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Seth Bodnar, a West Point graduate, Rhodes Scholar, Green Beret and former GE executive, joined UM as its 19th president in January. PHOTO BY TODD GOODRICH

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"The way I look through a camera is very much the way that a painter looks at a canvas when they're composing," says UM alumna Holly Andres.

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A Bugs Bunny mural is painted on a wall inside a bunker below a U.S. Air Force base. "The painting was done as homage to a World War II bomber crew," says Jeff MacDonald, a CIRE investigator who is pursuing his doctorate in anthropology at UM.

A MISSILEER'S MASTER'S DEGREE

I found the mention of Whiteman Air Force Base ("Preserve and Protect," Spring 2017 Montanan) and Minuteman missiles interesting. I was an Air Force Minuteman II missile launch officer at Malmstrom Air Force Base in Great Falls from 1970 through 1972, with many tours of duty in the underground launch capsules.

At that time, the Air Force Institute of Technology sponsored free graduate education programs at the six Minuteman missile bases. The courses were linked to a university in the states of the bases – Montana, North and South Dakota, Missouri and Wyoming. That's how I earned my MBA from UM. The University operated an "extension" campus on Malmstrom Air Force Base, directed by a resident dean, two or three full-time professors, a few part-timers and a librarian. The UM library on the base was well-stocked.

I was on the Missoula campus only two times – once I drove over to the main library to find additional information for my master's professional paper, and a copy remains at https://scholarworks.umt.edu/. After my discharge from the Air Force, my second trip to Missoula was from the East Coast for the Commencement ceremony in June 1973. Well-known western writer Dorothy M. Johnson was the guest speaker.

During the past few years of retirement, I've been reading books by her, A.B. Guthrie Jr. and my favorite, Ivan Doig.

Keep up the good work with the magazine.

Sincerely,

GEORGE S. MCELHINNEY MBA '73 Erdenheim, Pennsylvania

WANTED: YOUR OPINIONS

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

Send them to: Montanan Editor, 103 Brantly Hall, Missoula, MT 59812 or themontanan@umontana.edu.

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

The Montanan would like to thank the following people for recently donating to the magazine: Joanne Anderson, George S. McElhinney and Suzanne R. Repasky, Claudia Tidball, David Baker and Rhett Wise.

WHERE'S YOUR GRIZ BEEN?

BRANDON OLIVEIRA '00 sports his Griz gear while riding camels on a recent family camping trip in the Mongolian countryside for the 40th birthday of his wife, Mandy. "I was stationed at the U.S. Embassy in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, working as the special operations liaison officer," Brandon says. "I'm still in the U.S. Army after being commissioned from the UM ROTC program." Also pictured are their sons, Alex and Mason.

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

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







AROUND THE OVAL

Bobby's Second Act

HAUCK RETURNS TO LEAD GRIZ FOOTBALL TEAM

"BOBBYBALL" IS BACK.

University of Montana Director of Athletics Kent Haslam named former Grizzly head coach Bobby Hauck as the 37th head football coach on Nov. 30. Hauck agreed to a three-year contract, which will take him through the 2020 season.

One of the winningest coaches in Grizzly history, the UM alum returns to his native Montana after five seasons as the head coach at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, and three seasons as San Diego State University's associate head coach and special teams coordinator.

"It is an honor and a privilege to be able to come back home

to a place that is so important to me," Hauck says.
"I am grateful for the opportunity to continue the tradition of excellence at UM. I am absolutely committed to success both on and off the field. I cannot wait to get started and look forward to being a strong advocate for the University as a whole."

The 2018 season will mark Hauck's 30th year coaching college football, with seven spent as UM's head coach from 2003 to 2009. He led the

Grizzlies to three national championship appearances, won seven straight Big Sky Championships and mentored a host of future professionals. He began his coaching career with the Grizzlies in 1988 after earning

bachelor's degrees in business and physical education at UM in 1987.

He is a three-time Big Sky Conference Coach of the Year and was a finalist for the Eddie Robinson Coach of the Year Award in 2009.

"I look forward to working with Coach Hauck and the football staff in advancing the overall mission of the athletic department," Haslam says. "A mission focused on success in the community, in athletics and in the classroom. We will not compromise on our pursuit of excellence in everything we do. Coach Hauck's previous success on the football field at UM is well-known, and I expect that will continue. I also expect we will continue to build a culture of hard work, respect and accountability."

Hauck was prolific for Montana in his first stint as head coach, posting an 80-17 overall record. He also led the Griz to three unbeaten seasons in Big Sky play and won at least a share of the league title in each season he coached.

Hauck's Grizzlies also excelled in the classroom during his tenure. UM placed 104 football players on Academic All-Big Sky teams, and football student-athletes also graduated at a higher rate than their

campus counterparts, including a remarkable 90 percent rate in 2005.

Known for operating a punishing rushing attack, the Griz outscored their opponents 3,079-1,795 in Hauck's 97-game stint with the Griz. He also coached 37 first-team All-Big Sky selections.

UM President Seth Bodnar spoke with Hauck, sharing his vision for all studentathletes at UM.

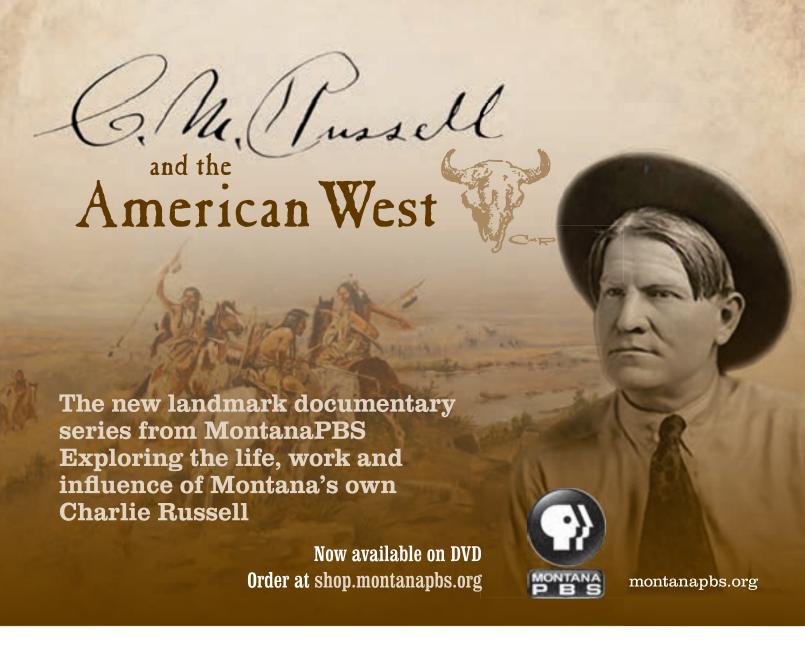
"Coach Hauck and I discussed my unwavering commitment to all of our students' well-being

our students' well-being and success, and the critical importance of building a respectful and positive culture – in athletics and across the University," Bodnar says. "We will hold ourselves accountable and live these values through our actions. I know that Coach Hauck has a deep love for this institution and our state, which is his home. As a former Division I student-athlete myself, I believe that our athletic programs play a key role in developing young women and men of character. I look forward to working with Athletic Director Haslam, Coach Hauck and all our coaches as we commit to that work."

Hauck was born in Missoula and went to high school in Big Timber. He and his wife, Stacey, have four children: Alexandra, Elise, Robby and Sydney.



Coach Bobby Hauck speaks at the press event announcing his return to Grizzly football.



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THE PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE



"For last year's words belong to last year's language.

And next year's words await another voice." T.S. Eliot, "Four Quartets"

Dear Friends,

It has been an honor to serve the University of Montana as president. In this, my final Montanan column, I could shout from the Main Hall carillon how optimistic I am about the future of our University.

Many of you ask me, what is the University like these days? It is stunning. I have met hundreds of students. They are bright, creative and independent in ways that inspire me. Our faculty is world-renowned for its expertise. I hope most of you saw the recent "NOVA" episode on PBS featuring Professor Doug Emlen. Stunning is an understatement. UM employees serve students steadfastly and with individual attention, no matter how much change swirls around us. They know what's important.

Recently on a snowy day, I stood in front of the Davidson Honors College with Dean Brock Tessman. He gave me a gift of sketches of trees on the Oval from the four seasons of my presidency. For those of you who know UM's deans, like Brock, you know their extraordinary backgrounds. Most have come to Montana from all over the country. Not only do they take a personal interest in student and faculty success, they also inspire donors to the highest levels of philanthropy in UM's history.

It has been a year of challenge and change. We researched the sustainability of every program to set priorities for growth. We reduced personnel expenses by giving many faculty and staff the voluntary opportunity to pursue other goals. We emphasized retention of students and timely graduation. We stepped up recruitment in Montana and beyond.

We had fun! Students packed the Dennison Theatre during the opening week of classes, stomping their feet to the beat of a charismatic video created by our film students. Their energy could have blown down the curtains. My husband, Hal, "the First Dude," brought postcards to every campus event, spreading them like Johnny Appleseed to anyone who promised to mail them as a message from the University. There are kids around the country who believe they received a personal postcard from Monte, our Griz mascot. Hal and I will always be proud citizens of Griz Nation.

"And next year's words await another voice ..."

That voice belongs to Seth Bodnar, our 19th president, featured in this issue. I admire his leadership, his heart for service and his relentless pursuit of excellence with integrity. As I watch him in action this winter, I know that a bright future for UM is as predictable as the sunrise over Mount Sentinel.

"And to make an end is to make a new beginning."

Thank you,

Sheila Stearns, Outgoing UM President

Sheila Stearns enjoys a brisk winter day on the Oval during one of her final days as UM president.

Odyssey of the Stars Honors Award-Winning Producer and Director Casey Kriley

UM's College of Visual and Performing Arts is proud to recognize Casey Kriley during its 18th annual scholarship event: Odyssey of the Stars – A Celebration of Artistic Journeys.

The 2018 performance begins at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, March 3, 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. The event also showcases UM students and faculty from the Schools of Art, Media Arts, Music and Theatre & Dance.

Kriley (BFA in acting, '93) was raised at UM. Her

family moved to Missoula in 1974 after her father, James Kriley, was hired to teach in the drama department. She and her sisters, Meegan and Colleen, spent their childhoods exploring the theater school while their dad directed theatrical productions. The drama/dance faculty and staff took the girls under their



Television producer Casey Kriley will highlight the 18th annual Odyssey of the Stars.

wings, and at age 7 Kriley had her theatrical debut as Tiny Tim in "A Christmas Carol." $\,$

While Kriley attended Hellgate High School, her mother, Mary Kay Kriley, began teaching math and finance at UM, and her father became the dean of the School of Fine Arts. After high school, Kriley decided to follow her father's career path and pursue a Bachelor of Fine Arts in drama at UM.

During her senior year of college, Kriley took a directing class from her father and was inspired to earn a master's degree in writing and directing from the California Institute of the Arts in Los Angeles. Afterward, Kriley worked in LA as a waitress, writer and freelance assistant director and producer. In 2001, she was hired as a segment producer at a new production company called Magical Elves. Sixteen years later, Kriley is still there serving as vice president and head of current programming.

During her tenure at the company, she has worked as a creative executive producer on shows that included "Project Runway," "Project Greenlight," "Top Chef," "Top Chef Junior," "All In With Cam Newton," "The Real L Word," "Cleveland Hustles" and "Time of Death." Kriley has received an Emmy award and 13 Emmy nominations, three GLAAD nominations, six Producers Guild nominations, a Peabody Award and an IDA Documentary Award. She attributes her success to her time spent learning at UM in Montana.

Odyssey of the Stars supports the College of Visual and Performing Arts Scholarship Fund, which has funded scholarships for more than 700 students. For more information visit http://www.umt.edu/umarts/odyssey.

Notable Quotable

- UM's School of Business Administration will now be known as the College of Business. "The school's faculty and staff have an amazing track record of preparing students for successful careers as leaders," outgoing UM President Sheila Stearns says. "The title 'College of Business' reflects its importance and impact." With six majors, a minor and three graduate degrees, the College of Business is responsible for educating a large portion of UM students. Business students make up about 14 percent of UM's undergraduate population.
- Thanks to the generosity of an anonymous donor, UM has its first endowed chair in the humanities. The new Lucile Speer Research Chair in Politics and History honors Lucile Speer and her contributions to UM and the state of Montana. Speer was a longtime librarian at UM (1928-68) and delegate to the Montana Constitutional Convention of 1972.
- Betsy Wackernagel Bach, a UM professor of communication studies, recently was named the 2017 recipient of the Donald H. Ecroyd Award for Outstanding Teaching in Higher Education. Presented by the National Communication Association, the award honors an NCA member who exemplifies superlative teaching in higher education. The association says Bach earned the award in recognition of her outstanding career of excellent communication, teaching and learning.
- The American Fisheries Society recently recognized UM wildlife biology Professor Lisa Eby with its Excellence in Fisheries Education Award, a top national honor. "I am very honored to receive this award by our national professional organization," Eby says. "The excellent undergraduate and graduate students at UM make my job fun and rewarding."

THE BOTTOM LINE: 394,078:

Pounds of food collected by the UM and Missoula communities in the annual "Can the Cats" food drive, edging out MSU by 5,000 pounds

Top 800:

UM's ranking among 4,000 universities worldwide based on production of scientific papers and the impact of those papers, according to National Taiwan University



Eck Hall Takes Shape

n September, the Montana University System Board of Regents approved the naming of Dennis and Gretchen Eck Hall, the south wing of the Liberal Arts Building at UM, in recognition of the couple's \$8.3 million contribution to the building's renovation.

During the past three years, the Ecks have supported classroom renovation, enhanced technology, upgraded infrastructure, a new building entrance and a renovated 120-seat auditorium inside the LA Building. Dennis Eck, who studied political history at UM, has a strong interest in helping UM enhance the technology of teaching and learning, and he has a special affinity for the building in which he studied as a student.

UM's College of Humanities and Sciences fulfills about 80 percent of all general education requirements for the University, making the LA Building and Eck Hall one of the UM's most highly trafficked spaces.

The Liberal Arts Building was constructed in 1953. When visiting campus several years ago, Eck was surprised to see that not much had changed in the facility since he was a student in the mid-1960s. Determined to make a difference, he began funding upgrades. A comprehensive master plan was developed. Classrooms were overhauled and outfitted with modular furniture and advanced technology like interactive whiteboards. Exterior windows were expanded to let in more natural light.

