March 2013 news releases

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MISSOULA –

The deputy secretary of the U.S. Department of the Interior and legal experts from around the country will converge at The University of Montana School of Law to discuss energy policy on public lands during the 35th Public Land Law Symposium and the 41st National Spring Conference on the Environment on Wednesday and Thursday, April 17-18.

The conferences will focus on the theme "Balancing Act and Paradigm Shift: The Role of Public Lands in America’s Energy Future." The events will be hosted by the Public Land & Resources Law Review, the UM School of Law and the American Bar Association’s Section of Environment, Energy and Resources.

The conferences will be held in conjunction for the first time and will feature discussions on the role of America’s three major sources of public lands and resources: river systems, lands and oceans.

The symposium will address the opportunities and challenges facing public lands and public resources as national energy needs change, and also how energy development using these resources can be balanced with conservation, preservation and cultural objectives.

Keynote speaker Joseph Hovenkotter, attorney for Energy Keepers Inc., the tribally owned corporation purchasing the Kerr Dam for the Confederated Salish and Kootenai tribes, will kick off the event April 17 at noon with a lecture titled “Transfer of the Kerr Dam to Tribal Ownership: A Story 85 Years in the Making.”

Additional speakers will include U.S. Department of the Interior Deputy Secretary David Hayes, who also will deliver a keynote address; Eric Eberhard, distinguished Indian law practitioner-in-residence at the Seattle University School of Law; and many other law professors and attorneys from several states.

Registration for the conferences is free, but those attending to receive continuing legal education credits must pay $195, which includes tuition, course materials and the credits. Breakfast is complimentary and lunch is available for $20 for those who pre-register. The registration deadline is Monday, April 1, and registrations received after April 1 will include a $25 processing fee. Registration is available online at http://www.ambar.org/EnvironPLLSymposium.

For more information and a full schedule of events call UM Public Land & Resources Law Review Editor-in-Chief Dustin Leftridge at 406-210-3653, email dustin.leftridge@umontana.edu or visit the conference website at http://www.publiclandlawreview.com/public-land-law-conference/.

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BP

Western Montana

032713land

Contact: Dustin Leftridge, editor-in-chief, Public Land and Resources Law Review, 406-210-3653, dustin.leftridge@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

University Dining Services' new food truck will begin serving the Missoula College West Campus and The University of Montana main campus on Monday, April 8.

The Galloping Griz will serve breakfast and lunch fare Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Missoula College West Campus located at Fort Missoula. On the UM campus, the truck will operate from 8:30 p.m. to midnight Saturday through Wednesday on the south side of the Lommasson Center. Payment will be accepted in the form of cash, credit or debit cards, UMoney and Premium Plus dining plans.

UDS purchased the state-of-the-art mobile kitchen after hearing requests for food service at MC’s West Campus and for late-night service on the UM campus.

"You can't miss this beauty," said UDS Director Mark LoParco. "When you see the Galloping Griz, stop over and give us a try. The late-night menu will feature authentic street foods, and I’m sure you will like what we’re cooking."

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JO/js

Local

032713gall

Contact: Jerry O'Malley, creative director, University Dining Services at UM, 406-243-6433, jerry.omalley@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA –

Pulitzer Prize-winning reporter Tamara Jones has been selected as The University of Montana School of Journalism’s 2013 T. Anthony Pollner Distinguished Professor. She will teach at the school during fall semester.

Jones has had a long career in journalism, including eight years with the Associated Press, first as a national correspondent based in New York City and later as a foreign correspondent based in Germany; six years working for the Los Angeles Times as a bureau chief, both in Denver and in Bonn, Germany; and 15 years at the Washington Post, where she shared a Pulitzer for reporting on the Virginia Tech massacre. She also was a Pulitzer finalist in feature writing in 2004. Most recently, she has been a freelance writer, including ghostwriting the New York Times bestseller, “The End of Normal,” by Stephanie Madoff Mack.

Jones will teach a course called “Training the Professional Observer,” and will serve as a mentor to the staff of the Montana Kaimin, the student newspaper.

The Pollner professorship was created to honor the memory of Anthony Pollner, a UM journalism school graduate who died in 2001.

Jones notes that coming to Missoula to live for a semester will be in some ways a return to her roots. Her mother, Van Lucy, was the only child of the family that owned Lucy’s Furniture Store in Missoula, which for years also had a mortuary in the back. Her father, Robert G. Jones, also was reared in Missoula. Her mother studied for two years at UM, but left to marry Robert when he returned from the war. They settled in California, where Jones grew up.

Jones also will deliver the Pollner lecture sometime in October. She will be UM’s 13th Pollner professor.

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Contact: Denise Dowling, interim dean, UM School of Journalism, 406-243-4143, denise.dowling@umontana.edu
MISSOULA –

Missoula nonprofit The Girls Way Inc. recently received a $2,000 boost to support programs for local girls thanks to a video contest entry produced by University of Montana student Kelsey McCall.

McCall, originally from Lake Oswego, Ore., is a senior studying political science with minors in international development and nonprofit administration. She entered a national video contest through a philanthropy course she is taking at UM. The contest was sponsored by the Learning by Giving Foundation, which promotes the study of philanthropy for college students nationwide.

The contest provided an opportunity for college students to demonstrate the knowledge, values and decision-making skills they have learned and developed through their philanthropy coursework. The videos help teach about intentional philanthropic giving by highlighting how nonprofit organizations make an impact on their local communities. McCall produced her video as an extra-credit assignment.

"The Girls Way presented to our class about their organization and immediately I was interested in the services they provide for girls in Missoula," she said. "Not only did I connect to their mission, but I also was very inspired by how far they have come as an organization in such a little time of being open."

Students in philanthropy courses across the country voted for the top videos, and winners were announced at Northeastern University's Students for Giving annual social impact conference early in March. McCall's video tied for second place out of five finalists, earning the $2,000 prize for The Girls Way Inc.

"The Girls Way will use this funding to help pay for sponsorships for underserved girls to participate in all of our activities and classes," said Holly Rogers, executive director of the nonprofit.

Last year, UM students Ashley Brooks and Ian Orlando won a $1,000 runners-up award for Watson Children's Shelter with their video contest submission. Through the production of videos, students learn about the importance of nonprofit sector services and programs that meet community needs.

"This experience taught me how applicable the knowledge I am learning in our philanthropy course is for my future career in the nonprofit sector," McCall said. "Even a project that seems small can make a large impact."

For more information call Andrea Vernon, director of the UM Office for Civic Engagement, at 406-243-5159 or email andrea.vernon@umontana.edu.

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Note to media: McCall will deliver the $2,000 check to The Girls Way at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, March 28. The nonprofit is located at 1515 Wyoming St., Suite 300.

BP

Local, Hometown

032713girl

Contact: Andrea Vernon, director, UM Office for Civic Engagement, 406-243-5159, andrea.vernon@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

The University of Montana Phyllis J. Washington College of Education and Human Sciences honored state educators and community partners during the 2013 Partnership and Scholarship Recognition Reception held March 22.

The event recognized educational partners who collaborate with the University and the college in the preparation of future professionals. About 350 honorees and guests attended the reception, which was held in the University Center Ballroom.

Holly Snyder, a third-grade teacher at Corvallis Primary School, received the 2013 Maryfrances Shreeve Award for Teaching Excellence. The award was presented by Jean’ne Shreeve, daughter of the award’s namesake.

Snyder has been an educator for 10 years. She received a bachelor’s degree in elementary education and a minor in reading from Carroll College. Corvallis administrators, faculty and staff say she is dedicated, enthusiastic and born to teach. Snyder was nominated for the award by Corvallis Primary School Principal Janice Stranahan.

The Maryfrances Shreeve Award was created in 1992 by Jean’ne Shreeve and her brother, William, to honor their mother, a UM graduate who taught with distinction around western Montana. Maryfrances Shreeve was the first award recipient. Since then, the award has brought deserved attention to exemplary Montana educators.

The 2013 Marlene Bachmann Student Teaching Award went to Ariea Reed Berry, who exhibited outstanding pedagogical and professional skills that reflect Bachmann’s standards and dedication to the field.

Berry completed her student teaching at Florence-Carlton High School and Lolo School District 7. She is described as someone who exemplifies the very finest in teaching, and Amy York, who worked with Berry at Florence, said her enthusiasm for art is infectious.

The Partnership Award in Curriculum and Instruction went to the Missoula Flagship Program for their continued commitment to involve teacher candidates in their after-school programs. Flagship staff offer professional guidance to teacher candidates as they integrate learning from coursework into real experiences with students. The award was accepted on behalf of Flagship by Program Supervisor Nicole Mitchell.

Alane Dobie of Community Medical Center won the Communication Sciences and Disorders Partnership Award. Dobie was selected for her commitment to provide graduate students unique clinical experiences with a range of clients across the lifespan.

Shelley Andres, a UM graduate and principal of the K-8 Missoula County school DeSmet, received the Educational Leadership Partnership Award. Andres was recognized for her dedication to the profession by participating in an innovative pilot study for student teachers.

The Health and Human Sciences Partnership Award went to two outstanding health enhancement educators. Jack Yeakel of Lewis and Clark Elementary and Tim Kerr of Sentinel High School, both in the Missoula County Public Schools district, were recognized for their many years of service to the profession.

The Montana Digital Academy Partnership Award was given to Mike Magone, superintendent of Lolo Elementary School. From the inception of the Digital Academy in 2010, Magone has been a staunch supporter and partner of online learning opportunities for his Lolo students, as well as all Montana students.

The Fort Peck Assiniboine and Sioux tribes, along with Council Chairman Floyd Azure, received the Institute for Education Research and Service Partnership Award. Azure has been a tireless advocate for improved services for children and youth. He helped develop close ties between UM and elders, tribal agencies and community members to build model treatment programs with high potential to also benefit Indian Country nationally through replication.

More than 50 scholarship recipients and their donors also were recognized with more than $430,631 in awards presented.

For more information call Nancy Marra, director of the UM Phyllis J. Washington College of Education and Human Sciences Office of Field Experiences, at 406-243-2031 or email nancy.marra@umontana.edu.
Contact: Nancy Marra, director, Office of Field Experiences, UM Phyllis J. Washington College of Education and Human Sciences, 406-243-2031, nancy.marra@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

The School of Extended & Lifelong Learning at The University of Montana will offer the next step in its buzz-worthy series of courses this summer. The Journeyman-Level Beekeeping Course is part two of the three-part Master Beekeeper Certificate Program and will take place from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday evenings, June 24-July 24, at the Fort Missoula Research Complex and Apiary.

Registration is open now to those who have successfully completed the Apprentice-Level Course or by consent of the instructor.

Journeyman-Level participants will learn more about the life and ecology of the honeybee. By the end of the course, students will understand the honeybees’ place in the ecosystem and how their unique anatomy shapes their interactions with the world, both inside and outside the hive. Students also will be equipped with the knowledge to both diagnose and treat honeybee ailments and pests.

Upon course completion, participants will receive either 2.4 continuing education units or, for an additional cost, one academic credit through UM’s Division of Biological Sciences. The course fee is $375 and will cost an additional $135 if opting for academic credit. Enrollment is limited.

Due to popular demand, the Apprentice-Level course also will be offered again this summer in a face-to-face format at the Fort Missoula Research Complex Apiary. In the future, students will have the option of taking the apprentice course online, with just one weekend in Missoula, which allows for student flexibility and for the program to serve a wider geographic area. The entire certificate program is now endorsed by the Montana State Beekeepers Association, and both courses will once again be taught by one of the nation’s premier bee research teams.

Jerry Bromenshenk, co-founder of Bee Alert Technology Inc. and statewide director of Montana’s Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research, will lead the courses. Bee Alert research team members Scott Debnam, a senior field technician, and Phillip Welch, senior lab supervisor, also will teach.

For more information call Bromenshenk at 406-541-3160, email beeresearch@aol.com or go online to http://www.umt.edu/bee.

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Contact: Jerry Bromenshenk, UM biology research professor and co-owner of Bee Alert Technology Inc., 406-541-3160, beeresearch@aol.com.
MISSOULA –

Researchers in The University of Montana Division of Biological Sciences are beginning unlock the mysteries underlying the unique innovation of photosynthetic bacterial life at extreme temperatures.

Every year, millions of visitors to Yellowstone National Park traverse the boardwalk of Grand Prismatic Hot Spring to witness one of life’s major transitions. Near boiling point at the pool’s blue center, the microbial food web is powered by hydrogen. But where the water has cooled to about 165 degrees Fahrenheit, colorful microbial mats of the cyanobacterium Synechococcus develop and support a more diverse and productive community which is fueled by sunlight.

This transition marks the temperature limit for organisms using photosynthesis as a way of survival. In an article titled “The Evolution of RuBisCO Stability at the Thermal Limit of Photoautotrophy,” which will be published in the next issue of Molecular Biology and Evolution, lead author and UM Associate Professor Scott Miller explores a protein central to this extreme lifestyle.

Cyanobacteria – also called blue-green algae – grow using the same cellular machinery as plants, including the enzyme RuBisCO, which converts carbon dioxide to sugar. Miller and co-authors UM Associate Professor Michele McGuirl and Research Assistant Darla Carvey uncovered the roots of RuBisCO stability and function at higher temperatures.

