

THE MAGAZINE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA | FALL 2017

Montanan

A large osprey is shown in mid-flight, its wings spread wide, as it catches a fish in its talons. The bird is positioned centrally, with its head turned towards the right. The background is a blurred, golden-brown landscape, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. The water below is dark and splashing, indicating the point of capture.

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UM's most famous birds

FALL 2017

VOLUME 34 // NUMBER 3

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PHOTO BY TODD GOODRICH

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An osprey successfully snags a mountain whitefish from the Bitterroot River near Florence in August. The colorful light is courtesy of smoke from the Lolo Peak Fire across the valley.

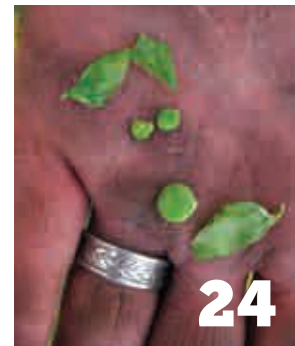
PHOTO BY KATE DAVIS '82

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PLEASE RECYCLE YOUR MONTANAN



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Located on the banks of the Clark Fork River just across from the main campus, the Missoula College Building is open for students.



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Be sure to visit montanan.umt.edu for more photos and exclusive content.

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AROUND THE OVAL

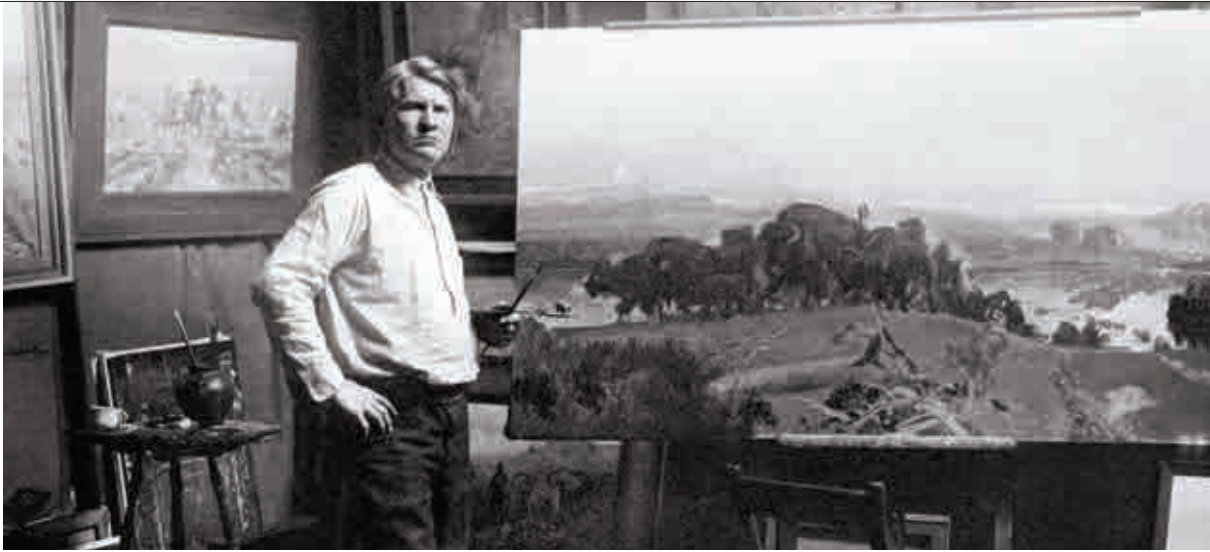


PHOTO COURTESY GILCREASE MUSEUM

RUSSELL'S WORLD

New MontanaPBS documentary explores icon of the American West

BY COURTNEY BROCKMAN '17

A band of Native Americans rides across a wall in Montana's House of Representatives chamber in Helena in a painting done by the man known as the "Patron Saint of Montana."

This artist, chosen to represent Montana in National Statuary Hall in Washington, D.C., is now the subject of a documentary years in the making by MontanaPBS – "Charles M. Russell and the American West."

With co-producer and director Gus Chambers initially coming up with the idea in 2012 and the documentary set to air this year in a three-hour, three-part series at 8 p.m. Nov. 13-15, the first full-length documentary on Russell's life has been a long ride to completion.

Through telling the story of Russell's life, Chambers, co-producer and writer Paul Zalis and executive producer William Marcus hope to tell the story of the American West.

"Russell's fingerprint is all over American Western culture," Zalis says. "Montanans are Montanans in some ways because Charlie Russell helped remember who we all were a hundred-plus years ago."

Growing up a cowboy, Russell knew how to paint a more accurate picture of the American West later used for film and television. A "common man's artist," he produced 4,000 pieces of artwork featured on items from calendars to cigar boxes.

"I grew up in Wibaux, and I'd sit in the barbershop in Wibaux, getting my hair cut," Marcus says. "And all around the top of the barbershop were old calendars with Russell prints."

For the documentary, MontanaPBS pieced together Russell's life through his artwork and illustrated letters and spoke to everyone from biographers, historians and museum directors to a Hollywood

scriptwriter and New Mexican cowboy. Voices for the documentary come from a host of actors, including UM alumnus and Academy Award-winner J.K. Simmons '78 as the narrator.

"We did not want this to be too scholarly," Chambers says. "So, for every scholar, we had an everyman – someone connected to the Russell world, but who hadn't spent their life studying it in a mausoleum."

Russell's motivation for creating his artwork was far from monetary or a desire for fame. His wife, Nancy, a businesswoman, turned him into a national icon by bringing his artwork to the world.

Completely self-taught, Russell only spent three days in art school before dropping out. He had an enormous natural talent and a memory of landscapes and the people on it. He never painted on location.

"The guy had this photographic memory, so he could just spend a short time with anyone, and somehow it just stayed in his head," Chambers says.

Perhaps the most fascinating element in Russell's paintings is his representation of Native Americans. Often from their perspectives, his paintings featured Native Americans in the foreground as a part of the natural landscape, larger than whatever was on the horizon – whether it was a train, steamboat or explorers.

A fun personality, Russell also was known for dedication to his friends, especially the cowboys from the plains he stayed in contact with his whole life.

"To him, friendship was the most important thing in life," Zalis says. "And I think that speaks to Montanans, too – just friendship, community, our sense of history – I think that's what Charlie's speaking to."

For more information on the documentary, visit <http://www.montanapbs.org/CMRussellAmericanWest/>.

G. M. Russell and the American West



Premiering this Fall

Free screenings across Montana:

Great Falls, Sept 9 (world premiere)

Helena, September 10

Bozeman, September 23

Billings, September 30

Missoula, October 6

Butte, October 8

Kalispell, October 14

Locations and times at montanapbs.org

Broadcast on MontanaPBS, Nov. 13-14-15 at 8:00 p.m.



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THE PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

PHOTO BY TODD GOODRICH



President Sheila Stearns watches the solar eclipse Aug. 21 on the Oval.

On Aug. 21, I watched the solar eclipse “through a glass darkly” along with a crowd of folks who gathered on the Oval here on campus. Though not 100 percent totality, I enjoyed visiting with our campus community out in force to witness celestial history.

Do you remember the movie “Apollo 13” based on real-life events with that particular mission to the moon? In the film, a group of scientists must create a CO₂ filter using only materials available to the astronauts in the lunar module. Before they even begin, many express skepticism and

fear about the daunting task. Gene Kranz, the NASA flight director (played by Ed Harris), directs the team, saying, “Let’s work the problem, people.” In the next scene, they are tossing a box of materials onto a table and trying prototypes.

There are parallels to our current challenges at UM and how we seek answers to move forward. To be clear, this is no life-and-death space mission. Still, our challenges are real. For some, the process of significant change makes us uneasy. We are responding to declining enrollment with a thoughtful plan to serve current and new students. We are advancing specific opportunities in a new “Strategic Vision: Creating Change Together.” We are providing education demanded by today’s workforce, yet honoring UM’s rich tradition in the humanities as the foundation for every professional path.

Through private gifts and internal allocation, we are investing in lovely classrooms with current technology. We are expanding online education through Project Reconnect for former students. Expanded online programs will improve retention and persistence to graduation. These initiatives and many more are as inspiring to me as the scene from “Apollo 13.”

We will not just work the problem but also embrace it throughout fall semester. The Academic Programs and Administrative Services Prioritization Task Force is preparing an ambitious report to evaluate UM’s programs and services. The process enables us to make strategic investments and changes.

Another way we work the problem is to achieve record-breaking philanthropy and research. Soon we will welcome the next University of Montana president. Just as the Apollo scientists focused on creative solutions given their operational constraints and strengths, so shall the people at the heart of this historic University pull together for success.

In a later scene in the movie, as others are contemplating the possibility of failure, Kranz says, “With all due respect, sir, I believe this is going to be our finest hour.” Regardless of whether these quotes are historically accurate (artistic license makes for a good Hollywood ending), the message rings as true to me today as it did in my brief recollection of the movie while watching the solar eclipse: We are working the problem. I immodestly predict that after much hard work in our 125th anniversary year, the University of Montana also will experience its finest hour.

Go Griz!

Sheila Stearns, President

“Notable & Quotable”

➤ **UM has been accredited** by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities since 1932, and the commission recently gave the University high marks during the culmination of its latest seven-year review by renewing UM’s accreditation with no recommendations. “It’s unusual to have accreditation reaffirmed with no recommendations,” says Nathan Lindsay, the UM associate provost for dynamic learning who spearheaded accreditation efforts. “The many people who worked on this report have been delighted with the positive feedback we received.”

➤ **Thanks to a recent anonymous gift**, academic chairs honoring two educators – Maryfrances Shreeve ’57, M.Ed. ’63, and her son, William C. Shreeve ’54, M.Ed. ’58 – have been established at the Phyllis J. Washington College of Education and Human Sciences. The chairs, the Maryfrances Shreeve Chair in Teaching Excellence and the William C. Shreeve Chair in Educational Administration, are the first for the college and are among the academy’s highest honors. “There are no words to adequately describe our deep appreciation for these gifts,” says Roberta Evans, dean of the college. “It is incredibly generous and highly visionary of this special donor to honor these two individuals this way.”

➤ **Missoula College received a grant** to develop the state’s first veterans studies course. The grant, funded through the National Endowment for the Humanities and secured with the help of U.S. Sen. Jon Tester, will allow Missoula College to design a class to help students understand the unique experiences of veterans and their families. Only a handful of institutions across the country offer similar courses or programs, and this class will be the first of its kind at a Montana university.

➤ **The School of Journalism** named Associate Professor Nadia White the new director of its graduate program in Environmental Science and Natural Resource Journalism. White assumes the role as Associate Professor Henriette Lowisch departs for a new position as director of Deutsche Journalistenschule, one of the finest journalism schools in Germany.



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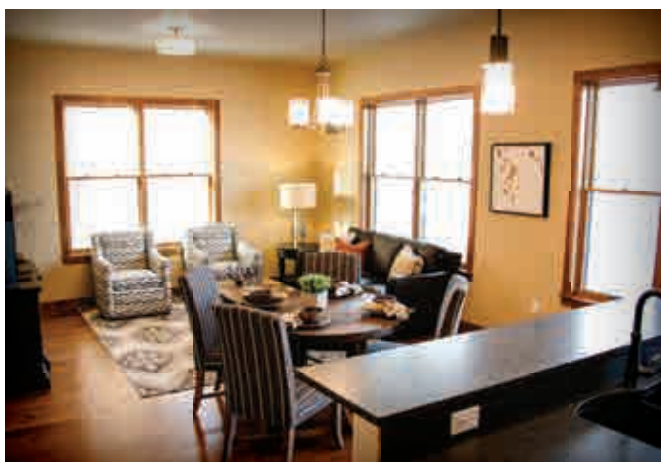
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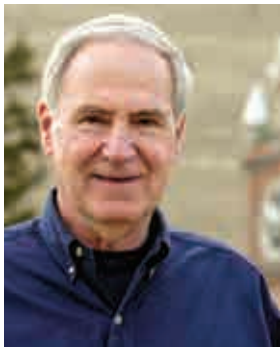
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Five Receive 2017 Distinguished Alumni Award

THE OUTSTANDING ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF FIVE UM ALUMNI ARE BEING RECOGNIZED WITH THE UNIVERSITY'S 2017 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD.

William Finnegan M.F.A. '78, Harry Fritz M.A. '62, Ramakrishna Nemani Ph.D. '87, Robert "Bob" Seim '59 and James "Scott" Wheeler '69 will be honored at an Oct. 13 ceremony during Homecoming. The Distinguished Alumni Award is the highest honor presented by the UM Alumni Association.

An award-winning journalist and staff writer for *The New Yorker* since 1987, **Finnegan**, of New York City, has spent the majority of his career writing in-depth features on conflicts at home and abroad, reporting on everything from apartheid in South Africa to the politics of immigration reform in the U.S. In 2016, Finnegan's surfing memoir, "Barbarian Days: A Surfing Life," won a Pulitzer Prize. The *New York Times* best-seller chronicles his "youthful obsession" during his formative years as he traveled the world looking for the next big wave. He has earned numerous accolades for his reporting as well, and his research and reporting have resulted in several nonfiction publications, including "Cold New World: Growing Up in a Harder Country."

An active and respected scholar and a generous colleague and mentor, **Fritz**, of Missoula, is known above all as an engaging and dedicated teacher who shared his passion for history with thousands of students as a professor at UM for 50 years. Few historians bring to the lectern as much energy, good humor and sheer love of storytelling as Fritz; fewer still can do so with his democratic unpretentiousness. Fritz's service to the state of Montana has been recognized by a host of awards and commendations, and he extended his public service beyond the classroom by serving two terms in the Montana House of Representatives and one in the Senate.

A pioneer in satellite-driven ecological forecasting technology, **Nemani**, of Sunnyvale, California, is the director of NASA's Ecological Forecasting Laboratory. His work, which he started at UM, is the basis of the current weekly monitor of global plant production produced by the NASA Earth Observing System, a unique dataset used by scientists worldwide. Nemani, whose rank of Senior

Research Scientist is attained by only one in 1,000 NASA employees, developed and leads a modeling framework called the Terrestrial Observation and Prediction System. TOPS produces ecological nowcasts and forecasts using satellite and climate data and is a crucial tool used in global carbon monitoring, helping address issues related to water, natural hazards, carbon emissions and sequestration, agricultural productivity, public health and urban planning.

Seim, of Missoula, has distinguished himself as a physician, community leader, nonprofit board member and mentor. After earning his medical degree and becoming board-certified, Seim served in the U.S. Army before establishing a long career in orthopedic surgery in Missoula and at the Kalispell Veterans Administration Hospital. Following his retirement in 2015 after three decades at Missoula Bone and Joint, Seim continued to serve Montana veterans through his work with VA orthopedic clinics. He's also demonstrated steadfast commitment to his community and the University over the years as a longtime and active member of the Missoula Rotary Club and by serving on the boards of the Grizzly Scholarship Association, UM Alumni Association and UM Foundation.

After graduating from UM, **Wheeler**, of Kalispell, joined the U.S. Army and was commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant, beginning his long, distinguished military career. He served several years overseas, including in Vietnam, before earning advanced degrees in history at the University of California, Berkeley. He then served a year as a White House Fellow in the U.S. Department of Energy before becoming a history professor at West Point. Wheeler retired from the military and returned to Montana to pursue his love of history, publishing several books, including "Cromwell in Ireland." He's also served as a senior military analyst for the U.S. Army in Europe, and he leads tours of historic battlefields throughout Europe for the Department of Defense.

