

First Monday



*From the desk of: Marilynn Miller, President and CEO
Monday, February 2, 2009, 8:00 a.m.*

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

The 2nd annual **Chicks in Science** event will be Saturday, February 14, 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. in Alterowitz Gym on the MSUB Campus. A huge success last year, this event, presented by the MSUB College of Professional Studies and Lifelong Learning, will provide hands-on, minds-on activities to introduce girls in 4th to 8th grades to careers in science, technology, engineering, and math; encourage them to pursue educational studies in these areas; and facilitate interaction between girls and professional women in scientific disciplines. Admission is free and registration is not necessary.

Sometime between 4th and 8th grade, many girls start losing interest in math and science, but career projections indicate that many emerging careers will require an understanding of science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) and the problem-solving, critical thinking, adaptive, and collaborative skills gained through the study of these subjects. Psychological barriers, gender expectations, and the “coolness” factor can act as barriers to the pursuit of STEM education and careers. **Chicks in Science** strives to abolish negative attitudes about math and science for girls, who are historically underrepresented in STEM careers.

There will be 50 booths with hands-on, minds-on activities. Each booth will be operated by a female science professional, giving participants one-on-one contact with important role models. And because a big part of the goal of **Chicks in Science** is to remind girls that it’s possible to be feminine and smart, there will also be free manicures, chocolate, lots of pink, and door prizes. Participants are encouraged to bring their moms or other important mentors.

Among the many community sponsors for **Chicks in Science** are:

- **Anonymous** – \$5,000
- **Valley Credit Union** – \$2,500
- **PPL Montana LLC** – \$1,500
- **Energy 4 Tomorrow** – \$1,500
- **Montana BILT** – \$1,500
- **Billings Clinic** – \$1,000
- **Computers Unlimited** – \$1,000

The 2009 Yellowjacket Athletics Hall of Fame and Distinction will be held Friday, February 20. The 2009 Hall of Fame and Distinction class includes the entire 1999 MSUB Elite Eight women's basketball team; Gina Langer – volleyball ('00); Greg Anderson – gymnastics ('86); Roy McPipe – men's basketball ('74); and Mike Conroy as Coach of the Year ('68). For more information on this event, please contact Denise Wynia in the MSUB Athletic Department at (406) 657-2369.

MSUB Foundation values all donors who help Montana State University Billings achieve its educational goals. Some recent gifts:

- **Nan C. Friesen (1967)**, a recently deceased alumna, bequeathed \$50,000 through her estate for the Nan and Ben Friesen Endowed Scholarship for Montana women majoring in English.
- **Deborah McDonald** gave \$25,000 to the Judith Covert & Sam E. McDonald, Jr. Family College of Business Excellence Fund. This fund provides resources to help assure that the COB will continue to have the highest quality faculty and staff, enhanced curricula, specialized knowledge, and flexibility in responding to opportunities needed for success in today's business world.
- **Mike G. (1971) & Joan E. Matz** donated \$25,000 to the Matz Properties LLC Endowed Scholarship Fund for Montana or Wyoming residents majoring in business.
- **ConocoPhillips** gave \$10,000 to the College of Technology Faculty Excellence Fund for the Process Plant Technology Program. This fund helps COT students learn from the best as they pursue careers in the energy sector.
- **Michael L. Ross** contributed \$4,000 more to the Mike Ross Endowed Scholarship for students with financial need.
- **Darryl P. (1999) & Jamie J. Rensmon** gave \$2,000 to the Alumni Association Endowed Scholarship fund and a \$500 unrestricted gift.
- **The Homer A. & Mildred S. Scott Foundation** donated \$2,500 for a scholarship to be awarded to a student pursuing a degree in rehabilitation, mental health counseling, or a human services field.
- **Kris & Lawrence Carpenter** contributed \$2,000 to the MSU Billings Foundation General Scholarship Endowment.
- **Jeannie McIsaac-Tracy (1993) & Nate Tracy (1994)** donated \$2,000 to the Curt Kochner Endowed Scholarship for Student Leaders.
- **Moyers Law PC** gave \$2,000 to the Soccer Complex Initiative.
- **Beverly T. (1991) & Siegel Ross** donated \$2,000 to the MSU Billings Foundation operating endowment fund to help the foundation continue its good work to help MSUB achieve excellence.

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).