By studying the properties of the enzyme in modern Synechococcus bacteria, as well as ancestral versions of RuBisCO that were “resurrected” using molecular biological tools, the research team discovered four evolutionary changes that have contributed to the origins of this unique, light-driven ecosystem. The work also provides general insights on the most abundant protein on the planet.

“Understanding RuBisCOs from these microorganisms from extreme environments teaches us new things about the structure and function of this agriculturally and environmentally important enzyme,” Miller said.

The article is available online at http://mbe.oxfordjournals.org/content/early/2013/01/03/molbev.mss327/suppl/DC1 and will be published in the April 1 issue of Molecular Biology and Evolution. For more information call Miller at 406-243-5149 or email scott.miller@umontana.edu.

Photo caption: Grand Prismatic Hot Spring in Yellowstone National Park is home to the cyanobacterium Synechococcus, which survives in the extremely hot environment through photosynthesis. (National Park Service photo by Jim Peaco.)
UM Students Chosen For Prestigious German Internships - UM News - The University Of Montana

MISSOULA –

Two University of Montana students have been accepted into the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) program for internships. DAAD is the German national agency for the support of international academic cooperation.

Patrick Funk, a UM senior studying mathematics with an emphasis in statistics, received a one-year contract with SMA Solar Technology, a German solar energy equipment supplier. Funk will move to Germany in May, where he will work with a doctoral candidate to develop algorithms to improve grid efficiency with SMA. DAAD offers the internship through its Research Internships in Science and Engineering (RISE) program, which is funded by the Federal Foreign Office of Germany.

Erin Hastey, a UM junior studying English, German and communication studies, was accepted into the DAAD internXchange program. Participants in the program will spend six weeks studying at Freie Universität Berlin’s International Center for Journalism and five weeks interning at a local publication, broadcast or TV station or a public relations agency. A group of 15 American and Canadian journalism or communications studies students will participate in this summer’s program, and the entire program is conducted in German.

“T’m very excited to finally be immersed in the language in a round-the-clock setting,” Hastey said. “It’s a wonderful opportunity to combine my fields of study and get some first-hand experiences with ‘kommunikation’ in a German context.”

Hastey, originally from Yuba City, Calif., is a graduate of Yuba City High School. Her parents are Brent and Alison Hastey. Funk, from Helena, is a graduate of Helena High School, and his parents are Peter Funk and Jeanne Underhill.

For more information call Laure Pengelly Drake, director of external scholarships and advising at the Davidson Honors College, at 406-243-6140 or email laure.pengellydrake@umontana.edu.

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MP

Local, hometowns

032613germ

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

Incoming graduate students from 15 Western states now are eligible for in-state tuition through The University of Montana School of Journalism. The Western Regional Graduate Program consortium accepted UM’s master’s program in environmental science and natural resource journalism into its network starting fall 2013.

WRGP is a tuition-reciprocity program similar to the Western Undergraduate Exchange, which allows students to study at out-of-state schools for less expensive in-state rates. To participate, graduate programs must be distinct, offering educational opportunities that may not be available in the student’s home state.

States in the WRGP network are: Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington and Wyoming.

The environmentally focused master’s degree was created in response to a critical need for trained journalists to tell compelling stories that illuminate the complex relationship between nature and society. The two-year program is interdisciplinary, requiring coursework in environmental sciences and natural resources for one-third of the credits required for the degree.

“I know there are people out there from Idaho or Wyoming or Alaska who are really interested in doing this kind of journalism and making it their profession, and the only thing that’s keeping them from it is paying for graduate school,” said Henriette Lowisch, associate professor in the School of Journalism and director of the graduate program. “But they can’t study it in their own states because those programs are not available there.”

Students in the program have a background in journalism, the sciences or natural resource professions. They work closely with the school’s faculty of professional journalists as well as renowned scientists, producing cutting-edge stories in the natural laboratory of the Rocky Mountains.

“I think there’s a real need for competent journalists covering environmental science and natural resources, and it’s something we can teach them here,” Lowisch said. “But sometimes it’s hard for people, especially from Western states, to pay for their graduate education. Graduate school is an investment. This gives students from Western states an opportunity they might not have otherwise.”

During the 2012-13 school year, the estimated tuition and fees for two semesters cost $5,689 for in-state graduate students, while out-of-state students could expect to pay $18,213. After you calculate in nearly $10,000 in estimated yearly living costs and about $700 in books and supplies, saving on tuition and fees can make a big difference for students.

UM’s School of Journalism master’s program, which will admit its fourth class of students this year, joins three other programs at UM as part of the WRGP network: the master’s in intercultural youth and family development, master’s in communication studies and the graduate certificate in natural resource conflict resolution.

To apply as a WRGP student for fall semester, prospective students should email Lowisch at henriette.lowisch@umontana.edu by May 1. For more information call Lowisch at 406-243-2227.

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BP

State, Hometowns

032613grad

Contact: Henriette Lowisch, director, UM School of Journalism graduate program, 406-243-2227, henriette.lowisch@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

The Wilderness Institute at The University of Montana, together with Wilderness50, recently launched http://www.wilderness50th.org, a website dedicated to the 50th anniversary of the Wilderness Act.

The 50th Anniversary National Wilderness Planning Team, also known as Wilderness50, will collaborate on the planning and eventual implementation of local, regional and national events and projects specifically designed to elevate the profile of wilderness during the 50th anniversary celebration.

“Having a website of its own will give Wilderness50 and all the exciting preparations for the 50th anniversary of our wilderness system a much more immediate and vibrant appeal to folks around the country,” said Vicky Hoover, Wilderness50 co-chair and longtime wilderness advocate and volunteer.

The website honors 50 years of preservation, use and enjoyment of wilderness by:

- Cataloging all local, regional and national 50th anniversary events, meetings, programs, and projects dedicated to raising awareness of wilderness occurring between now and 2014. As event planning escalates this year, event hosts and organizers are encouraged to enter their events onto the map and calendar.

- Providing resources and materials for people and organizations interested in hosting or organizing 50th anniversary local community events. Possible events can include Walks for Wilderness; outings and service trips; museum, airport or visitor center exhibits; speakers; interpretive programs; trainings or workshops; photography or writing contests; art shows; music or dance programs; book or poetry readings; stewardship projects and more.

- Providing information about the National Wilderness Conference, to be held Oct. 15-19, 2014, in Albuquerque, N.M. This event will be Wilderness50’s premier forum for discussing the growing challenges of perpetuating the values of wilderness in a time of unprecedented environmental and social change.

UM’s Wilderness Institute is one of 25 nonprofit organizations, academic institutions and government agencies that comprise Wilderness50 and are charged with raising public awareness of wilderness and engaging youth during 2014, the 50th anniversary year.

Housed within UM’s College of Forestry and Conservation, the Wilderness Institute was established in 1975 to provide wilderness information, research and interdisciplinary education.

“The Wilderness Act 50th Anniversary is a really key moment in history when we can make the public and students more aware of the many social and ecological values of wilderness,” said Lisa Eidson, wilderness information specialist at UM’s Wilderness Institute. “Here at UM, we are preparing future land managers and wilderness stewards for what they might face in the next 50 years.”

The general public is invited to sign up for key updates by visiting http://www.wilderness50th.org and entering their email address on the home page.

Our nation’s wilderness system was established in 1964 for the use and enjoyment of the American people and provides many direct and indirect benefits, such as those relating to ecological, geological, scientific, educational, scenic, spiritual, economic, recreational, historical and cultural uses and activities. The 758 wilderness areas that exist today are managed by all four federal land-managing agencies: the Bureau of Land Management, Fish and Wildlife Service, Forest Service and National Park Service.

For more information about Wilderness50 visit http://www.wilderness50th.org, follow on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/50thAnniversaryOfTheWildernessAct or follow on Twitter at https://twitter.com/wild50th.

For more information on the Wilderness Institute at UM’s involvement in Wilderness50, call Eidson at 406-396-3607 or email lisa@wilderness.net.

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Contact: Lisa Eidson, Wilderness50 media/publicity chair, UM Wilderness Institute, 406-396-3607, lisa@wilderness.net.
MISSOULA –

University of Montana School of Journalism Professor Ray Ekness recently won a bronze award in the 34th annual Telly Awards for his television program “Building Bridges: Back to Ireland.”

The show focuses on a group of young men and women from Ireland and Northern Ireland who came to Montana in 1997 to work on Habitat for Humanity projects while dealing with their cultural, political and religious differences.

In 2010, Ekness, who teaches in the UM journalism school’s Radio/Television Department, and MontanaPBS Producer John Twiggs traveled to Ireland to tell the stories of five of the original 12 workers and how their lives have changed since their adventure in Montana. The program aired on MontanaPBS last September.

The Telly Awards was founded in 1979 and is the premier award honoring outstanding local, regional and cable TV commercials and programs; the finest video and film productions; and online commercials, videos and films. This year there were nearly 11,000 entries from all 50 states and numerous countries.

For more information call Ekness at 406-243-4088 or email ray.ekness@umontana.edu. “Building Bridges: Back to Ireland” can be viewed online at http://www.montanapbs.org/BuildingBridgesBacktoIreland/.

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BP

State

032513tell

Contact: Ray Ekness, professor, UM School of Journalism Radio/Television Department, 406-243-4088, ray.ekness@umontana.edu
MISSOULA –

A University of Montana class, Philanthropy and Social Entrepreneurship, will grant a total of $10,000 to local nonprofits, with a minimum award of $2,000 and a maximum of $5,000 for each nonprofit selected.

The grants will benefit local nonprofits and enhance the Missoula community. The class focuses on giving the monetary donations to nonprofits that operate within Missoula County and address the needs of the elderly, or the needs of the homeless and hungry.

Local nonprofits that fit the criteria are welcome to apply by April 12. The forms can be found online at http://www.dhc.umt.edu/ocel/LearningbyGiving.htm.

The Philanthropy and Social Entrepreneurship class at UM teaches students about social responsibility and community building to address and resolve social issues. Students study the role of philanthropy and giving strategies to meet local needs. The class, which receives funding from the Learning by Giving program, engages students in a philanthropic experience, allowing them to review applications and disperse grants.

For more information call Andrea Vernon, director of UM’s Office for Civic Engagement, at 406-243-5159 or email andrea.vernon@mso.umt.edu.

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Contact: Andrea Vernon, director, UM Office for Civic Engagement, 406-243-5159, andrea.vernon@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA –

University of Montana students, faculty and staff can gear up for warmer weather with free Spring Bike Maintenance workshops hosted by the Associated Students of UM Office of Transportation next week.

Workshops will be held from noon to 1 p.m. daily Monday, March 25, through Friday, March 29, by the bike racks and air pump on the west side of the University Center.

The ASUM Transportation Bicycling Ambassadors and FreeCycles Missoula will provide the workshops, which will focus on chain maintenance, spring cleaning and brake repair.

For more information call ASUM Office of Transportation Director Benjamin Courteau at 406-243-4599 or email benjamin.courteau@mso.umt.edu.

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BP

Campus

032213bike

Contact: Benjamin Courteau, director, ASUM Office of Transportation, 406-243-4599, benjamin.courteau@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA –

Campus Compact recently honored University of Montana student and Associated Students of UM President Zach Brown as a Newman Civic Fellow.

Brown is one of 181 students representing Campus Compact member colleges and universities from 36 states in the 2013 Newman Civic Fellows class. The award honors student leaders committed to creating lasting change in communities throughout the country.

Brown, originally from Bozeman, is a senior majoring in environmental studies and is active both on campus and in the Missoula community. Aside from serving as ASUM president, he has played an integral role in several organizations and initiatives, including the UM Forum for Living with Appropriate Technology (UMFLAT), 1,000 New Gardens, Montana Environmental Student Alliance and Clinton Global Initiative. He also has received the Truman Scholarship, two Udall Scholarships and has been named a Kentucky Colonel, an honor recognizing noteworthy accomplishments and outstanding service to a community, state or nation.

“I am very grateful to my mentors and supporters at UM, all of whom have empowered me to put myself out there in the community of Missoula,” Brown said. “This town and our University collectively make for an incredibly special place, and I am grateful to be part of the goings on here.”

Campus Compact is a national coalition of more than 1,000 college and university presidents committed to fulfilling the civic purposes of higher education. It promotes public and community service that develops students’ citizenship skills, helps campuses forge effective community partnerships and provides resources and training for faculty looking to integrate civic and community-based learning into the curriculum. Newman Civic Fellows are nominated by institution presidents.

“Zach truly embodies the spirit of the Newman Civic Fellow Award,” said UM President Royce Engstrom in his nomination of Brown. “He has proven himself to be an effective agent of positive change and is dedicated to working toward finding creative solutions to challenges facing our community.”

For more information call Andrea Vernon, director of the UM Office for Civic Engagement, at 406-243-5159 or email andrea.vernon@umontana.edu.

