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Lily Gladstone '08 stars in Certain Women, which premiered at the Sundance Film Festival in January. A critic from Rolling Stone called Gladstone the "breakout star" of the festival.

PHOTO BY AUSTIN HARGRAVE/AUGUST

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A rainbow forms in the mist above Kootenai Falls just outside Libby. UM students, faculty, and a Missoula marketing agency are helping the town rediscover itself in the wake of a tumultuous past.

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BY JACOB BAYNHAM '07 Lily Gladstone is a star on the rise, but her Blackfeet identity and UM roots keep her grounded in the capricious world of showbiz.

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Be sure to visit montanan. umt.edu for an extended Q&A with Ryan Bell, a Fulbright-National Geographic fellowship recipient; more photos; and exclusive content.

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This self-portrait of *Curiosity* shows the rover at the Big Sky site on Mars.

WRITTEN IN THE STARS

As usual, I enjoyed reading the *Montanan* from cover to cover. This time was extra special when reading "The Last Best Space" [Winter 2016].

As a physician, I have had the cosmic jolly of keeping many NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory employees healthy. This has given me many opportunities to be in the Clean Room, including watching when *Curiosity* took her first "steps" as her wheels received their first commands.

There was the time of chewing my nails to the quick as we waited to hear if *Cassini* entered orbit around Saturn. A photo taken by *Cassini* looking back at Saturn showing Earth as a speck in the sky has an honored place in my office.

Then there was the time we stayed up all night waiting to hear if *Opportunity* or *Spirit* or *Sojourner* would communicate with us.

I remember *New Horizons* people telling me about the nine-year, 3-billion-mile trip. How could that possibly happen when technology changes so quickly? How could the computers of then talk to the computers of now? Well, they made it happen. The joy and surprises of the first pictures have left everyone stunned and excited.

The tradition is to eat peanuts while waiting, which is not too healthy. We implemented relaxation techniques and breathing cadences to help with the waiting.

But waiting is challenging in other ways. Will these amazing projects continue to be funded? Think about the difficulty of these projects and how successful they have been. There just aren't words to describe it.

In the *Montanan* article, Brian Nixon said, "Most of Western Montana is now represented on Mars." He can add Polson, because that's where I'm from. When *Curiosity* was launched, a disk was placed on her containing the names of all of the people involved with the project. Family members and friends also were named, including me. I doubt that I will get into space—I get air sick really easily—but my name will forever be on *Curiosity*.

Now that is a true cosmic jolly!

Thanks for keeping me connected to UM and Montana.

DR. KHELLY WEBB '72Long Beach, Calif.



The Montanan welcomes letters to the editor. Please sign and include your graduating year or years of attendance, home address, and phone number or e-mail address

Send them to: Montanan Editor, 325 Brantly Hall, Missoula, MT 59812 or

themontanan@umontana.edu.

Because of space limitations, we are not able to include all letters sent to us. Letters may be edited for length or clarity. While universities are places of discussion where people do not always agree, letters deemed potentially libelous or that malign a person or group will not be published. Opinions expressed in the *Montanan* do not necessarily reflect those of the University of Montana.

WHERE'S YOUR GRIZ BEEN?

BREANNA WILSON '08 dons her Griz gear in Cologne, Germany, this past August. "I work for Xbox's PR agency, Assembly, and was in town staffing the world's largest video game event, gamescom. Once our work was done, my team and I took some time to explore the city. Our first stop was the Cologne Cathedral, one of Germany's most famous cathedrals. It's Cologne's second-tallest structure, so I couldn't get the whole thing in the picture—but believe me that it's impressively large and detailed. Congratulations, Breanna! 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 **themontanan@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.



The Montanan would like to thank the following readers for recently donating to the magazine:

Christina Van Roekel, Judith Herber. James Wells, Thomas Fulton, Michael Heine. William Hegland, Marilyn Anderson, T.M. Powers, George McElhinney and Suzanne Repasky, Ethel Byrnes, Daniel Poole, Roger Bieber, Margaret Herbert, Richard Lea, Don Kinzle, Robert Alley, Janet Dargitz, Vicki Todd, Rebecca Marsh, Brian Pederson, John Hodgson, Claudia Tidball, Jerry Hayes, and Park Densmore.





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Some exceptions apply, see store for details. Offer ends 8/1/16.

AROUND THE OVAL

An End and a Beginning As business school Dean Gianchetta retires, next leader

will assume UM's first endowed dean's chair

THE YEAR WAS 1975.

The Captain and Tennille's Love Will Keep Us Together was the top song, Jack Nicholson's turn as "Mac" McMurphy in One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest earned him his first Oscar, and the University of Montana Grizzlies men's basketball team nearly knocked off legendary coach John Wooden and his mighty UCLA Bruins in the NCAA Tournament.

Also that year, a fresh-faced assistant professor named Larry Gianchetta arrived on campus for his new gig at the business school.

"I was here to teach everyone's favorite course: statistics," Gianchetta says with a laugh.

Now, forty-one years later, Gianchetta, who rose to dean of UM's School of Business Administration, is calling it a career.

"I loved the culture and the academic composition of this campus then, and I still do now," he says. "I love having law and pharmacy and fine arts. When I talk to alumni, they obviously give the business

school credit for preparing them for their careers, but they also say that why they're in the seat they're in is because of a strong liberal arts background. There are more buildings and programs now, but that culture is still here."

In 1981, Gianchetta became chair of the Department of Management and Marketing and was named dean five years later.

His accomplishments are many, including securing financial support for the William and Rosemary Gallagher Business Building; acquiring a World Trade Center—one of only a handful in the U.S. associated with universities; and creating majors in marketing and management information systems and certificate programs in entertainment management, entrepreneurship, and big data. He also started the American Indian Business Leaders in 1994. Today, that organization has grown nationally and includes seventy-six chapters.

His successor will no doubt have big shoes to fill, but thanks to the generosity of two alumni, UM's first endowed dean's position will ensure the school has strong leadership well into the future.

Mark Burnham '84 and Eric Sprunk '86, together with their families, each made a \$1 million contribution this past winter to create the School of Business Administration's Endowed Dean's Chair. Their support enables SoBA to recruit an exceptional candidate to replace Gianchetta, and the endowment guarantees that funds to support the next dean's salary and vision will be available in perpetuity.

"All things flow from the leader of an organization," says Burnham. "The school has a great reputation, built over the last thirty years with



Above: Larry Gianchetta has worked at UM's School of Business Administration for forty-one years.

Left: Erik Sprunk '86, left, and Mark Burnham '84 jovially shake hands at an event announcing their gifts to UM.

Larry at the helm, and now we need to find the next great leader to move us forward."

Both men are proven leaders, having built successful careers on the backs of their UM

educations. Burnham is the director of finance of Hawthorn Retirement Group LLC, a senior housing company, and managing principal of OZ Cap LLC, an advisory firm. Sprunk, after starting his career at PricewaterhouseCoopers, joined Nike in 1993 and has been with the company in various management positions ever since, currently serving as chief operating officer.

"This was a great idea," Gianchetta says. "The business school will be in good hands for sure."

Gianchetta and his wife, Deedee—known by many as the "Deaness"—plan to stay in Missoula and remain active within the campus community.

"This is a special place," Gianchetta says. "What I'm proudest of is the faculty we've assembled. If anybody says I've left a legacy here, that's what I'd wish it to be. I enjoy coming to work each day, and to be able to do that for forty-plus years and still feel the same way, I feel fortunate."

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THE PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

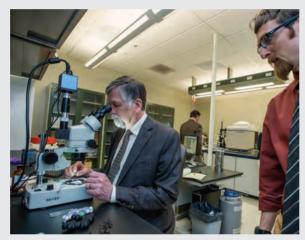
Greetings from the beautiful UM campus, where crabapple trees are in full bloom, as are the yellow arrowleaf balsamroot on Mount Sentinel.

The weeks leading to Commencement are among the most enjoyable of the academic year, as we take time to recognize the accomplishments of our students. Awards ceremonies, scholarship events, special convocations for student research, scholarship, and service keep everyone busy and serve to reinforce our role in preparing students for life after graduation.

At UM, we are pursuing a path that will lead us to be among the most respected flagship institutions in the country. We do that by focusing intently on three areas:

- Outstanding academics that range from the humanities and sciences to a broad array of professional programs, all taught by a world-class faculty.
- Research and scholarship of high impact to address challenges and opportunities important to today's world.
- Building a learning environment second to none based on a vibrant campus atmosphere, our supportive host community, and our stunning campus and surroundings.

Academic innovation runs deep at UM these days. As a result of faculty initiative and student interest. we soon will see a new program in data analytics, a new Humanities Institute. an emphasis in health programs through the new UM Health and Medicine initiative, and a full baccalaureate program in early childhood education.



President Royce Engstrom prepares a crystal sample for the state-of-the-art X-ray diffractometer inside the lab of Assistant Professor Orion Berryman.

Our faculty are engaged in a robust discussion about our academic foundation in the liberal arts and sciences and the elements of a competitive education in the twenty-first century. We will record the most productive year for research activity that we have ever seen at UM, and we are on the way to another outstanding year of fundraising through philanthropy.

Recently, I have had the opportunity to visit several academic units and observe up close the work going on in media arts, environmental studies, and chemistry. While these are just three out of many outstanding units, I continue to be impressed by the advances in online learning, experiential learning, and research activity in those programs. Our faculty members are intensely dedicated to providing the best education available, and the accomplishments of our graduates demonstrate exactly that.

Enjoy this issue of the *Montanan*, which illustrates the fine work of our graduates and how UM academic programs are helping Montana communities and businesses thrive.

Have a great summer!

Royce C. Engstrom, President

Notable Quotable

UM's School of Business

Administration will launch its new master's degree in business analytics this fall. The Master of Science degree, a joint effort between marketing and management information systems, combines new elements with several existing programs. The core curriculum includes the study of business intelligence, big data analysis, business statistics, statistical computing, data mining and management, and communicating insights based on data analysis and associated decision-making.

- Nicky Phear, UM's Climate Change Studies coordinator, was named the 2016 recipient of the Clean Energy and Empowerment Education Award from the U.S. Department of Energy. It recognizes Phear's leadership in education about clean energy and her mentorship of students in the field.
- Two UM professors are listed as "highly cited researchers" in the 2015 edition of *The World's Most Influential Scientific Minds*.

 The publication, released by Thomson Reuters, includes UM Regents Professor of Ecology Ragan Callaway and conservation ecology and genetics Professor Gordon Luikart under the Environment/Ecology section.
- will succeed **Provost Perry Brown**, who will retire in June after twenty-one years at UM.
- Emilie LeBel, assistant professor of composition at UM's School of Music, recently became the first woman to win the Land's End Ensemble's Composer Competition. The Land's End Ensemble, dedicated to excellence in performance and recording of new music, holds an annual national composer competition in Canada. LeBel responded to a call for piano trio works in 2015 and won with her piece *Oranda*.
- UM hired **Thomas Crady** as vice president for enrollment and student affairs. Crady, previously the vice president for enrollment management at Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, Minn., will start his new duties this summer. He will succeed **Vice President for Student Affairs Teresa Branch**, who will retire after thirteen years at UM.

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Show your Griz spirit by supporting your **Montanan** alumni magazine. Circulation just passed 100,000, and an award-winning publication of this caliber is expensive to produce and mail.

The **Montanan** offers four *Montanan Wherever I Am* gifts to donors:

\$25 - window cling and Griz taillight decals

\$50 - hat or T-shirt

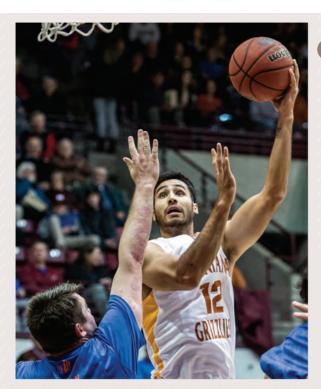
\$75 – license plate frame

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Also, if you don't want a print version of the magazine, only want a digital version, or are receiving multiple print copies, let us know at **montanan.umt.edu/subscribe**. If you want to make a contribution to the **Montanan**, visit **montanan.umt.edu/support**.

Donations still can be sent to Montanan editor, 325 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.





Martin Breunig, a 6-foot-8 senior from Leverkusen, Germany, became UM's highest scoring two-year player in school history this season, racking up 1,158 career points in his two seasons as a Griz. Breunig was a two-time unanimous selection to the All-Big Sky Conference First Team. The Grizzlies fell to the Weber State University Wildcats in the Big Sky Conference Tournament championship game. The team finished with a 21-12 record under second-year head coach Travis DeCuire '94.

UM freshman pitcher Maddy Stensby threw the first no-hitter in program history on April 16 in a 8-0 win over Portland State University. Stensby, from Olympia, Wash., retired fifteen of the sixteen batters she faced, narrowly missing out on a perfect game. Stensby continued with her hot hand, recording yet another no-hitter on April 27 against the University of Great Falls.





Lady Griz junior Kayleigh Valley was named a unanimous All-Big Sky Conference First Team selection after putting together one of the best offensive campaigns in Lady Griz history. The Spokane, Wash., native's 21.6 points-per-game scoring average during the regular season was surpassed only by Shannon [Cate] Schweyen, who averaged 23.3 in 1991-92 and 22.3 in 1990-91. The Lady Griz posted a 20-11 record and fell in the quarterfinals of the Big Sky Conference Tournament.

UM Creates New Health and Medicine Initiative

UM PROVIDES MORE HEALTH CAREER PROGRAMS THAN ANY OTHER CAMPUS IN THE STATE, and to promote this fact and foster new advances in health education and research, the new UM Health & Medicine initiative recently launched.

"We already offer incredibly robust programming in health and medicine areas, which lead to high-paying jobs in some of the hottest career fields," UM President Royce Engstrom says. "UMHM gives us the structure to emphasize, strengthen, and grow these programs for the benefit of Montana and the region."

The new organization will:

- Recruit students into health professions and create new degree programs to meet employment demands.
- Strengthen relationships with partners committed to regional graduate medical education.
- Boost collaboration of UM's instructional, research, and clinical expertise in health care.
- Facilitate robust research focused on improving health outcomes across Montana.

Montana will need 40 percent more health care workers in the next decade, according to UM's Bureau of Business and Economic Research. This translates to an additional 7,000 workers by 2025 to care for Montana's growing and aging population.

This is compelling news to Reed Humphrey, the UMHM initiative leader and dean of UM's College of Health Professions and Biomedical Sciences. Forecasts such as this mean UM must become even more engaged in preparing health care professionals.

"There is an ever-widening gap between the health needs of Montanans and our ability to supply a workforce to meet those needs," Humphrey says. "It struck me when I arrived on this campus



years ago that we have a lot of really strong programs but lacked a common identity or entry point, mostly because programs grew up in different

colleges on the campus. That made it difficult to understand how to navigate a career path in health professions. We needed to fix that, and UMHM is designed to do exactly that."

