

First Monday



*From the desk of: Marilynn Miller, President and CEO
Monday, April 6, 2009, 8:00 a.m.*

First Monday is provided to friends of Montana State University Billings Foundation to advance the cause of philanthropy.

On Tuesday, April 14, you are invited to help celebrate 40 years of excellence in education in west Billings at the College of Technology (COT). From 1969 to 1994, the COT was known as the Vo-Tech Center. With addition of the school to Montana State University Billings in 1994, and the completion of the new Health Sciences Building last year, the COT continues to serve a vital role in education for trade and industry jobs. The celebration on April 14 will be from 5 to 7 p.m. in the Great Room of the Health Sciences Building, 3300 Central Avenue. Please RSVP to Alumni Director Julie Seedhouse by calling 247-5780, or e-mail jseedhouse@msubillings.edu.

Ashlee Young, a Montana State University Billings student, will be playing at New York City's Carnegie Hall on April 12. Young, a piano performance major from Billings, qualified for the Carnegie Hall performance by winning the collegiate division of the American Protégé International Piano and Strings Competition.

Thank you, donors! Philanthropic gift highlights from March 2009:

- **The Dennis & Phyllis Washington Foundation** contributed \$10,000 for student scholarships.
- **First Interstate Bank** gave \$5,000 to the Center for Business Enterprise for the National Family Business Seminar.
- **Brenda & Joe Kirkland** pledged \$5,000 to the Soccer Complex Initiative.
- **Pat Jaffray** gave \$3,333 to the College of Technology Endowment and to an unrestricted fund (\$1,000).
- **Sharon Ille (1966)** contributed an additional \$2,000 to the Ille Family History Scholarship Endowment and \$525 to support the Ille Family History Scholarship award for 2009-2010.
- **David Kem & Judith Raines** donated \$2,500 to the Florence Steele Kem Scholarship.
- **Monica Holliday** gave an in-kind donation to the Art Department of 250 commercial slip casting molds valued at \$2,250.
- **Gary H. Hines** gifted \$2,000 to the College of Technology Dean's Discretionary Fund.
- **Robert Swinehart** donated a 1992 Ford Explorer valued at \$1,900 for use by the Auto Body Tech students at the College of Technology.
- **Westmoreland Resources Inc.** donated \$1,750 for the Westmoreland Resources Hardin/Big Horn County Scholarship.

Please Turn to Reverse Side ⇨

- **Joseph S. Sample** gave \$1,000 to the Bruce H. Carpenter Non-Traditional Endowed Scholarship in memory of Dr. Bruce H. Carpenter.

The 27th annual Outstanding Alumni Awards, held Saturday, March 28, celebrated seven high-achieving MSU Billings alumni. The honorees were:

- **Outstanding Alumna: Judge Susan P. Watters**, State Judicial District Court Judge, 13th Judicial District, and Yellowstone County Family Drug Treatment Court Judge
- **Merit Medallion: Lloyd D. Mickelson**, Realtor, Prudential Floberg Realtors
- **J. Cody Montalban Award for Outstanding Service: Darryl Rensmon**, Vice-President, Chief Information Officer, Morrison-Maierle, Inc., and President, of Morrison-Maierle Systems Corp.
- **Recognition for Exceptional Achievement: Lisa Reid Perry**, Community Affairs Manager, PPL Montana
- **Recognition for Exceptional Achievement: Mark W. Thompson**, Senior Deputy Director, Advanced Systems Group, High Performance Technologies, Inc.
- **Recognition for Exceptional Achievement: Edward F. Parisian**, Regional Director, Rocky Mountain Region, Senior Executive Service, Bureau of Indian Affairs
- **Recognition for Exceptional Achievement: Greg A. Krueger**, Development Director for The Downtown Billings Partnership, Inc.

The Montana National History Day competition for middle school and high school students comes to MSU Billings on Thursday, April 23 from 4-7:30 p.m. This will be Montana's first statewide competition for National History Day. National History Day has a long-standing reputation for excellence since the early 1970s, but it has just reached Montana.

The National History Day competition is the culmination of a year-long program that uses history to challenge students in grades 4-12 to improve their research, analytical and communication skills. Either individually or in groups, students select a topic and conduct research on it based on a broad theme. This year, the theme is "Individuals in History: Actions and Legacies." During competition, students present their findings in research or creative papers, museum-style exhibits, original dramatic performances or multimedia documentaries and even websites.

The April Library Lecture, "Holeshoot or Loop Out? Olympic BMX and the Future of Action Sports" on April 16 from 12:15- 2:00 pm. in room 205 of the Liberal Arts building will be presented by Dr. Joy Honea, Assistant Professor of Sociology.

To make a gift online go to <http://www.msubillings.edu/foundation/> & click "Make-a-Gift."

Prefer e-mail? If you would prefer to receive *First Monday* and *Corks & Cuisine* electronically, please contact Darla Crumbaker (dcrumbaker@msubillings.edu).