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BP

Local, Bozeman

032013zach

Contact: Andrea Vernon, director, Office for Civic Engagement, 406-243-5159, andrea.vernon@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

The Easter Bunny and Monte will look on as thousands of colorful eggs and candy are scooped up by western Montana children Saturday, March 30, when The University of Montana hosts the 13th annual Easter Eggstravaganza on the UM Oval.

Children ages 9 and under are invited to bring their baskets and search for thousands of eggs packed with Easter treats during western Montana’s largest egg hunt, which gets under way when the Main Hall bell tolls 1 p.m. The event is free and open to the public, and Mountain Line will provide free bus rides all day.

There will be separate sections for 0-2, 3, 4-5, 6-7 and 8-9 age groups. One lucky child in each age group who finds an egg with a special coupon will win a brand-new bicycle.

Children also can find special eggs with certificates that will bring them back to campus. UM has donated educational opportunities for children, including UM soccer and basketball camps, children’s dance lessons with UM Theatre & Dance, a birthday party at spectrUM Discovery Area, free passes to spectrUM and more.

“This is one of our favorite events to produce for the community,” said Andrea Lewis, event coordinator for University Relations. “So many generous donations from UM departments and businesses in the Missoula community make this event truly unique and super fun for the kids.”

During the event, parents can enter a free raffle for gift certificates to area businesses, including a $375 certificate for a family portrait session with Kristine Paulsen Photography.

KPAX chief weather forecaster Erin Yost and 102.5 Mountain FM radio morning personality Rick Sanders will emcee the event. The Easter Bunny, as well as mascots Monte, Bolt and Red will be on hand for the fun. At noon near the Grizzly Bear statue, kids can explore with spectrUM Discovery Area and the Montana Natural History Center and take a tour of a Mountain Line bus.

The Missoula Easter Eggstravaganza is organized by UM’s University Relations, with generous sponsorship from local businesses. The Sweets Barn, located in Lolo, donated 30,000 pieces of candy that will be spread over the four acres of Oval lawn. Student athletes and UM Advocate volunteers will help spread candy and eggs across the Oval the morning of the hunt, and UM students helped fill eggs leading up to the event.

NorthWestern Energy, The Sweets Barn and Mountain FM are the major sponsors of this year’s Eggstravaganza.

Additional cash sponsors include Missoula Federal Credit Union, Missoula Pediatric Dentistry, Freemasons Lodge No. 13, The Bookstore at UM, Eastgate Rental, Culligan Water and Republic Services of Montana.

University Relations also received in-kind donations of candy, prizes and coupons for free items or admission from 41 local businesses and organizations. In-kind donors include Baskin Robbins, Bernice’s Bakery, Blackjack Pizza, Café Rio, Carmike Cinema, Carousel for Missoula, Costco, Coldstone Creamery, Dairy Queen on Higgins Avenue, Exact Image, Great Harvest, Hoagieville, Import Market, Missoulian, Montana Ace Hardware, Murdoch’s, Natural Grocers, Natural History Center, Party City, Red Robin, Rosauer’s, Safeway, spectrUM, Taco Johns, The Huckleberry People, The Learning Tree, Tom Dooley’s, The Book Exchange, UM Basketball, UM Dining Services, UM Soccer, UM Theatre & Dance, UM Volleyball, University Center, University Center Theater, University Center Market, U-Swirl Frozen Yogurt, Wal-Mart Supercenter, Wal-Mart, Westside Lanes and Yo Waffle.

“Missoula has so much to offer young families and children,” said Lewis. “Many of those fun activities or beloved treats from area businesses can be found inside of eggs at this year’s Eggstravaganza. Because of their generosity, UM is able to continue this cherished community event.”

For more information call University Relations at 406-243-5478 or email Lewis at andrea.lewis@umontana.edu.

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Western Montana

032013estr

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

Fans of all ages are invited to cheer on the Lady Griz basketball team as they depart for Spokane, Wash., on Thursday, March 21, to play in the NCAA women’s basketball tournament.

The team bus will depart from in front of the Adams Center at 4:30 p.m. It will travel over the Madison Street Bridge, turn left on Broadway Street and continue to I-90 via Broadway. Fans are invited to cheer on the bus as it takes the Lady Griz to the Big Dance.

No. 13-seed Montana (24-7) will face the No. 4-seed Georgia Bulldogs (25-6) at approximately 4:40 p.m. MDT on Saturday, March 23.

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Contact: Brynn Molloy, assistant director, Grizzly Scholarship Association, 406-243-5405, brynn.molloy@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA –

Sue and John Talbot of Missoula each will receive an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters from The University of Montana during May 18 Commencement ceremonies.

The Talbots earned the honor for their constant efforts to enhance educational opportunities for UM students and their tireless efforts in the Missoula community and Montana.

“John and Sue have worked hard to make the University a better place, and their efforts will pay dividends for generations to come,” UM President Royce Engstrom said.

Sue is the daughter of Don Anderson, the longtime newspaperman who became the namesake for UM’s Don Anderson Hall journalism building. She earned an undergraduate degree from Radcliffe College in 1952 and a master’s from UM in 1980.

Sue taught French in Virginia, Billings and Missoula and was the honorary French consul in Montana for many years. She also chaired the United Way Campaign Committee, the Missoula Youth Homes board, the Montana Arts Council, the Montana Community Foundation and the Governor’s Task Force on Philanthropy.

“We feel fortunate to live in a community with such a fine university that has offered us so many years of intellectual stimulation and pleasure,” Sue said.

John graduated from Harvard College in 1951. He worked for the Central Intelligence Agency in the 1950s during the early years of the Cold War. He then was employed by Trans World Airlines at the time of introduction of jet aircraft to airline service.

Most of his career was with Lee Enterprises, a company mainly focused on newspapers and commercial television. He ended his years with Lee in Missoula as publisher of the Missoulian. In 1986, he developed and taught a course in news media management at UM’s School of Journalism. He taught the course until 2002.

John and Sue played a major role in fundraising for UM’s Don Anderson Hall, which provided a new home for the journalism school after it was dedicated in May 2007. They also have been longtime supporters of the UM College of Visual and Performing Arts, as well as the arts in Montana generally.

The Talbots have been involved with Symphony Chorale, the Missoula International Choral Festival, the Steinway piano fundraising campaign and the John Ellis Endowment. Their efforts have been recognized by the Governor’s Arts Awards in 1994 and the Missoula Cultural Council’s Cultural Achievement Award in 2002.

They are extremely active in the Missoula community, including serving more than 20 years on the board of Five Valleys Land Trust. Among many other activities, they have served on advisory boards for both UM’s School of Journalism and School of Fine Arts.

In his nomination letter, former UM journalism Dean Jerry Brown wrote, “I have never known two people who did more for their fellow citizens and asked less in return. Their humility is as genuine as their engagement in endeavors to improve the social and economic environment and to enrich the lives of others.”

###

Contact: Peggy Kuhr, UM vice president for integrated communications, 406-243-2311, peggy.kuhr@umontana.edu; Rebecca Power, UM assistant to the president, 406-243-2311, rebecca.power@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

University of Minnesota American studies Associate Professor Brenda Child will deliver a lecture titled “The American Indian Boarding School Generations” at 7 p.m. Monday, March 25, in the University Center Theater at The University of Montana.

Child also will present a lecture titled “Ojibwe Women and the Survival of Community” at 3:10 p.m. Wednesday, March 27, in Bonnie Heavy Runner Gathering Place of The Payne Family Native American Center. Both events are free and open to the public.

Child earned her Ph.D. in history from the University of Iowa and was a Katrin Lamon Fellow at the School of American Research in Santa Fe, N.M.


She is a board member of the Minnesota Historical Society and will join the board of trustees of the National Museum of the American Indian at the Smithsonian in 2013. Child was born on the Red Lake Ojibwe Reservation in northern Minnesota where she is a citizen.

The events are sponsored by Humanities Montana, UM’s Native American Studies Stott Speakers Fund, International Programs, the Provost’s Office, the National Native American Children’s Trauma Center, the Indians into Psychology Program, the Montana Office of Public Instruction, Missoula Writing Collaborative and Npustin Native American Women’s Nonprofit.

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JS

Local, tribal

031813chil

Contact: Kate Shanley, professor, UM Department of Native American Studies, 406-243-5832, ShanleyKW@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA –

University of Montana President Royce Engstrom will host a town-hall style meeting for alumni and friends of UM from 6 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 27, on the second floor of the Bedford Building in Hamilton, located at 223 S. Second St.

A social will be held before the event from 5:30 to 6 p.m., and the meeting is free and open to the public.

Engstrom will be joined by several members of his Cabinet and he will engage in conversation with attendees on issues related to UM.

For more information call the UM Office of the President at 206-243-2311 or email prestalk@umontana.edu.

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BP

Local, Ravalli Republic, Bitterroot Star

031913hami

Contact: UM Office of the President, 406-243-2311, prestalk@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

The University of Montana’s spectrUM Discovery Area will bring its popular “Hands on Health” exhibit to Lolo Tuesday through Friday, March 26-29.

“Hands on Health” will feature interactive science exhibits and activities that explore the world of health professions and sciences. Lolo school children will participate in guided field trips to the exhibition. The community is invited to participate in free family science fun from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Thursday, March 28, in the Lolo Elementary School lower gymnasium.

Highlights of the exhibit include a giant runny nose that children can diagnose, a health assessment station, a life-size medical teaching torso for simulated surgery activities, guided cow eyeball and heart dissections, and other engaging health science exhibits and activities.

“We deliver hands-on science around the state transforming gymnasiums and cafeterias into powerful science learning centers that help inspire Montana’s next generation of scientists, engineers and visionaries,” spectrUM Director Holly Truitt said.

The spectrUM Discovery Area’s mobile science center features a variety of themed interactive science exhibitions such as “Hands on Health,” which travels the state. With programs ranging from community events to traveling exhibits, spectrUM has driven more than 15,000 miles to 35 different schools in more than 20 counties, serving more than 23,000 children and their families.

Committed to inspiring a culture of learning and discovery for all, spectrUM is an interactive science center located in the Skaggs Building on UM campus. SpectrUM’s national sponsors include the NISEnetwork, SciGirls, Montana Girls’ STEM Collaborative and NSF EPScoR. SpectrUM has a grant partnership with the National Institutes of Health, and its Science For All Scholarship Fund has given the gift of science to more than 1,000 Montana children.

For those who can’t visit spectrUM in Lolo, the spectrUM Discovery Area in Missoula is open to the public on Thursdays from 3:30 to 7 p.m. or Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Admission is $3.50 per person.

Teachers who would like to arrange class field trips to spectrUM, which cost $3.50 per student, can call 406-243-4828. To arrange for spectrUM to visit a school or organization, go to http://www.spectrum.umt.edu or call 406-243-4828.

This project is powered by The Jane S.Heman Foundation. “Hands on Health” is a collaboration of Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Montana and the Western Montana Area Health Education Center (AHEC).

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ALL

Western Montana

031813lolo

Contact: Holly Truitt, spectrUM Discovery Area director, 406-243-4872, holly.truitt@umontana.edu; Hannah Motl, spectrUM Discovery Area outreach coordinator, 406-243-4828, hannah.motl@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

The American Academy of Arts and Letters awarded Joanna Klink, associate professor of English and creative writing at the University of Montana, the $7,500 Arts and Letters Award in Literature to honor her career and poetry publications.

Recognition by the American Academy of Arts and Letters is considered one of the highest formal acknowledgments of artistic merit in the U.S.

“I was pretty floored,” Klink said. “I’m not on the radar too much, so it’s really nice to be recognized like this.”

She has received awards and fellowships from the Rona Jaffe Foundation, Jeannette Haien Ballard and Civitella Ranieri. Klink is the author of three books of poetry: “They Are Sleeping,” “Circadian” and “Raptus.” Her poems have appeared in many anthologies, most recently “The Penguin Anthology of Twentieth Century American Poetry.”

Klink is a poetry professor at UM and currently on sabbatical. She is finishing a book about Paul Celan, called “Strangeness,” and hopes to complete her fourth book of poems as well, which is slated for publication in April 2015.

The American Academy of Arts and Letters is an honor society of 250 lifelong members. The membership is made up of elected architects, composers, artists and writers. Each year the Academy recognizes more than 50 composers, artists, architects and writers for exceptional work with cash awards ranging from $5,000 to $100,000. Academy members nominate the award candidates, and committees comprised of randomly selected members from the academy’s roster choose the recipients.

For more information call Klink at 406-493-1751 or email joanna.klink@umontana.edu or call Virginia Dajani, executive director of the American Academy of Arts and Letters, at 212-368-5900 or email academy@artsandletters.org.

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Contact: Joanna Klink, associate professor, UM Department of English, 406-493-1751, joanna.klink@umontana.edu; Virginia Dajani, executive director, American Academy of Arts and Letters, 212-368-5900, academy@artsandletters.org.
MISSOULA –

Fans of all ages are invited to cheer on the Montana Grizzlies basketball team as they depart for San Jose, Calif., on Tuesday, March 19, to play in the second round of the NCAA men’s basketball tournament.

The team bus will depart from the south end of Washington-Grizzly Stadium at 10:30 a.m. It will travel over the Madison Street Bridge, turn left on Broadway Street and continue to the airport on Broadway. Fans are invited to cheer on the bus as it takes the Griz to the “Big Dance.”

