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March 2017 news releases

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MISSOULA – “Brain: A World Inside Your Head,” one of the University of Montana spectrUM Discovery Area’s popular traveling exhibits, will visit Olney-Bissell School in Whitefish on Thursday, April 6.

During the school day, students from Olney-Bissell will participate in guided field trips to the “Brain” exhibition. Families and friends are also invited to attend a free Family Science Night from 6 to 8 p.m.

The “Brain” exhibition showcases the wonders of neuroscience. It includes an EEG measurement station, a colossal brain and an activity in which visitors can move a ball using their own brain waves. Visitors also can explore spectrUM’s giant Big Sky Big Brain, a 13-foot tall inflatable brain that illustrates traumatic brain injuries. This tour stop is powered by the Big Sky Brain Project and Olney-Bissell School.

According to spectrUM Director Holly Truitt, a goal of spectrUM’s traveling “Brain” exhibition is “to inspire Montana’s next generation about STEM and higher education and to help power a vibrant, homegrown workforce in our state.”

SpectrUM Discovery Area serves more than 55,000 Montanans annually. Since 2006, spectrUM’s mobile science
program has reached over 52,000 people at 73 schools and four public libraries in 31 Montana counties and on all seven American Indian reservations in Montana. Thirty percent of the people spectrUM serves are Native American and over 75 percent live in rural communities.

“Brain: A World inside Your Head” was created in partnership with the Big Sky Brain Project through a grant from the National Institutes of Health. Additional spectrUM sponsors include the National Science Foundation, the Montana NSF EPSCoR Program, the Institute of Museum and Library Services, NASA, the Jane S. Heman Foundation, the Martin Family Foundation, the Montana Space Grant Consortium, the Simons Foundation, GSK-Science in the Summer and the O.P. and W.E. Edwards Foundation. Its Science for All Scholarship Fund has given the gift of science to more than 12,000 Montana children.

Contact: Holly Truitt, director, spectrUM Discovery Area, 406-243-4828, holly.truitt@umontana.edu.
UM News

UM Student Wins CBYX Scholarship to Study in Germany

March 31, 2017

MISSOULA – University of Montana student Talia Zook has won a Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange for Young Professionals full-ride scholarship to study and work in Germany for a year.

The CBYX program begins in late July with an eight-week intensive language immersion course, followed by a semester of study, then wraps up in August 2018 with a five-month internship in a German-speaking work environment. Zook hopes to intern as a marketer at a German firm. Placement will be determined a few weeks before departure in late July.

“I'm eager to create and manage marketing campaigns for a progressive, tech-oriented company – preferably
with international clients,” Zook said. “I’m interested in almost all aspects of campaign design, including graphic design, market research and big data analysis, but would primarily like to be working in the team responsible for creative execution.”

She plans to use her international experiences to manage the effects of globalization in the modern business world.

Zook, a senior from Missoula, will graduate in May with degrees in marketing and international business. She is the daughter of Tony and Molli Zook of Missoula and is a 2013 graduate of Big Sky High School.

Zook spent a semester abroad in 2016 studying at the Berlin School of Economics and Law and is eager to return to Germany to further study language, culture and marketing. While in Germany, she volunteered at a refugee shelter, and she is currently involved with Missoula’s Soft Landing refugee settlement and integration organization.

Zook also has served as a UM Advocate, an advertising director intern with the Montana Kaimin, and a marketing and media intern at UM’s Education Abroad office. She currently works as a social media intern with UM’s Office of Integrated Communications.

Initiated in 1983, the Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange was created to strengthen ties between Germany and the United States through citizen diplomacy. The program was founded in celebration of the 300th anniversary of the first German immigration to the United States. CBYX is jointly funded by the U.S. Congress and the German Bundestag, and in the U.S. is overseen by the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs.

Over 24,000 students have prepared themselves for success in an increasingly global world by participating in the CBYX program. More information is online at [http://www.usagermanyscholarship.org/](http://www.usagermanyscholarship.org/).

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Contact: Laure Pengelly Drake, UM coordinator for Writing Center programs, external scholarships and advising, 406-243-6140, laure.pengellydrake@umontana.edu; Talia Zook, UM student, 406-493-5447, talia.zook@umconnect.umt.edu.
MISSOULA – “Water,” the University of Montana spectrUM Discovery Area’s newest traveling exhibition, will visit Darby on Tuesday, April 4.

During the school day, students from Darby will participate in guided field trips to the “Water” exhibition. Families and friends are invited to attend a free Family Science Night from 5 to 7 p.m. at Darby School.

Created with researchers from the Montana Institute on Ecosystems, “Water” features interactive exhibits and hands-on activities exploring ecosystems science. Highlights of the exhibition include a virtual watershed sandbox, a groundwater model and spectrUM’s popular erosion table. The exhibition is funded by the Montana Institute on Ecosystems, the Montana National Science Foundation EPSCoR Program and the Clark Fork Coalition. This tour stop is powered by the Jane S. Heman Foundation.

The spectrUM Discovery Area’s mobile science program travels statewide with hands-on science exhibits and activities guided by museum educators. According to spectrUM Director Holly Truitt, the goal of spectrUM’s mobile outreach is “to inspire Montana’s next generation about STEM and higher education and to help power a vibrant,
Committed to inspiring a culture of learning and discovery for all, UM’s spectrUM Discovery Area serves more than 55,000 Montanans annually through in-museum and mobile programs. Since 2006, spectrUM has traveled exhibits and educators to 73 schools and four public libraries in 31 Montana counties, including all seven American Indian reservations in Montana. In total, spectrUM’s mobile science program has served over 52,000 people, of whom 30 percent are Native American and over 75 percent live in rural communities.

Additional spectrUM sponsors include the National Science Foundation, the National Institutes of Health, the Institute of Museum and Library Services, NASA, the Martin Family Foundation, the Montana Space Grant Consortium, the Simons Foundation, GSK-Science in the Summer and the O.P. and W.E. Edwards Foundation.

For more information, call Truitt at 406-243-4872 or visit http://www.spectrum.umt.edu.

Contact: Holly Truitt, director, spectrUM Discovery Area, 406-243-4872, holly.truitt@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA – The award-winning Montana Public Radio program “Musician’s Spotlight” will celebrate 25 years on the air with a pledge week special broadcast scheduled for 7 p.m. Thursday, April 6.

During his weekly half-hour program, host John Floridis has featured hundreds of local and national musicians – everyone from B.B. King and Mary Chapin Carpenter to Derek Trucks, Lyle Lovett, the Emerson Quartet, Brandi Carlile, Wilco, Pat Metheny, Alison Krauss, John Oates, Ladysmith Black Mambazo, Los Lonely Boys, Kathy Matea, Cowboy Junkies, Ravi Coltrane, Patty Griffin and Daryl Jones of the Rolling Stones.

“It’s been a fabulous experience to meet and talk with these outstanding artists about their music and their inspirations,” said Floridis, a noted musician in his own right. “We’ve made it a priority to feature Montana musicians of all styles in amongst the multiple Grammy Award-winners, Rock and Roll Hall of Famers and national touring artists.”

The MTPR spring pledge week special will feature a variety of clips of Floridis’ favorite guests. He and MTPR program director Michael Marsolek also will talk about the origins of the program.
Marsolek started “Musician’s Spotlight” in 1992 when he was a volunteer DJ at the station. In 1997, he handed the program off to Floridis and Brian Kopper. Floridis took over producing the program by himself in 2009.

“‘Musician’s Spotlight’ has become a respected and signature program celebrating music and musicians in the region,” Marsolek said. “We’re happy to be able to have the program as part of our Montana-made radio lineup.”

“Musician’s Spotlight” received the 2015 and 2016 E.B. Craney Award for Outstanding Non-commercial Radio Program from the Montana Broadcasters Association and the Greater Montana Foundation. More information is online at http://mtpr.org/programs/musicians-spotlight or http://www.musiciansspotlight.org/.

The program airs regularly at 7:30 p.m. Thursday on Montana Public Radio. It’s also available as a podcast. Montana Public Radio is a service of the University of Montana in Missoula.

MTPR FM broadcast stations include 89.1 Missoula (KUFM), 91.5 Missoula, city (K218AI), 91.9 Hamilton (KUFN), 89.5 Polson (KPJH), 90.1 Kalispell, Whitefish, North Valley (KUKL), 90.5 Libby (KUFL), 91.7 Kalispell, city (K219BN), 101.3 Swan Lake (K267BJ), 91.3 Butte (KAPC), 91.7 Helena (KUHM), 91.7 Dillon (K219DN) and 89.9 Great Falls (KGPR).

Contact: Michael Marsolek, program director, 406-243-4096, michael.marsolek@umontana.edu; John Floridis, host, 406-243-4096, john@johnfloridis.com.
MISSOULA – In conjunction with National Autism Awareness Month this April, several University of Montana departments and organizations will join forces to call attention to Autism Spectrum Disorder, which affects about one in every 68 children in the U.S. and is the fastest-growing disability category in Montana’s public education system.

Students and faculty members from UM’s psychology, communicative sciences and disorders, and teaching and learning departments will highlight the University’s efforts to address ASD, as well as provide information and resources, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday, April 5, on the UM Oval.

Volunteers with the UM student groups Operation Smile and Students in Communication and Hearing Working in Action (SCHWA) also will participate, and UM mascot Monte will be on hand from 1 to 2 p.m.

The event is sponsored by the UM Rural Institute for Inclusive Communities, which engages in research, provides education and interdisciplinary training, and develops model services that improve the skills, abilities and quality of life of people with disabilities in rural communities, including their families and those who support and partner with them.
For more information call Rural Institute Executive Director Martin Blair at 406-243-4779, email martin.blair@umontana.edu or email Katie Ahlers, Rural Institute student research assistant, at katie.ahlers@mso.umt.edu.

**Contact:** Martin Blair, executive director, UM Rural Institute for Inclusive Communities, 406-243-4779, martin.blair@umontana.edu; Katie Ahlers, student research assistant, UM Rural Institute, katie.ahlers@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA – Poets Sherwin Bitsui and Melissa Kwasny – who have been teaching UM students this semester – will read poetry together at 7 p.m. Friday, April 7, in the Dell Brown Room of Turner Hall. The event, which is hosted by the UM Creative Writing Program, is free and open to the public.

Bitsui is the author of “Flood Song” and “Shapeshift.” He from White Cone, Arizona, on the Navajo Reservation. His honors include the 2011 Lannan Literary Fellowship, a Native Arts and Culture Foundation Fellowship for Literature, a PEN Open Book Award, an American Book Award and a Whiting Writers Award.

Kwasny is the author of five collections of poetry, including “Reading Novalis in Montana,” which was named one of the top 10 books of 2009 by The

“It’s been a blessing for UM to have renowned poets Sherwin Bitsui and Melissa Kwasny in the Creative Writing Program this year,” said Karin Schalm, UM Creative Writing Program coordinator. “Sherwin is teaching a workshop and an ecopoetics course. Melissa is teaching prosody, the study of poetic forms. I’ve heard from many of our students that they love working with each of these gifted teachers and artistic mentors.”

For more information call Schalm at 406-243-5267, email karin.schalm@mso.umt.edu or visit http://hs.umt.edu/creativewriting/.

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**Contact:** Karin Schalm, UM Creative Writing Program coordinator, 406-243-5267, karin.schalm@umontana.edu.
Hindi Poetry Scholar to Lecture at UM

March 28, 2017

MISSOULA – The University of Montana South and Southeast Asian Studies program will host a lecture on Hindi poetry at 3:30 p.m. Thursday, April 6, in Liberal Arts Building Room 103A-B.

Rupert Snell will present "Worlds Far and Near: Translating 17th-Century Hindi Poetry for Readers Today." A discussion and reception will follow.

Snell is an internationally renowned scholar and translator of Hindi literature. He taught at the University of London for three decades and received the Sir George Grierson Hindi Sevi Sammaan Award from the President of India for his contributions to Hindi. He currently directs the Hindi-Urdi Flagship program at the University of Texas, Austin, which allows undergraduates from a variety of majors to become proficient in Hindi. Snell is the author of five Teach Yourself Hindi textbooks, as well as the co-editor of volumes of articles. He primarily is interested in 16th- and 17th-century poetry.

The event is jointly sponsored by UM’s Global Humanities and Religions program, the College of Humanities and Sciences, the Mansfield Center, the Department of Anthropology, the Linguistics Program and the Department of Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures.
For more information on the event, call Ruth Vanita, director for UM’s South and Southeast Asian Studies program, at 406-243-2171 or email ruth.vanita@umontana.edu.

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Contact: Ruth Vanita, director, UM South and Southeast Asian Studies program, 406-243-2171, ruth.vanita@umontana.edu.
UM Students to Host Volunteer Day at Rock Creek Confluence

March 28, 2017

MISSOULA — University of Montana students invite volunteers to help restore vegetation at the confluence of Rock Creek and the Clark Fork River. Students, in conjunction with the local nonprofit Five Valleys Land Trust, will host a volunteer day from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday, April 2. Community members of all ages are welcome to participate.

Volunteers will help pull weeds and plant shrubs on Five Valleys Land Trust’s Rock Creek Confluence Property, a 270-acre space being restored after previously being slated for subdivision and development. Volunteers will learn about native Rocky Mountain plant species, as well as the ecology of the site, how Five Valleys plans to restore it and how students in UM’s Ecosystem Science and Restoration Program will assist with the re-vegetation effort.

“Working with the community allows us to spread knowledge and appreciation for nature and restoration, as well as gain exposure to new personalities, viewpoints and opinions,” said UM student Michael Fazekas, one of the
project organizers.

