Happy Holidays from all of us at EVST!

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GOOD NEWS ITEM

1. First universal climate change agreement ever has been adopted!
   Even if you are buried in papers and final prep, hope you are celebrating this historic event! Read more online. Thanks to Abby Huseth for her updates from Paris! EVST was well represented, with Abby and Professor Len Broberg in attendance, as well as several EVST alums!

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AROUND EVST

1. Defenses continue this week!
   Ben Donatelle presents “Instituting Collaborative Conservation in Federal Land Management.”
   WHEN: Wednesday, December 16, at 10:30 a.m.
   WHERE: LA 306.

   WHEN: Thursday, December 17, at 3:30 p.m.
   WHERE: Payne Family Native American Center, room 9 (basement).

   Gabrielle Ostermayer presents “Legal Tools for Local Control of Oil and Gas Development: Successes, Challenges, and Opportunities.”
   WHEN: Friday, December 18, 2 p.m.

2. Big changes for Blue Skies Campaign and EVST alum.
   EVST alum Nick Engelfried has led the Blue Skies Campaign for four years, focusing community concern on coal exports. However, Nick will be taking the campaign elsewhere, and is glad that other community groups will be able to continue their leadership in this campaign.

   The community-based part of Blue Skies will merge with 350-Missoula, a grassroots organization working to stop dirty fossil fuels and support clean energy. The university-based part of Blue Skies' work, engaging students in the fight against fossil fuel pollution, will be taken over by Reinvest Montana, the fast-growing campaign to divest UM from fossil fuel companies. Learn more at Reinvest Montana.

   Nick says, “It's been a great privilege for me working with people in Missoula and across Montana to stop coal exports these last four years. This fight is far from over and other leaders will be taking over as I transition out of this role.”

3. Congratulations to Matt Quinn!
   Congratulations to Matt Quinn, EVST BA 2013, who has just been accepted into the Masters in Environmental Management Program at Western State Colorado University.

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FEATURED EVENT (See www.umt.edu/conservationcalendar for more)

1. Enjoy Winter Break!
**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

1. **Campus and local community invited to help welcome International Students.**
   The English Language Institute (ELI) at UM seeks volunteers during spring semester 2016 to share culture, language, and friendship with students from around the world for its Community Conversation Partner Program. The Community Conversation Partner Program pairs ELI students with Missoula locals and UM students. Participants in this program meet for eight weeks in one-hour sessions and enjoy sports events, game nights, tours, and other activities.

   UM’s ELI has been a part of the Office of International Programs for more than 20 years and serves non-native English speakers by helping them improve language and academic skills. For more information or to request an application, call ELI Program Coordinator Rae Brouwer at 406-243-6141 or email Rachel Brouwer (Rachel.brouwer@mso.umt.edu).

   Meanwhile, the Missoula International Friendship Program (MIFP) seeks volunteers to become community friends to a growing number of international students and scholars who will begin studies at UM in the spring.

   To complement their campus experience, MIFP provides a structured opportunity for students to meet local residents and share leisure and family activities once a month for the first two semesters of their University experience. Since this is not a homestay, community friends have no financial obligations for the students or scholars. Many international students want to get to know Americans on a more personal level and are eager to share their culture. MIFP provides support and activities for community friends and their students/scholars.

   Applications are available online. For more information, call Foreign Student & Scholar Services at (406) 243-2226. Completed applications should be submitted by Saturday, January 23, 2016, to be eligible for matching this spring.

**EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES**

1. **Climate Change: What Does it Mean For Missoula? December 17.**
   Wild Propaganda presents a panel on “Climate Change: What Does it Mean For Missoula?” with Diana L. Six, PhD, Professor of Forest Entomology at UM, Paul G. Smith, DO, Director Pediatric Pulmonary and Critical Care at Community Medical Center and Amy Cilimburg, MS, Director, Climate Smart Missoula.
   WHEN: Thursday, December 17, 6-7 p.m.
   WHERE: Imagine Nation Brewing, 1151 W. Broadway, Missoula.

2. **Tour of Wildlife Conservation Ranch in the Bitterroot. December 23.**
   Visit MPG Ranch to learn about our current projects and long-term goals. Driving tour is limited to accessible roads and by weather. Plan to spend some time walking and dress for the weather. Each tour is limited to six participants. Email Josh Lisbon or call (406) 396-6285 for more information and to sign up.
   WHEN: Wednesday, December 23, from 1 – 3:30 p.m.
WHERE: MPG Ranch.

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INTERNSHIPS

1. Women’s Voices for the Earth seeks research help.
   Women's Voices for the Earth needs help with some research projects. A small stipend will be available. If you are interested, please email Jamie.