He said the initiative will provide a framework for UM's health and medicine programs, which are widespread across campus and include UM's two-year Missoula College. UMHM will provide a portal for students interested in health careers. He also wants the organization to generate and support a "community of learners" among its students—a group that will synergize and enhance the learning process at UM.

Roberta Evans is another designer of the initiative and dean of UM's Phyllis J. Washington College of Education and Human Sciences, where "human sciences" refer to a portfolio of physical and mental health programs that constitute nearly half the college. She said the UMHM effort is transdisciplinary and will train professionals in the teamwork component required by people now working in hospitals to treat the whole person.

"Currently, the many great academic health opportunities across UM appear like pieces of a jigsaw puzzle," Evans says. "This program will bring the pieces together, clarify the options available, and also showcase our extraordinary successes. So I think this will unify our messaging, and the opportunities are going to just explode."

More information about the initiative, which will be housed in UM's Skaggs Building, is online at www.umt.edu/umhm.

A troupe of UM alumni directed by UM Professor Karen Kaufmann use dance to teach the science of fire in nature as part of the InnovateUM Conference held in April at UM. InnovateUM was part of "ix5," a weeklong celebration of innovation and imagination at UM, in Montana, and beyond.



НОТО ВУ ТОВВ GOOD ИСН

THE BOTTOM LINE:

84th:

UM Dining's national ranking for customer satisfaction out of 1,713 colleges and universities, according to the Niche 2016 Best College Food ranking; it also was No. 1 in Montana

94th:

Percentile ranking for UM School of Business Administration students in the Business Major Field Test



The Academic Student Choir Pedavoces of Finland performs in the Music Recital Hall during the 2013 International Choral Festival. The triennial event celebrates its tenth anniversary this summer.

In Perfect Harmony

UM partnership ever-present as International Choral Festival rings in tenth anniversary

n 1987, UM music Professor Donald Carey asked the community to help bring to life his dream of an international choral festival in Missoula.

The response was resounding.

Dozens of local families agreed to host performers from Austria, France, Germany, Italy, Latvia, and Poland, as well as Minnesota, South Dakota, and across Montana.

The festival drew such a buzz that audiences burst expectations. Organizers had to relocate the finale concert from a high school gym to Missoula's largest indoor venue: the Adams Center.

A first-year music student at the time, Anne Marie Brinkman '92 remembers Carey's enthusiasm as he rallied UM students to volunteer at the inaugural festival.

"He's just amazing," Brinkman says, "and the whole way it got started was just completely grassroots."

Carey had experienced the cultural delight of international festivals as conductor of the UM Chamber Chorale when it participated in the *Festival International de Chant Choral* in Nancy, France, in 1983. Two years later, he toured Europe as director of the Missoula Mendelssohn Club. As the chorus shared its songs with welcoming European countries, Carey and his fellow choristers believed Missoula also had the hospitality to host an international event.

It did.

"People just took it on, and then the community just embraced it," says Brinkman, now executive director of the triennial event. "And here we are, this many years later, still in the same position with the great relationship with the University and the community embracing us."

Missoula will celebrate the Tenth International Choral Festival July 13-16. About 100 local volunteers and more than 100 families will host thirteen choirs from ten countries across four continents. Current UM Chamber Chorale Conductor David Edmonds will lead a new Missoula youth choir, Bella Armonia, during this summer's festival. In tune with tradition, UM's Adams Center will host the finale concert, with the Music Recital Hall and Dennison Theatre acting as the two main concert venues during the week.

Brinkman says she still consults with Carey throughout the planning process.

"We haven't strayed far from the original idea of just bringing super-great, world-class choirs from all around the world to share their culture," Brinkman says. "We do come up with new ideas every festival, but the core idea—which was [Carey's]—is always present. It's wonderful to keep that tradition up."

For more information visit www. choralfestival.org.

-Breanna Roy

Meet Grizwald,

the University of Montana's cartoon bear. In the Winter 2016 issue of the *Montanan*, we asked readers to submit captions interpreting Grizwald's actions in a humorous way. This issue's winning caption was sent in by **MIKE HEROUX '71.** Congratulations, Mike, you've won a Griz stadium blanket.

Stay tuned! In the next issue of the *Montanan*, a new cartoon featuring Grizwald will need a caption. You could be the next winner!



"Perfect! I think I'll call it Starbears."

8th

National ranking of UM's School of Journalism in a survey by the Radio Television Digital News Association UM media arts students who interned for Walking
Out, the third feature film set in Montana directed by
Professor Andrew Smith and his twin brother, Alex

8th:

Great Value Colleges' ranking for UM for offering a great value on education in a beautiful setting







Above: The new Gilkey Building recently opened. Left: A view inside the building Below: A second-floor conference room

On May 12, UM celebrated the opening of its newest campus facility, the Harold and Priscilla Gilkey Building. Generously funded through private donations, the building is home to Enterprise and Executive Development, the Global Leadership Initiative, and the UM Foundation. The Gilkey Building provides a place to develop entrepreneurial leadership capabilities for UM students, organizations, and business leaders through innovative programs that combine academic rigor, real-world application, and experiential learning. It will be a unique venue for businesses, entrepreneurs, and emerging leaders to learn, develop, and contribute. For more information e-mail kate.mcgoldrick@ mso.umt.edu.



UM Professor to Continue World's Longest-Running Elk Study

UM ungulate habitat ecology Associate Professor Mark Hebblewhite recently received a \$435,000 grant from the
National Science Foundation to continue a fifteen-year study
of migratory elk in Alberta, Canada. Since 2001, Hebblewhite
and co-principal investigator Evelyn Merrill of the University of
Alberta have collared and tracked more than 500 elk in one of
the longest-running field research projects on the species.

By monitoring this large herd over their lifespans—through reproduction, migration, and survival—this long-term study provides clues on why elk migrate, how their migrations change, the role of predators like wolves and grizzly bears on elk populations, and the effects of fire, logging, climate change, and management actions, such as hunting, on the herd.

Additionally, ten graduate students have worked on the project and hundreds of undergraduate students from both UM and UA have learned about elk and ungulate migration through the study.

One former graduate student, Scott Eggeman, now is employed

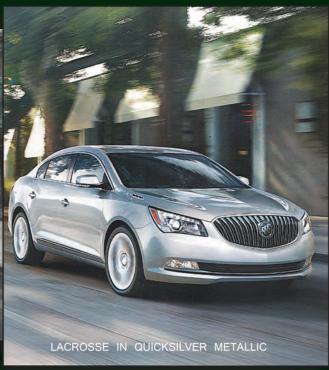


with Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks in the Blackfoot-Clearwater Wildlife Management Area.

Hebblewhite also will work with students in the UM School of Journalism and UM's geography department to provide information to the public in innovative ways.

The Ya Ha Tinda elk herd is well-known regionally because it lives in and just outside Banff National Park. The elk winter outside the park and then move into the park in the spring where they remain through fall. The region also is important as a trophy hunting area—the largest bull elk registered in Canada was harvested there decades ago.







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FACETIME:

RYAN BELL, M.F.A. '14

Whether he is rustling up cattle on the plains or a juicy steak from the locals, Ryan Bell is on the move studying cowboy culture in Russia and Kazakhstan. A UM creative writing alumnus and assistant adjunct instructor, Bell is the recipient of a prestigious Fulbright-National Geographic fellowship for six months of travel to Russia and three months in Kazakhstan. The *Montanan* recently asked him to describe his adventure abroad.

What does the fellowship entail?

I travel a lot. Since my launch in September 2015, I've logged many weeks-worth of train travel across Eastern Europe and Central Asia. Basically, I travel around visiting every farm or ranch I can find that has a cow or horse standing on it. Along the way, I write blogs and news stories for *NationalGeographic.com*. Miserable job, right?

What was your reaction when you found out that you'd been offered the fellowship?

At first, "Holy cow." Then, "Uh oh." If I accepted the fellowship, it would have the effect of a meteor impact on my personal life. Which was why I kept the news to myself for a few days, savoring the honor I felt for having been selected from such a large field. When I told my wife, she bounded with excitement. We booked tickets for them to visit me for two months in Russia, that way the fellowship could be an experience for all of us to enjoy. My daughter especially enjoyed the trip because she was spoiled rotten by every babushka she met, who gave her a steady stream of chocolates and candies.

How did you initially become interested in cowboy culture? I was raised in the city. Both of my grandfathers worked in agriculture. One was a Wyoming cowboy and the other a Pennsylvania farmer who thought of himself as an Arizona cowboy. The first time

I rode a horse, in my teens, I felt something buried deep in my DNA come to life.

What aspect of researching cowboys in Russia/Kazakhstan is most fascinating to you? Why? The food. I agree with Anthony Bourdain that the best way to travel is through the stomach. Just as there's nothing better than eating barbecue somewhere in the American South, it's pretty awesome to eat borscht in Russia and beshbarmak in Kazakhstan.

Could you describe the cattle industry you helped start in 2010 in Russia? When the Soviet Union collapsed in 1991, collective farming ground to a halt. People lost their jobs. Farms sold off their cattle herds to pay off their debts. It was like a beef apocalypse. By 2010, Russia and Kazakhstan were spending billions importing red meat to feed their people. To fix the problem, these governments provided loans for their farmers to buy breeding cattle, ranching equipment, and cowboy expertise. I worked for a Montana rancher who was starting one of the first Western-style cattle ranches in Russia. We brought 1,450 Black Angus cattle from the ranges of Montana to the Russian steppes. We saw the cattle through their first winter, spring, and summer, training a group of villagers to become cowboys along the way.

What is a typical day in the life of a Russian cowboy like? The rhythm of life is similar to the American West. They're at work by 7 a.m. and finish twelve hours later. Day-to-day chores depend on the season. Right now it's springtime, so there are a lot of cows giving birth. The Russians have to make sure the calves are healthy, give them vaccinations, weigh them, give them numbered ear tags, and then move them to pasture.

What are some differences between cowboys in Russia and American cowboys?

Where Americans have a love affair with horses, Russians love their tractors. That's because it was the position of highest esteem [and pay] during the Soviet Union. It's taking them a while to see that horseback work is a lot of fun, plus it's a better, more humane way to work with cattle.

What has surprised/intrigued you most about the people and culture of Russia? Russians mask their emotions behind blank stares. For Americans, who spend most of their waking hours with an expression on their faces, it's a big culture shock. What's interesting, though, is that once you establish a connection with a Russian, the emotions come pouring out. Still waters run deep.

Why do you believe studying cowboys in Russia/Kazakhstan is so important for your readers and for the world? We've stopped seeing the humanity in each other. Our governments do a less-than-terrific job of getting along. That road goes two ways. But there's an alternate route, and that's for the peoples of America, Russia, and Kazakhstan to meet each other face-toface. I expected some anti-Americanism, but found that people are hungry to meet a real live American who can show them something different about the USA than the lousy stories they see on television. Also, the horse is a powerful unifier of people. In the saddle, people become one, no matter what passport is in their wallet.

What is next for you? Do you plan to come back to UM to teach? It's fun engaging with students. They keep me young and excited about the world of creative nonfiction. But I don't have plans to teach full time, yet.

To read an extended interview with Ryan, go to montanan.umt.edu.

There are too many countries to explore, and too many horses to ride.

—Interview by Courtney Brockman '17



BY **JACOB BAYNHAM**PHOTOS BY **TODD GOODRICH**

AST FEBRUARY, RENE HAYNES WAS STANDING IN LINE at a Los Angeles Costco when her phone buzzed. She didn't recognize the number, but as a Hollywood casting director, she's used to urgent calls from strange numbers at all hours of the day. This one was from a fellow casting director, Mark Bennett. He was looking for Native actors to audition for a lead role in an independent film set in Montana.

The cashier scanned Haynes' groceries as Bennett described the character—a reclusive ranch hand, the strong, silent type, grounded. Haynes, a UM theatre and dance alumna whose casting credits include *Dances with Wolves*, the *Twilight* series, and *The Revenant*, knew the perfect person. The conversation was over before she pushed her cart into the parking lot. She'd given Bennett only one name: Lily Gladstone, a relatively unknown young actor from Montana's Blackfeet Reservation.

At the time, Gladstone was between acting jobs and wondering about her future. When her agent called, she quickly recognized the scale of the opportunity.

"It was a dream role," she says. "I've always been drawn to quiet films, subtlety, what is not said. I couldn't believe I was auditioning for it."

She spent two weeks learning about the role. First she bought a pair of work boots and a flannel shirt. She wore them every day to get comfortable in her character's wardrobe. She studied the script. Her character had broken bones, so she practiced moving with creaks. Finally, she drove to tiny Belfry, the town where the story was set. She wanted to feel her character's landscape. After all that, two friends helped her film some scenes, which she sent to the director, Kelly Reichardt.



Three days later, she got the call: The role was hers. She screamed. She paced. She called her mother. And then, shortly thereafter, she spent almost six weeks on set near Livingston, acting across from Kristen Stewart in *Certain Women*, a feature film based on three short stories by Helena native Maile Meloy.

"It's pretty revolutionary that part went to an almost total unknown and that it went to me, a Native actress, without it being a trope," Gladstone says.

When *Certain Women* premiered at the Sundance Film Festival this January, Gladstone's performance was singled out for praise. *Rolling Stone* heralded her a "breakout star" with "greater depths of feeling than many performers could ever hope to show." A writer for *Variety* called her "luminous" and said a sustained close-up of Gladstone's subtly expressive face was "the best single minute of acting this critic saw all festival."

"It was really validating and exciting," Gladstone says, "but something in there is terrifying. It's a lot to live up to."

FOR A FUTURE MOVIE STAR, GLADSTONE HAD A SUITABLY CINEMATIC BIRTH. Her parents lived on the Blackfeet

Reservation, and when her mother went into labor early one August morning, no one was available at Indian Health Service in Browning to give her a caesarian. So an emergency helicopter flew her to Kalispell Regional Medical Center just as the sun crested the Rocky Mountain Front. Lily's father told her she didn't cry when she was born. She just looked around the room and smiled. It was her first audience.

Growing up as an ethnically mixed kid on the Blackfeet Reservation wasn't always easy. Her father is Nez Perce and Blackfeet, and her mother is Dutch and Cajun. Because she was a light-skinned Native girl, Gladstone often found herself in an awkward middle ground between her Native and non-Native classmates. She shrugged off the teasing—mostly from mixed kids like her—and tried to make people laugh with her goofball antics in class.

"I had a lot of energy I didn't know what to do with," she says. Gladstone found her outlet when the Missoula Children's Theatre came to East Glacier to put on *Cinderella*. She was cast as one of the evil stepsisters.

"It was the first time that I felt cool," she says. "I think I just loved attention."

When she acquired a videotape of *The Nutcracker* ballet, she watched it every day, marveling over the dancing and drama. She started seriously pursuing ballet herself, first in the basement of a Browning church. Her parents encouraged her, their only child, even driving Gladstone to Columbia Falls for lessons.

