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1. Selway-Bitterroot-Frank Church Wilderness Fnd annual gathering & auction, Feb 26
2. Grow your own food at a community garden near you – sign up by March 23

GOOD NEWS ITEM
1. Local food security nonprofit gets grant award
   Have you heard the news? CFAC (Community Food and Ag Coalition) was awarded a major federal grant to expand and enhance our outreach to beginning farmers and ranchers! This Beginning Farmer and Rancher Development Program grant is the first of its kind to be awarded for work in Montana and CFAC was one of fewer than 40 organizations nationally to receive the grant. We're so excited to be part of this great national program. You can listen to an MTPR story about our work, or read the national press release. More information about CFAC is available on the CFAC website.

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AROUND EVST
1. Wild Mercy Reading Series continues Thursday, Feb 26 at UM FLAT Studio
   The house was packed last week for this fun event. Come this week to hear Colin May and Erica Langston. See you there!

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FEATURED EVENT (See www.umt.edu/conservationcalendar for more)
1. "The Lentil Underground" reading & discussion with Author Liz Carlisle and Farmer David Oien
   Missoula native Liz Carlisle has recently published the book, The Lentil Underground: Renegade Farmers and the Future of Food in America. Ms. Carlisle received a PhD from UC Berkeley last year and is a protege' of Michael Pollan and a former aide to Senator Jon Tester. In her book she tells the story of David Oien and handful of other revolutionary farmers from Montana’s high plains. She will speak of her adventure putting this book together, read from the book and
answer questions. David Oien will also be on hand to speak about the choices he and others made to turn their farm ecologies and economies around. Following the reading and discussion University Dining Services and The Good Food Store will team up to offer a lentil tasting while Ms. Carlisle signs books. Sponsored by the University of Montana Environmental Studies Program, University Dining Services, and The Good Food Store. The full backstory has appeared in an article in the Independent.

WHEN: Tuesday, February 24th, 7:00 pm UM's North Urey Lecture Hall, Free.

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VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

1. Missoula Growth Policy – Your Input Sought
Missoula Senior Planner (& EVST alum) Nancy Heil urges all Missoula citizens to give their input to Missoula’s Growth Policy Project – which has been working on a new Growth Policy for Missoula. Full details of the progress to date are available on the Missoula Country Growth Policy web site, where you can also see the draft goals and objectives. The goal of this project is to create a county-wide vision, develop goals based on community priorities and issues, and craft an action plan for Missoula County. Citizen input (your input) is crucial. The Missoula County Growth Policy webpage gives the meeting schedule and tells how you can be involved and gives the variety of ways for you to give feedback. More information about this project including “Frequently Asked Questions”, project timeline, and event details are available on the project website. You can also sign up for project updates at caps@co.missoula.mt.us.

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EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

1. Peace & Justice Films for spring 2015 -- First one TONIGHT! (Feb 23)
Students for Peace and Justice presents their first film of the semester on Monday, February 23 at 7pm in the University Center (UC) room 326. (All events at same place and time.) FREE. The film -- GMO OMG -- was made by a father who examines how GMOs affect our children, the planet, and our ability to make our own food choices. The rest of the SPJ film series is as follows. 3/16: Invisible War - The battle we rarely see is the one of sexual assault within the U.S. Military 4/9: Honor Dairies - Examines women’s honor in Muslim societies, the harsh conditions imposed upon them, and a call to change their lives for the better. 4/27: Happy - The search for the meaning of happiness takes filmmaker Roko Belic to over a dozen countries. WHERE: UC 326 WHEN: 7 pm

2. Earn credit living in your tent! Seriously. Information Session, Tuesday, February 24th
The Wild Rockies Field Institute is an off-campus study opportunity; WRFI offers academic field-based courses through the University of Montana. Our courses take place in the “Wild Rockies” of North America and combine rigorous academic inquiry with cultural immersion and extended backcountry expeditions. We currently offer courses in Environmental Studies, Natural Resources & Science Management, Native American Studies, Geography, Science, and Philosophy. WRFI’s small group size and interdisciplinary curriculum offer students an
exceptional opportunity to complement their coursework on campus with experiential education in the field. Scholarships available & Federal Financial Aid applies! Learn more on the WRFI website and blog or contact Bethany Swanson (WRFI Outreach Manager) with questions at bethany@wrfi.net or 406-549-4336.