Five Valleys Land Trust has collaborated with students for the past four years to restore the Rock Creek Confluence Property, which had been degraded by past development. Students in the Heavy Equipment Operation Program at Missoula College have restored an artificial pond site, allowing previously diverted water to remain in Rock Creek, a treasured blue ribbon trout fishery.

Volunteers should wear long pants and closed-toed, preferably waterproof shoes and should bring work gloves, a water bottle, warm clothes and a rain coat. Water and snacks will be provided throughout the day, and organizers will prepare a free lunch in the afternoon.

To get to the site, drive east on Interstate Highway 90 from Missoula for 22 miles to Exit 126. Turn right onto Rock Creek Road and follow signs to the site.

Volunteers should RSVP to Amber Auld by Wednesday, March 29, by calling 605-639-9389 or emailing amber.auld@umontana.edu.

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**Contact:** Amber Auld, UM Ecological Restoration Capstone student, 605-639-9389, amber.auld@umontana.edu; Ben Colman, UM ESR Capstone professor, 406-243-6315, ben.colman@umontana.edu.

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**Quick Links**
MISSOULA – An expert on constitutional, environmental and property law will present the Brennan Guth Memorial Lecture on Environmental Philosophy as part of the 2016-17 President’s Lecture Series at the University of Montana.

Jedediah Purdy, Robinson O. Everett Professor of Law at Duke University, will present “Environmental Justice for the Anthropocene” at 8 p.m. Friday, April 7, in the Dennison Theatre. The lecture also is sponsored by Environmental Studies.

Purdy also will lead the seminar “Ecology and Political Economy in the History of Capitalism” from 3 to 4:30 p.m. the same day in Gallagher Business Building Room 123. The lecture and seminar are free and open to the public.

Following his graduation from Yale Law School in 2001, Purdy clerked for Judge Pierre N. Leval of the 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in New York City. Before beginning his teaching career at Duke Law School in 2004, he was a fellow at the New America Foundation and at the Berkman Center for Internet and Society at Harvard Law School. He became the Robinson O. Everett Professor of Law at Duke in 2013. He teaches constitutional,
environmental and property law and writes in all of these areas.

His book “After Nature: A Politics for the Anthropocene” has been described as a foundational work “for all who are struggling with how to reinvigorate environmental protection in the face of political breakdown in America and troubling global trends, including the emerging risk of climate change.”

The President's Lecture Series at UM consists of eight talks throughout the academic year on vital topics by distinguished guest speakers. 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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Contact: Richard Drake, UM history professor and lecture series organizer, 406-243-2981, richard.drake@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA – Get ready for nine days of music, premiums and celebrations during Montana Public Radio’s annual Spring Pledge Drive.

The drive begins at 5 p.m. Saturday, April 1, and concludes at midnight Sunday, April 9, following the popular Pet Wars. MTPR hopes to raise $660,000 during the drive.

“This week is full of fun and excitement here at Montana Public Radio, and I think you can definitely hear it in our voices over the air as well,” said MTPR membership manager Anne Hosler. “We love this week because we get to hear from our listeners and celebrate our generous supporters who really do make this station possible.”

Some of the interesting listener donated thank-you gifts available for a donation include an owl research field day with Denver Holt, a sailboat trip for four on Flathead Lake, sheepskin slippers, farm fresh eggs and more. This unique tradition of listener donated thank-you gifts are a hallmark of MTPR’s spring pledge week.

Listeners can expect special music programs, including a celebration of the 25th anniversary of “Musician’s
“Spotlight” and live music featured during MTPR’s “Live Sessions” segments.

“It’s an interesting time for Montana Public Radio,” said Ray Ekness, director of the University of Montana Broadcast Media Center that houses MTPR. “There are a lot of question marks about our federal and state funding, but we’re lucky our listeners have always been there with the majority of our support each year.”

Listener contributions make up 72 percent of MTPR’s income for the year.

“It’s critical that our supporters step up and keep our in-depth news, our legislative coverage, our hand-picked music and our unique children’s programming on the air,” Ekness said. “We know our listeners are passionate about investing in their public radio station and will be again this year.”

During the pledge week, listeners can call in toll-free at 800-325-1565, donate online at http://mtpr.org or mail in pledges to MTPR, 32 Campus Drive, Missoula, MT 59812. They also can go online to donate premiums or volunteer to answer phones. The pledge drive and MTPR are made possible by thousands of people all getting involved and making their voices heard for public broadcasting in Montana.

Montana Public Radio is a service of UM. MTPR FM broadcast stations include 89.1 Missoula (KUFM), 91.5 Missoula, city (K218AI), 91.9 Hamilton (KUFN), 89.5 Polson (KPJH), 90.1 Kalispell, Whitefish, North Valley (KUKL), 90.5 Libby (KUFL), 91.7 Kalispell, city (K219BN), 101.3 Swan Lake (K267BJ), 91.3 Butte (KAPC), 91.7 Helena (KUHM), 91.7 Dillon (K219DN) and 89.9 Great Falls (KGPR).

Contact: Ray Ekness, Broadcast Media Center director, 406-243-4154, ray.ekness@umontana.edu; Anne Hosler, MTPR membership manager, 406-243-4214, anne.hosler@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA – Several works by the late Lela and Rudy Autio are currently on display in the Main Hall lobby at the University of Montana as part of the Montana Museum of Art & Culture’s special tribute to the legendary Missoula artists.

The temporary exhibition, held in conjunction with the Missoula Art Museum’s exhibit “Nexus: The Lela and Rudy Autio Family Collection,’ is free and open to the public through June 23 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Rudy Autio was a founding resident artist at the Archie Bray Foundation for the Ceramic Arts in Helena, after which he headed the ceramics program at UM for 28 years. His ceramics, graphics and paintings form an important part of the MMAC Permanent Collection.
Lela Autio served on MMAC’s Collections Management Committee for many years and remained active in the museum’s programming calendar. She was instrumental in orchestrating loans of art for the spring 2016 exhibition, “Presence: Rudy Autio and Henry Meloy.”

“This artistic couple holds a special place in our hearts, having influenced so many young artists, so many colleagues and so many appreciators of art,” said Barbara Koostra, the MMAC’s Suzanne and Bruce Crocker director. “We miss both Rudy and Lela dearly.”

The MMAC’s Paxson and Meloy galleries are located in UM’s PAR/TV Center. Gallery hours are noon to 3 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, and noon to 6 p.m. Thursday and Saturday. The galleries are closed Sundays, Mondays and UM holidays. The museum is open to the public with a suggested $5 donation. For more information call 406-243-2019 or visit http://www.umt.edu/montanamuseum/.

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Contact: Barbara Koostra, Suzanne and Bruce Crocker director, Montana Museum of Art & Culture, 406-243-2019, barbara.koostra@mso.umt.edu; Jeremy Canwell, MMAC curator of art, 406-243-2019, jeremy.canwell@mso.umt.edu.
Works from Autio Family Collection on Display in UM’s Main Hall - UM News - University Of Montana
MISSOULA – The Global Engagement Office at the University of Montana invites the campus and Missoula communities to a week of international-themed events, which will conclude with a fundraising banquet for the Missoula International Friendship Program, from Monday, April 3, through Friday, April 7.

Highlights of UM’s International Week include a kick-off reception in the University Center Branch Center, several lectures on international themes, a screening of UM MFA student Saif Alsaegh’s “Alazeef,” an international fair tabling event and an International Banquet Dinner to raise funds for the Missoula International Friendship Program.

Tickets for the banquet cost $25 for adults and $20 for children ages 6 to 12. They can be purchased at all GrizTix locations, by phone at 1-888-MONTANA and online at http://www.griztix.com.

International Week events aim to promote appreciation for the cultures of international students, scholars, professors and staff at UM, in addition to international community members within Missoula. The week’s events will provide multiple opportunities for community members to engage with ideas, music, themes and persons representing other parts of the world.
The schedule of events follows:

**Monday, April 3**

- 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.: Join the World in the UC Branch Center – International Week Kick-Off, UC Branch Center.
- 4-5 p.m.: Make a Difference Overseas – Experiences of Returned Peace Corps Volunteers in Uzbekistan, UC 327.
- 7-9 p.m.: Climbing Mt. Kilimanjaro: A Slideshow and Fundraiser, International House.

**Tuesday, April 4**

- 4–6 p.m.: Ping Pong for Everyone Tournament, UC Game Room.

**Wednesday, April 5**

- 8 p.m.: Film Screening: “Alazeef,” UC Theater.

**Thursday, April 6**

- 9 a.m.-3 p.m.: International Fair, UC Atrium.
- Noon-1 p.m.: Music from Around the World Contest, UC Branch Center.
- 3:30 p.m.: South and Southeast Asian Studies presents a lecture, “Worlds Far and Near: Translating Seventeenth-Century Hindi Poetry for Readers Today,” Liberal Arts Building Room 103 A-B.

**Friday, April 7**

- Noon-1 p.m.: Foreign Culture Quiz, UC Branch Center.
- 1-2 p.m.: Mini Language Lessons, UC Branch Center.
- 6 p.m.: International Banquet Dinner, UC 330-332. This event is preceded by a social hour with cash bar at 5:30 p.m.

To view details of International Week schedule or learn more about the Global Engagement Office, visit [http://www.umt.edu/global-engagement/](http://www.umt.edu/global-engagement/) or email [global.engagement@umontana.edu](mailto:global.engagement@umontana.edu).
Contact: Kate Johnson, UM Global Engagement Office assistant, 406-243-2288, kate.johnson@umontana.edu.
UM to Award Two Honorary Doctorates

March 27, 2017

MISSOULA – The University of Montana will award two Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters during its May 13 Commencement exercises. The awardees are UM's longest-serving president, the late George M. Dennison, and World Bank Group Senior Manager Jennifer F. Isern.

On March 10, the state Board of Regents approved the plan to present both Dennison and Isern the honorary doctorates. Isern also will serve as Commencement speaker for the 2017 graduating class.

“I can’t think of two people more deserving of these honors,” said UM President Sheila Stearns. “George Dennison was a monumental figure in UM’s history, and Jennifer Isern is an alumna who has become a giant in international finance."

Dennison served UM with distinction for more than 20 years. He
was a staunch proponent of the liberal arts and sciences, an avid Griz fan and fiercely dedicated to excellence in education. Dennison earned both his B.S. and his M.A. from UM in 1962 and 1963 respectively. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Washington in 1967. After that, he served in various faculty and administrative positions at the University of Washington, the University of Arkansas, Colorado State University and Western Michigan University, before returning to UM in 1990 as president.

His tenure as president was a time of sustained growth and accomplishment for UM. Student enrollment increased nearly 50 percent. He built a culture of philanthropy across campus and among UM alumni and friends, increasing the campus endowment from $17.3 million to $120 million. He completed two fundraising campaigns for buildings, scholarships and other campus needs. The University added 1.3 million square feet, which equates to 20 percent more total usable space. He also led the effort to create the Montana Campus Compact, a statewide coalition to further campus-based public service, founded the Montana Commission on Community Service and was a charter signer of the American Colleges and University Presidents Climate Commitment.

He was nominated for the honorary doctorate in the fall, after the publication of his book “Montana’s Pioneer Naturalist: Morton J. Elrod.” Dennison died Jan. 3 after a battle with non-Hodgkin Lymphoma. He was 81.

Isern is a native of Lewistown and earned her B.A. in political science from UM in 1989. While at UM, she served as the Associated Students of UM president and Montana Model UN secretary general. She also worked as a legislative adviser during the 1987 Montana legislative session. Since graduating, she has stayed engaged with her alma mater through service on the board of advisers to the vice president for student affairs and as one of the founding members of the Davidson Honors College advisory board.
While at UM, Isern received a Truman Scholarship, and after graduation, she pursued her Master of Public Administration from Princeton University. She then went on to receive a Doctorate of Business Administration from Nova Southeastern University and is a CFA charterholder.

Isern has 29 years of experience in development in more than 65 countries, including 21 years with the World Bank Group. Since October, Isern has served as manager for the Finance and Markets Practice of the World Bank Group, working across East Asia and the Pacific, and she is based in Hanoi, Vietnam. She manages the Asia team to develop the financial sector with focus on policy advice for governments and central banks, financial sector stability measures, financial infrastructure, long-term finance, capital markets development, and expanding access to finance for households and businesses. From June 2014 to October 2016, she worked as manager for the International Finance Corporation portfolio of the Finance and Markets Practice across South Asia and East Asia-Pacific Region, and was based in New Delhi, India. From 2009 to 2014, she served as regional manager for the Access to Finance Advisory for the IFC in South Asia, also based in New Delhi. Previously, Isern worked as lead microfinance specialist at CGAP from 1996 to 2009, where she served as member of the senior management team, manager for CGAP’s work in Africa and China, and manager of CGAP’s network of regional representatives globally. Prior to joining CGAP, Isern was the regional technical adviser for economic development in West and Central Africa with CARE International, and she founded and managed financial institutions while living in Niger (1990-1991) and Togo (1992-1996). From 1988 to 1992, Isern consulted with public and private sector clients including USAID in Costa Rica and Senegal, UNDP in New York and AT&T’s international division. She has authored more than 50 publications on financial sector development and broader development issues.

Contact: Paula Short, director of communications, UM Office of the President, 406-243-2311, paula.short@mso.umt.edu.
March 27, 2017

MISSOULA – National political commentator Peter Wehner will present “Politics and Ethics in the Era of Trump” from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Thursday, March 30, in the Turner Hall Dell Brown Room at the University of Montana.

