UM alumni Mike Foote and Mike Wolfe make their way over Mount Northover on the Continental Divide at the Alberta-British Columbia border. They, along with fellow alum Steven Gnam, recently completed a 600-mile endurance run across the Crown of the Continent. The crew started in Missoula and ended in Banff, Alberta. See more of Gnam’s work at www.gnam.photo. Read more about the trio and other UM grads in About Alumni, starting on Page 33.

FEATURES

16  The Last Best Space
BY JACOB BAYNHAM ’07
UM graduates unlock the mysteries of space—what other planets look like, how astronauts can visit them, and whether there is, or ever was, life beyond Earth.

20  Her Name Says It All
BY NATE SCHWEBER ’01
Carla Dove ’86 soars as the nation’s top expert on identifying birds that collide with planes, even when only “snarge” remains.

24  Planes, Brains, and Civil Resistance
BY FRITZ NEIGHBOR ’90
To measure how tall Dr. Jack Burgess ’43 stood, look no further than The Secret Game he played in an empty gym in 1944.

MONTANAN ONLINE:
Be sure to visit montanan.umt.edu for an extended Q&A with Emily “Smokey” Brine, who recently hiked the entire Pacific Crest Trail; more photos; and exclusive online content.
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WHERE’S YOUR GRIZ BEEN?

DAN WOODARD ’79 dons his Griz sweatshirt at the ABBA museum in Stockholm, Sweden, during a recent cruise through the Baltic region. “The museum is all things ABBA, highly interactive, and very fun,” Woodard says. “It’s a good thing that this photo doesn’t have sound. If it did, it would cause great pain to the ears.” Congratulations, Dan! 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 for The Bookstore at UM. To be considered, photos must be in focus with the UM or Griz logo clearly visible.

Where’s Your Griz Been?

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
- $100 – fleece zip-up.

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.
Five times in Earth’s history, mass extinction events have wiped out up to 90 percent of global life. University of Montana doctoral student Montana Hodges and geosciences Professor George Stanley recently found the fossil record of the earliest North American coral species that reappeared after the Triassic-Jurassic mass extinction event, which happened more than 200 million years ago.

Their findings were published in the October issue of GSA Today: A Publication of the Geological Society of America. The article, “North American coral recovery after the end-Triassic mass extinction, New York Canyon, Nevada,” is featured on the journal’s cover.

Hodges and Stanley research the collapse and recovery of coral reefs. Corals are particularly hard-hit by subtle changes in ocean temperature and acidity. About 200 million years ago, corals and reefs completely collapsed. For this particular extinction event, researchers have found no evidence of asteroid impact or other catastrophic events. Instead, the geologic and paleontological records point to massive global climate change.

“We believe the warming climate was due to a combination effect from supercontinent Pangaea breaking apart, changes in sea level, and massive amounts of gas spewing into the atmosphere from cracks in the Earth’s crust,” Hodges says.

After that mass extinction event, it took coral reefs more than 20 million years to completely recover. In the dusty, high desert of central Nevada, the team discovered the earliest North American Jurassic corals.

New York Canyon, Nevada, is swathed with sedimentary rocks that during the Jurassic period represented the west coast of North America. Geologists have flocked to this site for almost 100 years to study the unique and continuous deposition of rocks that span the Triassic-Jurassic boundary. The fossils left in the rocks offer a fairly complete snapshot of the mass extinction, yet the significance of the corals found there had not been noted until now.

“The Jurassic corals represent a recovery of all species after the event,” Hodges says. “They are simple, solitary corals that lived in thick mud, which may have helped their survival during such a tumultuous time. Or they may have migrated from the distant side of Pangaea.”

Regardless, they are the earliest representatives of the coral that would slowly rebuild and diversify over millions of years. By studying these unique corals, Hodges and Stanley aim to contribute a better understanding of survival and recovery.

“Our study may lend valuable information to understanding the peril of coral reefs today,” Hodges says.
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A s you can see from the cover of this issue, we connect the University of Montana with the planet Mars. UM alumni are naming features on Mars after the places we know so well here in Western Montana. For example, there's a Martian rock formation called “Missoula,” as well as an area on Mars called “Marias Pass.”

But this issue is about more than place names, even in outer space. This issue is about pioneers—UM graduates who are deeply involved with some of the most important space missions in the world. You will learn about an alum who first discovered that water existed on Mars, one who is the first to see images of the Red Planet sent back from the Curiosity rover, one who studies Pluto, and one who just might help design, build, and fly a spacecraft.

These alumni started in majors such as geosciences and physics and astronomy, and these programs are even more vibrant today. Our students study with faculty such as Associate Professor Nate McCrady and the multi-telescope observatory in Arizona designed to hunt for rocky planets similar to Earth around nearby stars. They study with Professor Dan Reisenfeld, who’s a member of the Cassini research team that studies Saturn. And that’s just a taste of what’s going on at UM in this one area of study. So the next time you look up to the night sky, know that UM is there.

This Montanan also features two other graduates who truly are pioneers:
- Former UM basketball guard Jack Burgess played a key role in “The Secret Game,” which took place in the segregated South in 1944. In an unprecedented event, the basketball team from the North Carolina College for Negroes battled an all-white team from the Duke medical school on a Sunday morning in an empty gym.
- Alumna Carla Dove is the leading national expert on bird collisions with airplanes, helping make travel safer for all of us. She plies her fascinating trade at the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History.

Our successful graduates testify to the power of a UM education: the values of discovery, creativity, and a broad, liberal arts-based curriculum. I mention that because some people worry these values are changing as UM resolves enrollment and related budget challenges. Nothing is further from the truth.

Indeed, UM does face a lower enrollment today of 13,000 students, and we are working this winter and spring season to adjust our employee numbers to reflect that. We are keeping the campus community informed as we move through this process, and I welcome you to follow the news on our budget communications webpage at www.umt.edu/president/.

There always will be challenges before the University of Montana, but we will have the resources so that our intrepid students, faculty, and alumni continue to push new frontiers.

You can help your alma mater. Share your stories about your time at UM. If you know someone considering college, tell them about the quality of your education. Send them our way by e-mailing me at prestalk@umontana.edu, and I will follow up. Let them know what UM means to you and how, when they arrive on the Oval—under that big M and Main Hall—they’ll thrive.

Sincerely,

Royce C. Engstrom, President
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For the most up-to-date information on Grizzly Athletics visit www.gogriz.com Follow the GSA on: Grizzly Scholarship Association @MontanaGSA
As of September, the Griz have a brand-new place to focus on putting the “student” in student-athlete. UM officially opened the Grizzly Student-Athlete Academic Center at the start of fall semester. The $2.5 million project was fully funded by private support and gives the more than 300 UM student-athletes a convenient, dedicated place to study and succeed in the classroom.

Connected to the Adams Center, the new building provides access to a spacious study room, a computer lab, and a small conference room for group work. Desktop computer stations and free printing also are available. It’s open seventy hours a week.

For fall semester, the average cumulative GPA for student-athletes was 3.19, the best on record at UM. That makes twenty-one straight semesters with an average cumulative GPA of 3.0 or better for the Grizzlies.

Hitting the Books
New academic center gives Griz a boost in the classroom

A

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TRACKING THE GRIZ

เตรียน defensive end **Tyrone Holmes** was named the best defensive player in the country, earning the FCS Defensive Player of the Year Award, formerly known as the Buck Buchanan Award. He appeared on four All-American teams and led the nation with eighteen sacks.

Nearly 1 million people tuned in to ESPN to watch the Montana Grizzlies knock off the four-time defending national champion North Dakota State Bison in the thrilling season-opening football game on August 29.

เตรียน defensive end **Derek Crittenden**, a chemistry major who holds a perfect 4.0 GPA with minors in mathematics and philosophy, was named a first-team Academic All-American. He also was a finalist for the prestigious Rhodes Scholarship.

เตรียน wide receiver **Jamal Jones** jumped to the top of UM’s all-time receiving list with 3,021 yards during his three-year career, passing **Mare Mariani**’s previous mark by three yards.
UM Professor’s Animal Weapons Book Earns Major National Award

A book written by Douglas Emlen, a UM evolutionary biologist, has been awarded the 2015 Phi Beta Kappa Award in Science.

Emlen received the award for his book Animal Weapons: The Evolution of Battle and a $10,000 prize at a gala dinner in December at the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C.

The award is presented by the Phi Beta Kappa Society, the nation’s oldest academic honor society. Since 1959, the group has presented the award to recognize outstanding contributions by scientists to the literature of science. Past book winners include the likes of Guns, Germs, and Steel by Jared Diamond, which also won the Pulitzer Prize.

“I worked long hours on this book, and receiving this award is a wonderful affirmation,” Emlen says. “Writing at this level, with this voice and to this audience, was the most enjoyable and meaningful thing I’ve ever done. It’s a great feeling to know you are bringing real science to the public in an entertaining and meaningful way.”

Animal Weapons, which was featured in the Winter 2015 Montanan, tells the story behind the incredible weapons we see in the animal world and what they can tell us about the way humans protect ourselves. Emlen takes the reader outside the lab and deep into the forests and jungles of the world to explain the processes behind the most extreme of animal weapons.

Emlen also recently was named the 2015 Montana Professor of the Year by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education. He was one of thirty-five educators selected nationwide from nearly 400 top professors nominated.

Documenting History

UM students to report on Syrian refugee movement in Germany

Each morning, around 400 Syrian refugees arrive in Berlin on a train, hoping to find better lives than their war-torn homeland can provide. This spring, eighteen UM students will arrive in the German capital to tell their stories and document the historic movement currently impacting countries throughout Europe.

Under the guidance of Henriette Lowisch, an international journalist hailing from Berlin who teaches at UM’s School of Journalism; Larry Abramson, dean of the J-school; and Shane McMillan, a 2010 UM alumnus who’s now a photojournalist based in Berlin, the students will spend three weeks tackling one of the biggest ongoing international news stories.

The idea for the trip emerged during Lowisch’s international reporting course last spring. At the end of the semester, she essentially gave her students half an hour to “reinvent” the class, and they overwhelmingly recommended that it involve practicing journalism in an international locale.

“Then, over the summer, the refugee crisis started accelerating,” Lowisch says. “The house I live in when I’m in Berlin over the summers actually has a guest apartment that has been made available to refugees. I come home and there’s a refugee living there, and it becomes real. The interest of the students in going to Berlin, and news happening in front of my eyes, those combined gave Shane and me the inspiration to create this study abroad program.”

While in Germany May 24 through June 14, the students will interview refugees and produce pieces in various media formats. The majority of the students are enrolled in the journalism school, but several are from majors such as German and political science. One student, a German major with a minor in computer science, hopes to build a smartphone app refugees can use to reconnect with family members and navigate the city.

“To me, this is much more fun and exciting to do this with University of Montana students,” Lowisch says. “Montana students have always struck me as more open-minded than students in big cosmopolitan centers. They actually relate to people in their stories. They can relate to refugees, and they can also relate to Germans who might feel threatened by the refugee movement.”

—Allison Franz
STEMFest Connects Professors, Professionals with High Schoolers

Missoula College Professor Tom Gallagher swivels to face his office computer and smiles into the camera mounted on top of the monitor. His class today? Roughly 500 high school students in classrooms scattered across Montana.

Gallagher is one of a dozen UM faculty who participated in Montana STEMFest, a two-day virtual conference series held in October that connected high school students with industry representatives and academic experts in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

Gallagher, director of Missoula College’s Information Technology Program, partnered with Josh Hughes of Team Kaizen Games for a session called “Combining Games, Coding, and Careers.”

“They were much more interested in our gaming friends than in me,” Gallagher says of his audience, adding he was happy to expose students to the diverse and unexpected career paths an education in mathematics can provide.

More than fifty classrooms participated in the nine live sessions, with topics ranging from exercise science and communication to sustainable products. Another 2,000 students later watched recordings available on YouTube from Inspired Classroom, LLC.

We Are Montana in the Classroom, a program of the Broader Impacts Group in UM’s Office of Research and Sponsored Programs, organized STEMFest in partnership with Missoula College’s Energy Technology Program. Inspired Classroom facilitated and broadcast the event, which was supported by the National Science Foundation, UM, and VisionNet.