**THE
BOTTOM
LINE:**

\$88M:

Record-breaking amount of new research funding UM brought in during fiscal year 2017 to support homegrown research, entrepreneurship and statewide outreach

25:

Iraqi students UM welcomed as part of July's Iraqi Young Leaders Exchange Program; UM was one of only four schools selected as host



PHOTO BY TODD GOODRICH

TOBIN MILLER SHEARER,

an associate history professor who was voted Best UM Professor in the Missoula Independent's "Best of Missoula," recently completed his "#ride4blacksolidarity." The weeklong, 500-mile bicycle journey around Montana raised funds and awareness for UM's Black Student Union and African-American Studies Program – the country's third oldest program of its kind. "The Montanans I spoke with during the ride were eager, interested and capable of having in-depth, informed and respectful conversations about African-American history in our state even during this time of heightened racial tension across our country," says Shearer. "I also learned that you have to eat a ton of food to stay fueled up when riding 500 miles in the space of a week. I mean a lot of food." UM's African-American Studies Program will mark a half century of existence in 2018. Shearer, who directs the program, says UM will host esteemed historian Darlene Clark Hine for a Presidential Lecture Series talk on Feb. 12, and his students are planning the Black Solidarity Summit for Feb. 17-18.

PHOTO BY TODD GOODRICH

PHOTO COURTESY OF JUDY KAZAK

Kindl Chewning, Sadie Framness and Ruriko Ebara, from left, take a break during a rehearsal of Tim Ryan Rouillier's "Play Me Montana," a musical performed in June at the Dennison Theatre. Chewning and Ebara, UM Entertainment Management students, were assistant stage managers, and Framness, a theatre and dance major, was the stage manager. "We had more than 100 people on stage, including the Missoula Symphony, and more than half that number had a connection to UM," says UMEM Director Mike Morelli. Rouillier says the show was a huge success. "None of this would have been possible though without the assistance of Mike Morelli and his incredible students," he says. "Together, they covered all aspects of the staging and production and went beyond all expectations with their knowledge and work ethic. I was not only grateful and impressed, but also proud. They are the reason why UMEM is stronger than ever and in great shape for the years to come."

**WHERE'S YOUR GRIZ BEEN?**

JUDY KAZAK '67 sports her Griz T-shirt on a trip to Africa. "I recently spent two weeks in Ndola, Zambia, Africa, with a medical mission team from Orphan Medical Network International. This is a picture of me with Teddy Kasongo, the headmaster of the school that we sponsor."

Congratulations, Judy! You have won a \$50 gift card for The Bookstore at UM.

Do you have a photo of yourself wearing Griz gear in an amazing place or while on an incredible adventure? If so, send it along with a brief description to themontan@umontana.edu. Winners will see their photo published in the Montanan and will receive a \$50 gift card to The Bookstore at UM. To be considered, photos must be in focus with the UM or Griz logo clearly visible.



382: Schools – UM included – on the Princeton Review's 2018 list of top institutions in North America

\$84.5M: Record-breaking amount of private-support dollars the UM Foundation raised at the close of fiscal year 2017

43: UM's national ranking in home attendance for Lady Griz games



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FRESH DIGS

The Washington-Grizzly Champions Center, a brand-new, 51,000-square-foot facility, opens this fall. Along with new weight rooms and meeting rooms for all Griz athletes, the center will house the football team's locker room. The Montanan got a sneak peak at the lockers that the players will use. Each locker is 96 inches tall and 33 inches wide, and there are 116 lockers total in the new locker room. The lockers are made from cherrywood and feature stainless steel accents, hooks and hardware embellished with the Griz logo. They also come equipped with an individual ventilation system, which will dry out the equipment and cut down on odor. They also feature a donor nameplate. The lead gift for the \$14 million project was from Kyle and Kevin Washington on behalf of the Dennis and Phyllis Washington Foundation. Hundreds of others donors contributed, too.

PHOTO BY TODD GOODRICH



The Griz ziplining in Costa Rica

The Griz men's basketball team took the trip of a lifetime this past summer, traveling to Costa Rica as part of an international tour, allowed once every four years by the NCAA. "It was an incredible experience for each person individually and for our team as a whole," head coach Travis DeCuire says. The advantages on the court are apparent: The Griz got to spend two weeks leading up to the trip practicing, something most teams are unable to do until September. They also scrimmaged two teams while abroad. Off the court, the benefits were greater, including the day when the Griz served at a local orphanage. "Sometimes we think our lives are rough because we only have those surrounding us to compare them to," DeCuire says. "Our time at the orphanage was a chance for us to reflect on the opportunities that we've been given and to try and make the most of them."

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BY SARAH RUHL

FEB 21-25, 28-MAR 4

Dance in Concert

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**FACETIME:****ALISON FISKER '02**

When Alison Fisker left UM in 2002 with her communication studies degree in hand, she never dreamed she would one day be working for the entertainment company that owns "Star Wars."

"I'm actually sitting here looking at my diploma and the beautiful picture of Main Hall that I have framed in my office," Fisker says from San Francisco. "UM gave me the education and skills I needed to embark on a career in public relations, and 15 years later, I'm here at Lucasfilm overseeing corporate communications."

An online job search led Fisker to Lucasfilm two and a half years ago, and she now manages all company communications for its thousands of employees. From planning traditional annual events to representing Lucasfilm at Star Wars Celebration and other major fan gatherings, Fisker has been a Force at the company.

What is it like to help bring "Star Wars" to a new generation with "Rogue One" and "The Force Awakens?" I almost don't know how to describe it. I came to Lucasfilm the year before we launched "The Force Awakens." That was the first movie we launched with Disney, so it was exciting, and obviously the whole world was excited. I felt lucky to be inside the company and be a part of such an epic movie release. Every day we would just shatter records – every sort of box office and theatrical record.

But it's pretty spectacular to see the evolution. "Star Wars," when I was growing up, was really just kind of for boys, or at least just my brother or my young guy friends that were into "Star Wars." And I feel like there's a new generation of "Star Wars" fans that are girls. We have these amazing, strong characters like Rey and Jyn and some of the other characters that little girls can look up to. And it's a nice change from Disney princesses.

Have you met George Lucas? How would you describe him? I have been at several events where George has been – "The Force Awakens" premiere and Star Wars Celebration – and I see him around the building sometimes (he is our landlord now). He's a very quiet, but funny guy. He doesn't play into all of the hype. He's very down to earth.

I've really only met him once, and it was a special occasion. We were hosting a Make-A-Wish kid at Skywalker Ranch, and George just happened to be in the office that day, so we surprised the boy with a tour of George's office – which is off-limits to all guests – and a meet-and-greet with George. The boy and his family were speechless. It nearly brought me to tears. George was so kind and asked the boy a few questions, showed him where he does his writing and some special "Star Wars" items in his office. He was so gracious. The boy idolizes George and asked him so

Alison Fisker works on the Lucasfilm campus George Lucas built in the Presidio of San Francisco. "Even though he is retired now, his creative vision and passion for innovation are still very much a part of our company's DNA today," she says.

many great questions in return. It was really special to see them bond over "Star Wars." **So you help plan the Summer Picnic?** The Summer Picnic was something that George Lucas started almost 40 years ago, and it started off very, very small. It was a potluck, and you had to bring a salad. It has now grown into one of our biggest annual traditions, and people look forward to it every year. We get to go to Skywalker Ranch, which George owns, so I help plan that. It's a time when employees get to bring their families and just kind of celebrate everything that we do.

What makes "Star Wars" fans so unique?

I don't get to work directly with our fans all that often, but I do attend Star Wars Celebration, which is our annual fan convention, and I'm always so impressed with the level of dedication the fans put into their costumes for the show. I had no idea the level of detail and intricacy they put into their cosplays. It's impressive. I also love seeing families all dressed up in "Star Wars" costumes – multigenerational fans. We have a tattoo booth at Celebration, and they're busy all weekend cranking out "Star Wars" tattoos for fans. Now that is serious dedication. (I do not have a "Star Wars" tattoo, by the way). Fans fly from all around the world to attend Celebration, which is a three- to four-day event. That can't be cheap year after year, but they look forward to it.

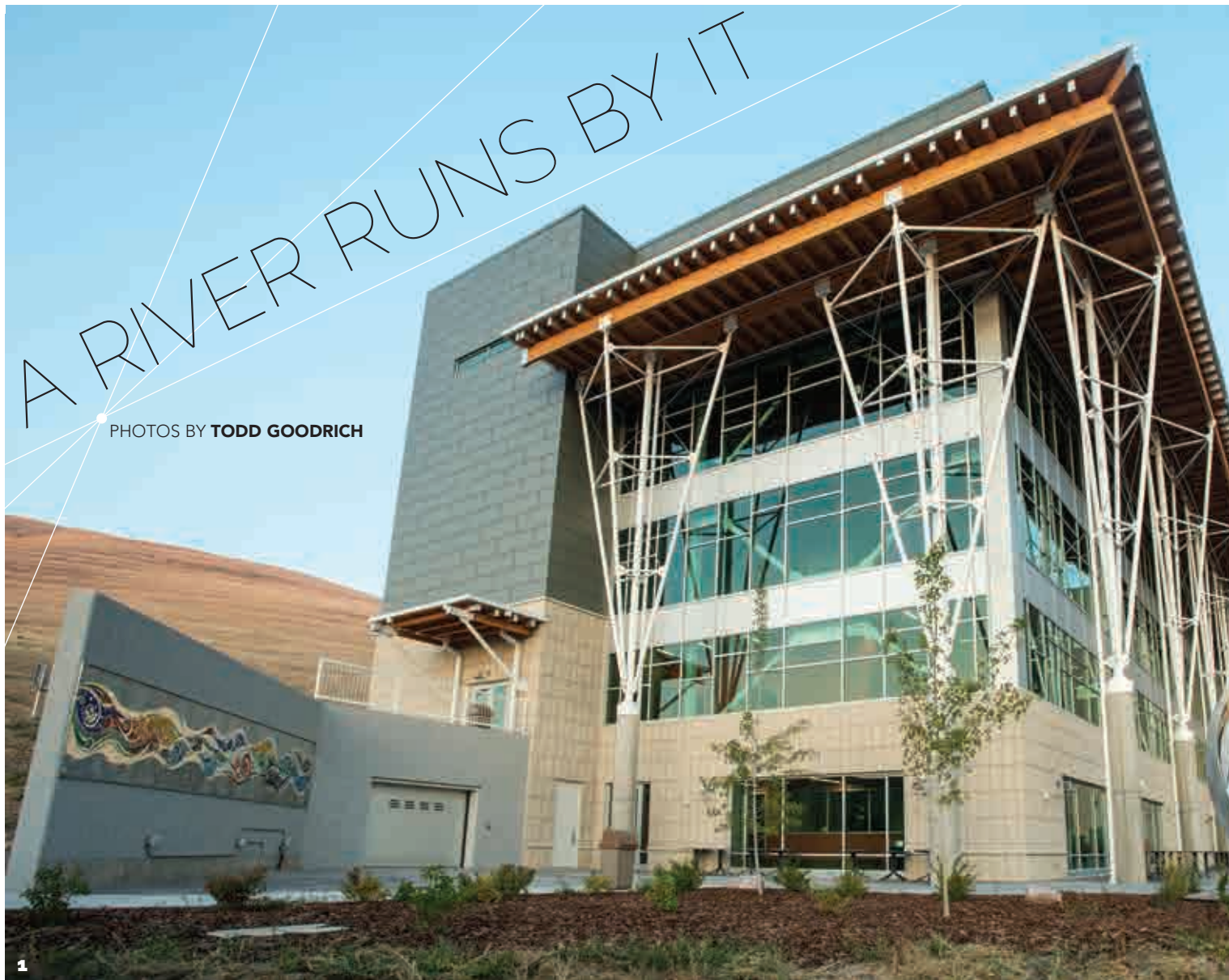
Do you have a favorite "Star Wars" movie?

I love "A New Hope," Episode Four. I just love the kind of vintage classic feel of that movie and young Han Solo and Princess Leia. I think that's probably always going to be my favorite, and it's the first one I ever saw. But now with the new generation and having worked on "Rogue One," I think "Rogue One" is probably my latest favorite. It also just happens to be the movie my name is in the credits, so that was a really special moment. And I just feel really proud of that movie.

– Interview by Courtney Brockman '17

A RIVER RUNS BY IT

PHOTOS BY **TODD GOODRICH**



1



5



4

Clockwise:

1. The Missoula College Building is seen from the Clark Fork River's edge looking east.
- 2: An art mosaic decorates an outside space.
- 3: A meeting room on the second floor is put to use.
- 4: Health professions students have ample lab space to learn.
- 5: The Blackfoot Café is one of the teaching labs used by the Culinary Arts program.

NEW MISSOULA COLLEGE BUILDING OPENS DOORS TO STUDENTS



Y

ears of hard work, determination and cooperation came to fruition this past summer as the brand-new Missoula College building opened its doors.

"It's dignified," says Missoula College Dean Shannon O'Brien. "That's the word I use over and over. This space offers our students the dignity they deserve."

The old Missoula College was notoriously overcrowded and spread throughout a number of buildings and trailers.

Now, what's been dubbed "River Campus" is home to state-of-the-art equipment and technology, including three Culinary Arts kitchens, a cybersecurity center with two lab facilities, a math learning center, a cadaver lab and a bolstered library with expanded resources.

"The building speaks volumes for the funding investment made by the Montana Legislature and the governor," O'Brien says, "not to mention the hundreds and hundreds of people who advocated for it. Our state recognizes the value of two-year education and the impact it has directly on the workforce and the economy. Our new space symbolizes that."





Flying Lessons

Montana Osprey Project brings beauty,
knowledge, inspiration and a bit of
drama to fans worldwide

BY ERIKA FREDRICKSON

It's usually the rare bird that wins all the praise, but when it comes to ospreys, being common is one of its most magnificent traits.

Ospreys are tied to fish and clean water, they are incredibly tolerant

of human activity, and people love watching them plummet out of the sky to catch fish. For the past decade, the University of Montana-based Montana Osprey Project, which is made up of a team of scientists, educators and students, has used ospreys to learn about the health of our streams, rivers and lakes, as well as bring information about our environment to thousands of people around the world through social media and online bird cams.

Left: An osprey chick is banded before being quickly returned to its nest.

Above: Iris, the female osprey who is the star of the Hellgate Canyon nest cam, can be identified by the unique pattern of dots on her iris.



Central to the story of the Montana Osprey Project is an osprey named Iris. For more than 10 years, the project has monitored her life as she returns to Montana each spring. Iris is named for the distinctive dots in her iris, which allow her to be identified when she returns every spring with a high-resolution webcam overlooking her nest. Clips on YouTube show Iris raising chicks, eating fish from the waters of the Clark Fork and weathering the harsh wind whipping furiously past her nest at the mouth of the Hellgate Canyon. Sometimes there are small dramas: One clip captures Iris and her mate building their nest, tugging together on a stick as if they were newlyweds disagreeing where the living room couch should go.

"It is a soap opera," says UM wildlife biologist Erick Greene, with a laugh. "And Iris is a rock star."

The Montana Osprey Project is a three-pronged project focused on environmental research, education and conservation. The project's webcam in Hellgate Canyon started out as another way for researchers to monitor the birds, and soon thousands of people in more than 200 countries were riveted by the ospreys.

"It's become part of the education we do," Greene says. "And it's taken on a life of its own."

The project began as a long-term study of osprey ecology and heavy metal contamination in Montana's upper Clark Fork River and its tributaries. A century of copper mining in Butte

and Anaconda led to heavy metals – arsenic, cadmium, zinc, lead and copper – settling behind Milltown Dam near Missoula. In 2005, when the decision was made to remove the dam and restore the watershed, raptor expert Robert Domenech realized there was an opportunity to track the results of the cleanup with the help of ospreys.

Ospreys sit at the top of the aquatic food chain, so heavy metals in sediments magnify by about 10,000-fold by the time they reach the bird's system.

"Ospreys are the canaries in the coal mine when it comes to the health of that ecosystem," Domenech says.