No. 13-seed Montana (25-6) will face the No. 4-seed Syracuse Orange (26-9) at 7:57 p.m. MDT on Thursday, March 21.

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BM/cbs
Campus
031813griz

Contact: Brynn Molloy, assistant director, Grizzly Scholarship Association, 406-243-5405, brynn.molloy@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA –

The School of Extended & Lifelong Learning at The University of Montana is offering a new series of professional development courses beginning late March 2013. The series is designed to enhance career potential and consists of short, noncredit courses that are open to the public and taught by UM faculty and local professionals.

Registration is open for the first set of courses, which cover a range of topics, such as leadership, advertising, communication and employment law. Many are offered in the evening to accommodate working professionals. All instructors are qualified professionals who possess current, real-world experience and a desire to share their knowledge.

Course fees range from $40 for a two-hour “Communication Design for the Digital Age” course taught by Gordy Pace, director of communications for UM Information Technology, to the $2,500 Social Media Certificate Program, offered online in partnership with Dalton Education. The average course is 15 hours and costs $350. New courses will be added regularly.

“If you own a business or work for a company that doesn’t provide training, short of going back to college, this is the best opportunity for you to learn about your rights and responsibilities as an employer, how to craft a winning proposal, how to create your own advertising and to gain other skills that you need to succeed,” said Candi Merrill, UMExtended Courses program director.

The courses aim to improve the employability of Montana’s residents, keep alumni connected with UM and attract new businesses to the region by demonstrating that Missoula has a well-trained workforce.

“This series is designed specifically for our community, and the courses have depth,” Merrill said. “Ultimately, these noncredit programs will make a positive impact on UM and on the western Montana region.”

For more information call Merrill at 406-243-6431, email candi.merrill@mso.umt.edu or go online to http://www.umt.edu/sell/profdev.

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CM/js

Western Montana

032913sell

Contact: Candi Merrill, program director, UMExtended Courses, School of Extended and Lifelong Learning, 406-243-6431, candi.merrill@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA –

A Central American archaeologist will share his findings and interpretations of the Mayan origin myth based on extensive excavations at the monumental site of Cahal Pech, Belize, at 7 p.m., Wednesday, March 20, in The University of Montana’s University Center Rooms 332-333.

Jaime Awe, director of the Institute of Archaeology in Belize has been investigating ancient Mayan archaeological sites for more than two decades. In his talk, “Archaeological Evidence for the Preclassic Origins of the Maya Creation Story and the Myth of the Hero Twins at Cahal Pech, Belize,” Awe will interpret archaeological findings in light of Mayan religious ideology.

This Mayan story of creation is best known from a European transcription in the 18th century, while its ancient roots remain a mystery. Integrating imagery from murals, ceramics and figurines from across the Mayan region with very early archaeological evidence from Cahal Pech, this lecture will explore the Mayan creation story and the Hero Twin myth.

Awe’s groundbreaking research into the ancient Maya has overturned numerous long-held beliefs about this society’s development and decline. His early research demonstrated the deep Preclassic roots of the cultural fluorescence of the Classic period, including the Mayan calendar, political systems, writing, monumental architecture, complex trade systems and religious beliefs that we associate with the Mayan culture today.

The Montana Anthropology Student Association and UM’s Department of Anthropology will sponsor the lecture, which is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served. For more information call UM Associate Professor Ashley McKeown at 406-529-2198 or email ashley.mckeown@umontana.edu.

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BP

Local

131513maya

Contact: Ashley McKeown, associate professor, UM Department of Anthropology, 406-529-2198, ashley.mckeown@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

The University of Montana Foundation has selected Shane Giese as its next president and CEO. Giese’s career includes 27 years in higher education fundraising. He comes to UM from Kansas State University, where he served as senior vice president for development.

“We are pleased and excited that Shane will be joining us as leader of our Foundation,” said Mike McDonough, chair of the UM Foundation board of trustees. “His senior development leadership experience at multiple institutions and his success with educational institution campaigns will enable our Foundation to be a major contributor to the success of The University of Montana.”

The move to Montana will be a return to the Northwest for Giese and his wife, Joan. He was associate vice president for campaign initiatives and associate vice president for development for the University of Oregon from 2006 to 2011. As associate vice president for development, Giese helped the university vastly exceed a campaign goal of $600 million, ending the campaign with $853 million raised.

Before his tenure at Oregon, Giese was on the staff of Washington State University for 16 years. He began his work there as assistant dean for external affairs/director of development for the College of Business and Economics. He then advanced to vice president and director of corporate and foundation relations. When Shane left WSU, he was senior vice president.

“I look forward to returning to the Northwest and joining The University of Montana Foundation,” Giese said. “The Foundation and the University have strong leadership teams in place. I am excited about the opportunities to help grow the fundraising program.”

Giese began his development career at his alma mater, Wayne State College in Wayne, Neb. He worked in banking for two years before moving into higher education development. Giese has a bachelor’s degree in chemistry from Wayne State and a master’s in business administration from Southern Oregon University. He will begin work at the UM Foundation on May 1.

The University of Montana Foundation is a nonprofit entity governed by a 40-member board of trustees. Its mission is to ensure the University’s excellence, access and affordability through a public/private partnership. As president and CEO, Giese will lead the daily activities of the Foundation, serve on President Royce Engstrom’s cabinet and serve as the chief development officer of the University.

“Shane will be a great contributor to the UM community, to Missoula and the state,” McDonough said.

Laura Brehm, current president and CEO, has led the UM Foundation since 2003. She will retire from her role March 31 to work as a development consultant to nonprofit organizations and universities.

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BH/js

Statewide

031513foun

Contact: Beth Hammock, strategic communications and marketing, UM Foundation, 406-243-4609, beth.hammock@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

The Diversity Advisory Council at The University of Montana will honor the winners of this year’s DAC Student Achievement Awards at a ceremony to be held from 3:30 to 5 p.m. Monday, March 18, in the University Center’s North Ballroom.

The campus community is invited to attend the ceremony.

The awards honor students whose leadership promotes campus diversity. Nominations were accepted through March 1.

Nominees must have attended UM for one full academic semester during the 2012-13 academic year and be in good academic standing. Students may receive this recognition more than once. A DAC subcommittee reviewed all nominations and selected students most worthy of the award.

From providing academic support to veterans to fostering connections between American and international students to supporting students with autism by training volunteers to deliver services for students with diverse learning needs, this year’s awardees are being honored for a breadth of diversity activities.

The following students will receive awards at the ceremony:

- Diana Askam Anyango
- Shane Bartschi
- Meredith Berthelson
- Kristy Calf Robe
- Francesca Cellini
- Trisha Christensen
- Karin Ehara
- Robert Enoch
- Taku Furuya
- Vuthika Hang
- Ardina Hasanbasri
- Verena Henners
- Amanda Jackson
- Apoorva Joshi
- Noela Kinda
- Sara Latif
- Han Lee
- Yang Liu
- Victoria Madgwick
- Madrombe Mbaikelel
- Chelsea Ranes
- Monica Reid
- Juanita Reyes
- Jessica Reynolds
- Jonas Rides at the Door
- Volodymyr Shemyev
- Rachel Smith
For more information call Juana Alcala, UM Diversity Advisory Council member, at 406-243-2049 or email jalcala@mso.umt.edu.

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

For community members ages 50 and older, the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at The University of Montana (MOLLI) will offer spring courses on topics ranging from Russian literature, Bhutan, Korea, Hemingway, Shakespeare, women artists, Montana CSI, Buddhism, the Cold War and Missoula’s springtime native plants, to name only a few.

Taught by distinguished UM faculty, emeritus faculty and professionals from the community, spring MOLLI courses will take place April 11-May 17.

Registration is open now. To view the Spring 2013 course schedule, course descriptions and instructor biographies, go to http://www.umt.edu/molli.

An annual MOLLI membership fee of $20 is required to enroll in a course. Registration costs $60 per course, or one participant enrolled in two courses is eligible for a spring special discount of two courses for $100.

For more information or to register for courses over the phone, call the MOLLI office at 406-243-2905 or visit the School of Extended & Lifelong Learning in the James E. Todd Building on the UM campus.

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Contact: Eileen Flannigan, program coordinator, Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at UM, 406-243-2905, eileen.flannigan@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA –

A delegation of wood-product buyers from China and Korea will visit Montana March 15-18. This reverse trade mission, hosted and coordinated by the Montana World Trade Center at The University of Montana, will introduce the delegates to Montana wood products and the timber industry.

The Korean and Chinese buyers are from separate, large companies actively seeking new wood species and wood products but are currently not buying from Montana. They represent more than $300 million in annual lumber imports from markets across the globe.

The delegates will meet one-on-one with Montana wood-product manufacturers, tour local mills and attend the Small Log Conference in Idaho. Other networking events will allow the delegates to build relationships with Montana’s wood-product producers.

UM’s College of Forestry and Conservation and the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation will host the delegates at Lubrecht Experimental Forest. Forestry Dean Jim Burchfield and State Forester Bob Harrington will give a tour and an overview of Montana’s forests and sustainable management practices.

The trade mission is sponsored in partnership with the Montana Wood Products Association, Montana DNRC, Missoula Economic Partnership, BitterRoot Economic Development District and Forest Business Network.

UM’s Montana World Trade Center helps Montana businesses understand and compete in international trade. For more information visit http://www.mwtc.org.

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LS/cbs

Western Montana, Dailies

031413wood

Contact: Anthony Rodriguez, Montana World Trade Center, 406-243-6982, anthony@mwtc.org
MISSOULA –

Missoula runners looking to up the ante with their next race can participate in The University of Montana Physical Therapy Student Association’s seventh annual Bust A Gut 5K at 10 a.m. Saturday, March 23.

The race begins in the UM Oval and continues down the Kim Williams Trail. Racers can stop at optional fitness stations along the traditional 3.1-mile route to help “bust their gut.”

The Bust A Gut 5K funds scholarships for first-year physical therapy students at UM. Registration costs $15 in advance and $20 the day of the race and will be available from 8:30 to 10 a.m. in the Oval. Advance registration is available online at http://www.racemontana.com.

All racers will receive a T-shirt and prizes are available. For more information email race committee chair and UM physical therapy student Weston Vik at bustagut5k@gmail.com.

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BP

Local

031413race

Contact: Weston Vik, committee chair, UM Physical Therapy Student Association Bust A Gut 5K, bustagut5k@gmail.com.
The University of Montana American Indian Student Services will host the eight-week Insider/ Outsider Film Series on Thursdays from March 14 to May 9 in The Payne Family Native American Center. The series will include feature films and documentaries about the past and present of Natives and Indian Country made by both Native and non-Native filmmakers.

The films will address the experience of the insider and outsider: what it means to be a cultural insider or outsider making a film for inside or outside audiences, and the ways in which the lines drawn between insiders and outsiders constantly are erased or redrawn.

All films are free and open to the public, with a B.Y.O.F. (bring your own frybread) policy. They will be shown from 5 to 7 p.m. in Payne Center Room 201.

The schedule of films is:

- **March 14:** "Real Injun"
- **March 21:** "The Business of Fancy Dancing"
- **March 28:** "Dead Man"
- **April 11:** "Atanarjuat: The Fast Runner"
- **April 18:** "Little Big Man"
- **April 25:** "Rez Dogs/Lost Birds"
- **May 2:** "Miss Navajo"
- **May 9:** "The Exiles"

Sterling HolyWhiteMountain will host the series. He grew up on the Blackfeet Indian Reservation, has a master's degree in creative writing from the University of Iowa and currently is working toward a bachelor’s in Native American studies at UM.

For more information visit AISS online at [http://www.life.umt.edu/aiss](http://www.life.umt.edu/aiss) or call AISS Director Fredricka Hunter at 406-243-6352 or email fredricka.hunter@mso.umt.edu.

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BP

Western Montana

031313film

Contact: Fredricka Hunter, director, UM American Indian Student Services, 406-243-6352, fredricka.hunter@mso.umt.edu
MISSOULA –

The director of the National Native Children's Trauma Center at The University of Montana has been appointed to the new 12-member National Child Abuse Prevention Commission.

Marilyn J. Bruguier Zimmerman was nominated for the position by U.S. Sen. Max Baucus. The commission will support the Protect Our Kids Act, which Baucus authored and President Barack Obama signed into law on Jan. 14. The group will study and evaluate federal, state and private child welfare systems and provide policy recommendations to prevent child maltreatment, abuse, neglect and fatalities from abuse.

“I applaud the leadership of Sen. Baucus, President Obama and others in prioritizing the improvement of agency coordination, reporting standards and prevention programs necessary to reduce child death and maltreatment,” Zimmerman said. "In Indian Country and across the nation, our children are calling out to us. There are new, effective interventions that prevent violence, help children and parents with trauma, and support child welfare workers.

"For the sake of these children, we must enhance the systems designed to protect them,” she said. "I am honored to help the commission with this effort.”

Besides directing the National Native Children’s Trauma Center, Zimmerman is associate director of UM’s Institute for Educational Research and Service. She focuses on culturally relevant, evidence-based interventions to treat childhood traumatic stress.