Eventually, Gladstone's family moved to Seattle, in part to give her more performance opportunities. Her mother got a teaching job as an early childhood specialist. Her father found work as a boilermaker in a shipyard. Gladstone joined a ballet troupe and honed her practice until age fifteen, when her passion became self-destructive. She developed an eating disorder. Her self-esteem plummeted.

"In ballet, you get so involved in perfectionism that you hate yourself and what you're not able to do," she says.

Gladstone fled ballet for theater, which restored her selfconfidence and allowed her to use her body in different ways. She performed Shakespeare, contemporary drama, and fairy tales in high school productions and in a small community theater.

"As a teenager, I was someone who didn't keep a lot of friends," she says. "Theater and acting changed that. I loved being on stage."

LADSTONE ENROLLED AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA'S DAVIDSON HONORS COLLEGE

in 2004, where she was the first Native American to earn a prestigious Presidential Leadership Scholarship. She got her B.F.A. in acting, with a minor in Native American studies. And she performed every chance she got—in campus plays and in student films.

"There are a lot of talented kids at UM, but she's always been a standout," says Greg Johnson, who taught and directed her in Montana Repertory Theatre productions. "She's absolutely a transcendent actress. We were lucky to have her."

Johnson watched Gladstone transform from a "wide-eyed freshman" into a "thorough professional." He says her focus, keen insight, and work ethic elevated her acting above her peers. She was punctual. When she got on set, she was usually "off-book," meaning she'd memorized her lines. She instilled her characters with emotional depth. She paid attention and took notes.

As a longtime Broadway performer, Johnson knows that professional actors are beset with extreme highs and lows. Great achievement can be followed by spells of professional drought.

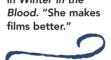
"Whether you've done fifty films or two films, you never know what tomorrow will bring," he says. "You have to be strong of mind and spirit to succeed."

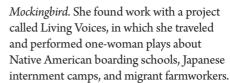
But Johnson predicts a bright career for a grounded actor like Gladstone.

"I think she's going to weather the slings and arrows of the profession very well," he says. "She's centered. She knows who she is."

Gladstone graduated from UM in 2008 and went on a yearlong national tour with a Montana Rep production of To Kill a

"I would like to put [Gladstone] in every film I make," says Andrew Smith, who directed Gladstone in Winter in the Blood. "She makes





Gladstone toured again with the Montana Rep for The Miracle Worker, in which she played Helen Keller's mother. She wrote a play with a friend. And she directed children's theater in Seattle with a group called Red Eagle Soaring.

She picked up local film work, too, first as an assistant for Montana filmmaking brothers Alex and Andrew Smith. The brothers were assembling a cast for their production of Winter in the Blood, the novel by Blackfeet author James Welch. Gladstone loved the book as a teenager. During the casting process, she read parts off-camera for hundreds of auditioning actors.

"We kept noticing no matter who we put in there, she was better," says Andrew Smith. "We knew way before she did that we wanted her in the film."

Eventually they cast Gladstone as Marlene, a woman who meets the main character just as his life is spiraling out of control. Smith says Gladstone worked hard to develop Marlene, while also contributing valuable cultural insight on the Blackfeet spiritual entities behind the other characters.

"She never stops thinking about the role," says Smith, a professor in UM's School of Media Arts. "I would like to put her in every film I make. She makes films better."

> Her success in Winter in the Blood soon led to other work. She played a minor speaking role opposite Oscar-winning star Benicio del Toro in Jimmy P. She acted in a short called Universal VIP and in a microbudget feature called Subterranea, which was made by UM media arts alumni.

But Smith says as a Native actor in an industry that is being skewered for its lack of diversity, Gladstone faces challenges other performers don't.

"It's more difficult if you're an actor of color to get roles that are multidimensional," Smith says, "because so few of those roles are written. But I think her talent will transcend the racial and ethnic pigeonholing. And as long as interesting roles get to her, she'll have a damn good chance of getting them."

GLADSTONE'S BLACK HAIR, HIGH CHEEKS, AND TRANSPORTING BROWN EYES are all products of her Native heritage. But her mixed genes lend Gladstone a look that many find hard to place.

"People see me and they know I'm something," she says. "They think I'm Latina, or Japanese-American, but not Native American. We're still a myth as a people."

So Gladstone spends a lot of time explaining herself. "Yes, I'm mixed," she says. "Yes, I'm light. Yes, I'm Native."





"...I think her talent will transcend the racial and ethnic pigeonholing. And as long as interesting roles get to her, she'll have a damn good chance of getting them."



Her appearance is important, because it determines the roles she gets. Gladstone suspects she's too fair to play a Native American in a historical movie like *The Revenant*. But she's not fair enough to play the more plentiful roles written for white actors.

"That's the industry," she says. "It's built around pigeonholing you based on appearance and type. You have to be confident in who you are. Otherwise it's easy to get offended."

To a casting director, Gladstone is "ethnically ambiguous," meaning she could fit a variety of roles. And sometimes her characters reflect that ambiguity. In *Certain Women*, Gladstone's character isn't explicitly Native. Gladstone is proud of parts like these, because when Native actors play rounded, non-stereotypical roles, it helps demythologize the Native experience.

Independent movies are doing better at this than Hollywood. Gladstone says Native filmmakers Sydney Freeland and Nanobah Becker are telling modern Native stories, as is the sketch comedy group the 1491s. And she is encouraged by the success of Native actors like Q'orianka Kilcher and Chaske Spencer.

But when it comes to building a career as a professional actor, Gladstone is aware that being Native is a mixed bag.

"It helps and it hurts," she says. "My identity has got me in the door for a lot of fantastic projects, but it's not what ultimately landed me the role."

ON A RECENT WEDNESDAY MORNING, I MEET GLADSTONE in a café near campus. It's unseasonably sunny, and she walks in wearing calflength jeans, black Dr. Martens, a heather sweater,

and a mustard-colored beanie.

She's on time, and she holds the door for a stranger. Newfound fame hasn't robbed her of any Montana decency. She's confident, but considerate, too. She orders coffee and eggs.

Gladstone is twenty-nine years old. But at a time when many in her position would be fleeing for L.A. or New York, she just moved into a modest apartment near UM.

"I'm never going to fully leave Montana," she says. "I like being in a place where I can work with Native communities. And Missoula's a really nice place to be

grounded when you're a working, traveling artist."

Gladstone did spend a week in L.A. during spring pilot season. She auditioned for sixteen roles, including a gypsy assassin, Nancy Drew, a lost millennial nanny, a hippy-dippy psychic who's actually a witch, and a futuristic Marine sergeant on Mars. She's waiting to hear back on some, but she's not holding her breath.

"Sometimes you know you're right for something," she says. Other times, you're just introducing yourself to a casting director.

It's been four months since Sundance, enough time for the buzz to fade and questions to creep in about her future as an actor. She doesn't have any definite acting work lined up. As for *Certain Women*, it won't even hit theaters until the end of the year. Patience is part of the process.

"Even when you get something enormously exciting, it takes a long damn time," Gladstone says. "It's a lot of hoping and wishing. You have to learn to let go."

Gladstone knows the phone could ring any minute, like it did with *Certain Women*. But in the meantime, she's pursuing her own film ideas and working with kids. She's helping produce a friend's first feature. She thinks about grad school.

"I don't know exactly what I'm going to do next," she says, "but it's going to be something unconventional."

For now, Gladstone is heeding some advice from a former professor to never stop growing as a person, because character is the only thing with a shelf life in a business that can make you disposable.

"People want to work with good actors," she says, "but they also want to work with good human beings."

It bodes well for Hollywood and for the rest of us, then, that Gladstone is equally prepared for both of those roles. **M**



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

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The Rebirth

With help from UM, a Montana town takes on rebranding effort to heal from its rocky past

A drive to Libby, Montana, reveals a remote town nestled below the Cabinet Mountains Wilderness, where snow-capped peaks tower to the sky. The Kootenai River winds through the valley floor, surrounded by pine forests that stretch as far as the eye can see.



of Libby

BY ERIKA FREDRICKSON
PHOTOS BY TODD GOODRICH

But if you've been in Montana long enough—

if you've read the newspaper articles and seen the documentaries about Libby—a different, much darker image of the town emerges: how in 1999 national media first reported that a vermiculite mine contaminated the community for decades with asbestos. How civil suits mounted as more than 400 residents died from asbestosis over the years. How the federal government sued the mining company, W.R. Grace, for complicity—and lost. And how, since 2009, the Environmental Protection Agency has spent more than \$500 million for the Superfund cleanup.

For some people, that's still the dominant story. But Libby has changed. In February, the EPA announced it will wrap up its cleanup in four years and pull up stakes, declaring it a "clean town." Despite that, shaking a tarnished reputation—let

alone reigniting a depressed economy—is no easy task. Recently, in their effort to rebrand Libby, Lincoln County Commissioner Mark Peck and others decided to take action.

Lincoln County
Commissioner Mark
Peck stands on the
mound of Libby's
American Legion
baseball field. Peck
contacted UM's
School of Business
Administration about
helping with the
rebranding effort.

Peck grew up in Libby and remembers it as a boomtown with a Class AA high school and plenty of opportunity to go around.

"It was a really vibrant, happening place," he says. "If you couldn't find a job in Libby, you didn't want one."

Peck left in 1978 and went into the military. By the time he returned in 2010, the town had changed. It was still a beautiful place, but the national news and lawsuit took a toll: The population tumbled nearly 20 percent, the high school was on its way to Class B, and real estate prices plummeted. Almost worse than anything, the town was emotionally wrecked and divided over the national coverage. So Peck decided to run for county commissioner.

"I wanted to give back," he says. "I've been able to do a lot of things in life I credit to growing up in Libby. I saw an opportunity to step up. If they wanted my help, I was willing to give it."

Last spring, during a meeting with the Region 8 EPA director, Peck shared his concern about the town's tainted reputation.



"I talked about how the perceptions out there aren't anywhere near close to reality," Peck says. "I said I want to know how to reverse that and get the right story out there."

The EPA recommended Peck get a hold of a professor at Seattle University. But Peck had another idea: Why go to Washington to help a Montana town? Why not approach the University of Montana?

Peck made a call to Bill Johnston, director of UM's Alumni Association. Johnston also grew up in Libby—the two had played Little League together.

"I asked him, 'As two Libby boys talking together, how good is the School of Business Administration if we were going to put Libby's economic future in its hands?'" Peck recalls, "and Bill said, 'It's excellent."

Within a few weeks, Peck found himself at a table with UM business faculty and a marketing firm to discuss rekindling Libby's image.

"It was a clear match," Peck says. "I had a very a good feeling about it."

This isn't the first time UM has engaged with Libby. In 1999, UM School of Journalism Professor Dennis Swibold got a tip from a student about a national newspaper working on a story about asbestos-related deaths in Libby. Swibold had three graduate students looking for a project—Benjamin Shors, Shannon Dininny, and Ericka Schenck—who agreed to go to Libby to track down

"They were new to journalism, and they weren't sure what the legal lingo was, but they knew there was a lot of interest in what was happening there," Swibold says.

At the last minute, Kalispell's *Daily Inter Lake* broke the story and the *Seattle Post-Intelligencer* followed with an award-winning series. But the UM grad students were able to publish their articles in the *Missoulian* not long after. They hadn't broken the story, but they shared a piece of it while learning invaluable lessons. And all three students went on to shining careers in journalism.

Fast-forward a decade, and journalism Professor Nadia White had her class cover the W.R. Grace trial. Those students, along with a group from UM's law school, produced a blog that was read across the country—even *The Wall Street Journal* wrote about it. The students also used Twitter to cover the entire trial, which, in 2009, was a relatively new platform to report stories.

UM students provided a much-needed voice for the Libby issue, but it came at a price.

"I am convinced without the publicity Libby wouldn't have gotten near the money or attention or health care or cleanup it did," Swibold says. "But it also is what led to this reputation that they are still trying to fight."

For that reason, the scope of the Libby rebranding project is high and wide—a massive challenge for anyone to take on, let alone inexperienced students. Four UM faculty members—Bambi Douma, Joan Giese, Justin Angle, and John Chandler—accepted the proposal from Lincoln County to facilitate the project on campus through UM's Small Business Institute. Lincoln

Digging Deeper

The connection with Libby runs even deeper for UM than its business and journalism programs. In 2005, Tony Ward, an associate professor and vice chair of UM's School of Public and Community Health Sciences, began looking at how wood-burning stoves were affecting air quality in the Kootenai Valley. Simultaneously, he and a group of Montana Tech graduate students and professors were testing to what extent asbestos could be found in the soil and trees.

"We found that a lot of the trees surrounding the abandoned mine had asbestos fibers in the tree bark," Ward says. "We were involved in this wood smoke study, too, so the question came up: Does harvesting firewood create a potential for exposure? And then, what happens when people burn that contaminated wood?"

Over the next several years, Ward and the others did multiple studies to answer these questions. They found when people harvested the contaminated wood, they not only could end up breathing in the asbestos, they could get it on their clothing and transport it elsewhere. They also discovered that when contaminated wood was burned in a stove, the ash still contained asbestos.

"That has implications where if someone is cleaning ash out of their wood stoves, they can contaminate their homes," Ward says.

The study results from Ward were used by UM Associate
Professor Curtis Noonan in health studies on autoimmune, pulmonary function, symptom, and radiological outcomes in exposed populations.

Ward's studies with Montana
Tech have helped locate hot spots
near the mining site and provided
the town with more tools for
preventing contamination. His work
with Libby continues today, with a
recent study completed involving
Forest Service employees working
in contaminated areas, which is yet
to be released.

County also hired Missoula marketing agency PartnersCreative to provide the professional branding chops the project needed while giving students the opportunity to learn from them.

"We went into it with the spirit of publicprivate partnership," says Kevin Keohane, director of brand and talent strategy at PartnersCreative. "We bring the branding and tourism expertise and experience communicating about economic development efforts. The students bring a lot of the academic, boots-on-the-ground work."

The first students to help PartnersCreative were part of Joan Giese's Marketing and Sales Management class, a special-topics course. Giese, an associate professor in marketing with outside experience working for utilities and high-tech companies, worked with the students to design the research methodology for the rebranding effort. They needed to figure out where the research should focus and how it should be executed.



Like many students, Elizabeth Sicheri joined the class not knowing what she'd be getting into. Having grown up in suburban Chicago, she had no knowledge of Libby's past.

"It's been through so much," she says. "I remember we were all thinking it sounded really intense and a little intimidating. Nobody really knew where we were going with it."

The class of twenty-four students was divided into six teams, each tasked with pitching a design to PartnersCreative. Developing the methodology meant doing their fair share of preliminary research. The students looked at attitudes about Libby on social media and dug up numbers, such as housing prices and demographics.