Wehner is regularly featured on Fox News, MSNBC and C-SPAN and is a contributing opinion writer for The New York Times. He worked as deputy director of speechwriting for President George W. Bush and as a senior adviser to Mitt Romney’s 2012 presidential campaign.

The event is sponsored by the Ethics and Public Affairs Program at UM’s Maureen and Mike Mansfield Center and the Program on American Democracy and Citizenship. For more information visit http://www.umt.edu/ethics/events.

Contact: Michal Helman, program manager, UM Maureen & Mike Mansfield Center’s Ethics and Public Affairs

http://news.umt.edu/2017/03/031617poli.php[1/23/2018 9:54:00 AM]
Commentator to Discuss ‘Politics and Ethics in the Era of Trump’ at UM - UM News - University Of Montana

Program, 406-243-2988, michal.helman@umontana.edu.

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February 19, 2017

MISSOULA – Former United States Secretary of Defense Charles “Chuck” Hagel will deliver the 2017 Judge William B. Jones and Judge Edward A. Tamm Judicial Lecture at 4 p.m. Wednesday, April 5, in the George and Jane Dennison Theater at the University of Montana. A reception will follow at the Alexander Blewett III School of Law.

Hagel is a decorated veteran of the Vietnam War and served in the U.S. Senate from Nebraska from 1997 to 2009. He served as Secretary of Defense from 2013 to 2015 and, later, as a professor at the Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C.

Hagel is the first non-lawyer to deliver the prestigious lecture. He will discuss his view of the judicial branch, and lecture series founder Robert Bennett of Washington, D.C., will moderate. Bennett holds an honorary doctorate of laws from UM.

“Since 1997, the Jones Tamm Judicial Lecture Series has afforded our students the opportunity to hear from some of the most prominent legal minds in the country – from the chief justice of the U.S. Supreme Court to the U.S.
attorney general,” said Dean Paul F. Kirgis. “As we celebrate 20 years since the inaugural lecture, we are very fortunate to host Secretary Hagel, who has served this country in a variety of important settings and brings his own unique viewpoint on the judiciary.”

The Jones-Tamm Judicial Lecture Series honors the memory of two distinguished jurists who left their mark on the federal judiciary. In their work as trial judges on the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia and in Judge Tamm’s work on the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals, they established themselves as judges deeply committed to improving the administration of our judicial system and preserving and enhancing the rule of law in our society.

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Contact: Michael White, media information specialist, UM Alexander Blewett III School of Law, 406-243-6509, michael.white@mso.umt.edu.
UM Sustainability Committee Seeks Award Nominees

March 27, 2017

MISSOULA – The University of Montana Sustainable Campus Committee is now accepting nominations for its 2017 Sustainability Awards.

A total of four awards will be given: one each to a student, staff member, faculty member and administrator.

The following criteria will be used to judge the nominees:

- The scale of impact, including size, longevity and number of people reached through the project.
- Demonstrated success over the past year creating projects that reduce the UM’s carbon footprint, increase resource-use efficiency and/or build a more ecologically aware campus.

Nominations are strictly limited to 300 words. Past award winners are not eligible, nor are current SCC members. Visit http://umontana.edu/sustainability or a current list of SCC members and past recipients.

Submit nominations to UM Sustainability Coordinator Eva Rocke at eva.rocke@umontana.edu by midnight.
Thursday, April 6.

Award recipients will be recognized at during Earth Week, with the time and place still to be determined.

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**Contact:** Eva Rocke, UM Sustainability coordinator, 406-243-4323, eva.rocke@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA — The University of Montana spectrUM Discovery Area will share hands-on science activities at the Ronan Family Science Night from 5 to 7 p.m. Thursday, March 16, at K. William Harvey Elementary School.

The annual science night draws hundreds of children and community members each year. At this year’s event, spectrUM educators will share a selection of their popular health-science activities, including guided dissections.

Director Holly Truitt said spectrUM’s goal is to “inspire Montanans, especially our next generation, about STEM and higher education and to power a vibrant, homegrown workforce in our state.”

UM’s spectrUM Discovery Area engages more than 55,000 Montanans annually through in-museum and mobile programs. Since 2006, spectrUM has traveled exhibits and educators to 73 schools and four public libraries in 31 Montana counties and on all seven American Indian reservations in Montana. Thirty percent of people spectrUM serves are Native American, and more than 75 percent live in rural communities.

On the Flathead Reservation, spectrUM collaborates with SciNation, its community advisory group, to co-create
programs designed to power a homegrown, Native STEM workforce. SpectrUM and SciNation’s innovative, community-based approach has garnered national awards from the Noyce Foundation, the Simons Foundation and the Coalition for the Public Understanding of Science.

SpectrUM is powered by the National Science Foundation, the National Institutes of Health, the Institute of Museum and Library Services, NASA, the Jane S. Heman Foundation, the Martin Family Foundation, the Montana Space Grant Consortium, the Simons Foundation, the Bonneville Power Administration, GSK-Science in the Summer and the O.P. and W.E. Edwards Foundation.

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**Contact:** Holly Truitt, director, spectrUM Discovery Area, 406-243-4828, holly.truitt@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA – The Humanities Institute at the University of Montana will host a lecture by Assistant Professor Pablo Requena on Wednesday, March 29, as a part of the Institute’s New Faculty Lecture Series.

Requena’s lecture, “How Children Detect Patterns in Language,” will begin at 4 p.m. in the Dell Brown Room of Turner Hall. The event is free and open to the public, and light refreshments will be provided.

An expert in language acquisition and variation, Requena arrived at UM from Pennsylvania State University in 2015, where his teaching methods were described as “beautiful, like watching van Gogh paint.” Requena teaches in the Spanish program at UM, and his research investigates language acquisition by children between ages 2 and 7 from Argentina, Mexico and the United States.

"Language is the foundation of the humanities, and the topic of Requena's lecture speaks to us all,” said Humanities Institute Director Nathaniel Levtow. “Requena’s research is both humanistic and scientific, theoretical and practical, and offers a wonderful opportunity for the Humanities Institute to fulfill its mission: to provide support and a public forum for humanities scholarship at UM that pushes the boundaries of academic disciplines and the frontiers of
human understanding."

For more information email Ian Withrow at ian.withrow@mso.umt.edu or call 406-243-2683.

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Contact: Ian Withrow, media and information coordinator, College of Humanities and Sciences/Humanities Institute at UM, 406-243-2683, ian.withrow@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA – The University of Montana School of Business Administration will honor 2017 Outstanding Alumnus Craig K. Anderson and Outstanding Alumna Stefanie Henderson Strack on Friday, March 31, during its spring Business Advisory Board meeting. The annual awards recognize School of Business Administration alumni for outstanding career achievement.

Anderson, a native of Billings, is a fifth-generation Montanan with roots dating back to the 1860s. In 1972, he followed in his parents' footsteps and enrolled at UM. In 1976, he was honored with an appointment to the University's senior honor society, Silent Sentinel, and graduated from the business school with a degree in accounting before passing the CPA exam.

In 1984, after working for the global accounting firm KPMG and Caterpillar dealership Tractor and Equipment Co., Anderson began his long, successful career in financial advising as a wealth management adviser with the Merrill Lynch office in Billings. His goal was to start a financial planning practice to help clients connect their lives and goals to their finances. Since then, he has grown that practice into a team of 10 associates with influence over more than $1 billion in client assets. Anderson also is among a select number of Merrill Lynch advisers to hold the
UM School of Business Administration to Honor Alumni for Career Achievements - UM News - University Of Montana

Merrill Lynch has recognized Anderson as both a great communicator and expert in financial planning and has incorporated his “hazards of retirement” concepts into an iPad app that its financial advisers use to educate clients. He has trained hundreds of Merrill Lynch financial advisers with these concepts.

As a dedicated Montanan, outdoors enthusiast and family man, Anderson has served on the boards of the Montana Society of CPAs, the Yellowstone Boys and Girls Ranch Foundation and his local church. He and his wife, Jane, a 1980 UM graduate, have two sons who both attended UM and have built careers in the state.

Originally from Anchorage, Alaska, Strack moved to Missoula in 2000 to attend UM and pursue her passion for soccer. After graduating from the School of Business Administration in 2004 with a degree in international business and minor in media arts, Strack began her fast-paced career with Nike as an associate merchandising manager at the company’s Bologna, Italy, office. After spending a year in Italy, she moved to Nike World Headquarters in Beaverton, Oregon, where she spent three years as a product line manager in Global Football (Soccer) Footwear. In this position, Strack was responsible for connecting with Nike’s top athletes and consumers and helping inspire the design and development of future product lines.

Over the next several years, she continued to explore different functional roles at Nike, holding positions such as merchandising director in Emerging Markets, category sales director for Jordan and Nike Sportswear, strategic planning director for Global Running and general manager of Nike Training.

After 12 years of successfully leading teams at Nike across various functions and geographies, Strack currently is general manager for Nike SB (skateboarding) in North America. In this role, she leads a team of more than 60 people throughout the U.S. and Canada and is responsible for driving the category vision into the marketplace across all functions, including brand marketing, digital, finance, operations, merchandising, direct to consumer and sales. Strack is recognized in the industry as a futuristic leader who creates high-performing teams.

Looking toward her future at Nike, Strack plans to continue on the company’s Executive General Management career path while also taking every opportunity to advance her education with executive courses from the world’s leading business schools, including Harvard and Stanford’s Graduate School of Business.

Strack is married to Alan Strack, a Nike designer, and has two children, 3-year-old Siena and 18-month-old Parker.

UM’s School of Business Administration is accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business International, the most rigorous accrediting body for business degree programs. The school’s world-class faculty includes renowned scholars recognized for pioneering contributions in their fields and expert instructors dedicated to the success of their students. Graduates of the business school continue a strong tradition of leadership, innovation and drive, consistently performing at the highest levels in both entrepreneurial ventures and leading corporations.
The school offers undergraduate programs in accounting, finance, international business, management, management information systems and marketing; graduate programs in management, accounting and business analytics; and certificate programs in entrepreneurship, accounting information systems, big data analytics, digital marketing, entertainment management and sustainable business strategy. Experiential learning opportunities, globally minded student organizations and statewide entrepreneurial competitions prepare students to address real-world business problems and deliver real value to their businesses, employers and communities.

More information is available online at [http://www.business.umt.edu](http://www.business.umt.edu).

**Contact:** Tammy Yedinak, executive assistant to the dean, UM School of Business Administration, 406-243-6195, tammy.yedinak@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA – “Water,” the University of Montana spectrUM Discovery Area’s newest traveling exhibition, will visit Hamilton Monday through Friday, March 27-31.

Created with researchers from the Montana Institute on Ecosystems, “Water” features interactive exhibits and hands-on activities exploring ecosystems science. Highlights of the exhibition include a virtual watershed sandbox, a groundwater model and spectrUM’s popular erosion table. The exhibition is funded by the Montana Institute on Ecosystems, the Montana National Science Foundation EPSCoR Program and the Clark Fork Coalition. This tour stop is powered by the Jane S. Heman Foundation.

During the school days of March 27-31, students from Daly Elementary will participate in guided field trips to the “Water” exhibition. Families and friends are also invited to attend a free Family Science Night from 5 to 7 p.m. on Thursday, March 30, at Daly Elementary School.

The spectrUM Discovery Area’s mobile science program travels statewide with hands-on science exhibits and activities guided by museum educators. According to spectrUM Director Holly Truitt, the goal of spectrUM’s mobile
outreach is “to inspire Montana’s next generation about STEM and higher education and to help power a vibrant, homegrown workforce in our state.”

Committed to inspiring a culture of learning and discovery for all, UM’s spectrUM Discovery Area serves more than 55,000 Montanans annually through in-museum and mobile programs. Since 2006, spectrUM has traveled exhibits and educators to 73 schools and four public libraries in 31 Montana counties, including all seven American Indian reservations in Montana. In total, spectrUM’s mobile science program has served over 52,000 people, of whom 30 percent are Native American and over 75 percent live in rural communities.

Additional spectrUM sponsors include the National Science Foundation, the National Institutes of Health, the Institute of Museum and Library Services, NASA, the Martin Family Foundation, the Montana Space Grant Consortium, the Simons Foundation, GSK-Science in the Summer, and the O.P. and W.E. Edwards Foundation.

For more information call Truitt at 406-243-4872 or visit http://www.spectrum.umt.edu.

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Contact: Holly Truitt, director, spectrUM Discovery Area, 406-243-4872, holly.truitt@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA – University of Montana researchers with the Research and Training Center on Disability in Rural Communities, or RTC:Rural, show that the standardized disability questions used by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services identify two distinct groups of people with disabilities: those with permanent disability and those with temporary disability. Their findings were published today in the American Journal of Public Health and can be accessed online at http://ajph.aphapublications.org/doi/abs/10.2105/AJPH.2017.303666.

The findings contradict the long-standing assumption by researchers and policymakers who use HHS disability data that it represents only people with long-term disabilities. The RTC:Rural study clarifies the survey collects information from two important subgroups: those with permanent disability, and those experiencing a temporary disability at the time of the survey.

The title of the paper is “Disability Items from the Current Population Survey (2008-2015) and Permanent Versus Temporary Disability Status.” Coauthors on the study include Bryce Ward, associate director of the Bureau of Business and Economic Research at UM; RTC:Rural research associates Andrew Myers and Jennifer Wong; and Craig Ravesloot, RTC:Rural director.
"Our findings suggest that the current understanding of the entire population of people with disabilities based on HHS data is incomplete, because we have not yet accurately described the characteristics and status of these two subgroups," said Ravesloot. "This can potentially have huge implications in public health policies."