"Thanks to a multiyear grant through the Children’s Bureau and National Child Traumatic Stress Network that Marilyn has been central to, we are able to take the latest research on trauma, stress and burnout and use it to support child welfare workers serving Native children,” said Rick van den Pol, director of IERS. "Marilyn’s input will be very valuable.”

A member of the Assiniboine-Sioux tribes of the Fort Peck Indian Reservation, Zimmerman is a UM graduate with a bachelor's degree in psychology and a master’s in social work.

Baucus said Zimmerman is highly regarded as an advocate for children and Native Americans.

"Marilyn is a tireless advocate for kids and brings real experience working to protect kids and prevent child abuse and neglect,” Baucus said. “We need a Montanan’s voice on this task force, and I’m thrilled we have one. Marilyn will bring a valuable perspective to the task force as it works to find solutions to keep kids safe. I look forward to working with Marilyn as we work to make sure every child is protected.”

More than 6 million children are abused or neglected in America every year, most of whom are younger than 4 years old, according to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. In fiscal year 2011, 1,545 children in the United States were reported to have died from abuse and neglect, and many experts believe that the actual number may be significantly higher.

For more information on the National Native Children’s Trauma Center, visit [http://iers.umt.edu/National_Native_Childrens_Trauma_Center](http://iers.umt.edu/National_Native_Childrens_Trauma_Center).

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CBS

Western Montana, Dailies, Tribal

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Contact: Marilyn J. Bruguier Zimmerman, director, UM National Native Children's Trauma Center, 406-243-2644, marilyn.zimmerman@umontana.edu; Rick van den Pol,
UM Director Named To National Child Abuse Prevention Commission - UM News - The University Of Montana

donor, UM Institute for Educational Research and Service, 406-243-6756, rick.vandenpol@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA –

At the heart of America’s long-standing debate about health and health care is a fundamental tension between individual rights and social responsibilities. The 2013 Mansfield Conference, “The Future of Health Care in America: Balancing Individual Rights with Social Responsibility,” will address that tension Tuesday through Thursday, March 19-21, at The University of Montana.

Eight sessions over three days will feature lectures and panel discussions on topics such as implementation of the Affordable Care Act, Medicare, Medicaid, health insurance coverage and obesity. The goal of the conference is to provide a forum for informed discussions on these important and controversial issues and to increase awareness of, and sensitivity to, the political and ethical questions they raise.

Five of the nation’s leading experts on health care will be featured throughout the conference: Mark Hall, a professor at the Wake Forest School of Law; Megan McArdle, a special correspondent for Newsweek and the Daily Beast and a former senior editor at The Atlantic Monthly; James Morone, a political science professor at Brown University; Jack Mudd, the senior vice president of the Providence Services Corporation; and Avik Roy, a columnist for National Review and Forbes and the former health care adviser to Mitt Romney. These presenters will be joined by a range of policy experts, practitioners and media figures from Montana, including Mike Dennison, Carl Graham, Monica Lindeen, Sally Mauk, Richard Opper, Tom Roberts and Larry White.

All sessions will be held in the University Center. The schedule is:

- **Session 2:** 10-11:30 a.m. Wednesday, UC North Ballroom; “Political Battles Over Health Care: Past, Present and Future,” James Morone; respondents: Avik Roy and Jeremy Johnson; moderator: Robert Saldin.
- **Session 3:** 1-2:30 p.m. Wednesday, UC North Ballroom; “The Conservative Case for Universal Coverage,” Avik Roy; respondents: Tom Roberts and Mark Hall; moderator: Dane Scott.
- **Session 4:** 3-4:30 p.m. Wednesday, UC North Ballroom; “Should the Youth Subsidize the Old? The Affordable Care Act’s Communitarian Values,” Mark Hall; respondents: Susan Kohler, Megan McArdle and Larry White; moderator: Anthony Johnstone.
- **Session 5:** 7:30-9 p.m. Wednesday, UC Theater; “21st Century Health Care: Balancing the Tension Between Individual Rights and Community Responsibilities,” Megan McArdle and James Morone; respondents: Mark Hall and Avik Roy; moderator: Ian Marquand.
- **Session 6:** 10-11:30 a.m. Thursday, UC North Ballroom; “Overselling Obesity: Why Lean Cuisine Can’t Solve Our Health Care Cost Crisis,” Megan McArdle; respondents: James Morone and Heather Sauro; moderator: Mark Hanson.
- **Session 7:** 1-2:30 p.m. Thursday, UC North Ballroom; “The Future of Health Care in Montana: Medicaid Expansion in the Big Sky State,” panelists: Mike Dennison, Michael Foster, Carl Graham and Richard Opper; moderator: Anthony Johnstone.
- **Session 8:** 3-4:30 p.m. Thursday, UC North Ballroom; “The Future of Health Care in America,” panelists: Jeff Fee, Monica Lindeen, Megan McArdle, James Morone, Jack Mudd and Avik Roy; moderator: Sally Mauk.

All sessions are free and open to the public. The conference is co-sponsored by the Maureen and Mike Mansfield Center at UM, the Project on American Democracy and Citizenship, the Mansfield Ethics and Public Affairs Program and the UM President’s Excellence Fund. More information on sessions and participants is available online at [http://www.umt.edu/ethics/MansfieldConference/default.aspx](http://www.umt.edu/ethics/MansfieldConference/default.aspx).

For more information call Dane Scott, director of the Mansfield Ethics and Public Affairs Program, at 406-214-4520 or email dane.scott@mso.umt.edu; or call UM Associate Professor Rob Saldin at 208-850-5967 or email robert.saldin@umontana.edu.

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Western Montana
Contact: Dane Scott, director, Mansfield Ethics and Public Affairs Program at UM, 406-214-4520, dane.scott@mso.umt.edu; Rob Saldin, associate professor, UM Department of Political Science, 208-850-5967, robert.saldin@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

The Student Involvement Network at The University of Montana will host an Album Swap from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday, March 19, in the University Center Atrium.

Students are encouraged to bring records, disks, cassette tapes and even eight-tracks to be traded. The Album Swap will continue throughout the day, creating a fun way to share music. All albums are welcome, but mixtapes or burned CDs are not eligible to trade.

The Student Involvement Network is an activities board offering workshops, comedy shows, concerts, lectures, guest speakers, films, entertainment and much more. Programming centers around the core values of learning, leadership, diversity and fun.

For more information call Conrad Scheid, SIN student coordinator, at 406-243-6189 or Adrianne Donald, assistant director for Student Involvement and Communications, 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; Conrad Scheid, SIN student coordinator, 406-243-6189.
MISSOULA –

The University Center at The University of Montana will become a venue for global sights, sounds and aromas at the 22nd annual International Culture and Food Festival on Sunday, March 24. More than 400 students from 70 countries will participate in the festival, with the theme “Grizzlies Across the Globe.”

The festival will feature a world food bazaar, international culture show, children’s world, ethnic cultural pavilions and a silent auction of international arts and crafts. A parade of flags will kick off the festival at noon, and all activities will run until 5 p.m. Admission costs $5 for the general public and $3 for children 12 and under.

The food bazaar in the UC Atrium will feature authentic dishes from 20 regions of the world. Food is priced from 50 cents to $4 and will include Filipino chicken adobo, Greek souvlaki, Brazilian brigadeiro and beijinho, Middle Eastern dolmas, Vietnamese pork barbecue and noodles, Swedish meatballs, Turkish gevürme kebab and Ethiopian injera and doro wat.

The five-hour, nonstop and lively international culture show on the third floor of the UC will include more than 30 traditional and contemporary performances such as the Japanese dance “Soran Bushi,” Bollywood and Tajik dances, Missoula International School and Lewis and Clark Elementary Peace choirs, Australian didgeridoo music, the Celtic Dragon Pipe Band, an African fashion show and Polynesian dances from students at UM Western in Dillon.

Children’s world in the UC Commons on the second floor will present an imaginative children’s festival with more than 25 events featuring hands-on, fun intercultural activities. Children can participate in games, dances, storytelling, multi-ethnic crafts and origami, as well as meet people from different cultures. Kids will be issued “passports” and can earn “world citizen” status by completing activities. At the same time, the Montana International Children’s Film Festival will feature short films from Italy, Portugal, the U.K., Japan and Sweden for children ages 4 to 8 in the UC Theater on the third floor.

Cultural pavilions in the UC Ballroom will present displays from individual countries and internationally focused local organizations, making the festival an inspiration for those hoping to make international connections here in Missoula. Displays will include colorful information about countries, a world-items market and information booths.

The Missoula International Friendship Program will have sign-up information for those interested in becoming a Community Friend to incoming UM international students. From noon to 4 p.m., MIFP also will hold a silent auction featuring international arts, crafts and a special dinner offered by former MIFP Community Friends UM President Royce Engstrom and his wife, Mary. The auction raises funds to continue making Missoula a welcoming place for UM’s international students and scholars.

The festival is sponsored by the UM International Student Association and Foreign Student and Scholar Services. This year the festival will partner with Altrusa International of Missoula to promote their service organization and to solicit funds for college scholarships, including for UM’s international students.

For more information call Francesca Cellini, president of the UM International Student Association, at 406-241-3312 or email francesca.cellini@umontana.edu.

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Contact: Francesca Cellini, president, UM International Student Association, 406-241-3312, francesca.cellini@umontana.edu; Mona Mondava, festival director, UM Foreign Student and Scholar Services, 406-243-6059, mona.mondava@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

Victoria Banyard, a leading expert on the study and prevention of sexual violence, will deliver a lecture titled “Sexual Assault as a Societal Problem in America” as part of The University of Montana President’s Lecture Series at 8 p.m. Monday, March 25, in the George and Jane Dennison Theatre.

Aside from her lecture, Banyard will deliver an afternoon seminar earlier that same day. The seminar, titled “Who Will Help? Creating a Community Response to Sexual Violence Prevention,” will be held from 3:10 to 4:30 p.m. in Gallagher Business Building Room 123. Both the lecture and the seminar are free and open to the public.

Banyard is a professor in the Department of Psychology at the University of New Hampshire. During spring 2010, she was a visiting scholar at the University of Bristol's Center for Research on Gender and Violence. She conducts research on the long-term consequences of trauma and interpersonal violence, most recently developing a specialty investigating the broader community contexts of survivors, including strategies for the prevention of sexual and intimate partner abuse.

She has conducted several evaluations of “Bringing in the Bystander,” a college relationship and sexual violence prevention program that focuses on empowering bystanders to intervene before, during or after incidents of interpersonal violence. She also has researched building community safety nets for survivors, emphasizing the training of friends and other network members to provide support. Additionally, she has studied the criminal justice system responses to sexual assault.

Banyard’s articles have appeared in leading scholarly journals and she has been a guest editor for special journal issues including Violence Against Women: An International Journal. She has co-edited two books: “Trauma and Physical Health: Integrating Trauma Practice Into Primary Care” and “Trauma and Memory.”

Banyard’s lecture is co-sponsored by the UM Department of Psychology and the Women’s and Gender Studies Program.

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

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Local

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

A recent paper published in the Journal of Homosexuality by University of Montana psychology Associate Professor Bryan Cochran, UM doctoral graduate Annesa Flentje and authors from other institutions indicates that lesbian, gay and bisexual veterans of the U.S. military endorse higher rates of depression, post-traumatic stress disorder and alcohol problems than the general veteran population.

The study surveyed 409 LGB veterans – all of whom served prior to the repeal of “don’t ask, don’t tell” – about their military experiences, current mental health symptoms, LGB-related stressors and specific experiences associated with being an LGB service member. A comparison sample of veterans was retrieved from a Veterans Affairs database.

Results indicated that more than two-thirds of LGB veterans experienced anxiety or fear about having their LGB identity revealed while in the service and that they were constantly trying to conceal their sexual orientation while in the service. Almost one-fifth of LGB veterans indicated that they perceived their military discharge to be related to their sexual orientation.

The researchers identified an association between current mental health symptoms of LGB veterans, such as depression and PTSD, and anxiety experienced around concealment of their sexual orientation while in the service. Despite this association, it is impossible to conclude that concealment of one’s sexual orientation caused later mental health difficulties.

Additional authors of the study were Kimberly Balsam of Palo Alto University, as well as Carol Malte and Tracy Simpson of the VA Puget Sound Health Care System.

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Contact: Bryan Cochran, UM associate professor of psychology, 406-243-2391, bryan.cochran@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA –

Harvey Locke, a strategic conservation adviser for the Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Initiative, will deliver a lecture titled “Large Landscape Conservation from Yellowstone to Yukon and Beyond: A Shared Vision for the 21st Century” as part of the Montana Institute on Ecosystems Distinguished Lecturer Series on Tuesday, March 19, at The University of Montana.

The event will be held at 7 p.m. in Interdisciplinary Science Building Room 110. Light refreshments will be served before the event, which is free and open to the public.

For 20 years, Locke has worked effectively on large landscape conservation from Yellowstone National Park to the Yukon Wilderness, and around the world. He also has been widely published on the same subject. Time magazine named Locke, a native of the Calgary-Banff area of Canada, as one of Canada’s leaders for the 21st century.