WHEN: Tuesday, Feb 24, 4:00 – 5:00
WHERE: DHC, room 119

3. **Free Screening of The Human Experiment, Feb 25**
   This award winning documentary narrated by Sean Penn documents the health impacts of household chemicals. Co-sponsored by Planned Parenthood and Women’s Voices for the Earth.
   WHEN: Feb 25 at 7pm; WHERE: UM's UC Theater (3rd floor of University Center).

4. **1% for the Planet Co-Founder speaks in Missoula, Feb 26**
   Join 1% for the Planet member business New Outlook Financial for a special networking event for the Missoula community. Learn about how the growing 1% for the Planet movement is working at the intersection of business and the environment to create impact. 1% for the Planet's Co-Founder, Craig Mathews, of Blue Ribbon Flies, will be the featured speaker.
   Enjoy hors d'oeuvres, drinks, and good company during this meet and mingle event. More information about the group can be found on their Facebook page.
   WHEN: Thursday, February 26, 5:30-8:00 pm
   WHERE: Flathead Lake Brewing Company (424 N Higgins)

5. **Spend the summer on Flathead Lake, earning college credit. Apply now while scholarships last**
   Summer classes at UM’s Flathead Lake Biological Station (FLBS) June 15 - August 7
   Students benefit from immersion in rigorous field-oriented classes at Flathead Lake Biological Station, a UM Center of Excellence. Courses are available for both graduate and undergraduate credit and include: conservation ecology, landscape ecology, stream & lake ecology, forest & grassland ecology, alpine ecology. Watch the FLBS YouTube video for an overview of Summer Session 2015 at FLBS. For complete information and online registration, go to the FLBS homepage. If you have any questions, email us or call 406-982-3301.

6. **Western Culture & Landscape educational program – Info session, March 2 (free pizza)**
   EVST alums have started many field oriented environmental education programs over the years. Some favorites of EVST students are Northwest Connections’ Landscape & Livelihood and Wildlife in the West. Reps from the program invite you to an INFO SESSION to hear how to immerse yourself in the unique western culture and landscape of Montana's Crown of the Continent! Meet the people who live and work on the landscape, while navigating across the wilderness they have come to love. Work with a local community, call a historic homestead home, and grow vegetables!
   WHEN: Monday, March 2 at Noon  WHERE:  EVST ‘bull-pen’ (Rankin Hall near the EVST mailboxes).  There will be homemade pizza and cookies!

7. **Conservation Research Ranch reports on research, March 2 & 3**
   MPG Ranch in the Bitterroot Valley is dedicated to restoring wildlife habitat and supporting wildlife research on the ranch. Many UM students and faculty have conducted research there. Join MPG at the Holiday Inn Parkside, downtown in Missoula, for their yearly research conference. MPG staff and supported researchers will present recent findings and describe future goals. The conference will allow all who conduct investigations at MPG, as well as the
general public, to learn about current projects and to share ideas. Topics will include avian science, rangeland restoration, mammal ecology, pollinators, plant phenology, and soil ecology, among others. The public is invited to attend and you do not need to register for this event.

WHEN: Monday 3/2, 9am - 5pm and Tuesday 3/3, 9am - 5pm
WHERE: Holiday Inn Parkside, Missoula.

8. Climate Change Activism Panel, March 5
   The panel will discuss methods of working for policies to address climate change. Hosted by Blue Skies Campaign, 350 Missoula, and Students Against Coal Trains. WHEN: March 5 from 5 pm - 6:30 pm; WHERE: UM’s Native American Studies Building room 105. Free, all welcome.