According to RTC:Rural, programs and services for people with permanent disabilities may not be effective, or appropriate, for those with a temporary disability, and vice versa. As such, the characteristics and needs of each subgroup should be considered during policy development and planning.

National surveys sponsored by the HHS are required by the Affordable Care Act to include standardized disability questions, which are used to describe the disability population and to guide policymaking. While these questions do provide valuable information, they do not provide a completely accurate picture of the disability population.

"Disability itself is a dynamic event, an interaction between a person and their environment, which makes it difficult to measure," Myers said.

The researchers analyzed Current Population Survey data from November 2008 to December 2015 to see how respondents’ answers to disability questions changed over time. They also examined demographic differences between respondents who consistently reported disability (those with permanent disability) and those who reported inconsistently (those with temporary disability).

Although 17 percent of all respondents report disability throughout the survey period, of those reporting any disability, only 16 percent report the same disabilities consistently over time. Despite this inconsistency, respondents who report any disability are more similar to each other than to respondents who never report disability. However, the researchers found that those who consistently report disability are more likely to be over the age of 65, female, out of the labor force, less likely to have a college education and less likely to be married than those who sometimes report disability.

RTC:Rural researchers are especially interested in understanding the temporarily disabled population. Future research will examine whether these results are similar for people living in rural areas.

"Disability can affect anyone at any time," Ward said. "Experiencing disability for even a short period can negatively impact a person's life if they do not have access to adequate support."

Researchers at RTC:Rural, part of the UM’s Rural Institute for Inclusive Communities, work to enhance the quality of life for people with disabilities in rural areas across the country. RTC:Rural research is funded by The National Institute on Disability, Independent Living and Rehabilitation Research, the research institute of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Administration on Community Living. The Rural Institute is part of the national network of University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities.

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Contact: Tracy Boehm Barrett, director of knowledge translation, UM RTC:Rural, 406-243-5741, tracy.boehm@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA – High school and middle school students from across Montana will present their research findings during the 62nd annual Montana Science Fair on Monday, March 27, at the University of Montana’s Adams Center.

Registration and exhibit setup runs from 8 a.m. to noon and will coincide with the UM STEAM Lounge, where UM researchers and scientists will host hands-on activities for students, teachers and parents. Judging of student projects will occur between 1 and 4:30 p.m. The exhibits will be open for public viewing from 7 to 9 p.m. and again from 8 to 9 a.m. Tuesday, March 28.

The awards ceremony will take place at 10 a.m. Tuesday in the George and Jane Dennison Theatre.

More than $15,000 in prizes will be awarded to student participants, including cash awards, scholarships and all-expenses-paid trips. The grand award winners from the Montana Science Fair and Montana’s regional fairs advance to compete at the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair held May 14-19 in Los Angeles. Montana’s delegates for the National Youth Science Camp, a monthlong science education program that honors two high school seniors from each state, also will be announced.
Students to Present Projects at 62nd Annual Montana Science Fair at UM - UM News - University Of Montana

UM, UM’s College of Humanities and Sciences, and UM Health & Medicine, as well as a variety of other campus, community and individuals sponsor the Montana Science Fair. More than 300 judges, including UM faculty, staff, students and community professionals volunteer their time from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. to judge student exhibits.

A full schedule of events is posted online at http://hs.umt.edu/mtsciencefair/fairInformation/schedule.php. For more information visit http://hs.umt.edu/mtsciencefair/default.php; call Montana Science Fair Director Earle Adams at 406-830-7620 or email earle.adams@mso.umt.edu; or call Assistant Director Desirae Ware at 406-243-4325 or email desirae.ware@mso.umt.edu.

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**Contact:** Earle Adams, director, Montana Science Fair, 406-830-7620, earle.adams@mso.umt.edu; Desirae Ware, assistant director, Montana Science Fair, 406-243-4325, desirae.ware@mso.umt.edu.
MC Culinary Arts Students to Host Prix Fixe Chef’s Tasting Event

March 21, 2017

MISSOULA – Students in the Culinary Arts Program at Missoula College University of Montana will host a prix fixe lunch Wednesday through Friday, April 5-7, at Missoula College, located at 909 South Ave. W. The menu will feature dishes inspired by spring in Montana.

The seven-course prix fixe menu is available by reservation for $25. Seating is available from 11 a.m. to noon each day. It is recommended that diners plan for an hour to an hour and a half to enjoy the full fine-dining experience. Call 406-243-7815 for reservations.

The menu courses follow:

- Amuse: fennel-cured salmon in a cucumber cup.
- Soup: pea bisque with butter-poached langouste.
- Appetizer: tortellini primavera.
- Salad: shaved asparagus salad with crispy egg, preserved lemon puree and fava bean custard.
- Entrée: chicken saltimbocca, fried polenta with red pepper compote and braised broccoli rabe.
The menu also will feature intermezzo and dessert courses.

For more information on the event, email Chef Rose Burland at rose.burland@umontana.edu. For more news from the Culinary Arts Program, visit https://www.facebook.com/missoulacollegeculinary/.

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**Contact:** Rose Burland, Missoula College Culinary Arts coordinator, 406-370-3232, rose.burland@umontana.edu.
The 2017 Blankenbaker Lecture on Professional Responsibility is set for 4 p.m. Wednesday, March 29, in Room 101 at the Alexander Blewett III School of Law on the University of Montana campus. Greg Murphy, chair of the American Bar Association Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar, will deliver the lecture.

Murphy will present the Blankenbaker Lecture titled “The Morality of the Roles We Play, Living with Ourselves, and Kipling.” It will explore the morality of the roles lawyers play and the tensions created by role playing. Is the behavior morally justifiable and what are the costs?

The Blankenbaker Lecture derives its name from Joseph N. Blankenbaker, a longtime Montana banker who in 1975 – at the age of 90 – established a foundation “to express his thanks to the people of Montana for treating him so well.”

The Blankenbaker Foundation provides an annual endowment to the law school to supplement educational programs in professional responsibility, with the primary objective of increasing sensitivity and responsibility for leadership and competence in the practice of law.
The event is free and open to the public. Attending attorneys will be eligible for one continuing legal education ethics credit, pending approval.

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**Contact:** Michael White, media information specialist, UM Alexander Blewett III School of Law, 406-243-6509, michael.white@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA – The Washington, D.C., bureau chief for McClatchy newspapers and a former CBS and CNN national news correspondent will be the T. Anthony Pollner Distinguished Professors at the University of Montana School of Journalism for the 2017-18 academic year.

Cheryl Carpenter, who will teach at UM during fall semester, became bureau chief for McClatchy in 2015 after serving for 10 years as the managing editor of the Charlotte Observer in North Carolina. McClatchy owns newspapers in every sector of the country, including the Miami Herald, Kansas City Star, Sacramento Bee, Tacoma News-Tribune and Idaho Statesman.

Deborah Potter, the spring 2018 Pollner professor, covered the White House, U.S. Department of State and Capitol Hill for CBS News from 1981 to 1991 and reported on national politics and the environment for CNN from 1991 to 1994. She is the president and executive director of NewsLab, a research and training organization for journalists
that she helped found in 1998.

The professorship is named after T. Anthony Pollner, a UM alumnus who died in 2001. An endowment supported by his family and friends allows the school to bring leading journalists to UM for a semester to teach a course and mentor the staff of the Montana Kaimin, the student newspaper. More than two dozen distinguished journalists, including several Pulitzer Prize winners, have spent a semester teaching at the journalism school since the program’s inception.

Carpenter has overseen many investigations, most recently McClatchy’s partnership with news organizations worldwide in examining the Panama Papers, documents that showed thousands of offshore investors were engaged in fraud, tax evasion and avoidance of international sanctions. She will teach a course on the ethical and practical issues reporters face, particularly when dealing with leaked documents. Carpenter holds a bachelor’s degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a master’s degree in organizational development from Queens University in Charlotte. She also was a Nieman Fellow at Harvard University in 2005, studying ethics and leadership.

Potter has extensive journalism experience in both radio and television, from the local to the national level. In addition to working as a correspondent for both CBS and CNN, she was a contributor and host for several PBS programs. At NewsLab she leads workshops for journalists in the United States and around the world, focusing on reporting and writing the news, social media, online and visual storytelling, and journalism ethics. She has been a visiting professor at the University of North Carolina and the University of Arkansas, and she was on the faculty at the Poynter Institute and American University. She will teach a course on journalism and public trust. Potter holds a bachelor’s degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a master’s degree from American University in Washington, D.C.

The UM School of Journalism launched in 1914 and has trained generations of journalists in print, broadcast, photography and new media. The school regularly ranks among the top 10 journalism schools in the United States.

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Contact: Dennis Swibold, UM School of Journalism professor, 406-243-2230, dennis.swibold@umontana.edu.
DC Editor, Former Network Correspondent Named 2017-18 UM Pollner Professors - UM News - University Of Montana

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MISSOULA – After receiving more than 800 applications and conducting approximately 120 interviews, the University of Montana's Family Medicine Residency of Western Montana has selected its upcoming class.

The new class of 10 family physician residents, selected through the National Resident Matching Program, will start its three-year training at the end of June.

Interviews began in October and finished in early January. The National Resident Matching Program provides an objective and fair process for matching applicants to residency programs through a computerized mathematical algorithm, which lines up preferences to fill training positions across the United States.

“As our program has matured, we have increasingly gained national visibility, resulting in high-quality applicants from an increasing number of medical schools across the U.S.,” Program Director Ned Vasquez said. “This is an excellent achievement for a young residency, allowing us to effectively compete with programs that have existed for more than 20 years.”
The Family Medicine Residency of Western Montana focuses on the comprehensive training needed to effectively practice in Montana’s rural and underserved areas. The program began with a class of 10 in July 2013, and the inaugural class graduated in June 2016. Aiming to positively impact the state’s shortage of primary care doctors in rural communities, the program has more than doubled the number of family medicine physicians trained in Montana annually and celebrated an early success with six recent physician graduates practicing in rural and underserved areas statewide.

The 2020 class includes:

- Isaac Billings of Pellston, Michigan, attended Rocky Vista University College of Osteopathic Medicine.
- Brandon Bilyeu of Luther, Montana, attended Pacific Northwest University of Health Sciences College of Osteopathic Medicine.
- Katie Camarata of Fall River Mills, California, attended Pacific Northwest University of Health Sciences College of Osteopathic Medicine.
- Alyssa Cowell of Menominee, Michigan, attended Central Michigan University.
- Chris Hallberg of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, attended University of Washington.
- Amanda Hartman of Reno, Nevada, attended University of Nevada.
- Jonathon James of Anacortes, Washington, attended Touro University Nevada College of Osteopathic Medicine.
- Charles Jose of Henderson, Nevada, attended University of Nevada.
- Amy Richmond of Bloomington, Indiana, attended Indiana University.
- Stella Selden of Kalispell, Montana, attended University of Utah.

Headquartered in Missoula, FMRWM is sponsored by UM and affiliated with the University of Washington Family Medicine Residency Network. The program's three sponsoring hospitals in western Montana include Kalispell Regional Healthcare and Providence St. Patrick Hospital and Community Medical Center, both in Missoula. Residents are involved in continuity clinic training at Partnership Health Center in Missoula and Flathead Community Health Center in Kalispell.

Additionally, the program works with an extensive rural training network of nine sites, including Blackfeet Community Hospital in Browning, Northwest Community Health Center in Libby, Providence St. Joseph Medical Center in Polson, Clark Fork Valley Hospital in Plains, St. Luke Community Healthcare in Ronan, Community Physicians Group in Stevensville, Marcus Daly Memorial Hospital in Hamilton, Community Hospital of Anaconda and Barrett Hospital and Healthcare in Dillon.

For more information visit [http://health.umt.edu/fmrwm/](http://health.umt.edu/fmrwm/).

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**Contact:** Rebecca Morgan, project and communications manager, Family Medicine Residency of Western Montana, 406-544-5085, rebecca.morgan@mso.umt.edu.
UM Gallery of Visual Arts to Display Thesis Work by Grad Students

March 17, 2017

MISSOULA – Master of Fine Arts graduate students Evan Hauser, Sarah Justice and Amy Petit will present their thesis exhibitions from March 30 to April 13 in the University of Montana’s Gallery of Visual Arts.

An opening reception for the exhibitions will take place from 5 to 7 p.m. Thursday, March 30. The event is free and open to the public and includes refreshments.

Hauser’s exhibition, “The Prescribed West,” explores how landscape impacts the human experience beyond aesthetic beauty. Moving from Indiana to Montana, he witnessed a cultural shift in perspective of land, specifically the wilderness. His ceramic and video works in the exhibition address issues of human control over the supposed wilderness, creating a prescribed experience.
“When looking at a national park such as Yellowstone,” Hauser said, "we are confronted by land that is supposedly wild and natural. In reality, the lands within the park are somewhat of a construct that is managed."

Justice’s exhibition, "Selene," uses life-size ceramic figurative sculptures to depict an autobiographical journey of control, power and healing. The work employs mythology and symbolism to challenge the viewer’s perception of seductive and destructive human behaviors. Through the analogy of “the moth to the flame,” Justice encourages viewers to contemplate how one uses their own power of attraction and repulsion within relationships and within oneself.

The sculptural works in Petit’s exhibition, “Median,” are an exploration of memory, loss and transition. Based on her observation of changing forms of communication in the digital age, she examines how personal interaction, expression and the value we assign to objects are affected. By using a combination of materials such as metal, glass and thread, as well as digital media, she seeks to emphasize the permanent and impermanent nature of familiar objects or actions.

The Gallery of Visual Arts is located on the first floor of the Social Science Building and is open from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday, and Monday hours are available by appointment.