During his lecture, he will share how a common vision, anchored in scientific findings, can show what nature needs and ultimately inspire a variety of decisionmakers from different cultures to work across jurisdictional complexities to reach effective outcomes.

UM’s Institute on Ecosystems Distinguished Lecturer Series provides opportunities 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 UM and Montana State University, 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 IoE Program Manager Gay Allison at 406-243-2617 or email gay.allison@umontana.edu.

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Local

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

The University of Montana Irish Studies Program will join in “the wearing of the green” during the St. Patrick’s Day Celebration on Saturday, March 16. Missoula residents are invited to attend morning Mass downtown, enjoy a parade and feast at the St. Patrick’s Day Banquet in the evening.

The celebration, co-sponsored by the Friends of Irish Studies and the local Ancient Order of the Hibernians, will kick off at 8 a.m. with Mass at St. Francis Xavier Church located at 420 W. Pine St.

The St. Patrick’s Day parade will assemble at 11 a.m. at Broadway and Higgins Ave., departing at noon. This year’s grand marshal is Bobb Coulston, the Irishman of the Year is Shannon Flanagan and the Irishwoman of the Year is Eileen Kearney Ort. Attendees are invited to wear green, bring their families and join in the parade.

The evening banquet will run from 6 to 9 p.m. at the DoubleTree Hotel located at 100 Madison St. Friends of Irish Studies will host the banquet to support the UM Irish Studies Program. It will feature a silent and live auction and plenty of good music, song and dance. Cocktail hour is from 6 to 7 p.m. and dinner includes a traditional Irish meal of corned beef and cabbage, salad, roasted potatoes and an Irish dessert. Tickets cost $25 per plate and are available at the door.

The following week on Sunday, March 24, the Friends of Irish Studies will draw the raffle winners for a trip to Ireland. The drawing will be held at 4 p.m. at St. Anthony’s Church located at 217 Tremont St. The first-place prize is a trip for two to Ireland, $1,500 spending money and a 10-day car rental; the second-place prize is a $1,500 gas voucher; and the third-place prize is a $500 Visa gift card. Raffle tickets cost $5 for one or $25 for six. They are available at Rockin Rudy’s, Great Harvest Bread Co., Sean Kelly’s, The Stone of Accord and also will be available at the St. Patrick’s Day Banquet.

More information on the Friends of Irish Studies is available online at http://www.friendsofirishstudies.com. For more information on the events, call Traolach O’Riordain, director of the UM Irish Studies Program, at 406-243-6973 or email traolach.oriordain@mso.umt.edu.

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Western Montana

031113irsh

Contact: Traolach O’Riordain, director, UM Irish Studies Program, 406-243-6973, traolach.oriordain@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA –

More than 10,000 people “like” Eric Clapton’s Crossroads Guitar Festival 2013 Facebook page thanks to a group of University of Montana entertainment management students who are managing Facebook, Twitter and other social media outlets for the festival, which will be held April 12-13 at Madison Square Garden in New York City.

UM students launched the Facebook page at the end of November, and just last week it hit 10,000 likes. The page features news and promotions about the Crossroads Guitar Festival, which is sponsored by Chase and draws in thousands of fans to hear performances from a lineup of more than 30 musicians, including Clapton. Find the page online at http://www.facebook.com/CrossroadsGuitarFest.

Students regularly post information on the Facebook page about a variety of promotions including the Play Crossroads contest, in which one undiscovered guitarist will get a chance to play onstage with Clapton, and the Road to Crossroads in which radio stations throughout the nation give away prizes such as tickets to Clapton’s festival, guitars, gift cards and other items.

“We are happy to have this amazing opportunity to work with the Clapton/Crossroads team,” said Paul Tappon, a senior in UM’s Entertainment Management Program. “The project gives us the opportunity to work with a very prestigious nonprofit and to experience what real-life entertainment marketing is all about.”

Under UM Entertainment Management Director Scott Douglas’ direction, students are helping publicize and promote the 2013 festival, which is a benefit for Crossroads Centre Antigua, a chemical dependency treatment center founded by Clapton. The project opportunity was brought to the UM Entertainment Management Program by Maria Brunner, a core instructor with the program.

Tappon says he is pleased that the Facebook page has 10,000 likes, but hopes to have 15,000 likes by the time of the festival. In a little over a month, Tappon and several other students will attend the festival to volunteer their services and to gain hands-on experience with marketing and publicity.

Learn more about the festival at http://www.playcrossroads.com.

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Contact: Shannon Furniss, communications director, UM School of Business Administration, 406-243-2782, 406-360-7846, shannon.furniss@buinsess.umt.edu.
MISSOULA –

The University of Montana’s spectrUM Discovery Area will host in-classroom field trips and a Family Science Night in Ronan on Thursday, March 21.

SpectrUM educators will explore “NanoDays” activities in the elementary classrooms, giving children the ultimate hands-on experience. SpectrUM also will take over the William K. Harvey Elementary School gymnasium for a free and open-to-the-public Family Science Night from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. the same day.

Every person measuring at least 500 million nanometers tall (that’s everyone!) can experience hands-on science activities, which will include wheat germ DNA extraction, super expansion gel, polymer chemistry, an interactive game to understand scale and a liquid nitrogen demonstration.

Since 2007, spectrUM has traveled more than 20,500 miles to bring educators, exhibitions, and programs to 53 different schools in 23 Montana counties, including all seven Montana Indian reservations.

“We travel hands-on science around the state transforming gymnasiums and cafeterias into powerful science learning centers that help inspire Montana’s next generation of scientists, engineers and visionaries,” said spectrUM Director Holly Truitt.

Committed to inspiring a culture of learning and discovery for all, the spectrUM Discovery Area is an interactive science center located in the Skaggs Building on The University of Montana campus that annually serves 39,000 visitors through in-museum and mobile programming. National sponsors and partners include SciGirls, NISE Network, AHEC, and the Noyce Foundation.

SpectrUM is supported by an array of funding sources including the National Institutes of Health and National Science Foundation EPSCoR Program, and its Science For All Scholarship Fund has given the gift of science to more than 1,500 Montana children.

SpectrUM Discovery Area in Missoula is located in Skaggs Building Room 166. It’s open to the public Thursdays from 3:30 to 7 p.m. and Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Admission is $3.50 per person.

Teachers who would like to arrange class field trips to spectrUM, which cost $3.50 per student, can call 406-243-4828. To arrange for spectrUM to visit a school or organization, go to http://www.spectrum.umt.edu or call 406-243-4828.

The Ronan Parent-Teacher Association and spectrUM’s Science for All Scholarship Fund is sponsoring spectrUM’s March 21 visit to Ronan.

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ALL

Local, Lake County Leader, Valley Journal

030113nano

Contact: Holly Truitt, director, spectrUM Discovery Area, 406-243-4872, holly.truitt@umontana.edu; Hannah Motl, outreach coordinator, spectrUM Discovery Area, 406-243-4828, hannah.motl@umontana.edu.
SpectrUM to Bring Nano Activities, Liquid Nitrogen Ice Cream to Ronan - UM News - The University Of Montana
MISSOULA –

The University of Montana’s Energy Technology Program will present “College of Technology at Idaho State University Energy Systems Technology and Education Center (ESTEC)” as its 2013 spring seminar. The seminar, which will discuss the role that the two programs may play in our nation’s energy future, will be held from 12:10 to 1 p.m. Wednesday, March 13, in Health Building Room 06 on the East Campus.

The seminar features Ryan Pitcher, an instructor at Idaho State University ESTEC’s College of Technology since 2010. Over the past two years he has developed eight online theory courses pertaining to renewable energy.

Pitcher, an ESTEC graduate, worked for seven years as a manufacturing test engineer for Maxim Integrated Products, a semi-conductor manufacturer. He was the primary MTE for more than 65 radio frequency testers around the world and the secondary MTE for more than 350 testers in the U.S. While working at Maxim, Pitcher traveled extensively to conduct training and make system modifications and repairs.

For more information call Bradley Layton, director of Missoula College’s Energy Technology Program, at 406-243-7865 or email bradley.layton@umontana.edu.

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Campus

Contact: Bradley Layton, director, Energy Technology Program, Missoula College, 406-243-7865, bradley.layton@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

The University of Montana College of Visual and Performing Arts will honor Missoula textile artist Nancy Erickson during the 13th annual "Odyssey of the Stars – A Celebration of Artistic Journeys."

Each year, "Odyssey of the Stars" pays tribute to UM performing and visual arts alumni and tells the story of their artistic journeys, showcasing the many roads to success an artist can travel.

This year’s show, “Fabric of Life,” will start at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, March 16, in the George and Jane Dennison Theatre. The scholarship event will feature UM students, faculty and Erickson as the honoree.

Erickson lives in a mountain canyon near Missoula with her partner of many years and the deer, cougars and bears who have lived there for centuries. She has produced fabric constructions, quilts, paintings and drawings since the 1960s. Her work reflects the relationship between humans and animals and how we co-exist. Her Dancing Rabbit Studios provide the perfect backdrop for representing animals in her paintings, drawings and sewing.

Erickson received a bachelor’s degree in zoology from the University of Iowa and both a master's and a master’s of fine art in painting from UM. She has participated in more than 500 exhibitions in the U.S. and abroad. Twice a month, she hosts members of the Pattee Canyon Ladies Salon, an all-women gathering of local artists, in her studio to develop their skills, provide encouragement and socialize.

An exhibit of Erickson’s work, “Kindred Spirits,” is on display at the Montana Museum of Art & Culture at UM through April 20. In addition, around the time of “Odyssey of the Stars,” 35 percent of sales of her work from Montana Art and Framing at 709 Ronan St. in Missoula will be donated to support CVPA scholarships.

"Odyssey of the Stars" sponsorships that provide student scholarships and help underwrite the event also are available. Sponsors enjoy select seating at the show followed by a VIP champagne reception with Erickson. This year, the UM Jazz Combo will perform at the reception. Two-ticket sponsorships cost $125, and four-ticket sponsorships are $225. A portion of a sponsor is tax deductible. Call the College of Visual and Performing Arts at 406-243-4970 for more information on sponsorships.

"Odyssey of the Stars" tickets cost $30 for the general public and $15 for students and children. They’re available at the UMArts Box Office in the Performing Arts Radio/Television Center, online at http://www.umt.edu/umarts/boxoffice or by calling 406-243-4581. Tickets also will be available at the door.

For more information visit the “Odyssey of the Stars” website at http://www.umt.edu/umarts/odyssey. More information about Erickson's work can be found at http://www.nancyerickson.com.

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Western Montana

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Contact: Peggy Nesbitt, director of arts information and outreach, UM College of Visual and Performing Arts, 406-243-4971, peggy.nesbitt@umontana.edu.
Bryce Maxell, senior zoologist with the Montana Natural Heritage Program, was named Wildlife Biologist of the Year by the Montana chapter of the Wildlife Society last week at their annual meeting in Whitefish. The MTNHP is a special project of The University of Montana Office of the Vice President for Research and Creative Scholarship.

The Wildlife Society's awards program honors professional excellence, recognizes outstanding achievement and highlights contributions to wildlife science and management. The Biologist of the Year award is presented annually for significant achievements in wildlife conservation during the five years immediately preceding the award presentation.

Since 1996, Maxell has conducted field inventories for a variety of animal species in Montana. He has written or co-written two books, a dozen peer-reviewed publications and more than 30 professional reports on amphibians, reptiles, bats, small terrestrial mammals, birds, terrestrial mollusks and fish.

"My professional goals include working with a variety of partners to provide resource managers and the general public with information on the natural history and status of Montana's animals, plants and habitats through books, peer-reviewed publications, professional reports, web resources, educational posters and presentations so they can be more fully appreciated and properly addressed in management plans," Maxell said.

A Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks employee nominated Maxell for the award. Maxell's research on Montana's plants, animals and habitats and his extensive list of publications was highlighted in the nomination letter, as well as his collaboration with diverse state and federal agencies; private businesses and landowners; and varying interest groups, which has placed Montana at the forefront of wildlife management.

MTNHP is housed at the Montana State Library in Helena. Staff work to gather information on plants, animals and biological communities of Montana and make it available to state and federal agencies, tribes, NGOs and private consultants so they can make decisions quickly and inexpensively.

"One aspect of my job is to try to better understand the distribution and status of Montana species through fieldwork, and I have absolutely loved getting to better know those species and the entire state in general," Maxell said. "Our ultimate goal is to have a thorough knowledge of species' distribution and status so that Montana's citizens can more easily appreciate what they have and that a variety of environmental planning processes and decisions are better informed and can be made without delays because of a lack of information. It is a task that will always be in process, but I hope to contribute by raising the overall bar on the level of information that is available."

For more information call Maxell at 406-444-3329 or email bryce1.maxell@umontana.edu.

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State
030813biol

Contact: Bryce Maxell, senior zoologist, Montana National Heritage Program , 406-444-3329, bryce1.maxell@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

Students and faculty at The University of Montana School of Journalism have garnered several top prizes in national and international journalistic competitions.