9. Pulitzer-prize winning journalist speaks on the Moral Imperative of Revolt, Helena, March 11
   Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist & author Chris Hedges explains his view that popular revolts are inevitable in the face of environmental destruction and wealth polarization. Free event sponsored by Helena Service for Peace, 350 Missoula, Big Sky Investigative Reporting, etc. Full event details are available on the Fellowship of Reconciliation web page. WHEN: March 11 from 7 to 9pm; WHERE: Holter Museum of Art (12 E. Lawrence, Helena).

10. Study in Central America this Summer!
    Travel to Nicaragua this summer to explore this fascinating and beautiful Central American country. We’ll examine issues of human rights, sustainable development and the environment by engaging directly with the Nicaraguan people. We’ll live in a cloud forest reserve with families growing coffee, travel by boat along the San Juan River to the rain forest, explore the Solentiname Islands in Lake Nicaragua, and visit the active Masaya Volcano. Earn 3 credits! EVST professor Dan Spencer will be offering a 2-week EVST Travel Seminar to Nicaragua, May 25-June 18, 2015. You do not need to know Spanish to participate. Contact Professor Dan Spencer at Daniel.spencer@umontana.edu or 243-6111 if you are interested. Open to both undergrads and graduate students.

11. Restoration Symposium – Lessons Learned from the Clark Fork-Register NOW for April event.
    Space is limited and fills quickly!
    A three day symposium sponsored by the Natural Resource Damage Program (NRDP) to be held at Fairmont Hot Springs Wednesday – Friday, April 15-17, 2015, but the limited space is already more than half full. Full information is available at the NRDP Conference website. Stream restoration practitioners to share their knowledge of restoration techniques used in contaminated areas, with a focus on restoration work conducted in the Upper Clark Fork River Basin. Speakers who have designed and managed restoration projects in contaminated riparian areas of the Basin will highlight lessons learned and the challenges of such work. While the theme focuses on restoration in contaminated areas, the lessons learned apply to floodplain restoration in general.
    Regular registration is $150; there is a student rate of $90 which Env. Studies is willing to help with. If interested, contact Vicki Watson.

12. Stream Network Models training workshop, Boise, April 20-22 (also available as 1 day webinar)
    A new class of spatial statistical network model (SSNM) for data on stream networks has recently been developed & free software is available. SSNMs account for network topology (i.e., flow direction, stream size, tributary confluences) and offer significant improvements over many traditional statistical models developed originally for terrestrial applications. The SSNMs are
applicable to common types of stream data (e.g., water quality attributes, biological surveys, habitat conditions) through application of several distributions (e.g., Gaussian, binomial, Poisson). The models also account for spatial autocorrelation among measurements, which makes them powerful tools for mining information from large datasets aggregated from multiple sources.

This 3-day workshop will consist of a 1-day short-course ($100) & optional 2 days ($200) of working with course instructors to apply SSNMs to participant’s datasets. Note that attendance is limited, so the 1st day short-course will also be offered as a webinar ($60) to provide a broader audience with an introductory overview. Login info for the webinar will be sent a few days early. The Workshop information and registration are available on the workshop event page. Note that a good working knowledge of statistics and the R statistical program are very useful (but not mandatory) to obtain the greatest benefit from workshop participation. Participants at the 3-day workshop must bring a laptop with access to R statistical software, ArcGIS (versions 10.1 or 10.2), and the ArcGIS Spatial Analyst extension. If you cannot meet these requirements, please contact the organizers through the above web site.

13. Do you love to get up before the crack of dawn to see weird bird courtship displays? May 1-3
Join Montana Audubon in early May, the best time to view the spectacular dawn displays of male Greater Sage-Grouse at their breeding leks. This weekend adventure will also explore the sagebrush hills surrounding Montana’s historic Bannack State Park ghost town, plus the wetlands and grasslands adjacent to Clark Canyon Reservoir and in the Beaverhead Valley near Dillon, where we will view a wide variety of species, including raports. Waterbird migration will be in full swing at this time, and we are likely to find good numbers and varieties. The cost is $495/person which includes double occupancy lodging (for single occupancy add $100), meals, and transportation from Bozeman, Helena, or possibly Missoula. A $100/person deposit reserves your place. All tours are on a first come, first served basis. Complete trip itineraries and bird species lists are available upon request.
For reservations, call the Montana Audubon office 406-443-3949 or send them an email.