For more information call Cathryn Mallory, Gallery of Visual Arts director, at 406-243-2813, email gallery.visarts@umontana.edu or visit http://www.umt.edu/art/galleries/default.php.

Contact: Cathryn Mallory, director, UM Gallery of Visual Arts, 406-243-2813, gallery.visarts@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA – The University of Montana will host the 2017 Montana Geographic Bee from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday, March 31, in various locations around campus.

The Montana Geographic Bee is put on annually by the Montana Geographic Alliance and sponsored by the National Geographic Society. One hundred eighth-grade students will travel from all over Montana to Missoula to compete. The winner will then go to Washington, D.C., in May to represent Montana in the final round.

The schedule follows:

- **10:30 to 11:30 a.m.** – Registration, giant map display and light brunch for participants, Payne Family Native American Center.
- **11:30 a.m.** – Welcoming remarks, Payne Family Native American Center.
- **Noon** – Preliminary round, various buildings on campus.
- **2 p.m.** – Final round, Social Science Building Room 352.

Hosting this event is an honor for UM and allows students and teachers to collaborate outside the classroom.
Each year, thousands of students in fourth through eighth grade participate in the National Geographic Bee, which is designed to encourage teachers to include geography in their classrooms and spark student interest. Montana has not won the National Geographic Bee since 1994.

For more information about the 2017 National Geographic Bee, email Laura Caplins, Montana Geographic Alliance program manager, at mga@mso.umt.edu or visit https://sites.google.com/site/montanastatebee/.

Contact: Laura Caplins, program manager and geographic bee director, Montana Geographic Alliance, mga@mso.umt.edu.
UM Professor Earns CAREER Grant to Study Conservation Genomics

March 16, 2017

MISSOULA – University of Montana Assistant Professor Andrew Whiteley recently received the National Science Foundation’s most prestigious award for junior faculty.

The Faculty Early Career Development award, also known as a CAREER grant, is rewarded annually to faculty who exemplify

UM Professor Earns CAREER Grant to Study Conservation Genomics - UM News - University Of Montana

the role of teacher-scholar through outstanding research, excellent education and the integration of both education and research.

“Receiving an NSF Early Career Award is a huge accomplishment and highlights Andrew’s creativity, productivity and upward trajectory,” said Tom DeLuca, dean of the University’s W.A. Franke College of Forestry and Conservation. “The NSF Early Career Award will provide him with foundational support that will be extremely helpful to Andrew in enhancing what is already an impressive start to his career.”

Whiteley, an assistant professor of fisheries and conservation genomics, will receive more than $800,000 over five years to work on a project titled “The Influence of Gene Flow on Inbreeding and Local Adaptation: Replicated Experiments in Isolated Wild Populations.” Whiteley and his graduate students will experimentally translocate small numbers of trout among isolated natural populations as a window into understanding the effects of this gene exchange.

Although conservationists have substantial interest in using strategic translocating of animals or plants – a concept termed “genetic rescue” – to help save isolated populations from extinction, concerns about the possible negative consequences of genetic exchange have limited its application.

“Stream habitat is becoming increasingly fragmented, and this can lead to the loss of entire populations of fish and other aquatic organisms,” Whiteley said. “Our work will help resolve some longstanding questions in evolutionary biology and will provide a much-needed test of the concept of genetic rescue as a tool for conservation.”

Whiteley’s research will use innovative educational approaches to increase knowledge of conservation biology and genetic principles for undergraduates in the nation’s leading wildlife biology program. Whiteley also will partner with college colleague Libby Metcalf and the spectrUM Broader Impacts Group on campus to bring aspects of his research program to rural Montana middle school students.

Each year, between 350 and 400 assistant professors nationally earn CAREER grants, which generally range from $400,000 to $1 million over five years.

For more information about the CAREER program, visit https://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=503214.

Contact: Andrew Whiteley, UM assistant professor of fisheries and conservation genomics, 406-243-6334, andrew.whiteley@mso.umt.edu.
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UM Student Wins Statewide Business Plan Competition

March 16, 2017

MISSOULA – A University of Montana graduate student won first place in the Montana Small Business Development Center Shark Tank competition, held March 12-14 in Helena, for his business to help tour operators manage their digital marketing.

Evan Tipton, who is studying recreation
resource management
in UM’s W.A. Franke College of Forestry and Conservation and set to graduate in May, bested 24 other competitors to earn $5,000 for his business, TOMIS.

TOMIS already has 25 paying customers, and a beta version of the software will launch in April. Tipton has worked in digital marketing and tourism management for the past six years. He notes that TOMIS has already raised $95,000.

“I realized there was a large opportunity and huge need to help these locally owned and operated tour operators navigate the painful and complex waters of digital marketing,” said Tipton, a native of Savannah, Georgia. “As a result, we started TOMIS, the digital marketing assistant for tour operators. We are driven by our mission to level the playing field in this industry by helping these local tourism businesses grow, at a price they can actually afford with software that actually makes sense, as it is tailored exactly to their businesses.”

“Evan is one of the most intense, driven and hardworking individuals I know, especially when he has a passion,” said Norma Nickerson, director of UM’s Institute for Tourism and Recreation Research and Tipton’s graduate adviser. “This business in tourism and nature-based recreation is his passion.”

Tipton, who received his bachelor’s degree in parks, tourism and recreation management from the forestry college in 2012, credits his time at UM for his success. “Through my undergraduate and graduate studies in the recreation management program, I gained in-depth knowledge and understanding of the inner workings of this industry,” he said. “This program is filled with world-class professors and opportunities that can help set other current or prospective students up to succeed in this industry, just as it did for myself. Working with professors such as Norma Nickerson, Keith Bosak, Wayne Freimund and Bill Borrie provided an invaluable foundation to propel me into the real world.”

The Small Business Development Center partnered with the Governor’s Conference on Tourism and Recreation for this year’s Shark Tank competition. Local entrepreneurs presented their business plans and received feedback from a panel of industry professionals.

Contact: Evan Tipton, UM graduate student, evan.tipton@umontana.edu; Norma Nickerson, director, UM Institute for Tourism and Recreation Research, 406-243-2328, norma.nickerson@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA – “Water,” the University of Montana spectrUM Discovery Area’s exhibition highlighting ecosystem science, will visit Corvallis on Monday through Friday, March 20-24.

Created by researchers from UM’s Montana Institute on Ecosystems, “Water” features interactive exhibits and hands-on activities, such as a virtual watershed sandbox, a groundwater model and spectrUM’s popular erosion table. The exhibition is funded by the Montana Institute on Ecosystems, the Montana National Science Foundation EPSCoR Program and the Clark Fork Coalition. The tour stop is powered by the Jane S. Heman Foundation.

During school days throughout the week, students from Corvallis will participate in guided field trips to the “Water” exhibition. Families and friends can attend a free Family Science Night from 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, March 21, at Corvallis Middle School.

SpectrUM’s mobile science program travels statewide with hands-on science exhibits and activities guided by museum educators. SpectrUM Director Holly Truitt said the goal of spectrUM’s mobile outreach is “to inspire Montana’s next generation about STEM and higher education and to help power a vibrant, homegrown workforce in
SpectrUM’s ‘Water’ Exhibit to Visit Corvallis - UM News - University Of Montana

our state."

Committed to inspiring a culture of learning and discovery for all, spectrUM serves more than 55,000 Montanans annually, of whom 30 percent are Native American and more than 75 percent live in rural communities. Since 2006, spectrUM has traveled exhibits and educators to 73 schools and four public libraries in 31 Montana counties, including all seven American Indian reservations statewide.

Additional spectrUM sponsors include the National Science Foundation, the National Institutes of Health, the Institute of Museum and Library Services, NASA, the Martin Family Foundation, the Montana Space Grant Consortium, the Simons Foundation, GSK-Science in the Summer, and the O.P. and W.E. Edwards Foundation.

For more information, call spectrUM Director Holly Truitt at 406-243-4872 or visit http://www.spectrum.umt.edu.

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Contact: Holly Truitt, director, spectrUM Discovery Area, 406-243-4828, holly.truitt@umontana.edu.
Lil Wayne to Play UM’s Adams Center April 24

March 15, 2017

MISSOULA – Hip hop recording artist Lil Wayne will perform Monday, April 24, at the Adams Center at the University of Montana. Doors open at 7 p.m. and the show begins at 8 p.m.

Tickets will go on sale at 10 a.m. Friday, March 17, at http://www.LiveNation.com and at all GrizTix locations, by phone at 888-MONTANA and online at www.umt.edu/griztix. Ticket prices range from $35 to $55, plus fees.

Dwayne Michael Carter Jr., known professionally as Lil Wayne, is an American hip hop recording artist from New Orleans. In 1991, at the age of 9, Lil Wayne joined Cash Money Records as the youngest member of the label.

Lil Wayne has sold over 100 million records worldwide, including more than 15 million albums and 37 million digital tracks in United States, making him one of the best-selling artists of all time. On Sept. 27, 2012, Lil Wayne passed Elvis Presley as the male with the most entries on the Billboard Hot 100 chart, with 109 songs.

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Lil Wayne to Play UM’s Adams Center April 24 - UM News - University Of Montana

Contact: UM Adams Center Box Office, 406-243-4051, ; Kristine Simoni, Live Nation Entertainment, kristinesimoni@livenation.com.
Annual Easter Eggstravaganza Moves to Loyola’s Rollin Field

March 15, 2017

MISSOULA – Area egg hunters will hop to a new location this year, as Missoula’s 17th annual Easter Eggstravaganza will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday, April 15, at Loyola Sacred Heart’s Rollin Field.

Formerly held at the University of Montana, the community event will continue with major support from Garden of Read’n and Loyola Sacred Heart High School. The egg hunt is free and open to the public.

“This is really all about the kids,” Garden of Read’n owner Michael Burks said. “We wanted to contribute to ensure the community would not miss out on this treasured event.”

Loyola’s Rollin Field will be transformed into a sea of colorful eggs and mouthwatering treats. Loyola Sacred Heart High School students and St. Joseph Elementary and Middle School students will help stuff Easter eggs as part of their commitment to community service.

“When the Garden of Read’n, once again, presented the opportunity to be involved in this event, we were very excited,” said Jeremy Beck, president of Missoula Catholic Schools. “Not only will the event take place on Rollin
Field, but our students will be involved behind the scenes preparing for the event and volunteering at the event when the egg hunters arrive."

Garden of Read’n will donate 30,000 eggs filled with candy and prizes. Organizers also aim to engage additional local businesses and organizations to donate thousands of coupons for free items or admission. Children ages 9 and under are invited to bring their baskets and search for the thousands of eggs during the hunt.

There will still be separate age-group sections for 0-2, 3, 4-5, 6-7 and 8-9. The Easter Bunny and other well-known mascots will be on hand for the fun.

The egg hunt had been organized by University Relations at UM. Campus officials made the decision to discontinue hosting the annual Easter Eggstravaganza on campus to help refocus efforts on college-student marketing, recruitment and retention.

“We did not make this decision lightly,” said Cary Shimek, communication manager with University Relations. “We were thrilled that Garden of Read’n spearheaded efforts to provide this fun, family-oriented event for the community. My own children grew up with these egg hunts, and at one point USA Today rated our hunt the third best in the nation, so we are happy the event will continue to exist off campus.”

Shimek said UM launched the first Easter Eggstravaganza in 2000, and each event has featured thousands of eggs, prizes and candies cleaned up by hundreds of happy kids within 5 minutes.

“We want to thank all the community members and businesses who have supported the Eggstravaganza over the years,” Shimek said. “And we especially want to thank Michael and Kiomi Burks of the Garden of Read’n, who stepped up two years ago to make sure this event goes on.”

For more information call Garden of Read’n Manager Kiomi Burks at 406-728-3032 or email kiomi@gardenofreadn.com or call Shimek at 406-243-5914 or email cary.shimek@umontana.edu.

Contact: Michael Burks, Easter Eggstravaganza organizer, 406-728-3032, michael@gardenofreadn.com; Jeremy Beck, president of Missoula Catholic Schools, 406-549-6101, jbeck@mcsmt.org; Cary Shimek, University Relations communication manager, 406-243-5914, cary.shimek@umontana.edu.
Annual Easter Eggstravaganza Moves to Loyola’s Rollin Field - UM News - University Of Montana
UM to Host Educators’ Career Fair April 9-10

March 14, 2017

MISSOULA – The University of Montana will host the Multistate Educators’ Career Fair, where teaching candidates, school counselors, speech-language pathologists and school psychologists can network with regional and national school districts, on Sunday and Monday, April 9-10.

Candidate registration begins at noon on Sunday, April 9, in the Phyllis J. Washington Education Center. Teacher candidates can attend Montana school district information sessions and an ice cream social between 1 and 5 p.m. Participants also can attend 15-minute resume critique sessions between 1 and 4:30 p.m. The Welcome and Strategy Session beginning at 5 p.m. will provide information about expectations for the career fair, and will include a mock interview between a school administrator and a teacher candidate.

On Monday, April 10, school districts will participate in the Multistate Educators’ Fair. Out-of-state school districts will host information sessions from 8 to 10 a.m. in the University Center. From 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. school districts will greet, network with and interview teacher candidates. Admission is free.

School districts and teacher candidates can register, view a list of attending school districts and find a schedule of
events online at http://www.umt.edu/career/CareerFairs/EducatorsCF/default.php.

For more information contact the UM Office of Career Services at 406-243-2239.