Domenech was already neck-deep in migratory golden eagle research at the Raptor View Research Institute, which he started in 2004. Nevertheless, in 2006, he began work on an osprey project with Heiko Langner, then-director of UM's Environmental Biogeochemistry Lab. Of particular importance to the project was Domenech's uncle, Dave Taylor, who owned a boom truck as part of his roofing company. Taylor would drive Domenech everywhere, from Warm Springs to St. Regis, using the truck to lift him up to the nests. He'd capture the osprey chicks, take blood samples and measure toxic substances in the lab.

Two years into the project, Domenech brought Greene on board and the project continued to snowball. In 2012, they published a paper on an unexpected element they were finding in the birds' systems: mercury. Mercury has long been used in gold and silver mining, especially in Flint Creek near Philipsburg. And though it's much more regulated today, highly toxic remnants are still in the ecosystem.

The researchers also noticed other important environmental issues that could be solved with just a little community effort. Baling twine, for instance, is a favorite material on osprey nests, but the birds get tangled up in it and many die.

"We could have a positive impact regionally by just cleaning up baling twine on our land," Domenech says, "and then we wouldn't have birds swinging from their nests. What's going on with raptors is a reflection of what's happening with the ecosystem as a whole."



‘Just add water’

Ospreys are found on every continent except Antarctica. And in many places in western Montana, Greene says, you’re almost guaranteed to be just a few miles from an osprey nest at any given time. That makes them the perfect ambassadors for education.

“They are the most tolerant raptor of any raptor species,” Greene says. “Just add water and you’ve got osprey.”

Over the past 10 years, the Montana Osprey Project has taken tens of thousands of people out to see osprey nests as part of its educational mission. Another educational effort is Wings Over Water, which is funded through the Montana NASA Space Grant Consortium and managed by researcher and educator Jenelle Dowling at the Montana Natural History Center. It involves bringing scientists into the classrooms and working with teachers to create STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) lessons based around the topic of ospreys.

In June, five middle school teachers were invited to UM for an intensive five-day training workshop where they learned about osprey biology, the physics of flight, GPS technology and the Environmental Biogeochemistry Lab. As experts in their own field, the teachers thought about how to apply what they learned.

Above: UM biologist Erick Greene examines an osprey chick before returning it to its nest.

Right: At a Montana Osprey Project public banding event, raptor expert Rob Domenech shows an osprey to members of the community.

“Every day we worked on the curriculum,” Dowling says. “And the teachers figured out how to present these lessons in classrooms, but they also worked with experts to get an idea of how they can incorporate this research into their lessons.”

A few weeks ago, after taking the workshop, Seeley Lake teacher Patti Bartlett spotted a new osprey nest on the top of a utility pole in town.

“I called the power company and they said they’d have to tear the nest down,” she says. “And I thought, ‘What a perfect opportunity.’”

Bartlett plans to work with the Montana Osprey Project and the Missoula Electric Co-op to have her students build a platform so the nest can be moved from the dangerous spot on the power lines and closer to their classroom.

“I can hardly wait,” Bartlett excitedly says. “You couldn’t ask for a more perfect learning opportunity for the kids. When kids invest in the place they live, then they become better stewards of the land. And that’s my goal.”

World Wide Web

In 2011, Greene and his colleagues set up a camera at the Hellgate Canyon nest. They wired it through Riverside Health Care Center, whose elderly clients enjoyed watching the osprey from their window and a live feed in the lobby. Iris and her mate, Stanley, had a successful brood of chicks that year, and everything was looking good for them.

A couple of years after launching the camera, Greene started getting checks in the mail that added up to thousands of dollars.

Each check was made out to the osprey project in honor of a woman named Peggy Taylor-Miles, who Greene didn’t know. He discovered she was a bird lover from Oregon who had been diagnosed with ovarian cancer in 2012. During her long hours of treatment, she became a huge fan of the Hellgate osprey cam. When she died in 2013, Taylor-Miles’ family asked people to remember her by donating to the Montana Osprey Project.

“When I started getting all this money, I phoned her husband,” Greene says. “I said, ‘We don’t have a way to support student researchers working on the project. Would you mind if we make a special account in Peggy’s name to support students?’ He said, ‘Let me think about it ... Yes!’”

Taylor-Miles never got to visit Missoula, but her family came out to the osprey nest after her death to accept a plaque dedicated to her. Later that year, when Iris and Stanley hatched two chicks, they were named Taylor and Miles in her honor.

The past three years have been tough on Iris. She and her mate, Stanley, lost their eggs to a hailstorm in 2015. The next year, Stanley didn’t return to the nest, which created some sadness in the osprey cam community. Ospreys mate for life, which means he probably didn’t survive. Iris ended up pairing with a new mate, Louis. Most recently, Louis and Iris lost their chicks this past spring after difficult fishing conditions led to their starvation. It was hard on everyone, but Greene used the opportunity to talk with osprey fans about the challenges wildlife face.



Making connections

The 2014 announcement that the new Missoula College Building would be constructed along the river off East Broadway was exciting for a lot of people, but for Greene it was cause for concern. Designs for the building showed it would butt up against the osprey nest. Greene immediately called then-UM President Royce Engstrom and insisted they go to lunch.

"I bought him a sandwich and a coffee and took him over to the site," Greene says. "I said, 'Congratulations. You're going to build a building here, so you have to know about this osprey nest.'"

"You're going to build a building here, so you have to know about this osprey nest."

He told Engstrom about the osprey cam and its millions of fans. He talked about the two UM Foundation accounts where people from all over the world donate money to the project. He told him about the students who come to UM each year to participate in osprey research. That same day, Engstrom made an executive decision: Missoula College would be built on the other side of the lot, giving the osprey nest wider berth.

That was a big win for the project, but there were still challenges ahead. The building of the college itself had the potential to disrupt Iris and Stanley's lives and drive them away, so the project required a company that would be sensitive to the birds. UM chose Jackson Contracting for the job. Builders aren't used to considering birds – they have important timelines to meet – but eventually they were fully on board.

"On top of their timeline, in their construction war room, they had written Iris and Louis's timetable, too: when they would return to the nest, their courtship and egg-laying times," Greene says. "And they built their construction timeline around the birds so they wouldn't be disturbed. And so, even though there was an empty osprey nest 200 yards away that they could have gone to during the construction, they didn't abandon this nest. They stayed. And that is really special."

As the building neared completion, Greene approached Missoula College Dean Shannon



Greene checks out the Hellgate Canyon nest near the new Missoula College Building this past spring.

Louis, incubating eggs on the left, and Iris, quite possibly UM's most famous duo



O'Brien. He knew it was important that the college, now also overlooking the nest, be invested in the osprey. He also had ideas for how the college could integrate the osprey into their studies.

Fortunately, O'Brien is an osprey fan and a proponent of progressive education. She recalls living near an osprey nest when she was a child and learning from her dad about them. That curiosity, she says, is part of the reason she was already eager to meet with Greene. She gave him a small office on the third floor of the building, where he could observe the nest.

The conversations about how Missoula College might incorporate osprey research have been fruitful. The nursing program is interested in the way osprey could help students understand the human health impacts of mercury. And Greene is hoping to get welding and micro-electronic students to help build osprey perches fitted with digital scales for weighing the birds and the fish the birds bring back to the nest. In addition, computer technology and marketing classes could work on projects involving the webcam.

"That camera creates worldwide awareness of Missoula and Missoula College," O'Brien says. "But it also helps our students and faculty think of the world around them. We need connectedness in our society. And this is a phenomenal way to be connected."

Greene also collaborated with the Cornell Lab of Ornithology in Ithaca, New

York, to upgrade to a high-definition fiber-optic camera, which they now run through the computer system at Missoula College. The lab's bird-cam project leader, Charles Eldermire, a UM graduate, flew to Missoula to help set it up.

"Erick is a great spokesperson and really an empathetic person to the community," Eldermire says. "The combination of his ability to talk about the science but also to connect with people has made it a really impactful camera."

Recently, a new coffee-table book about the project, called "The Call of the Osprey" by Dorothy Hinshaw Patent and photographer Bill Muñoz, won a prestigious award for the best STEM book for middle school and high school kids in the world. These kinds of successes prove something Greene is certain of: Osprey inspire people. He hopes one day that the curriculum and research the Montana Osprey Project develops will make its way to places around the world for everyone to engage with.

After all, there's plenty of osprey to go around. 



Erika Fredrickson is the arts editor at the Missoula Independent. She graduated from UM's Creative Writing Program in 1999 and received a master's degree in environmental studies in 2009.

 Webcam link: http://cams.allaboutbirds.org/channel/27/Hellgate_Ospreys/



alumni profile

A TRAVELER'S PATH

BY JACOB BAYNHAM

Determination, adventurous heart help Brian Morgan build a business around doing what he loves best – exploring the world



Adventure Life founder Brian Morgan kayaks in Glacier Bay National Park in Alaska.



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BRIAN MORGAN'S LIFE MAY HAVE TAKEN

an entirely different course were it not for a well-positioned stranger on a return flight to Missoula.

It was 1997. Morgan had just graduated from the University of Montana with a master's degree in economics and was on his way home from a job interview in Washington, D.C. The interview

went great, and Morgan was offered the job – a consulting gig for the government. It was a big break for a kid from Montana.

And then fate intervened, via seat assignment.

Morgan had always enjoyed visiting with strangers, so naturally he struck up a conversation with the man next to him. He told him about the job. Perhaps the man recognized some hesitation in young Morgan, standing as he was, at the threshold of his future. The man asked Morgan about his values and what he wanted in life.

"He didn't tell me what to do, he just asked me these questions that made me self-reflect," Morgan says. "By the end of the flight, I had decided that I couldn't take a job yet. I needed to go travel one more time."

So he did. On the advice of some Ecuadorians, he bought a plane ticket to Quito.

"I had no idea where it was," he says. "I didn't know hello from goodbye when I arrived. But I had this level of confidence that whatever I was going to do would be better for me."

By the time he left South America 10 months later, he had lifelong friends, a proficiency in Spanish and the kernel of an idea that would eventually become a multimillion dollar company. All of it revolved around a principal he learned early on: Every time you travel, the world gets a little smaller and you get a little bigger.

AS FAR AS WANDERLUST GOES, MORGAN WAS BORN WITH HIS BAGS PACKED.

He grew up in Havre, a railroad town of 10,000 people on Montana's Hi-Line, where his mother sold real estate and his father owned a heating and air-conditioning company. He spent his childhood playing baseball and riding his bike all over town.

"He had a lot of freedom in Havre," recalls his mother, Betty Ann Morgan. "He and his friends would take off for a full day and go exploring. As long as he came home for dinner, we knew he was OK."

But Morgan wanted more. In the beginning, he found his escape in books. He read beyond his years. By 16, he was into Dostoyevsky.

"Books introduced me to new ideas and history," he says. "I got to learn about people and the world."

He graduated high school a semester early and went to Vancouver, B.C., where an uncle hired him to install furniture. It was his first taste of a big, international city, and he loved it. Morgan hoped to go out of state for college.

"I wanted all things outside of Montana," he says. "I had a thirst for seeing the world. But UM was the only place I could afford."

So he drove to Missoula. He settled on a double major of English literature and economics. Morgan was enrolled in the honors college, and he remembers scrambling to keep up with the pace of discussion in his cluster courses. He was used to being an above-average student, but suddenly he was getting Cs, and his papers came back swimming in red ink.

"I learned I'd have to work a lot harder to succeed," he says. "But I really loved college. I was surrounded by people who loved learning."

Morgan loved it even more when he discovered the exchange programs that allowed students to pay in-state tuition and study out of state. He spent his sophomore year at the University of South Carolina.

"As that year finished, I thought, 'Well why go back to UM now?'" Morgan says. So he signed up for a three-month Russian language program in Moscow. At the end of the course, he found an apartment and got a job as a gatekeeper at the U.S. Embassy. He stayed for seven more months, and his language skills solidified.

"Within six months, I could hold a basic conversation," he says. "I wasn't going to discuss politics or philosophy, but I could have a beer and laugh about things."

Back at UM, it didn't take long for him to finish his bachelor's degrees in literature and economics. Then he added a master's degree in economics. He liked the way economics complements literature.

"It's very much a social science," he says. "I loved studying why people allocate their resources the way they do."

That's when he decided to turn down the safe desk job in D.C. and allocate his resources to seeing the world.

Morgan prepares for a horseback ride in the foothills of Ecuador's Cotopaxi National Park in 1999.



"I didn't get a single call," he says.

Morgan went back to the drawing board.

He realized he needed more advance notice on the trips. He needed several different itineraries, departing several times a year. He printed new brochures. A friend helped him publish a website. Another friend happened to work at Yahoo, which was still a human-powered search engine, and he made sure the Adventure Life site came up in web searches. Morgan got a cellphone, and people finally started calling.

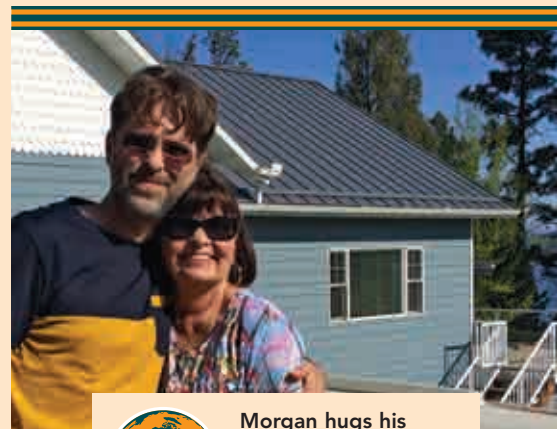
They were bare-bones days. Morgan was sleeping in the attic of his friends' house. The attic had pull-down stairs, and Morgan could only stand upright in the center of the room. He kept a \$2 Goodwill mattress on one side and a folding table on the other, on which he printed and mailed brochures. His roommate let him use her dial-up internet connection. He had no health insurance, and he drove a borrowed car.

"I lived on a lot of frozen pizza," he says.

But people were interested. The trips were selling, and before the departure dates, he needed to go back to Ecuador to do more research. So he drove to Havre and handed his mother his cellphone and his dog, Jake. He asked her to look after his dog and answer the phone when it rang – oh, and sell some trips if she could.

BETTY ANN ALWAYS HAD CONFIDENCE IN HER SON.

"When he came to us with this idea, I was excited," she says from her new home in Kalispell. "I didn't understand it. I didn't know about eco-travel or South America. But it sounded like it came from his heart. I wanted him to try it."



Morgan hugs his mother, Betty Ann, at the family's cabin on Flathead Lake.

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MORGAN LANDED IN QUITO LOOKING FOR A BEACH.

People had told him that Ecuador had a beautiful coast.

"I had this vision of being in a hammock on a beach somewhere," he says. "Wrong vision for Ecuador. It was an El Niño year. I never made it to the beach."

Instead, Morgan spent time in the mountains and rainforests of Ecuador, Peru and Bolivia. At one point, the nonprofit Care International commissioned him to write an economics paper on the carbon value of an Ecuadorian rainforest. That gave him money to keep moving. He spent six weeks in Cusco, Peru, where he picked up work as a freelance interpreter for a local guide on the Inca Trail. It was his first glimpse of guiding, and he loved learning the stories of an area and sharing them with travelers.

After almost a year in South America, though, Morgan felt Montana calling him home.

He applied for all the jobs he found interesting, everything from urban planning in Helena to economic development in Colstrip. But while he was looking for work, he had the idea that he could just plan a group tour to Ecuador. The travelers would pay for his flight, and he'd get to show people around a country he loved.

He set to work designing a three-panel brochure on Microsoft Word with plenty of clip art (it was 1998, mind you), which he printed full-color and posted around Missoula coffee shops, sporting goods stores and travel agencies. He came up with a name: Adventure Life. He didn't have a cellphone yet, so he paid for a call service and waited for customers.