"This modernization of the Liberal Arts Building, without tearing the building down, serves as a proof of concept for upgrading the University's facilities without changing the characteristic beauty of campus."

Seeing the impact of their generosity on UM's students and faculty, the Ecks committed additional funds to renovate the basement-level auditorium, one of the largest classrooms on campus, and to add a building entrance directly off the Oval to enhance functionality. Construction on these areas began in spring 2017 and was completed this past fall.

"This modernization of the Liberal Arts

Building, without tearing the building down, serves as a proof of concept for upgrading the University's facilities without changing the characteristic beauty of campus," Eck says. "Gretchen and I are proud to have our name associated with a project that will impact students every day and hope to inspire other donors and the state to support higher education."

UM's Master of Public Administration program's spot on AffordableColleges.com ranking of online programs nationwide

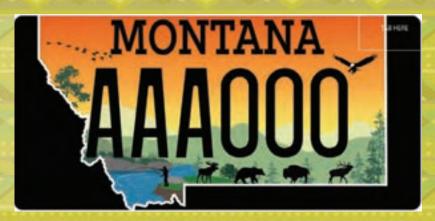
Money spent in 2016 by 12.4 million visitors to Montana, according to UM's Institute for Tourism and Recreation Research

UM's spot on U.S. News and World Report's "Best Colleges 2018" ranking of top national public universities



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Washington-Grizzly Champions Center Opens Doors

hat has been a dream of hundreds, if not thousands, of Grizzly student-athletes, coaches, administrators and fans over the decades is now a reality.

On a chilly Friday afternoon during Homecoming weekend, the ribbon officially was cut on the Washington-Grizzly Champions Center – a 51,000 square-foot, state-of-the-art training facility for all 15 of UM's varsity programs. It includes a new football locker room and more – ushering in a new championship standard for Grizzly Athletics.

The new center offers an elite facility for training UM athletes.

The project started with a grand vision and a \$7 million lead gift from Kyle and Kevin Washington on behalf of the Dennis and Phyllis

Washington Foundation in 2014.

"This is a wonderful moment for any Grizzly fan and the Missoula community," says Kevin Washington. "It's been something we talked about growing up here, going to high school and college here."

"Hopefully what we've contributed here – the Washington-Grizzly Champions

Center – will get this program back to truly a champion level," he adds. "That's our goal, and it starts here."

With the Washington's lead gift, UM Director of Athletics Kent Haslam and his staff set out to capture the attention of Grizzly supporters and donors around the country and finally put dreams to paper and shovels to dirt.

"To say this is a program-changing day is an absolute understatement," Haslam says. "What started as a concept, a vision of what could happen, a vision some thought just couldn't be done, couldn't fit in this space, couldn't be done on budget, on time. Well, guess what, folks? We did it."



EDUCATION COLLEGE ADDITION

With the Dennis and Phyllis Washington Foundation's generous \$10 million gift, UM will construct an addition to the Phyllis J. Washington Education Center – the epicenter of UM's education and human sciences programs. Three stories tall, the addition will connect to the west end of the building and provide 35,000 square feet of instructional and collaborative space. Included in the new wing are a 500-seat auditorium, the largest on campus; clinical labs for the counselor education program; new spaces for the Montana Digital Academy; and two additional Learning and Belonging Preschool classrooms with observation rooms, seminar spaces, an

outdoor play yard and a unique inspiration lab. "We could not be more proud to have Dennis and Phyllis Washington as our allies in building an exceptional college for education and human sciences," says outgoing UM President Sheila Stearns. "They epitomize the Montana ethic of working hard, earning success and giving back to build a stronger Montana." Construction began in late August, and the project is expected to be completed by the end of the year.





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FACETIME:

KEVIN O'REILLY M.S., M.B.A. '09

Growing up in Montana, Kevin O'Reilly worked jobs ranging from retail to trail maintenance. But wherever he worked, he seemed to encounter endless shift-scheduling frustrations. So he decided to create a better way to communicate with colleagues than through Post-it notes.

And Orbital Shift was born.

After graduating from UM in 2009 with master's degrees in computer science and business administration, O'Reilly built the time-saving staff management web and mobile platform from scratch.

Orbital Shift – which allows managers and employees to create and view schedules, track hours, cover shifts, request time off and send out reminders – serves hotels, food co-ops, resorts and even Grizzly Athletics. It now has thousands of users and more than 150 business clients across the country and the globe.

"We're really proud to be from Montana, creating a product that we can sell outside of the state," O'Reilly says.

O'Reilly talked to the Montanan about the growing startup, which tripled from three to nine employees in the past year.

You serve people as far away as South Africa. How does that work? The power of the web is amazing. So while we may sleep, it's working 24 hours around the clock. On other sides of the globe, people might be looking for workforce management needs or staff scheduling or time clock or employee communication. We've had people sign up in South Africa, we've had people sign up in the U.K., we've had people sign up in Canada, which is a bit closer, and then as far away as the Philippines. It's pretty incredible just overnight how fast, once you put yourself out there on the web, you're really moving yourself up to a global market nowadays. How does it feel to have developed this from the ground up? Kind of surreal sometimes. It's hard to believe we've been in business for eight years. We started from the ground up and bootstrapped things. Looking back on it now, there's such different challenges we tackle today then we tackled

then. As your company grows, there's just new hurdles and obstacles. And it's still exciting. It's still fun. I think that's one of the neat things about technology and not just that problem-solving mindset, like, "Hey, here are the challenges we help with today," but helping prepare for what a business may face in the future.

What has been UM's role? While I was getting my MBA, Cameron Lawrence was a person I had studied under and was a great mentor, and he's a professor in the business school. He became an investor in our company in the last year, which is really awesome. It's really humbling to think that somebody you're taking a class from believes enough in what you're doing that one day they even invest in your company.

With UM athletics, I was able to come in and make a pitch to them. We were able to help with some events and things, like when they had the Paul McCartney concert a couple Kevin O'Reilly's love for software began when he worked at a health care IT company warehouse in college. "Working in the hardware side of things, it really made me appreciate that software is such a cool, malleable tool – that it's the canvas as well as the paintbrush," he says.

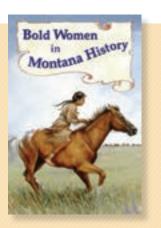
of years ago. They used our software to help schedule their staffing needs for the concert. How do you think being in Missoula has helped your business grow? I think being in a university town, first of all, is great just for access to education and evolving technologies. I'm so grateful that the University stays on the cutting edge in the business school on the newest things that people need to be trained for to go out into the workforce, and [I like] having a lot of opportunity for giving back and internships and working with students and really wanting to help them better their resumes. I also think there's a really cool tech community here. Just getting a chance to chat with each other or run into each other in the community and share notes on how we can help each other - there's a real sincere interest in that. It's not ultimately competitive, as it's more nurturing and supportive.

What is one lesson you've learned? In the early stages of building a product, everybody is so scared of "It's not ready yet" or "It's not perfect enough." And a lot of that's in our heads. The fastest way you can prototype something is to get someone's honest feedback about it. And not be ashamed to say, "Don't worry about hurting my feelings. I just need to know your honest thoughts, so I can make this better." Getting into a test market is really critical, because you can spend way too long in development, and maybe you're developing the wrong thing. Let the market speak to you.

Do you have any advice for future entrepreneurs? Nothing matters until you get a stranger to pay you for it. Your friends and family love you, and they want the best for you. But they might not be the best ones to give you that honest, truthful feedback. It's OK if you make a mistake. It's one of the reasons I love this statement here: "Experiment. Fail. Learn. Repeat." Failure's not the end, unless you want it to be. Failure's just a milestone, and the more you realize it's a repeatable process in the approach you take to things, then I think your businesses have a better chance to succeed.

- Interview by Courtney Brockman '17

Here's a look at 10 new books from authors with University of Montana connections.



BOLD WOMEN IN MONTANA HISTORY

By Beth Judy Mountain Press Publishing Company, 2017, 252 pages, \$14

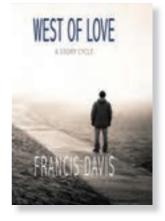
What do Jeannette Rankin, Myrna Loy and Pretty Shield have in common? They were all bold women in Montana history. Beth Judy's collection of biographies for teen readers tells the stories of 11 Montana women who eluded racism, sexism and danger to distinguish themselves, including bronc-riding rodeo stars the Greenough sisters, African-American homesteader Annie Morgan on Rock Creek near Missoula and crusader for Native American justice Elouise Pepion Cobell. Judy earned an MFA in creative writing at UM.

WEST OF LOVE:

A STORY CYCLE By Francis Davis Brighthorse Books, 2017, 209 pages,

\$16.95

Francis Davis moved from his home city of Philadelphia to earn his MFA in creative writing at UM. He spent a decade as a Montana newspaper journalist and today

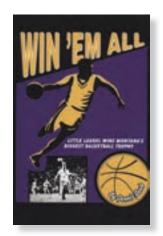


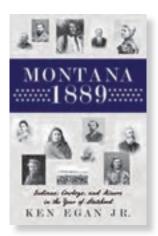
teaches English at UM-Western in Dillon. In his 19 linked stories, he plumbs the experiences of youth to help himself and his readers understand how they inform middle age. "I danced along the line separating memoir and fiction," he says.

WIN 'EM ALL: LITTLE LAUREL WINS MONTANA'S BIGGEST BASKETBALL TROPHY By Dennis Gaub

Treasure State Heritage Press, 2016, 219 pages,

Terry native, journalist and UM MBA graduate Dennis Gaub grew up on rural Montana basketball. He was a senior at Billings West High School in 1969 when the Laurel Locomotives won the last Big 32 state championship in a dramatic overtime victory over Kalispell at a packed Montana State University fieldhouse. In 2014, semi-retired, the veteran Billings Gazette reporter decided there was a story to write. He tracked down all 12 players on Laurel's tournament team to re-create it.





MONTANA 1889: INDIANS, COWBOYS, AND MINERS IN THE YEAR OF STATEHOOD By Ken Egan Jr.

Riverbend Publishing, 2017, 287 pages, \$22.95

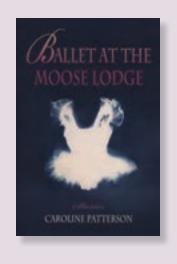
Ken Egan approaches the 1880s in Montana as the decade the American West was invented. White settlers brought sheep and cattle to the great landscape, wiped out the buffalo, built railroads and pressed the people of indigenous nations onto smaller and smaller pieces of the territory. Along with the new empire came the building of the myth of authenticity and freedom. Egan, who is executive director of Humanities Montana, brings empathy to both stories.

BALLET AT THE MOOSE LODGE

By Caroline Patterson

Drumlummon Institute, 2017, 261 pages, \$17.95

Caroline Patterson's roots could not go deeper in Montana. She and her family live today in the prairie-style house that her attorney great-grandfather built in Missoula in 1906 after he won a case against the Great Northern Railroad. She's executive director of the Missoula Writing Collaborative and an adjunct faculty member in UM's Creative Writing program, where she earned her MFA. Hailed as a skilled and empathic writer and terrific storyteller, Patterson gives her readers characters in and of the West.

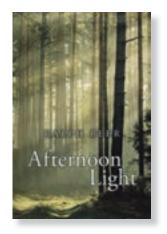


THE WHIZ MOB AND THE GRENADINE KID

By Colin Meloy, with art by Carson Ellis Balzer & Bray, 2017, 420 pages, **\$17.99**

UM creative writing graduate Colin Meloy is best known as the singer-songwriter and frontman for the indie folk rock band the Decemberists. He and his wife, Carson Ellis, an award-winning artist, first brought readers a New York Times bestselling adventure/fantasy series for young readers, "Wildwood Chronicles." They're off on a new adventure now with young Charlie Fisher, who by accident lands in the middle of an international band of child thieves in Marseille, France, where his American diplomat father works.





AFTERNOON LIGHT

*By Ralph Beer*Casey Peak Press, 2016, 326 pages, **\$14.95**

We almost missed Ralph Beer's fourth book, a memoir that stretches the writer and the reader back to 1971, when a 23-year-old Ralph with no money and a copy of "HOWL" in his hip pocket set off for Canada. He and Sheila Malone, "not yet hardened by years," caught in the uncertainty of young American men during the Vietnam War, build a cabin in British Columbia. Beer pays homage to his friend Sam Curtis and shows his perennial expertise with the written word.

TWO WEEKS EVERY SUMMER:

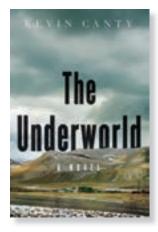
FRESH AIR CHILDREN AND THE PROBLEM OF RACE IN AMERICA By Tobin Miller Shearer Cornell University Press, 2017, 248 pages, \$35

Since 1877, charitable Fresh Air programs across the United States sponsored two-week vacations at rural homes and camps for city kids. Nice, right? But Tobin Shearer, director of African-American Studies at UM, takes a look at the underside of the programs, brought out by intense criticism in the 1970s. Critics called them token at best, "paternalistic arrogance" and cultural "genocide." Shearer views the phenomenon through a meticulous historian's lens.



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, 214 Brantly Hall, Missoula, MT 59812. Submission of materials does not guarantee that your work will be featured.

Ginny Merriam is a 1986 graduate of UM's School of Journalism.

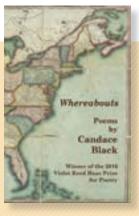


THE UNDERWORLD

By Kevin Canty

W.W. Norton & Company, 2017, 253 pages, \$24.95

Kevin Canty, who teaches in UM's Creative Writing program, tells the story of the fallout after a disastrous fire in a small silver-mining town in 1970s Idaho in his new novel. The reader gets a front-row seat in his characters' living rooms and at their kitchen tables while they sort through their losses. Writer William Kittredge calls the novel "a dead-honest encounter with the hearts and minds of working-class America."