Contact: Alexandria Harris, recruiting coordinator, UM Office of Career Services, 406-243-2239, alexandria.harris@umontana.edu.
UM Provost, Co-Author Honored with Trailblazer Award

UM Provost, Co-Author Honored with Trailblazer Award

MISSOULA – University of Montana Interim Provost Beverly Edmond recently published a book titled “Trailblazing African American Public Administrators” with co-author Ron Finnell. Both authors will receive the Trailblazer Award later this month from the Conference of Minority Public Administrators, a branch of the American Society for Public Administration.

Edmond and Finnell will accept their award in Atlanta during the organization’s annual conference held March 15-17. They also will speak during a luncheon plenary on Thursday, March 16.

“Ron and I are delighted to have been selected to receive the Trailblazer Award from the Conference of Minority Public Administrators,” Edmond said. “We feel privileged to have been able to recognize the group of individuals profiled in our book. These are individuals who worked extremely hard to improve diversity and inclusiveness in the field of public administration and the profession is better off...
as a result of their efforts."

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**Contact:** UM Office of the Provost, 406-243-4689, officeoftheprovost@umontana.edu.
UM President Highlights Priorities at Missoula City Club

March 14, 2017

MISSOULA — University of Montana President Sheila Stearns outlined her vision for tackling the University’s challenges on March 13 during the annual State of the Community event.

Titled “Unique Challenges, Shared Successes,” this year’s City Club Missoula gathering brought together Stearns, Missoula Mayor John Engen and Missoula County Commissioner Jean Curtiss to discuss important community issues. They spoke at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Missoula-Edgewater.

In 2018, UM will celebrate 125 of academic excellence, and Stearns described how she has launched Forward125 — an initiative to closely evaluate the University in order to make sound decisions that reflect the needs of students while maximizing finite resources.

“Forward125 will put us on the path toward achieving these goals,” said Stearns, the former Montana commissioner of higher education serving as interim president while UM conducts a national search for its next top leader. “I can tell you that the state of the University is solid, strong and strategic.”
Stearns said UM faces four key challenges: declining enrollment, budget alignment, program prioritization and completing its strategic plan. She said all decisions will be made employing the University’s strong tradition of inclusive shared governance.

Forward125 involves the interconnected efforts of the University Planning Council; the Cabinet; the Budget Committee; shared governance such as the faculty and staff senates and Associated Students of UM; and assessment and accreditation measures.

“All planning efforts will be informed by the core values of our strategic plan, which is being developed through campus engagement by the Strategic Planning Coordinating Council,” Stearns said.

Regarding enrollment, she said UM is working to stabilize the incoming freshman class, increase nonresident students, continue growth at the two-year Missoula College, continue the steady state of graduate student admissions and expand international student recruitment.

Personnel account for 81 percent of the University budget. In the short term, Stearns said UM will take advantage of attrition and salary savings, only make new hires with presidential approval, offer retirement incentives and streamline services. The University also is trying to increase efficiency using more shared services.

She said UM must continue preparing graduates to meet real-world challenges across Montana, the nation and the world. She envisions a University with the appropriate faculty-to-student ratio that encourages degree completion in four years with sufficient financial aid.

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Contact: Paula Short, director of communications, UM Office of the President, paula.short@mso.umt.edu.
Florida Georgia Line to perform live in concert Friday, Sept. 22, in the Adams Center at the University of Montana. Special guests Nelly and Chris Lane will also perform.

Ticket prices range from $49.75 to $75, plus fees. Tickets will go on sale at 10 a.m. Friday, March 17, at http://www.LiveNation.com and at all GrizTix locations, by phone at 888-MONTANA and online at www.umt.edu/griztix.

Florida Georgia Line consists of Tyler Hubbard and Brian Kelley. They recently released their third album, "Dig Your Roots." The Missoula show is part of the duo's "Smooth" tour.

Contact: UM Adams Center Box Office, 406-243-4051, ; Kristine Simoni, Live Nation Entertainment, kristinesimoni@livenation.com.
Florida Georgia Line to Play Adams Center Sept. 22 - UM News - University Of Montana

http://news.umt.edu/2017/03/031317line.php[1/23/2018 9:56:00 AM]
UM PEAS Farm Invites Students to Grow Food for College Credit

March 13, 2017

MISSOULA – The University of Montana PEAS Farm is recruiting students for its popular summer farming internship.

The six-credit class lets students get their hands dirty on a 10-acre vegetable farm, doing everything from sowing seeds and transplanting to irrigating and harvesting.

The PEAS Farm, located in Missoula’s Rattlesnake Valley north of campus, grows tens of thousands of pounds of produce for its 100-member Community Supported Agriculture program; the Missoula Food Bank; the Women, Infants and Children program; and a mobile market for seniors.

PEAS Farm interns learn about propagation in the greenhouse, season extension, transplanting, direct seeding, farm planning, use of cover crops, harvest and post-harvest care of vegetable crops, drip and overhead irrigation, tractor implements, hand and mechanical cultivation, composting, weeds and pests, CSA management and distribution, orchard care and more. Farm interns also learn to cook for the class and collaborate with other Missoula community groups.
The 2017 summer PEAS Farm class runs May 15 to Aug. 30. Students learn farming skills from 8 a.m. to noon Monday through Thursday. On Fridays, the class will take field trips to other farms in the area. Students also get two weeks off of their choosing during the summer.

Current UM students can enroll in ENST 396 or ENST 590.80 through CyberBear. Applicants who are not current UM students are eligible to enroll. PEAS Farm credits often are transferrable. For registration information visit http://www.umt.edu/summer/studentinfo.php and click on “Summer Semester 2017 Only Admission Status.” For more information visit the PEAS internship website at http://hs.umt.edu/evst/opportunities/peas/default.php.

Contact: Josh Slotnick, UM PEAS Farm director, 406-239-6993, joshua.slotnick@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA – Montana landowners across the state now have access to hourly reports of soil moisture, temperature, soil quality, rainfall and more. The Montana Climate Office launched the Montana Mesonet information network this past summer, installing wireless weather stations at 13 sites across Big Sky Country.

Based at the University of Montana, the climate office embraces a cooperative approach that addresses a diverse set of information needs. The expansion of Montana Mesonet will benefit landowners, watershed groups, agencies, nonprofits, commercial interests and others.

“No one entity can ensure sustained operation and success of a statewide climate and soil moisture information network,” said climate office Director Kelsey Jencso. “This statewide network
is being advanced by Montanans for Montanans.”

The network data collecting stations will help landowners learn about drought, estimate when to irrigate crops, help schedule crop planting and harvesting, predict long-term stability of croplands and watersheds, predict changes in rangeland and forest productivity in relation to changes in soil moisture and temperature, predict pest and disease outbreaks, and predict changes in runoff that could lead to flooding.

Quantifying even small changes in water availability is significant for Montanans who make decisions that balance risks and costs. In 2014, 27,800 farm operations on about 60 million acres of land in Montana earned $4.2 billion in revenue. Agriculture is such a large Montana industry that any increase in efficiency from more accurate weather and soil moisture information can translate into millions of dollars in statewide savings each year.

The monitoring stations are solar powered and transmit data to the Montana Climate Office server via secure cellular communication. The data collected at each station includes wind speed, wind direction, relative humidity, air temperature, rainfall, solar radiation, vegetation greenness and soil moisture and temperature at 4-inch, 8-inch, 20-inch and 36-inch soil depths.

The climate office stores and analyzes the data at UM, but users can access, monitor and download information at any time online at http://climate.umt.edu/mesonet. Data is shown in graphs and maps and can be summarized and viewed by county, watershed or ownership unit.

The office also recently assumed leadership of the Montana Community Collaborative Rain, Hail and Snow Network (CoCoRaHS). Since Jan. 1, 143 volunteers have reported rain and snowfall amounts across the state. These citizen-scientists provide essential data about precipitation between National Weather Service sites and other weather networks.

Several of the stations were installed in collaboration with Montana State University’s Agricultural Experiment Stations, and 16 new stations will be installed this summer in partnership with the U.S. Bureau of Land Management.

This soil-climate network, the first in the state, was funded in part by the Montana Research and Economic Development Initiative and continues to be supported by the Montana Forest and Conservation Experiment Station, a state-funded research agency at UM’s W.A. Franke College of Forestry and Conservation.

Contact: Kelsey Jencso, director, Montana Climate Office, 406-243-6793, kelsey.jencso@umontana.edu; Kevin

Hyde, Montana Mesonet coordinator and Montana State CoCoRaHS coordinator, 406-546-2109, kevin.hyde@umontana.edu.
UM Center Works on Historic Air Force Base Preservation

March 10, 2017

MISSOULA – The Center for Integrated Research on the Environment at the University of Montana has started producing historic preservation and maintenance manuals for U.S. Air Force bases across the country through its ongoing partnership with the U.S. Department of Defense and Army Corps of Engineers.

As a federal entity, the military must follow the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966. To do this, cultural resource managers on military bases need to have knowledge and understanding of cultural properties protection and long-term preservation. The manuals the CIRE team produces will serve as longstanding...
references for cultural resource managers on how to best preserve structures based on building materials, weather patterns, deterioration and other factors. The manuals also will help determine eligibility for buildings to be listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

“Preserving cultural heritage is a fundamental component of many missions in today's military,” said Jeff MacDonald, a historic buildings and environments preservation expert and principal investigator for nine cultural projects at CIRE. “Protecting cultural heritage enables the military to save local resources and heritage.”

MacDonald and cultural resource manager Kate McCourt lead a CIRE team that examines the built environments and landscape issues specific to particular military bases.

“The nation as a whole benefits by saving our history,” said McCourt, who also is an expert on the symbiotic nature of how built environments relate to the archeological landscape. “It goes along with the saying ‘Those who fail to learn from history are doomed to repeat it.’ Buildings are a tangible reminder. Once it is gone, you cannot get it back.”

The Department of Defense manages military land. In May 2014, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers announced a five-year, $45 million cooperative agreement with UM to study and solve environmental and cultural resource problems across the nation.

Through the agreement, UM also helps Corps implement land and water ecological restoration, as well as maintenance and training for optimal management of public resources. Together, the two entities work to promote positive ecosystem health, endangered species awareness and the continuing wealth of natural resources on Air Force bases.

CIRE is organized within a suite of investigation, research and support areas with specific roles and responsibilities.
strategically designed to address its clients’ particular needs. In addition to the Corps of Engineers and the Department of Defense, CIRE works with agencies, foundations and private organizations to accomplish specific research goals.

For more information call Mona Nazeri, CIRE media information specialist, at 406-243-2617 or email mona.nazeri@mso.umt.edu.

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**Contact:** Mona Nazeri, media information specialist, UM Center for Integrated Research on the Environment, 406-243-2617, mona.nazeri@mso.umt.edu.
UM News

UM Dining Director Receives Regional Distinguished Service Award

March 09, 2017

MISSOULA – The National Association of College and University Food Services recently honored the University of Montana’s dining director with its Regional Director’s Distinguished Service Award.

UM Dining’s Mark LoParco received the award for his numerous contributions to the food service industry and for his NACUFS support for more than four decades. LoParco’s contributions include working at regional and national conferences, mentoring food service professionals and serving in several elected officer roles for the association, including regional and national NACUFS president.

LoParco began his career in food service as a cook in 1969, advancing quickly to food and beverage manager. He accepted
his first job in the college and university food service sector in 1978 as a unit manager at the State University of New York College at Cortland.

During a NACUFS national conference, he networked with food service leaders from Syracuse University, which resulted in his 10-year tenure there. In 1992, LoParco joined UM as dining director. He has thrived and led the highly successful, nationally recognized enterprise the past 25 years.

In total, LoParco has worked in the food service industry for 48 years, 40 of which were in collegiate food service. He will retire on May 5.

Teresa Branch, retired UM vice president for student affairs, said LoParco represents professionalism and quality.

“[He] is creative, conscientious and contagious,” she said. “Seldom have I seen someone successfully balance the practicality of dining operations while maintaining enthusiasm for culinary arts.”

LoParco is a pioneer of sustainable business initiatives in collegiate food service. His leadership in food service sustainability fueled the national movement in sustainable and local food procurement, waste reduction, diversion and composting, on-campus gardens, innovative food production techniques and engagement of students, faculty, staff and community members.

Through his passion for sustainability, LoParco created the UM Farm to College Program, which has grown into a thriving, in-state food procurement system with over $1 million per year in food purchases – one third of the department’s annual food budget – reinvested into Montana’s agricultural economy. That’s a cumulative investment of over $8 million since its inception in 2003.

Through his leadership, UM Dining partners with more than 100 Montana farmers, ranchers and food producers to procure commodities from across the state. The program’s success is widely known and has garnered multiple awards, including Gold Awards in the 2013 and 2014 NACUFS Sustainability Awards for Food Procurement and Education and Outreach, and the 2014 NACUFS Grand Prize for Excellence in Sustainable Dining. As a result, LoParco frequently presents at regional and national conferences.
NACUFS Continental Regional Director Nicci Rivetti said she has enjoyed following his career and all LoParco has accomplished.

“My respect for him grew as I read articles that were published on how he was a restaurant chef and went to Montana and became a significant part of the institution by growing the dining services into what is now known across the nation as one of the finest,” Rivetti said.

For more information call Sam Belanger, UM Dining director of marketing, at 406-243-5089 or email samuel.belanger@mso.umt.edu.

Contact: Sam Belanger, UM Dining director of marketing, 406-243-5089, samuel.belanger@mso.umt.edu.
SpectrUM to Share Science Activities at Missoula Kids Fair

March 08, 2017

MISSOULA – Children can explore brain games, guided dissections and more with the University of Montana spectrUM Discovery Area during the Kids Fair at Southgate Mall on Saturday, March 11.

Organized by Mountain FM 102.5, the Kids Fair is a free, public event from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. In addition to exhibits and demonstrations, the fair will include crafts, prizes and games.