We Are Montana in the Classroom engaged more than 5,000 K-12 students with UM faculty members, graduate students, and professionals during autumn semester.

Missoula College has a strong track record of reaching high schoolers as well. In the 2014-15 academic year, more than 700 students registered for dual-enrollment courses, making Missoula College and UM’s program the largest in the state.

STEMFest is yet another way to engage students, says event organizer Brad Layton, director of the Energy Technology Program. “I really hope they find their niche, or find a science mentor they can get behind, to see the value of where science is going,” he says.

—Nicky Ouellet
Odyssey of the Stars Honors George Gogas

UM’S COLLEGE OF VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS IS PROUD TO HONOR GEORGE GOGAS—artist, teacher, and School of Art alumnus—during its sixteenth annual scholarship event, Odyssey of the Stars—A Celebration of Artistic Journeys.

The 2016 performance begins at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, March 5, in the George and Jane Dennison Theatre. Odyssey of the Stars pays tribute to UM performing and visual arts alumni and tells the story of their artistic journeys. While honoring Gogas, the event also showcases UM students and faculty members from the Schools of Art, Media Arts, Music, and Theatre & Dance.

Gogas is known as a thinker. He’s thoughtful about local politics, or how the elk herd is faring this winter, or whether a particular horse is worth its salt. He’ll offer his opinion on just about any subject in a polite way that reflects his gentlemanly conduct. But he also is the kind of thinker whose opinion is formed through dedicated and sustained examination. He and his wife, Lynn, have been staples of the local arts community for decades, rarely missing an exhibition reception or lecture. Always generous, Gogas is quick to offer encouragement to young artists or mild criticism to those who need it.

Gogas was educated in Missoula public schools and holds a bachelor’s degree in art from UM and an M.F.A. from the University of Washington. It wasn’t until he was an art student at UM that he discovered new ways of seeing and creating. Gogas went on to teach in public schools for thirty years as an art teacher, having a profound effect on his students. Some of his students have become artists in their own right, such as Doug Turman, a painter and owner of the Turman Larison Gallery in Helena, a dedicated space for contemporary art. Gogas retired in 1985 to pursue artmaking full time. He is a passionate supporter of art of all kinds, consistently exhibits his work, and always has a good story to tell.

As an artist, Gogas is equally enamored with and influenced by western art and modernism. He manages to not only be tolerated, but celebrated in both circles. Although he doesn’t subscribe to later aesthetic developments such as conceptualism or new media, he does admire them. He’s the rare artist that can talk horses and describe abstract principles in the same breath.

Gogas is the well-loved creator of a series of imagined encounters between Charles M. Russell and Pablo Picasso called Judith Basin Encounters. This exceptional series takes the two leaders of these seemingly irreconcilable styles, who were contemporary with one another but never met, and depicts their fantastical exploits with tongue-in-cheek aplomb.

Gogas also creates almost completely abstract paintings, such as his Rubens Revisited or Gold Band series, which he describes as “just paint on a canvas.” Rubens Revisited uses the stylistic meanderings of abstract expressionism to reinterpret the Old Master’s compositions. These works are formal, meaning that they deal with the basic elements of art such as line, color, value, shape, form, space, and texture. Gogas is quick to point out that the paintings have “no narrative, no symbolism, no social message,” but instead reflect a series of relationships between visual elements.

Odyssey of the Stars supports the College of Visual and Performing Arts Scholarship Fund. Since its inception, the production has funded scholarships for 600 students. For more information visit www.umt.edu/umarts/odyssey.

—Brandon Reintjes, senior curator, Missoula Art Museum

Meet Grizwald,

UM’s cartoon bear. In frequent issues of the Montanan, we provide a drawing of Grizwald that needs a creative, original caption. It’s up to you, our readers, to provide it. The winning contestant will receive a Griz stadium blanket. Send submissions to themontanan@umontana.edu.
EMILY BRINE ’15

Emily Brine has always answered the call of the wild. The Washington native grew up backpacking and exploring the woods and national parks of the Pacific Northwest. After graduating from UM on a Saturday in May with a double major in parks, tourism, and recreation management and resource conservation, this twenty-two-year-old set out the following Tuesday to conquer the Pacific Crest Trail—a wilderness expanse stretching nearly 2,650 miles from Mexico to Canada. The Montanan asked Brine to describe her 149 days traversing deserts, mountain passes, forests, canyons, and lakes along the trail.

How did you prepare mentally and physically? I went out on long day hikes on the weekend, and when I could get breaks between classes, I climbed the M or did a quick hike to the top of Mount Sentinel. Mentally there’s just no way to prep yourself for what’s coming at you. The PCT is everything you expect and nothing you expect. That’s half of the adventure—to be knocked off your feet by the new experience.

Could you describe a typical day on the trail for you? Every day brought some new challenge or discovery. I walked anywhere from twenty to thirty miles a day. I would get up in the morning, eat my breakfast, take down the tent, and just start walking. And I wouldn’t take very many stops; I would just cruise on along. No two days were average. I was constantly dealing with blisters, gear problems, and of course the actual trail itself.

Did you hike with certain people? Yeah, some people on the trail will start traveling together in what we call “trail families,” and I had a very large trail family called the Wolfpack. We were all really close, and every day we hiked from point A to point B together and spent the evenings in camp. We were just one big, happy, dirty family.

How do you earn a trail nickname? Okay, so trail nicknames happen fairly organically. My trail name is “Smokey,” like Smokey Bear. Day one I was wearing a junior ranger hat as a sunhat. A man came up and said, “Be careful, you’re going to get a trail name that way, Smokey,” which is I think ironic because I was wearing a National Park Service ranger hat, not a Forest Service Smokey Bear ranger hat. I liked that name and I kept it.

What was the most challenging part mentally? There was one day where I just ended up having this mental breakdown in the middle of the desert. I stood there sobbing in the burning heat of the afternoon because there’s only so many things you can think about on the trail, and the PCT is going to make you come to terms with whatever issues you are dealing with. The trail kind of breaks you down and builds you back up again in a stronger, better way.

What were your favorite landmarks to travel through? Well, since I grew up hiking in the Cascades—they stole my heart when I was five—walking through my home country was just a dream come true. The Sierras, though, really rivaled the Cascades. They’re the greenest of greens and the tallest of mountains and wildflowers everywhere.

What is your most vivid memory on the trail? The most vivid has to be, and probably always will be, seeing the monuments in Canada for the first time. Right there it just all hits you like a slap in the face—that you’ve done it and you’ve made it. And, all of a sudden, every emotion you’ve been dealing with on the trail hurtles at you at once and you get so excited.

How do you feel to be done with the hike? It’s a bittersweet feeling. It’s really nice to be back home surrounded by friends and family. It’s nice to be comfortable. It’s nice to have a shower close at hand, sleep in your own bed, and know that you don’t have to worry about finding your own water and making your food last. I do have this sense of loss and grief because I don’t have my trail family with me anymore, and those people know me best. But at the same time, I’m so fortunate to have gone on the adventure because it turned me into a better person.

Did it change your outlook? Yes, absolutely. It’s taught me that relationships are more important than material things. You don’t really understand how important people are in life until they are your everything—until all you’re carrying is the stuff on your back and all you do is just spend time with people and nature. I’m a happier person now that I’ve done the trail.

What advice would you give to someone starting out on the trail? Hike your own hike. And another big thing I like to emphasize is: The trail will provide. There’s some weird, mystic thing happening on the PCT where the trail is alive in a way, and it knows when you’re in need.

What is next for you? I am currently applying to graduate school. I want to be the person in the Smokey Bear hat, teaching people about their public land and their natural resources because I think it’s the coolest thing in the world that we’re all the owners of some of the most prime real estate in the United States. But, if I’m entirely honest, I’m doing a lot of research on my next hike.

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

—Interview by intern Courtney Brockman
BOOKSHELF

Here’s a look at ten new books from authors with University of Montana connections.

EXCERPTS FROM A SECRET PROPHECY
By Joanna Klink
Penguin Books, 2015, 64 pages, $20

Joanna Klink’s new collection of poems, her fourth, delivers the read that reviewers promise: “poetry of bracing emotional intensity,” and “utterly lucid and breathtakingly urgent.” The work is a meditation on being alone and an exploration of both solitude and loneliness. Klink teaches in the Creative Writing Program at UM. From her poem Blizzard: “Snow fell that day as it falls/constantly through sleep/lush drumming to nothing/waves of hard silver.”

RESTORING THE SHINING WATERS: SUPERFUND SUCCESS AT MILLTOWN, MONTANA
By David Brooks
University of Oklahoma Press, 2015, 263 pages, $34.95

Modern-day Missoula residents know the familiar “Remove the dam, restore the river” as a bumper sticker. It also stands for a goal and an accomplishment brought about by local citizens—environmentalists, university scientists, health officials, water quality specialists, business and political leaders, and just regular people—who knew that the solution to restoring the Clark Fork River and its post-mining Superfund site was removing the Milltown Dam. David Brooks, who teaches the history of the American West at UM, tells the story of the science, the work, and the people.

CROSSING THE RIVER
By Amy Ragsdale
Seal Press, 2015, 291 pages, $16

Amy Ragsdale’s accomplishments take a while to tick through: degrees from Harvard College and Wesleyan, a professional dance career that put her on stages in Boston and New York, then a move to Missoula to lead the dance program at UM. She managed to teach around the world, start the professional troupe Headwaters Dance Company, and win a Governor’s Arts Award before starting a writing career. But then she and her family stepped off the grid for a year, taking off for a small rural town in northeastern Brazil. There they explored the values of connecting in friendship with other people, stretching across languages and cultures.

EL PASO TWILIGHT
By Rick DeMarinis
Bangtail Press, 2015, 257 pages, $17.95

It’s not a stretch to call Rick DeMarinis “one of the most talented and versatile writers of my generation,” as James Lee Burke does on the jacket of DeMarinis’ new novel, his tenth. DeMarinis has put his UM M.F.A. in creative writing to good use—he also has six short story collections to his name and a number of awards. His characters are quirky, gritty, odd, and touching all at once. His new crime thriller is set in the border country between the United States and Mexico and promises to deliver more classic DeMarinis.

THE GREAT DETECTIVE: THE AMAZING RISE AND IMMORTAL LIFE OF SHERLOCK HOLMES
By Zach Dundas
Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2015, 320 pages, $26

Missoula native and UM School of Journalism graduate Zach Dundas has a rabid Sherlock Holmes fan his entire life, going back to his founding of a fan club as a geeky pre-teen. Dundas now lives in Portland, Ore., where he’s co-executive editor of the Portland Monthly. As an adult and a journalist, he became interested in the mystique of Arthur Conan Doyle’s detective character, who has appealed to generations since 1887. In reporting for his book, Dundas visited two continents and both U.S. coasts, including London and Dartmoor, the eerie setting for The Hound of the Baskervilles. Among his discoveries: “It’s all about Watson.”
THE SASQUATCH HUNTER’S ALMANAC
By Sharma Shields
Henry Holt and Company, 2015, 383 pages, $17
Sharma Shields’ new novel follows Eli Roebuck’s maniacal search for the man who inspired his mother to run off with him, abandoning ten-year-old Eli. The man may or may not have been Sasquatch, and Eli cannot let him go, obsessively searching for the rest of his long life and affecting every relationship he has. Shields grew up in a farmhouse outside Spokane, Wash., where she developed her active imagination and interest in the darkness and magic of fairy tales. She earned an M.F.A. in creative writing at UM.

PICTOGRAPH
By Melissa Kwasny
Milkweed Editions, 2015, 70 pages, $16
Melissa Kwasny earned an M.F.A. in creative writing at UM and returned to the program for a stint as the Richard Hugo Visiting Poet. She lives in Jefferson City and is the author of four previous collections of poems. She’s interested in the interaction between humankind and nature and the ways each gives the other meaning. Poet Mandy Smoker says, “Melissa Kwasny’s vision has superbly located what it means to be human.”

A HAND REACHED DOWN TO GUIDE ME
By David Gates
David Gates teaches in UM’s Creative Writing Program and also in the Bennington Writing Seminars and lives in Missoula and Granville, N.Y. He’s both a fiction writer and a journalist who formerly wrote for Newsweek magazine. His new book contains eleven stories and a novella. He’s been called a “talented, witty, and emotionally intelligent writer.” His characters are well-educated and professionally accomplished but often disappointed in their personal lives—in marriage, parenthood, and friendship. He writes, as a Boston Globe reviewer says, with “utter authenticity.”