Each team took a strikingly different path. Sicheri's team, for instance, recommended the rebranding focus less on tourism and more on potential residents looking to settle in the area and raise families. They suggested research include a comparative look at Butte, which has similar economic and environmental stigmas to overcome. They also recommended setting

up focus groups in Libby, as well as town hall meetings and in-depth interviews with business owners to find out why they like being in the community.

"It surprised me how many outside factors turn into what makes something a brand," Sicheri says. "It's no simple thing."

Keohane jokingly compared the classroom competition to CBC's reality television program *Dragons' Den*, where entrepreneurs pitch ideas to win—and there were times it did emulate that dramatic air. For instance, when PartnersCreative realized they needed the design pitches two weeks earlier than originally stated, the students had to scramble to meet the request.

In mid-October, just a month and a half after they began, the students submitted their final design ideas to PartnersCreative. There was a winning team, but the outcome was much more collaborative.

"Out of the six presentations, not one of them had all of the solutions," says Keohane. "But in aggregate, they gave us what we needed. Students bring that kind of rigor and questioning mindset where it's really fresh. And I really value that."

UM faculty members Joan Giese, left, and Bambi Douma taught classes where students researched ways to help with Libby's rebranding effort. For the students, the challenge of considering how Libby might re-imagine its image was a lesson many of them, Sicheri included, won't forget.

"With branding, you tend to think of consumer products

or businesses, but to actually brand a town was a different concept," Giese says. "The fact that it was a town in Montana really pulled at their emotions. They really wanted to do an outstanding job because it was so meaningful."

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classes
spend a lot
more time in
the present
and thinking
about the future

rather than dwelling on the past. For the Libby project, however, knowing what the town had been through was essential. As Giese's students worked on designing methodology, Bambi Douma, a professor of management and director of the Small Business Institute, tasked her students with reading old articles on Libby and a book, *An Air that Kills*, which the *Seattle PI*'s Andrew Schneider wrote with David McCumber.



"We just don't do that very often in projects here—go back and look at what happened in the past," Douma says. "So that was a great piece that was outside the ordinary for our students."

Kristin Smith, who earned a master's degree at UM, left, and Sarah Dinning are co-owners of the popular Cabinet Mountain Brewing Co.

After Giese's students pitched their designs, PartnersCreative combined the best parts of them and handed them off to Douma's class. Her students—a total of eleven—dove full bore into the research. They collected data and did comparisons with other towns like Libby. They also created hypothetical profiles of people who might move to Libby and figured out the steps they would have to take to make it happen. One student imagined a thirty-something from Seattle looking to find an accounting job and raise a family. Another student put herself in the shoes of an avid mountain biker looking for a new area to explore. What might turn them off from coming there, and what aspects would be appealing?

After doing a lot of desk research, Douma's students visited Libby. They spent two days there, sitting in on listening sessions facilitated by PartnersCreative, as well as conducting in-depth interviews with business owners and surveys with residents. They met with some of the town's most engaged community members, such as Ace Hardware owner Tom Gilmore, and Sarah Dinning and Kristin Smith, co-owners of Cabinet Mountain Brewing Co.

"We had several sessions with PartnersCreative about behavior—how to approach people and how to frame questions so as to not put anyone immediately on the defensive," Douma says. "Most people aren't excited when a stranger approaches them to ask questions, but the students were able to really use their student status."

Instead of being wary, many residents welcomed the students, and some even took time off work to meet with them.

One student, David Brewer, spent time in Douma's class analyzing real estate. When he got to Libby, he had the chance to meet with Irene Loveless, a real estate broker in the town since the 1960s. She was able to help

Brewer understand the history of Libby through the lens of the housing market.

"There is definitely a difference between looking at it on a computer and Irene Loveless, who helped UM students understand Libby's real estate history, has been in the business for more than fifty years.

then being on the ground," Brewer says. "You do see a lot of interesting numbers when you look at a place like Libby. You can see that it's a depressed community, but you don't really know what it means until you go there and really see that it's a tough place to get by."

Just as important, however, meeting community members helped the students see firsthand the potential for Libby's future.

"They got more and more invested in it," says Sean Benton, PartnersCreative vice president and creative director. "Doing work that wasn't just an academic exercise, but work that would live and breathe in the real world—that had a chance to shape or change people's lives—is a pretty powerful experience."

After fall semester ended, many of Douma's and Giese's students moved on to other things, but their hard work currently is being used by PartnersCreative and Commissioner Peck in the next stages of the rebranding effort. A number of important findings came out of the process. For instance, PartnersCreative realized that the

rebranding should focus on Kootenai Valley as a whole—not just Libby—because it's part of large landscape that boasts public lands and private opportunity.

"I think it's important that people know Libby is just as safe as anywhere else to live," says Peck. "But probably more important, it's a tremendous place to live. Our strength is our remoteness and our beauty and our recreational opportunities."

At the same time, the students' research showed that it was important to residents that the valley not turn into next hot spot for fancy vacationers.

"We discovered that being in the Kootenai Valley is kind of a self-sufficient experience," Benton says. "If you're going to visit there or live there, you're going to get out of it what you put into it, and there are people for whom that's appealing. They don't want a white tablecloth or someone to pamper them. They want to figure it out on their own. I think that's an advantage for the community."



The story of Libby has been told by many different people over the years—especially outsiders—and the rocky past always will be a part of it. But it doesn't have to hold it back. Libby is a redemption story. And with the help of UM students, the rebranding project will be a way for the residents of Kootenai Valley to start a new chapter in that story—one that they get to write.

"It's been a great experience working with UM's business school," Peck says. "I think the whole rebranding concept made sense to people here in Libby. We don't want to forget the past—we want make damn sure we take care of the people that are still affected by it. But at the same time, it's time to move forward. We need to go be what it is we want to be." Mi



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.

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THE CUTTING

BY **SHANNON FURNISS**PHOTOS BY **TODD GOODRICH**

UM partners with growing high-tech sector to create high-paying jobs, keep graduates in state

n the past six months, Jorge Watson has traveled to Australia, San Francisco, Boston, and New York City. During his visit to Boston, Watson met with the CEO and executive team of a well-known, publicly traded company to help with a multimillion-dollar business integration project. After three days there, Watson hopped on a train to New York City, where he met with executives from the acquired company in Manhattan.

Jorge Watson, a 2011 graduate of UM's Management Information Systems program, has been at ATG for more than four years.

Stergios, a guest lecturer in Firth's class, told students about the consulting work his company—ATG—was doing from its Missoula office, including managing complex revenue and customer interaction processes for Fortune 1,000 companies that have annual revenues ranging from \$160 million to \$16 billion. He told them ATG's clients include some of the fastest growing companies—CenturyLink,

He has been with ATG a little over four years, moving quickly up the ranks and becoming the director of solution delivery.

many others. Watson immediately was interested.

Atlassian, Sungard, Yodle, Concur, Constant Contact, InterCall, and

ATG has grown rapidly since it opened the Missoula office with a couple of employees in 2011. Of the seventy-plus workers today, more than half are fairly recent UM graduates. Located on Missoula's Main Street in the historic Studebaker Building, ATG is a high-tech firm with headquarters in Kansas City, Kan., and offices in Denver, Cincinnati, St. Louis, Dallas, and Missoula, which is now the largest.

ATG consultants are paid well. The average consultant salary is more than \$75,000, with entry-level positions starting in the low-\$40,000 range plus bonuses. Senior consultants routinely earn well over \$100,000.

"As I'm sitting there meeting with the executives, I notice that I can look out and see the Statue of Liberty," Watson says. "Being from Montana and going to the heart of these massive commerce hubs to work with executives in organizations that are going through a high-profile merger is not something I expected coming out of the University of Montana—at least not this early in my career."

When Watson was a student at UM's School of Business Administration, he knew he wanted to go into the fast-paced world of technology, but he always thought he would have to trade the Missoula Valley for the Silicon Valley to find a job. That was until he met David Firth, UM professor of Management Information Systems, and Tom Stergios, vice president of Advanced Technology Group Missoula Solutions Center.

A 2011 graduate of the Management Information Systems program, Watson interviewed with two of the "Big Four" consultancy firms, but he didn't want to leave Montana to live in Los Angeles, Atlanta, or another big city. In Firth's consulting class, he learned about an opportunity in the heart of downtown Missoula to be part of a dynamic team that works with an impressive list of companies throughout the world.



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A BIGGER FOOTPRINT

In all corners of Big Sky Country, high-tech companies such as ATG are doing business with multinational corporations. It wasn't too long ago that UM graduates looking for information technology jobs with competitive salaries had to leave the state. As Montana increases its footprint in high-tech businesses, more job opportunities become available, reversing the trend of talented graduates leaving.

According to a 2016 survey conducted by UM's Bureau of Business and Economic Research for the Montana High Tech Business Alliance, the high-tech industry is growing at rates seven times that of the statewide economy, with average annual salaries at \$57,000—more than twice the median earning per Montana worker.

The survey found that Montana's quality of life provides advantages to doing business in the state, but attracting talent and hiring skilled technology workers is an impediment to growth. A number of efforts are underway to address workforce shortages, and UM has been at the forefront, partnering with the community to enhance workforce development and better meet businesses' needs.

This fall, the School of Business Administration will help meet a growing workforce need when it launches its new master's degree in business analytics. The curriculum will include the study of business intelligence, big data analysis, business statistics, and communicating insights based on data analysis. The Montana Code School, located on the UM campus, just graduated its second class of students from the twelve-week, bootcamp-style course. The school teaches students the skills to enter junior-level programming positions, which are in high demand in the tech sector [see sidebar on Page 26].

"In the past five years, there has been a conscious effort on behalf of the University to find more innovative ways to engage with the private sector," says Joe Fanguy, UM director of technology transfer and president of the Montana Technology Enterprise Center [MonTEC]. "Out of that push has come opportunities that may not have surfaced otherwise. People are coming forward with creative ideas."

TECH HUB

A look at five Missoula tech companies with UM ties

AGILE DATA SOLUTIONS: Joel Henry, UM professor of computer science and adjunct professor of law, co-founded the company in 2013 to help lawyers sift through legal data. The data-mining software he built lowers the time and cost of searching, reviewing, and categorizing electronic data. Henry's client base has expanded from bar associations across the U.S. to the oil and gas industry and the FBI.

AUDIENCE AWARDS: In 2013, Paige Williams launched the Audience Awards, an online community that provides opportunities for filmmakers, entrepreneurs, and photographers. The platform hosts video contests and provides visibility for brands and filmmakers. *Entrepreneur, Forbes*, and *Inc.* magazines recently recognized Audience Awards for its innovative platform. Williams is a UM graduate with an M.F.A. in media arts and a master's degree in theater directing.

DATASMART SOLUTIONS: This company's work in health care data analytics helps employers identify potential risk, apply early intervention, and improve their employees' health while cutting health care costs. DataSmart partners with major institutions such as Johns Hopkins. Bernard Khomenko is the vice president and has a master of accountancy degree from UM.

EDUCATION LOGISTICS [EDULOG]: Nearly forty years ago, EDULOG created the first routing and scheduling software for school districts. With more than 150,000 school buses routed by its clients each day, EDULOG's innovative software helps students throughout the world get to school. Jason Corbally, a UM graduate of the School of Business Administration, is EDULOG's president. EDULOG has 130-plus employees.

SUBMITTABLE: A graduate of UM's Creative Writing Program, Michael FitzGerald created an online submission management software company, which allows organizations to accept, manage, and review different types of content online, from resumes to creative visual or audio files. The company has 4,800 customers across twenty-three countries and has raised \$1.3 million in venture capital funding, a rare feat for a Montana-based tech company.

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NEW PATHWAYS

Montana Code School helps build the tech pipeline

For high-tech companies like ATG, the demand for tech workers is growing at an incredibly fast pace. Montana companies are looking to hire programmers and developers for jobs averaging annual salaries of \$75,000 but are struggling to find talent, according to Paul Gladen, director of UM's Blackstone LaunchPad.

That's why Gladen helped co-found the Montana Code School, which aims to expand the pipeline of programming talent available to Montana businesses by training junior programmers with little or no coding experience for highpaying jobs in the tech sector.

Based at UM, the Montana Code School so far has graduated two classes from its twelve-week, intensive computer coding bootcamp program. With eleven students graduating in the first cohort and thirteen in the second, the school already has placed a number of them with tech companies.

One of the graduates from the first cohort is Kelly Nash, who recently was hired as the Montana Code School's first executive director. Nash works with companies throughout the state to address their technology needs and help place graduates in jobs.

Students come from a variety of backgrounds, and some are in the midst of career changes. Diversity is important at the school.

"It's gratifying working with women, Native Americans, and veterans as they are traditionally underrepresented in programming jobs," she says.

"A lot of people want to stay in Montana and earn a livable wage," Nash says. "Attending the Montana Code School can be an on-ramp to a tech job with a good salary and will address workforce shortages and enable businesses to continue to locate in Montana."

The Montana Code School will expand to Bozeman this summer.

Under Fanguy's leadership, UM works to foster innovation and entrepreneurship and has many success stories of helping UM graduates and faculty start high-tech companies such as Submittable and Agile Data Solutions [see sidebar on Page 25]. MonTEC, UM's business and technology incubator, houses ten startup companies, with more than 100 employees, and has ten affiliate members.

Christina Henderson, executive director of the Montana High Tech Business Alliance, a statewide organization of more than 250 tech companies, says a priority is to get word out to students and alumni that there are more high-paying tech jobs in Montana than ever before.

"Our members plan to create 940 new jobs in 2016," Henderson says. "Yet when I tell students about a dozen Montana companies that are hiring, they have typically only heard of two or three. We need more top graduates to consider career opportunities in Montana."

A UNIQUE PARTNERSHIP

Through a partnership with UM, ATG has recruited and hired more than forty business school graduates and several computer science graduates in the past several years. The UM/ATG partnership began more than six years ago when Stergios and Firth got together for a cup of coffee. Stergios was looking to hire information systems consultants, and Firth was watching as the Big Four consulting firms hired and plucked bright, talented UM graduates out of state when he knew some of them would rather stay in Missoula. Together, they came up with the idea to connect UM and ATG.

For the past three years, Firth takes his students to visit ATG. Once a semester, up to seventy-five students from the business school and the Montana Information Systems Association head to the downtown office for the afternoon to see whiteboarding and flip-charting in action and learn how information technology consultants at ATG spend their days. After the presentation, students are invited to stay and network at "Club MSC" and learn about the "work hard, play hard" company culture.

"Sometimes it's hard for students to see outside the classroom," Firth says. "It's easy to get caught up in homework, intramural sports, and volunteer activities. Visiting a technology company can be transformative."

ATG has a visible presence on campus, in classrooms, on advisory boards, and at career networking events.

"It's a great partnership where ATG recruits the best and the brightest from UM," Firth says. "It's impressive that our students are delivering world-class consulting to national and international clients. It's a beautiful situation where our truly gifted students get to do this work right here in town rather than leaving."