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FUNDING SOURCES

1. Ridge Research Awards. Apply now!
   The Ridge Library, housed at the Learning Center at St. Patrick Hospital, is accepting scholarship applications. The Ridge Research Awards foster student research that utilizes the resources in the Ridge Collection and other resources. Two categories of Awards will be made, one limited to undergraduate students and the other open to graduate students. Up to four awards of $1000 each will be made annually.
   For this round of scholarships, applications related to narrative medicine, storytelling, climate change and health, health and healthcare disparities, suicide and community response to suicide, and social determinants of health are particularly encouraged, although all topics that fit within the general guidelines will be considered. A focus on these issues in the Missoula region is acceptable but not required. “Research” includes student creative works that involve exploration at the nexus of health/healthcare and humanities.
   Applications are being accepted NOW. Please see the attached flyers for full details.

   Are you age 21-35 with a wild idea for a social venture that can ignite positive social change? Does the idea of unplugging in the wilderness to create your vision entice you?
   Wild Gift takes budding social entrepreneurs on a deep wilderness trip, gives them startup capital ($10,000) and expert mentorship to send them soaring.
   We are currently seeking Fellows for our Climate Change Collective Class of 2016. The CCC will support social entrepreneurs, creating early-stage break-through approaches that will help adaptation to and/or mitigation of the impact of climate change on natural and human systems.
   Using wilderness experiences as a springboard, Wild Gift’s 16-month Fellowship provides mentoring, seed funding, and a collaborative network of support. Our unique program fosters grit, integrity and know-how critical to the long-term success of groundbreaking ventures.
   Wild Gift is the only organization dedicated solely to accelerating sustainable social entrepreneurship by incorporating wilderness immersion as a central part of the program.
   Apply online at wildgift.org.
   WHEN: Apply by January 1, 2016.
   WHERE: Anywhere.

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HOUSING

1. Share friendly, beautiful house in Rattlesnake neighborhood.
Share the Chalet -- a big, lovely house in the Rattlesnake: wood floors, cathedral ceilings, fireplace, three stories, a deer or two in the backyard. The bedroom available has bamboo floors and french doors out to the deck and some mod Scandinavian furniture. We are a group of friendly, mature, adventurous folks, sharing the house cooperatively; age range late 20s - 50s. $490 per month. **Full details, including photos, may be seen on Craigslist.** Please email Karen if you are interested.

2. **Writing retreat in exchange for house-sitting in the Bitterroot. February 3-21, 2016.**
   I need someone to stay in a rustic wood-heat-only house, 7 miles southeast of Hamilton, and care for 3 cats and 10 sheep. Good hiking right out the door, great stars on clear nights, a quiet, beautiful retreat. There is hot running water indoors, including a shower, but no toilet, just an outhouse. No internet access nor television, but there is electricity, a nice large desk, and lots of reference books. I'm severely chemically sensitive, so no fragrances nor fragranced products allowed. If interested, please email Moma.

**MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS AND OTHER FUN EVENTS**

1. **Native Christmas - Spirit of Giving Round Dance. December 18.**
   The Missoula Urban Indian Health Center and Human Resource Development Council invites you to their Spirit of Giving Round Dance. Mountain of Giving will be distributing present to participants. There will be a potluck with main dish provided. Also, bring cakes or cupcakes for the cake walk. Our children love this! There will be door prizes. Singers are needed! Please contact Dana Kingfisher at 829-9515, extension 109, for more information.
   WHEN: Friday, December 18, from 5:30 – 8:30 p.m.
   WHERE: Home Arts Building, Western Montana Fairgrounds, Missoula.

2. **Bitterroot Water Forum Holiday Party. December 16.**
   Celebrate another year of working for clean water in the Bitterroot. Appetizers and drinks will be served.
   WHEN: Wednesday, December 16, from 5 – 7:30 p.m.
   WHERE: Bitterroot Valley Board of Realtors Building, 224 N. 4 Street, Hamilton.

3. **Lolo Watershed Group Holiday Party. December 16.**
   Join the group for music, food, beverages, silent auction items, news from the watershed and more.
   WHEN: Wednesday, December 16:
   Happy half hour from 6:30 – 7 p.m.
   Program and Celebrations from 7-9 p.m.
   WHERE: Lolo Community Center, Highway 93, just south of Lolo.

5. **Rankin Peace Center Holiday Celebration. December 19.**
   JRPC would like to share the spirit of the season with you. Enjoy holiday food, drink, and music with us. We also will be giving a 25% discount on all Fair Trade items in the Olive Branch store for all members and volunteers on that day. Season’s Greetings, and our heartfelt wishes for Peace in the New Year!
   WHEN: Saturday, December 19, from 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.
   WHERE: The Olive Branch, 519 S. Higgins, Missoula.
This Newsline prepared by Vicki Watson and Theresa Duncan. Please send any comments here.