If you are a UM alum with a recent book release, don’t forget about your alma mater. To be considered for Bookshelf, you must send a copy of the book, along with any press materials and contact information, to: Montanan, University Relations, 325 Brantly Hall, Missoula, MT 59812. Submission of materials does not guarantee that your work will be featured.

Ginny Merriam is a 1986 graduate of the University of Montana School of Journalism.

OF SEA AND CLOUD
By Jon Keller
Tyrus Books, 2015, 320 pages, $15.99
Jon Keller studied creative writing at UM as an undergraduate and later returned as an adjunct professor after earning his M.F.A. in fiction at Boise State University. Then he went to Maine and found a job working on a lobster boat. He gradually realized he had a privileged view into a culture and livelihood that few outsiders see. He wrote numerous articles about the economics and politics of commercial fisheries and then this novel. It tells the story of two men raised by their father to be lobstermen faced with life-altering decisions about their family’s legacy after their father is lost at sea and the price of lobster crashes worldwide.

EPIC MEASURES
By Jeremy N. Smith
Jeremy Smith was editor of his college newspaper, the Harvard Crimson. He moved to Missoula to study creative writing at UM, earned an M.F.A. degree, and wrote a book called Growing a Garden City, which was acclaimed as a top book on the environment in 2011. Then he fell into the story of physician and economist Christopher Murray and his endeavors in one of the largest scientific projects ever undertaken. Murray set out to find what makes people sick and what kills them, looking to span the planet. Murray ended up challenging what we already know and attracting a $100 million grant from Bill Gates. Smith uses the techniques of the novel to draw his readers along the fascinating story.
Montana isn’t exactly the epicenter of the space industry. It’s 2,700 miles from Cape Canaveral, where NASA launches rockets. It’s 2,000 miles from Houston, NASA’s center for manned space travel. And it’s half a world away from Kazakhstan, where U.S. astronauts hitch rides on Russian rockets to visit the International Space Station.

UM graduates are unlocking the mysteries of space—what other planets look like, how astronauts can visit them, and whether there is, or ever was, life beyond Earth.

BY JACOB BAYNHAM

Montana isn’t exactly the epicenter of the space industry. It’s 2,700 miles from Cape Canaveral, where NASA launches rockets. It’s 2,000 miles from Houston, NASA’s center for manned space travel. And it’s half a world away from Kazakhstan, where U.S. astronauts hitch rides on Russian rockets to visit the International Space Station.

But even if Montana is far from the space industry, it has plenty of space. At night, the Big Sky offers some of the best views of our galaxy. All that light, and all that distance, can set the mind a-wandering. What would it be like to walk on Mars? What lies beyond the range of our most powerful telescopes? And has there ever been life on other planets?

For most of us, the questions are too overwhelming. We shake our heads and walk inside. But these four University of Montana alumni have made careers of answering the seemingly unanswerable. In doing so, they’re shedding more light on the vast darkness of space and discovering where we fit in the grand mystery of the universe.

A River Ran Through It
In the search for life beyond Earth, John Grotzinger says, planetary scientists come in two types: “There’s the Star Trek crowd and the Sherlock Holmes crowd.” One favors bold exploration and risk-taking to push science forward in leaps and bounds. The other takes a deductive, systematic approach that peels away the mysteries layer by layer.

“I’m definitely among the latter,” says Grotzinger, who spent eight years as chief scientist for Curiosity, the NASA rover currently exploring Mars. But sleuthing out life on Mars is anything but elementary. So NASA charged Curiosity with a conservative mission: not to find life on Mars, but to find evidence of an environment that could have supported life. This would be an important clue in solving the mystery of whether life ever evolved on the Red Planet.

For Grotzinger and his team of 472 scientists from thirteen countries, the Sherlock Holmes approach paid off. Curiosity landed on Mars on August 5, 2012, and days later, it found what it was looking for.

“We predicted we’d land on a streambed, and we found it,” Grotzinger says. “We predicted that water flows downhill like on Earth. We followed it, and we found the lake. If life had evolved on Mars, this would’ve been a place that could’ve supported it.”

Just like that, the primary objective was in the bag. The science team deduced that the streambed once contained clear, ankle- to waist-deep water, flowing at about three feet per second. Not dissimilar, in other words, from the Montana trout streams Grotzinger visited while doing fieldwork for his master’s in geology at UM in the early 1980s.

After more than three years on Mars, Curiosity’s detective work is far from over. The six-wheeled, plutonium-powered, SUV-sized rover is creeping across the planet at about a hundred yards a day. “We drive in a stutter step, about half a meter at a time,” Grotzinger says. “It’s not like we go blazing across in our rental car.”

Still, Curiosity has traveled more than eleven kilometers on the Red Planet. It’s now ascending the foothills of Mount Sharp, photographing the landscape, drilling
into rocks, and analyzing soil samples in its onboard laboratory. With the primary objective accomplished, Grotzinger says *Curiosity* is looking for other types of habitable environments and a clearer understanding of Martian geology. There's a lot the rover could learn before it runs out of power in five or six years.

Last year, Grotzinger stepped down from his position as *Curiosity*’s chief scientist. Now he’s head of strategic planning and the chair of geologic and planetary sciences at Caltech. From what *Curiosity* has found on Mars already, Grotzinger is encouraged that one day scientists will uncover proof of life beyond Earth.

“At some level it becomes a bit philosophical,” he says. “But I’m excited that the more we look in detail, the brighter the prospects become.”

In the meantime, Grotzinger still finds Earth plenty interesting. Soon he’ll lead a group of students to Africa to study the sudden emergence of animals 500 million years ago. Picture him with a magnifying glass and a deerstalker hat, following the clues wherever they may lead him.

**The 140-Million-Mile Camera**

Unfortunately for Brian Nixon, there are no one-hour photo labs on Mars. That makes his job of operating the color cameras on NASA’s *Curiosity* rover a little more complicated. Nixon’s typical morning is spent conferring with international scientists to decide on landscapes and specific rock formations to photograph. Then he writes the commands that tell the rover when and where to take the picture. The commands are reviewed, and then, at the end of the day, they’re sent to *Curiosity*.

“We really try to do everything perfectly,” Nixon says. “On Earth, you can take a picture, look at it, and adjust the settings. On Mars, you’ve got to get it right the first time.”
Even traveling at the speed of light, the commands take about fifteen minutes to reach Mars. *Curiosity* receives the signal, takes the pictures, and waits for a NASA orbiter to pass overhead. The rover beams up the photographs, and the orbiter transmits them back to Earth. If all goes well, they’re on Nixon’s computer by the time he gets to work the next morning at Malin Space Science Systems in San Diego.

An overnight turnaround isn’t bad, considering Nixon’s cameras are roughly 140 million miles away. And the photographs Nixon takes are critical to *Curiosity’s* mission. The rover’s drivers need the images to navigate around obstacles and choose the best routes for *Curiosity’s* fragile tires. The pictures also are the “eyes” for scientists back on Earth. Observation is the first step of the scientific method, and these pictures give scientists the empirical evidence to learn about the geology of Mars.

Nixon often is the first to see *Curiosity’s* photographs, which puts him on the frontlines of the exploration of the Red Planet.

“It’s just like science fiction or Lewis and Clark,” he says. “To be involved in exploring another planet is very fulfilling.”

If *Curiosity’s* cameras capture proof of life on Mars, Nixon could see it first.

“I wouldn’t expect to find a dinosaur skeleton,” he says, “but I could see us finding some very simple fossils of algae or simple organisms, kind of like what you’d see in the Belt Rocks around Western Montana.”

Nixon’s position also gives him the chance to name some of the topographical features that *Curiosity* encounters on Mars. A Missoula native who earned his bachelor’s in geology at UM in 2000, Nixon has drawn on Montana’s geography for Martian place names. Until recently, *Curiosity* was exploring a quadrant called Arlee. It drilled into a rock at a place Nixon dubbed Big Sky. A rock outcrop is named Missoula. When *Curiosity* couldn’t drive over Logan Pass, Nixon suggested the name Marias Pass for the alternate route.

“Most of Western Montana is now represented on Mars,” Nixon says.

**“Most of Western Montana is now represented on Mars”**

*Curiosity* now is in the Namibia quadrant, winding through dark sand dunes that appear to shift in the Martian wind. Nixon is excited to see what *Curiosity* photographs in the months and years ahead.

“I’ve always been into space and NASA,” he says. “As a kid, before the Internet, I sent away for all the pamphlets on the space shuttle and different science missions.”

Now a NASA rover sends raw footage of another planet directly to his computer. Nixon’s boyhood self would hardly believe it.

**The Spaceship of the Future**

When Daniel Baca was a kid, he had a poster on his bedroom wall of astronaut Bruce McCandless floating untethered in space, hovering between the blue glow of Earth and the great black beyond.

“I wanted to be that astronaut when I grew up,” Baca says.

It was a big dream for a poor kid living on ramen and government cheese in Livingston. Baca’s family moved to Kalispell when he started grade school. Math and science came easily to him, but Baca didn’t excel academically.

“I was a crummy student,” he admits. It may have stayed that way, if Baca hadn’t taken up jujitsu in high school. Baca’s instructor required that he take an anatomy and physiology course at the community college.

“I had no intention of going to college,” Baca says. “But I took that course, and some others, too. Once I got in that learning environment again, I found that I really missed it.”

Baca’s grades earned him a Board of Regents scholarship at UM, where he studied astrophysics and earned a degree in 2003. A career in space looked promising until his final semester.

“Three months before I graduated, the space shuttle *Columbia* broke up on re-entry,” he says. “The space program was effectively canceled while the accident was investigated.”

Baca left Montana to get his master’s in aerospace engineering at the University of Colorado-Boulder. In the meantime, NASA was rebooting, announcing plans to finish the International Space Station, establish a base on the moon, and even send astronauts to Mars. But first, they’d need a new spaceship.

The contract went to Lockheed Martin, where Baca landed a job after graduate school. His assignment was to help build the spaceship of the future. It was called *Orion*, and it was intended to send astronauts far beyond the
low Earth orbit that was the upper limit of the space shuttle. It would need to carry a human crew and all their supplies deeper into space than anyone has gone before.

“It’s kind of like packing for a really long backpacking trip in the mountains,” Baca says. “Only you have to also bring your air with you.”

**Orion** was ready for testing in December 2014. Lockheed Martin connected the spacecraft to a powerful rocket and blasted it 3,700 miles into space to test all the components. On its way down, **Orion** entered the atmosphere at 20,000 miles per hour—it would’ve vaporized without its heat shield, which dropped the temperature from 3,000 degrees to 300 degrees Fahrenheit. At the end of it all, **Orion** splashed down safely in the Pacific Ocean. Everything worked.

During the test, Baca sat before more than a dozen screens monitoring the onboard systems.

“I try to figure out everything that could possibly go wrong,” Baca says. “If you’ve ever watched Star Trek and the red light starts flashing, that’s what I created, and I needed to understand what it meant.”

**Orion** could make its first manned flight as early as 2021. And it could carry astronauts to Mars by 2030.

“We’re going pretty soon,” Baca says. “The first person to set footprints on Mars is alive today.”

Baca himself just submitted an application to join NASA’s new class of astronauts. If he’s accepted, it will mean the chance to have helped design, build, and fly a spacecraft. And for that little kid with the Bruce McCandless poster, it will be a dream come true.

**To Pluto, and Beyond**

Helen Hart was just shy of five and moving from Milwaukee to Billings when she looked out the car window somewhere in North Dakota.

“There were very few lights out there,” she says. “I looked up into the sky and I asked my mother what those twinkly things were. She tried to think of something I might’ve seen. She told me they were God’s streetlights. The answer must’ve dissatisfied me, because I’ve studied them my whole life.”

The current object of Hart’s fascination isn’t a star, though, it’s a planet. Or it was a planet, before the International Astronomical Union downgraded Pluto to a dwarf planet in 2006. In any case, Hart, who graduated from UM in 1981 with a physics degree, works in mission planning and scheduling for **New Horizons**, the unmanned spacecraft that launched a decade ago to study Pluto. Hart says the nomenclature surrounding Pluto can feel like a distraction.