Work-life balance is a top priority at ATG, where employees must be prepared to work across multiple time zones in an industry that is highly competitive and constantly changing.

ATG employees are situated in a cubicle-free, shared space with a refrigerator that is well-stocked with healthy snacks and Rockstar energy drinks. They have ping-pong tournaments during breaks and "walk-and-talk" meetings along the Clark Fork River. Every week, the "Kitchen Czar"—a

Montana Code School student Teague Goodvoice, left, demonstrates his team's "Know Flow" app to Suzie Reahard, a graduate of the first code school cohort.



rotating positionis given a budget and is responsible for stocking the refrigerator with snacks and hosting Friday's "Club MSC," where employees unwind with a Moose Drool or similar beverage and share highlights of their weeks. The Rockstar-a can of Rockstar that is spray-



painted silver—is awarded each Friday to someone who has done something above and beyond at ATG during the week.

In order to balance family needs, employees may work from home or remotely if needed. Employees' children are welcome at the office, and so are dogs. In fact, Hercules, a golden retriever, has become an office fixture.

Word about the company's positive work environment has spread. Last fall, U.S. Secretary of Labor Thomas Perez selected ATG to host a National Work and Families Month Roundtable discussion, Perez and his entourage joined a group of about twenty-five people from local businesses and nonprofits at the roundtable.

"Here at ATG, they've created a corporate culture of inclusion and opportunity for people that's remarkable," Perez says.

A PATHWAY TO SUCCESS

For Kristin Mickey and others at ATG, workplace flexibility is very important. Twice a week, Mickey leaves work a little early to take her sons—ages eight and ten—to karate and swimming lessons. The flexibility allows her to balance her family and her job.

"Tom always gives me grief about not seeing my kids enough," Mickey says with a laugh. "He always says that we need more kids and dogs around here."

Mickey started working at ATG while a student at UM and recently was promoted to knowledge management coordinator, a corporatelevel position responsible for facilitating learning in all of ATG's offices.

A 2014 UM graduate from the Management Information Systems program, Mickey's pathway was not traditional. When she graduated from high school in 2000, she wasn't sure what she wanted to do, so she waited tables, then found an office job. Soon after, she met her husband and quit her job when their first baby was born. After a two-year break to stay at home with their kids, she took a job at a lumber mill.

When the economy got volatile in 2008, Mickey enrolled at UM. It was in Professor Firth's class where she first heard about ATG, and she wrote it down in her notebook. In 2013, she started there part time.

Mickey's rise to a corporate-level job in a tech company is particularly noteworthy because there are far fewer women in the tech industry than men. While women represent nearly half of the total U.S. labor force, they only make up around one-third of the workforce in tech, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. In Montana, a number of initiatives are in the works to attract, retain, and advance talented women in high tech. The top graduates from the inaugural Montana Code School were women with multiple job offers.

While men do outnumber women at ATG, Mickey says that the women are "some of our most influential and impactful leaders and my strongest mentors."

A RETURN TRIP HOME

When Jason Anderson, manager of delivery services at ATG, graduated from

the Management Information Systems program in 2009, there weren't as many tech companies as today. At that point, Stergios had not yet opened the Missoula office and worked from his basement for Kansasbased ATG.

Before graduation, Anderson had interviewed with the Big Four consulting firms, where only top-tier students get job offers, but, like Jorge Watson, he knew he didn't want to live in a big city.

"I had to do what was right for me and the girl I was going to marry," Anderson says. "She said, 'I'm not moving to L.A. I grew up at a dead end of a dirt road."

When he got an offer from PricewaterhouseCoopers, a Big Four firm in Portland, Ore., he and his soon-to-be wife—a native of Bigfork—decided to accept it. For nearly four years, Anderson was employed at PwC. While it was a great job, he had a demanding travel schedule, limiting his time with his two young daughters and wife. And he missed the fishing, the hockey at Missoula's Glacier Ice Rink, and the mountains.

While in Portland, Anderson kept his connections in Montana. On Dean Larry Gianchetta's Management Information Systems Advisory Board, he came back to Montana twice a year for meetings and the annual Griz/Cat football game. All the while, he looked for job opportunities in Montana because he knew he eventually wanted to return home.

When his wife's brother was diagnosed with cancer—and died seven months later, leaving his three young nephews and sister-in-law behind—Anderson decided it was time to come home.

"This hit us pretty hard," Anderson says. "Family was at the forefront of my mind."

On one of Anderson's trips to Missoula, he visited with his former professor, Firth, who connected him with ATG's vice president, Stergios. In spring 2013, Anderson accepted a job at ATG.

He feels fortunate to be able to do world-class consulting work from Montana. Getting off the busy interstates is a relief, and the quality of life is much better, he says. The short commute from his home in Lolo is much better than commuting in Portland—and much more scenic.

"Instead of passing convenience stores, I'm passing bison." 👪



UM School of Journalism alumna Shannon Furniss is the founder and managing director of Market Interactives, a communications and marketing firm based in Missoula. Before starting her business, she served as communications director at UM's Bureau of Business and Economic Research and managing editor of Montana Business Quarterly.

Breshia Hardy understands the power of giving back.

While pursuing an accounting and management information systems degree, Breshia has spent countless hours volunteering for Up 'til Dawn, a student group that raises money for St. Jude's Children's Hospital.

"It's a real-world experience and has been an incredible learning opportunity for me," she says.

Scholarships have helped cover Breshia's tuition expenses, allowing her to focus her time and energy on out-of-the-classroom leadership experiences like Up 'til Dawn and a high-profile internship at Deloitte in Seattle, which led to a formal job offer.

This spring she'll graduate debt-free and start her career at the nation's top accounting firm.

"Thanks to private support, I get to start off the next chapter of my life with a clean slate. It's an amazing gift."

LEARI LEAD.





RAISING MONTANA

A POWERFUL LEGACY

UM alum, legendary journalist makes seven-figure estate gift

LEGENDARY NEWSPAPERWOMAN AND UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA ALUMNA DOROTHY ROCHON POWERS

broke glass ceilings throughout the course of her storied career. 1959: First woman to win the Human Interest Storytelling Ernie Pyle Award. 1977: First woman to serve as *The Spokane Spokesman-Review's* editorial page editor. 1979: First female president of the UM Foundation Board of Trustees.

Always leading the way, she served as an inspiration to countless journalists through her dogged nature and fearless, yet compassionate, reporting. Today, even after her passing in 2014, Powers inspires others to make a difference. She and her husband, Elwood, made a provision in their will to support incoming UM students.

Their estate gift of \$1.3 million has created the Elwood and Dorothy Rochon Powers Scholarship, which will be awarded to graduates of Montana high schools who show financial need and academic merit, and also will support general University scholarships.

"Dorothy was grateful for her journalism education," says UM Professor Emeritus Carol Van Valkenburg, "but she wished to provide support that would allow all kinds of students to benefit, as she did, from the great education offered at UM."

The impact of her generosity will be substantial, as scholarships are a key recruitment tool for the University, and financial assistance enables many students to go to college who otherwise couldn't afford to attend.

"I am so happy with this job I practically sing all day long. As far as I'm concerned, there just is no equal to journalism as a profession."

- Dorothy Rochon, in a letter dated January 24, 1944

Powers, who grew up in Anaconda, studied journalism at UM in the early 1940s, when few women entered the profession. Upon graduation in 1943, she immediately landed a reporting job at *The Spokesman-Review*. She covered everything from the courts to the stockyards, averaging an astonishing thirteen articles a day.

She went on to have a forty-year career at the newspaper that made her a beloved and celebrated local figure.

"I think Dorothy will probably be remembered as one of the legendary figures of Northwest journalism," says former *Spokesman-Review* editorial board member Steve Witter in an article published after Powers' death.

She specialized in stories that exposed the plight of people such as the mentally ill, homeless, or incarcerated. Her reporting was



highly principled, and she was a natural leader in the newsroom and in the community.

She often credited her parents for instilling a love of literature and writing. Her father wrote dispatches from the Philippines and Cuba during the Spanish-American War, and he and Powers' mother, a teacher, ensured she and her brother never lacked reading material.

never lacked reading material. October 1954.

She honored her father, who raised her after her mother died, with her first substantial gift to UM. In 1959, she donated the \$1,000 prize from her Ernie Pyle Award to the University to establish the C.G. Rochon Scholarship, which supports Anaconda High School students who want to study journalism. That scholarship is still awarded to this day. This year's recipient, Lacee Moodry, is a freshman from Anaconda.

Later, Powers pledged funds to name a room after her father in Don Anderson Hall, the School of Journalism building completed in 2007.

She said of that gift, "I consider it the most important achievement of my lifetime."



Dorothy Rochon Powers

to President Dwight D.

Eisenhower's dedication of

McNary Dam. Busy filing

a story on the president's arrival, she chats with Press

Secretary James Hagerty

in the press room at the

Marcus Whitman Hotel

in Walla Walla, Wash., in

was one of the few women reporters assigned

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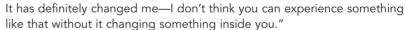
Left: A concert-goer stands on Rue Oberkampf watching the emergency response following the terrorist attack on the Bataclan concert hall in Paris last November.

Below: Two audience members reunite after being separated during the shooting at the Bataclan concert hall.

A TRAGEDY IN PARIS

SHANE THOMAS MCMILLAN '10, Berlin, Germany, a freelance photojournalist based in the German capital, was visiting a friend in Paris last November when terrorists opened fire at the Bataclan concert hall less than a block away. He was one of the first photographers on the scene, capturing haunting images and talking to survivors in the shooting's aftermath. PRI's *The World* published his photos, and several major news outlets, including CNN, interviewed him in the following days.

"In the moment, my first instinct was to shoot photographs—as a trained photojournalist, that's what I went to school for—so I shot a few, but these people were in a terrible situation, and it felt a bit exploitative, but on the other hand it was also important," Shane told CNN last fall. "The next day, I started photographing more, to help me deal with it—that's how I deal with things after fifteen years as a photographer—but it was difficult to watch people going through such a life-changing moment.



Shane earned degrees in journalism and German from UM. He moved to Berlin on a Fulbright scholarship following graduation and has made a name for himself as a documentary photographer and studio manager, covering issues ranging from the European debt crisis to the politics of personal identity. He's currently filming a documentary about the LGBT-rights movement in Turkey. This spring, he'll work with eighteen UM students traveling to Berlin to tell the stories of Syrian refugees arriving in the country.

Shane credits the cross-disciplinary education he received at UM for much of his success overseas.

"The reason I could do a lot of the things I've been able to do is because I went to the school that's the beacon of liberal arts in the

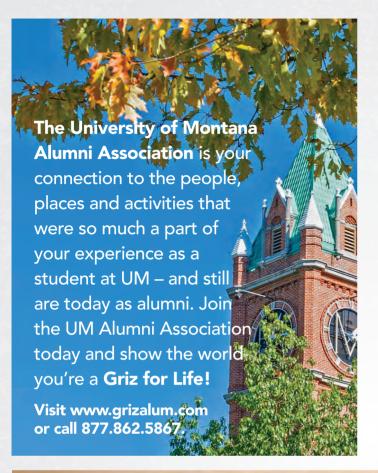
region, and I learned the skills I needed to keep my head above water in a city where there are a lot of photographers," he says. "I can thank my education in German, media arts, international development, and especially journalism for that."

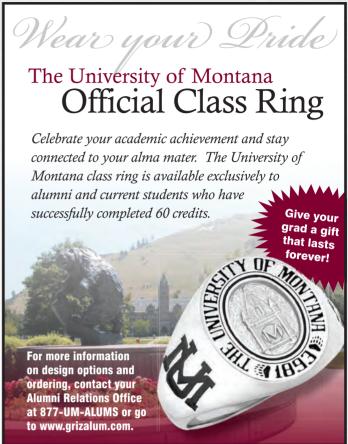
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Note: The year immediately following an alum's name indicates either an undergraduate degree year or attendance at UM. Graduate degrees from UM are indicated by initials.

Whenever you change your mailing address, please contact the alumni office. Thank you.

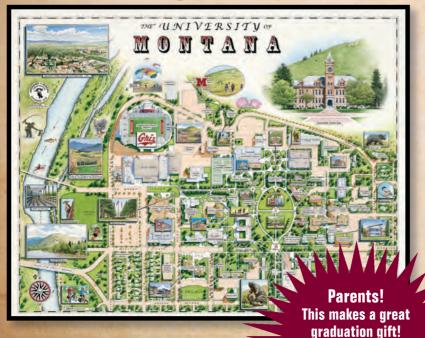
UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA ALUMNI





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1930s

Missoula native MARY LEAPHART CARTER, who attended UM from 1934 to 1937, celebrated her 100th birthday March 5 in the Rattlesnake Valley farmhouse in which she grew up. Last year, at age ninety-nine, she published a memoir, Rattlesnake Mary: From Homesteading to the Atomic Age, which parallels the social, technological, and political changes that transformed the first half of the twentieth century. The book recounts Mary's personal experiences as she lived through these transformations, from growing up in Missoula and then homesteading in Wyoming to raising a family in New York City in 1945 and learning the U.S. had dropped the atomic bomb on Hiroshima—and that her husband was part of the team that built it.

Mary's father, Charles William Leaphart, was dean of the UM law school for more than forty years. Her mother, Mary Leaphart, also published a memoir, *Mary and the Dean*, as she neared 100 years old.

1950s

PAUL CAINE '56, San Diego, had an illustrious twenty-four-year career as a naval aviator. In his early service, he was credited with thirteen helicopter rescues, and he worked with search and rescue operations in the Tonkin Gulf during the Vietnam War. After more than eighty combat missions, Paul served as a recovery pilot for the Apollo 4 spacecraft. Following his military career, he worked in international business and co-founded NAI NAFTA, which helped create thousands of jobs in NAFTA countries. Now retired and living in Southern California. he still makes it back to Montana to enjoy Seeley Lake in the summertime. **DELYNN COLVERT** '57, M.F.A. '58, Missoula, recently published the fifth edition of his book, Play Winning Cribbage. An avid player, he has won the national championship four times and was

Delynn Colvert published his fifth edition of Playing Winning Cribbage. **'57**

voted into the American Cribbage Congress' Cribbage Hall of Fame.