Betty Ann enjoys a close relationship with her son. He used to sit at the kitchen counter after school and chat while she made dinner. (It's how he learned to cook.) She admired his ease around strangers. She knew he was destined for an interesting life beyond Havre.

"He always wanted to know about other places," she remembers. "And he was determined. Very, very determined. I could put the word stubborn in there, too."

When he told her he was turning down the job in Washington, she had faith that it was the right decision.

"I didn't want him to get stuck in a job," she says. "I told him, 'If you're not sure about it, don't do it. If you do it, life takes over, and sometimes that's the road you have to take.'"

So when Brian traveled back to Ecuador, Betty Ann was willing to take his phone and sell some trips to South America, despite never having been there herself. She answered the phone whenever it rang, even when she was at a wedding dress fitting for her daughter.

"He gave me a travel book on Ecuador and a book on Peru," she says. "I would get excited with people about how lucky they were to go and do this. I sold a lot of trips."

Communication wasn't easy in those days. Sometimes she wouldn't hear from Brian for weeks. Occasionally an unescorted traveler would miss their boat, and Brian would be out of contact. Without any knowledge of Spanish, Betty Ann would have to work it all out from Havre.

"It was pretty funny," she says. "But we got through it. And the business took off. He just did it right. None of us knew how big it would become."

With a laugh, she adds, "Not in a million years would I have asked for stock."

She could see now that her son had the good sense and the work ethic to keep Adventure Life afloat.

"I knew he would be successful," she says, "but to me success was being happy and making a decent living. I never dreamed that he would have a multimillion dollar company."

THOSE MEAGER BEGINNINGS ARE A SPECK ON THE HORIZON from Morgan's current vantage point, the ground-floor office of a four-story building that bears his name. Adventure Life is now headquartered in the \$2.7 million mixed-use Morgan Building on Spruce Street in Missoula. When I stopped by the office on a recent Tuesday, an LED screen flashed alluring images of Galapagos, Antarctica and Machu Picchu. A receptionist asked if I wanted coffee. It's hardly the attic from whence the company sprang.

A young vendor ties a bracelet on Morgan's wrist in the Copper Canyon area of Mexico in 2011.



"...ALL OVER THE WORLD, PEOPLE HAVE SO MANY MORE SIMILARITIES THAN DIFFERENCES. TRAVELING HELPS US SEE THAT."

Morgan is 43, with frameless glasses, some gray grizzle on his cheeks and brown hair parted down the middle. His button-down shirt is untucked. The walls of his office are decorated with worldly treasures: There's a weaving from Peru, a cowhide helmet from Bolivia and the paddle of a dugout canoe that Morgan bought off a guide in Ecuador. On a shelf are pictures of his wife, Naeyshae, and their 18-month-old daughter, Estelle.

Travel has changed a lot since Morgan first started organizing tours almost 20 years ago. Sites like Expedia and TripAdvisor have made guidebooks and traditional travel agents obsolete. Fewer people want to join group tours, preferring instead to have travel experiences customized for them.


"The competition in the travel industry is immense," Morgan says. "What we focus on is consulting services. Our job is to make the planning process super easy. We know what's out there. We'll understand your expectations and then exceed them."

Adventure Life has 26 employees now, all of them well-traveled with deep experience around the globe. Their cubicle walls are

plastered with postcards and detailed maps of southern Africa and the Amazon. This year, employees in these cubicles will organize detailed itineraries for more than 4,000 travelers to about 50 countries on all seven continents. Yes, even Antarctica is a burgeoning destination.

"Time is our most precious commodity now," Morgan says. "People don't want to waste it when they're on holiday. You can do all these things independently. It just takes a lot of time."

After all these years, Morgan has never fully quenched the thirst to travel the world that lured him out of Havre as a young man. And thanks in small part to the serendipity of a stranger on a plane, he was able to turn that thirst into a career, and also an adventurous life.

"I was transformed by travel," he says. "I started an entire company because I believe in it. All over the world, people have so many more similarities than differences. Traveling helps us see that." 



Jacob Baynham graduated from UM with a journalism degree in 2007. He writes for Outside and other magazines. He lives in Missoula with his wife, Hilly McGahan '07, and their two sons.



PHOTOS BY COURTNEY COWGILL

RIDING THE LENTIL

An insider's view of what 'renegade farming' looks like in Montana

BY COURTNEY LOWERY COWGILL

PHOTOS BY COURTNEY LOWERY COWGILL, JACOB COWGILL AND NAKO MIKI



PHOTOS BY JACOB COWGILL



PHOTO BY NAKO MIKI

WHEN MOST PEOPLE CONJURE

the image of a farmer, it's a specific one.

Maybe it's an overall-clad, broad-brimmed-hat-wearing organic vegetable grower steering a wheelbarrow. Or, a ballcap-wearing guy in a button-up shirt hauling grain or driving a big-boom sprayer.

But the portrait of the American farmer is more nuanced and diverse than most people realize – even more than I realized. And I grew up with one.

As a child, a farmer was a quiet, tall guy with weathered skin and strong hands – my dad.

He drove big combines, tractors and a three-quarter-ton Chevy. (Only a rancher drives a dually.) He grew wheat, maybe a little barley, and ate sandwiches on white bread on his tailgate in the middle of the field.

There's some truth in that picture of a farmer.



UNDERGROUND

According to the most recent USDA Census of Agriculture, finished in 2012, the average American farmer is 58 years old, white, male and likely grows corn or soybeans. Corn and soybeans accounted for 43 percent of the total cash receipts of farm income in 2015, according to the USDA's Economic Research Service.

But that's not the whole truth.

There really isn't such a thing as an "average" farmer. The landscape of American agriculture is more complex – biodiverse, you might say – than the numbers, or the stereotypes, could ever show. It takes a lot of different kinds of people and a lot of different kinds of farms to grow a nation's food. In other words, American farmers are not a monocrop.

If there's one message I hope readers take from Liz Carlisle's book "Lentil Underground" – this year's chosen Griz Read book at the University of Montana – it's that.

Clockwise: Harvest on Prairie Heritage Farm involves many crops, including heritage and ancient grains.

Jacob Cowgill checks out his research plot of Black Winter Emmer, an ancient wheat.

Specialty grains (left) and lentils (right) have brought a whole new community of growers together in Montana.

David Oien looks at a Timeless Natural Food crop. One of Timeless' strengths is its boots-on-the-ground connection with its growers.

Courtney Lowery Cowgill with her daughter, Willa, and son, Elias.

Carlisle, who grew up in Missoula, where her parents both worked at UM, fell into the book by chance.

After getting her undergraduate degree at Harvard, she had an early career as a country singer crisscrossing the United States. It was then she saw a disconnect in the narrative of rural places and what was actually happening on the ground. So she went to work for U.S. Sen. Jon Tester, an organic farmer who spoke eloquently and passionately about the future of agriculture.

That's how she met the first "renegade farmers" she profiles in the book and was struck by the difference they were making in Montana. She left Tester's office for graduate school at the University of California, Berkeley, and decided exploring what she saw during her D.C. work from the fields of her home state would be her thesis. She spent years in big fields, talking to these farmers about soil fertility and climate change and crop rotations and markets.

But the story she heard was bigger than all of that. And it got bigger and bigger until it was clear: This wasn't just research. This was a book.

"I had this background as a country singer. I have this deep love of narrative and storytelling and a belief that it's a key part of what makes us human," says Carlisle, now a lecturer in the School

of Earth, Energy and Environmental Sciences at Stanford University.

"So when people were telling me about how they were farming and the history of the movement and they were doing it in this beautiful narrative way, I thought, 'Well, this is obviously communicating to me and is very moving to me, and I would like to pass it on to others in the same narrative form.' There's a lot of great content, but also in the form – in the stories – there's a lot of wisdom and a lot of power to inspire and inform."

"Lentil Underground" at its core follows the history of sustainable agriculture in Montana through the lens of a community of farmers who sparked a movement that is changing how farmers farm in Montana.

But it's doing even more than that. It's helping change the narrative around American agriculture, making it more accessible, more inclusive.

Growing up, I didn't think farming was for me, partially because I was under the false assumption that it was something done one way by one specific group of people. I spent my 20s running away from the farm life I knew and loved.

But one day, my now-husband, Jacob, who also grew up in the "Golden Triangle" of central Montana, asked me to go to an agriculture conference. There, I met many of the farmers and people who make up the movement depicted in "Lentil Underground."

Jacob and I had both recently moved back to Montana after leaving the state to "make something" of ourselves. We'd gotten the message familiar to most small-town kids like us that to be something, you had to go somewhere – as in, somewhere else. So, we left. But the call of Montana was too strong for both of us, and we moved back, independently, in 2005.

Jacob went back to UM to get his master's degree in environmental studies, and I returned to Missoula to start a magazine about the Rocky Mountain West with a former professor of mine from the School of Journalism.



SHOWCASING BIG SKY COUNTRY

**'Lentil Underground' highlights
Montana's role in sustainable farming**

When Liz Carlisle found out her book about sustainable agriculture in Montana "Lentil Underground" was chosen as this year's common Griz Read, she was thrilled.

She grew up a few blocks from campus, and both of her parents, Ray and Lynne Carlisle, worked at UM.

Ray directed the TRiO program on campus – a federal program aimed at helping students with disadvantaged backgrounds succeed in higher education. He wrote the first grant to bring the program to UM in the 1980s.

"Something he worked really hard on was making books – class materials – accessible to low-income students, and so that was very much in my mind when I got asked to do this," Carlisle says.

So Carlisle donated her honorarium from the book – which UM's Grizzly Riders organization matched – to make the book free of charge for first-year students.

"That's a really sweet connection for me," she says.

The book's financial success was a bit of surprise, Carlisle says with a laugh. Whatever she makes on it, she wants to give back.

She used some of the advance money to pay for the farmers featured in the book (my husband included) to join her in California for a series of readings and launch parties where they talked food, farming and Montana with the likes of Michael Pollan, Carlisle's mentor and the author "The Omnivore's Dilemma" and "In Defense of Food."

"The reverberations of those kinds of opportunities to convene are just so powerful," Carlisle says, "so anything financial that comes out of this book, I actually want to plow back into its purpose."

That purpose, Carlisle says, is manyfold – like helping people connect with where their food comes from and who grows it, or highlighting what she calls a "pilot project" for the future of a sustainable food system. But also, she says, it's about showcasing the work being done in her home state.

"There was a lack of understanding of what sustainable agriculture looked like in the middle of the United States," Carlisle says. "There was more of an understanding for people of farmers' markets and greenbelt cities and some of the stuff around the produce system and dairy. But the feedback I've gotten from people is they're just so encouraged to learn about third- and fourth-generation farmers in eastern Montana who are conceptualizing how to create a more environmentally friendly food system that's good for public health.

"I'm a proud Montanan, and I often feel like we're sort of underappreciated sometimes by major progressive movements in places like San Francisco that imagine there's just not that much going on in rural places, and there really is."



Even in Missoula, though, we couldn't shake the feeling that we still weren't really "home."

We both were researching and writing about rural communities. The more we did, the more we realized how much we both missed the sunsets, the space, the sense of community. And the food.

Jacob was bitten by the farming bug at UM's PEAS Farm, and once he took environmental studies Professor Neva Hassanein's Politics of Food course, he was all in. His master's portfolio involved working on a sustainability strategy for "Lentil Underground" protagonist David Oien, the founder and CEO of Timeless Natural Food, a company that works cooperatively with farmers in the growing and marketing of high-quality lentils, peas and specialty grains. Oien, by the way, earned a bachelor's degree from UM in 1973.

Sometime midway through grad school, Jacob told me he wanted to farm.

Given my family farm's struggles and my promises to my 16-year-old self never to go back to that, it took some lobbying on Jacob's part to bring me around to the idea.

He asked me to attend this conference – the annual Montana Organic Association's meeting, which happened to be in Missoula that year. There, I met the network of Liz's "renegades," a somewhat ragtag crew of farmers of all shapes, sizes, crops, genders, growing methods, backgrounds and political persuasions.

That diversity is important, Carlisle says.

"I think that's one of the reasons I wanted to tell the story," Carlisle says. "Because sometimes from the outside, I think people perceive the food movement or organics or sustainable agriculture as being restricted to a certain kind of cultural swath – certain politics and even certain ways of dressing and talking. That's just a misconception, but I think it has some consequences that prevent us from moving forward."

Just like diversity is the key to a farm's soil, crops and bottom line, it's good for the whole system.

"There's this basic ecological principle that resilience and diversity are linked – that you need diverse ecological communities to have resilient natural systems," Carlisle says. "I think it's clear to the farmers that I've spoken with, as well as clear to me, that that's equally true in human communities – that diversity is a really important part of the strength of this organic agriculture movement in Montana that sort of started from nothing and now is kind of a big deal."

Once people are able to see sustainable agriculture as holding a bigger umbrella, "it seems possible and it also seems accessible to many, many more people," Carlisle says.

This community certainly made me think there was room for farmers like Jacob and me. So after we talked to Oien (on our honeymoon) about him leasing us some ground on his place near Conrad, we packed up our stuff, I quit my job and we moved home to the Golden Triangle to start our farm.

Across the country, the number of new farmers has been on the decline – so much so that government officials, ag advocacy groups and even leaders in the food business are working hard to encourage and support beginning farmers. From the 2012 Agriculture Census: "In 2012, the number of new farmers who have been on their current operation less than 10 years was down 20 percent from 2007."

That tide may be waning, however. The reasons for that are varied and relatively anecdotal, but whether it's the work being done by beginning farmers across the country, the increased desire to know where food comes from, an inherent need of a new generation to root themselves to the land or an increase in the opportunities for how to farm and the



technologies and markets that facilitate it, we are seeing more new farmers on the land.

And while Montana State University traditionally has produced the bulk of Montana's farmers, in the past decade or so, UM also has started filling that pipeline.

"Frankly, MSU faculty have come to us to try to figure out why we have so many students interested in food and agriculture, when traditional majors, like agronomy, have been on the decline at many agricultural colleges," Hassanein says.

Part of what attracts UM students to agriculture, she says, is wanting to be part of a growing movement of producers who want to connect deeply with their communities.

"BECAUSE SOMETIMES FROM THE OUTSIDE, I THINK PEOPLE PERCEIVE THE FOOD MOVEMENT OR ORGANICS OR SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE AS BEING RESTRICTED TO A CERTAIN KIND OF CULTURAL SWATH – CERTAIN POLITICS AND EVEN CERTAIN WAYS OF DRESSING AND TALKING. THAT'S JUST A MISCONCEPTION, BUT I THINK IT HAS SOME CONSEQUENCES THAT PREVENT US FROM MOVING FORWARD."



"Our students tend to come from nonfarm backgrounds, but everyone can relate to food so the topic really resonates with them," Hassanein says.

"They are less interested in conventional commodity production and much more excited about how food connects us to each other and to the land. In today's society, so many of us are disconnected from our food and the natural world we depend upon to survive. A lot of our students want to turn that around as they discover these issues and learn about growing food."

Western Montana is peppered with farms started by people who got into farming much like Jacob did – at UM's PEAS Farm, or in one of the environmental studies classes on campus. Many of those farms are small, diversified, direct-market and rooted near one of Montana's urban cores.

Others are also out here where Jacob and I are – in more rural places – where it's been difficult during the past 20 years to attract young people back to the farm. That's one of the more interesting parts of the book, Hassanein says.

"In the media and elsewhere, there's a lot of emphasis on eating 'local' right now," says Hassanein, who nominated "Lentil Underground" for the Griz Read program. "That's great, but the book helps us understand that not all farmers can market locally and that it is also important to support organic growers who produce crops like lentils.

"In the book, you learn about how important it is to build soil quality. Soil is literally the lifeblood of humanity. In turn, the reader learns about how sustainable agriculture can also help sustain our rural communities – too many of which have been in decline as industrial agriculture has taken hold in the last century."