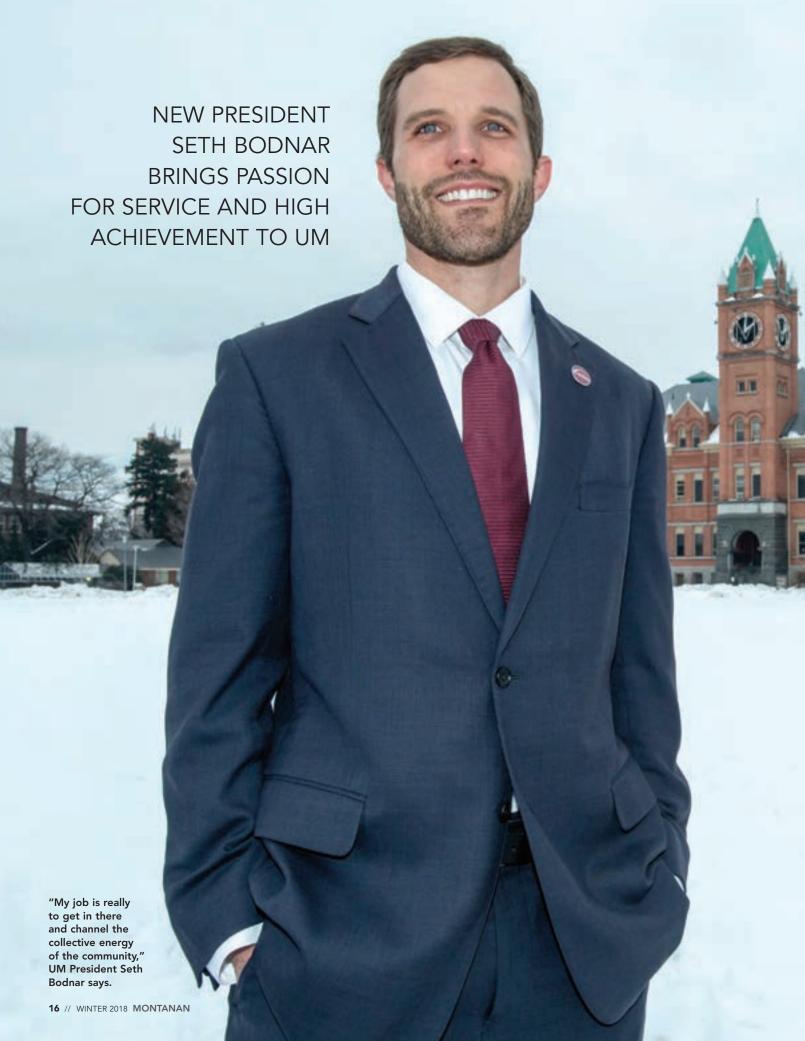


WHEREABOUTS

By Candace Black
Snake Nation Press, 2017, 92 pages, \$15

Candace Black earned an MFA in creative writing at UM in 1981, studying with renowned poet Richard Hugo. Her broad background brings wide interests and knowledge to her poems – chemistry, biology, sod-house homesteaders, family dogs, winter, swimming. In presenting the book the Violet Reed Haas Award, the judges wrote, "When you enter these poems, you enter a geography of the mundane and existential." Black teaches creative writing at Minnesota State University, Mankato.

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MISSION ACCEPTED



BY NATE SCHWEBER
PHOTOS BY TODD GOODRICH

n a story about the first major turning point in his life, Seth Bodnar tells a humanizing aside.

In 1997, he earned a scholarship to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, housed along the Hudson River in New York, some 350 miles east of the bituminous coal country where he was raised in a small western Pennsylvania town.

Though his grandfather had served in the Navy in World War II, his parents were career elementary educators, so he had no Army officers in his family to emulate. He was scared. Upon arrival he submitted to a routine tuberculosis test. Afterward, he called for divine intervention.

"I distinctly remember that night saying, 'Oh God, please let me have TB, let me go back home,'" Bodnar says.

Perspective on how much he changed after that – and how fast – comes from a former director of the Central Intelligence Agency.

In 2003, David H. Petraeus was a major general with the 101st Airborne Division in Iraq. By that time, Bodnar, who graduated first in his class of 974 at West Point and was advised to become a Rhodes Scholar, was earning his second master's degree in Oxford, England. Had Bodnar paced his studies in Oxford's English Gothic classrooms and medieval pubs, he would have joined the 101st Airborne Division after it was sent home from Iraq, back to America.

Instead Bodnar rushed to finish so he could get to the Nineveh Province in Iraq and lead patrols near the Tigris River in the capital city of Mosul, a hotbed of conflict.

"He felt a strong duty to serve," Petraeus says. "He had to guide the soldiers of his platoon in the conduct of a complex counterinsurgency campaign in a province with innumerable ethnic, sectarian, tribal, cultural and political elements – all vying for power and resources."

Bodnar passed that tuberculosis test, by the way. Twenty years later he passed another test that also meant he would begin a new life with new and powerful responsibilities. He was selected in 2017, after a rigorous, nine-month search by a more-than-20-member committee, to become the new president of the University of Montana.

"To shape ethical citizens to guide this country, that is about as important a thing as you can be working on today," Bodnar says. "It's fundamentally important to the state of Montana and to the nation – the nation that I've served for a decade and a half of my life."

He adds, "I'm inspired by this mission."

t 38 years old, Bodnar, UM's 19th president, is its youngest since 1945. He is a handsome, All-American guy – wholesome as apple pie – nevertheless hard-baked on the battlefield and in the corporate boardroom. In conversation he is thoughtful, inquisitive and fond of the verbs "foster," "facilitate" and "drive" – often followed by the phrase "outcomes that matter."

He comes to Montana from Chicago, where he worked for General Electric, and just before he was offered the UM job in October 2017, he rose to the rank of senior executive. He is, says those who have dealt with him, a ferociously hard worker who has earned his good fortune and leveraged it with savvy.

"Seth Bodnar asks very good questions, and lots of them," says outgoing UM President Sheila M. Stearns, whom he succeeded. "He has an aura of inspirational confidence."

Diana Six, a forestry professor who served on the presidential search committee, says she backed Bodnar because he impressed her as an "insanely intelligent" person whose mind is "nimble and visionary" and also possessed of great "humor and warmth."

He was born in modest Grove City, Pennsylvania, the second child and first son of a mother who was a career elementary school teacher and a father who rose from teacher to superintendent of a school district. Though Bodnar says he lacked for nothing growing up, his parents weren't rich. Having excelled in both academics and athletics in high school, he chose West Point because he was offered a good scholarship. He also was interested in becoming a leader.

"My parents taught me the importance of education to transform other people's lives," he says. "West Point introduced me to the idea of being a part of something that was bigger than me. It was transformative."

While there he went on exchange to Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan, lettered in baseball and went on to become both a Truman Scholar and

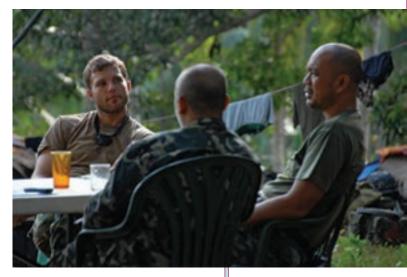
a Rhodes Scholar. While in Oxford in the early 2000s, he rode a bus to Cambridge one day and fell into a gin rummy game with another Rhodes Scholar who tied his fate inexorably to Montana. Her name was Chelsea Elander.

"I tell people I went all the way to England to meet an incredible woman from Montana," says Bodnar, who married Elander in 2005.

In 2004, after helping stabilize Mosul during his first stint in Iraq, Bodnar visited Montana and was awestruck. He went to the tiny town of Absarokee to a working ranch that has been in Elander's family for five generations. He marveled at the peaks of Glacier National Park. And he felt an immediate affinity for the town with the university at its heart where Elander was born and raised – Missoula.

"There's an old saying: If you want a great city, build a great university and wait 125 years," he says.

He returned to military service, became an elite Green Beret, learned Mandarin Chinese and for six months lived in a grass hut on a small island in the Philippines, where he trained local Marines to collaboratively fight off extremist insurgents. He returned to Iraq in 2008. The next year he went back to West Point and taught economics, a subject he earned degrees in because, he says, "at its core it was a study



of the world and how people interact with each other."

Wanting private-sector experience, he took a job with GE in 2011. Eventually he oversaw 1,500 employees in the company division that built locomotives. Sales were in a slump. But Bodnar

The warrior-president:
During his military
service, Bodnar became
an elite Green Beret
and helped train
local Marines in the
Philippines to fight
extremist insurgents.

led the installment of computer systems into new locomotives that automatically drove them based on precise calculations about train weight and track dynamics. Soon, trains were saving 900,000 gallons of diesel fuel per week. Locomotive sales ticked back up.

Though Bodnar was on course to one day earn an S&P 500 CEO's median eight-figure salary, he and his wife, a pediatrician who graduated from Harvard, had begun longing for a way to make their next move to Montana.

"Throughout our relationship, we've always thought about how we could get back to Montana and contribute in a positive way," he says. "When we thought about where we want to live, service to our community is always at the heart of what we want for our lives, and



WHO ARE GROWING, WHO ARE STRETCHING THEMSELVES."

we've always talked about how we could make that community Montana."

In early 2016, Bodnar started to seriously explore ways to make moving to Montana a reality, but unfinished work at GE kept him in Chicago. Less than a year later, he was among four finalists in the running for UM's presidency. In November 2017, days after GE's CEO announced plans to bow to shareholder pressure and sell off the locomotive division, Bodnar accepted the formal offer to become UM's newest president.

theme that has run through
Bodnar's career – from Iraq to
the Philippines to the locomotive
division at GE – is that he has gone into fractious
environments, identified points of strength and used
those resources to improve stability, cooperation and
better movement down the right tracks.

It seems perfect preparation for UM.
Some of his great challenges are clear. Enrollment is down around 25 percent from 2010. The community also is still healing from the spate of sexual assault allegations that resulted in a rape conviction of a UM student in 2012.

Bodnar will assume responsibility for a review process called Academic Program and Administrative Services Prioritization. Bodnar says he believes he can listen well and be transparent in his deliberations, as well as elucidate from the UM community a "shared vision" of where the University needs to go and what it needs to do to get there. One of the greatest resources he has found is the passion people have for UM.

"My job is really to get in there and channel the collective energy of this community," he says. "When you can show people clear



Shown here at a UM Cabinet meeting, Bodnar is prepping a shared vision for UM that will include where the University needs to go and what it needs to do to get there.

Bodnar mingles with the Griz Pep Band at a recent basketball game.

strategy, the decisions that have to be made make sense. It doesn't make them easy, but it makes sense in the face of a strategy that we've collectively developed."

As he does it, Bodnar says he is most excited to simply plant his feet on the Oval grass and mix it up with students. He wants to hear from them on hikes to the M, over meals and mugs of coffee, and on basketball courts.

"I love being around students who are learning, who are growing, who are stretching themselves," he says.

His youth and peripatetic resume beg the question, however: How much time will he actually spend at UM? Will his tenure be like that of George Dennison, president from 1990 through 2010, the longest in UM history? Or more like Edwin Boone Craighead, president from 1912 to 1915, the shortest in UM history (not counting interim president Frederick Charles Scheuch, 1915-17, and Stearns, 2016-17)?

John DeBoer, an associate professor at UM's School of Theatre & Dance and member of the presidential search committee, has only speculation.

"I hope he stays for as long as it takes to do right by us," DeBoer says. "And then, if I have to vote for him for governor or president, I'll do that, too."

Bodnar, while still enigmatic, offered more concrete clues. He put his family's house in Chicago up for sale. He enrolled his twin 7-year-old son and daughter in second grade at Missoula's Paxson Elementary School. He said he hopes that eventually all three of his young kids, like their mother, graduate from nearby Hellgate High School.

"This is not, for me, a stepping stone to anything else," he says. "This, for me, is a job I want to see through, and when I'm no longer the right person to do that, I'll know when it's right to step aside."



Nate Schweber is a freelance journalist who graduated from UM's School of Journalism in 2001 and now lives in Brooklyn. His work appears regularly in The New York Times. He has also written for Rolling Stone, Al Jazeera America, Anthony Bourdain's Explore Parts Unknown, Narratively and Trout. He is the author of "Fly Fishing Yellowstone National Park: An Insider's Guide to the 50 Best Places." He sings in a band called the New Heathens.

BY FRITZ NEIGHBOR

As the University of Montana approached its 125th birthday,

Harry Fritz realized he had been around for 50 of them. This meant, among other things, he'd seen half the school's presidents take office.

He was especially close with the late George Dennison '60, M.A.'63, who was UM's longest-serving president from 1990 to 2010. Dennison's tenure was a special time at the University, and he in turn knew the U was a special place.

The idea was to put that down on paper. "For 20 years he said, 'I'm going to write this history, and you're going to write the last chapter," says Fritz, Dennison's friend of 60 years. "His project was to write a history of the University, and he jumped right into it."

In September 2016, Dennison sent an email to remind Fritz of the agreement. Fritz was in Colorado. The final note read, in part, "I'm going to beat this disease, and we're going to get together in January."

But when Fritz returned on Jan. 2, 2017, Dennison was in the hospital. He died the next day of complications from non-Hodgkin lymphoma. It was too soon an end for one of the chief lovers and keepers of UM history – and one of its chief historical figures. Yet UM's story continues.

Fritz has seen and experienced more UM changes than most. Asked about bellwether moments for the University, he points to an event that far preceded him: the creation of the School of Forestry in 1913.

"I think if you look at programs, the business school is always the highest enrollment, as it is at most schools," Fritz says. "But the forestry school has always had a national reputation." cont. on page 23

A Timeline of Griz Growth

As beginnings go, 50 students and six instructors wasn't necessarily an auspicious start for UM. But 125 years of steady growth, some setbacks and frequent greatness followed. Here are some (and certainly not all) high points in UM's history.

1893

The Montana Legislature appropriates \$15,000 "for the purpose of establishing said State University by commencing the construction of suitable buildings," setting the stage for Missoula's university to open its doors in 1895. It joins the State College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts that opens in Bozeman in 1893, the State Normal School in Dillon (1897) and the School of Mines in Butte (1900).



First UM President Oscar J. Craig

1895

When it opens, the University of Montana and first President

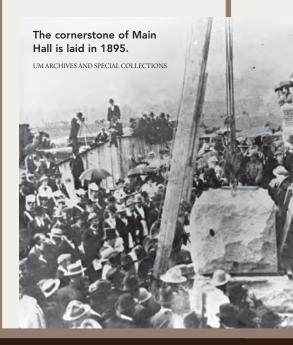
Oscar J. Craig have 50 students, five of whom are prepared for college work, according to historian H. G. Merriam.

For a few years it is more a preparatory school for students ages 13 and up. But by the end of that first school year, there are 130 students. At the time there are six faculty members, including William Aber, professor of Greek and Latin. By 1908, when Craig leaves for health reasons, there are 27 faculty and the school had its first Rhodes Scholar, George Barnes (in 1904). Main Hall and the Science Building open their doors in 1906.