1960s

BARRY GOUGH, M.A.
'66, Victoria, B.C., won
the British Maritime
Foundation's 2015
Mountbatten Maritime
Award for his book, Pax
Britannica: Ruling the
Waves and Keeping the
Peace before Armageddon.
FREDERICK THOMSON
'68, J.D. '85, Sierra

'68, J.D. '85, Sierra
Vista, Ariz., received a
Congressional Veteran
of Distinction Award
in October. The award,
presented by Arizona Rep.
Martha McSally, honored
Frederick for his service
to the community as an

Court alternative dispute resolution program which provides free legal advice to seniors. Frederick served in the U.S. Army during World War II and the Korean and Vietnam wars. WENDY ROSS SEELEY BEYE '69, Roundup, wrote Who Fears the Wolf? and published it digitally under the pen name W.J. Ross. The book is available on Amazon, Barnes and Noble, iBook, and Smashwords. Beye pursued a late-life career in freelance writing for High Country News through its Writers on the Range series. She also wrote the report for the Lower Missouri River Basin Water Supply Initiative

arbitrator/mediator for

the Cochise Superior

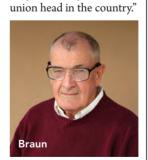
JOHN MATTHEWS '62, Madison, Wisc., retired in January after serving as the executive director of Madison Teachers Inc. for forty-eight years. An article in the Wisconsin State Journal referred to him as "the hard-charging executive director of the union that represents Madison public school teachers and possibly the longest-serving teachers

project by the DNRC and

a grant-funded project on

the water history of the

Musselshell River basin.



CLAIT E. BRAUN, M.S. '65, Tucson, Ariz., received the Spirit of Defenders Science Award in September at a ceremony in Washington, D.C., for his work to conserve sage grouse. Clait is a semi-retired wildlife biologist who remains a leading ornithological expert and an advocate for sage grouse and other wildlife. He has been active in wildlife research and management for more than forty-five years and was among the key scientists responsible for distinguishing the Gunnison sage grouse from the greater sage grouse. Clait has published more than 200 peer-reviewed articles on birds. His work is marked by scientific rigor and unwavering advocacy for sage grouse, which have lost much of their natural habitat to land-use changes and development.



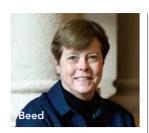
STEVE ARNO, M.S. '66, Ph.D. '70, Florence, and CARL FIEDLER '69, M.S. '74, Missoula, co-wrote Ponderosa: People, Fire, and the West's Most Iconic Tree, which was released last spring. The book provides an in-depth look at the natural history of mid-elevation forests of the western United States. RAYMOND DOMINICK '66, Bigfork, published

'66, Bigfork, published his second book, Investing Guide for Retirement: Build, Grow and Protect Your Financial Future, in January.

1970s

BOB BOEH

'70, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, is vice president for government and community affairs for the Idaho Forest Group, one of the country's largest lumber producers.



TERESA BEED '71, Missoula, an accounting professor in UM's School of Business Administration, received the 2015 George D. Anderson Distinguished Service Award from the Montana Society of Certified Public Accountants. The award is given annually to a society member whose contribution to the accounting profession and involvement in community, charitable, and civic activities merit recognition. DAN SEVERSON '71, Stevensville, earned a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Bitterroot Valley Chamber of Commerce in February. He retired this spring after owning and operating Valley Drug & Variety in

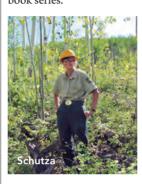
Stevensville for more than two decades.

JEFFREY SHERLOCK '72, J.D. '75, Helena, retired after serving twenty-seven years as a judge for Lewis and Clark County District Court. A former Helena city attorney, he also worked as a public defender and in private practice.



NINA DALBERG '74,
Springfield, Mo., co-wrote
and published *The Legend*of King Max, a novel of
historical fiction based in a
small North Dakota town.
CRAIG ANDERSON '75,
Glendive, received
the 2015 Lifetime
Achievement Award from
the Montana Board of

Crime Control. Craig, who worked in law enforcement for more than thirty-eight years, retired in 2014 after serving eleven years as the Dawson County sheriff. LYNNE AVRIL '75, Phoenix, has illustrated more than eighty children's books, including The Pirate of Kindergarten, Every Cowgirl Loves a Rodeo, I'm Gonna Climb a Mountain in My Patent Leather Shoes, and several editions in the Amelia Bedelia picture book series.



JUDY SCHUTZA, M.S. '75, Telluride, Colo., retired in January after a forty-two-year career with the U.S. Forest Service.

Mike Cooney was appointed to serve as Montana's 32nd lieutenant governor. '79



MEGAN MCNAMER '76, Missoula, won the 2015 Black Lawrence Press Big Moose Prize for her novel, *Children and Lunatics*. Black Lawrence Press will publish the novel, her first, in July.

BRUCE DEHNERT '78, Layton, N.J., was elected as a member of the International Academy of Ceramics based in Geneva, Switzerland. The selection recognizes his contributions as an artist, as well as his teaching, writing, and presence in the international arena of ceramic art. A studio potter and sculptor for thirty-five years, Bruce is head of ceramics at Peters Valley School of Craft.



NICK MURNION, J.D. '78, Forsyth, was appointed to serve as district court judge for Valley County. He received a John F. Kennedy Profile in Courage Award in 1998 for his role in defying the infamous 1996 Freemen standoff while serving as the Garfield County attorney.

DEE ANN COONEY '79, Helena, was appointed by Montana Gov. Steve Bullock to serve as district judge for the state's First Judicial District, based in Helena. She previously operated her own practice, primarily defending counties in civil matters, including civil rights cases. Her



husband, **MIKE COONEY**'79, Helena, was appointed by Bullock to serve as Montana's thirty-second lieutenant governor. A longtime public servant and elected official, Mike also has served in both houses of the Montana Legislature and three terms as secretary of state.







Graduates of UM's Skaggs School of Pharmacy cleaned up at the Montana Pharmacy Association's 2016 awards ceremony held in January.

TY TYVAND '76, and CARLA REICKS '11, both of Anaconda, were co-recipients of the association's Excellence in Innovation Award. Ty is the pharmacy director at Community Hospital of Anaconda, where he has worked as a pharmacist for more than thirty-five years. Carla is the pharmacy clinical coordinator

for the Montana State Hospital, where she provides medication to patients struggling with mental health issues.

REBECCA STILLO '00, Whitefish, received the Fitzgerald Pharmacist of the Year Award. She owns and operates Alpine Apothecary, an independent pharmacy that specializes in

also offers patients essential oils. The association also honored TOBEY T. SCHULE '77, Kalispell, with the Bowl of Hygeia Award; STARLA BLANK '88, Helena, with the Generation Rx Champion Award; and COREY HEFFERNAN '07, Missoula, as Distinguished Young Pharmacist of the Year.

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1980s

GAEL BISSELL, M.S. '82, Kalispell, is the conservation manager for the Vital Ground Foundation. She leads the organization's land conservation efforts to protect and restore grizzly bear populations in Montana, Idaho, and other parts of North America. She also stewards conservation easements and other lands purchased to benefit grizzlies and other wildlife. Before joining the foundation, Gael worked for Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks' Northwest Montana habitat program for three decades. While with FWP, Bissell helped preserve nearly a quarter-million acres of wildlife habitat. She helped secure land purchases, donations, and easements throughout Northwest Montana worth about \$120 million. Her spouse,

RICHARD MACE '78, M.S. '84, also recently retired after a thirty-fiveyear career working to recover the grizzly bear population in the Northern Continental Divide Ecosystem.

SANDRA BOHAM '82, Polson, is the new president of Salish Kootenai College in Pablo. Her priorities at the helm of the tribal college include starting a STEM program for high school students, implementing a bachelor's degree in tribal governance and administration, and offering community members free evening courses in the Salish language.



BILL O'DONNELL '84,

Tyler, Texas, is vice president for business affairs at the University of Texas at Tyler. In this role, he is responsible for management of the university's facilities, financial services, recruiting efforts, and human resources. He previously served as vice chancellor for administrative and fiscal affairs at Indiana University-South Bend.



MARCO RESTANI '86, Helena, a wildlife ecology professor and bird researcher, is the director of conservation for Montana Audubon, a statewide, nonprofit organization dedicated to the conservation of native

birds, other wildlife, and

their habitats. In his role,

Sandra Boham is the new president of Salish Kootenai College in Pablo. '82



JILL FLEMING '80, M.A. '82, Townsend, traveled with her husband, Kelly, to Uganda this past summer and trekked to see mountain gorillas. "We had the amazing experience of walking among a large family, and we were close enough to shake hands a few times, but we didn't dare!" writes Jill, pictured here proudly sporting her Griz hat while on the trip. After spending twenty-five years as a counselor in the Townsend School District, Jill recently returned to her undergraduate roots and started teaching high school English.



he oversees Montana Audubon's priority conservation programs, develops the Important Bird Area Program, establishes citizen-science efforts, collaborates with partners to advance habitat conservation, and integrates science into public policy.

STEVEN MARTIN, M.S. '87, Ph.D. '94, Arcata, Calif., received the 2015 national award for Excellence in Wilderness Stewardship Research from the chief of the U.S. Forest Service. Steven currently is a professor and chair of the Department of



Environmental Science and Management at Humboldt State University.

1990s

C. RILEY AUGE '92, Ph.D. '13, Missoula, earned the 2016 Kathleen Kirk Gilmore Dissertation Award for her doctoral dissertation she defended while finishing her doctorate in anthropology

from UM. She earned the national award. presented by the Society for Historical Archaeology, for her dissertation on the historical record of myth, ritual, and religion, titled "Silent Sentinels: Archaeology, Magic, and the Gendered Control of Domestic Boundaries in New England, 1620-1725." **KEVIN ANTHONY** '93, West Richland, Wash., was promoted to sports editor of the daily Tri-City Herald. SCOT HEISEL '94, Enterprise, Ore., was named editor of the Wallowa County Chieftain in October. A Missoula





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native, he previously worked for *The Daily News* in Longview, Wash., and the *Missoulian*.

KRAIG MICHELS '93, M.B.A. '96, Port Angeles, Wash., is the director of human resources at Peninsula College. SARAH MART '94, Petaluma, Calif., is the director of operations for DiabetesSisters, a nonprofit organization that aims to improve the health and quality of life for women with diabetes and advocate on their behalf.



KAREN VELKEY, M.B.A.
'94, Newport News,
Va., is corporate vice
president, benefits
and compensation,
for Huntington
Ingalls Industries, the
country's largest military
shipbuilding company and
a provider of engineering,
manufacturing, and
management services to
the nuclear energy, oil, and
gas markets.

KARA BROWN '95, Reno, Nev., is the general manager of Times-Shamrock Communications Radio Stations and is responsible for operating all of the company's FM stations in Reno. RICHARD FIFIELD '98, Missoula, published *The* Flood Girls, a novel based on his experiences growing up in the tiny town of Troy in Northwestern Montana. New York Times best-selling author Jackie Collins called The Flood Girls "a wild and crazy debut novel by a talented young writer. Edgy



and original, it's worth the trip." IndieBound named it as a February 2016 Indie Next List Pick. Numerous literary journals have published Richard's work, and his short story, "You Can't Always Get What You Want," was shortlisted for the 2014 Bristol Prize and published in the Bristol Short Story Prize Anthology Volume 7. An active member of the Missoula community, he also teaches creative writing at UM.



EINAR JENSEN, M.A.

'98, Highlands Ranch,
Colo., directs the wildfire
mitigation program
and educates students
and the public on fire
and injury prevention
as the community risk
reduction specialist for
Colorado's South Metro
Fire Rescue Authority's
Preparedness Division.
He recently published a



JESSICA WILKEN '02, BOBBY WILKEN '02, and KAREN WILKEN '00, Fairbanks, Alaska, opened HooDoo Brewing Company, a small, family-run brewery in the heart of Alaska, in 2012. The brewery won the 2015 Bill Stroecker Business of the Year award, presented annually by the Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce. In February, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce named HooDoo a Blue Ribbon Small Business Award winner. "We are pleased to send news that our little brewery is thriving and a community success, no doubt thanks to our undergraduate degrees from the nation's finest university!" Karen writes.

book, Ancient Fire, Modern Fire: Understanding and Living with Our Friend & Foe, which presents an eyeopening look at fire and our history of managing it. **ALLISON FARRELL** '99. Bridgeport, W.Va., was promoted to member of the firm at Steptoe & Johnson's branch in Bridgeport, W.Va. Farrell's legal practice focuses on energy litigation, and she represents the interests of the oil and natural gas industry and has been involved in all aspects of litigation facing the industry.



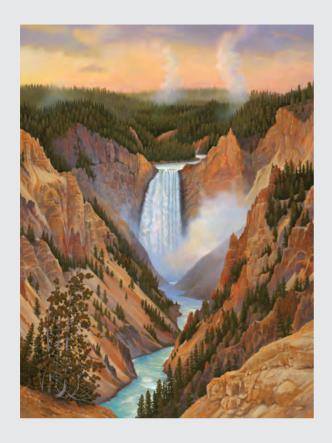
Andrea Whitley Paterson was named a Texas Rising Star on Thomson Reuters Super Lawyers list. '00



ANGELA MURDO '99, Helena, was promoted to shareholder at the Anderson ZurMuehlen accounting firm's Helena branch. She provides business consulting services and performs audits for financial institutions, nonprofits, and corporate clients. She also serves as chair of the Financial Institutions specialty team. ANDREA WHITLEY
PATERSON '00, Houston, a general litigation attorney for Beck Redden, was named a 2016 Texas Rising Star on Thomson Reuters
Super Lawyers list. The list

Star on Thomson Reuters Super Lawyers list. The list recognizes no more than 5 percent of attorneys in each state, and the Texas





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Monte Dolack, Yellowstone Falls, 2011



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BEN COLVIN '01, M.S. '07, Asheville, N.C., is the executive director of Wild Forests and Fauna, an international conservation organization that supports and develops place-based organizations, projects, and individuals that share its mission to protect and restore threatened forests and species. Ben has more than fifteen years of experience in wilderness guiding, environmental education, nonprofit fundraising, and conservation leadership.

Robert Moler is an Environmental Protection Agency community involvement coordinator for sixteen Superfund sites in Montana. '02

no more than 2.5 percent of Texas attorneys. MARK AAGENES '01, Helena, is the director of government relations for The Nature Conservancy's Montana chapter. He manages the chapter's public policy work at the state and federal levels. AMY P. EDDY, J.D. '01, Kalispell, was appointed by Montana Gov. Steve Bullock to serve as Flathead County district judge.

Rising Stars list includes

ETHAN HASENSTEIN,

M.S. '01, Portland,
Ore., provides legal
support on river-land
transactions, fundraising,
and governance matters
as corporate counsel
for Western Rivers
Conservancy, an
organization dedicated
to protecting the West's
outstanding ecosystems.
He has practiced law for
more than a decade in
both the public and private
sectors, with a focus on

natural resources and real estate transactions.

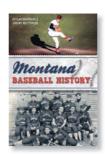
ROBERT MOLER, M.S.

'02, Helena, is an
Environmental Protection
Agency community
involvement coordinator
for sixteen Superfund sites
in Montana.



GERI VISTEIN '04. Brunswick, Maine, is a conservation biologist who specializes in helping humans understand and coexist with carnivores. especially coyotes. She recently published a book, I Am Coyote, and she uses creative outreach projects to educate Maine residents about the ecology and value of carnivores and how to practice coexistence skills. JEREMY WATTERSON '04,

Missoula, is co-author of



Montana Baseball History, which reveals the Treasure State's surprising, often rowdy connections to the national pastime, from the Lewis & Clark expedition to present day. Jeremy is a member of the Society of American Baseball Research, and his writing on baseball has appeared

in weekly newspapers and western Montana journals.

