

# First Monday

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*From the desk of: Marilynn Miller, President and CEO  
Monday, October 3, 2005, 8:00 a.m.*

**Happy Fall.** Deep green, grassy expanses in Peaks to Plains Park and the commons between McMullen and Petro Halls provide a striking visual ground for the blazing color of fall flowers and trees and shrubs beginning to turn shades of yellow, orange and red. The crisp mornings still give way to warm, sunny afternoons—but the scent of fall is unmistakably in the air. I hope your fall is as beautiful as the MSU-Billings campus is right now.

**Dr. Lacy Receives First Pippenger Award.** In recognition of his work to propel MSU-Billings into the forefront of online education in Montana, Dr. Kirk Lacy, Interim Dean of the College of Professional Studies and Lifelong Learning, was given the first **Walter and Charlotte Pippenger Excellence in Innovation Award** at MSU-Billings' 2005 opening meeting for faculty and staff. The award, which includes a \$5,000 gift to the recipient, was funded by Dick and Cheri Cox of Billings, in honor of Cheri's parents. Mr. & Mrs. Cox were on hand to help Chancellor Ron Sexton present the award. Dr. Lacy has been instrumental in the design and exponential growth of online education and educational outreach programs.

A graduate of MSU-Billings with a doctorate in adult and higher education administration from MSU-Bozeman, Dr. Lacy has been part of the MSU-Billings online program since its inception in 1998. At that time, there were five courses online. There now are 240 separate courses in 38 academic disciplines, including complete programs: four certificate programs, four associate degrees, five bachelor degrees and four master degrees. The program has 7,500 enrollments, including time- and place-bound students scattered throughout 55 of Montana's 56 counties, 29 states, and four foreign countries.

**MSU-Billings Faculty Art Show.** The annual Montana State University-Billings Faculty Art Show is up through October 7 in the Northcutt-Steele Gallery on the first floor of the Liberal Arts building. This year's featured artist is professor Peter Whitson Warren. Included in the exhibit are works by professors Brian Cast, Neil Jussila, Dennis Kern, Connie M. Landis and John Pollack, as well as art by emeriti faculty Ben Steele and Marcia Selsor.

**We extend our gratitude to the following recent donors:**

- **Scott Stratford** has added \$13,500 to the Mary Maxon Stratford Endowed Scholarship Fund. Scott established the scholarship in memory of his mother, a 1938 alumna of Eastern Montana Normal School.
- **Dan Carter** committed \$6,500 to the Chancellor's Undergraduate Endowed Scholarship Fund. Dan is Director of Government Relations and Publications at MSU-Billings.
- **Joe & Christa McClure** pledged \$6,250 to benefit the College of Technology Faculty Excellence Endowment and an unrestricted fund for immediate needs. Joe is a member of

the Foundation Board of Trustees and executive director of Big Sky Economic Development Authority.

- **Angela Marshall Hofmann ('92)** pledged \$2,500 for the Modern Languages Department, the College of Business International Studies Program, and an unrestricted fund. Angela is a member of the National Campaign Leadership Council and Director of International Trade for Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. She and her family live in Maryland.
- **ExxonMobil** gave \$2,000 to the Process Plant Technology Scholarship Fund. The scholarship will provide books and tuition assistance to a student enrolled in the Process Plant Technology Program at the College of Technology.
- **Dr. Kent Frette, DDS ('73)** has given \$1,000 to the Honors Program. The Honors Program, created in 1997, provides enhanced learning for exceptionally motivated undergraduate students. Kent, a dentist in Owatonna, Minnesota, is a member of the National Campaign Leadership Council.
- **Sign Pro** gave \$1,000 to the new MSU-Billings Baseball Program, the only NCAA baseball program in Montana. Beginning with the 2006 spring season, the Yellowjacket baseball team will compete in the Heartland Conference.
- **Gale Berry, Briggs Distributing Co., Inc., Bruce & Melodie Haagenon, Tom & Kim Hauptman, Dr. Maurice Johnson, Tom Stusek, John Wilcox, and an anonymous donor** have each given \$1,000 to support the MSU-Billings Men's Basketball Program.

**“Healthy Living Series” Free Public Seminars.** The Montana State University-Billings College of Technology, in partnership with the Yellowstone City-County Health Department, is offering a “Healthy Living Series” of free public seminars beginning in October and continuing through April. Each seminar will be Tuesday from 7:00-9:00 p.m. at the College of Technology, 3803 Central Avenue. Registration is not required. Coming up:

**October 4** - Kathy Woodward, preventive health specialist at the Yellowstone City-County Health Department: *Methamphetamine Addiction: Who, What and Why?*

**October 11** - Jeanne Garber, registered dietician: *Portion Distortion.*

**October 18** - Tamalee Eberle, RN, PHN; Kim Bailey, RN, PHN; and Molly Hale, health educator: *Making the Connection.* The seminar will focus on the interconnectedness of HIV, sexually transmitted diseases, and Hepatitis A, B & C.

**October 25** - Ellen Wangsmo, with Yellowstone City-County Health Department: *The Heart Truth—Heart Health for Women.* Ellen will discuss women's risk factors for heart disease as well as an action plan for heart health, and practical ways to reduce the risk of heart disease.

**November 1** - John R. Puckett, Yellowstone City-County Health Department emergency response coordinator: *Personal Disaster Preparedness.* John will share tools for families to prepare to survive on their own for up to 72 hours after a major disaster.

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

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

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