SpectrUM Director Holly Truitt said the science center’s goal is to “inspire Montanans, especially our next generation, about STEM and higher education and to power a vibrant, homegrown work force in our state.”

SpectrUM engages more than 55,000 Montanans annually through in-museum and mobile programs. Since 2006, spectrUM has brought exhibits and educators to 73 schools and four public libraries in 31 counties and on all seven American Indian reservations statewide. Thirty percent of the people spectrUM serves are Native American, and more than 75 percent live in rural communities.

SpectrUM is powered by the National Science Foundation, the National Institutes of Health, the Institute of Museum
and Library Services, NASA, the Jane S. Heman Foundation, the Martin Family Foundation, the Montana Space Grant Consortium, the Simons Foundation, GSK-Science in the Summer, and the O.P. and W.E. Edwards Foundation.

For more information or to book a school visit, call Truitt at 406-243-4872 or visit http://spectrum.umt.edu.

Contact: Holly Truitt, director, spectrUM Discovery Area, 406-243-4828, holly.truitt@umontana.edu.
SpectrUM’s ‘Water’ Exhibit to Visit Stevensville March 15-16

MISSOULA – “Water,” the University of Montana spectrUM Discovery Area’s newest traveling exhibition, will visit Stevensville on Wednesday and Thursday, March 15-16.

Created with researchers from the Montana Institute on Ecosystems, “Water” features interactive exhibits and hands-on activities exploring ecosystems science. Highlights of the exhibition include a virtual watershed sandbox, a groundwater model and spectrUM’s popular erosion table. The exhibition is funded by the Montana Institute on Ecosystems, the Montana National Science Foundation EPSCoR Program and the Clark Fork Coalition. The Stevensville tour stop is powered by the Jane S. Heman Foundation.

During the school days of March 15-16, students from Stevensville will participate in guided field trips of the “Water” exhibition. Families and friends are invited to attend a free Family Science Night from 4 to 7 p.m. Thursday, March 16, at Stevensville Middle School.

The spectrUM Discovery Area’s mobile science program travels statewide with hands-on science exhibits and activities guided by museum educators. According to spectrUM Director Holly Truitt, the goal of spectrUM’s mobile
SpectrUM’s ‘Water’ Exhibit to Visit Stevensville March 15-16 - UM News - University Of Montana

outreach is “to inspire Montana’s next generation about STEM and higher education and to help power a vibrant, homegrown workforce in our state.”

Committed to inspiring a culture of learning and discovery for all, UM’s spectrUM Discovery Area serves more than 55,000 Montanans annually through in-museum and mobile programs. Since 2006, spectrUM has traveled exhibits and educators to 73 schools and four public libraries in 31 Montana counties, including all seven American Indian reservations in Montana. In total, spectrUM’s mobile science program has served over 52,000 people, of whom 30 percent are Native American and over 75 percent live in rural communities.

Additional spectrUM sponsors include the National Science Foundation, the National Institutes of Health, the Institute of Museum and Library Services, NASA, the Martin Family Foundation, the Montana Space Grant Consortium, the Simons Foundation, the Bonneville Power Administration, GSK-Science in the Summer, and the O.P. and W.E. Edwards Foundation.

For more information or to book a school visit, call spectrUM Director Holly Truitt at 406-243-4872 or visit http://spectrum.umt.edu.

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Contact: Holly Truitt, director, spectrUM Discovery Area, 406-243-4872, holly.truitt@umontana.edu.
The Minimalists to Speak at UM May 9

March 07, 2017

MISSOULA – Joshua Fields Millburn and Ryan Nicodemus, known as “The Minimalists,” will present an in-depth talk about minimalism at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 9, at the University of Montana’s Dennison Theatre as part of their “Less is Now” tour. After their presentation, they will record a live version of “Ask the Minimalists” for their popular podcast.

Tickets cost $25 for reserved seats or $85 for VIP seats, which include a meet-and-greet event with Millburn and Nicodemus. They go on sale at 2 p.m. Friday, March 10, online at http://www.livenation.com/artists/168012/theminimalists-less-is-now-tour or at http://www.umt.edu/griztix/.

In the pursuit of looking for something more substantial than compulsory consumption and the broken American Dream, Milburn and Nicodemus each walked away from six-figure careers to embark on a new journey of living with less.

Since embracing simplicity as a lifestyle, they have written three books, including the bestselling memoir “Everything That Remains;” launched a popular podcast; cofounded Asymmetrical Press, a publishing house for the indie at heart; embarked on a 100-city international speaking tour; and spoken on high-profile stages including SXSW, TEDx and Apple.
Their new film, “Minimalism: A Documentary About the Important Things,” was the No. 1 indie documentary of 2016.

For more information on The Minimalists visit http://www.theminimalists.com/.

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Contact: Chanelle Paakkonen, marketing coordinator, UM Productions, 406-243-4719, marketing@umproductions.org.
UM Adviser Wins Fulbright Grant for Travel to Korea

March 06, 2017

MISSOULA – Mary Nellis, an international student adviser at the University of Montana, received a 2017-18 Fulbright grant to travel to the International Education Administrators seminar in Korea this June.

Nellis has worked as an international student adviser for UM’s Global Engagement Office: International Students and Scholars Services for more than 10 years. A UM alumna, she began a career in international education as a student employee 15 years ago.

The IEA seminar is the only nonacademic Fulbright award,
designed to help U.S. international education professionals and senior higher education officials create empowering connections with the societal, cultural and higher education systems of other countries. The application process is highly competitive, and only eight awards were granted nationally.

“I am humbled and proud to have received this award and be part of such a prestigious program,” Nellis said. “It is a bit overwhelming, actually, to be included in such an elite group. I am very excited to meet my professional counterparts in Korea and expand my knowledge in the field of international education.”

Grantees spend two weeks in the host country visiting universities and colleges; participating in briefings with faculty and administration, government officials and leading educational experts; and touring historical and cultural sites. Countries currently participating in the IEA seminar include India, Taiwan, Russia, Japan, Korea, France and Germany.

“What excites me most is what I will learn about myself, and how my culture influences my actions both personally and professionally,” Nellis said. “This is at the heart of what I do. It is my passion and why I love working with students and scholars from around the world.”

The Fulbright Program, established in 1946, is overseen by the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. Nellis’ grant is funded through annual appropriations from Congress and contributions by partner countries and the private sector.

Fulbright alumni have become heads of state, judges, ambassadors, cabinet ministers, CEOs, university presidents, journalists, artists, scientists and teachers. The Fulbright Program has had more than 370,000 participants, including 58 Nobel Laureates, 82 Pulitzer Prize winners, 31 MacArthur Fellows, 16 Presidential Medal of Freedom recipients and thousands of leaders across private, public and nonprofit sectors.

To learn more about the Fulbright Program, visit http://www.cies.org/. For more information on the IEA seminar, visit http://www.cies.org/program/fulbright-international-education-administrators-seminars.
Contact: Mary Nellis, international student adviser, UM Global Engagement Office, mary.nellis@mso.umt.edu.
MMAC Welcomes New Masterpiece, Student Art to UM President’s Office

March 06, 2017

MISSOULA – Alex Katz’s “Ann CR,” along with UM student Nicole Scoles’ “Glam Series #1,” is on display at the University of Montana President’s Office reception area in Main Hall through April 28.

Katz’s temporary exhibition is part of the Montana Museum of Art & Culture’s “Visiting Masterpieces,” and Scoles' work will join MMAC’s Permanent Collection. “Visiting Masterpieces” is an ongoing program that highlights masterworks by important historic and contemporary artists on loan from private collections.
Katz, born in 1927, began drawing at an early age while growing up in Queens, New York. He quickly realized he wanted to study art. His high school curriculum allowed him to split his time between academics and the arts, and he found enjoyment studying advertising design. Katz pursued formal art education through undergraduate classes at The Cooper Union.

His early work was inspired by facets of midcentury American culture and society, including television, film and advertising. These sources led to the monumental scale of his mature work, in which intensified lines, contours, colors and shapes balance against figurative subject matter.

Frequently associated with American pop art, Katz's imagery is instantly recognizable — similar to Andy Warhol's silkscreened Marilyns or “Campbell's Soup Cans.” As an easel painter, Katz resists the mechanical means of pop and remains a realist, creating what art historian Robert Storr called “a new and distinctive type of realism in American art which combines aspects of both abstraction and representation.” Katz's unique style is represented in “Ann CR.”

Recently acquired for the Permanent Collection, Scoles' “Glam Series #1,” in pencil and acrylic, hangs nearby in UM's President's Office. In collecting student work, the MMAC strives to recognize student achievement in the visual arts, while encouraging professional development beyond the
University.

The President's Office, located in Room 109 of UM’s Main Hall, is open to the public from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and closed on University holidays.

For more information call Barbara Koostra, MMAC director, at 406-243-2019 or email barbara.koostra@mso.umt.edu.

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Contact: Barbara Koostra, Suzanne and Bruce Crocker director, Montana Museum of Art & Culture, 406-243-2019, barbara.koostra@mso.umt.edu; Jeremy Canwell, MMAC curator of art, 406-243-2019, j Jeremycanwell@mso.umt.edu.
Renaissance Scholar to Lecture at UM on March 13

March 03, 2017

MISSOULA – Professor Sukanta Chaudhuri of Jadavpur University in Calcutta, India, will lecture at the University of Montana at 3:30 p.m. Monday, March 13, in Liberal Arts Building Room 103A-B.

Chaudhuri will deliver a lecture titled “The Wood and the World: Negotiating ‘A Midsummer Night’s Dream.’” The event is presented by UM’s Global Humanities and Religions program and is free and open the public.

Chaudhuri is an eminent Renaissance scholar and the author of several books including “Infirm Glory: Shakespeare and the Renaissance Image of a Man.” He also is the editor of the forthcoming new Arden edition of “A Midsummer Night’s Dream.”

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Contact: Ruth Vanita, director, UM Global Humanities and Religions, 406-243-4894, ruth.vanita@umontana.edu.
MISSOULA – Few Montanans have parlayed an eighth-grade education at a one-room school and backwoods skills into a leadership position in the nation’s conservation movement as effectively as the late Bud Moore. The University of Montana soon will honor him with a film screening on his life.

The movie, “Bud’s Place,” will premiere at 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 15, in the UM University Center Theater. Admission is free, and Moore’s son will introduce the film. A second free showing will take place at 7 p.m. Friday, March 17, in the Seeley Lake Community Hall.

As a young man graduating from Lolo’s Woodman School during the Depression, Moore skied over the hill to the Lochsa country, towing a sled with trapping supplies. Before long, he put his skills as a woodsman to work for the U.S. Forest Service.

Moore eventually became the Clearwater National Forest’s Powell District ranger, the deputy director of the Forest Service’s fire and aviation program in Washington, D.C., and the director of fire and aviation management for the Forest Service’s Northern Region in Missoula. Moore approved the first fire for wilderness management, breaking
the Forest Service tradition of extinguishing all forest fires and catalyzing fire management change across national forests in his most significant act of conservation leadership.

After retirement, Moore moved to the Swan Valley, where he bought 80 acres of grizzly habitat that became “Coyote Forest.” There he ran a small sawmill during the summer and resumed trapping in the Bob Marshall Wilderness during the winter. Moore not only protected Coyote Forest with a conservation easement, but his example encouraged several of his neighbors to do the same. Moore also sat on the early board of directors for the Wilderness Institute, and often lectured for students in UM’s Wilderness and Civilization program.

Documentary filmmaker George Sibley spent the past year producing “Bud’s Place,” which is available on DVD. The Missoula premiere is sponsored by UM’s Wilderness Institute, Vital Ground, the Montana Wilderness Association and the Society of American Foresters.

For more information on the screening, call Wilderness Institute Director Natalie Dawson at 406-243-6956 or email natalie.dawson@umontana.edu.

Contact: Natalie Dawson, director, UM Wilderness Institute, 406-243-6956, natalie.dawson@umontana.edu.
International Women’s Day Event Set at UM

March 02, 2017

MISSOULA – The Student Involvement Network at the University of Montana will host a three-hour event in the University Center Ballroom on Wednesday, March 8, to honor International Women’s Day.

Entry will be a suggested $10 donation that benefits YWCA Missoula.

Opening remarks will be given by members of the Missoula YWCA and UM President Sheila Stearns shortly after 6 p.m. Dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m.

In keeping with the 2017 International Women’s Day theme #BeBoldForChange, at 7:15 p.m. participants will break into small groups to discuss topics that affect women worldwide and what actions will make a difference.

From 8 to 9 p.m., participants will eat dessert, relax and have some fun with activities like a photo booth, essential oils, a community painting project, herb gardens and more.

The suggested $10 donation can be paid at the door or in advance at http://bit.ly/2miVCiS.
For more information on the event, call Hailey Michelson at 406-243-5776, email hailey.michelson@mso.umt.edu, email student coordinator Kathleen Stone at kathleen.stone@mso.umt.edu or visit the Facebook event page at https://www.facebook.com/events/1822503708001819/.

Contact: Hailey Michelson, program adviser for the UM Student Involvement Network and the Branch Center, 406-243-5776, hailey.michelson@mso.umt.edu.
March Brings Array of Irish Activities to UM, Missoula

March 02, 2017

MISSOULA – The University of Montana’s Irish Studies program and The Friends of Irish Studies will host numerous events in the coming weeks to celebrate and honor Irish heritage in Montana.

“By proclamation of the president and Congress of the United States, March is celebrated as Irish American Heritage Month,” said Traolach Ó Riordáin, UM Irish Studies program director. “The Irish will honor the achievements of past generations, recognize the work of those who continue to promote Irish culture and heritage, and invite more people to become actively involved in passing on this rich legacy to the next generation.”

