

First Monday

*From the desk of: Marilynn Miller, President and CEO
Monday, December 5, 2005, 8:00 a.m.*

More than \$19,000,000 has been committed to *People, Pride & Promise: The Campaign for Excellence at Montana State University-Billings* since the campaign started 4 years ago! Everyone who receives this newsletter has helped. Thank you! Under the leadership of campaign chair Bruce Parker, we will continue to encourage support of campaign initiatives through December 2006.

Business Professors Receive International Award. Following a rigorous peer review process by a panel of expert reviewers, Montana State University-Billings College of Business professors Patricia Holman and Tom Hinthorne were awarded the prestigious Best Case Award at the annual international meeting of the North American Case Research Association (NACRA) in Massachusetts. Holman and Hinthorne co-authored the award-winning case, “Custom Rides and Racing,” with Adrienne Mayer, a recent College of Business accounting graduate and co-owner of Custom Rides and Racing of Billings. “Custom Rides and Racing” was unanimously selected as the winning case from a field of 111 cases deemed eligible by NACRA.

The MSU-Billings College of Technology (COT) is one of the true success stories in higher education in Montana. In the past five years, the COT has grown from an enrollment of 500 in 2000 to more than 1,040 in fall 2005. Due in large part to current and projected training and re-training needs of regional business and industry, continued steady growth in enrollment is forecast by MSU-Billings Chancellor Ron Sexton and COT Dean John Cech. The COT must expand so it can address these needs. On November 17, the Montana Board of Regents approved the University’s request for permission to purchase 6.14 acres of vacant land adjacent to the COT campus on Billings’ booming West End. One primary reason the Regents granted permission to buy the \$1.5 million parcel was an impressive total of \$525,000 in pledges from community philanthropists and agencies to aid in the purchase. Everyone at the University, the COT, and the Foundation extends **deep gratitude to the following donors** for sharing the University’s firm conviction that growth of the existing COT campus is critical.

- **Stillwater Mining Company:** \$100,000
- **Hines Buildings Limited Partnership:** \$150,000
- **The Judith C. & Sam E. McDonald, Jr. Family:** \$100,000
- **Bottrell Family Investments LP:** \$25,000

- **Wyo-Ben, Inc.:** \$25,000
- **William P. Underriner:** \$25,000
- **Big Sky Economic Development Authority:** \$25,000
- **Big Sky Economic Development Corporation:** \$25,000
- **MSU-Billings Foundation Board of Trustees:** \$50,000

Many thanks also to these additional November donors:

- **Gainan's Flowers & Garden Center** pledged \$20,500. A portion of the gift will establish the Gainan Family Scholarship Endowment in memory of Elizabeth "G'ma G" Gainan ('38) to benefit a female business major. Gainan's has also generously allocated a portion of their gift to provide flowers and decorations for the Wine & Food Festival.
- **Gregg ('84) & Marcia ('80) Hafner** contributed \$9,983 to establish the Gregg & Marcia Hafner Endowed Scholarship for gay or lesbian students.
- **Erna Abrahamson** added \$7,199 to the Abrahamson Family Endowed Scholarship which benefits non-traditional students from Montana and Wyoming.
- **Dan & Darla Gretch** pledged \$6,000 to the People, Pride & Promise Campaign. Dan is assistant professor of chemistry in the Biology & Physical Sciences Department and a member of the Foundation Board of Trustees.
- **Kay Foster & Mike Matthew** pledged \$5,000 to benefit the MSU-Billings Foundation Operating Endowment.
- **The Montana Society of Public Accountants** donated \$5,000 to be added to the Montana Society of Public Accountants Scholarship Fund for accounting students.
- **Pat Jaffray** pledged \$4,000 to the College of Technology Endowment Fund.
- **Jim Gainan** pledged \$3,000 to the MSU-Billings Foundation Operating Endowment and an annual unrestricted fund. Jim is a member of the Foundation Board of Trustees.
- **Linda ('69) & Phil Boggio** pledged \$2,500 to the General Scholarship Fund.
- **Gary Behm**, Professor of Music Performance at MSU-Billings, pledged \$2,210 to the Music Department.
- **Kermit Hummel** added \$2,000 to the Adella S. Hummel Memorial Endowed Scholarship for non-traditional students majoring in special education.

Happy Holidays! My best wishes go to each of you for a lovely holiday season.

Prefer e-mail? If you would prefer to receive *First Monday* electronically, please contact Campaign Associate Joy Hayworth (jhayworth@msubillings.edu).

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

Montana State University-Billings Foundation ▲ 1500 University Drive ▲ Billings, MT 59101
 Phone: 406-657-2244 ▲ Fax: 406-657-1600 ▲ E-mail: foundation@msubillings.edu