Casey Bailey, one of the farmers in "Lentil Underground," grew up on a farm near Fort Benton. He left to study religion and music in Santa Barbara, California, but came back to finish his music degree at UM.

As he went after another degree – in education – he crossed paths with Dan Spencer, a professor in environmental studies. Bailey

immersed himself in the intersections of globalization and social and environmental justice. Then he studied soils – where all of those things connect – with Tom DeLuca, now the dean of UM's W.A. Franke College of Forestry and Conservation. As Bailey puts it, DeLuca "really brought soils to life for me."

By studying, volunteering on farms, traveling and starting a community garden as the youth director at a church in Great Falls, Bailey found his calling – a calling back to the farm.

"Along the way I realized that in religion, music, art or agriculture, there is no 'right way,'" Bailey says.

He found a community of like-minded farmers – the same community Jacob and I had found and been inspired by. Bailey's first organic crop was a 30-acre field of French green lentils for Oien and Timeless Natural Food.

"I knew what I wanted to do when I started discovering people like Dave," Bailey says. "Dave helped to give a kind of wild, go-get-'em center to pivot from."


"Go get 'em" is exactly the way to describe this community in Montana. It's small, but mighty. Diverse, but not splintered. Positive, but not Pollyannaish.

And it tells the truth about Montana agriculture that, as Bailey says, like life, there's not just one "right" way to do it. Nor is there just one "right" kind of person to do it.

It's one of the things that makes "Lentil Underground" not just a good story, but a powerful one.

"Rhetoric – and language and storytelling – is really important, really critical, in moving forward with our farming systems and food systems," Carlisle says, "because certain people practicing agriculture have been rhetorically excluded from the category of farming, including small farmers who've been called gardeners, organic farmers who have at various times have been called hobby farmers or not real farmers.

"Early in the time the book's talking about, organic farmers weren't considered part of the farming community, women farmers [weren't considered part of it either]. I think the diversity that we need in agriculture – to actually sustain ourselves as a people – includes certain kinds of agriculture that have been rhetorically excluded from the category of farming. And, by being rhetorically excluded, they've also been materially excluded – excluded from resources and excluded from communities that share knowledge and social capital. So it's really critically important to include all the diversity of agriculture in the way we talk about it and understand it."

Finally understanding that is why, nearly 20 years after I first left the Montana prairie, I'm sitting in a field, my own skin now weathered, eating a sandwich made from sourdough bread my farmer/baker husband baked – with the grains we grew and milled – doing something I didn't think was possible: calling myself a farmer. 



Courtney Lowery Cowgill is a farmer and a writer and a visiting professor at the University of Montana School of Journalism. She splits her time between campus and Prairie Heritage Farm, near Power, Montana, where she and her husband, Jacob Cowgill, run a farm-to-loaf sourdough bakery, Blue Truck Bread, and raise heritage and ancient grains, vegetables, two kids and sometimes a little ruckus. (Just kidding, they're actually quite mild-mannered.)

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PHOTO BY WILL MCKNIGHT

Skyler Anderson interned this summer with Nike's skateboarding division.

AHEAD OF THE CURVE

Incredible internships give UM students distinct advantage

When he was a junior at the University of Washington, Dave Franke was unsure of where he wanted to be later in life. He took a part-time job working with a local company and began to learn what life after college would be like.

When the Franke family was deciding how to give back to college students, this experience partly helped them shape the program they run at their private equity firm, Indigo Partners.

"We want our support to be more than just financial," Franke says. "We want to provide opportunities, advice, guidance, experiences and any other resources we can bring to bear."

The program, which the company also has in place at Northern Arizona University, came to the University of Montana last year. It brings a graduating student to work at Indigo for one to two years and helps them gain valuable experience and form connections in the business world. The first UM Indigo associate, Nate Berry, spent the past year with the firm and joined Boston College's MBA program this fall.

"Our job is to help them obtain skills and knowledge to get out of the nest and find their way in whatever career path they want to pursue," Franke says.

Finance major and UM track and field athlete Claire Dalman joined the Indigo team this summer.

"This is the catalyst for everything that's to come," she says. "I found nothing like it in regards to what I'm going to be able to learn, how much responsibility I'm going to be given and the ability to make a difference that I'm going to have in being there for two years."

The Franks worked with the School of Business Administration's Career Development Program – the only such program for business students in the state – to develop the pipeline for their program.

The school also has strong connections with Nike, which offers two summer internships to UM students each year. The Nike internship program started thanks to two UM alumni – Eric Sprunk '86 and Stefanie Strack '04 – who wanted to help UM students get a leg up in their careers.

"Nike's internship program is highly competitive and rigorous," says Kathleen Tarkalson, internship director at the business school. "These students work hard and return with a global understanding of business from one of the best companies in the world."

Skyler Anderson, a marketing major from Fairfield, interned at Nike this past summer.

"At UM, many professors have gone out and had a career and came back to teach," Anderson says. "That real-world knowledge is what I wanted."

The internships will put UM students ahead of their peers when they graduate and go out into the workforce, Tarkalson says.

"It's internships like these that prove you can go anywhere you want to go from the University of Montana."

"It's internships like these that prove you can go anywhere you want to go from the University of Montana."



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Off and Running



Left: Hood To Coast President Felicia Hubber and China Central Television sports anchor Yu Jia discuss strategy for running the steep descent on the first leg of the route during the inaugural Hood To Coast China.

Below: The anchor runner for the winning team of the inaugural Hood To Coast China relay heads toward the finish line in Zhongdu.

A runner since age 9, **FELICIA HUBBER** '05, Portland, Ore., estimates she has run the equivalent of one and half times around Earth. A good portion of those miles came during the Hood To Coast Relay, the 199-mile team endeavor that has grown into the largest long-distance relay in the world. Participants start at Timberline Lodge on Mount Hood and descend the peak before winding through rural farmland, urban trails, downtown Portland cityscape and over the forested Coast Range Mountains, before cascading onto the home stretch of sandy beaches along the Pacific Ocean.

Hubber's penchant for racking up miles runs in the family – her father, Bob Foote, founded the “mother of all relays” when she was just 3 months old. Now, having attended, assisted or worked at 33 of the past 35 Hood To Coast Relays, the 2005 graduate of UM's School of Business Administration has taken the reins of the family business as president and co-owner.

“We hear from many that Hood To Coast is on their ‘bucket list,’ where they just have to run it at least once in their lifetime and experience this incredible, epic adventure,” Hubber writes. “There have been countless friendships – and marriages! – resulting from Hood To Coast, because you get to know and support one another as a team. Running is so often a solitary endeavor, but in Hood To Coast, such a monumental feat cannot be accomplished without the incremental efforts of every person on the team.”

Since its start in 1982, the race has grown into one of the largest races in the world, with the main event capping out at 12,600 participants on 1,050 12-person teams. Its popularity has spawned an entire race series in locations

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Keep Us Posted. Send your news to the University of Montana Alumni Association, Brantly Hall, Missoula, MT 59812. Go to www.grizalum.com and click on “Submit a Class Note,” email alumni@umontana.edu, or call 1-877-UM-ALUMS (877-862-5867). Material in this issue reached our office by July 24, 2017.

Note: The year immediately following an alum's name indicates either an undergraduate degree year or attendance at UM. Graduate degrees from UM are indicated by initials.

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Wayne Nelson '83 earned a bachelor's degree in business administration from UM. He is the president of Stockman Bank in Billings, where he lives with his wife, Kim, and daughter, Abigail.

LETTER FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

I cannot think of a better time to begin my tenure as University of Montana Alumni Association board chair than now, as the University will soon kick off Celebrate 125, a commemoration of UM's chartering and all it's accomplished since.

I'm proud of UM's network of more than 100,000 alumni throughout Montana, the U.S. and across the globe. Our graduates have accomplished so much since 1893 – one need look no further than this year's crop of Distinguished Alumni Award recipients to realize the impact UM alumni have on the world.

UMAA strives to find innovative ways to keep alumni near and far connected to the University, and we appreciate the feedback we received from the survey emailed out earlier this year. The UMAA board of directors and Alumni Relations team are working hard to incorporate your ideas and

suggestions as to how we can increase UMAA's value to all alumni.

I know I treasure my education and experience at UM every day, as well as the added value of connections I've made as a lifelong member of the Alumni Association. I hope you'll consider renewing or starting your UMAA membership today to further enhance your alumni experience. You'll join thousands of other alumni actively working to promote our beloved University and all it has to offer. Here are just a few ways you can get involved:

Student engagement: Alumni play an important role in recruiting new students, mentoring existing students and hiring graduates. Simply sharing your own experiences can convey the benefits of attending the University or open a young person's eyes to what is possible after graduation.

Advocacy: UMAA relies on alumni to actively engage legislators on issues important to the success of the University. Alumni support is critical to influencing state decisions on higher education.

Staying connected: Wherever you are, UMAA regional groups can keep you connected to the University and other Montana alumni. Led by alumni volunteers, the groups organize social, recreational and educational gatherings. Consider starting or joining a group in your area. You also can connect with UMAA online at <http://www.grizalum.org/> or on Facebook ([facebook.com/mtalum](https://www.facebook.com/mtalum)), Twitter (@grizalum), Instagram (@grizalum) and LinkedIn (University of Montana Alumni Official Networking Group).

By giving back to this special place, we ensure our University will continue to enrich the lives of students for generations to come. Here's to another 125 years of excellence at the University of Montana. **Go Griz!**

Wayne Nelson

continued from page 31

across the U.S., and the race made its international debut this summer with Hood To Coast China.

"Hood To Coast China was amazing for many reasons," Hubber writes. "Participants had a gorgeous, scenic, safe experience. Runners came down off the ski resort where the 2022 Winter Olympics will take place. Then the course traversed through quaint rural villages, where locals came out to cheer and support the event, through the town of Chongli, alongside rivers and vegetable farms, near another mountain pass with wind turbines all around, to the relay's final descent into Zhangjiakou. We saw families who live in yurts, as well as nomadic people grazing camels. It was truly a beautiful experience from start to finish, which we plan to continue for years to come."

1950s

MARY JOAN TASCHER WALLACE '53, Atascadero, Calif., is the author of several books, including



"The Miraculous Image of Our Lady of Guadalupe – God's Gift for Us All," "Mary's Life

and Reflections as Seen in the Mystical City of God" and "Medjugorje, its Background and Messages." They are available for purchase on Amazon and Kindle.

1960s

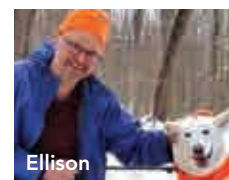
LARRY A. STRATE '64, Hamilton, writing as L. Allen Strate, published "High Lights, Low Lights and Red Lights," a glimpse into the "evening industry" of Hamilton during its 1890s heyday, when Marcus Daly built his Bitterroot empire – mansion, horse ranch and all. Strate presented a paper at the 43rd Annual Montana History Conference



and was invited to participate at the Montana Book Festival in Missoula.

1970s

BERNARD "BERNIE" CASSIDY '74, J.D. '88, Libby, retired in August after serving as the Lincoln County attorney for more than 20 years. He's looking forward to spending more time hunting, fishing and putting his Grizzly football season tickets to better use.



MATT ELLISON '74, Summit, N.J., published his debut novel, "Return to Independence Basin," in April. The novel, set in the late 1970s, chronicles the protagonist's return to the small Montana town in which he grew up. Kirkus Reviews featured "Return to Independence Basin" as a Recommended Indie Book in its February issue. **RICHARD ROBBINS M.F.A. '79**, Mankato, Minn., published "Body Turn to Rain: New and Selected Poems" in May. A former editor of CutBank, UM's



BOB FULTON '66 and **PEGGY WALLIS FULTON '67**, Lewiston, Idaho, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with a cruise through the harbors of Maine. They're pictured here wearing their Griz gear in Bar Harbor.



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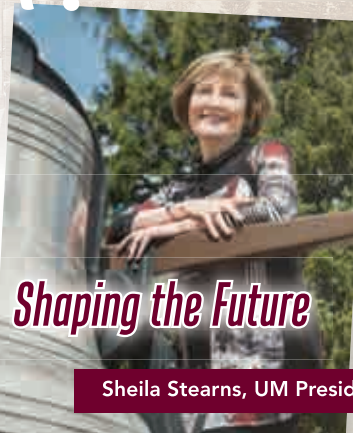
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Sheila (MacDonald) Stearns, UM Homecoming Queen, 1967



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- Access to the Maureen and Mike Mansfield Library, Campus Recreation Center, Grizzly Pool, and Outdoor Program trips, classes and rentals
- 20 percent off a purchase during Homecoming Week at The Bookstore at UM



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From Massachusetts to Alaska, Texas to Florida (as well as a few sites overseas), more than 12,000 University of Montana and Montana State alumni and friends gather at more than 80 different locations to watch one of the greatest rivalries in the nation – the annual Griz/Cat football game affectionately known as **The Brawl of the Wild**.

For a full list of up-to-date Griz/Cat watch party locations go to:

www.grizalum.org

annual literary magazine, Robbins has published five full-length books, including "The Invisible Wedding," "Famous Persons We Have Known," "The Untested Hand," "Radioactive City" and "Other Americas." Since earning his creative writing degree from UM, he's received awards and fellowships from The Loft, the McKnight Foundation, the Minnesota State Arts



Board, Hawthornden Castle, the National Endowment for the Arts and the Poetry Society of America. In 2006, he was awarded the Kay Sexton Award for long-standing dedication and outstanding work in fostering books, reading and literary activity in Minnesota. From 1986 to 2014, Robbins directed the Good Thunder Reading Series at Minnesota State University, Mankato, where he continues to lead the creative writing program.

1980s

SUSAN CUFF '81 has left the UM Alumni Relations

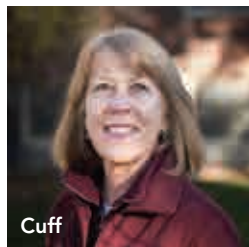


An exhibition honoring the work of **PETER RUTLEDGE KOCH** '70, Berkeley, Calif., opened at Stanford University in May. "Peter Koch Printer: A Forty-year Retrospective" showcases limited-edition books, portfolios and prints by the longtime Bay Area letterpress printer, designer and publisher. Koch, whose training, influences and achievements place him in the lineage of San Francisco literary fine press printers, has long been recognized as one of the most accomplished printers and typographic designers of his generation. The works on display, published between 1974 and 2016, span a wide-ranging territory, from cowboy surrealism to pre-Socratic philosophy, and from contemporary and Renaissance poetry to hard-hitting, photo-based requiems to the American West. He spent his youth in Montana, steeped in the lore of the American West and witness to its aftermath of environmental and cultural destruction, which continues to influence his work more than four decades later. Koch's printing career began in Missoula, where he founded Black Stone Press in 1974.



JERI TOVSON O'NEIL '74, Polson, is pictured here with her daughter, Megan O'Neil '06, and boyfriend Nick Terhaar '74, in front of a cottage in the rural suburbs of Melbourne, Australia. Jeri lived in the cottage during the year she spent teaching in Australia following her graduation from UM, and the three stayed at the same property, which is now a bed-and-breakfast, while on vacation 40 years later, during which Jeri visited many Aussie friends she had kept in touch with via Christmas cards. Jeri is now retired after working as an oil and gas landman for 37 years.

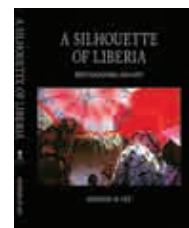
office after nearly 11 years as associate director. She now is operations coordinator at Make-A-Wish Montana, helping to grant wishes to Montana children with life-threatening illnesses. She also is finishing a series of



Cuff

children's stories and is on the hunt for a publisher.