“Whatever we call Pluto, whatever bin we chuck it in for funding, or whatever textbook chapter it shows up in, it doesn’t change what it actually is,” Hart says.

What it is, in a word, is amazing. Pluto was only discovered in 1930, and until recently it was little more than a faint dot at the edge of our solar system. But last July, after a nine-year, 3-billion-mile voyage, **New Horizons** became the closest man-made object to fly by the dwarf planet. The seven sensitive instruments onboard have given scientists a detailed portrait of one of the least-understood objects in our solar system.

**New Horizons** gathered about ten gigabytes of data during its flyby, information that it’s still sending back to Earth. The craft is so far away, and downlink rates are so slow, that scientists will receive high-resolution pictures and measurements until the end of this year. They’ve already learned that Pluto has hazy skies, ice mountains as tall as the Rockies, and a dramatic landscape of craters, frozen plains, and windswept dunes.

“The reality of Pluto is more complex and stunning than anything we had dared to dream,” Hart says.

**New Horizons** now is hurtling away from Pluto at nine miles per second. Its next objective, if funding for the mission is extended in 2016, is to fly past an object in the Kuiper Belt.

“It has the glamorous name of 2014-MU69,” Hart says. “We don’t know much about it yet, except that it’s there, and we can get to it.”

Hart keeps tabs on **New Horizons** from the Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Laboratory in Maryland, where her main concern is control and safety of the spacecraft. She also works on an instrument called SWAP that determined Pluto had no intrinsic magnetic field and another that identified particles escaping Pluto’s atmosphere.

The instruments aren’t the only things aboard **New Horizons**. There are also the ashes of Clyde Tombaugh, the man who discovered Pluto. There’s a U.S. postage stamp and two quarters. There’s a CD with a list of more than 400,000 names.

“In the event that someone ever finds this, these things will be there,” Hart says. “These symbols are a way of putting ourselves, our people, into this spacecraft—our hopes and our dreams, our aspirations, our identities—and passing them into the universe, or whatever tiny part of it we’re able to reach.”

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

Carla Dove ‘86 soars as the nation’s top expert on identifying birds that collide with planes, even when only “snarge” remains.
Her Name Says It All

BY NATE SCHWEBER

Outside the hallway that leads to Carla Dove's private office deep in the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History in Washington, D.C., a Tyrannosaurus-rex skull, a stone statue from Easter Island, and a wooden totem pole from British Columbia stand guard. In the hallway itself hang thirty-four portraits of distinguished Smithsonian scientists. All of them are men, except one.

From her desk with the high-powered microscope provided by the Federal Aviation Administration, Dove has carried on the life's work of that sole woman, her mentor, Roxie C. Laybourne. Today, Dove has succeeded Laybourne's position as the country's leading expert in microscopic feather identification, studying bird collisions with airplanes for the sake of making travel safer.

"When you can bring someone here and say, 'This collection is helping save lives,'" Dove says next to a file cabinet of her microscope slides, "that's exciting."

Dove's expertise vaulted to national attention on January 15, 2009. That afternoon an Airbus A320 jet with 155 passengers hit an unknown bird just after takeoff from New York City's LaGuardia Airport and crash-landed in the icy Hudson River. Dove examined remains salvaged from two of the plane's waterlogged engines and identified what species caused the crash—Canada geese, at least four separate ones, from a population based in Labrador.

"The scientific detective work of Dr. Dove and her colleagues was crucial to knowing how many individual birds were involved, what species they were, and whether they were migratory or local," says Captain Chesley "Sully" Sullenberger, the pilot of that plane who is credited with saving the lives of everyone on board and is now CBS News' aviation and safety expert.

He adds, "Armed with these data, scientists and aviation experts are working to reduce the risk of aircraft-bird collisions and make air travel safer."

Dove credits her success in her specialized field to the influence of a series of mentors, culminating with Laybourne. But her pivotal moment, when she decided to dedicate her life to birds and thereby set flight to the events that led to her rise to the Smithsonian, came at the University of Montana.

"That's the one I consider my home college," she says.

Dove has hair the color of white corn that hangs past her shoulders, hickory eyes, and a quick smile. She makes easy conversation in a melodious voice clipped with the accent of her native Shenandoah Valley where, in her small hometown of Fulk's Run, Va., her father transitioned from serving in the Army to raising chickens on a farm. One of Dove's earliest memories is revulsion at the thought of one being cut up.

"My grandma would try to get me to butcher chickens," she says. "Wherever she is she's probably very proud of me now."

Dove became the first in her family to go to college when she enrolled at Lord Fairfax Community College in Virginia in 1982. On her way to earning her associate degree in applied science in natural resource management, the young woman with the last name tailor-made for studying birds visited for the first time the citadel of ornithology, the Smithsonian.

"I never thought I'd be working here," Dove says. "But I thought it was a real cool place."

Because she grew up loving the outdoors, she enrolled at UM in 1983 and rode in her first airplane to get there.
Excited to see the zoological bounty of her adopted state, she joined a group called the Wildlife Society. On a trip to Yellowstone National Park, she spotted a Harlequin duck colored with lavender, ivory, and orange. She thought it was the most beautiful thing she had ever seen. With her interest in birds piqued, into her life came ornithology Professor Dick Hutto.

He was young and had an infectious passion for birds. A handful of his most dedicated students formed a group that on weekends joined him for outdoor lab work. They traveled to Choteau to see the great biannual migration of snow geese through Freezout Lake, to the Flathead Valley to see great horned owls swoop around the Ninepipe National Wildlife Refuge, to northeast Montana to see sage grouse strut in the Charles M. Russell National Wildlife Refuge, and to the Bitterroot Valley to see a peregrine falcon soar above the Lee Metcalf National Wildlife Refuge.

One summer, Dove worked as Hutto’s research assistant for his study on calliope hummingbirds, the smallest bird in the United States. “It was solving a puzzle,” she says. “That curious mind and a good attitude for learning.”

What Dove loved most about the study of birds was the challenge of identifying them based on scant amounts of data—a silhouette of a shape here or a speck of color there. “It was a silhouette,” she says. “That relates directly to what I do now.”

On a Monday in November inside the white-walled, alcohol-scented lab by her office at the Smithsonian, Dove tears open a beige envelope mailed from Utah and pulls out a Ziploc sandwich bag that holds the remains of a bird that collided with a plane—a few crumpled feathers and small lumps of reddish flesh. She calls it “snarge.”

“It means a bunch of ick and stuff,” says the woman who once blanched at butchering chickens. “It’s an odd profession.”

She walks with the snarge into a maze of file cabinets in the museum’s interior that holds 620,000 specimens of birds. Of the more than 10,000 species of birds in the world, around 500 have been involved in collisions with airplanes, and for about 200 species, collisions are commonplace.

From a drawer Dove lifts out a taxidermied killdeer. She combed the feathers on its belly with tweezers until she found one with markings identical to a feather from the Ziploc.

“There’s no other bird that this can be with these feather colors,” she says and looks up. “This is why it’s the best place in the world to do this kind of work.”

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Roxie C. Laybourne pioneered that kind of work. Born the oldest of fifteen children in Fayetteville, N.C., in the early twentieth century, Laybourne worked on aircraft engines in Raleigh while a student at Meredith College, where she also became notorious both as the first woman on campus to wear blue jeans and also for getting disciplined for visiting the local airport to see Amelia Earhart.

Laybourne wasn’t allowed to become a pilot herself because she was a woman. She became an expert ornithologist instead with an emphasis on forensics. She helped the FBI catch a killer by matching down from a pillow used to silence a pistol with feather fibers found on the defendant’s pants. She also helped game wardens catch bird poachers.

She rose to prominence inside the Smithsonian in 1960 after a plane crashed and killed sixty-two passengers after taking off from Boston’s Logan Airport. By matching feather fragments from the plane’s engines with specimens from the museum, Laybourne determined that a flock of starlings caused the crash. Her findings led plane manufacturers to build engines better able to withstand bird strikes.

By the early 1980s Laybourne officially retired, though she sped regularly from her home in Manassas, Va., to the Smithsonian in a sporty Datsun 280ZX to teach night classes in bird taxidermy. Dove, who had returned to her home state, initially took a job at a cancer...
lab after graduating with a degree in wildlife biology from UM in 1986. She enrolled in one of these classes shortly after being hired by the Smithsonian in 1989 simply to learn Laybourne’s bird-skinning methods.

Laybourne saw in Dove an apprentice who could carry on her life’s work. “I worked with her after hours and on holidays and weekends. I enjoyed it. I had fun,” Dove says. “This is an expertise that takes a lot of training staring through a microscope.”

Laybourne had discovered that each individual fiber in a feather has unique markings. Under microscopes, the fibers show small nodes and spines distinct as fingerprints. Laybourne categorized as many species as she could, but she knew more work needed to be done, especially with new advances in technology. Before she passed away at the age of ninety-two in 2003, Laybourne pushed Dove to first earn a master’s degree from George Mason University in 1994 and then continue through 1998 to earn something Laybourne herself never was able to—a Ph.D.

Dove’s research built on Laybourne’s foundation. She not only catalogued more species of birds by feather fibers, she also began building a database of each bird’s DNA as a complement to—not a replacement for—the art of identifying birds based on snarge. Often DNA becomes corroded by weather, time, or jet fuel, but feather scraps remain. Then the only way to identify the bird is to call the expert, Dove.

“Roxie was a pioneer—she started this,” Dove says. “My contribution is to bring it into the molecular age.”

Both civilian and military airport operators have used Dove’s data to manage bird populations near airports and alter jet paths to reduce collisions with birds. “Fewer bird strikes means safer flying and a reduction in costly repairs,” said Lieutenant Colonel Michele Boyko, a flight safety officer with the U.S. Air Force. “That means better mission capability.”

Now, with more jets flying around the world than ever, Dove’s workload remains busy and far-flung. Along with the envelope from Utah came a second from Alaska and a third from Djibouti. They were just a few of around 8,000 snarge parcels she receives each year.

One of the most poignant drawers Dove sometimes opens in the Smithsonian archives holds a pair of passenger pigeons, an ivory-billed woodpecker, and a brilliantly colored Carolina parakeet—all extinct. Increasingly, her work is being used to better understand how to stop other species from sharing their fate.

Recently she helped conservation biologists determine the types of rare birds being eaten by studying the stomachs of Burmese pythons that have invaded the Everglades. Park managers used this information to pass laws to try to halt the snakes’ deadly spread. Dove also helped climatologists identify 8,000-year-old feathers unveiled by melting glaciers in the Yukon.

Glacial melt came to her mind when she visited Missoula in the summer of 2015 for the first time since the early 1990s, this time to fly-fish with her husband, Chris Milensky. She was saddened to see mountains she remembered as capped with snow twenty summers ago now ice-free.

But she was glad to reconnect with Hutto, and over dinner at Scotty’s Table she finally expressed her gratitude. “I said, ‘I want to thank you. You made me realize you can make a living doing something like this, studying birds,’” she says.

Hutto, recently retired from teaching, talked about how much he looked forward to publishing his research papers. One paper, he says, even featured work done by Dove during her time at UM on calliope hummingbirds.

Dove ventured that she recently has thought about making a similar career shift. The only problem is Dove hasn’t yet found her successor. “Maybe we’ll get another University of Montana student,” she says. And maybe when she arrives, the portraits of two women, birds of a feather, will hang in that Smithsonian hallway.

Nate Schweber is a freelance journalist who graduated from UM’s School of Journalism in 2001. His work appears regularly in The New York Times, and he is the author of Fly Fishing Yellowstone National Park: An Insider’s Guide to the 50 Best Places. He lives in Brooklyn and sings in a band called the New Heathens.
To measure how tall Dr. Jack Burgess ’43 stood, look no further than The Secret Game he played in an empty gym in 1944.

Left: Dr. Jack Burgess, who played basketball at UM in the early 1940s, went on to play in The Secret Game in Durham, N.C., in 1944.

Below: Burgess and his beloved Cessna.
The four-seat Cessna 210, engine purring, turned onto the runway at Helena Regional Airport and gained speed, nosing into the air. It was 2002, and inside the plane were pilot Jack Burgess, co-pilot Jeff Morrison, and Burgess’ daughter, Eileen Watson.