1897

Playing on the road in Bozeman, the Grizzly football team bests the Bobcats 18-6 in the first-ever game between the schools, thus starting one of the oldest rivalries in the United States.

UM owns a 72-39-5 series lead, though a lot of that bulge came during a 16-game Griz winning streak from 1986 through 2002. Montana has gone 8-7 against the Cats in the "Brawl of the Wild" since '02.





UM's first graduates were Eloise Knowles and Ella Robb Glenny, shown in this 1898 image.

UM ARCHIVES

The School of Law opens after three years of pointed support by University President Clyde A. Duniway -

who is then dismissed by Montana's Board of Education in 1912. Duniway went on to be president of the University of Wyoming. The nationally renowned Alexander Blewett III School of Law gets a new building in 1961.

1913-14

The universities in Bozeman and Missoula make a trade: The pharmacy school moves to the campus at the base of Mount Sentinel, and the state's engineering school moves to Bozeman. In 1913,

> Montana launches its journalism school, which is housed in tents on the Oval. In 1914, the School of Music opens inside a Main Hall room that is too small to house a piano. The J-school would move into a permanent building in 1939 (and into the \$14 million Don Anderson Hall in 2007). The School of Music had its permanent home in full use by 1954. Around 1913, the University starts being called the State University of Montana. In 1935, it is renamed Montana State University (gasp!), and this lasts until 1965, when the Legislature restores UM's original moniker.

1918

intramural

fields.

Montana opens its School of Business with around 25 students. The school is shuttled from building to building on campus before moving into the new education building in 1950. In 1996, the school moved into the William and Rosemary Gallagher Business Building, taking over what had been the 1918 Clover Bowl

1914

1929

A nontraditional student named Mike Mansfield '33 hits campus with the financial help of his wife, Maureen. The rest is pretty well-known history. Mansfield earns a master's in 1934, teaches at Montana until 1942 and then wins the U.S. House seat that had been vacated after one term by Jeannette Rankin. He serves five terms and then wins a seat in the U.S. Senate in 1952. He becomes the longesttenured Senate majority leader, serving 1961-77. Upon his retirement from public

life as the U.S. Ambassador to Japan in 1989, he receives the Presidential Medal of Freedom. The former Butte mucker, who'd left school at age 14

to join the U.S. Navy in World War I, had made good. He would wish folks a fond farewell by saying, "Tap 'er light." Those are just a few reasons UM named its library for Maureen and Mike Mansfield upon its completion in 1978.





Milwaukee, Wisconsin, product Naseby Rhinehart comes to Montana to play basketball and football and run track for the Grizzlies. In 1935, Rhinehart, who had planned to return to Wisconsin and be a police officer, is offered the position of athletic trainer

for the Griz. He stays 47 years, retiring in 1982. He

was one of the first people to put together an athletic training curriculum in the U.S., doing so for UM in 1971. Montana named its athletic training room in his honor in 1993. He passed away in Missoula in 1991. Rhinehart wasn't the last black athlete to attend UM, and he also wasn't the first: He was pointed toward Missoula by James Dorsey '22, a former Griz football player who in 1927 became the first African-American to graduate

from Montana's law school.

Above: A view of UM's signature building from about 1910.



1940

Jeannette Rankin 1902 is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives for a second time. As with her first election in 1916, the United States is on the cusp of world war. She becomes the only member of Congress to vote against U.S. involvement in both wars. In 1916, she was the first woman sent to Congress. She remains the only woman from Montana so elected.



1975

The Montana Grizzlies face the vaunted UCLA Bruins in the NCAA men's basketball tournament and lose 67-64. The game is memorable because undersized forward Eric Hays '75 scored 32 points – before getting knocked out by a referee signaling change of possession. The Griz gave the Bruins their toughest game on their way to a 10th NCAA title in 12 seasons, after which UCLA coach John Wooden retired. That game put Montana's basketball program – then under the tutelage of Jud Heathcote – back on the map. The Grizzlies have stayed a Big Sky Conference power through most of that century and this one.

1946 O'Connor

1946

Carroll O'Connor comes to UM to study English. The Manhattan, New York, native finds his love for acting with Montana's drama department and meets his wife, Nancy Fields, during a production. O'Connor returns to campus in 1956 to pursue his master's and, eventually, became one of the greatest television stars in history. His iconic role is playing Archie Bunker on "All in the Family" in the '70s.

1965

KUFM, a radio station and flagship for Montana Public Radio, goes on the air. It's hard to measure the many effects this station has had on students, parents of students, UM employees and the people of Montana. Station contributor Kim Williams did guest commentaries on "All Things Considered" and made two appearances on "Late Night with David Letterman." The walking and biking trail adjacent to campus bears her name.

1971

A 6-foot-2 basketball recruit named Robin Selvig '74 from Outlook hits campus. He has a sterling career for the Grizzlies but really makes his mark by taking over the fledgling Lady Griz basketball team – in 1978 and at the ripe old age of 25. Twenty-one league championships follow before Selvig retires with 865 coaching victories.



1986

Washington-Grizzly Stadium opens, with Montana's 38-31 Big Sky Conference football victory over Idaho State. The Grizzlies' new stadium, which seated 15,000 if you squeezed a couple thousand people onto the grass berms above each end zone, became the jewel of the Big Sky by 1996. Expansions came in 1995, 2003 and 2008. Now it holds more than its listed capacity of 25,217 - we know because the Griz drew 26,472 to their season-opening win over North Dakota State in 2015. The Grizzlies are 197-30 all-time inside the stadium's cozy confines.

Washington-Grizzly Stadium



Jonathan Kimble Simmons, whose father has just become director of the School of Music, begins pursuing a music degree with an idea of composing. But upon graduating in 1978, he joins the Seattle Repertory Theater, then moves to Broadway and becomes a full-time actor. A part with HBO's "Oz" and stints with "Law & Order"

and "The Closer" gave way to his portrayal of crusty newspaper editor Jonah J. Jameson in the Spiderman movies. The work kept coming, and in 2015, Simmons took home a Best Supporting Actor Oscar for "Whiplash."





1992

Shannon Cate finishes her Lady Griz career with 2,172 career points, making her the all-time leading scorer among both men and women in the Big Sky Conference. As a player, Cate led Montana to four NCAA tournaments, three Big Sky Conference regular-season titles and a record of 103-18. Shannon Schweyen is now the Lady Griz

head coach.

1995

L995

With 44 seconds left, Andy Larson hits a 25-yard field goal to give the Montana Grizzlies a 22-20 win over Marshall for the Football Championship Subdivision (then Division I-AA) title. It caps a clutch, 72-yard drive led by Walter Payton Award-winner Dave Dickenson '96, who broke scads of passing records at UM. Dickenson, recently selected for the College Football Hall of Fame, completes a fourth-down pass to Mike Earhardt along the way. "I'm happy, but in the same sense, I planned it," says Dickenson, who went on to star in the Canadian Football League and now coaches the Calgary Stampeders. "I wasn't coming here to lose." The Griz would win another FCS title in 2001 behind John Edwards and Yohance Humphery. The Griz also appeared in five other title games.



In one of the final major acts of a tenure that was, well, groundbreaking, President George Dennison oversees a groundbreaking for UM's Payne Family Native American Center. Of serving Native American students. Dennison, who would retire in 2010, said, "We can and must do better. This center

> reflects our commitment."

2009

2009

The Phyllis J. Washington **Education Center** is completed, as a 27,000-square foot addition to the Education Building. The UM School of Law also was refurbished and increased in size to nearly 46,000 square feet. In recent years other projects have enhanced buildings such as the Native center and the Liberal Arts Building.

2016

UM receives the largest single gift in its history - \$24 million - from Bill and Carolyn Franke and their family. The gift supports the renamed W.A.

2016

2017

Franke College of Forestry and Conservation and the Franke Global Leadership Initiative



A grand opening is held for UM's new Missoula College Building. The 115,000-square-foot, fourstory structure is part of the new "river campus" located just across the Clark Fork River from the University's central campus.

It should be noted that his father graduated from the school in 1929. Today's forestry college remains in one of the oldest buildings on campus, as it was completed in 1922.

But the Environmental Studies program is decidedly modern.

"The best thing about this school is its location," says Fritz, a professor emeritus ("retired professor emeritus," he corrects) in history. "In western Montana, with wilderness areas right next to it."

When Fritz returned to campus in 1959 - after four years studying chemistry at Dartmouth - football was played in the first Dornblaser Stadium, which sat on the east side of Main Hall. The University Center and Mansfield Library own that space now.

In 1966, Dornblaser moved to a "temporary" setup at the corner of Higgins and South Avenue. Finally in 1986, the football team played its first game in the on-campus Washington-Grizzly Stadium. Football success then dovetailed with surging UM enrollment, which steadily grew from 9,000 in 1986 to a high of 15,600 in 2010.

"Fantastic," Fritz says. "And it coincided with the hiring of Don Read as football coach. All of a sudden a school that up through 1985 had had seven winning seasons in its entire history, now has had one losing season since. Don Read was amazing."

There is a twinkle in his eye. The campus is snowy, and outside the office a backhoe is chewing up frozen earth. Changes continue to take shape. Dennison's book, meanwhile, percolates.

Fritz has heard it covers up to the 1930s or '40s - or maybe the '60s? It is 500 pages of text, but his fellow Montanan - Dennison was from the Flathead Valley, and Fritz is from Missoula - still had much to do.

"It's all sitting over there in the archives, waiting for somebody to come pick it up," he says. "Which I'm not really planning to do at present."

It's probably fitting. UM is 125 – a little long in the tooth, perhaps – but plans are underway to ensure the next 125 years of its history are equally stellar in terms of education and achievement.



Fritz Neighbor '90 is a freelance writer based in Missoula. A native of Harlowton, he covered high school and college athletics for 28 years.



Photographer Holly Andres cultivates dual careers in fine art and high-end editorial worlds



olly Andres, a photographer from Missoula, Montana,

says she once had a vivid experience

in which she could recall a memory from her childhood, both the feeling she had in the moment and as a spectator looking in. Afterward, she

re-enacted the memory for a photograph, with a cast of amateur models and an intricate sense of costumes, lighting and set design. She crafted it with a sense of nostalgia, ambiguity and mystery. Rather than seeking out a moment to shoot, she cultivated one. She said she thinks of herself as "more of a farmer than a hunter," to quote one of her influences, photographer Jeff Wall. She thinks about the pictures like an art installation: She would find a house to shoot in, create storyboards and decorate to an extreme degree.

"Oftentimes, I would paint the walls or design the wallpapers on my computer and print it out and hang it," she says.

The stylized photographic sensibility she pursued after that first experience has eventually enabled Andres, now 39 and a resident of Portland, Oregon, to develop parallel careers in both fine art photography and freelance editorial work without truly changing her signature style.

"Rather than approaching it in a more journalistic way, I try to craft an image and then document it," she says.

The University of Montana BFA graduate has cultivated a wide-ranging portfolio, with assignments for the New Yorker, The New York Times Magazine, Wired and more. She's shot pictures of musicians Esperanza Spalding and Jenny Lewis, author Cheryl Strayed, and actress and comedian Maya Rudolph.

This past summer, New York magazine hired Andres for its fall fashion portfolio. Rather than confine the shoot to a coastal center, they sent her and an assistant on a cross-country roadtrip to photograph everyday women – nurses, bus drivers, teachers, managers and waitresses – in premier designer wear.

The pictures, taken in Missoula; Cody, Wyoming; Standing Rock, North Dakota; Lincoln, Nebraska; Buffalo, New York; Parker, Texas; Los Angeles, California; Portland, Oregon; and points in between, ran as a special issue called "A 43-Day Road Trip."

Andres said it was a "life-transforming" experience that required them to scout locations and cast on the fly while driving seven to 12 hours every other day.

Nevertheless, she didn't alter her style.

"I thought of them as characters in costumes on location," she says. "If there was a film that was made in Santa Fe, what would that film look like?"

She created reference boards for each city to share with the costumer. Her ideas for Santa Fe were filled with regional references like painters

Georgia O'Keeffe and Frida Kahlo, the desert landscape and surrealist films. They photographed a student named Zoe Castro in a Madison Avenue boutique dress walking barefoot across an



Andres initially found success in the gallery scene by drawing on childhood experiences.

alabaster rock face. Like all the pictures, an accompanying text describes the subject's life in her home state and the push-and-pull of escape and acceptance.

That first picture Andres shot, seeded through a memory, was part of a series of eight images called "Stories from a Short Street" she displayed in Portland in 2007.

It wouldn't be far off to compare it to a first novel that casts a veil of fiction over an artist's formative years. The series depicts seemingly pivotal moments in the life of a sprawling family much like her own.

That first image recalls a moment at the dining room table, when her sister was giving her a home perm and found a single louse, an experience Andres remembers as anxiety-ridden. The recollection came years later, when she was going through hypnotherapy to ease anxiety about an upcoming trip.

"I could smell the perm solution mixed with the potatoes and gravy, and I could feel the light shining on my face, and I could feel





my little fingers on the vinyl tablecloth," she says. While reliving the memory, she thought about how interesting it and other experiences from her unique childhood would be recast as photographs.

Other memories emerged for the pictures, like wide-eyed children, arranged in a painting-like tableau, discovering a litter of kittens the family cat hid in the attic. In another, a boy sits alone watching the TV surrounded by pitch-perfect decor.

Her parents came to Montana from Minnesota, where they both grew up on farms. They wanted to own one themselves, but the cost was too steep. Terry worked as a carpet installer, and Irene was a nurse.

They found a practical alternative to a commercial farm – a self-sustaining three-acre plot at the end of dirt road called Short Street near the Clark Fork River.



It was enough space to let their kids raise every kind of animal you can imagine for 4-H and FFA: chickens, cows, lambs, pigs, rabbits, sheep and more, although not all at the same time. They kept a garden for fruit and vegetables.

Andres is the youngest by a decade. Her siblings were nurturing. Irene had to go back to work when Andres was in the fourth grade,

Andres thinks of her pictures as art installations that require set design, costumes, cast, storyboard and more. and in many ways the oldest children helped raise one another.

The rural upbringing felt like a private "wilderness wonderland," Andres says. They had the freedom to go dip in a swimming hole on the river near the house and dive off the train trestle.

The kids all had creative instincts, and art was hers.

"I cannot really remember when that was not a part of my identity," she says.