MICHAEL LEE M.A. '82, Helena, published "A Silhouette of Liberia Photographs: 1974-1977," a compilation of soulful and haunting documentary photos taken while he worked with the Peace Corps and the New York Blood Center's virus research laboratory in Liberia. The photos and his narrative document what Liberia was like before the 1980 coup d'état and civil war and will serve to



historically preserve that time and place. Lee's interest in photography emerged during a 1969 tour in Vietnam, and this is his second book with documentary photographs about Liberia.

DAN VUCKOVICH '82, Great Falls, received the



ALUMNI EVENTS 2017

SEPTEMBER	8	Griz Night at the Seattle Mariners game
	20	Griz on Tap: Missoula Alumni Happy Hour
	30-OCT. 10	Alumni Travel: Coastlines & Capitals of Canada & New England
OCTOBER	8-14	Homecoming
	13	Distinguished Alumni Awards
	13-14	Class of 1967 Reunion Gathering
	25	Griz on Tap: Missoula Alumni Happy Hour
NOVEMBER	27-NOV. 7	Alumni Travel: Adriatic Rhapsody
	18	117th Brawl of the Wild, Bozeman Griz/Cat watch parties, nationwide

For more details, call the Office of Alumni Relations at 1-877-UM-ALUMS or visit www.grizalum.com.



Vuckovich

2017 George D. Anderson Distinguished Service Award from the Montana

Society of Certified Public Accountants in June. The award is given annually to an MSCPA member whose contribution to the accounting profession and charitable and civic activities merit the society's outstanding recognition. Vuckovich, a 35-year veteran in



UM journalism grads **SAM RICHARDS '83** and **TOR HAUGAN '11**, Oakland, Calif., played a part in the East Bay Times winning the 2017 Pulitzer Prize for breaking news for its coverage of the Ghost Ship warehouse fire in Oakland in December. Thirty-six people died in the fire, which prompted investigations into why people were allowed to live in the warehouse-turned-artists' space and why the Oakland Fire Department was slow to respond to a problem it knew existed before the tragic fire. Haugan, video editor for the Bay Area News Group, which publishes the Times, was the video team coordinator, overseeing the production of videos about the warehouse fire, starting the day after the blaze. He wrote and produced breaking news videos; co-produced the video package that went with the news group's Dec. 11 story about the last hours of the Ghost Ship; and produced and wrote follow-up videos, including the exclusive about how the owners had known about the dangerous electrical system. He has been with BANG since 2012. Richards is usually a city hall/general assignment reporter with the Times but worked an editing shift the Saturday morning after the fire, spending seven hours that day continuously handling feeds from reporters in the field for updating the main fire story on the East Bay Times and Mercury News websites, and doing the lead editing for the online first-day story about how family and friends of fire victims were awaiting word on the fate of their loved ones. He also reported that night, interviewing family members of people missing after the fire and witnesses to the blaze, contributing to both main print stories the next day. He has been with BANG's predecessor companies since 1992.

Michael Levelle was elected to serve as the Oregon State Bar president for 2017. '87

accounting who's now a shareholder at Anderson ZurMuehlen, has made a tremendous impact on the profession in Montana, which includes his collaboration with former U.S. Sen. Max Baucus to institute the practice of taxing retired farmers' CRP payments as self-employment income.

JIM GALIPEAU '84, Missoula, was selected to serve as an ex-officio member on the Montana Society of Certified Public Accountants board of directors. Galipeau, a shareholder at JCCS in Missoula, served as

president of the board in 2004-05 and will mentor current President Joshua Herbold, who is an assistant professor of accounting at UM.



Galipeau

MICHAEL LEVELLE '87, Beaverton, Ore., was elected to serve as the Oregon State Bar president for 2017. He is the first



Levelle

African-American to serve as president in Oregon State Bar history.

1990s

MARIA ELENA BELTRAN

J.D. '90, Worden, was honored by the Montana State University-Billings Alumni Association with a 2017 Outstanding Alumni Award-Recognition for Exceptional Achievement. Beltran, who grew up as the daughter of migrant workers who settled in Montana's Yellowstone



MK TAN '89, Kuching, Malaysia, is director and head of equity broking in East Malaysia for Kenanga Investment Bank, the largest retail brokerage in Malaysia. Inspired by an internship she had at D.A. Davidson after she graduated from UM, she started a similar program at Kenanga in 2014. In addition to helping many participants with job placement, the three-month internship program has mentored 47 students in equities and derivatives trading, portfolio management, marketing skills, business operations and fundamental and technical analysis.

A native Malaysian, Tan cherishes the time she spent earning her finance degree at UM and considers Montana a second home. "I spent a very happy four years at UM and felt that I grew some of my roots, having made lifelong friends among my former colleagues and professors, whom I still keep in touch with to this day," she writes. "Many a time, I find myself wishing I could be in the two places at the same time, and it's really a blessing to feel I have two homes in my heart."



MK Tan



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Powder Mountain await your visit. Open Thursday through Sunday, with extended hours during holiday periods, this family owned-and-operated jewel of a ski hill offers a big mountain skiing and snowboarding experience with a small mountain feel—perfect for the whole family.

Pre-Season Pass Sale

From September 1 through October 31 take advantage of Deep (Powder) Discounts! Purchase your season passes and 10-Day Passes online, by mail, or by fax (406-821-3742). The deadlines for these incredible savings are fixed so make sure you have purchased online or have your mail postmarked by September 30th or October 31st in order to receive the discounts. After those dates regular prices will apply.

Season Pass Sale Prices

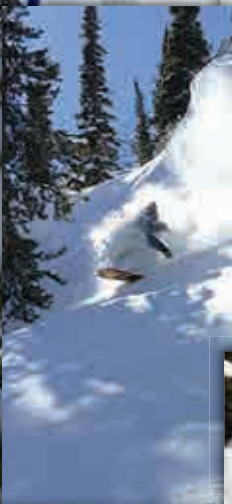
Age Group	Sept. 1-30	Oct. 1-31
Child (6 to 12)	\$374	\$424
Adult (13-59)	\$474	\$524
Golden Ager (60-69)	\$399	\$449
Senior (70+)	\$174	\$174
Family of 3	\$1,199	\$1,324
Family of 4	\$1,474	\$1,599
Family of 5	\$1,749	\$1,874
Family of 6	\$2,024	\$2,149
Children under 5	Free	Free

10-Day Pass Sale Prices

Age Group	Sept. 1-Oct. 31
Child (6 to 12)	\$299
Adult (13-59)	\$399
Golden Ager (60-69)	\$319
Senior (70+)	\$139

Remember: show your Lost Trail season pass at any Montana Ski Area (including Lookout) and get a full day ticket at their ½ day rate.

Photos: Copyright William Munos



Getting to Lost Trail Powder Mountain - located where Hwy 93 & Hwy 43 meet at the top of Lost Trail Pass, on the Montana-Idaho border - is easy! Just 90 miles south of Missoula, 44 miles North of Salmon, ID & only 100 miles from Butte, MT.

WWW.LOSTTRAIL.COM

On U.S. Hwy. 93, at the Montana - Idaho border. Snow Phone: 406.821.3211

Maria Elena Beltran J.D. was honored by the Montana State University-Billings Alumni Association with a 2017 Outstanding Alumni Award-Recognition for Exceptional Achievement. '90

Valley, taught herself English in grade school and later overcame extraordinary challenges to enroll at what was then called Eastern Montana College. After earning her law degree from UM, she worked as a poverty law attorney, helping to improve the lives of migrant and seasonal farm workers. At 83, she still works as an attorney in private practice and represents clients for the Office of the State Public Defender and also takes on family law cases, many pro bono. She has been hailed as “the Mother Teresa of the legal profession in Montana” for her efforts.

PAUL MAKELA M.S. '90, Boise, Idaho, the wildlife management program lead at the U.S. Bureau of Land Management's Idaho State Office, was recognized in March with two back-to-back awards. At the annual meeting of the Idaho Chapter of The Wildlife Society, he received the Charles E. Harris Professional Wildlifer Award, which recognizes professionals in wildlife management for outstanding contributions to Idaho's wildlife resources and their promotion of public understanding of significant wildlife management



accomplishments in Idaho. At the North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference, he was presented with the BLM's national Linda Seibert Career Achievement Award in Conservation, which recognizes significant contributions in the field of fish, wildlife and/or botanic resources over the course of one's career. During his career, Makela has worked extensively in sage grouse and sagebrush steppe conservation, including habitat restoration, conservation

planning, state and national level BLM policy, training and sage grouse habitat assessment protocol development.



Lantz

LAURA LANTZ '93, Meridian, Idaho, is the executive director of the Idaho Society of Certified Public Accountants. She joined the agency in June after eight years with the Idaho Association of Highway Districts, including the past four years as associate director. **CAROLINE PATTERSON** M.F.A. '93, Missoula, published “Ballet at the Moose Lodge,” a collection of short stories, last spring. The 16 stories explore what it is to grow up female in the American West. As her narratives reveal the lives of travelers, homemakers, radio show announcers, mothers, teachers,



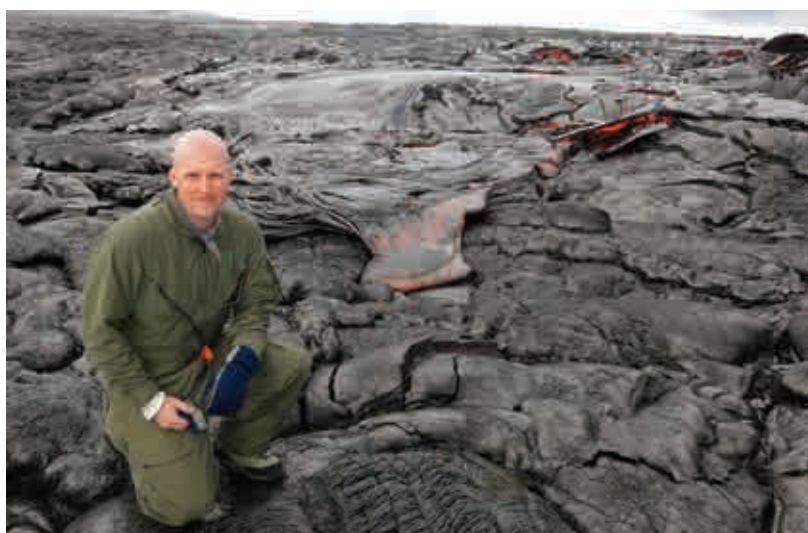
dancers, shop clerks and the subterranean world of girls, they take the reader from a ferry dock in Resurrection Bay, Alaska, to a two-room school in the Bitterroot Valley; from brush, backpacking college students to young new mothers on the edge; from the 1920s to the 1990s.

JOE BERGSIEKER '96, Batavia, Ill., is regional vice president-sales of BBB Industries, a premier manufacturer and distributor of vehicle aftermarket replacement parts, including starters, alternators, brake calipers and power steering products. Before joining BBB Industries, Bergsieker served more than 20 years in sales and marketing roles with Bosch.

GYPSY HOOVER RAY '96, Polson, has served as the executive director of the Lake County Community Development Corporation since 2015, and she was recently named president of the Rotary Club of Polson. She and her husband, JB, enjoy their life at the lake and celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary in July. Their son, John, is pursuing a professional rugby career, and their daughter, Morgan, plays softball at Ohio State University.



HEIDI WRIGHT M.B.A. '98, Salem, Ore., is the chief operating officer of EO Media Group, which owns nearly a dozen newspapers in Oregon.



TIM ORR '93, Anchorage, Alaska, is a research geologist at the U.S. Geological Survey's Alaska Volcano Observatory. Before heading north, Orr spent more than a decade as a researcher at the Hawaii Volcano Observatory, where he was instrumental in developing its modern webcam network and time-lapse camera systems to track volcanic activity. He also employed an innovative technique to merge aerial imagery captured during overflights, enabling scientists to produce maps of active lava flows without having to walk many miles over rough and hazardous terrain.

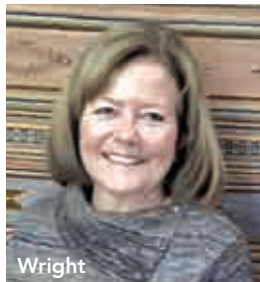


HooDoo Brewing, which is co-owned by UM alumni **KAREN WILKEN '00**, **BOBBY WILKEN '02** and **JESSICA WILKEN '02**, became the first brewery in Alaska to significantly harness solar power for its operations. The Fairbanks-based brewery began the new rooftop solar installation project as soon as snow melted off the building in April. The 60 solar panels were energized in May and produce up to 110 kilowatt hours of electricity per day, or about one-third of HooDoo's power per year. Additionally, it reduces carbon dioxide produced by combustion by roughly 1.5 tons per month during the summer season.

NEW LIFETIME MEMBERS

The following alumni and friends made a commitment to the future of the UM Alumni Association by becoming lifetime members. The Alumni Association thanks them for their support. You can join them by calling 877-862-5867 or by visiting www.grizalum.com. This list includes all new lifetime members through July 25, 2017.

ZAK ANDERSON '96, Fort Worth, TX
KARIN EKANGER '76, Las Vegas
MARJORIE GARABRANDT '78, Omaha, NE
HANNAH GERHARD '17 and **KOURTNEY ZEIGLER '17**, Eugene, OR
JAMES MCLEAN '67, Bozeman
ROSEMARY '66 and **JAMES NEILSEN '67**, Great Falls
BONNY '65 and **CARL RIECKMANN '65**, Kalispell



Wright

As COO, Wright directs the business operations of EO Media Group and supervises publishers and corporate staff.

KACEY KC '99, Carson City, Nev., is the first female to serve as the Nevada Division of Forestry's Acting State Forester. She was appointed to the role in April after serving as a deputy administrator for the agency. Before joining NDF in 2002, KC served in the Peace Corps as a community forester in Nepal. There, she worked with local groups and helped develop plans to manage land in areas where forests were degraded by landslides.

INGUNN STROMNES '99 received a 2017 Pancreatic Cancer Action Network – American Association for Cancer Research Career Development Award, designed to attract and support early-career scientists as they conduct pancreatic cancer research.

As a scientist at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center at the University of Washington, Stromnes previously developed a novel and promising immunotherapy by genetically engineering T-cells to infiltrate and attack pancreatic cancer without the toxic side effects of chemotherapy. Now a faculty member at the University of Minnesota, she and her lab will use the \$200,000 grant to continue to push the boundaries of cellular engineering to create safe and effective immunotherapies for pancreatic cancer.



Stromnes

2000s

DJ COLTER '00, Harper, N.D., owns and operates the DJ Colter Agency, which was ranked No. 7 out of approximately 3,000 agencies nationwide in American Family Insurance's All American Campaign. Only a handful of agencies in North

Dakota earned this honor since American Family was established 90 years ago.



Colter

BRADY FREDERICK '01, Springfield, Mo., graduated from the Assemblies of God Theological Seminary at Evangel University in May with a Doctor of Ministry degree.

NICK GEVOCK M.A. '01, Helena, is the conservation director for the Montana Wildlife Federation. He works on wildlife, public lands and public access issues on the federal, state and local levels. His work includes lobbying



Gevock

Sports chiropractor **AMY BERGLUND '03**, **DR. ANGELA HAUGO '98**, physician assistant **JEAN HIGGINS PERRETO '97**, all of Stevensville, and pharmacist **JENNIFER ERRETT '07** of Hamilton, spent two weeks in Kenya over the summer as part of a medical mission. Together, the team was able to provide a unique combination of services, including treatment of musculoskeletal issues, primary care services and dispensing of medications. The team treated between 200 and 350 patients a day and also taught "How to Be Your Own Doctor" classes on basic health education.