It was Burgess’ last flight. He was seventy-nine, struggling to see, and too infirm to fly much longer. They were taking the Cessna to a buyer in Great Falls.

From her seat, Eileen could see the finality of the act on her father’s face. “It was an emotional time,” she says.

Burgess was a physician who’d settled in Helena in 1956 after a couple of years in Townsend. The former University of Montana basketball player retired in 1984. Well, not really. He worked as Mountain Bell’s medical director for another five years, and when that ended, he still volunteered at the Leo Pocha Health Clinic he helped start in Helena, and at the clinic in Seeley Lake, near his cabin.

That cabin, on the shores of Placid Lake, was his Xanadu: A place to relax and weld artwork after he gave up his rounds. His family spent summers there, and on Thursdays when he still practiced medicine, he would fly up from Helena, announcing his arrival with a pass directly over the roof.

No more of that, now. The plane was being sold. He had looked down and seen his kids on the boathouse, furiously waving beach towels, for the last time.

**HOOP DREAMS**

Of the many remarkable things Jack Burgess did in his eighty years on Earth, playing in The Secret Game clearly stands out.

A starting guard when he played for the Montana Grizzlies, Burgess later joined a team of medical students at Duke University who matched up against a local college squad with a record of 19-1 that happened to be black. He was a catalyst for this breakthrough game, which was played in a closed, empty gym in Durham, N.C., on March 19, 1944.

It was, almost without question, the first time an organized game pitted an all-white team against one that was all black. And it happened in the segregated South.

Born in the Fort Peck Indian Reservation town of Wolf Point, Burgess had an approach to race relations that was progressive for the 1940s. He grew up around Native Americans, and he roomed with Joe Taylor, a black teammate at UM, on road trips.

Burgess and Taylor were part of Grizzly teams that went 14-10 under legendary UM coach George “Jiggs” Dahlberg and 15-9 under Clyde Carpenter and Ed Chinske. Meanwhile, World War II was heating up, and the teammates got a sobering taste of segregation when the entire Montana basketball team enlisted after the 1942-43 season. Taylor went into a black unit.

“That was the last I saw of Joe,” Burgess says in a 1997 interview with ABC’s Nightline. “He went one way, and I went the other.”

**DARE TO PLAY**

“The Indian kids taught me to play basketball,” Burgess once said, and he grew up to be around 6-foot-1—an athletic kid who became a solid passer and excellent defender at UM. When the team enlisted, Burgess joined the Army, but at the behest of a Placid Lake neighbor, he also applied to the Duke University School of Medicine. The implication is that for Burgess, the son of a dentist, strings were pulled.

Not long after arriving in Durham, he joined Duke’s medical school team—a strong squad full of college basketball players—which was up for any challenge. And when the challenge was issued to play the North Carolina College for Negroes at the local YMCA, Burgess was all for it.

Some of his teammates, however, grew up in the South and were not.
Disobeying the Jim Crow laws of the region was no simple act of disobedience, and Burgess himself had a bus driver pull a knife on him when he opposed, out loud, the "back-of-the-bus" seating arrangements.

So Burgess played pivot in getting his teammates on board for the game, speaking to each player in turn and then, as a last resort, flat-out asking them if they were scared.

The game was scheduled for a Sunday morning, when most of Durham would be in church. The Duke med students traveled to the black college by the back roads and entered the gym with coats over their heads.

The game was a runaway: The NCCN Eagles, playing a fast-break style championed by Hall of Fame coach John McClendon, found their stride after a slow start and won 88-44.

Then the teams kept playing, mixing players for a game of shirts and skins.

This seems prosaic these days to anyone who has worked up a sweat at the Rec Center at UM or at the YMCA in Billings. Maybe that is why, before author Scott Ellsworth sniffed out the origins of the game in 1996, none of Burgess' four children knew of it.

Perhaps therein lies the beauty. It was such a natural thing to do, Burgess gave it no second thought.

Coach McClendon did.

“I don’t remember ever shaking hands with a white man before that,” he says.

THE PATRIARCH

“He was a friend to the world, setting an example I find hard to live up to,” Burgess’ son Kelly says, noting one occasion at the cabin when some Amish families appeared, having traversed the Jocko Pass from the Mission Valley via horse and wagon.

“He ran up the road and invited them to stop and visit, corral and water their horses, and use our dock to swim,” Kelly says.

Burgess met his wife, Donna, at UM in 1947 while home on break. She was dating a friend of his, but that didn't stop him from taking her on a picnic and then to a dance.

“Three weeks later we were engaged,” she says. They married in Butte in 1948, and she traveled with him back to Duke, where he finished his internship, and then to Kentucky, where he did his residency.

From there, Burgess served his country in the Korean War as an evac doctor and then as director of hospital trains.

“He was at the peace accord at Panmunjom when the treaty was signed,” Donna notes. “Which is still in force, I believe.”

Donna lives in an apartment not far off Last Chance Gulch in Helena. The entryway wall is covered in pictures that paint Burgess as traveler of Forrest Gump proportions: Here he is with Mike Mansfield, years after he took one of Mansfield’s classes as UM; over here is Jacques Cousteau, whom the Burgesses met by chance on a trip to Alaska.

He didn’t know Richard Hooker, the Korean War surgeon who co-wrote the screenplay for M*A*S*H, but Burgess was reasonably sure a buddy of his who organized a polo game involving Jeeps was the model for the character “Hawkeye.”

Burgess was a hard-working man: Out the door at 6 a.m., with a stop at the Peter Pan restaurant in Helena—“Then the 4Bs after the Peter Pan closed,” Donna says. Then he'd make rounds at the hospital, then tackle his surgical schedule, then more rounds, then house calls. He'd come home between seven and eight, having skipped lunch.

“I always cooked two dinners,” Donna says.

They raised their four kids and traveled, with both Jack and Donna holding pilot licenses. This was more practical than you'd think. His daughter Sidney recalled taking off from Helena toward Portland, Ore., to see some colleges. Once at cruising altitude, her father said, “See that notch in the clouds? Keep us pointed at that,” and took a nap.

His affinity to sleep as soon as he sat down caused his kids to sing “I'm Henry the VIII, I Am” on car rides and gave Donna plenty of time on the airplane stick.

“I might have had more flight hours than he did,” she says.

SOUTHERN DISCOMFORT

The Secret Game and many of the factors that led up to it are explored in Ellsworth’s book by the same title. In 317 pages, Ellsworth writes about the racial attitudes of the day, and, chillingly, of the shooting of an Army private, Booker Spicely, for not moving to the back of a Durham bus in 1944.
An all-white jury deliberated for just twenty-eight minutes before acquitting bus driver Lee Council of murder.

Against this backdrop, how was anyone to push back against Jim Crow? At the Duke University Hospital, Burgess had his own sobering experience.

As a first-year medical student, he took turns with other interns presenting patients to a professor. When Burgess’ turn came, he began by addressing the black patient, “Good morning, Mrs. Smith,” and then completed his examination. When the students reached the hallway, the professor and a few students turned on him.

“Don’t ever call a n-- Mr. or Mrs., you hear?” he was told.

This memory was jarred loose by Ellsworth, who tracked down another med school student, David Hubbell, by cross-referencing a box score in the Durham newspaper with a list of Duke med school graduates. By then, Hubbell, who’d played basketball at Duke and earned his undergraduate degree in 1943, was a surgeon in Florida. That eventually led to Burgess, who during his time away from home had written more than 200 letters to his parents. In one of them he mentioned the game, which helped Ellsworth nail down a date for a contest that wasn’t reported in the papers of the day.

More than fifty years later, Nightline devoted its April 1, 1997, broadcast to the contest.

“They built up a big lead on us,” says Ed Boyd, one of the NCCN Eagles. “Until we found out that nobody was going to get hurt, and the black wouldn’t rub off and the white wouldn’t rub off. And that’s when we went to work.”

It’s hard to quantify the game’s impact in the immediate aftermath, but it appears word got out to the right people. Ellsworth notes that the Cloudbusters, a Navy flight-school team stationed in Chapel Hill, N.C., started a caravan of all-white teams that quietly traveled to NCCN looking for games.

It meant a lot to those involved, and Boyd expressed his appreciation.

“For the sake of a game, and for the sake of their love of the game, they took a great chance,” he says of the Duke medical students. “And we’ve all benefited from it.”

In 1948 the Indiana State Teachers College, led by legendary coach John Wooden and now called Indiana State University, for the first time took a black player to the National Association of Intercollegiate Basketball Tournament. Two years later, the NCAA and NIT tournaments included integrated teams.

By then Burgess was in Lexington, Ky., completing his residency. Western Kentucky University, about two and a half hours from Lexington, would eventually integrate college basketball in the region with the addition of two black players in 1963.

**FINAL FLIGHTS**

Burgess was a Helena institution by then, an avid skier, fisherman, pilot, and Santa Claus. In 1964, he and Donna organized a European charter for fellow skiers and other friends. A DC-7 took off from Helena, then Shannon, Ireland, and then to Munich.

In 1965, eight-year-old Eileen figured out that Santa Claus was, in fact, her dad. He’d had a velvet suit sent to him by his sisters, and for years he arranged with Helena families to leave their presents, labeled, outside on the porch. Then Santa would knock on the door and bring them in every Christmas Eve.

“The ultimate measure of a man,” Martin Luther King Jr. said, “is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy.”

Burgess stood tall, in a near-empty gym in Durham, N.C., and at a clinic for the underprivileged in Helena. His father had died of a heart attack on a Missoula golf course in his early fifties, so he figured his time might be fairly short.

“When I have my big one, you’ll have to take over doing this,” he told Kelly, while priming the pumps at the cabin. His handwritten directions for priming and draining the pipes are still on the wall.

Burgess made it to eighty before heart problems made a valve-transplant necessary. It didn’t take; he passed away ten days after the operation, on July 19, 2003, at the apartment in Helena.

It was the heart of summer, and it’s easy to imagine he wished he was at Placid Lake, where the cabin shutter is covered by a crewel tapestry depicting the two fair seasons.

On the far right panel is a plane, banking over a dock on which a child sits, letting the family know their patriarch is coming home one last time.
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Together, we will continue to build up this remarkable University and our promising students.

Shane Giese
UM Foundation President and CEO
THE HALL BECKONS

DAVE DICKENSON ’96, Calgary, Alberta—the former UM quarterback known as “Super Dave” and “Legend of the Fall” to Grizzly faithful—can add another honor to his long list of accolades: member of the Canadian Football Hall of Fame.

Dickenson’s induction among Canada’s best players this past August came twenty years after he led the Montana Grizzlies to their first Division I-AA [now FCS] national championship in 1995. On a brisk December day in Huntington, W.Va., Dickenson and the Griz—clad in the traditional UM colors of copper, silver, and gold—charged down the field in the game’s final minutes to clinch a 22-20 win over Marshall University.

After graduating the following spring with a 3.9 GPA in molecular biology, “Super Dave” joined the Calgary Stampeders. As a signal-caller in the CFL for eleven seasons, he racked up 22,913 yards and 154 touchdown passes, as well as a quarterback rating of 110.4, a league record that still stands. He led two different teams—the Stampeders and the B.C. Lions—to Grey Cup championships, the CFL’s equivalent of the Super Bowl. He officially retired as a player in 2009 and for the past six years served on the coaching staff of the Stampeders. In December, he officially was named the Stamps’ head coach, taking over from John Hufnagel.

“To me, the Hall of Fame is all about tradition,” Dickenson told the Calgary Herald. “I live in Canada, I have kids, I do a lot around the city trying to promote the game. So you respect the game, the players, and coaches who paved the way, who came before you. That’s important to me. And that’s what the Hall of Fame does, what it stands for.”
1930s

BETTY PREAT WETZEL ’37, Bigfork, who celebrated her 100th birthday November 7, has embarked on a century’s worth of adventures since her birth in 1915.