Central to celebration is the St. Patrick’s Day Parade, set for noon Saturday, March 11, in downtown Missoula.

As in previous years, a full slate of activities designed to appeal to all age groups is planned.

The festivities begin with Celtic band Altan in concert at 8 p.m. Tuesday, March 7, at the Dennison Theatre. According to Ó Riordáin, no Irish traditional band in the past dozen years, apart from the Chieftains, has had a wider impact on audiences and music lovers throughout the world than Altan.
“An Irish concert of this quality comes around once every 10 to 15 years,” he said. “It will lift your spirits and whet your appetite for all things Irish and should not be missed.”

Tickets are on sale at all GrizTix locations, by calling 1-888-MONTANA or online at http://www.umt.edu/griztix/. They cost $28 in advance and $30 at the door. Students and Friends of Irish Studies members receive a $2 discount.

The rest of the schedule follows:

**Saturday, March 11**

- **St. Patrick's Mass:** 8 a.m., St. Francis Xavier Church, located at 420 W. Pine St. A traditional Irish Gaelic Mass with Irish music, hymns and readings in the Irish language. A booklet with translations is provided.
- **St. Patrick's Day Parade:** 11 a.m. lineup; noon departure. The parade will depart from Spruce Street and Higgins Avenue and travel over the bridge to Beckwith Avenue. The grand marshal of the parade is Mark “Macey” McLaverty. Community organizations are encouraged to get involved. Entry forms are available at the Missoula Area Chamber of Commerce.
- **St. Patrick's Day Irish whiskey tasting:** 2 p.m., Rhino Bar. Join Kevin Head in sampling some of the finest whiskeys from Ireland’s 3,000-year-old tradition of distillation. The cost per person is $25 and you get to sample eight different beverages.
- **Carousel rides:** 2-4 p.m. Free rides for kids at A Carousel for Missoula. This event is sponsored by the Phil Maloney Division of the Ancient Order of Hibernians.
- **Hurling game:** 2:30 p.m., Washington-Grizzly Stadium. The UM Grizzlies hurling team and the Thomas Meaghers will compete at their annual St. Patrick’s Day clash. Organizers say this will be an intense game and should not be missed. Admission is free, but donations are welcome.
- **St. Patrick's Day Banquet and Auction:** 6-9:30 p.m., Holiday Inn Missoula Downtown. The largest Irish gathering of the year in Missoula culminates the day’s events with a banquet and auction. Proceeds from the event support the Irish Studies program and promote Irish culture in the community. The evening is sponsored by the Friends of Irish Studies. For more information and to buy tickets online, visit http://www.friendsofirishstudies.com.
- **Irish Man and Woman of the Year:** At the banquet and auction, the Irish Man and Woman of the Year will be honored for their contributions to their communities and heritage. This year's recipients are Larry and Mary White, both strong supporters of all things Irish, who will be recognized specifically for their efforts to promote the traditional Irish game of handball. They are part of a local group working to build outdoor courts in Missoula. People interested in learning more about handball or playing the sport should visit http://www.friendsofirishstudies.com or email Rick Harrington at rickhandball@gmail.com.

On Sunday, March 26, the drawing for the Irish Studies raffle will take place at St. Anthony's Parish Life Center, located at 217 Tremont St. First prize is two airline tickets to Ireland, 10-day car rental and $1,500 spending money. Second prize is a $1,000 gas voucher, and third prize is a $500 Visa card. To enter or for more information visit http://www.friendsofirishstudies.com.

The Friends of Irish Studies bring together representatives throughout the state to coordinate efforts to promote UM’s Irish Studies program and Montana’s Irish culture. The Friends put on concerts, bring in guest speakers, sponsor immersion courses in the Irish language, organize an annual trip to Ireland and host other events designed
to foster a community united in their love of Ireland and its culture.

“As with all organizations, membership is the lifeblood of the Friends, and as the membership grows so also will the program of events the Friends can provide,” Ó Riordáin said. “We invite you to join and to ask others to join this exciting organization. Together we can elevate Montana to become home to the most culturally vibrant Irish community in the United States.”

**Contact:** Traolach Ó Riordáin, UM Irish Studies program director, 406-243-6359, traolach.oriordain@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA – High-tech companies are an important component of Montana’s economy, generating more than $1 billion in revenues in 2016 and growing at rates seven times faster than the statewide economy, according to a recent study conducted by the University of Montana Bureau of Business and Economic Research.

The study found that Montana High Tech Business Alliance members were responsible for $1.09 billion in revenues, an increase from $867 million in 2015, and responding nonmember firms generated an additional $487 million.

This third-annual BBER survey, commissioned by the Montana High Tech Business Alliance, includes responses from members of the statewide organization – which include 300 high-tech and manufacturing firms and affiliates – as well as responses from 82 nonmember high-tech and manufacturing companies. It also includes new insights on Montana’s business climate and beneficial business resources.

The study found the high-tech sector expects to add more than 960 new jobs in 2017 that pay average annual salaries of $60,000 – more than twice the median annual earning per Montana worker.
“Our third annual report shows once again the incredible opportunity for the high-tech industry to transform Montana’s economy by bringing high revenues and high-paying jobs into the state,” said Christina Henderson, executive director of the alliance. “But this year’s survey also showed that Montana’s positive business climate and extensive network of business resources – from our universities and nonprofits to mentor companies, banks and government – all play a crucial role in helping Montana entrepreneurs succeed.”

This year’s survey examined perceptions of the climate in Montana for new businesses, as well as various resources within Montana that have been helpful to businesses as they start and grow. The data will be used for a case study on entrepreneurial ecosystems to be completed this spring. The project is a partnership between the Montana High Tech Business Alliance, the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation, the UM Blackstone LaunchPad and MonTEC, UM’s business incubator.

While starting a business in any state can be challenging, 77 percent of alliance members and 63 percent of nonmembers would encourage someone to start a business in Montana, according to the survey.

“All in all, this is a strong endorsement of Montana’s business climate,” said John Baldridge, BBER director of survey research.

Among alliance members, the Montana High Tech Business Alliance was the most often cited beneficial business resource. Montana University System-based resources were cited by substantial proportions of both alliance members and nonmembers. These MUS resources included UM, Montana State University, the UM and MSU Blackstone LaunchPads, MonTEC and the Montana Manufacturing Extension Center.

Government resources and other Montana companies also were important to survey respondents for business, financial and legal mentorship, and advice.

Respondents found the following financial resources most beneficial to their firms: bootstrapping (creating and sustaining a business based on sales and little external funding), private investors and banks. Alliance members were most likely to mention bootstrapping, and nonmembers were most likely to mention banks.

For the third year in a row, the BBER survey found that Montana’s quality of life – its lifestyle, work/life balance, recreational opportunities and natural beauty – provided significant advantages to doing business in the state. Survey respondents also mentioned Montana’s high-quality workforce as a major advantage.

“Missoula is particularly poised for growth due to the underemployment that is prevalent in our area,” said Tom Stergios, senior vice president of strategy and corporate development and general manager of Advanced Technology Group’s Missoula office. “ATG is pleased to have hired nine people already this year and plans to add 25 to 30 more jobs in 2017.”

Stergios said Montana university programs, particularly management information systems, have morphed and are producing instantly impactful employees, which is a significant foundational component to a growing tech economy.

“The 2017 survey shows the positive trend in tech and the definitive proof of the ability to significantly impact the Missoula community,” he said.
As in previous years, respondents mentioned several barriers to faster growth, including attracting talent, hiring skilled technology workers, access to capital and finding new customers. For the first time, challenging market conditions were mentioned as a barrier to growth.

The third annual survey was sent to 242 Montana High Tech Business Alliance member companies and 304 nonmember companies.

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**Note to Media:** Interviews with the Montana High Tech Business Alliance and member companies can be arranged by contacting shannon.furniss@gmail.com or 406-360-7846. Photos and logos may be downloaded at http://mthightech.org/media/press-kit/.

**Contact:** Christina Henderson, executive director, Montana High Tech Business Alliance, 406-552-9157, director@mthightech.org; John Baldridge, director of survey research, UM Bureau of Business and Economic Research, 406-243-5113, john.baldridge@mso.umt.edu.
MISSOULA – Washington Post reporter David Fahrenthold will speak about “Covering President Trump: The inside story from the reporter Trump called a ‘nasty guy’” on Monday, March 13, at the University of Montana. The event is at 7 p.m. in the University Center Ballroom and is free and open to the public.

Fahrenthold spent a year covering the Trump candidacy during the 2016 presidential campaign. He will talk about his work on the campaign trail and about his investigation into the Trump Foundation. Fahrenthold’s stories showed that Trump’s charitable donations were not what they seemed, and Trump eventually announced he...
Washington Post Reporter to Speak at UM - UM News - University Of Montana

would close down his foundation.

Fahrenthold began working for the Post in 2000. He covered everything from homicide scenes in the District to the World Championship Muskrat Skinning Contest. He now covers the Trump administration.

This event is sponsored by the UM School of Journalism. Larry Abramson, dean of the school, said Fahrenthold’s work is important and demonstrates the hard work that goes into creating good journalism.

"Fahrenthold shows that simple but hard-charging investigations can lead to unexpected answers," Abramson said. "His stories speak to our primary obligation as journalists: to ask questions and keep asking until we’ve found the truth. By opening up his notebook to readers, David also helped lend transparency to the journalistic enterprise and showed just how hard we work to get the story right."

The School of Journalism launched in 1914 and has trained generations of journalists in print, broadcast, photography and new media. The school regularly ranks among the top 10 journalism schools in the United States.

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Contact: Larry Abramson, dean, UM School of Journalism, 406-243-4001, larry.abramson@mso.umt.edu.

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Get Involved

Submit a Calendar Event
MISSOULA – The author of “Afterwar: Healing the Moral Wounds of our Soldiers” will present a lecture of the same name during the next installment of the 2016-17 President’s Lecture Series at the University of Montana.

Nancy Sherman, author and Georgetown University philosophy professor, will deliver the Henry Bugbee Lecture on Philosophy at 8 p.m. Monday, March 13, in the Montana Theatre of the Performing Arts and Radio/Television Center. The lecture is in collaboration with UM’s psychology and military science departments.

Sherman also will lead the seminar “Soldiers and Dancers Sharing the Dance Floor” from 3 to 4:30 p.m. the same day in Gallagher Business Building Room 123. The seminar is in collaboration with the Philosophy Forum and, along with the lecture, is free and open to the public.

After receiving a doctorate from Harvard University in 1982, Sherman taught philosophy at Yale University until 1989, when she accepted a position at Georgetown University. From 1997 to 1999, Sherman was the inaugural Distinguished Chair of Ethics at the U.S. Naval Academy. Since 2001 she has been the University Professor of Philosophy at Georgetown. Her research interests include ethics, moral psychology, the history of moral philosophy,
Upcoming President’s Lecture to Explore Veterans’ Moral Wounds - UM News - University Of Montana

ancient philosophy and ethics, military ethics and emotions.

Trained in psychoanalysis at the Washington Psychoanalytic Institute, Sherman has consulted with the U.S. Armed Forces on issues of ethics, resilience and post-traumatic stress. She has lectured at the Uniformed Services University, Walter Reed Army Hospital, the National Defense University, and military academies and bases. Her work with veterans groups has earned high praise. She is a frequent guest on television news programs, and her op-eds appear in newspapers across the country, including The New York Times and The Wall Street Journal.

She also has written half a dozen books on philosophy, as well as how it relates to the military mind.

One critic hailed her 2015 “Afterwar” as a book that “brilliantly explores the moral and philosophical complexities of homecomings for modern veterans.” Another said it revealed “the souls of our soldiers and the wounds that are deeply hidden” with wisdom and compassion.

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

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

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Contact:

Richard Drake, UM history professor and lecture series organizer, 406-243-2981, richard.drake@umontana.edu.
UM English Faculty to Read from New Fiction Book

March 01, 2017

MISSOULA – Kevin Canty, an English professor at the University of Montana, will read from his new novel from 7 to 9 p.m. Tuesday, March 7, at Fact and Fiction Bookstore, located at 220 N. Higgins Ave.

His book, “The Underworld,” is published by W.W. Norton & Co. and tells a fictional story based on a real-life fire that killed 91 men in an Idaho silver mining town in the 1970s. The tale follows Jordan, a young
widow with twin children; David, a college student; and Lyle, a lifelong miner as they struggle with loss in a hard-working, hard-drinking town of prostitutes, priests and bar fights where no one is tough enough to get through undamaged.

“It’s a small working-class town, where people are stuck and secrets always get out, where the collars are blue and college is rare,” Kirkus Reviews writes. “Canty has a keen eye for details in this setting and suitably dry, spare prose...[he] does a fine job of showing how disaster can lacerate a place or people without utterly destroying hope.”

“The Underworld” is Canty’s eighth book. He has written three collections of short stories: “Where the Money Went,” “Honeymoon” and “A Stranger in This World,” and four other novels: “Nine Below Zero,” “Into the Great Wide Open,” “Winslow in Love” and “Everything.”

Canty’s articles, short stories and essays have appeared in the New Yorker, Esquire, Granta, Tin House, GQ, Glimmer Train, Story, the New England Review, Best American Short Stories 2015, Vogue, Details, Playboy, The New York Times, the Oxford American and more. His work has been translated into French, Dutch, Spanish, Catalan, German, Polish, Italian and Japanese.
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**Contact:** Kevin Canty, UM English professor, 406-243-5162, kevin.canty@umontana.edu.