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ESTHER ENGLAND TO SING WEDNESDAY AT MISSOULA CITY BAND CONCERT

MISSOULA --

Mezzo-soprano Esther England, a voice and Opera Workshop instructor at the University of Montana in Missoula, will sing two works during the Missoula City Band's weekly concert at 8:15 p.m. Wednesday, July 16, at Bonner Park.

England will sing "Habanera," an aria from the opera Carmen by Georges Bizet, and "Summertime" from the production Porgy and Bess, a musical featuring songs by George Gershwin. The weekly band concerts are open to the public without charge and are under the direction of Alex Stepanzoff. The band will play a number of works as part of Wednesday's program.

England, who joined the UM faculty in 1969, returned to the Garden City from Munich in Bavaria, South Germany, in June 1974 after completing a 10-month leave-of-absence from UM to sing with various groups overseas.

Besides appearing in numerous music recitals at UM, England has been soloist with the Missoula City Band, Mendelssohn Club and Civic Symphony. While overseas she was alto soloist with the Bavarian Radio Choir and during numerous concerts in several cathedrals. She appeared in Bach's "Passion of St. John" when the scheduled soloist, a well known opera singer from Berlin, became ill at the last minute.

England has been music director of the Bigfork Summer Theater, Bigfork. This spring she sang the mezzo solos in the Missoula Civic Symphony and Chorale's presentation of Beethoven's "Ninth Symphony."