As her sister Nikki recalls, when Holly was 5 years old they were getting ready to head to the fair when Holly dropped her drawing for the kids' competition into a mud puddle. Their mother gave her crayons and a pencil and told her to make a new picture on the drive there. She sketched a bird sitting on the

back of an elephant's backside, Nikki says. The bird was looking one way, the pachyderm's tail was swaying in another. She won first place.

Andres often mines the memories of childhood to create the unique mood found in her images. Andres says she looked up to her older sisters, who had "an important role in her education as a woman." The two-story family

house had only two bathrooms, so in the morning the girls would fan out to their bedroom vanities to engage in "expensive and





exhaustive beauty rituals." She thought of her sisters as "fashion icons" and her outdoorsmen brothers as "great hunter" types. All of those archetypes ended up in the photographs for "Short Street" and her later work.

Their parents were supportive of their interests, with a caveat. By middle school, they had to pay for their own school clothes.

"Hard work was always an incredible value in our family," Nikki says. "'You want it? You can have it. It's yours. It's going to take some work."

Art school was no different. On a full-tuition scholarship, Andres moved to Washington to attend the Art Institute of Seattle in 1996, when the city was flush with the cache of the grunge movement.

She decided to pursue interior architecture, inspired in part by the family's pragmatism and her older brother's architecture studies. Practical considerations don't equal passion, and she didn't find the field rewarding but continued on because of the scholarship.

She didn't complete the program. Her mother, who had been diagnosed with Lou Gehrig's disease, was quickly deteriorating in health. Andres decided to return home in the summer of 1998 to be closer to her family. Irene died the next spring at age 56.

Andres enrolled at UM in spring semester 1999. She said she was primed for the "ideas and the complexity of thought and the energy in the classroom."

"That was the first time in my life that I truly comprehended the power of art to not only be the vehicle for self-expression but social change," she says. In her fine art, Andres mines self-discovery and empowerment. More recent photographs portrayed President Donald Trump as an invader in a private bedroom.

In her editorial work, she's donated to causes. She shot portraits of the DACA dreamers and animals for rescue nonprofits.

Elizabeth Dove, one of her professors at UM, says Andres was "fearless" and "poetic" and already thinking about art on a more sophisticated level than her peers.

The year before graduating, Andres traveled to Paris with her sister. She had never been to a major museum in Los Angeles or New York before, and the visit to the Centre Pompidou, one of the world's flagship contemporary art museums, was revelatory. She noticed that she was drawn more to large-format color photography and video and film work than the paintings or sculptures.

"I thought, 'If this is the work I'm most drawn to, this is the work I should be making," she says.

Upon returning, she bought a video camera. While UM didn't have dedicated courses for those mediums at the time, she pursued them anyway, teaching herself to edit footage on Adobe Premiere on a computer in the Social Science Building.

She also picked up a 35 mm camera from her now-former husband, who taught her some of the basics.

Dove remembers her making art about her mother's death in a candid and risky way.

"She carried her deceased mother's wedding dress around with her and used it as a way to meet strangers. She would talk about her mom and ask to take a photograph of the person with her mom's dress," Dove says. Andres even took a subject she met at the Oxford Saloon down to the Clark Fork River for a portrait.

She went straight from UM in 2004 to graduate school at Portland State University, where she focused on photography over painting. Afterward, she interned at the Northwestern Film Center so she could take classes on film.

After her first showing of "Stories from a Short Street," the now-defunct gallery in Portland offered Andres a full year to create follow-up series for a solo exhibition.

The resulting work, "Sparrow Lane," casts young women in moments of discovery that conflated the innocence of Nancy Drew mysteries with female adolescent awakening, through a painter's eye. "The way I look through a camera is very much the way that a painter looks at a canvas when they're composing," she says.

The exhibition was reviewed by international magazines such as Art in America and ArtForum. The Robert Mann Gallery displayed the work, which led to further gallery representation in San Francisco and Los Angeles.

To support herself, Andres taught as an adjunct. In 2011, she was passed over for a tenured faculty position. Feeling like she needed to pursue options outside of teaching, she made appointments with

photo editors in New York to coincide with an exhibition. Because she had an art portfolio at established galleries, she was able to get meetings.

"Within two weeks I was flying back to New York for a weeklong project for The New York Times, and that was my first paid gig. And you know, it's just been one thing after another," she says.

Jacqueline Bates, the photo editor for The California Sunday Magazine, recently completed a project with Andres for a special issue on the lives of modern teenagers.

"Andres is so talented at finding locations and at prop styling," Bates says. "It is rare for photographers to be able to put on both of those hats in addition to making a compelling image."

They had assigned articles on aspects of each part of their long days. To signal a switch in time between these sections, they hired Andres to shoot still lifes for the morning, afternoon and evening. As an example, she arranged a darkened, empty bed, lit by a lamp showing a plugged-in phone for the morning. It looks distinctly like her own work while blending with the project.

Looking over Andres' career, her former professor says she "doesn't bend and contort herself to provide a one-size-fits-all professional photographer's toolkit. I believe Holly could do any style of photography.

"She has the skills and the aptitude, but what she has managed to develop and protect is her vision."



"That was the first time in my life that

I truly comprehended the power of

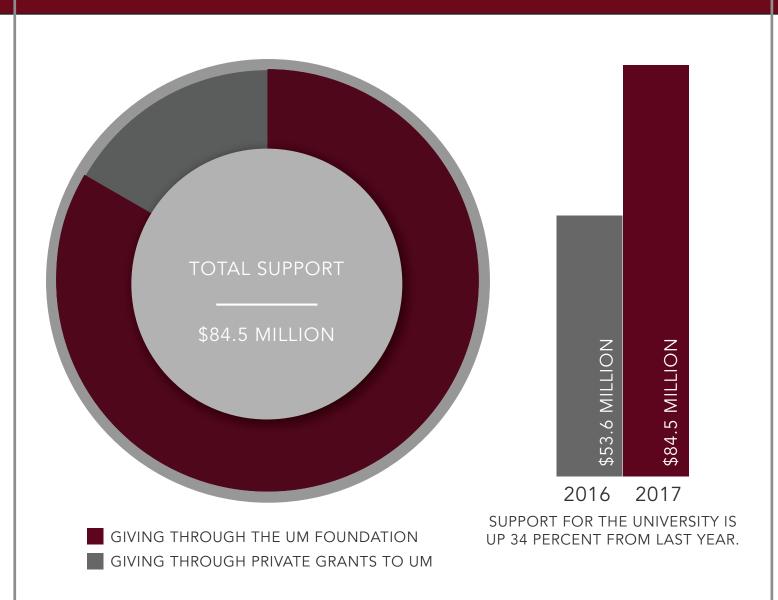
art to not only be the vehicle for self-

expression but social change'

Cory Walsh was born and raised in Fairbanks, Alaska. He graduated from the University of Montana School of Journalism in 2005 and currently is the arts editor at the Missoulian.

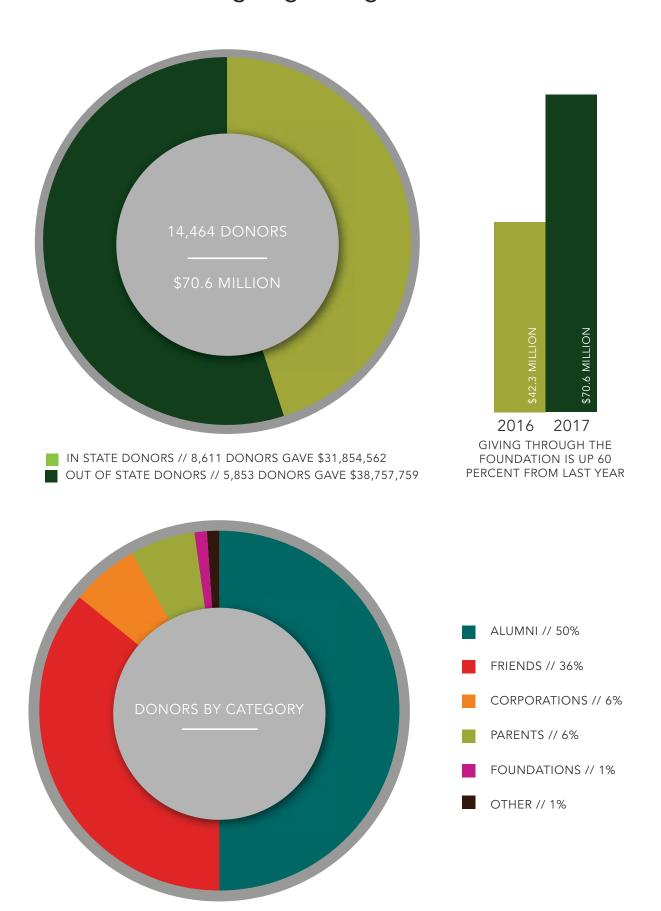


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Known in collectors' circles as a modern "Andrea Warhol," ASHLEY LONGSHORE '99 is making waves in the art world as she builds a creative empire around her bold and provocative work.

The New Orleans-based painter and entrepreneur owns the Longshore Studio Gallery, where she exhibits her paintings and other pieces that depict pop culture, Hollywood glamour and American consumerism.

"I'm a pop artist exploring my role as an American woman and how greed and money and society play a role in all that," Longshore says. "My career as an artist right now is incredible. I've got so much opportunity. My main struggle in life is my time management, making sure that I'm still making time to honor my art."

That art has caught the eye of high-profile Wall Street collectors and celebrity art aficionados like Blake Lively, Selma Hayek and Penelope Cruz. The pieces available on her website sell for anywhere from \$250 for a decorative collectors plate to \$27,000 for an inlay table made from Taj Mahal marble. She's also infused her creativity and style into the fashion world through collaborations with brands like Anthropologie and Chloe.

Though she majored in English literature, it was during her years at UM that Longshore first pursued her passion for painting.

"I'm happy to say that I first started painting while I was at the University of Montana," she says. "I think back to my time at UM, when I wouldn't go out on Fridays and Saturdays because I would paint. It was something about the security of those mountains that really made me feel safe, like I could express myself."

At first glance, you'd probably never guess Montana was ever a muse for Longshore's flamboyant pieces. Born and raised in Montgomery, Alabama, Longshore came to UM and Missoula to escape the traditional traps of

continued on page 33

Top: Ashley Longshore

canvas, heavy resin

Above: "Audrey With Peacock

Gold Leaf Background" 96 x

72 acrylic and mixed media on

and Flower Headdress and

Keep Us Posted. Send your news to the University of Montana Alumni Association, Brantly Hall, Missoula, MT 59812. Go to www.grizalum.com and click on "Submit a Class Note," email alumni@umontana.edu, or call 1-877-UM-ALUMS (877-862-5867). Material in this issue reached our office by Nov. 20, 2017.

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

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LETTER FROM THE OUTGOING DIRECTOR

Opportunities Ahead

Greetings, University of Montana alumni and friends! With 2018 in full swing, the UM Alumni Association looks forward to providing more exciting events and opportunities to engage our alumni across the country, keeping them connected to their alma mater and each other. Here's a sampling of how we plan to keep you in touch with the many facets of our beloved University:

- Academics: Community Lecture Series and the Bringing the U to You Lecture Series.
- Arts: Pre-play gatherings ahead of the Montana Rep's production of "On Golden Pond."
- Athletics: A full slate of traditions leading up to the Homecoming football game, plus Griz/Cat watch parties nationwide.
- Classmates: Reunions during Commencement and Griz Grad Fest to welcome our newest alumni.
- Camaraderie: Opportunities to socialize and network, including Griz on Tap happy hours and the Flathead Lake summer social.
- Adventure: GrizTreks that open up the wonderful world of travel through our affinity partners, Adventure Life and GoNext Cruises.

Be sure to check our website, www.grizalum.org, regularly for complete details on all our offerings.

At this time, I would like to extend a warm farewell to all of you. It has been an honor to serve as your interim alumni director the past 15 months. While our wonderful University is experiencing challenging yet transformational change, we at the Alumni Association are striving to remain financially sound by combining resources. Therefore, Jed Liston, former director of marketing and a 38-year employee, has assumed the role of interim alumni director for the next two years. While I will no longer be in a formal role as your alumni director, I look forward to remaining a faithful alum in support of higher education and all things Griz Nation.

Sincerely,

Karen Kracher Dysktra '78

OUTGOING DIRECTOR, ALUMNI RELATIONS PRESIDENT AND CEO, UM ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

continued from page 31

Southern society. The laid-back allure of Montana still serves as a foil to the lavish, over-the-top lifestyles that her paintings often satirize.

"Honestly, I'd never been somewhere in my life where all of that fashion and branding and all of that sort of thing really weren't the center of society, and I think that's why I was so drawn to come to Montana," Longshore says. "Montana was really a place where nature could heal me, and also a place where I could explore my own thoughts about what all that stuff really meant."

She also credits UM for providing her a broad liberal arts education that helps her build rapport with her clients now.

"For me, getting such a great liberal arts education has really enabled me to speak to my clients about all sorts of things, whether it be oceanography, biblical studies, Native American studies – anything like that," she says. "Sometimes when you're in college, you don't really understand the beauty of that."

Every once in a while, Longshore still finds herself in awe that, over the course several years, she went from struggling to sell a \$500 piece she painted on a floor in Missoula to launching and cultivating a multimillion-dollar art enterprise.

"That just goes to show you how grand life is when you really go for any opportunity that's around you, with every bit of passion you have in your body," she says. "Anything can happen."

1950s

BYRON BAYERS '52, Twin Bridges, was inducted into the American Hereford Association's Hereford Hall of Fame in Kansas City, Mo., in October. The annual ceremony honors breeders who have dynamically influenced the direction and advancement of the Hereford cattle breed. After serving in the U.S. Air Force upon his graduation from UM, Bayers returned to southwest Montana in 1955 to run the Bayers Hereford Ranch. which owns the oldest continuously running Hereford herd in the state. He served as president of the Montana Hereford Association in 1958, 1960 and 1970, and was elected president of AHA in 1976. In the 1960s and early 1970s, he judged almost every major Hereford show in the U.S. Bayers received the UM Alumni Association's Distinguished Alumni Award in 1976 and was inducted into the Montana State Fair Pioneer Hall of Fame in 1981. In 2008, he received the Canadian Ambassador Award from the Canadian Hereford Association.



NORMA ASHBY '57, Great Falls, received the 2017 Josephine Trigg Award from the C.M. Russell Museum in honor of her achievements in broadcasting, writing and advocacy for Western art. In 1969, working through the Great Falls Advertising Federation, Ashby



originated and co-founded the auction to benefit what was then the C.M. Russell Gallery. Nearly a half century later, that tradition continues with the C.M. Russell Museum's production of "The Russell: An Exhibition and Sale to Benefit the C.M. Russell Museum."