A native of Roundup, the tennis enthusiast won the 1936 Montana State Tennis Championship—in singles and doubles—before graduating from UM with a journalism degree the next year. After spending a few years in New York City upon graduation, she moved back to her hometown to work for the Record-Tribune, the newspaper her father founded. There she met her future husband, Winston, and they married in 1940. The couple and their four children lived in Glendive, Whitefish, and Missoula before moving in 1966 to Dacca, East Pakistan [now Bangladesh], where Winston was an education adviser and Betty worked in a cholera research lab. While overseas, Betty wrote freelance articles for numerous publications and was a regular contributor to Montana Magazine. Her book, Missoula: The Town and its People, was published in 1987.

Once the family returned stateside, Betty worked at Wellesley College and as the first public relations director for international development organization Oxfam America. She and Winston always knew they wanted to return to Montana, so they purchased lakefront property and moved to Bigfork upon retirement.

In 1990, Betty published another book, After You, Mark Twain—A Modern Journey Around the Equator, based on a trip the couple took retracing Mark Twain’s journey in the Equator. It included stops in Hawaii, New Zealand, Bangladesh, India, Sri Lanka, and South Africa. When she was just shy of eighty years old, Betty embarked on a ten-day, 140-mile pack trip in the Bob Marshall Wilderness, and The New York Times published an article about her adventure in its travel section.

Though she’s ventured across the world and back, Betty’s heart always remained in the Treasure State. “Montana is truly beautiful,” she told the Bigfork Eagle. “And so are the people.”

1950s

DR. WILLIAM A. REYNOLDS ’52, Missoula, received the Centennial Legacy Award from the Montana chapter of the American College of Physicians, the largest medical specialty organization in the country. Bill practiced internal medicine in Missoula for thirty-eight years.

WALTER J. LONNER ’56, M.A. ’61, Bellingham, Wash., received the Distinguished Contributions to the International Advancement of Psychology Award, the American Psychology Association’s most prestigious award. Founder of the Journal of Cross-Cultural Psychology in 1970, Walter has spent his entire career studying the influence of culture on thought and behavior and is considered a pioneer in that specialty.

1960s

RICK DEMARINIS ’61, M.A. ’67, Missoula, received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the UM Creative Writing Program during the 2015 Montana Book Festival. DeMarinis has written ten novels and seven collections of short fiction. His novel The Year of the Zinc Penny is a New York Times Notable Book. His short stories have appeared in several noteworthy journals, including Esquire, The Atlantic, Harpers, GQ, The Paris Review, and The Iowa Review. He taught creative writing for twenty-five years as a professor at San Diego State University, Arizona State University, and the University of Texas at El Paso. He served as a visiting writer at a number of prestigious writing programs, most recently the Master of Fine Arts program at UM in 2002.

DAN BIERI ’62, M.A. ’64, Sydney, Australia, visited the North Pole on the world’s largest icebreaker, a Russian ship, as part of an organized excursion in July. He also assisted a sea ice research team as the official recorder while on the ice.

LEON WASHUT ’65, Vero Beach, Fla., and his cousin Karen Ballek co-wrote and published We Are One Family: Polish Immigration to Sheridan County, Wyoming 1890-1920. It highlights stories of ethnic Poles, many who came from villages that dotted the mountains and foothills of the Carpathian Mountains. Although they adapted to a new life, their deeply held beliefs and traditions from their rural Polish culture became firmly rooted in Sheridan County. We Are One Family is the result of eight years of research, which included reviewing family histories, reading personal memoirs, interviewing descendants of immigrants, and sifting through ship manifests.
naturalization documents, census data, and other documentation. Leon and Karen also traveled to Poland to conduct interviews and gather information.

JANE SUSAN MACCARTER '67, Livingston, wrote Twice Upon a Kiss, a novel that weaves together archeological adventure, prehistoric warfare, contemporary romance, and modern medical drama. Omnific published Twice Upon a Kiss in August.

KAREN LARSON GOOKIN '69, retired in 2013 from Central Washington University in Ellensburg after twenty-nine years teaching technical writing and argumentation in the CWU English Department. Most recently, she retired from the Yakima Symphony Orchestra, where she played piccolo and flute for over twenty years. Karen and her husband, LARRY '71, will remain in Ellensburg but plan to “RV” throughout the Northwest, including regular visits to Montana.

1970s

LARRY GOOKIN '71, Ellensburg, Wash., retired last June from Central Washington University, where he served as director of bands and conducted the CWU Wind Ensemble for thirty-four years. During his tenure at CWU, Larry received many awards, including the university’s Distinguished Professor of Teaching, the Washington Music Educators’ Hall of Fame, and the University of Oregon’s Distinguished Alumnus in Arts. Larry also recently retired as artistic director and conductor of the Seattle Wind Symphony, which he founded. To honor Larry in his retirement, a number of Pacific Northwest band directors commissioned David Maslanka of Missoula to compose a piece for him. Larry conducted the new piece, St. Francis, at his final concert with the CWU Wind Ensemble on June 7.

WILLIAM MARCUS '74, Missoula, retired in 2015 after a forty-year career in Montana public broadcasting. William began his career in public media as a student working part-time at KUFM, before the station affiliated with National Public Radio. He became news director a few years after graduation and took over as the director of the Broadcast Media Center at UM in 1995. Four documentaries William produced won regional Emmy Awards, and Night of the Grizzlies, which chronicled the infamous deadly bear attacks in Glacier National Park, was the most-watched production in MontanaPBS history. William is perhaps best known as host of Backroads of Montana, which highlights Montana’s rural communities and the residents that make them unique. Even in retirement, he plans to produce at least a few more episodes.

JAMES R. MURRAY '76, Bethesda, Md., was inducted as a Fellow into the American College of Trial Lawyers, one of the premier legal associations in the country. James is a partner in the insurance coverage practice at Dickstein Shapiro in Washington, D.C., and is a member of the firm’s executive committee. He was a UM Distinguished Alumni Award recipient in 2014.

TOM VANDEL '77, Portland, Ore., has written a new book in collaboration with a Portland artist titled Driving Strangers: Diary of an Uber Driver. It combines short, pithy musings on his experiences as an Uber driver with artist Karen Wippich’s oddly intriguing portraits. The book is available on Amazon, and, according to its description, also makes a nice cheese plate.

MORAINE BYRNE '78, Arvada, Colo., is a marketing, management, and business consultant who founded Moraine Byrne Associates in 1993. The firm focuses on senior living, health care, and nonprofit management. She currently leads strategic business initiatives for Covington Senior Living in Atlanta.

BYRNE

GARY HICKS '76, Rochester, Minn.; LANCE KETTERLING '78, Hettinger, N.D.; ROBERT SHACKLETT '78, M.S. ‘80, Okanogan, Wash.; and MARK SANDA '77, Chaska, Minn., pose for a photo on campus while visiting Missoula in October for their “quadrennial gathering.” The UM grads have gotten together every four years, without fail, since 1987.

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LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Rivalry Tradition Spans Years, Miles

In 1988 when I started working in Alumni Relations, the new program getting all the attention from our alumni was the satellite viewing parties for the annual Griz/Cat football game. The UM Alumni Relations Office, in cooperation with our Montana State University colleagues, would rent satellite time and actually upload the TV coverage of the rivalry game so alumni and fans across the country could watch it live. However, alumni could only watch the game from sports bars that had the necessary equipment to download the satellite signal.

Our early days using this delivery system were fraught with problems. The signal coordinates were changed at the last minute, the curvature of the Earth meant some viewing sites never received the signal, and we had to find sports bars willing to show the game. Woe was the unfortunate satellite party host [our local volunteers willing to represent us in their communities] at a site when the signal did not come through for the party. I attended a couple of satellite parties where this happened. Standing in front of hundreds of Grizzly and Cat fans to explain that the game could not be shown was never fun.

The satellite parties became a huge success over the years, and today, we are proud of our eighty-five viewing sites that show the fall rivalry game. Gone though is the satellite distribution nightmare. Now the game is distributed nationwide on a variety of regular TV pay-for-view sports channels. Despite this increase in accessibility, our alumni continue to enjoy these sites because they are a chance to come together with their fellow Grizzlies and Cats.

I want to say a big thank you to our past and present site hosts, who volunteer to arrive early to decorate the room, greet alumni, collect donations, run the door-prize program, cheer when our team scores, and then quietly clean up after everyone has left. I had the pleasure of watching the 2015 game in Albuquerque, N.Mex. We had a great time with our UM host, Kim Anderson, and the MSU hosts, Martha and Paul Roney. Except during the game when friendly rivalry rules require supporting your team, the alumni assembled truly celebrated a common link: the great state of Montana.

Sincerely,

Bill Johnston ’79, M.P.A. ’91
Director, Alumni Relations
President and CEO, UM Alumni Association

1980s

LAURIE BLAUNER ’80, Seattle, won the 2015 Leapfrog Fiction Contest for her novel The Solace of Monsters, which will be published this fall.

LAURA BARR SARGENT ’82, Marblehead, Mass., is the author of a series of e-books called Hop on Reading, which use a structured approach to help young readers overcome dyslexia and other reading impediments. Laura left Montana in 1982 to sail the world and has worked with struggling readers for many years in various countries and cultures. She earned a master’s degree in education from Harvard University in 2005.

DENNIS BROOKE M.B.A. ’87, Tacoma, Wash., is a writer whose novel The Last Apostle is slated for release in February.

CHUCK HAMILTON ’88, Evanston, Ill., and his parents, Susan and DON HAMILTON, J.D.’66, Great Falls, visited Havana, Cuba, as members of the Thunderbird Rugby Football Club. The team played two matches against the Cuban National Team as part of the Mojito Rugby Tour II.

RICK RASMUSSEN ’88, Hayden, Idaho, is the CEO of Northwest Specialty Hospital in Post Falls, Idaho. Prior to that, he served as the hospital’s CFO.

1990s

JULIE MESLOW MICHAEL ’90, Los Angeles, is president of the Los Angeles-based advertising agency Team One. Before being named president last summer, she served as the premium brand agency’s executive director of account management and in several other senior management roles.

2010s

COLONEL JOHN HARRISON ’93, Topeka, Kan., was promoted to the labor relations team in human resources for Westar Energy, Kansas’ largest electric utility. He previously served as the three-star deputy commander of the U.S. Northern Command at Peterson Air Force Base in Colorado. John, pictured third from left, received an early commission from UM-ROTC in 1989 as a sophomore and graduated in the winter of 1992. John will retire in the Treasury State with his family.

JOHN ASHLEY ’93, Kila, published Glacier National Park After Dark: Sunset to Sunrise in a Beloved Montana Wilderness, which he calls a “combination guide book, travel journal, historical narrative, photo essay, and astronomy primer.” It features stunning time-lapse images of Glacier’s night skies.

LARRY GRAVES ’93, Topeka, Kan., was promoted to the labor relations team in human resources for Westar Energy, Kansas’ largest electric utility. He previously served as
ALUMNI EVENTS 2016

**JANUARY**
- 28 Bringing the U to You Lecture Series, Great Falls
- 30 Boots to Beaches: Celebrate July in January with the Alumni Association

**FEBRUARY**
- 11, 25 Bringing the U to You Lecture Series, Great Falls
- 18 Charter Day Celebration and Awards Ceremony
- 16, 23 Community Lecture Series, 7-8:30 p.m., University Center Theater
- 21 Alumni gathering in Palm Desert, Calif.

**MARCH**
- 1, 8, 15, 22 Community Lecture Series, 7-8:30 p.m., University Center Theater
- 17 Alumni gathering in Denver
- 25-APRIL 4 Atolls & Islands of French Polynesia

**APRIL**
- 7 Alumni gathering in Minneapolis
- 8-9 UMAA Board of Directors meeting, Minneapolis

**MAY**
- 4 Griz Gradfest
- 12-14 Commencement, Montana Treasures Reunion and All-Alumni Celebration

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

Michael Earl Craig will serve as the 2015-17 Montana Poet Laureate. ’94

Michael Earl Craig ’94, Livingston, will serve as the 2015-17 Montana Poet Laureate, a designation that recognizes and honors a citizen poet of exceptional talent and accomplishment and encourages appreciation of poetry and literary life across the state. Michael has written four books of poetry: Can you Relax in My House; Yes, Master; Thin Komono; and Talkativeness.

Vincent Trimboli ’98, Eagle, Idaho, is the public affairs manager for the Idaho Department of Transportation. He is responsible for directing all aspects of media relations, marketing, and communications statewide and acts as the department’s chief spokesperson.

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 Nov. 20, 2015.