AARON JAQUES

'05, Missoula, is a programmer analyst for the UM Foundation. He previously worked as an application engineer for the Department of Administration in Helena



and as a systems analyst at Missoula's Community Medical Center.



STEVEN JOHNSON '05, Helena, was promoted to manager of the Anderson ZurMuehlen accounting firm's Helena branch. His experience includes tax planning and compliance



ALUMNI EVENTS 2016

MAY

4 Griz Gradfest

12-14 2016 Montana Treasures Reunion: Celebrating the Classes of 1966, '56 and '46

JUNE

12-18 Alumni Travel: Montana Alumni Beer Tour of Belgium

JULY

12-23 Alumni Travel: Baltic & Scandinavian Treasures, Copenhagen to Stockholm

AUGUST

- 4 Flathead Lake Gathering, Flathead Lake Lodge
- 20 Aber Day Reunion Concert, Philipsburg
- 22-31 Alumni Travel: North America's Five Majestic Great Lakes

SEPTEMBER

- 25 Homecoming Kickoff Celebration, Southgate Mall
- **28** UM campus decorating contests
- 29 House of Delegates annual meeting
- 30 Hello Walk painting, Turner Hall
 UM department open houses and receptions
 Distinguished Alumni Awards ceremony and reception
 Pep Rally, Oval
 All-Alumni Social and the UM Marching Band
 at the Holiday Inn Downtown

OCTOBER

- Ninth annual Homecoming Hustle 5K race
 Homecoming Parade
 Alumni Outdoor Tailgate
 Montana Grizzlies vs. Southern Utah Thunderbirds
- 23-31 Alumni Travel: Music of America, Country & Blues

NOVEMBER

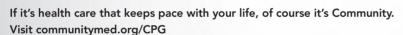
- 1-9 Alumni Travel: Adriatic Gems
- 19 116th Annual Brawl of the Wild, Grizzlies vs. Bobcats, Missoula; Watch parties, nationwide

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



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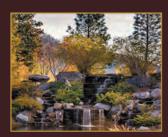




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reporting for individuals and businesses. He also consults for litigation cases on economic damages, forensic accounting, and liability issues.

ANNA CHAPMAN BURKAS.

M.S. '06, Ukiah, Calif., is a hydrologist and California State licensed general building and engineering contractor. She founded Village Ecosystems, a company that works with local homeowners to reduce their water usage and create drought-friendly environments in California.



BETH HUNTER MCHUGH
'06, Hamilton, won the
2015 Meadowlark Award
for her debut novel,
The Actor, earning a
\$1,000 prize. Riverbend
Publishing published The
Actor in September.

RACHEL TOOR, M.F.A. '06, Cheney, Wash., is an associate professor of English specializing in creative nonfiction at Eastern Washington University. She previously was acquisitions editor at the Oxford and Duke university presses and an admissions officer at Duke. She's published several books, including Admissions Confidential and Personal Record: A Love Affair with Running, and was a columnist for The Chronicle of Higher Education and Running Times magazine.

MELODY CERRA '07, Seattle, received her Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree from Colorado State University

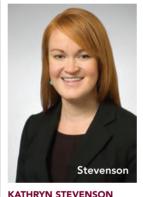




CHRISTINE FROMM FREGERIO '07, M.B.A. '10 and ALEX FREGERIO '08, Missoula, recently opened Taste Buds Kitchen, a culinary entertainment studio in downtown Missoula. Taste Buds Kitchen offers fresh, unique, and hands-on cooking workshops and private cooking parties for chefs of all ages, including kids camps, afterschool classes, parent/child workshops, and multicourse adult BYOB events.

in 2014. She went on to complete a rotating small-animal internship, with an emphasis in emergency medicine, at Pet Emergency & Specialty Center in La Mesa, Calif. She's now on staff at Seattle Veterinary Specialists as an ER vet.

TERRI RUSSELL '07, Helena, is a licensed addiction counselor for the Helena Indian Alliance's substance abuse program. Her expertise includes various chemical dependency treatment modalities, including inpatient and outpatient settings.



'07, Lawrence, Kan., is an associate attorney at Monnat & Spurrier, Chartered, in Wichita, Kan., with a focus on

Kan., with a focus on research, writing, and appellate work. She also serves on the UM Alumni Association's Board of Directors.

JENNIFER DONOHUE '08, Washington, D.C., is the communications director for U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown of Ohio. TEGAN MAYNARD-HAHN

'08, Helena, is the diabetes



NEW LIFETIME MEMBERS

The following alumni and friends made a commitment to the future of the UM Alumni Association by becoming lifetime members. You can join them by calling 877-862-5867 or by visiting our website: www.grizalum.com. The Alumni Association thanks them for their support. This list includes all new lifetime members through March 14, 2016.

WILLIAM MULLETTE-BAUER '69, M.Ed. '74 and JEAN MULLETTE-BAUER, M.B.A. '92, Tigard, OR RICK BENSON '59, Bozeman DAN BIERI '62, M.A. '64 Cammeray, Australia COLIN BOYLE '09, M.Acct. '10, and MADELYN BOYLE '09, Missoula JOSEPH DEDOMINIC '86, Denver, CO GREGORY EMPEY '96, Atwater, CA TYE HABEL '00, Great Falls JOSHUA LEWIS '98, Scottsdale, AZ BRIAN PLANTON '04, Portland, OR ROLAND STOLESON '60, North Ogden, UT AMY WILLIAMSON '15, Missoula

program manager and vaccination program coordinator at the Leo Pocha Clinic, part of the Helena Indian Alliance. She recently served as the community health director for the Montana Student Nurses Association and previously was involved in community projects focusing on food security, domestic violence prevention, and health promotion in Montana.



HANNA WARHANK, J.D. '09, Helena, is an associate attorney at Church, Harris, Johnson, and Williams, P.C. Her practice focuses on business and estate planning, taxation, estate and trust administration, and real property.



2010s

KELLY DRISCOLL '10, J.D. '14, Missoula, is an attorney at Wells and McKittrick, P.C. Before joining the firm, she clerked for Montana Supreme Court Chief Justice Mike McGrath. DUSTIN MONROE '11, M.P.A. '15, Missoula, is the founder and CEO of Native Generational Change, a grassroots organization working to improve intergenerational mobility for Native Americans. A member of the Assiniboine and Blackfeet tribes and a military veteran, he currently is earning his doctorate in medical anthropology from UM.

JORDAN FITZGERALD

'12, J.D. '15, Billings, is an attorney at Moulton Bellingham P.C. He practices primarily in the area of civil litigation, along with natural resource, water. and environmental law. ANDY MEYERS, M.M. '12, Glasgow, is the Fort Peck Theatre artistic director. He was nominated for best actor in a musical, best director of a musical, best supporting actor, and best choreography in the 2015 BroadwayWorld Phoenix Awards.



ANDREW MOYLE '12. Conifer, Colo., is a wildland fire specialist for the Elk Creek Fire District in Colorado. In this role, he's tasked with rewriting the community's wildfire protection plan and educating residents about the need for property mitigation.

STACY JACKSON '13, Missoula, is the foundation services coordinator at the UM Foundation.

MILAN VINKS '13, Eastern Province, Zambia, is a field ecologist with the Zambian Carnivore Programme, a nonprofit dedicated to conserving large carnivore species and their ecosystems in one of the last remaining strongholds for large African carnivores.

MOLLY GAZZARA '14, Missoula, is a staff accountant at James A. McNay CPA. Her areas of expertise are individual and business tax preparation and planning, as well as bookkeeping and financial compilations.



Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan, was named the Montana Air National

Guard 120th Airlift Wing Airman of the Year for 2014. She currently is deployed in Afghanistan

as an F-16 fighter jet crew chief. While on deployment, the staff sergeant also is working on her master's degree in international relations. Upon her return, she plans to finish her degree and retrain as an F-35 crew chief. Eve is pictured here with four-star General Mark Welsh, the Air Force's chief of staff, at her coining ceremony in October.



JORDAN GREGORY '15, Rockhampton, Australia, signed a one-year deal to play professional basketball with the Rockhampton Rockets of the Queensland Basketball League. Jordan was a three-year starter who helped lead the Grizzlies to the 2014-15 regularseason Big Sky Conference championship.

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 March 14, 2016.

1930s

Carl Hilding Johnson '38, Tigard, OR Mary Louise Strom McKee '39, Cape Coral, FL

Freda Louise Rosholt Cheetham '40, Lander, WY Albert Chirgwin Angstman '41, L.L.B. '46. Ruth Grey Argersinger Hanley '41, Great Falls Wibert O. "W.O." "Bill" Murphy '41, Bellflower, CA Irene Pappas '41, Los Angeles Florence "Jean" Fulmer Brown '42, Green Valley, AZ Dale Fett Galles '42, Billings Quentin Ross "Q.R." "Kink" Schulte '42, Stanley, N.D. William Roderick "Bill" Hanson '43, Redwood City, CA William Charles "Bill" Hodge '43, Corvallis Ruth Merit "Sally" Selle Dyer '44, Brady Audrey Mary Harrington Heilbronner '45, Superior, WI

Gerald Thomas "Jerry" Lester '45, Rollinsford, NH Jean Elizabeth "Pete" Peterson Hamre '47,

Dorothy Jean McKenzie Allen '48, Seattle Ben W. Tyvand '48, M.Ed. '70, Missoula Carol H. Chaffin Anderson '49, Billings Shirley Ann Cole Lerch '49, Missoula Astrid Wetzsteon Morris '49, Corvallis Marian McAllister Powell Morton '49, Oakley, UT Walter R. "Walt" Orvis '49, Clinton, NY

1950s

James E. "Jim" Bell Jr. '50, Kalispell John Ernest Cramer '50, Big Arm Nunziata Barbara "Nancy" Critelli '50, M.M.E. '63 Marian Joyce Bell Emerson '50, Kalispell Melvin Joseph "Mel" "Cajun" Gaudin '50,

Charles Preston "Chuck" Kern '50, Missoula James. O. Omlie '50. Great Falls Robert Otto "Bob" Rehfeld '50, Lewiston, ID Calvin Anthony Reinertson '50, Villa Rica, GA Arden Manuel Vie '50, Kennewick, WA Roberta C. Pitch Belden '51, Moore June Marilyn Smith Bouton '51, Osburn, ID Edward Russel "Ed" Brown M.A. '51, Lvnnwood, WA Francis Rollin Herbert Clearman '51,

Wheat Ridge, CO Gayle Jane Davidson Lucas Stone '51,

Sacramento, CA Adam Clifford "Ash" Ashworth '52, Billings George Vern Jurovich '52, Billings

Charles R. "Chuck" Little '52, Banning, CA

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Doris Ann "Petie" Peterson Luckman '52, Lake Inez

Anton Peter "Holly" "A.P." Hollinger '53, Missoula Richard R. Fuller '54, Walla Walla, WA John Harvey Lowell '54, Polson Charles Larry Plante M.A. '54, Middleburg, VA Harrison Hugo Demers '55, '59, J.D. '61, Federal Way, WA

William Edward "Bill" Hunt Sr. J.D. '55, Helena Kenneth David "Ken" Saylor '55, San Antonio, TX Kenneth Rhodes "Ken" Byerly Jr. '56, Jericho, VT LaQuita Joy Lahn Enger '56, Hudson, WI Rae Lorene Buckingham Hauk '56, Stanford Francis "Wells" Lamey '56, Havre Jack Dayton Lind '56, M.M. '60, Ed.D. '70, Portland. OR

Mehdi Solomon "Mike" Moheban '56, M.Ed. '63, St. Paul. MN

Urban L. Roth '56, J.D. '57, Polson Gerald Joseph "Jerry" Bakus M.A. '57, Huntington Beach, CA

Keith Allen Boding '57, Issaquah, WA Marjorie "Jean" Jackson Wakefield '57, Poulsbo, WA

Philip E. Willson '57, Castro Valley, CA
Patricia Ann "Pat" Stewart Colberg '59, Billings
Harvey Lloyd DeMars '59, Mesa, AZ
Thomas Augustine "Tom" McCarthy Jr. '59,
Glendale, AZ.

William Charles "Bill" Murphy '59, Dillon Darrell Robert Rasmussen '59, M.Ed. '63, Bonney Lake, WA

Norman Earl "Norm" Thurnau '59, Kalispell

1960s

Russell H. Davis '60, Great Falls
Carl William "Bill" Hilden '60, Tigard, OR
Thomas R. Uphill '60, Beaverton, OR
Lela Ruth Moniger Autio M.F.A. '61, Missoula
Larry John Blonde '61, Calgary, AB
Robert William "Bob" Cook '61, M.Ed. '73,
Missoula

Joyce Ness Hall Fiechtner '61, Laurel Gary Alan DuVall '62, Seattle William Henry Mott IV '62, Winthrop, MA George R. Pramenko '62, '76, Arvada, CO Douglas O. "Doug" Brown '63, Helena Joseph J. "Joe" Fahn M.Ed. '63, Harlowton Timothy F. "Tim" Jerhoff '63, Nevada City, CA Joseph Samuel "Joe" Kauffman '63, Lebanon, OR Karl Anthony Gies '64, Lewistown William R. "Bill" Morgan '64, Kalispell Carolyn Louise Patterson Stevens '64, Huntley C. "Duane" Frojen '65, Aberdeen, WA Thomas A. Welch '65, Edina, MN Marcia Lynne Martin Anderson '66, Missoula Sharon A. "Kelly" Neise Kellogg Archambeault '66, Glasgow

Claude Vincent Corrigan '66, Puyallup, WA
William Keith "Bill" Hall '66, Sherwood Park, AB
Donald Ross "Don" Pfrimmer '66, Nashville, TN
Robert Graham "Bob" Gough '67, Salem, OR
Marilyn L. Hubbard M.Ed. '67, Sebring, OH
Jerry Lee Pokarney '67, Lethbridge, AB
Marvin Gerhson Bulgatz Ph.D. '68, Phoenix
Robert Michael "Bob" McCarthy '68, J.D. '73,

Mary Kathryn Jackson Hudspeth M.Ed. '69, Billings

1970s

Thomas Allan Bryant '70, Radium Springs, NM Dale Edward Thornton '70, Fargo, ND Rose Marie Seaman Gillespie Cerovski '71, M.B.A. '73, Stevensville

Shirley Mae Schaff-Day '71, M.Ed. '80, Missoula Bruce Edward Tiedeman '71, Bellingham, WA William Robert "Bill" Bennett '72, Billings Bruce Allen Erickson '72, Bozeman Richard F. "Dick" Kuhl '72, Helena James R. "Jim" Flanders '73, Missoula Leona Elenore Skones Larson '73, Shelby John Howard Maynard '73, J.D. '78, Helena James K. "Jim" Werner M.S. '73, Colorado Springs, CO