Berglund



Haugo



Perreto



SCOTT PANKRATZ M.S. '00, Missoula, is the co-founder of Ecology Project International, a science-based, outdoor experiential education program that provides conservation education to locals in ecological hotspots around the world. The program launched in 2000 in Costa Rica, where, despite federal protections and conservation efforts, many critical habitats and species continued to decline. Pankratz and his wife worked with researchers at Pacuare Nature Reserve to measure turtles, tag them, count their eggs and sometimes move the eggs to a safer location to avoid predation. They also educated local Costa Ricans on how to collect and monitor data on the sea turtle populations, opening up a new understanding of the wildlife resources in their own backyards. EPI has expanded to five countries, which include sites in Belize, Costa Rica, the Galapagos Islands, Mexico and the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem.

Congress and the state Legislature, as well as grassroots organizing to build support for public lands and wildlife.

MILES WAGGENER M.F.A. '01, Omaha, Neb., was a recipient of the University of Nebraska at Omaha Alumni Association's 2017 Outstanding Teaching Award. Waggener is a poet, essayist and



Waggener

literary translator who coordinates The Writer's Workshop, UNO's undergraduate creative writing program. He also is graduate program chair for the M.F.A. in Writing Program and teaches courses in creative nonfiction and poetry. Waggener is author of two poetry collections – "Phoenix Suites," winner of the Washington Prize, and "Sky Harbor," as well as chapbooks "Portents Aside" and "Afterlives." His poems have appeared in numerous anthologies and journals. He also has won individual artist fellowships from the Arizona Commission on the Arts and the Nebraska Arts Council. He joined the UNO faculty in 2006.

Thirteen of the Missoulian's 2017 "20 Under 40" list of the top professionals in western Montana are UM alumni.

CHAD DUNDAS '02, M.F.A. '06, Missoula, is a writer and journalist who recently published his debut novel, "Champion of the World," a work of historical fiction about wrestling set in the 1920s.

PEDRO MARQUES M.S. '04, Missoula, is the staff restoration project manager for the Big Hole Watershed Committee, which explores ways to repair ecological damage caused by decades of smelter smoke blowing in Anaconda's copper mining operations.

APRYLE PICKERING M.A. '05, Missoula, is director of Community Medical Center's Population Health and Government Programs, which focus on looking at hospital populations in a holistic way to ensure healthy patients.

KATE SKINNER '05, Missoula, is a physical therapist who owns and operates Great Divide Physical Therapy, which concentrates on treating patients with specialty issues and chronic pain.

NATE SOUTHER '05, Missoula, is vice president and manager of Farmers State Bank's Lolo branch. In that capacity, he also serves as the bank's facilities manager, security officer, in-house appraiser and manager of real estate properties.

HANK GREEN M.S. '06, Missoula, is an online video guru who oversees the empire of channels, platforms, conventions and other activities connected to HankGreen.com.

PETER KERN '09, Missoula, owns the Bicycle Hangar, which he leverages to help local organizations. He served on the leadership team of the Montana Special Olympics State Summer Games for the three years they

took place in Missoula and led organization of the cycling events.

LAURA OLSONOSKI '09, Missoula, is an occupational therapist who founded Eat.Move.Grow, a company dedicated to helping people with disabilities, especially children, gain the physical and social skills they need to become successful and happy.

HOLLY BIEHL M.B.A. '11, Missoula, is the outreach and marketing director for the Clark Fork Coalition. In her role, she oversees the coalition's communications strategy and ensures consistent messaging across social media platforms.

CAITLIN HOFMEISTER '12, Missoula, is the senior producer for "SciShow," a series of YouTube channels that present accessible, informative videos on scientific concepts. The channel won the 2017 People's Choice Webby award.

STEPHANIE LAND '14, Missoula, is a writer focusing on social and economic justice whose work offers perspective on the struggles faced by those in poverty. Her memoir, "Maid: A Single Mother's Journey from Cleaning House to Finding Home," is scheduled for release in fall 2018.

RYAN TORRES '15 is a top executive at Logjam Presents, a prominent Missoula entertainment company. He's also manager and promoter for three of the city's largest music venues with hundreds of musical artists and performers during the year.

BRENDAN WORK M.Ed. '15 teaches Arabic language and culture for Missoula County Public Schools. He also assists refugees and works to reduce Islamophobia through Soft Landing Missoula.

TED GEOGHEGAN '02, New York City, is a writer and director whose most recent film, "Mohawk," premiered in Montreal in July and is set to be released to the public in 2018. "I wanted to make a movie that tells a story that

is just as important today as it was 200 years ago about confused white men whose racism and bigotry is unknowingly putting them on the wrong side of history," Geoghegan told the Great Falls Tribune. "It's steeped very much in

human drama. It's a very tense, sad movie."

TANA JOHNSON '04, Havre, was crowned Mrs. Montana 2017 and competed in the Mrs. America national competition in Las Vegas in August. Johnson is

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Donations still can be sent to *Montanan* editor, 214 Brantly Hall, University of Montana, Missoula, MT 59812. For credit card contributions, call 406-243-2488. Donations are tax deductible to the extent permitted by law. Please allow a week from receipt of payment before items ship.



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Johnson

a pharmacist pursuing board certification as an Oncology Doctor of Pharmacy. She competed to help raise awareness of prescription drug abuse and to raise money for the Victoria's Voice foundation.

ROBERT BIZJAK '07, Beaverton, Ore., earned his Doctorate of Education at Concordia University, Portland, after defending his dissertation, "Storied Lives, Unpacked Narratives and

Intersecting Experiences: A Phenomenological Examination of Self-Identifying LGBTQ Public School Educators." The dissertation's qualitative findings revealed that fear, the decision to self-disclose sexual orientation at work, the passion to teach, creating and sustaining meaningful relationships with students, and the need for safe spaces and district inclusivity intersect to shape and influence the professional lives of self-identifying LGBTQ public school teachers. Bizjak teaches junior English and AP literature in the Hillsboro School District, where he also serves as English department chair, Gay-Straight Alliance

adviser and co-facilitator for both for the Latino Leadership Club and the school's equity leadership team.

DARCY FEDER MILLER '07, Prairie du Sac, Wis., published her first novel, "Roll," with HarperCollins in May. "Roll" is billed as "a hilariously funny and poignant debut novel, perfect for fans of Jerry Spinelli, Kat Yeh, Gary D. Schmidt and Rebecca Stead."



EVAN WILSON '08, M.P.A. '09, Missoula, is western regional director for U.S. Rep. Greg Gianforte. He previously served as chief of staff for the Montana House Republicans and ran re-election campaigns for former U.S. Reps. Denny Rehberg and Ryan Zinke.

2010s

CHARLES ROBISON J.D., M.B.A. '10, Helena, is chief of staff for U.S. Congressman Greg Gianforte. He previously

Charles Robison J.D., M.B.A. is chief of staff for U.S. Congressman Greg Gianforte. '10

served as U.S. Sen. Steve Daines' state director for four years, as well as with Attorney General Tim Fox at the Helena law firm Gough, Shanahan, Johnson and Waterman.



Graslie

EMILY GRASLIE '11, Chicago, received the American Alliance of Museums' 2017 Nancy Hanks Memorial Award for Professional Excellence, which honors a museum professional with fewer than 10 years' experience in the field. Graslie, the chief curiosity correspondent for the Field Museum of Chicago, is the creator, host and writer for "The Brain Scoop," the museum's educational YouTube series. "The Brain Scoop," which has more than 400,000 subscribers, shares the research and collections work of natural history museums with a broad audience in a fun, engaging way.

MEGAN BETZ KUEHL '11, Jamestown, N.D., is head coach of the women's track and field team at the University of Jamestown. Before joining the Jimmies, she was an assistant track and field coach at St. Norbert College in



ERIN O'REILLY '11, M.Ed. '14; Missoula, **ANGELA HAWKALUK** '06, Missoula; **SHAELA WALTEE** '13, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam; and **LAUREN LOFTS** '11, Missoula; proudly display their Griz flag at Mount Everest Base Camp in May. The four alumnae trekked 81 miles to the 18,000-foot base camp to raise money to build houses for families in Thangpalkot, Nepal, who were left homeless after the April 2015 earthquake that destroyed nearly every structure in the village.



Several UM alumni and current students helped launch ATG's inaugural high school intern program in Missoula this summer. The program gave the interns the opportunity to gain real-world experience by completing a mock-up project with Big Dipper Ice Cream while building professional connections and cultivating leadership skills. **From left to right: MACIEJ NOSEK '17, CARLIN ANDERSON '18, Holly Foster, JOHN BISHOP '11, Danika Firth, Rachana Harris, SADIE LEHENBAUER '18, KYM CORWIN '09, Meaghan Toomey, JESSALYN KASUN '14, Molly Miltko, Meagan Damrow, CORRIE FLYNN '17, LOGAN GANIEANY '18.**

Jodi Mejerus Delaney M.A. received the 2017 Montana Statehood Centennial Ball Award. '15

Wisconsin. She competed for UM from 2006 to 2010, specializing in high jump and hurdles events. A team captain during her junior and senior years, Kuehl helped the Grizzlies to three top-three Big Sky Conference finishes, and she placed in the top eight in the multi or high jump six times.



Kuehl

JASON SCOTT '11, Missoula, is an associate



Scott

attorney for the P. Mars Scott law offices. His practice emphasizes complex marital dissolution and family law. He graduated from the Santa Clara University School of Law in 2016.



Lyons

JORDAN LYONS M.P.A. '12, Missoula, is the director of ASUM Renter Center at UM. He previously worked for 10 years helping low-income people in

Missoula with housing issues. As the Renter Center director, he helps students understand their rights and responsibilities as renters and promotes positive relationships between students and their neighbors.

CAROLYN GRAY MATTINGLY '12, Great Falls, is a deputy county attorney in the Cascade County Attorney's Office.

JODI MAJERUS DELANEY M.A. '15, Helena, received the 2017 Montana Statehood Centennial Bell Award, which honors the Montana History Teacher of the Year at the fourth-through sixth-grade levels. Delaney, a fourth-fifth grade Montessori teacher at Broadwater Elementary School, earned the honor for her "innovative, engaging, high-energy and rigorous" approach to teaching Montana history.



Downard

TY DOWNARD '15, Missoula, is an escrow assistant for First American Title Company. He works directly with real estate agents, lenders and other clients to prepare real estate closings.

MEGGIE REITZ '16, Bemidji, Minn., is an assistant coach for the Bemidji State University softball team. During her Division I career as a pitcher at UM, Reitz made 44 appearances, including 18 starts, going 8-12 overall. She allowed 147 hits in 116.1 innings of work with 65 strikeouts.

In Memoriam

We extend sympathy to the families of the following alumni, faculty and friends. Names without class or degree years include UM alumni, employees and friends. To be included in "In Memoriam," the UM Office of Alumni Relations requires a newspaper obituary or a letter of notification from the immediate family.

Material for In Memoriam reached our office by July 24, 2017.

1940s

Marie Rose Chappell Browning '41, Mill Valley, CA
Ruth Lloydell Allen Chandler '41, Missoula
Laura Frances Mattson McPherson '41, Great Falls
Betty Jean Neeley Stemple '41, Missoula
Teresa Marie Vietti '42, Butte
John Cornelius "Skeff" Sheehy L.L.B. '43, Helena
Natalie Lelah Grochow Kalaris '45, Kalispell
Evelyn Mae Rasmussen Nelson '45, Burien, WA
Irene Mae Caras Restad '45, Billings
Ruth Gladys Mittelstaedt Schulz '45, Loveland, CO
Virginia L. Speck M.A. '46, Helena
Ramona Best Holderman '48, Big Timber
Leonard James "Barney" Barnes '49, M.S. '52, Garrison
Clayton Eldridge "Clay" Fanslow '49, Missoula
Darrel Race "Bill" Martin '49, Kalispell
Mary Frances Law Mollander '49, Lewistown
Barbara "Shirley" Engelking Postlewait '49, Bozeman

1950s

Neil H. Ashley J.D. '50, Tucson, AZ
Helen Louise Rahming Bottomly '50, Seattle
Gerald Lee Kelly '50, La Jolla, CA
John Robert McCrea '50, La Mesa, CA
Helen P. Lambros Bourlakas '51, Missoula
Herald A. Demaree Jr. '51, Noblesville, IN
Steven Ted "Steve" Kuburich '51, Missoula
Shirley Jean McKown '51, Honolulu, HI
JoAn Mangan Strand '51, Portland, OR
Shirley Marie Embody '52, Waynesville, NC
Robert Blackwell "Bob" "Grif" Griffes '52, Missoula
John David Imsande '53, Ames, IA
Gerald Martin "Jerry" Tucker '53, Missoula
Skulason "Skuli" Moe '54, Whitefish
John Lewin Dean '55, Olympia, WA
Thomas Eugene "Gene" Downey '55, Spokane, WA
Lee Spuhler '55, M.Ed. '61, Ed.D. '65, Dillon
Lou "Marilyn" Vierhus Tutwiler '55, Helena
Dellas Glenn Eaton '56, Coeur d'Alene, ID
Richard Slater Austin '57, Apache Junction, AZ
Edward John Dahy III M.Ed. '57, Missoula
George Loran Frazier '57, Polson
Ivell Sue Ryder Halseide '57, Bellevue, WA
Jerome Francis "Jerry" Stoick '57, Kalispell
Thomas "Tom" Tahija '57, Butte
Kathryn B. "Kay" Huffman Will '57, Billings
Nathan "Howard" McCranie '58, Billings
Mikell Joyce Peck Neumann '58, Baker
Frank Paul Scaletta '58, Niagara Falls, NY

Arnold "Keith" Schlappy '58, Missoula
 Bernard Thomas "Bunky" Sullivan '58, Glasgow
 Robin Lee Voight '58, Beaverton, OR

1960s

Charles Henry "Charlie" Koski '60, M.A. '70, Ph.D. '72, Mesa, AZ
 Dorothy Vernon "Dolly" Derr Steinmetz LaMarche '61, Coeur D'Alene, ID
 Richard J. Andriolo '61, J.D. '63, Bozeman
 Victor Melvin Signori M.Ed. '62, Billings
 Dolores Elaine "Dee" Dempsey Wright Vallaster '62, Bigfork, MN
 Don Francis Dunwell '63, Helena
 Judy Ann Hove Harding '63, Helena
 Donald Stoever "Don" Hooper '63, Sioux Falls, SD
 Robert E. "Bob" Holton '65, Butte
 John A. Jette '65, Spring Creek, NV
 Gary L. Wollan '65, Cut Bank
 Todd Alan Brandoff '66, Lolo
 Charles "C.B." McNeil J.D. '66, Polson
 Jackson Chester "Jack" McWhorter '66, Nampa, ID
 Douglas LeRoy "Doug" Rives '66, Salem, OR
 William Allan "Bill" Hooper '67, Helena
 James A. "Jim" Miller '67, M.Ed. '76, Missoula
 Dorothy Louise Schuchman Rouse '67, Hamilton
 Leona Malinda Miller Arestad '68, Denver
 Arthur Gordon "Art" Matteucci J.D. '68, Great Falls
 Linda Lee Johnson Myhr '68, Hillsboro, OR
 John Bernard Van Heuvelen '68, Denver
 Carol Hoiland Coats '69, M.A. '72, Missoula
 Dagmar Charlotte Graham '69, Calgary, AB

1970s

Christopher Ernest "Chris" Bader '70, San Diego
 John Blodgett Cheek Jr. '70, Butte
 Bradford Craig "Brad" Greene '70, Missoula
 Thomas Roy "Tom" Madden M.A. '70, La Grande, OR
 Cynthia Marie "Cindy" Hough Hancock Addison M.F.A. '71, Great Falls
 Keith Desmond Crosbie M.A. '71, Manhattan
 Jim Crea Stevick '71, Clancy
 Nicholas Robert "Nick" "Nicky" Hill '72, Billings
 Susan "Jane" Wallace Lopp '72, Kalispell
 Richard F. "Ozzie" Osswald '72, East Stroudsburg, PA
 Michael J. Rieley '72, J.D. '79, Helena
 Gregory Joseph "Greg" Skakles J.D. '72, Anaconda
 Roy Lee "Rusty" Spaulding III '72, Helena
 Hazel May Ray Thomas '72, Ogden, UT
 Donald L. "Don" Woodcock M.S. '72, Washington City, UT
 Laurence L. "Larry" Waldron M.Ed. '73, Sammamish, WA
 George William "Jerry" Huss J.D. '74, Miles City
 Karen Ann Reyner '74, Missoula