Bruce Carter ’82, Portland, OR
David Fauss ’64, M.S. ’67, Roseburg, OR
Robin Funk ’83 and Renee Funk ’08, Kalispell
Jeffrey Gartner ’10, New York City
Evan Katzman ’94, New York City
Gwen Marshall ’87, Shelby
Jameson Morton ’13, Missoula
Natasha Morton ’80, Hardin
Steven Taylor ’75 and Annie Taylor ’76, Great Falls

Lee received special recognition for Oregon’s top reporting prize, the Bruce Baer Award, three times in five years. She currently investigates and reports for InvestigateWest at invw.org.

Chris Fairbanks ’98, Los Angeles, tours the country as a stand-up comedian. He has appeared on Jimmy Kimmel Live and several Comedy Central shows, including Premium Blend, Last Comic Standing and Reality Bites Back.

Lee Douglas van der Voo ’96, Portland, Ore., a reporter whose work has appeared in The New York Times, Slate, and The Atlantic, has been supported by the Fund for Investigative Journalism and an Investigative Reporters and Editors Freelance Fellowship. Lee is the author of a forthcoming book about the relationship between sustainable seafood, working communities, and Wall Street. In addition to receiving national awards for her work from Investigative Reporters and Editors and the Society of Environmental Journalists,

Veronica “Nici” Vance ’95, Clackamas, Ore., received the Oregon State Police Employee of the Year award in August for her work with human skeletal remains through Oregon’s Medical Examiner Division. She provides skeletal recovery, identification, and forensic anthropology services for law enforcement agencies throughout Oregon. She has worked for the Oregon State Police as a forensic scientist and the state forensic anthropologist for twenty years.
MARY ANNE HITT ’02, Shepherdstown, W.Va., is a director of the Sierra Club’s Beyond Coal campaign. She and her colleague Bruce Nilles were included on Politico’s “50 for 2015” list, which the political news organization calls its “guide to the thinkers, doers, and visionaries transforming politics in 2015.” “This year, we were in the company of the likes of Pope Francis, Bernie Sanders, Janet Yellen, Justice Anthony Kennedy, and John Oliver,” Mary Anne writes. “It’s great to have the good work of so many people recognized on such a big stage, and it’s a big honor for me to represent them.”

MARY SMOKER BROADDUS, M.F.A. ’03, Helena, directs the Indian Education program at the Montana Office of Public Instruction. She received the 2015 Educator of the Year Award from the National Indian Education Association for her work to improve education for Native Americans and all students across Montana.

MATTHEW FITZPATRICK M.S. ’03, Frostburg, Md., earned tenure and was promoted to associate professor at the University of Maryland’s Center for Environmental Science Appalachian Laboratory. He studies biological diversity, which includes genetic variation within species, as well as groups of interacting species in forests, shrublands, and streams. His research often focuses on how organisms responded to past climate changes and how that information can be used to develop future predictions about biological diversity and the spread of species.

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BROADDUS, MANDY SMOKER

“That is our goal,” he told the magazine. “Instead of working toward trophies or rankings, we motivate through the pursuit of excellence,” Parker details the individualized learning approach he and his team use to engage and teach students. “Excellence,” Parker details the article “Pursuit of Excellence,” Parker details the approach he and his team use to engage and teach students. “Instead of working toward trophies or rankings, we motivate through the pursuit of excellence,” he told the magazine. “That is our goal.”

ALEX KRAFT M.F.A. ’06, Dahlonega, Ga., co-curated an exhibition titled 50 Women: A Celebration of Women’s Contribution to Ceramics at the American Jazz Museum in Kansas City.

KRISTIN KNIGHT-PACE ’06, Healy, Alaska, and her husband plan to compete in the two longest sled dog races in the world—the continued on page 42

Fredrick Lindahl M.B.A. ’03, Stockholm, Sweden, is the CEO of Flightradar24, an online service that provides flight tracking and mapping in real time. The service relies on volunteers around the world who have installed more than 7,000 receivers on roofs, towers, islands, and ships.

MARY HOLLOW ’04, Helena, is the executive director of the Prickly Pear Land Trust, which seeks to protect the natural diversity and rural character of the Prickly Pear Valley and surrounding lands in Lewis and Clark, Jefferson, Broadwater, and Powell counties through voluntary and cooperative means. Before joining PPLT, Hollow worked on land protection and directed government affairs for The Nature Conservancy’s Montana chapter.

M.F.A. ’03, Dahlonega, Ga., co-curated an exhibition titled 50 Women: A Celebration of Women’s Contribution to Ceramics at the American Jazz Museum in Kansas City.

Stephanie Hollow

Alex Kraft

Kristin Knight-Pace and her husband plan to compete in the two longest sled dog races in the world—the 1,000-mile Yukon Quest and the 1,150-mile Iditarod—back-to-back in 2016. ’06

Mike Foote ’06, Missoula, Steven Gnam ’08, Wenatchee, Wash., and Mike Wolfe, J.D. ’09, Missoula, completed a minimally supported, 600-mile endurance run across the Crown of the Continent, one of the largest, most pristine ecosystems in North America. The crew started in Missoula and ended in Banff, Alberta. Both Foote and Wolfe are ultrarunners sponsored by The North Face who routinely compete in trail races of fifty miles or more. Gnam, a photographer whose work includes Crown of the Continent: The Wildest Rockies, told the Flathead Beacon the team embarked on the excursion to “raise awareness of the Crown of the Continent, the wildlife corridors that exist in the area, and show how the communities on either side of the border are connected.”

ABOUT ALUMNI

Mike Foote

Gnam

Wolfe

Foote

Hollow

MONTANAN WINTER 2016 // 41

AboutAlumniJH_ec.indd 41
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1,000-mile Yukon Quest and the 1,150-mile Iditarod—back-to-back in 2016. The couple runs a competitive racing kennel near Denali National Park, and Kristin is the lead backcountry ranger for the park. “My professors at UM taught me that hard work can be incredibly rewarding,” she writes. “The foundation that UM gave me to achieve dreams through my own effort and by my own hand has carried me all the way through life to the starting line of these races. We and our twenty-seven dogs are training almost every day of the year, working toward a common goal of traveling great frozen distances confidently and competently and having fun while we’re at it.”

ELLIO T JACOBS M.A. ’09, M.Ed. ’11, Hailey, Idaho, was awarded a Fulbright Distinguished Award in Teaching. Joined by his wife, Kate, and infant daughter, Cecily, he will spend the winter in Tangier, Morocco, teaching in local schools, taking classes at Abdelmalek Essaadi University, and researching Moroccan and American expatriate writers of the 1950s and 60s. Elliot writes, “After six years of teaching in Idaho, this opportunity is a real thrill, and we can’t wait to learn more about the incredible culture of Morocco and spend time abroad as a family.”

ALEX POLLINI ’12, Los Angeles, pictured third from left, was the director of photography and shot the opening title sequence for the HBO miniseries Olive Kitteridge. He and his team were nominated for a 2015 Creative Emmy Award and attended the awards ceremony at the Microsoft Theatre in Los Angeles.

2010s
MEGAN KRUSE M.F.A. ’10, Seattle, was named to the National Book Foundation’s “5 Under 35” list for 2015. Hawthorne Books published her debut novel, Call Me Home, in March 2015, with an introduction by author Elizabeth Gilbert. Her work also has appeared widely in literary journals and anthologies. Megan teaches fiction at Eastern Oregon University, Hugo House in Seattle, and at the Gotham Writers Workshop.

ZACH BROWN ’13, Bozeman, is a program specialist for the Ag, Water, and Climate Program at One Montana, a statewide program that aims to build and sustain basic connections between rural and urban Montanans. He also represents House District 63 in the Montana Legislature.

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 Nov. 16, 2015.
Elise Muriel Wallin Byrne '50, Billings
John Francis “J.F.” “Mun” Doran '50, Butte
Dorothy “Dee” Saar McArthur '50, Cameron Park, CA
Kenneth E. “Kenny” “Mac” McGibney '50, Billings
Michael Marvin “Mike” Naglich '50, Red Lodge
Lawrence Lewis Rasmussen '50, Missoula
William Randall “Bill” Tait '50, Butte
S. Michael Freeman '51, University City, MO
Jean Allen Turnage '51, Polson
Frank Shelby Bernat '52, Missoula
Ross M. Hagen '52, Iowa City, IA
Falle Dean Nelson '52, Santa Fe, NM
Edwin H. “Ed” Doig '53, Livingston
Dale Barde Taylor '53, Pensacola, FL
Charles Richard “Dick” Joy '54, Missoula
Mary Jane Nelson '54, Kalispell
Raymond F. “Ray” “Buck” Bukovota '55, Missoula
John Edward “Jack” Donovan Sr. '55, Tucson, AZ
John David Holden '55, Clinton
Victor Dusol “Vic” Burt '57, Butte
C. Erwin Davis '57, Ronan
Emil Joseph Ferkovich '57, Oceanside, CA
Edward Leonard “Eddie” Gunderson '57, Mill Valley, CA
James William Luax '57, Hamilton
Ann P. Beck Murphy '58, Rancho Murieta, CA
Wayne Howard Chattin '59, Tucson, AZ
James “Byron” Christian '59, Polson
Gary Garwood Morris '59, Missoula
Clifford Vern Wilson '59, Augusta
Frances Therese Zender M.A. '59, Crystal Lake, IL

1960s
James Leonard Delaney ’60, Nashville, TN
Gerald Edward “Jerry” Ebelt ’60, Helena
Warren H. Pavlat ’60, Eugene, OR
Curts LeRoy “Curt” Smith ’60, LaGrange, GA
William Arthur “Bill” Anderson ’61, ’64, Missoula
Charles “Chuck” Gail Kemmerer ’61, Helena
Leo J. Schapiro ’61, Ogden, UT
Laurence J. “Larry” Whelan Jr., Flagstaff, AZ
Richard Edward “Dick” Bartow ’62, Missoula
William G. “Bill” Sternhagen ’62, Helena
Glen H. Aashe ’63, Lakeside
Richard Allen Brumbaugh ’64, Plains
Douglas Frank Eigeman ’64, Reno, NV
Delores I. “Dee” Sager Willits Kober ’64, M.Ed. ’70, Hamilton
Joseph E. “Joe” Powers M.Ed. ’64, Butte
Leslie Lynn Linhart Timmerman ’64, Butte
Robert George “Bob” Moody ’65, Calgary, AB
Gary A. Boehl ’66, Sun City West, AZ
Philip A. “Phil” Strommen ’66, M.B.A. ’76, Missoula
John Richard “Rick” Collins Jr. ’67, Edmonds, WA
Vernon W. Lane ’67, Missoula
Frank Forrest Munshower M.Ed. ’67, Ph.D. ’72, Bozeman
Linda Darlene Collins St. Peter ’67, Osburn, ID
Terry L. Lanes ’68, Anaconda
Marvin Lowe “Marv” Marcy ’68, Polson
Edward Gail “Ed” Steiner ’68, Memphis, TN

1970s
Edward Harold “Ed” Folkoewin ’70, Columbia Falls
James E. “Jim” Jetter ’70, Hamilton
Ben Francis Harrison M.Ed. ’71, Clinton
Donald Blass and “Doug” Johnson ’71, Seattle
James Anthony “Jim” Pascall Jr. ’73, Spokane, WA
Robert Wiley Rutledge ’73, Great Falls
Walter F. Dunlevy M.B.A. ’74, Sharon, PA
Donald Charles “Don” Hatcher ’75, Anaconda
Michael John “Mike” O’Harren ’75, Missoula
Russell A. Toft ’75, Spokane, WA
Beth Maness Schweitzer ’77, Troy
Judith Ann “Judy” Paul ’78, Corvallis
Clair Jay Rasmussen M.Ed. ’78, Dixon