Associate Professor Ray Fanning won Best of Festival in the Faculty News category at the Broadcast Education Association Festival of Media Arts, an international competition of student and faculty media work. His radio piece, “Preventing Wrongful Convictions – False Eyewitness Identification,” was an investigative look at wrongful convictions in Montana.

The winning piece was one of a five-part series that aired on Montana Public Radio last July and August. It focused on the inaccuracy of eyewitness accounts when it comes to convicting suspected criminals. The series looked at the Montana justice system to see what has changed in the past 10 years and what reforms still are needed.

“The idea behind the story was we had this sort of famous wrongful conviction of Jimmy Ray Bromgard,” Fanning said. Bromgard spent 14 years behind bars for a rape that DNA evidence later proved he did not commit. “Some of the impetus for the story was it was 10 years since he was exonerated.”

Two students also captured first-place awards from the BEA Festival of Media Arts. Monica Gokey, a graduate student in environmental science and natural resource journalism, won Radio Feature Reporting for her Diwali coverage, and Ruth Eddy, an undergraduate student, won Radio Hard News for her piece “Coal Trains.”

Graduate student Allison Mills won second place in Radio Hard News for “Batteries,” and the School of Journalism’s Department of Radio-Television won third place for the student documentary “Boom! Behind the Bakken.”

The BEA Festival of Media Arts Awards ceremony will take place April 7-10 in Las Vegas.

In the Hearst Journalism Awards competition, undergraduate student Sam Wilson won sixth place in the multimedia category for his documentary short “Criminal Ages.” The Hearst awards have been called the Pulitzer Prizes of college journalism, which competitions in writing, photojournalism, multimedia and broadcast.

Photojournalism Associate Professor Jeremy Lurgio won second place for his multimedia documentary project “Lost & Found Montana” in the Atlanta Photojournalism contest for Multimedia Interactive Presentation. The project documents the story of 18 Montana towns in words, photographs, video and audio. It is available online at http://www.lostandfoundmontana.com.

For more information call School of Journalism Interim Dean Denise Dowling at 406-243-4143 or email denise.dowling@umontana.edu.

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BP

Local

030713jour

Contact: Denise Dowling, interim dean, UM School of Journalism, 406-243-4143, denise.dowling@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA—Doug Scott, an anthropologist who is world-renowned for applying forensic firearms analysis techniques to historic battlefields, will discuss the results of three years of historical and archaeological investigation into the Battle of the Rosebud at 6 p.m. Wednesday, March 13, at The University of Montana Gallagher Business Building Room 123.

In his lecture, “Guns of the Rosebud: Using Firearm Identification to Determine Gun Types at the Battle of the Rosebud,” Scott will detail his analysis of the battlefield. The battle took place June 17, 1876, in modern-day Big Horn County in southeastern Montana, just eight days before the Battle of the Little Bighorn. The aftermath of Rosebud left U.S. troops under the command of Gen. George Crook unable to assist Gen. George Armstrong Custer at Little Bighorn.

Scott is an adjunct professor of anthropology at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and has written several articles on battlefield archaeology, including analysis of the Battle of the Little Bighorn.

Also at the event, UM anthropology graduate student Tom Milter will present a historical primer on the battle and the University’s 2011 and 2012 fieldwork titled “History and Archaeological Interpretation of the Battle of the Rosebud.”

The lecture is sponsored by the UM Department of Anthropology and is free and open to the public. For more information call UM Associate Professor Kelly Dixon at 612-247-6414 or email kelly.dixon@mso.umt.edu.

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BP

Local

030713rose

Contact: Kelly Dixon, associate professor, UM Department of Anthropology, 612-247-6414, kelly.dixon@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA —

Wall Street Journal London Bureau Chief Bruce Orwall will deliver a lecture titled “An Old-School Playbook for Journalism’s Digital Crossroads” at 7 p.m. Monday, March 18, in the University Center Theater at The University of Montana.

The event, which is free and open to the public, is the fifth installment of the UM School of Journalism’s annual Jeff Cole Distinguished Lecture Series. The series honors Cole, a Butte native who graduated from the School of Journalism in 1980. He was the aeronautics editor at The Wall Street Journal when he was killed in a plane crash while on assignment in January 2001.

Orwall has been the Journal’s London Bureau chief since 2009. He leads a team of reporters that has been involved in a succession of big stories, such as the ongoing European financial crisis, various banking scandals, the rise and fall of WikiLeaks, the phone-hacking scandal at News Corp.’s British newspapers, fallout from the Arab Spring, the BP Deepwater Horizon oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico and the royal wedding.

He formerly was based in Los Angeles, covering entertainment and media industries for the Journal. In 2004, he became the Los Angeles Bureau chief, overseeing topics and industries such as immigration, Enron, aerospace and the gambling industry.

Before joining the Journal in 1995, Orwall worked at the St. Paul Pioneer Press and The Herald in Everett, Wash. He worked with Cole at all three newspapers.

“We’re anxious to have Bruce on campus to interact with students, faculty and the Missoula community,” said Denise Dowling, interim dean of the School of Journalism. “He started his career in the Pacific Northwest at a small newspaper and has worked at a variety of newspapers in a variety of jobs. His experiences will resonate with our students, who soon will enter the workforce in an unsettled but exciting time for the profession.”

The lecture series is supported by the Jeff Cole Legacy Fund, which also offers an annual scholarship and a spring dinner for students who work at the Montana Kaimin, UM’s independent student newspaper.

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Contact: Denise Dowling, interim dean, UM School of Journalism, 406-243-4143, denise.dowling@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

The Missoula Interfaith Collaborative (MIC) and the Associated Students of The University of Montana student group Emmaus Campus Ministry will present “Putting Feet on Our Faith,” a workshop by Tony Campolo, at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, March 14, in the University Center Ballroom. The event is free for Griz Card holders and $10 for community members.

The workshop aims to bring together people of diverse faith perspectives; social and government agencies; and businesses to find common ground and work together to address community challenges. Current projects, including hunger, homelessness, social isolation, sexual violence and faith-based advocacy, will be discussed at the event.

Campolo is a speaker, author, pastor and social activist. He is professor emeritus of sociology at Eastern University, one of the founders of the Red Letter Christian movement and founder and president of the Evangelical Association for the Promotion of Education. More information about Campolo can be found online at http://www.tonycampolo.org/.

“Putting Feet on Our Faith” is co-sponsored by the MIC, a collaboration of faith communities and local organizations working together to serve human needs and address community challenges, and by ASUM’s Emmaus Campus Ministry.

Attendees will be given an opportunity to donate to MIC. MIC and Emmaus will offer follow-up workshops from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturday, March 16, at First Presbyterian Church located at 235 S. Fifth St. W. in Missoula.

For more information visit http://www.missoulainterfaithcollaborative.org, call Pastor John Lund with Emmaus Campus Ministry at 406-396-4974 or email john@montanalcm.org.

Contact: John Lund, pastor, Emmaus Campus Ministry, 406-396-4974, john@montanalcm.org.

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MP

Local

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MISSOULA –

It’s the time of year again when chainsaws rev, moose disappear, trees fall and buildings rise. March is the month of the 96th annual Foresters’ Ball, a nearly century-old tradition at The University of Montana.

Preparation for this year’s Foresters’ Ball, themed “Lightning Striking, Crews ‘A’ Hiking,” is now going full steam with construction slated to begin Monday, March 18. During that week, an 1800s logging town will be built inside the auxiliary gyms of the Adams Center for the ball, which will take place Friday and Saturday, March 22-23.

Between now and construction on March 18, the students involved with the Foresters’ Ball are making final preparations and publicizing the event. On Saturday, March 9, students will conduct a thinning-for-resource benefit in the Miller Creek area southeast of Missoula, with the cut trees going to decorate the ball. Additionally, various building supports will be erected and equipment will be prepared for construction week.

Rumor has it that the lawyers are up to no good again, meaning the foresters will have to be on the lookout for moose thieves. The foresters will get their chance to put the law students in their place during a competition at Boondockers’ Day, Thursday, March 14, on the UM Oval. A ticket drop is on the agenda, as well as various competitions for students to win tickets.

Tickets for the Foresters’ Ball go on sale Monday, March 18, in the University Center and at the Sunrise Saloon. Single tickets cost $20 and couples tickets are $35.

The Foresters’ Ball weekend will kick off with the Careers in Natural Resource Management Fair from 1 to 5 p.m. Friday, March 22. The fair is a new event designed to showcase the multitude of career and education options within the broad field of natural resource management. The fair is geared toward Missoula-area high school juniors and seniors, prospective and current UM students and Missoula community members. The event will provide an opportunity for attendees to meet and interact with potential employers, educators and current students to explore the possibility and benefits of an education and career in natural resources.

Doors open at 7 p.m. Friday, March 22, for the first night of the 96th annual Foresters’ Ball dance. Live music will be provided by local band Kung Fu Kountry and attendees will kick up their heels on one of Montana’s largest dance floors. On your way in the doors, you’ll have a chance to ride the Slurry Bomber slide, which is only featured every other year at the Foresters’ Ball. Other attractions abound, including Saint Smokey’s Chapel, where weddings and divorces will be conducted for a fee; the proceeds from which will go to Camp Mak-A-Dream. And don’t pass up the Jail, run by the UM Wildlife Society, which will arrest poachers, passersby and just about anyone you pay them to.

Coke and water will be available at the Pulaski Pub and the Hard Hat Café will serve chili. Remember to check out “Red Card Relics,” the theme-based exhibit where you’ll learn all there is to know about wildfire management. The doors to the event will close at 9 p.m., and the dance will end at 11 p.m.

Saturday, March 23, will feature the first-ever Foresters’ Ball Community Forestry Day, running from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Community Forestry Day builds on the Foresters’ Ball tradition of hard work, community support and involvement, and creates a dynamic learning environment for families and children of all ages. Attendees can participate in hands-on demonstrations by a wide variety of presenters with strong ties to the natural world. The event is free and open to the public.

The second night of the Foresters’ Ball dance begins at 7 p.m., Saturday, March 23. The Foresters’ Ball is an alcohol-free event. Additionally this year, patrons will be passively screened at the door, with sobriety required as a condition of entry to the dance. This is a strictly enforced policy and all laws of the state of Montana will apply.

This year’s Foresters’ Ball will, as always, be “A Swingin’ Good Time.” The event has a long tradition in Missoula because of the students’ drive. All the profits from the dance go directly back to students in the form of scholarships, making this a unique opportunity to benefit students while having a ball.

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Contact: Dylan Brooks, publicity officer, UM's 96th Foresters' Ball, 785-550-2642, forestersball@gmail.com.
MISSOULA –

University of Montana students will learn about the complexities of Native American land ownership in a new on-campus facility.

UM President Royce Engstrom announced the creation of the Elouise Cobell Land and Culture Institute during a March 6 ceremony. (The new name is subject to Board of Regents approval later this week.) Located in The Payne Family Native American Center, the new facility will engage students in project-based learning and outreach.

Cobell, who died in 2011, was a passionate advocate for Native rights. A member of the Blackfeet tribe, she was instrumental in obtaining a $3.4 billion Indian trust settlement from the federal government.

"Elouise was a great friend to UM, the state of Montana and Native people across the United States," UM President Royce Engstrom said. "The Elouise Cobell Land and Culture Institute will ensure that future generations carry on her work through state-of-the-art education about land use and indigenous cultures."

Terry Payne, whose family was the lead donor for UM's Payne Family Native American Center building, also provided the launching gift for the Elouise Cobell Land and Culture Institute, which is established in honor and memory of Cobell.

Payne received a bachelor's degree in business administration from UM in 1963. He is the founder of Terry Payne and Co. Inc. and chairman of PayneWest, an independent insurance agency based in Missoula.

"UM students will graduate with greater ability to contribute to their communities," Payne said. "I am eager to see how the future of Native American land rights and management evolves because of the teaching and learning at this new institute."

The institute will bring together existing UM programs for a new level of work around land and culture. Located on the garden level of The Payne Family Native American Center, it will include a large gathering space and two laboratories: one for study of land use and one for studying culture. Construction will begin in July.

"The launch of this new institute is a great day for The University of Montana," said Chris Comer, dean of UM's College of Arts and Sciences. "It will provide a place for students, faculty and community members to gather and study across disciplines and use top-tier technology to solve real-world problems."

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BHi/cbs

State

030613cobl

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

The Associated Students of The University of Montana will unveil a newly remodeled office space and celebrate a century of UM student leadership from 5 to 7:30 p.m. Friday, March 8, in the University Center.

ASUM’s offices, located in UC Room 105, underwent a significant physical redesign as a result of the group’s strategic planning process.

“We have grown a lot over the years, and we are hoping that UM alumni and community members will join us to celebrate the success of our student-run, student-funded organization,” said ASUM President Zach Brown.

The event, “Central Board to ASUM – A Century of Student Leadership,” will feature light refreshments, dessert, live music and student art provided by the UC Gallery. On Ensemble, a unique taiko band that combines traditional, electronic and rock instruments, will perform at 5:15 p.m.

The event is free and open to the UM community. Attendees are asked to RSVP to Brown at asum.president@mso.umt.edu.