14. Great Bear Foundation Summer Field Course to the Arctic
Join the Great Bear Foundation on their 2015 Summer Trip to the Arctic - Berries, Belugas, and Bears! The trip runs from July 25 to August 4, 2015 and costs $2450 for participants. The trip takes participants to Churchill, Manitoba in Canada to view bears, belugas, and other flora and fauna of the region. This course is taught by Dr. Frank Tyro and explores the Hudson Bay basin. Travelers on this field course will learn about the ecology, history, climate, tundra, boreal forest, natural history, people, and culture of the area. For more information or to register, please visit the Great Bear Foundation web page.

15. Principles of Community Organizing Workshop, Billings, July 15-18
Western Organization of Resource Councils (WORC) offers an organizing workshop, Billings, July 15-18. This hands-on workshop covers the basics of leadership, fundraising, organizational development, and community organizing. Find all the details on this workshop at the Principles of Community Organizing web page.

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INTERNSHIPS
1. Farm internships available throughout Oregon - APPLY TODAY! March 1st application deadline!
Rogue Farm Corps’ Farms Next internship program is approximately 7 months (~April-October) of hands-on training and skill-based education in sustainable agriculture for aspiring farmers and ranchers. This immersive on-farm experience combines field training with a mentor farmer, classroom learning with agricultural professionals and expert farmers, tours of local farms, and opportunities for farm-based independent study. Positions available on a diverse network of commercial family farms in four communities across Oregon. No experience necessary to apply. Our host farms are located in four clusters around Oregon: the Rogue Valley, the Portland Metro Area, the South Willamette Valley, and Central Oregon. For complete program descriptions, information on our host farms, and applications, visit Rogue Farm Corps’ web page.

2. Whitefish Lake Institute – potential future internships
Whitefish Lake Institute (north of Flathead Lake) usually offers internships to students who get to observe and participate in the scientific process; including data collection, data-base development, and data interpretation. Students learn about stream and lake ecosystems, current Whitefish watershed issues, and the operations of a nonprofit organization. Most internships are in summer. WLI is not able to offer internships this year, but likely will again next year. So consider that in your planning if you are interested in that area. More info on the Whitefish Lake Institute website.

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JOBS (mainly local or summer jobs; for full time jobs around the US, subscribe to the envirojobs list serv by emailing vicki.watson@umontana.edu)

1. MNHC is currently hiring for several summer camp instructor positions
The Montana Natural History Center is now hiring summer camp instructors! Summer Camp Program Instructors will provide leadership and instruction for the full-day Summer Outdoor Discovery Camps at the Montana Natural History Center. These camps are a popular series of programs for kids ages 3 – 13, and combine experiential natural science education with outdoor fun and adventure. Camps include weekly field trips, requiring instructors to be willing to drive the MNHC school buses. The camps run for nine weeks from June 15 -August 14, with a mandatory two-week training session from June 1-June 12. Full job descriptions and application information are available on the MNHC website.

2. Job with FoodCorps, apply by March 31 to start in June
Become a FoodCorps service member. Since September, the current crop of 182 service members has reached over 100,000 kids in limited resource communities around the country. Our members learn new skills and pave the way towards their future careers as educators, farmers, chefs, and public health advocates. FoodCorps is seeking up to 210 leaders to help kids in their communities grow up healthy through our three-ingredient recipe for change: food and nutrition education that gives kids the information they need to make smart choices; hands-on activities like gardening and cooking that foster skills and pride around healthy food; and lunch trays filled with nutritious meals from local farms. Read more about becoming a Food Corps Service Member. Apply by March 31.

