



First Monday



*From the desk of: Marilynn Miller, President and CEO
Monday, February 7, 2005, 8:00 a.m.*

Reno Charette, MSU-Billings' Big Horn Teacher Projects Director, was named Montana's new Director of Indian Affairs by Governor Brian Schweitzer on Thursday, January 20. Ms. Charette has more than a decade of experience in grant administration for federal programs serving American Indian populations. She is a member of the Crow Nation and a descendent of the Turtle Mountain Chippewa. In addition to her administrative responsibilities at MSU-Billings, Ms. Charette designed and coordinated an annual Summer Institute featuring cultural topics.

Thank You! Below are some of the generous donors who have made contributions since my January letter:

- **Wayne Hansen, DDS ('52)** donated \$5,000 to the Foundation's endowment fund. Dr. Hansen is a dentist in Billings.
- **Jennifer ('83) & Steve Corning** contributed \$2,500 to the Steve & Jennifer Corning Endowed Scholarship Fund. Jennifer is a member of the MSU-Billings Foundation Board of Trustees.
- **Carina Lange** pledged \$5,000 to the College of Business Faculty Excellence Endowment and an unrestricted fund. Carina is Trust Officer with First Interstate Bank in Billings.
- **Steve & Traci Baum** contributed \$2,000 to the Women's Soccer Program and Women's Soccer Endowment Fund through the MSU-Billings Department of Intercollegiate Athletics.
- **Westmoreland Resources, Inc.** pledged \$1,750 to the Westmoreland Resources in Hardin/Big Horn County Scholarship Fund.
- **Anderson ZurMuehlen & Co., PC** gave \$1,500 to the Anderson ZurMuehlen & Co., PC Scholarship Fund.
- **Tom Stusek** gave \$1,500 to the Men's Basketball Program. Tom is an attorney with Harper & Stusek in Billings.
- **Frank & Kathy Cross** gave \$1,000 to the MSU-Billings Foundation's endowment. Frank is president of Reporter Office Products in Billings.

- **Pierce Companies and Pierce Flooring & Design Center** donated \$2,000 to the Annual Drive for Excellence, unrestricted.
- **Jane Scheidecker ('74)** gave \$1,000 to the Modern Languages Program through the Annual Drive for Excellence. Jane is the Director of Business Development for Lane Community College in Eugene, Oregon.
- **Hazel Walter** gave \$1,000 to the Oliver W. Peterson Math Endowed Scholarship. Dr. Oliver Peterson was a mathematics professor at MSU-Billings (then Eastern Montana College) from 1947 to 1973. Hazel and her sisters have contributed consistently and generously to this scholarship in memory of their father.

MSU-Billings Reaching Out.

- The Jacket Student Ambassadors are collecting blankets and warm clothing for runaway and homeless youth in the Billings Tumbleweed program.
- MSU-Billings Associate Professor Suneetha deSilva is working with the Montana State University-Billings Office for Community Involvement, which is composed of Jacket Ambassadors, other student volunteers, faculty, and staff, to collect donations of clothing and school supplies for orphans in Sri Lanka.
- For the fourth year, MSU-Billings' Montana Center on Disabilities is sponsoring "High School High Tech", a project designed to provide activities and opportunities in high tech fields for youth with disabilities. In addition to teaching technology skills, the project fosters career development with internships and job-shadowing opportunities.
- Once again, MSU-Billings hosted the traditional Martin Luther King, Jr. Bell Ringing Ceremony for the city of Billings on January 17, 2005. Pre-ceremonial activities began at 9:45 a.m. with an opening prayer and dedication. At 10:00 a.m., the bell in Peaks to Plains Park began to ring, in synchronization with the national bell ringing, once every ten seconds for each ten-year period since Dr. King's birth. After the ceremony, a dialogue about Martin Luther King, Jr. was held in the Student Union Building.

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.

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