1980s
Charles V. Likes Jr. ’80, Yuba City, CA
Kathryn Weber Law ’81, Missoula
Barbara Ann Allhands Paschke M.A. ’81, Butte
Ross Patrick Denny ’82, ’89, J.D., Durango, CO
Lisa Ann Fisher ’82, Golden, CO
Mark Lee Fraley ’82, Dixon
Martina Michael “Mary” Zeman ’83, Missoula
Arthur Edmund Keen ’83, Hamilton
Lisa Geryl Morger-Miller ’83, Missoula
Kathryn Rose “Kathy” Reynolds Morigeau Smith ’83, Pablo
Virginia Willis Egli ’84, Glendale
Diane Lois Schendel Ehrenberger ’85, Bozeman
Michael J. “Mike” Nelson ’85, Missoula
Laura Ann Ehli Ehlers ’86, Daren, FT
Russell Alan “Will” Getelman ’87, ’95, Missoula
Larry D. Geske M.B.A. ’88, Mesa, AZ
Dianna Reber Riley ’88, Missoula
Murland Wesley Searight J.D. ’88, Columbia Falls
Gerald B. “Jerry” Sporlock ’88, Helena
Valerie Ann “Val” Barneys Godfried ’89, Poplar
Danelle Rene Holtz Nielsen Hill ’89, Denver
Peter Hubbard Keller ’89, ’93, Creston
Darcy Lynn Schachter ’89, Polson
Valerie Sue Middlemas Waters ’89, Missoula

1990s
George Louis Fiddler ’90, Anaconda
Jan Michelle Peccia ’90, Helena
Paul Gerard Befumo ’91, Missoula
Terry Michael “Mike” Bowers ’91, Bozeman
Kevin Rollins Cutler ’91, Anaconda
Dolores Jean Searles ’91, Stevensville
Karen Lynn Schott Colley ’92, Missoula
Randal Luke McDonald J.D. ’92, Polson
Barbara Lynn Stevens Maxer ’92, Missoula
Marlyn Joyce Durrall ’93, Missoula
Eugene Charles HeavyRunner Jr. ’93, Missoula
Paula R. Wargo ’93, Livingston

2000s
Harrell J. “Hal” Taute ’00, ’01, La Pine, OR
John Walter Hobson ’02, Missoula
Jefferson Patrick “Jeff” Langley ’03, Spokane, WA
Joni Lynn Ridener Bush ’05, Stevensville
Stephen Perrow Adamson Jr. J.D. ’08, Wilson, WY
Jeffery Morgan Foster J.D. ’08, Great Falls
Matthew Jay “Matt” Lightbody ’09, Helena

2010s
Spencer Stephen Veesey ’12, Missoula
William Raymond “Billy” Behee ’15, Missoula

IN MEMORIAM // ABOUT ALUMNI

Priscilla J. Antrim, Stevensville
Robert Daniel Benell, Sun City, AZ
Clarice Helen Gunderson Brekke, Billings
Georgia Davis Briggeman, Deer Lodge
Charles Allen Bryan, Missoula
Priscilla Morse Byerly, Essex, VT
Dolores Mae Knutson Campbell, Malta
Marjorie Ann “Marge” Akin Castles, Superior
Ray Forrest Chapman, Missoula
Penelope L. “Penny” Cofrin, Conner
Chester Frank “Chet” Conley, Castella, CA
Robert R. “Bob” Dozier, Missoula
Christopher Edward Dunford, Petoskey, MI
Doris Mae Elliott-Ekstrom, Rock Creek
William Robert “Bob” Ellis, Missoula
Ralph J. Fessenden, Missoula
Maxine Foerschler Eleison, Missoula
Emma “Laura” Rush Gillogly, Joplin, MO
Luis Elizabeth Falkner Gorton, Kalispell
Michael Christopher “Mike” Hagen Jr., Missoula
Daniel W. “Dan” Harrington, Butte
Harold B. Holden, Billings
Helga Riebe Hosford, Missoula
Irmajo Mae “Peggy” Frisbie Inghram, Ronan
Darshan Singh Kang, Missoula
Eleanor M. Pimperton Kelley, Fort Benton
Thomas Edward “Ed” Kendley, Polson
Dorothy Elizabeth “Dot” Wallace Kennedy, Billings
Eileen Brenneman King, Ross, CA
Jeffrey Mana “Jeff” Langan, Missoula
James William Luax, Columbia Falls
John E. Mallett, Polson
Delbert Leroy Markle, Missoula
Robert James “Jim” McCune, Springfield, MO
Dennis Allan “Denny” McGee, Missoula
Mary Jane Bouton Moore, Fish Creek, WI
Donna L. Rouse Reynolds Murphy, Missoula
Debra Ann Price Nudi, Columbus, IN
Jean M. Greiner Oberem, Seaside, OR
Richard C. O’Loughlin, Jacksonville, FL
Harold B. Owens, Bryan, TX
Shirley Lou Spehn Peters, Virginia Beach, VA
Nicholas Robert “Nick” Pickolick, Missoula
Phyllis Wood Morigeau Piper, Polson
Christopher Michael “Chris” Ramsey, Missoula
Peter Martin “Marty” Rigg, Missoula
Marsha McDonald Rubino, Big Arm
Helen Schramm Supernau, Missoula
John Edward Stenger, Missoula
Geneva “Gene” Christiansen Hall Hauge, Missoula

ABOUT ALUMNI

MONTANAN Winter 2016 // 43
Over the past 40 years, the Missoula Downtown Association (MDA) has been dedicated to promoting, supporting, and enhancing the vitality of Downtown Missoula for the betterment of the entire community. Through this mission, the MDA strives every day to preserve your memories and to create memories for future generations of Grizzlies with a vibrant and welcoming Downtown.

Now under the umbrella of the Downtown Missoula Partnership, the MDA, along with the Business Improvement District (BID) and the Missoula Downtown Foundation (MDF), collaborate on the promotion of Downtown Missoula as Western Montana’s center of business, culture and entertainment, Downtown physical improvements, as well as producing a wide selection of events for all to enjoy. The Downtown Missoula Partnership aims to help you create memories every time you visit Downtown.

Whether you live far away or have stayed in Missoula following your time at the University of Montana, Missoula and its Downtown will always remain a part of your collegiate experience. No matter what your memories of Downtown Missoula hold, there can be no doubt that Downtown is something that connects us all.

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Downtown Missoula: It Connects Us All

Save the Date!

and make some memories in 2016 with these great MDA & MDF events:

- **6th Annual Winter Brewfest** (February 19)
- **2nd Annual Texas Hold ‘Em Poker Tournament**
  (MDF fundraiser; March 6)
- **24th Annual Garden City Brewfest** (May 7)
- **31st Annual Out to Lunch Series**
  (Wednesdays, 11am-2pm; June, July, & Aug)
- **16th Annual Downtown ToNight Series**
  (Thursdays, 5:30-8:30pm; June, July, & August)
- **16th Annual Garden City River Rod Run** (June 24-25)
- **11th Annual River City Roots Festival** (August 26-27)

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The Artists of Opportunity are a significant part of Missoula’s heart and soul. This colorful and youthful contemporary gallery showcases the community of clients at Opportunity Resources, Inc., a nonprofit with the mission to empower individuals with disabilities in Western Montana. The locally hand-crafted art ranges from Acrylic and Digital Paintings to their famous Three-Handed Porcelain and Stoneware. Beginning in March, join the Artists of Opportunity downtown during First Friday for their art exhibit and reception.

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Monte Dolack, Tree of Life
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On July 26, 2013, the NCAA Committee on Infractions (COI) issued its findings regarding an NCAA investigation into the UM football program that began in February 2012. In its findings, the COI found that the University of Montana and a former head football coach failed to monitor its football program. Specifically, violations occurred as a result of the following: (A) boosters providing extra benefits to student-athletes, some of which resulted in two student-athletes competing while ineligible, (B) during one season, an undergraduate student assistant participated in coaching activities resulting in the football program exceeding the permissible limit of football coaches and (C) the institution and football coach failed to monitor these activities. As a result of the findings, UM is subject to the following penalties: (1) public reprimand and censure, (2) three years of probation from July 26, 2013, through July 25, 2016, (3) a limit of 59 football equivalency scholarships during the 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17 academic years, (4) with regard to the 2011 football season and games in which the student-athletes competed while ineligible, the vacation of wins and participation in the FCS Championship Playoffs, as well as vacation of the individual statistics for the involved student-athletes, (5) forfeiture of $3,000 which will be donated to local charities, (6) reduction of undergraduate student assistant positions by two during the 2013-14 academic year and (7) external review of the compliance program. During the three-year probationary period, the institution will submit annual progress reports to the COI regarding compliance with all penalties and self-corrective actions.
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Friends, Grizzlies, Countrymen, Lend Me Your Ears

BY JOHN HEANEY ’02

Break the ice. Foregone conclusion. Wild-goose chase. Forever and a day. Dead as a door nail. Laughing stock. Love is blind. For goodness’ sake.

These phrases are a part of our everyday vernacular. We use them in conversations, write them in e-mails, hear them sung in our favorite songs, or spoken by our favorite actors. Heck, there are probably even emojis out there to represent some of them.

But did you realize when you speak those words, you’re actually quoting William Shakespeare?

As good luck would have it—borrowed from The Merry Wives of Windsor—a rare opportunity to see the actual book where these phrases first appeared is coming to the University of Montana in May.

First Folio! The Book That Gave Us Shakespeare, on national tour from the Folger Shakespeare Library, celebrates Shakespeare and the 400th anniversary of his death. The exhibit travels to just one location in all fifty states, and the stop in Montana is at UM.

“Missoula really is the cultural capital of Montana,” says Julie Biando Edwards, an associate professor at the Mansfield Library. “This is a community that loves literature, loves music, loves museums, loves libraries. So having this exhibit here just further cements that reputation.”

The First Folio is the first complete collected edition of Shakespeare’s plays, published in 1623, seven years after his death. Compiled by two of Shakespeare’s friends and acting colleagues, it preserves thirty-six plays. Without it, we would not have eighteen

First Folio! copies. It is believed that 750 copies originally were printed. A finished First Folio cost about £1 in 1623, which today would be roughly $150. In 2001, a copy sold at auction for $6.1 million. The Folger, in partnership with the Cincinnati Museum Center and the American Library Association, is coordinating the First Folio exhibition.

During summer 2014, Edwards began the rigorous application process to bring the First Folio to UM. In her mind’s eye—borrowed from Hamlet—the exhibit would be inside the Mansfield Library. But when questions were posed about security and environmental requirements, she quickly realized she needed some help.

Enter the Montana Museum of Art & Culture at UM.

“We have the right security, the right climate control, and the wherewithal to show it,” says Barbara Koostra, director of MMAC. “Julie’s energy was infectious, so becoming partners in this project was delightful.”

The partnership paid off, and UM was awarded the exhibit.

The show, which runs May 9-31, will be in the Meloy Gallery inside the Performing Arts and Radio/Television Center. The artifact will be set up at one end in a specially designed case, and it will be opened to the page of Hamlet containing the famous phrase, “To be, or not to be, that is the question.” A series of panels will display interesting facts about Shakespeare and the First Folio. Admission is free, and the MMAC will expand its hours to accommodate the exhibit.

The show itself is exciting, but the events surrounding it are incredible, and they are designed to reach all ages.

“The First Folio is the root of the Shakespearian tree,” Koostra says. “The programming is so extensive, you’ll just have to ask yourself, ‘How deep do you want to go?’”

For example, UM’s School of Theatre & Dance will extend its run of Romeo and Juliet to coincide with the exhibit. And every seventh-grader in Missoula County Public Schools will visit campus, see a scene from the play, and then see the First Folio.

“It’s one thing to read Romeo and Juliet at school,” Edwards says, “but to actually see it acted out, and then see the original book it came from, that makes a significant impact.”

The Missoula Children’s Theatre will stage The Complete Works of William Shakespeare [Abridged], and many other community and campus partners are working together on events and programming surrounding the First Folio.

“This is an amazing way to bring an artifact to Missoula that many people wouldn’t otherwise get a chance to see,” Edwards says. “Shakespeare has had such a profound influence on the Western literary tradition. This exhibit will speak to people in many ways.”

For more information visit www.lib.umt.edu/folio.
When you shop at The Bookstore your dollars stay on campus and help the next generation of UM students thrive. You can’t get any more local than that.

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We have been and continue to be committed to our Community Banking vision – to benefit our customers, our employees and Montana. Stockman Bank has two locations serving Missoula. Our new state-of-the-art bank, coming to the corner of Orange St. and Broadway, will open in the Fall of 2017. We look forward to working with you.

Bob Burns, Missoula Market President
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