3. The Wilderness Institute is hiring up to four Wilderness Field Leaders for summer 2015
These positions are full-time from the end of May through August or early September. Wilderness Field Leaders will monitor invasive weeds, selected measures of
wilderness character, and recreation impacts in the Absaroka-Beartooth (AB) Wilderness on the Custer Gallatin National Forest and BLM Wilderness Study Areas (WSAs) across Montana. Field leaders take small groups of community volunteers on backpacking trips to complete monitoring efforts. The position involves field data collection, wilderness travel, working with volunteers, and data processing and reporting. The position is based out of Missoula, but work will be primarily in the AB and BLM WSAs. Field leaders will spend up to 6 days in the field at a time, and much of the summer in the backcountry. The purpose of the project is to monitor wilderness character, provide land managers and other interested parties with an assessment of on-the-ground conditions, and involve community members in wilderness stewardship. Applications will be reviewed beginning February 27th and continue until positions are filled. Please contact the Wilderness Institute for more information, citizenscience@fcf.umt.edu or 406.243.6936. View full job announcement and application instructions, visit The Wilderness Institute’s Citizen Science webpage.

**FUNDING SOURCES**

1. **National Wildlife Federation Grad Fellowships, apply by Feb 25**
   NWF seeks grad students to conduct & test market research & to assist with content development for the new NWF EcoLeaders online community. Fellows can work from anywhere in the US. Market Research fellows will analyze effectiveness of NWF’s outreach to potential fellows, recommend improvements & recruit 25 new EcoLeaders. Content Development fellows will develop new content for NWF Eco-Topic pages on such topics as Outdoor Recreation, Climate Adaptation and Career & Leadership Center. Time Commitment is 5 months. Benefits include $3000 stipend, professional development training & networking & more. Applications are due Feb 25 (sorry we just heard about this). It’s a short form to fill out, but you do need a letter of rec from your advisor. More info and application info at NWF’s Campus Ecology webpage.

2. **Scholarship for students pursuing career in water protection or treatment. Apply by March 15.**
   The annual Donald G. Willems Scholarship is awarded jointly by the Montana Section of the American Water Works Association and the Montana Water Environment Association. The $1000 scholarship is to be used for tuition and books. Both graduate students and undergraduates are eligible. Full details on the scholarship and how to apply are at AWWA Scholarships web page. Deadline for submission is March 15, 2015.

3. **Scholarships for students & grants for educators using GIS, apply by March 20**
   EVST alum Rob Ahl currently serves as the chair of the education committee of the Montana Association of GIS Professionals. Primary goals of this organization are to provide educational and networking opportunities for those doing GIS related work in the state of Montana. The group also provides some grants and scholarships. Rob has worked hard to create an additional scholarship for up to $2,000 for a natural resource based GIS project. Attached are announcements of scholarships for students, and grants for educators. The application process is very easy; applications due March 20. There are two $2000 scholarships aimed at students using GIS in their research, and a $1000 grant to educators who want to use GIS in k-12 education.

4. **MT Projects on Hist. Research, Creative Writ., & Wilderness Studies, apply by April 1**
The Matthew Hansen Endowment was established in 1984 as a memorial to EVST alum Matthew Hansen and his ideals. The Endowment grants awards for historical research, creative writing, and wilderness studies projects that explore Montana’s land and people and encourages proposals from anyone interested in furthering this goal. Proposals must be postmarked no later than April 1st. Full details on the Endowment and submission guidelines are available on the Matthew Hansen Endowment web page, or call The Wilderness Institute at 406.243.5361, or via email.