William C. "Bill" Hyde M.Ed. '74, Roscoe, IL David Edward "Dave" Stenerson '74, J.D. '89, Hamilton

Harriet J. Cady-McCormick '76, Havre
John Edward "Jack" Kendley '76, Helena
Daniel C. "Dan" Murphy J.D. '76, Denver
Gerald John "Jerry" Navratil J.D. '76, Sidney
Bradley Shepherd '76, Redwood City, CA
Jeremiah John Downey '77, Missoula
Ruth Anne Coats Mason '77, Lynnwood, WA
Joan Trimble Toole '77, Helena
Jackie M. Skinner Corbally '78, Missoula
Janet Carole Wiser Nickoloff '78, Billings
Susan Carol Heald Fitzgerald '79, Brunswick, ME

1980s

James Randall "Jim" Hedges '80, Susanville, CA Jean Margaret Matthews '80, Hamilton Douglas D. "Doug" Brenner '81, Portland, OR Gregory S. "Greg" Hilgendorf '81, South Barre, VT

Richard Steven Kirk '81, Snohomish, WA Jean Louise McArthur Bowman '82, J.D. '85, Missoula

Clyde Wood Dailey '82, Helena Gregory Lloyd "Greg" Ingraham '82, Ronan Robert Schuyler "Bob" Anderson '83, J.D. '88, Missoula

Margaret Ann Jacobson '83, Helena David William Samson '83, Helena Gordon John Screnar '83, Ronan Nancy Lou Sacrison Curtis '85, M.A., M.Ed. '89, Missoula

Gary Lane Henricks '85, '87, J.D. '90, Missoula Kathlene Ellen Elledge '88, Missoula Rodney Russell "Fish" Gervais '88, Browning Rebecca Ann Liebe '88, Greenwich, CT Jeffrey Allen "Jeff" Gerrish '89, St. Ignatius

Wesley Arlin Fachner '90, San Jose, CA

1990s

Patricia Joyce "Patti" Smith Gendrow '90, Bonner Jack Price Kolberg '90, Missoula Roseann L. "Rose" Jostes Morrell '90, Clinton Mary Belinda Odell-Black '90, Hamilton Zachary Robert Spannagel '91, Missoula Gilson Cesar deSousa '92, St. Cloud, MN Danni Stenerson '92, Drummond James Arthur Wankel '92, Plentywood Ilka Becker '93, M.A. '96, J.D. '99, Helena Sharon Rose Nevatt Scurry '93, '94, Citrus Heights, CA Mary Sue Lescantz '94, Missoula Michelle Leigh (Mandic) Mandich '94, Wiggins, MS Shawn Terry "Bam" Field '96, Clinton

Eric Jonathan Gabriel '96, '10, Victor Kathryn Jo "Kathy" Witt Donaldson '97, Havre Catherine Michele "Cathy" Schwend-Weimer '97, Bridger

2000s

Russell Bryan "Rusty" Hicks '00, Missoula Mavis Kaye "May" Peterson Hollenback '00, Phoenix Jennifer Leigh "Jenny" Lehner '00, Missoula Carol Lynn Leigh '00, Kalispell Trisha Ann Morrison Hagan '03, Missoula Rusty Lee Umback '05, Helena

2010s

Lance Albert Rishel '14, Arlee

Lilian Angela Dyer Barnard, Choteau Jack Charles Barrett, Bigfork Jean Fallan Barrett, Helena Helen Dorothea Swan Bolle, Missoula Archie Clarence Bray Jr., Loma Linda, CA Edward Henry "Ed" Brunell, Seattle Cooper L. Burchenal, Missoula Eduardo Chirinos. Missoula Rae M. Dabbert, Missoula Madeline DeFrees, Portland, OR Peter Cornelius "Pete" DeWit Jr., Missoula Denise Bernadette Donahue, Missoula John Asa Duncan, Missoula Samuel Isaac Edelman, Bozeman Clayton D. Floyd Jr., Missoula Charles Christian Follman, Yorktown, VA Janis Joan Hendrickson Frank, Billings Richard Lee "Rich" Gajdosik, Missoula Esther Caroline "Ace" Eckberg Gallagher, Kalispell Joyce McVay Grande, Bozeman Nova Alice Robison Hanlan, Missoula Fay Kingsland Harwood, Bigfork Marcene Helen Moore Houtonen, Great Falls Patricia Ann "Pat" Moulton Inbody, Choteau Margaret Ruth Irvine Jacobson, Anaconda Virginia Dona "Ginny" Mead Johnston, Missoula Jack J. Kempner, Missoula Almeda Louise deLongpre King, Kalispell Sandre Lee Anderson Ladner-Boifeuillet, Missoula Marilyn Frances Lanthier, Everett, WA Hiram Clay "Bud" Lapham, Dillon Earl Donald "Bob" "Googe" Merrill, Billings Shirley Mary Manning Mouat, Billings Theodore J. "Ted" Molthen, Casselberry, FL John F. Nicholson, Bozeman John A. Orizotti, Butte Edward Paul "Ed" Petrin, Santa Barbara, CA Sharon L. Edens Pickering, Great Falls Lester Rich Rusoff, Helena Dorothy "Ruth" Trzcinski Schott, Miles City Donna Mae Schwandt Shaffer, Missoula John J. Shea, Missoula Jerome Orland Steyee, Missoula Norman C. Swanson, Missoula John Edward Swedberg, Great Falls Richard D. "Dick" Taber, Missoula Margaret A. Barner Trachta, Oro Valley, AZ Jack L. Thornton, Great Falls Ruth Sultzer Todahl, Seattle Charles Ernest "Chuck" Valach, Missoula Dorothy Jane Mitchell Screnar Wages, Helena Rick Waldorf, Missoula Jame Lyn Wallack, Missoula Robert R. "Bob" Williams, Hobson

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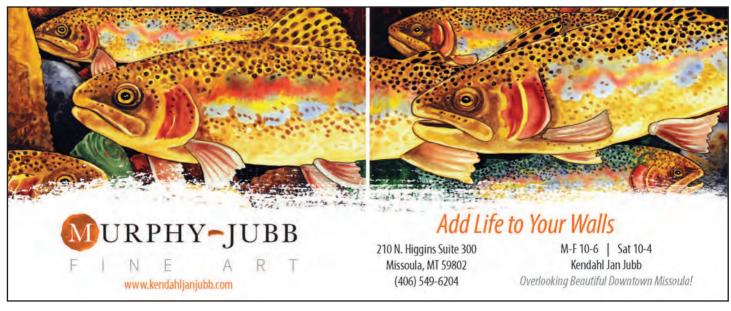
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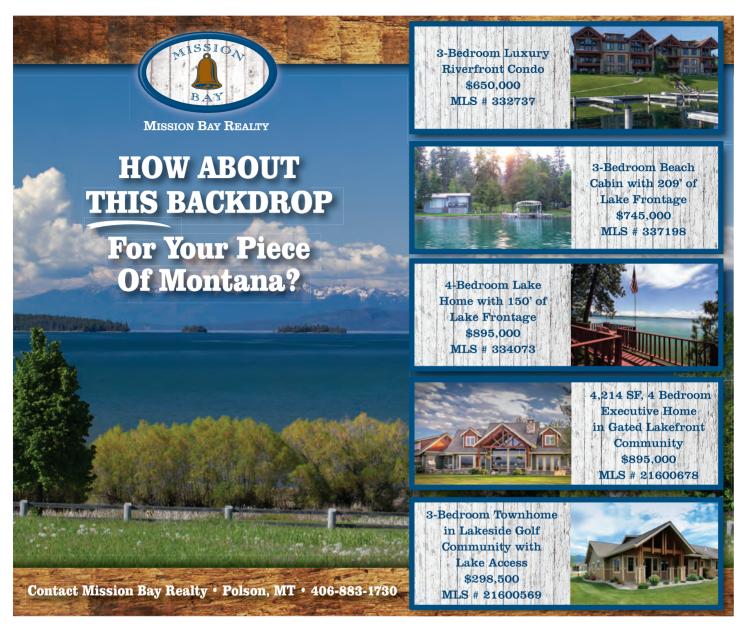
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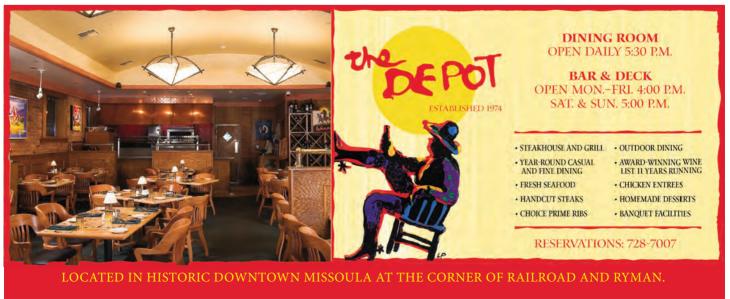
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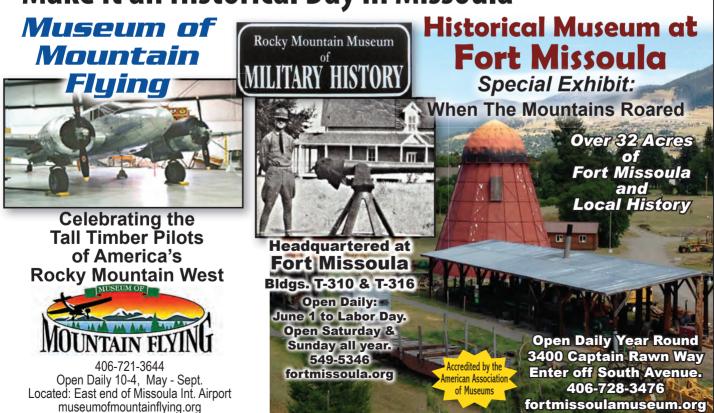


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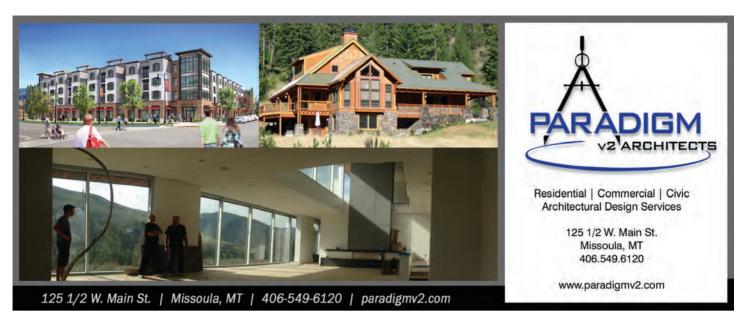








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Behind the BOOM

BY JOHN HEANEY '02

tu Molden, the charismatic, afro-sporting, gapped-tooth-grinning wide receiver who helped lead the Montana Grizzlies to the 2001 national championship, was known for scoring touchdowns—many with a flair for the dramatic.

He scored thirty touchdowns as a Griz, but one in particular resonated a bit louder—literally—for the 19,000-plus folks in attendance at the 2001 Homecoming game against the Saint Mary's Gaels.

The game was a rout from the get-go, with the Griz going up 49-12 by halftime. However, Molden, who scored three times, clearly had the highlight.

"After breakfast that morning, we were walking to the stadium," recalls Molden from his Sacramento, Calif., home. "And we ran into the ROTC dudes, and I said, 'Hey man, when I score a touchdown today, I'm going to run over and fire the cannon. And he said, 'OK, man. Let's do it."

Molden was a fan favorite, especially by those seated just above the cannon in the notorious North End Zone bleachers at Washington-Grizzly Stadium.

He snared a screen pass from Brandon Neill and "saw an opening a mile wide," Molden says. "I knew I was going to score, and it just happened to be on the side where the cannon was."

He made eye contact and pointed at the ROTC cadet he met earlier, crossed through the end zone, and yanked the cord. BOOM!

He didn't get flagged for it, and he didn't feel the wrath of Coach Joe Glenn, either.

"I'm fun-natured and fun-hearted," Molden says. "Coach Glenn was a cool dude—he didn't say a word. And I wasn't trying to show up the other team. I was in the midst of playing ball, man, having a good time."

The ROTC cannon first appeared at Griz games in the late 1980s, just after Washington-Grizzly opened, and has celebrated nearly every Grizzly score since.

The Grizzly
Battalion ROTC
cannon sits in
front of Schreiber
Gymnasium.

The first person to fire the cannon was Dan Ashmore '89, who just so happens to have a family connection to it.

"My brother and I were looking through the classifieds

of the *Missoulian*, and we saw an ad for a cannon for sale from a guy named August Muru. So we decided to buy it as a gift for our stepfather, Keith Wright."

Wright, who owned and operated Wright Lumber in Missoula, was an avid Griz fan and booster. He loved the gift and displayed it on the lawn of his Polson home, where he would entertain guests by firing golf balls into Flathead Lake.

"He liked it so much he bought another one," says Ashmore, a shop teacher at Stevensville High School and self-described cannon nut. "And he donated this one to the UM athletic department. They needed someone to run it, so of course, I was excited to do it."

Ashmore, an ROTC cadet while a student at UM, says people didn't like it at all at first.

"It was loud. People jumped out of their seats, people were scared, babies cried," he says with a laugh. "Not many people wanted to talk to me.

"But it became famous," he says. "And when I tell people I was the first to fire it, they look at me like I'm nuts. My students don't believe me. But I assure you, it was me."

Ashmore ran the cannon for a couple of seasons,

and then it was taken over by UM's ROTC program. In the years since, it has become one of the best jobs available to ROTC cadets.

"It's probably one of my most memorable college experiences," says Cadet Andrew Visscher, a senior from Bozeman studying literature. "It's a rare opportunity to be right there on the field, watching the game, firing the cannon, and then doing push-ups."

The Boom Crew, as it's called, is a group of five cadets and one cadre member who are in charge of the cannon on game days.

"For the kids who love football, it doesn't get any better than this," says U.S. Army Major Kris Pyette '05 of UM's Department of Military Science. "It's an honor. Just last year the cadets got to meet UM President Royce Engstrom, Montana Congressman Ryan Zinke, and Governor Steve Bullock. It's an opportunity to be in the spotlight."

But after nearly thirty years of celebrating Grizzly scores, the cannon is starting to show its age.

UM's ROTC program will celebrate its centennial anniversary next year, and recently kicked off a fundraising effort to honor and celebrate ROTC's history and its more than 1,800 graduates.

Plans include renovating part of Schreiber Gym—ROTC's current home—into a Hall of Fame. They also hope to replace the cannon with a more functional model.

Once retired, the current cannon will become a monument outside Schreiber, where it will symbolize the strong traditions the department helped build within the community.

"The cannon is something everyone can relate to," Pyette says. "We get 25,000 people at a football game. They all know about the cannon, they're excited about it, and they look forward to hearing it."

BOOM! M

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