rasulova and Alison Wren, student coordinators, Student Involvement Network, 406-243-6189, ; Adrianne Donald, assistant director of student involvement and communications, University Center, 406-243-6029, adonald@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA –

The University Center will host Bill Deering’s motivational speech “Inspiring, Encouraging and Insightful” at 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 18, in the UC Theater at The University of Montana.

Deering has dealt with a lifetime of stuttering and will share his experiences to help students learn to break through barriers and limitations in their own lives. His stutter was so severe he did not use the phone until he was 20 years old. Now he shares his story through presentations designed to benefit and empower students experiencing challenges and feelings of isolation.

For more information call Dan Biehl, Student Involvement Network student director, at 406-243-6189 or email daniel.biehl@mso.umt.edu, or call UC Assistant Director for Student Involvement and Communications Adrianne Donald at 406-243-6029 or email adonald@mso.umt.edu.

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Contact: Adrianne Donald, assistant director for student involvement and communication, University Center, 406-243-6029, adonald@mso.umt.edu; Dan Biehl, student director, Student Involvement Network, 406-243-6189, daniel.biehl@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA –

UFO and nuclear-activity researcher Robert Hastings will present a lecture titled “UFOs: The Untold Truth” at 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, Oct. 9, in the University Center Ballroom at The University of Montana.

Hastings studies UFO activity at nuclear weapons sites – including Malmstrom Air Force Base in Great Falls – utilizing declassified government documents and testimony of U.S. Air Force veterans. This is his fifth appearance at UM.

Hastings’ interest in UFOs began in 1967, when he was at the air traffic control tower at Malmstrom AFB during a two-week period of intermittent UFO activity at the base’s nuclear missile sites.

“One night, five UFOs were tracked on radar for several minutes and jets were launched to intercept them,” Hastings said. “I later learned from Air Force sources that as the jets closed in, the UFOs performed a vertical ascent and left the area at enormous speed, far beyond the capability of any aircraft.”

Since that incident Hastings has devoted his life to researching UFOs and the government’s response to them. He has given more than 500 presentations at colleges and universities since 1981 and wrote a book titled “UFOs and Nukes: Extraordinary Encounters at Nuclear Weapons Sites.”

The lecture, presented by the UM Student Involvement Network, is free and open to the public. For more information call UC Assistant Director of Student Involvement and Communication Adrianne Donald at 406-243-6029 or email adonald@mso.umt.edu. More information about Hastings is available online at http://www.ufohastings.com.

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Contact: Adrianne Donald, assistant director for student involvement and communication, University Center, 406-243-6029, adonald@mso.umt.edu; Rene Scott, student coordinator, Student Involvement Network, 406-243-6357, rene.scott@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA —

The Montana Geriatric Education Center at The University of Montana will host a statewide video conference Oct. 15-16. The conference will address Alzheimer’s and Parkinson’s disease, which are leading causes of death among seniors in the U.S.

"ABCs of Alzheimer's Disease: Assessment, Behavioral Management, Caregivers and More" will be held 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday, Oct. 15, and "Comprehensive Care of Parkinson’s Disease" will be held 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 16. Medical centers and hospitals in 30 Montana cities including Billings, Helena, Great Falls, Missoula and Butte will participate in the video conferences.

Each presentation will feature four nationally regarded speakers and close with a panel of practitioners or patients. The conference will be presented live in Billings and Missoula and broadcast to other cities. Last year’s conference attracted 350 participants.

The conference costs $25 for the general public, $55 to $70 for continuing education credits and is free for students. Registration is required and can be completed at http://mtgec.umontana.edu.

MTGEC, which is hosting the conference as a kickoff of its 10th anniversary, is an interdisciplinary center that provides geriatric training for Montana’s health professionals, health-profession students and higher-education faculty so they may better meet the needs of older residents of the state.

"Both of these neurodegenerative diseases of the nervous system are expected to grow in prevalence with the ongoing aging of the U.S. population," said Gayle Hudgins, director of MTGEC. "At present, approximately 21,000 Montanans over age 65 have a diagnosis of Alzheimer’s disease. That number is expected to reach 29,000 by 2025, an 81 percent increase from 2000. Montana’s current and future health care professionals need to prepare for the onslaught of patients with this disorder."

For more information call Terry Egan, associate director of MTGEC, at 406-243-2480 or email terry.egan@umontana.edu. A complete agenda for the conference including information on the speakers is available at http://mtgec.umontana.edu.

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Contact: Terry Egan, associate director, Montana Geriatric Education Center at UM, 406-243-2480, terry.egan@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

The University of Montana Bureau of Business and Economic Research and its nonprofit Montana KIDS COUNT recently released a report detailing the personal, statewide and national implications of youth not graduating from high school.

According to the report, people without a high school diploma frequently end up at the lowest end of the economic spectrum, where saving and accumulating assets is hard, with only minimal chances of breaking out of poverty. For the 2009-10 statewide class, 10,349 youth earned diplomas and graduated, while 2,252 students dropped out at some point during the four years of high school.

“The problems that may lead to a child dropping out can start well before high school,” said Daphne Herling, the report’s primary author. “Recognizing these contributing factors would enable educators to intervene at an earlier stage.”

The list of contributing factors includes reading below grade level at the end of third grade, ongoing patterns of absenteeism or tardiness, and lack of connection and engagement in school.

To improve the odds of youth graduating from high school, the KIDS COUNT report presents evidence-based solutions such as strengthening school readiness through improved early childhood education, engaging in higher levels of family and community school involvement, enhancing the connection between school and work and establishing early warning systems to support struggling students. Graduation Matters Missoula and Graduation Matters Montana, initiatives that promote high school graduation, are also highlighted as important first steps toward improving graduation rates.

For more information go to http://www.montanakidscount.org, call Montana KIDS COUNT director Thale Dillon at 406-243-5113 or email thale.dillon@business.umt.edu.

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Contact: Thane Dillon, director, Montana KIDS COUNT, UM Bureau of Business and Economic Research, 406-243-5113, thale.dillon@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

The American Institute for Economic Research College Destinations Index recently ranked Missoula, home to The University of Montana, among the top College Towns in the U.S.

The index lists the top 75 destinations for 2012-13, including the top 15 among the Major Metros and the top 20 locations among Mid-size Metros, Small Metros and College Towns. Missoula was named No. 20 in the College Towns. Other towns that made the list include Ithaca, N.Y., Corvallis, Ore., and Burlington, Vt.

The AIER considers a dozen factors when creating the College Destinations Index, evaluating each community’s overall academic and cultural environment, quality of life and employment opportunities. The index uses data from the Census Bureau, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Department of Housing and Urban Development, Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System, National Science Foundation and Small Business Administration.

“The characteristics that make up a great college destination often make a location ideal for business, retirement and tourism,” said Steven Cunningham, AIER director of research and education. “A top AIER College Destinations Index ranking should be just as important to the town or city as it is to the schools located there and the families and students attending or considering them.”

For more information about the AIER College Destinations Index, visit https://www.aier.org/cdi. View a PDF of the report here.

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Contact: Peggy Kuhr, UM interim vice president for integrated communications, 406-243-2311, peggy.kuhr@umontana.edu.