EPHRAIM HACKETT '57,

Albany, Ore., is a retired school band director and current conductor of the New Horizons Band in Corvallis, Ore. In October, his family, friends, former students and colleagues put on a public concert in honor of his 82nd birthday.

1960s

BOB MCKINNON '62, Great Falls, published "Drooling Banjos (And All That Jazz)," a collection of stories based around Dixieland jazz. A retired English teacher, he previously has published dozens of magazine articles and books.

DENNIS L. STEVENS '64, Meridian, Idaho, was one of 22 veterans to receive a Spirit of Freedom Award from U.S. Sen. Mike Crapo in November. Stevens, who served as a major in the U.S. Army, is chief of infectious diseases at the Boise Veterans



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Affairs Medical Center and associate chief of staff for research. He leads research relevant to the special needs of the veteran population.

1970s

KEN DUNHAM '70, Folsom, Calif., wrote and compiled "The Legacy of Lumber: A History of the Lumber Industry in California & the West." The book was published by the West Coast Lumber & Building Materials Association,



Jim McCarthy received a 2017 Heritage Keeper Award from the Montana Historical Society. '73

of which Dunham is the executive director, in commemoration of its 100th anniversary. JIM MCCARTHY '73, Butte, received a 2017 Heritage Keeper Award from the Montana Historical Society for his contributions to the cultural and historical preservation of Butte. Over the years, McCarthy left his mark on the Butte-Silver Bow Public Archives, the Butte High School History Club and as a co-leader of an ongoing Butte History Adult Education class. He's also taken on leadership roles in Butte celebrations, the Butte Sports Hall of Fame and

the World Museum of Mining. McCarthy worked for the Butte-Silver Bow city-county government as a park superintendent and road foreman until he retired in 2009.

MARK ROMEY '75, Libby, was recognized by the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation with a Forestry Pioneer Award in October. The award is given to "people who have furthered the cause of forestry, forest management or natural resource management in Montana." Romey got his start with the U.S. Forest Service as a smokejumper

during and after attending UM, and he eventually became a silviculturist for the agency. Now retired, he currently serves on the Lincoln County Conservation Board. UM alumnus JACK PARRISH '50 also was recognized posthumously.

ROBERT M. CARLSON '76, J.D. '79, Butte, assumed the role of president-elect of the American Bar Association in August. Carlson, a shareholder with the Butte firm Corette Black Carlson and Mickelson P.C., will serve a one-year term as president-elect before becoming ABA president this summer. ROBIN OLIVERIA '76,

ROBIN OLIVERIA '76, Seattle, the New York Times best-selling author of "My Name Is Mary Sutter" and "I Always Loved You," will publish her newest novel in February. "Winter



Sisters" is a rich and compelling historical novel about the disappearance of two young girls after a cataclysmic blizzard and what happens after their fate is discovered. Oliveira, who holds a bachelor's degree in Russian from UM and received her MFA in writing from Vermont College of Fine Arts, also is a registered nurse specializing in critical care.

JOYCE SILVERTHORNE

'77, M.Ed. '90, Dixon, received the 2017 Lifetime Achievement Award from the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribal Education Department.

Every fall at each home football game, the UM Alumni Association, Office of the President, Grizzly Athletics and the Grizzly Scholarship Association sponsor the Community Service Awards, which recognize alumni and friends whose support and service to their communities have brought recognition to UM. The 2017 recipients were GARY '61 and ALICE ERB, Polson; JIM '88 (awarded posthumously) and JANET MCDONALD, Butte; CAL '60, J.D. '63, and MARVA CHRISTIAN '62, Missoula; DON '66 and PATTY COWLES, Bozeman; and SAM '78 and JULIE BALDRIDGE '79, Whitefish.











She was recognized for her 40-year career in education, which included 10 years as the director of the CSKT Tribal **Education Department** and five years as the director of the federal Office of Indian Education in Washington, D.C.

LURA ELLIOTT TURNER

'77, Memphis, Tenn., has been a theater and opera singer for more than 35 years. A District Metropolitan Opera Auditions winner, her theater and opera roles have included Abigail Williams in "The Crucible," Sister Berthe in "The Sound of Music" and Laurey in "Oklahoma." She's also been a featured soloist with the Gary Beard Chorale for its New York City concert tour, and she composed and performed songs honoring the Memphis Symphony's 60th anniversary. In October, she returned to her native Conrad to perform for a fundraiser benefiting the historic Orpheum Theatre.

1980s

"The Solace of Monsters," the fourth novel by **LAURIE BLAUNER** '80. Seattle. was a finalist for the 2017 Washington State Book Award.

WILLIAM ELMENDORF

'80, M.B.A '86, State College, Pa., was named the Pennsylvania State University's first Joseph E. Ibberson Chair in Urban



and Community Forestry. Elmendorf is a professor and extension specialist in urban forestry in the university's College of Agricultural Sciences. He teaches both graduate and undergraduate courses in urban forest management and human dimensions of natural resources.

TOM WILK '81, Issaguah, Wash., and GARY GLYNN '81, Missoula, pose in front of the Griz statue during a meetup on campus in August. The pair first met as residents of Jesse Hall as sophomores.



Science writer BETH C. GEIGER M.S. '86, Seattle, was named the Geological Society of America's inaugural Science Communications Fellow. Geiger, who is passionate about communicating the value of geoscience to society and has published more than 200 articles in national and regional publications, will use her skills to create engaging stories about GSA member research for mass audiences and help the society more broadly disseminate new earth science research. BARBARA MONACO '86, Polson, was elected as the 2017-18 governor of the Montana District of Kiwanis International. Her one-year term started Oct. 1, and she is one of 48 International Governors in the world for the organization. Founded in 1915, the Kiwanis mission



The Grand Rapids Art Museum selected a drawing by **MEL** WATKIN '81, Cobden, III., for its ARTPRIZE 9 group exhibition last fall. "Mighty Chrysanthemum Tree" imagines a tree-sized handful of the flowers that played an important role in Watkin's small agricultural town. Cobden was once a floral-growing center that shipped fresh-cut flowers up to Chicago every day by train. With the advent of overnight global commerce, they no longer are a viable crop, but many still bloom each spring in abandoned fields throughout the town.



CHUCK PETERSON J.D. '83, Dickinson, N.D., retired in November after practicing law for 34 years, which included estate planning, real estate and commercial law. He also represented mineral and land owners addressing various interests resulting from the oil and gas development in western North Dakota and eastern Montana. Upon retirement, he's increased his involvement in charitable organizations, including God's Child Project and Habitat for Humanity, and he has service trips to Antigua, Guatemala and Jordan planned for the first half of this year.

"(The experiences) have been somewhat lifechanging," he told the Dickinson Press. "What I really enjoy is having other people come and have that same experience. It really kind of opens up your eyes to the wonderful people around the world and lets you see the different cultures of the world and kind of travel for a cause."

The Indiana Commission for Women honored L. CHERI BRADLEY '85. Terre Haute, Ind., as a recipient of the 2017

Torchbearer Award. The award recognizes women of Indiana who have been pioneers throughout their lives or who have stepped forward as leaders by

breaking down barriers.



She also received the Keeper of the Light Award, which is given to a woman "who is an unsung heroine quietly and persistently working to better her community." Bradley has worked in a variety of educational settings, including a therapeutic environment for children with emotional and behavioral problems. She worked in public schools for 15 years with children in both regular and special education and helped develop programs for at-risk students. She also taught at the college level for seven years. Bradley has served as the first lady of Indiana State University since her husband, Dan, was installed as president in 2008. She is involved in all aspects of campus life, which includes founding the Women of ISU organization.

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is to "serve the children of the world," and the organization has nearly 600,000 members of all ages and a presence in more than 80 nations and geographic areas. Monaco is a 14-year Kiwanian and is a member of the Kiwanis Club of Polson, where she served in various positions. She also served as lieutenant governor for three terms of the Montana District Northwest Region. In addition, Monaco is the chief juvenile probation officer of the 20th Judicial District in Lake and Sanders counties.

1990s

Gov. Steve Bullock appointed **GALEN** HOLLENBAUGH '90, M.P.A. '08, Helena, to serve as the commissioner of the Montana Department of Labor & Industry. Hollenbaugh has worked for the state of Montana for more than 20 years and for Labor & Industry since 2012. He also served four terms in the Montana House of Representatives, representing southcentral Helena.



Siew Te Wong founded and operates the Bornean Sun Bear Conservation Centre, the only sun bear sanctuary in the world. '97 M.S. '02

SIEW TE WONG '97, M.S. '02, Sandakan, Malaysia, founded and operates the Bornean Sun Bear Conservation Centre, the only sun bear sanctuary in the world. Found in the rainforests of south Asia, sun bears play a crucial role in keeping the woodland ecosystem healthy. Their population has decreased 30 percent over the past 30 years though, and they were officially classified as vulnerable to extinction in 2007. Wong and his team have rehabilitated and cared for 55 rescued sun bears since 2008, and the center currently cares for more than 40 sun bears. In July, CNN published a profile of Wong and his work as part of its "Heroes" series.

they're endangered, I care for them. When they are in trouble, I speak for them," he told the network. "I want to be the voice for the sun bear, to fight for the sun bear, to ensure the survival of the sun bear. But my ultimate goal is to save the entire forest ecosystem. That is so important to the survival of mankind." JONI WALLACE MFA '98, Tucson, Ariz., published "Kingdom Come Radio Show," a book of poems chronicling the pale cast during the era of J. Robert Oppenheimer's atomic bomb. The Poetry Society of America described "Kingdom Come Radio Show" as "tender, prescient, formally

adventurous and ...

"Sun bears became

part of my family. When



Keatsean in the beautiful and painful truths." It's available for purchase on Amazon.

2000s

RYAN KELLEY '00, Cross Plains, Wis., won first place in the Risk Management Association's 2017 Article Writing Competition for his submission, "Leveraging Data to Enhance Returns from the Commercial Appraisal Process." It will be published in The RMA Journal.



JASON BAIN '01, College Park, Md., is senior collections curator for the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund in Washington, D.C. Last fall, Bain helped bring "The Wall That Heals," the half-scale traveling replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, to his hometown of Troy in northwestern Montana. "To think of that

coming through my own hometown and being a part of putting that through the community that I grew up in – it's incredibly gratifying," he told the Western News. RYAN PATRICK KILLACKEY '01, Washington, D.C.,

is a filmmaker whose documentary, "Yasuni Man," was a finalist in the 2017 Jackson Hole Wildlife Film Festival competition. "Yasuni Man" tells the story of the Waorani, hunter-gatherers who live deep in the



After spending a decade in New York City pursuing her craft and continuing her education, ALEKS MALEJS '02, West Falls, N.Y., has been active in the Buffalo theater community as a professional actor and theater teacher for the past five years. Last January, she performed in "Grounded," a onewoman show by George Brant, at the Kavinoky Theatre, and in June she received Outstanding Actress in a Play accolades at the 27th annual Artie Awards. Malejs is a proud member of the Actors' Equity Association stage actors union, an honor she earned in 2011 when she appeared in the Montana Repertory Theatre's national touring production of "Bus Stop" by William Inge. Malejs writes that she is forever grateful to UM and everyone at the Montana Rep for the creative foundation she stands on.

NEW LIFETIME MEMBERS

The following alumni and friends made a commitment to the future of the UM Alumni Association by becoming lifetime members. The Alumni Association thanks them for their support. You can join them by calling 877-862-5867 or by visiting www.grizalum.com. This list includes all new lifetime members through Nov. 29, 2017.

RICHARD ALDRICH '66, J.D. '69, Billings PATRICK DAILEY '98, Pinehurst, NC RICHARD '87 and SUSAN GOBBS '87, Helena JAMES GRANGE '78, Greenwood Village, CO **RANDOLPH JACOBS** '69, Billings **RODNEY JOHNSON** '79, Polson ROBERT LEHEUP '85, Charlottesville, VA **STEVEN MARKOVICH** '81, Billings KATHLEEN SCHOEN '74, Modesto, CA DAVID SHULTZ '62, Menomonee Falls, WI SUSAN VAP '72, Boise, ID HALE '66 and CAROL WILLIAMS '66, Missoula

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BRAD CEDERBERG '06, Missoula, is a vice president and financial adviser for D.A. Davidson in Missoula. Last fall, he became the affiliate faculty instructor for the College of Business' \$50,000 Portfolio Management course - a class he first participated in as a UM student in 2005. Students enrolled in the course participate in D.A. Davidson's Student Investment Program, which provides student teams in senior-level investment courses at 20 colleges and universities with \$50,000 each to invest in the stock market. Each team makes investment decisions with the guidance of a local D.A. Davidson financial adviser and manages the portfolio for one year, starting in September. The program is designed to provide a handson experience in finance, stock research, portfolio management and investment topics. In the most recent competition, under the guidance of then-instructor John Passuccio '01, M.B.A. '03, the UM team received the Fred Dickson Memorial Award, which recognizes one team for overall excellence and adherence to program standards. In earning the award, UM demonstrated consistent long-term performance over one-year, threeyear and five-year periods, with strong results on an absolute and riskadjusted basis. In addition to their share of profits from the competition, the UM team received a \$2,000 award and an expenses-paid trip for five participants to the Davidson Institute, a premier D.A. Davidson event in Seattle in May.

The National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development included UM alumni LEANN MONTES '03, Havre, and WILLIAM SHUNKAMOLAH M.A. '09, Ph.D. '12, Gallup, N.M., on its 2017 "Native American 40 Under 40" list. The prestigious honor recognizes individuals under age 40, nominated by members of their communities, who have demonstrated leadership, initiative and dedication and made significant contributions in business and their community. Montes, who earned a degree in business administration from UM while playing for the Lady Griz, is now the attorney general for the Chippewa Cree Tribe. Shunkamolah, who earned master's and doctoral degrees in psychology from UM, is the acting clinical director of behavior health at the Indian Health Service in Gallup.





biodiverse Yasuni nature reserve in the Ecuadorian Amazon, whose existence has been threatened for centuries by attempted exploitation of resources. Killackey, who has a degree in wildlife biology from UM, worked for nearly a decade on research projects focused on conservation and population dynamics before moving to the Ecuadorian Amazon in 2005, according to an interview with Mongabay. com. "It was then that I first went into Yasuni and learned about the conflict that has pitted biodiversity and human rights against natural resource exploitation," he told the website

RACHEL VANDEVOORT

'01, Whitefish, is director of Montana's newly created Office of Outdoor Recreation. She is the country's first female director of a state office of recreation.

