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HISTORY OF WOMEN IN THE WEST COURSES AT UM JULY 6-9

MISSOULA--

How the west was won by women will be the object of study for a series of afternoon and evening courses titled "Montana Foremothers" at the University of Montana from July 6 to 9. The free lectures, films and workshops on the history of women in Montana and the West is sponsored by the Women's Resource Center (WRC) at UM.

According to Fran Knudsen, WRC coordinator, there are "many myths about women in the West; for example, women came to the West only because of the men they were attached to, and that there weren't any professional women who came, and that women in the West were not politically involved."

Knudsen said the purpose of the women's history courses and activities is to examine the "myths and realities affecting our perceptions of our past."

She added that the courses and events are designed for anyone interested in women's history in the West, such as teachers, historians, librarians or anyone who may wish to record a family history.

Following is a list of women's history courses, times, and instructors. Afternoon courses will be in the UM University Center Montana Rooms 361-DE; evening events will be in the Missoula City-County Library meeting room at East Main and Washington .

"The Forgotten History of Montana's Foremothers," lecture, noon to 1 p.m., July 6, by Diane Sands, WRC staff member.

(over)

HISTORY OF WOMEN-- add one

"Great Grandmothers," a Canadian film of the struggles and triumphs of Great Plains pioneer women, and "Seasons of Our Grandmothers," film of the roles, status, contributions and world-view of the Elders, Couer d'Alene tribe, beginning at 1 p.m., July 6.

"Historical Perspective on Native American Women in Montana," lecture on the myths and realities that influence lives of Native American women and cross-cultural understanding, by Elaine Clayborn, acting director and assistant professor, UM Native American Studies program, noon, July 7.

"The Oral History of Illegal Abortion in Montana," lecture by Diane Sands, and "A History of Prostitution," lecture by Paula Petrik, a Helena women's historian, whose article on prostitution appears in the latest issue of Montana History magazine, beginning at 7 p.m., July 7.

"Winning the Vote for Women in Montana," lecture by Belle Winestine of Helena who was personal secretary and campaign worker for Montana Congresswoman Jeannette Rankin, noon, July 8. Public reception will be at 1 p.m.

"Teaching Women's History," skill sharing workshops for practical skills on integrating women's history into classrooms, 4-6 p.m., July 8, UM University Center.

"Recognizing our Past for Our Present Lives and the Future," panel discussion, noon, July 9. Panel members will be Elaine Clayborn; Diane Sands; Audra Browman, a Missoula women's historian; and Claire Rhein, librarian in the UM Mansfield Library Archives.

"Aurelian Paez Jordon, Ranchwoman," a dramatic monologue of a women whose life represents the endurance, sense of humor and life spirit of America's pioneer women, written and performed by Bernice Harris, from Sheridan Wyo., beginning at 7 p.m., July 9. A \$1 donation to defray expenses will be requested.

For more information about the women's history week at UM, interested persons may call the WRC at 243-4153.