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BP

Campus

030513asum

Contact: Zach Brown, president, Associated Students of UM, 406-243-2038, asum.president@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA –

Two new exhibits featuring textiles, mixed media and handmade paper garments will be on display at the University of Montana Gallery of Visual Arts. Erica Spitzer Rasmussen’s “Second Skins” and Maggy Rozycki Hiltner’s “Familiar Faces” will be on display March 14 through April 19 in the gallery, located on the first floor of the Social Science Building.

Both artists will present lectures on their work, sponsored by the UM School of Art Jim and Jane Dew Visiting Artist Fund, at 5:10 p.m. Thursday, March 14, in Social Science Building Room 356. A reception for the artists will follow from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the gallery. All events and exhibitions are free and open to the public.

“Second Skins” explores issues of identity and corporeality, often using clothing as a metaphor for one’s skin. Rasmussen creates mixed media and paper garments inspired by childhood myths or adult anxieties regarding her body.

“They can encompass narrative qualities, illustrate and dissolve bodily fears or act as talismanic devices,” she said.

She also uses ephemeral materials such as dog hair, dried fish scales, spent tea bags or sausage casings. Conceptually, the use of these materials speaks about the nature of transition while expressing something personal, meaningful and beautiful.

Rasmussen’s work has been featured in publications including FIBERARTS, Surface Design Journal, Hand Papermaking, Craft Arts International and American Craft. She teaches studio arts as an associate professor at Metropolitan State University in St. Paul, Minn. Her sculptural and wearable works are exhibited internationally.

In “Familiar Faces,” Hiltner repurposes found textiles that are cut apart and reassembled with detailed stitching to create narratives often based on personal childhood memories. At first glance, there is a sweet, nostalgic aspect to her playful and humorous work. However, upon closer inspection there is a menacing quality to her characters that speaks about childhood, gender, sex and nature.

“Sometimes it’s malicious undertone to the relationships, or lack of self-control on the part of the characters, or maybe an otherworldliness hidden in the everyday,” Hiltner said. “I like how this subtext works against the comfortable and innocuous medium of fabric and stitching.”

Hiltner lives in Red Lodge and owns the Red Lodge Clay Center with her husband. Her work has been exhibited nationally, including at the Textile Museum in Washington, D.C., and has been written about in books and catalogs about textile arts.

The Gallery of Visual Arts is open from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, and 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday. Mondays are available by appointment only.

More information about the UM School of Art and the gallery is available online at http://www.umt.edu/art.

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

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MISSOULA –

The University of Montana’s spectrUM Discovery Area will host “NanoDays” from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, March 9, as part of the Kids Fair and Fashion Show at Southgate Mall. The fair is free and open to the public.

"NanoDays" is a nationwide educational festival of programs focused on nanoscale science and engineering developed by the Nanoscale Informal Science Education Network and sponsored by the National Science Foundation. It offers families a hands-on opportunity to explore the ways people experience itsy-bitsy technologies in their everyday lives.

Every child measuring at least 500 million nanometers tall – that’s everyone – can experience hands-on science activities such as wheat germ DNA extraction, super expansion gel, polymer chemistry, interactive games to understand scale and a liquid nitrogen demonstration.

Committed to inspiring a culture of learning and discovery for all, the spectrUM Discovery Area is an interactive science center located in the Skaggs Building on the UM campus. SpectrUM serves 39,000 people annually through exhibits, parties, camps and its Science For All Scholarship Fund.

SpectrUM’s national sponsors and partners include SciGirls, NISE Network, the Area Health Education Center and the Noyce Foundation. It also is supported by funding from the National Institutes of Health and the NSF EPSCoR Program.

For those who can’t attend “NanoDays,” spectrUM Discovery Area is open to the public on Thursdays from 3:30 to 7 p.m. or Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Admission costs $3.50 per person. Teachers can call 406-243-4828 to book a field trip to spectrUM for $3.50 per student. To have spectrUM visit your school or organization, visit http://www.spectrum.umt.edu or call the same number.

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BP Western Montana

030513nano

Contact: Hannah Motl, outreach coordinator, spectrUM Discovery Area, 406-243-4828, hannah.motl@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA –

University of Montana students will have the opportunity to explore career options that emphasize their research, analytical and written-communication skills during the “Putting Liberal Arts to Work” conference from 1 to 5 p.m. Friday, March 15, on the third floor of the University Center.

The conference, hosted by the UM Creative Writing Program, is designed for students majoring in English, creative writing or working toward any liberal arts degree.

Nearly every profession requires the ability to think critically, communicate effectively both verbally and in writing, solve problems, adapt to new situations, analyze information and interact with a diversity of people. These all are skills gained through a liberal arts education. And though technical skills may become obsolete over time, skills gained through liberal arts coursework will not.

The conference will showcase representatives from professions that hire liberal arts graduates as well as professionals who forged successful careers from a liberal arts background, including Missoula Mayor John Engen, author and co-founder of Submittable Michael Fitzgerald, St. Patrick Hospital Public Information Coordinator JoAnn Hoven and UM alumnus Timothy O'Leary, co-founder and CEO of the R2C Group, the largest consumer direct ad agency in the U.S.

The conference will begin at 1 p.m. with a keynote address by O'Leary. The 2 p.m. “Writers in the World” panel will feature five members of the Missoula community who bring their writing and liberal arts skills to the workplace. Three breakout sessions will begin at 3 p.m.: “Resume Building,” “Literary Agents” and “Freelancing.” The final panel at 4 p.m., “Publishing Today,” will take a deeper look at both journal and book publishing. Two editors – from The Paris Review and Milkweed Editions – and a literary agent will answer questions about submitting work to publishers and discuss current trends in the industry. Following the final panel, students, guests and presenters are invited to mingle at a brief reception.

The conference is free and open to the public. For more information and a full list of conference speakers, visit http://www.cas.umt.edu/english/creative_writing/.

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BP

Western Montana

030513conf

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

University of Montana Professor Dan Pletscher received the Distinguished Service Award from the Montana Chapter of the Wildlife Society during the organization’s annual meeting held last week in Whitefish.

Pletscher has directed UM’s Wildlife Biology Program for the past 19 years. In that time, he has mentored more than 1,000 students, both graduate and undergraduate. Many of those former students are now in management positions at places like Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks and World Wildlife Fund. He’s added five new faculty positions and two endowed chairs to the program and made it one of the nation’s top-rated wildlife biology programs. In 2010 UM recognized Pletscher with the Presidential Faculty Award for Distinguished Accomplishment.

Pletscher has served the wildlife biology profession as president-elect and president of the Montana Chapter of the Wildlife Society. He served for seven years on the editorial board of the national Wildlife Society and chaired the International Affairs Committee. In 2009, Pletscher was awarded honorary lifetime membership in the Wildlife Society. He’s also been awarded honorary lifetime membership in the Boone and Crockett Club. Pletscher served as president of the National Association of University Fisheries and Wildlife Programs from 2001 to 2003 and has been a board member of The Nature Conservatory Montana, Craighead Wildlife/Wildlands Institute, Northwest Connections and many more.

The Distinguished Service Award is presented annually by the Montana Chapter of the Wildlife Society for cumulative, past, current and/or continuing achievements in wildlife conservation. Pletscher joins 32 past recipients of this award.

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LS/js

Local, statewide

030413plet

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

MontanaPBS will televise the Montana Logging and Ballet Company’s final performance at 7 p.m. Monday, March 11. After touring for 37 years, MontanaPBS captured the company’s live performance in Helena. The program will include interviews and the history of the group.

Three of the four company members will come out of retirement to join William Marcus in the studio on Monday, March 11, as the MontanaPBS airs the documentary. During “Love is the Journey: The Montana Logging and Ballet Company,” audiences will hear personal stories and the documentary will be interrupted for live performances.

MLBC began in the mid-1970s as a typical neighborhood logging and ballet company. But soon they became what Christian Science Monitor called “not your ordinary logging and ballet company.”

For 37 years they succeeded in ignoring the reality of their plight, creating a unique blend of music, comedy, thoughtfulness and catastrophe, until finally it dawned on them that people were laughing at them, and they quit – although some delusional fans hope the MLBC is not gone forever but only in remission.

For more information call MontanaPBS Media Manager Kagan Yochim at 406-243-6950 or email kagan.yochim@umontana.edu.

Contact: Kagan Yochim, media manager, MontanaPBS, 406-243-6950, kagan.yochim@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA –

The University of Montana received a sweet surprise recently when The Sweets Barn owner Kirk Martin offered to supply 30,000 pieces of candy for UM’s upcoming Easter Eggstravaganza egg hunt.

The 30,000 pieces of candy, along with 20,000 plastic eggs stuffed with prizes and certificates will cover four acres of Oval lawn on Saturday, March 30. The hunt will kick off at 1 p.m. and children up to age 9 are invited to grab their Easter baskets and join the fun.

“This is the 13th year the University has provided this free event for area children,” said Andrea Lewis, UM event coordinator. “We were surprised and thrilled to receive such a generous donation. It will allow us to continue providing a truly memorable and special experience for the kids at time when we face budget constraints.”

According to the small-business owners Dave and Bonnie Aicher, Martin and his wife Gail, it’s an important part of their business model to give back to the community.

“We give kudos to UM for their outstanding community support and we are excited to support UM during the 2013 Easter Extravaganza,” Martin said. “This is a fun, exciting and ‘sweet’ event for Missoula families and we look forward to supporting this event in the future.”

Candy will include everything from classic root beer barrels to honeycomb peanuts. For the infant to 3-year-old participants, The Sweets Barn will supply Saf-T-y pops and gummy carrots.

The Sweets Barn opened in August 2011 on the east side of U.S. Highway 93 in Lolo. The old-time-inspired candy shop offers its patrons many nostalgic items such as penny candy, and they also offer homemade cinnamon rolls, decadent fudge – also made onsite – and espresso.

The Sweets Barn is open Monday through Saturday 8 a.m.-6 p.m. and 10 a.m.-6 p.m. on Sunday.

For more information about this donation call Martin at 406-544-6113 or email thesweetsbarn@optimum.net.

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ALL

Western Montana

030513barn

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

The University of Montana’s Off-Campus Renter Center will host the annual Housing and Community Resources Fair from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesday, March 6, in the University Center Atrium. The event is free and open to the public.

The Housing and Community Resources Fair aims to educate current and potential student renters about the different options in Missoula for rentals and community resources. Property management companies, rental insurance agencies, sustainability organizations, public assistance representatives and University agencies that provide off-campus resources for students will participate in the fair.

“The Housing and Community Resources Fair is a one-stop shop for students where they can access local housing options and a variety of other resources for off-campus living all in one place,” Off-Campus Renter Center Director Katherine Brady said.

The Off-Campus Renter Center is operated by the Associated Students of UM. For more information call Brady at 406-243-2017 or email katherine.brady@mso.umt.edu.

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MP

030413rcfr

Local

Contact: Katherine Brady, director, ASUM Off-Campus Renter Center, 406-243-2017, katherine.brady@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA –

The University of Montana and Flathead Valley Community College in Kalispell have been named to President Barack Obama’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll. The designation is the highest national honor a college or university can receive for its commitment to volunteering, service learning and civic engagement.

UM and FVCC were among 690 colleges and universities recognized for their achievements in general community service or civic engagement. FVCC also was among only 113 institutions to earn the "Honor Roll with Distinction" designation.

“We are very proud of our honor roll designees and congratulate FVCC President Jane Karas and UM President Royce Engstrom, as well as the engaged faculty, staff and wonderful community partners at these institutions for their commitment to civic engagement,” said Dean McGovern, executive director of Montana Campus Compact. "FVCC and UM are nationally recognized for their ability to inspire their campuses to work with members of the community to solve problems and improve lives."

Montana Campus Compact is a consortium of Montana institutions of higher education. MTCC works to improve communities and student engagement through service learning, independent volunteering and AmeriCorps programs.

For more information call McGovern at 406-243-5177 or email mcgovern@mtcompact.org.

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BP/dm

State

030413mtcc

Contact: Dean McGovern, executive director, Montana Campus Compact, 406-243-5177, mcgovern@mtcompact.org.
MISSOULA –

The 2013 spring semester headcount enrollment at The University of Montana is 14,201, which is a 3.4 percent decrease from spring a year ago.

While figures show 505 fewer students at UM than spring a year ago, the numbers gave University officials encouragement, as the rate of student retention was higher than what the University experienced from fall semester 2011 to fall 2012.

“Traditionally, universities see lower spring enrollments over what they had in the fall,” said Dawn Ressel, UM associate vice president for Planning, Budgeting and Analysis. “This suggests UM did a better job of keeping students from fall to spring this academic year than we did last academic year, which means greater percentages of our students are progressing toward graduation.”

For the past four years, UM has implemented a student success and retention program, with a focus on better preparation and better advising to help keep students in school.

“We know we have enrollment challenges, and we’ve worked steadily to address them,” said Peggy Kuhr, UM vice president for integrated communications. “We believe we are starting to move in the right direction, and we’re proud of our students’ commitment to complete their degrees. We continue to be proud that UM is the school choice for more students than any other institution in the state.”

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PK/cbs

Local, dailies

030113enrl

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