JED WYMAN '01, Coos Bay, Ore., published "Sparks," a short story set in Missoula, in Volume No. 15 of The Radvocate literary journal. His work also has been featured in The Bangalore Review and 34th Parallel. He currently teaches writing at Southwestern Oregon Community College.

ANTHONY ZUCCARINI '01, Jefferson City, Mo., flaunts his Griz pride wherever he goes, including during his



recent travels to Manila, Philippines. He's pictured here with his three sons at the SM Mall of Asia in Bay City. Though he left Montana in 2002, Anthony still makes it back to Missoula every few years for Griz games. Now a resident of Missouri, he also catches Griz sports whenever they venture to the Midwest.



M.Ed. '08, Las Vegas, is in her third season as executive officer for the Thunderbirds, the demonstration squadron of the U.S. Air Force. She leads an executive support staff responsible for the squadron's cyber/knowledge operations, budget, training and force

support actions for the

commander.



TIFFANY ALDINGER '03, Great Falls, is the production manager for the Wendt Agency, the longeststanding full-service advertising agency in Montana. She oversees all production services and is responsible for scheduling, providing estimates, ensuring quality control, proofreading and managing workflow across the agency. Before joining Wendt, she worked as an editor at the Great Falls Tribune and at

the Post Register in Idaho Falls, Idaho. JOHN LLOYD Ph.D. '03, South Strafford, Vt., the director of science at the Vermont Center for Ecostudies, was named an Elective Member of the American

Ornithological Society.

Members are selected

by their peers for their

significant contributions to ornithology and/or service to the society. While at UM, Lloyd's doctoral research focused on the ecology, evolutionary biology and conservation of grassland birds in eastern Montana and western North Dakota, with a special focus on chestnut-collared

longspurs. He now focuses his research on the ecology and conservation of birds of south Florida, the Caribbean and mountains in the Northeast.

HAINES EASON '06,

Denver, celebrated two years with Denver Metro Media as editor of iconic Denver community newspapers Life on Capitol John Lloyd was named an Elective Member of the American Ornithological Society. **'03**

Hill and the Washington Park Profile. He also marked one year as partner in the company in January. He and his wife, Joni, are happy to call Denver home.



BAIRD HARPER M.A. '06, Oak Park, Ill., published his first novel, "Red Light Run: Linked Stories," in August. Harper's fiction has appeared in Glimmer Train, Tin House, Story Quarterly and the Chicago Tribune, among other publications, and has been anthologized in "New Stories from the Midwest, 2015," "40 Years of CutBank, Stories" and twice in "Best New

American Voices." The recipient of the 2014
Raymond Carver Award for Short Fiction, the Chicago Tribune's Nelson Algren Award and the James Jones Short Story Award, Harper lives in Oak Park with his wife and two kids, and he teaches creative writing at Loyola University and the University of Chicago.



CAITLIN COPPLE MASINGILL M.A. '07, Boise, Idaho, joined branding agency Oliver Russell as public relations director in October. Her duties include designing and implementing public relations strategies for clients



anthropologist with History Flight Inc., which works to find missing World War II service members around the world. In July, she was part of an archeological team that uncovered graves of 24 service members on Tarawa, Republic of Kiribati, an atoll in the Pacific Ocean that was the site of the Battle of Tarawa in 1943. She's pictured here following the discovery explaining positions and movements of troops during the battle to Marine Corps officers.

ALUMNI EVENTS 2018

FEBRUARY

- 1 Bringing the U to You Lecture Series, Great Falls
- 15 Celebrate 125: Charter Day Awards Ceremony
- 15 Bringing the U to You Lecture Series, Great Falls
- 20 Community Lecture Series, Missoula
- 21 Griz on Tap, Missoula
- 25-MARCH 7
- 7 Griz Treks: Sparkling South Pacific
 - 27 Community Lecture Series, Missoula

MARCH

- 1 Bringing the U to You Lecture Series, Great Falls
- 6, 13, 20, 27 Community Lecture Series, Missoula
 - 21 Griz on Tap, Missoula

APRIL

- **6-22** Griz Treks: Gateway to Sunshine
- 19 Alumni gathering in Whitefish
- **20-21** UMAA Board of Directors meeting, Whitefish
 - 25 Griz on Tap, Missoula
- 29-MAY 7 Griz Treks: Southern Grandeur

MAY

- 2 Griz Gradfest
- 9-17 Griz Treks: Riviera Rhapsody
- **10-12** Montana Treasures: 50th Class Reunion
- 14-24 Griz Treks: Gems of the Danube
- 23 Griz on Tap, Missoula

JUNE

- 17-28 Griz Treks: Gaelic Exploration
 - 20 Griz on Tap, Missoula

JULY

- **16-24** Griz Treks: Breathtaking Bordeaux
 - 19 Annual gathering at Flathead Lake

SEPTEMBER

30-OCT. 6 Homecoming Week

OCTOBER

- 2 Hello Walk
- 5 Distinguished Alumni Awards, Yell Night Pep Rally, All-Alumni Social
- 6 Homecoming Parade, All-Alumni Tailgate, Montana vs. Portland State
- 13-24 Griz Treks: Glorious Greece

NOVEMBER

17 118th Brawl of the Wild, Missoula; Griz/Cat watch parties, nationwide

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





KATRINA JOHNSON '10, Missoula, traveled to Africa in July with two other Missoula artists to start the Othakarhaka Girls Empowerment Camp in the remote village of Mulanje, Malawi. The camp harnessed the power of dance, music, art, photography, creative writing and storytelling to help young women in the village – many of whom were orphaned by the AIDS epidemic – tell their stories. Johnson, who owns Amplify Film Group in Missoula, taught multimedia to participants and plans to create a short documentary about the camp.

and telling Oliver Russell's own story on the national stage, as well as promoting "Rise Up," a new guidebook for aspiring social entrepreneurs by agency founder Russ Stoddard. Masingill is a former Missoula city councilwoman, a longtime communications consultant and a former journalist. Most recently, she worked in the Boise office of one of the nation's top public affairs firms.

JOHN COPELAND M.A.
'08, Brooklyn, N.Y., and
his wife, Erin Arnold,
welcomed a baby girl
on Sept. 24, 2017. Faye
Rainer Copeland was
born at Mount Sinai West
in New York City.

EMILY VON JENTZEN

J.D. '09, Kalispell, became the first person ever to swim the length of Flathead Lake and back - a total of 56 miles. Von Jentzen, whose 40-hour feat raised money for a 5-year-old boy with a congenital heart defect and a 4-yearold girl with cancer, also was the first woman to swim the length of Flathead in 2010, as well as the first person to swim 55-mile Lake Chelan in Washington in 2011.

2010sGINNY MUELLER '11,
Ann Arbor, Mich.,
was selected as a 2017

fellow in Ford's Thirty Under 30 program, a corporate leadership course that empowers employees 30 and under to work with local nonprofits and develop strategies to connect the organizations to younger generations.

JAMES DAVENPORT

'13, San Francisco, is the associate editor of PC Gamers. His duties include playing video games and writing critiques, as well as general editor responsibilities.



DANA FITZ GALE MFA

'13, Florence, won the 2017 Ellen Levine Prize for her novel-in-progress, "Able." The award, which includes a \$7,500 grant, honors writers who already have published one or more books of fiction. The Hudson Review nominated her for the award. Fitz Gale also is a recipient of the Brighthorse Prize in Short Fiction for her debut story collection, "Spells for Victory and Courage," which also was a finalist for the Flannery O'Connor Award for Short Fiction and the Ohio State Book Award. She currently teaches in UM's Department of Communicative Sciences and Disorders while she pursues her doctorate in curriculum and instruction.

ANITA GREEN '14, Missoula, last fall became the first openly



transgender person to compete in the Miss Montana USA pageant. While she did not take home the crown, she believes her participation in the competition will help others in the LGBTQI community. "I hope that competing inspires other transgender people to feel confident in themselves, and to feel comfortable to be who they are and not be ashamed of their transgender status," she told People magazine.

ALEXANDRIA KLAPMEIER

'15, Helena, is the communications director for the Montana Chamber of Commerce. She is responsible for external communications, new media, branding and communications planning for the state's leading business organization.



JONATHAN DEL BUENO M.A. '17, Santa Rosa, Calif., is the public programs and visitor

services coordinator for the Charles M. Schulz Museum and Research Center, which is dedicated to the creator of the iconic "Peanuts"

comic strip.

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. 26, 2017.

1940s

Marion Ester Erickson Veraldi '40, Miami, FL
Susan J. Wilkinson Trekell '41, Redding, CA
Frank June Busch '42, M.A. '47, Ph.D. '75, Dillon
Leah Marie Himsl Jupka '43, Great Falls
James Acton "Jim" Nelson '43, J.D. '44, Shelby
Jean Marie Casto Schoen '43, Bolingbrook, IL
Dorothy May Frame Brown '46, Great Falls
Patricia Lou Murphey Gastineau

'47, Rochester, MN Richard Eugene "Dick" Baldwin '48, Missoula

Wilma Juanita Oksendahl '48, Kailua, HI Margaret Katherine "Kay"

Margaret Katherine "Kay" Ritenour Sylvester '49, East Missoula

1950s

Laura Grace Bergh Barrett '50, Bigfork Mordecai James "Morty" Boyd Jr. '50. Great Falls Jon William Brinkerhoff '50, Columbia Falls C. Leon Conner '53, M.Ed. '70, Waukee, IA Charles Chase "Charlie" "Chuck" Goddard III '50, Stevensville Robert Walter Holmstrom '50, L.L.B. '52, Billings Wilmer Ashford "W.A." "Bill" Mitchell Jr. '50, Green Valley, AZ Lorraine Devee "Lee Wyn" Kurfiss Remington '50, Billings Joan Van Rensselaer Smith '50, Rochester, MN John Vincent Thomton '50, Kirkland, WA Kenneth John "Ken" Bergum '51, Helena Julian Leonard "Len" Derby '51, Whitefish

William L. "Bill" Evans 'S1, Hastings, NE
Howard J. Heintz 'S1, Quincy, WA
James Edward "Jim" Heintz 'S1, Hayden, ID
Dale Lamar McGarvey 'S1, Kalispell
Neal Duane Clement 'S2, Prescott Valley, AZ
Joyce Anne Frigaard Lange 'S2, Charlotte, NC
Julia Aureta "Reta" McMenomey Smith 'S2,
Billings

Herbert Earl "Herb" Waltermire '52, Great Falls William Frank "Bill" Gustafson '53, M.Ed. '61, Polson

Harold J. "Hall" Lund '54, Tacoma, WA William Dale "Bill" Hummon '55, '60, M.Ed. '61, Athens, OH

Robert N. "Bob" Stone M.S. '55, Madison, WI Lloyd Earl Brynie '56, M.Ed. '59, Bigfork Roberta Hazel "Bobbie" Atkinson Crews Cook '56, Fort Collins, CO

William Stanley "Bill" McVicars '56, Lewiston, ID Ronald Lee "Ron" Perry '57, Boulder City, NV John Leonard "Jack" Peterson '57, L.L.B. '57, Butte

Herbert Duane Ekstrom '58, M.Ed. '64, Bend, OR Donald Irving "Don" Nyquist '58, Bothell, WA Jan Dell Dickey Nyquist '58, M.Ed. '68, Bothell, WA Raymond Jesse "Ray" Broadhead '59, Salt Lake City, UT

Michael James Meredith East '59, Lake Panasoffkee, FL

Theodore S. "Ted" Leskovar '59, Kennewick, WA

1960s

Noella Marie Nichols '60, Spokane, WA Harley Roth '60, Salem, OR James D. "Jim" "Lefty" Corr M.Ed. '61, Missoula Penelope Ann "Penny" Wagner Peabody '61, M.A. '67, Mercer Island, WA Theodore Ray "T. Ray" Jacobs '62, Missoula Donnamae Ella Nichols Bryson '63, Hamilton Mervin Arthur Chapman '63, Renton, WA Erwin "Parke" Frizelle Jr. '63, Columbia Falls David Edward Wickstrom '63, Midlothian, VA Jack Moffitt Besso '64, Portland, OR Bonnie Jane Miller Franks '64, Missoula Gary Victor Guest '64, Kalispell Orville J. "Mick" O'Keefe '64, M.Ed. '71, Great Falls James Edward Oset '64, Billings Randolph George "Randy" Urbanec '64, Glendive David L. Majors '65, Stevensville Julius John Preite Jr. M.Ed. '65, Yucca Valley, CA Ronald William "Ron" Wachsmuth '65, Missoula Basil James Cook '66, Reno, NV Julia Louise Carlson Enman '66, M.Ed. '81, Culbertson

Culbertson
Edwin Carl Hebner '66, Stevensville
Marietta Johnstone '66, Bozeman
Hans Martin '66, Helena
Ronald Dale "Ron" Bradshaw '67, Billings
Marion D. Molander Pope '67, M.Ed. '89, Helena
Edward Cheong Mo Chang '67, M.S. '67, San
Francisco, CA

Cecil Eugene "Chris" Christopherson '67, Columbus, OH

Gerald Leroy "Gary" Hawthorne M.Ed. '67, Perry, IA

Sam Hillard Sperry Jr. '68, M.A. '71, Albuquerque, NM

Paul Thomas Dwight '69, Missoula Steven James Rickman '69, Laurel

1970s

Robert Dean "Bob" Anderson '70, Englewood, CO Madilyn C. "Sody" Bell Jones '70, Billings James O. "Jim" Larson '70, '72, Longview, WA Rodney A. "Rod" Norum M.S. '70, Ph.D. '75 Jean Hostetter Gollehon Bartley '71, Billings Billie Irene Muir Williams Gardner '71, Missoula Quentin Richard Schwartz M.Ed. '71, Eugene, OR Alf Martin "Trig" Tronstad '71, Westport, MA Terry L. Utter '71, Eureka Craig Vance Wilson '71, M.A. '73, Billings Grace Elaine Stempke Lorenz '72, Missoula Judy Louise Scott '72, M.A. '82, Missoula Kenneth Alan "Ken" Welt Ph.D. '73, Missoula Carol Lynn Peterson Flynn '74, Helena Timothy J. "Tim" McCarthy '74, Seattle, WA James A. "Jim" Oliver '74, Monahans, TX Richard Allen "Rich" Baars '75, Kalispell James Rodgers "Jim" Comstock '75, Burlingame, CA Harry Allen Brennan '76, Spokane, WA Elizabeth James Butler '76, Missoula Karin Johnson Lautzenheiser Heggen '76,