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Housing
1. Peaceful Rattlesnake Abode available March 20 (or possibly earlier)
   This 2br/1ba furnished apartment is the second level of a beautiful 1890s farmhouse. There is one off-street parking space available for upstairs tenant(s). The homeowners, a professional couple (60s), live downstairs. No pets, please. We are asking for $800/mo (includes all utilities and wi-fi) and a 10-month lease (possibly re-negotiable).
   The house is located just north of Greenough Park on the west side of Rattlesnake Creek, 10 minutes by bike to UM, 5 minutes to the PEAS Farm, across from Waterworks Hill with views of Mt. Jumbo and Mt. Sentinel. This is an exceptionally lovely place to live and breathe.
   Please call 406-239-6546 or email nancyseldin@yahoo.com for an application, meeting, and viewing.

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Resources
1. Explore the world of birds with Audubon’s re-imagined website.
   Compelling stories and stunning photographs from Audubon magazine along with new daily content offerings and a wealth of web-exclusive material. See Audubon’s NEW mobile-friendly bird guide, and their on-the-ground Conservation Work. Learn how to Get involved with Audubon in your local community.

2. Montana Potato Project—requests due by March 15
   MSU Extension is once again selling seed potatoes - heirloom, organic, and conventional varieties - to Montana’s nurseries, garden centers, and commercial growers. Orders are due by March 15th so check it out the Montana Seed Potatoes site soon.

3. Ready to buy some land?
   Large garden, 30-tree orchard, and plenty of room for expansion - this parcel in Darby has got plenty to love! The landowner says, "My vision is an off-the-grid, handmade homestead aimed at community food security, including seed saving and large capacity passive solar food drying. My main effort has been to grow good soil; I'm a dirt farmer. It is very good after 35 years of adding compost and no chemicals." Go to the web page for more info and email Annie at CFAC if you're interested in learning more!

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Miscellaneous Items and Other Fun Events
1. **Selway-Bitterroot-Frank Church Wilderness Fnd annual gathering & auction, Feb 26**
   This is a fundraiser for the Foundation, but attendance is free. The auction & raffle raise the funds. There are presentations by field staff & volunteers, tasty treats, cool silent auction items, and friends to meet. Doors open at 6:30; bidding ends at 8:30 and raffle drawing at 9pm. Raffle is for a 2-person, 6 day float trip on the Middle Fork Salmon and/or a 5 day Selway River trip. Full details are available on the [Selway-Bitterroot Frank Church Foundation website](#).
   WHEN: Feb 26 from 6:30 to 9:30pm; WHERE: Missoula Winery, 5646 W. Harrier

2. **Grow your own food at a community garden near you – sign up by March 23**
   Need a garden space this summer? The ASUM community garden, located just off campus behind Lewis and Clark Village student housing on South Higgins, provides a 15x15 ft garden plot, tools, and water. Garden mentoring is available for new gardeners. $40 for the season + $15 refundable deposit (if plot is cleared out at end of season). If you don’t live near campus, there are eight other community gardens around Missoula. View the [Garden City Harvest Garden List](#) online. To sign up, complete a community garden application on the [Garden City Harvest website](#). We’ll let you know in the beginning of April if you have a plot. Opening day is April 11, so be ready to get started! Contact Kim Gilchrist with any questions: [kim@gardencityharvest.org](mailto:kim@gardencityharvest.org); 406.239.8236

3. **Alternative Spring Break: Portland, OR: March 28 – April 4**
   This will be a service/learning trip in the Portland area that will have sessions or projects on poverty, homelessness, gentrification, HIV, LBGTAQ issues, spirituality, faith, community organizing, feminism, anti-racism, environment and ecology, and more. This trip may include kayaking, drumming, a ride to the Oregon coast, a visit to world’s largest bookstore, alternative Holy Week worship services, contra dancing, serving meals, painting projects, deeper discussions, vocational discernment, and so on. The trip is led by Rev. John Lund, Affiliate Faculty in the Honors College and director of Emmaus Campus Ministry. Cost is $200. (Honors credits are available) All perspectives are welcome!! Contact John at 396-4974 or [john.lund@mso.umt.edu](mailto:john.lund@mso.umt.edu)

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*This Newsline prepared by Vicki Watson and Theresa Duncan. Please send any comments [here](#).*