Marilyn "Jo" Downs Canaris '75, Stevensville
 Barbara Judith Edwards Hauf Ed.D. '75, Missoula
 Bonnie Jean Hopewell Faust M.Ed. '76, Missoula
 Bruce Carl Peterson '76, New England, ND
 Barbara Anne "Coop" Miller Morales Cooper '78, M.Ed. '97, Helena

1980s

Brian Joseph Van Valkenburg '80, Billings
 John S. "Jack" "Murph" Murphy M.S. '82, Troy
 Rita Celeste Munzenrider '83, Santa Fe, NM
 Micheal Robert Stark '83, M.I.S. '99, Darby
 Griffith Lawrence "Griff" Bye '84, Kevin
 Anne Louise Kemmerer Reinsel M.Ed. '84, Missoula
 Janet Lynette Lindquist Schafer '84, Missoula
 Susan Rebecca Sperry '84, Helena
 Larry LaPierre Henderson Ed.D. '85, Medicine Hat, AB
 Stephen Michael "Steve" Frankino J.D. '86, Helena
 Larry Allen Gursky '86, Roy, WA
 Henry Peder "Pete" Kappelman '86, Missoula
 Karen Denise Jacobs Lieb '86, Flagstaff, AZ
 Alexandrine "Sandra" Perrin '86, '87, Missoula
 Patty Jo Young Coughlin '87, Billings
 Doreen Lynnee Harper Raddatz '87, Soldotna, AK
 Scott Michael Buckner '88, Livingston
 William A. Jensen '88, Missoula
 Todd Paul Johnson '88, '91, Albuquerque, NM
 Anita Louise Dahl England '89, Missoula

1990s

Alice Rebecca "Becky" Smartt Greely Eamon '90, Missoula
 Matthew Michael "Matt" Fawcett '90, M.Ed. '00, Corvallis, OR
 John Timothy "Tim" McGarvey '90, Missoula
 Daniel Michael Normandeau '90, Ronan
 Michael John "Mike" Deme '92, Missoula
 Robert Chester "Bob" McKenna M.B.A. '94, Albuquerque, NM
 Dorothy Mae Hedin Gould '97, Peoria, AZ
 Gwendolyn Jo "Gwen" Harsell '97, J.D. '01, Missoula
 Gary Lee Bargar '98, Des Moines, IA

2000s

John Joseph "Jack" Crowley Ed.D. '00, Butte
 Mary Elizabeth "Harrington" Mattis Wasson '01, Florence
 Merl Stephen Sage '02, Rock Creek
 David James "Dave" Parker '05, Helena

2010s

Daniel Francis "Dan" Cimmino '10, Lake Mary, FL
 Erin K. Johnson '11, Anchorage, AK
 Tessa Lynn Gehring '15, Missoula
 Alexander Edward Terajewicz '16, Missoula
 Sarah Rebekah Ottley '17, Tucson, AZ

Betty Jane Fuller Argenbright, Helena
 Phyllis Lechner Bellingham, Billings
 Linze Tate Brockmeyer, St. Ignatius
 William "Bill" Busta, Great Falls
 George David Caras, Missoula
 Mary Rodes Leaphart Carter, Missoula
 Dirk C. Chilcote, Missoula
 Roberta Marie "Bobbie" Reber Corrette, Bigfork
 Raymond L. Corro, Missoula
 John Frederic Daum, Los Angeles
 Teddy Hector "Ted" Deschamps, Missoula
 Delores Marie Devore, Missoula
 Donald Burnett "Don" Dowling, Hamilton
 Betty Childs Randono Earll, Great Falls
 William Ross "Bill" Epperly, Kalispell
 John Newton Etchart, Helena
 Sharon A. Sanders Field, Camarillo, CA
 Leslie Ann "Les" Wickland Frazee, San Diego
 Nicholas L. "Nick" Frazee, San Diego
 Len Abbot Fuqua, Billings
 Carlos M. Gomez-Duran, Gorliz, Spain
 Delbert K. "Del" Graves, Missoula
 Sharon Lee Phebus Helgeson, Billings
 Rexine "Dean" "Rex" Montgomery Hennies, Missoula
 Dennis Lee "Pete" Hove, Billings
 Harriet Louise "Hattie" Hunter Humes, St. George, UT
 Gary Paul Kahl, Missoula
 Tsukasa Karashima, Kumamoto, Japan
 Margaret Fargo "Peggy" Spink Kusumoto, Kalispell
 Burnell C. "Bernie" Larson, Mesa, AZ
 Tami Grace McKinley Larson, Bend OR
 Jeffery E. "Jeff" Lenci, Salt Lake City, UT
 Ethel Jeanette "E.J." Berger Lyman, Missoula
 Yvonne "Bonnie" Martinez, Billings
 Paul Edward "Ed" Matteucci, Great Falls
 Gretchen Kay Greiner McBroom, Missoula
 James Augustine "Jim" "Pork" McDonald, Butte
 Jeraldine E. "Jerry" Nooney Miles, Missoula
 Perry James "Jim" Moore III, Bozeman
 Helen Weinmeister Mueller, Kalispell
 Jane Slichter Harnack Ragsdale, Missoula
 Joanne F. Reynolds, Missoula
 Kenneth J. "Ken" Rickert, Stevensville
 Loretta "Babe" Feronato Ruffatto, Stevensville
 Scott Louis Schroeder, Fort Collins, CO
 Jean P. Elliot Skelton, Missoula
 Norma "Jane" Garrison Snurr, Waynesboro, PA
 Bruce Craig Spencer, Lakewood, WA
 Ralph Thisted, Huson
 Karen Gayle Weed Tipp, Missoula
 Chris "Sparky" Walterskirchen, Missoula
 Mignon Redfield Waterman, Helena
 Grant Marion Winn, Missoula
 Richard Perry "Dick" Withycombe, Missoula

Downtown Missoula: Positive Changes for Future Grizzlies

If you haven't been to Downtown Missoula in many years, you might find it looking vastly different than it did 20 years ago. In another 5 years, it will change even more. Over \$800 million dollars of investment is coming to Downtown Missoula with projects such as the 488-bed East Front Street Student Housing project, a new Missoula Public Library, the Riverfront Triangle mixed-use development project, and the six-story Stockman Bank building. With this brings more folks living, working, and visiting Downtown. In turn, Downtown Missoula will continue to prosper and grow.

As Downtown Missoula sees positive changes, the Downtown Missoula Partnership (DMP) – comprised of the Missoula Downtown Association, the Business Improvement District, and the Missoula Downtown Foundation – will continue to dedicate itself to promoting, supporting, and enhancing the vitality of Downtown Missoula. Through this mission, alongside the investments happening in Downtown, the DMP will strive every day to create a place for current and future Grizzlies to enjoy.



SUPPORT DOWNTOWN!

The Missoula Downtown Foundation (MDF) is working to keep memories alive for current UM students, future generations of UM graduates, and alumni who return to Missoula to visit. Projects such as replacing the Caras Park canopy, updating the Downtown Master Plan, and other major goals for Downtown are seeking funding. The Friends of Downtown campaign kicks off in October 2017 – be sure to make your yearend contribution before December 31. Visit missouladowntown.com/MDF or call 406-543-4238 for more information.

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50 Years and Growing

BY BREANNA ROY '09

A particular plot on campus has proven to be a perennial success. The Lackschewitz-Preece Montana Native Botanic Garden, named for its founders, has managed to flower 50 years after its initial planting in 1966. Now, more than 300 native species of flora surround UM's Natural Sciences annex and greenhouse.

Interest in native plants and sustainable gardening is abundant these days, but that wasn't the case in the 1960s when the idea for the garden sprouted.

Expansive lawns of Kentucky bluegrass with systematically spaced maple and oak trees dominated campus's landscaping at that time. UM botanist and horticulturist Klaus Lackschewitz and botany chair Sherman Preece, however, envisioned a different environment for their students: a garden cultivating only native species to serve as a hands-on teaching tool.

"We're one of the first native gardens in the West and maybe the first," says Kelly Chadwick, University Center gardens manager and native plant garden volunteer. "It was ahead of its time."

Lackschewitz and Preece carefully created sections suitable for each species to flourish. Shade, sunshine and soil at varied amounts mimic Montana's motley ecosystems.

"If you look at Montana, I mean, it's diverse in its landscape," volunteer coordinator Alice Okon says. "You've got plains. You've got mountains. You have prairies. You've got wetlands. All of that is represented with our interpretation of it at this garden."

With an appropriate environment, one might assume these hearty breeds basically grow themselves.

The truth is very, very quite contrary. So how do these gardens grow?

With volunteers who, through the years, weed and prune and sow.

 A video of the gardeners is available at montanan.umn.edu.



- 1 Today, more than 23 gardeners ensure over 300 species of native flora blossom and thrive in the areas designated as their habitat.
- 2 UM botanist and horticulturist Klaus Lackschewitz works in the garden in 1969. He and botany chair Sherman Preece planted the original seeds in the site 50 years ago.
- 3 Bright purple monkeyflower blossoms greet garden passersby.
- 4 Peter Stickney, a retired U.S. Forest Service ecologist, still devotes time to keeping weeds out of the bunchgrass prairie section of the garden.

After Lackschewitz retired in 1976, non-native species crept into the flowerbeds and began to take over. It wasn't until 1989 that two friends of Lackschewitz – Jean Parker and Jean Pfeiffer – decided to rescue the garden.


As members of the Clark Fork Chapter of the Native Plant Society, Parker and Pfeiffer learned a lot from Lackschewitz on frequent trips into alpine areas across the state to gather native species. They dedicated themselves to restoring the garden to his original vision.

"With them all being friends and respecting him so much, they all shared that interest and love of the garden," Chadwick says. "I think that's created the heart of this garden."

The group has organized the gardening effort the past quarter-century, and many of the 23 volunteers have dedicated themselves to the effort for a good portion of those years.

"Even before I was involved, I always admired these gardens and was interested in them," Chadwick says, "and then I met the people. The volunteers are such intelligent, reliable, caring and interesting people. So the people have locked me in."

In addition to Chadwick and Okon, the list of longest-serving volunteers includes Pfeiffer; Lackschewitz' neighbor, Chinwon Reinhardt, who also has fond memories of learning about plants from Lackschewitz; Peter Stickney, a retired U.S. Forest Service postfire forest succession research ecologist; Lois Puckett, a volunteer since 1991; and Sheila Morrison, author of "The Magic of Montana Native Plants: A Gardeners Guide to Growing over 150 Species from Seed."

"It's really fun," Morrison says. "The best people I know are my plant people." 



Enjoy your stay, on the river

Missoula is a wonderful place to vacation, do business, or simply spend the day while traveling. Treat yourself to accommodations designed to compliment your Missoula experience with a stay at Missoula's only river-front hotel - The DoubleTree, on the banks of Missoula's Clark Fork river.

Cool fresh mountain air, the peaceful sound of the river, and mountain views all add up to a great night's sleep. Start your day with breakfast on the deck overlooking the river. Enjoy a short walk to the University of Montana Campus and the trail up Mount Sentinel or stroll Downtown to boutiques, galleries and restaurants. Take in the Farmers Market, Out-to-Lunch on Wednesdays and Downtown Tonight on Thursdays.

Meet your friends for lunch, dinner and drinks, at the DoubleTree's Finn and Porter restaurant overlooking the Clark Fork river. Dine inside or out. Enjoy fine dining – steaks and seafood, complimented with a spectacular wine and cocktail selection, or talk at the bar over fresh oysters, appetizers and gourmet pizza. Schedule private-dining business meetings, banquets or conventions. The DoubleTree and Finn and Porter are Missoula's most popular meeting place. The perfect way to make your Missoula experience even more wonderful.



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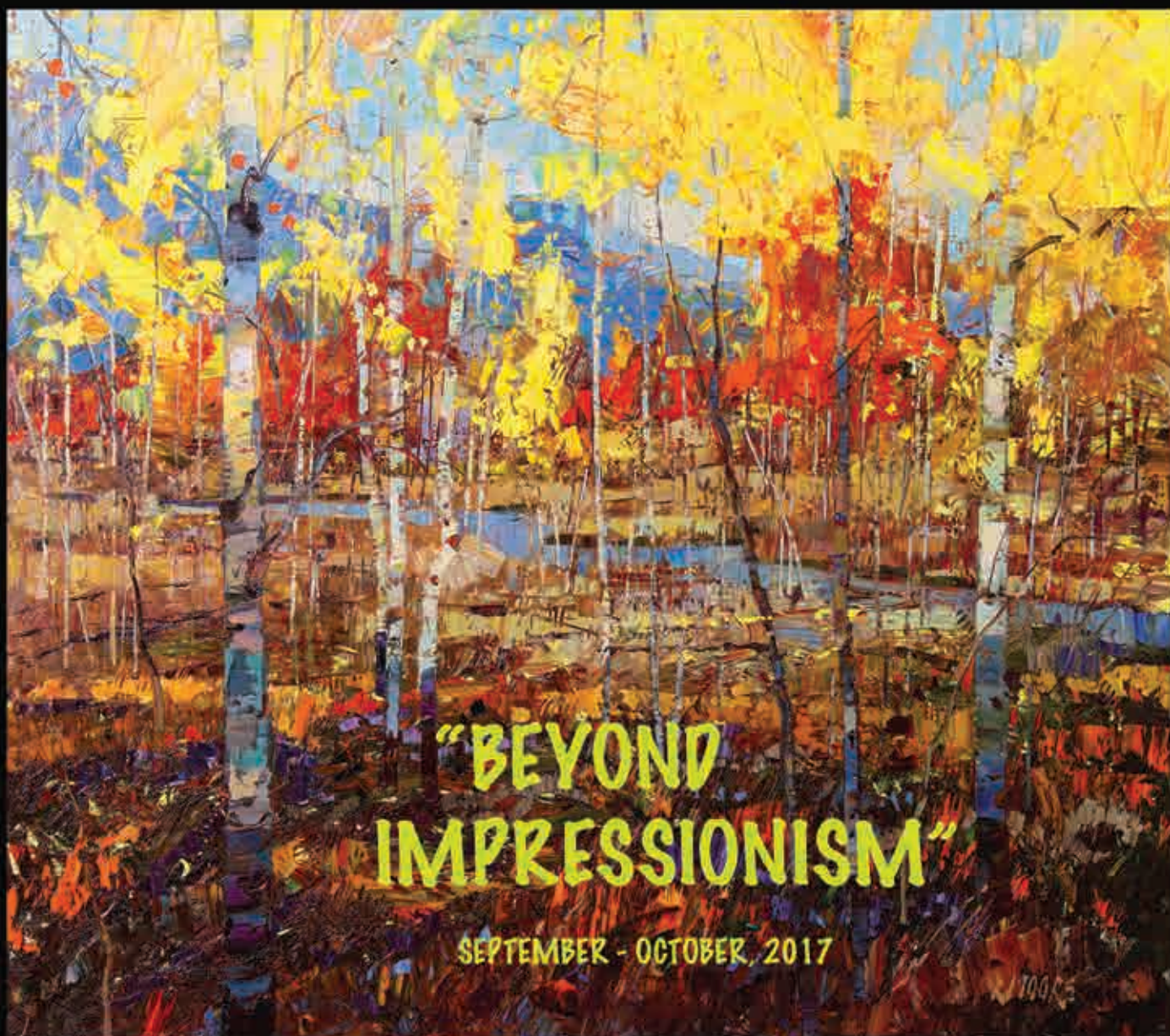
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