James Waldo Spangelo J.D. '76, Havre Curtis Jay Bradshaw '77, Henderson, NV Paul Steven Doescher M.S. '77, Corvallis, OR Kirk R. Johnson '77, '78, Bozeman Stephen Douglas "Steve" Wheat '77, Polson Maria Ann Aikin '78, '82, Milwaukie, OR Kathleen Ann "Kathy" duLac Cooney '78, Santa Monica, CA

1980s

Browning
Matthew Ray "Matt" McCale '82, M.Ed. '03,
Sand Coulee

Jeffrey Robert "Jeff" Seborg '84, Billings
Lynn Elaine Mahagin Dahl '85, Butte
Belany M. Gutknecht-Davis '85, Hamilton
Dana Chris Henderson '85, Kalispell
Jean Elizabeth Wilson Summers '86, Hamilton
William Lewis "Bill" Peterson Ed.D. '87,
Oro Valley, AZ
Carolyn Kembel Ennis J.D. '88, Whitefish
Samuel Allen Miller '88, Butte
Dorothy O'Neal Myers '88, Missoula
Walden Dean Rider '89, Browning

Keith V. Beattie '80, San Francisco, CA

Lois Ann Briden DeRoche Sharp M.Ed. '81,

Janet Lee Mink Drake '80, Ronan

1990s

Ester Anne Irene Chessin '90, Missoula
Delaine Sue Goeres Graff '90, Missoula
Edna Rose Everson Muir '90, Helena
Matthew Bryant "Matt" Walen '90, Cheyenne, WY
Kendra Elizabeth Roux Ballew '91, Bartlett, IL
Lynn Forrest Forbes '91, Missoula
Garland Jeffrey Thayer '92, Missoula
Richard Michael Saltus '93, Rathdrum, ID
James Ernest "Jim" "Papa" Van Nice '93, Missoula
Jennifer Marie Duddy Roberts '94, Florence
William Verne Rutledge '94, Hamilton
Darlene L. Hofeldt '95, Missoula
Kathryn Mary Morgan Sweeney '95, '97, Ph.D.
'01, Lonepine
Robin Gay Johnson '97, Great Falls

Laurie Ann Pitton-Wiley '99, Phoenix, AZ

2000s

Thomas Michael "Tom" Stock '00, Bakersfield, CA Kenny Lee Marjerrison '03, '06, Plains
Charles E. "Charlie" Nash '03, Glenview, IL
Janice Ahlin Clute '05, Drummond
Danielle R. "Dani" "Deeder" Dellerson Hayes '06, J.D. '10, Alexandria, VA
Kipling Thomas "Kip" Rand '09, '11, Joseph, OR

2010s

Lynette Kay Stein Chandler Ed.D. '10, Harlem Samuel Louis "Sam" Penzi '13, Whitefish Brian Fredrick Sather '14, Lolo Eric Scott Becker '15, Missoula Deborah Jane Alteneder '17, Missoula Marshall Alan Pablo '17, Missoula

Nancy Haedt Allen, Butte Jay William "Jaybird" Baumberger, Great Falls Dorothy Mae Luther Bock, Springfield, OR Connie A. Bowman, Missoula Kathryn "Kate" Neils Brinton, Eureka Jeffrey "Jeff" Brotman, Medina, WA Douglas Reynolds "Doug" Brown, Poulsbo, WA Edward John "Ed" Burghardt, Missoula LaRaine Thurston Sloan Claar, Missoula Helen Mabel Middlemist Clark, Stevensville Merrel Dare Clubb Jr., Missoula Elizabeth Anne "Beth" Barbour Cocchiarella, Liberty Lake, WA Mary Louise "Mary Lou" McElwain Cook, Big Sky Dorothy Eck, Bozeman Larry M. Elison, Bellingham, WA Alice Joan Clark Finnegan, Anaconda Bonawee Jean Brest Ford, Missoula Bruce E. Getter, Whitefish Harold Burton Gilbertson, Felton, CA Cleona Smith Green, Billings Robert Edward "Bob" Hanson, Proctor Robert George "Bob" Hatfield, Kalispell George Melvin "Jud" Heathcote, Spokane, WA Eric Werner Held, Missoula John "Jack" Hoeven, Minot, ND Russell Arthur "Russ" Klingler, Missoula William Lee "Bill" Lake, Phoenix, AZ Neil Conrad Livingstone Jr., Helena Valarie Ann "Val" Lockridge, Missoula Rhea Louise Bretthauer Blanchard Manlove, Missoula Judy Helen Morstein Martz, Butte Larry Dean Mulcihy, Carson, WA Joseph Agee "Joe" "Muss" Mussulman, Missoula Scott Douglas Nicholson, Missoula Mary "Jane" O'Loughlin Preuninger, Great Falls

Great Falls
Willard Charles "Bunk" Schmitt Jr., Great Falls
Neil Maynard Shook, Missoula
Charline H. Mullen Siphers, Missoula
Jeffrey James "Jeff" Speiser, Boise, ID
John George Stajcar, Butte
Helen Rita Harrington Steele, Butte
Ann Natalie Hanson Stephens, Kalispell
Matthew Michael "Matt" Tennis, Browning
Mary Cecelia "Cece" Kantack Dowdall Tyvand,

Patricia Ann "Pat" "Patsy" McKerlie Rapkoch,

John Stephen "Jack" Vukasin Jr., Las Vegas, NV Albert Lester "Les" Vining, Missoula JoAnn Robinson Woodgerd, Stevensville

Missoula

Downtown Missoula

Positive Changes for Future Grizzlies

With the coming of a new year, there is renewed excitement for positive life changes and goals, as well as looking forward to what new opportunities are waiting around the corner. In 2018, Downtown Missoula will continue to grow and see positive changes come to fruition that started in 2017. By the end of the year, Downtown will have nearly 500 new students living within its core along with a brand new hotel that will be welcoming guests and new retail/restaurant options for the community and visitors. The new Missoula public library will be started and even more development projects will emerge. The possibilities for Downtown's continued success seem to be endless!

While Downtown Missoula may not be the same Downtown you remember when you were attending the University of Montana, it has the same beautiful soul that has been so important to the community throughout the years – it's just

growing bigger and stronger. The Downtown Missoula Partnership (DMP) will continue to dedicate itself to promoting, supporting, and enhancing the vitality of Downtown as this positive growth and investment continues to happen. It's through DMP's mission and dedication to supporting the Heart of Missoula that Downtown will continue to be a place for current and future Grizzlies to enjoy!

SUPPORT DOWNTOWN!

The Missoula Downtown Foundation (MDF) is working to keep memories alive for current UM students, future generations of UM graduates, and alumni who return to Missoula to visit. Projects such as replacing the Caras Park canopy, updating the Downtown Master Plan, and other major goals for Downtown are seeking funding.

Visit missouladowntown.com/MDF or call 406-543-4238 for more information.



@msladowntown



Missoula Downtown



218 E. Main Street • Missoula, MT 59802 • 406.543.4238
MissoulaDowntown.com

Where Missoula's Heart Beats



Support Downtown Missoula when you register your vehicle this year!

Choose one of Montana's newest license plate designs and \$20 from each plate helps the MISSOULA DOWNTOWN FOUNDATION fund projects to keep Downtown Missoula vibrant and a place for all to enjoy!

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

\$20 - voluntary subscription

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\$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/donate**.

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



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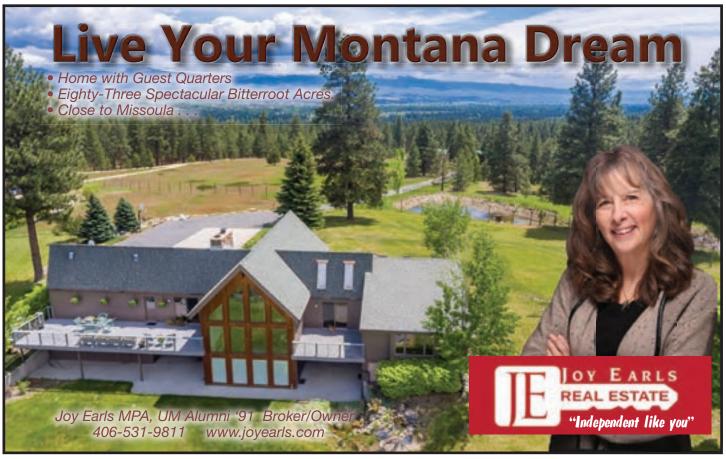
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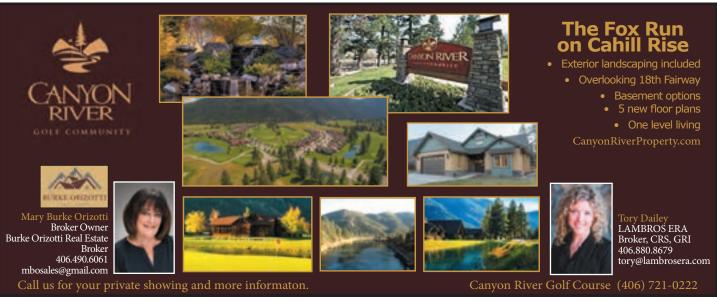
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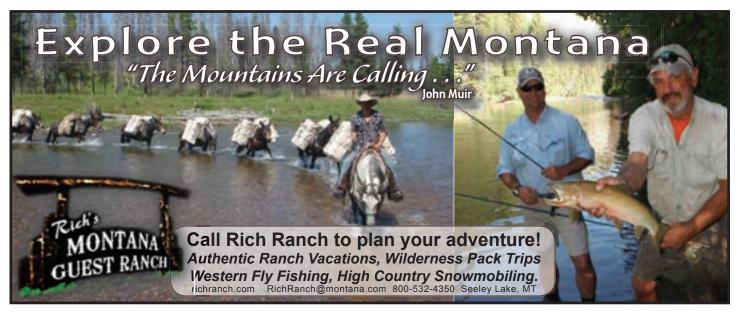




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Finding True Identity

CCORDING TO TOBIN MILLER SHEARER, University of Montana history professor and director of African-American Studies, Montana is the least-black state in the Union.

"We aren't the most white," he says. "That's Vermont." But there is a rich and vibrant African-American history in Montana, and a vital segment of that is UM's Black Student Union and African-American Studies program.

In fact, UM's program – which celebrates its 50th anniversary in 2018 – is the third-oldest in the nation, following only universities in Los Angeles and Long Beach, California.

"That was surprising to me, because this is Montana," says UM student Meshayla Cox, president of the Black Student Union and a double major in African-American studies and Spanish. "Stereotypically you wouldn't think something like that existed here.

"I come from Southern California, and I grew up around all kinds of races and cultures. But when I came to school at

Montana, this is where I found my identity. This is where I found my connection to who I am. And that's amazing."

IN THE FALL OF 1967, Esther Thamani Akbar, Dee Daniels, Herb White and Maceo "Mace" Gray founded the Black Student Union. They pressed UM President Robert Pantzer to start a Black Studies Program, and in May 1968, Chicago community activist Ulysses Doss was hired to take charge. On his first day, he hung a sign on his office door, proclaiming him "Director of Black Studies."

"Back in the late '60s, it was the height of the Black Power movement, the height of racial tensions in our country. The Vietnam War is going on. All of these things are swirling around," says Murray Pierce, who graduated from UM in 1979 and currently serves as a mentor to the BSU. "And in this little bucolic city, people of color had the initiative to say, 'No matter where I am, I'm going to be who I am."

Doss is renowned as an incredible educator, and students would pack lecture halls to hear him speak.

Shearer believes two keys to Doss' tenure made the program thrive at UM. First, he offered classes to anyone in the community who showed up, noting that people would come in droves because there were so few resources at that time to become educated in these areas.

The second key, he adds, was the communal support from host families, who would welcome black students into their homes to break bread, build relationships and learn from one another. Two longtime supporters, Larry and Dianna Riley, were crucial in this aspect.



Meshayla Cox sits inside the Watani House, which serves as headquarters for UM's Black Student Union. Behind her is a display of photos from 1974, when the BSU completed a re-creation of the 1897 Great Bicycle Ride of the 25th Infantry Bicycle Corps, which went from Fort Missoula to St. Louis. The infantry tested a theory that bicycles would replace horses in transporting men for the Army.

"People were forced to address issues of race in ways they hadn't before," Shearer says, "The program arose at a time that gave people skills and language to talk about the issues they were confronting around their kitchen tables and at family gatherings."

AFRICAN-AMERICAN STUDIES AND THE

BSU have evolved over the years, and the education and awareness they bring are as relevant as ever, especially to students at UM.

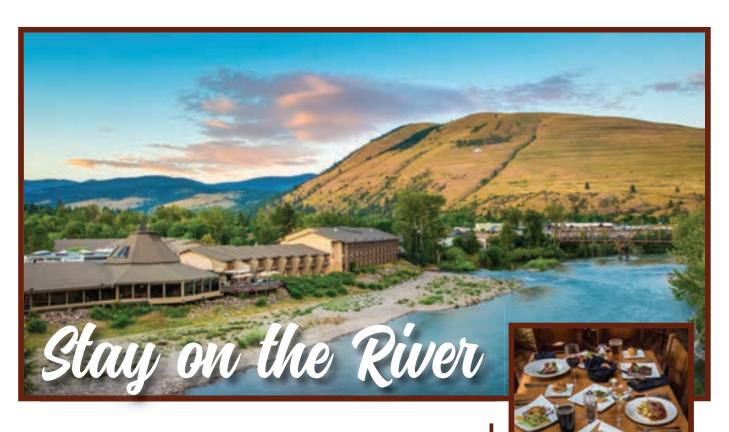
"I think it's almost more important for people in places like Montana – where it's predominantly white – to be exposed to different cultures, specifically African-American culture, because it is integral to our history," Cox says. "It's important to have a well-rounded perspective on the black experience and how that relates to them."

UM now offers a major in African-

American Studies, along with a minor. In honor of the 50th anniversary, Cox is spearheading the Black Solidarity Summit, which is set for mid-February. People from across the country will gather in Missoula to reflect on the past and plan for the next 50 years of African-American Studies at UM.

"We help students develop skills to express themselves and to do that in an area that is oftentimes more defined by heat rather than light," Shearer says. "Our students bring light to the topic. And they're equipped to do so very well."

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