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AROUND EVST
1. Congrats to EVST Graduate Alum Ariel Bleth on two recent publications!
One publication is an interview Bleth conducted with Helena Norberg-Hodge, founder of International Society of Ecology and Culture (ISEC) for World Ark magazine, entitled What Price Happiness? The other article is a feature essay in Parabola, entitled The Art of Goodness: The Pacific Rim Parks and Artistic Vision of James T. Hubbell. Both are available online. Congratulations, Ariel!

2. Missoula Independent cover article features EVST alums.
On May 28, the Missoula Independent featured an in-depth article on citizen efforts to protect Montana’s wild and scenic rivers. Two EVST alums, Scott Bosse (’93) and Michael Fiebig (’08), both of whom work for American Rivers, are extensively quoted. American Rivers along with other groups and citizens have formed Montanans for Healthy Rivers and are proposing many Montana streams for wild and scenic river protection. The article provides an overview of the history of the Wild & Scenic River legislation and what sorts of protection it provides. The article also explains how concerns about climate change and the desire for fossil-fuel-free energy sources may result in a return to dam building, hence the need to provide this protection. The article was written by Laura Lundquist, graduate of the Environmental Journalism program here at UM.
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FEATURED EVENT (See www.umt.edu/conservationcalendar for more)

1. Celebrate the upcoming summer season in downtown Missoula. Several events this week.

   **Out to Lunch** – Music by Shodown. Children’s activities by spectrUM. Great food vendors.
   WHEN: Wednesday, June 3, from 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
   WHERE: Caras Park

   **Downtown Tonight** – Music by Good Old Fashioned. Children’s activities by Girl Scouts of Montana and Wyoming. Great food and drink vendors!
   WHEN: Thursday, June 4, from 5:30 – 8:30 p.m.
   WHERE: Caras Park

   **First Friday** – Galleries and museums open for the evening. Many businesses are open, too. Ecology Project International (EPI) will be celebrating 15 years of conservation education with three other non-profits at the Swift Center. There you can dance to *Soul City* and *The Missing Lynx*. Eat Bernice’s cupcakes. Have dinner with Bao Chow, Masala, and The Clove Cart, who are donating a portion of their proceeds from the evening to EPI.
   WHEN: Friday, June 5, from 5:00 – 8:00 p.m.
   WHERE: Downtown Missoula, various locations.

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VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

1. **The Poverello Center seeks garden volunteers.**
   Help in *The Poverello Center’s* new garden with general garden upkeep, planting, weeding, and harvesting. Fill out the [volunteer application form online](#) or call 532-6682 to get more information. You can also email [EVST Grad Student Jamie Russo](mailto:Jamie.Russo@umt.edu) with questions. You can make a difference.

2. **Volunteer Opportunities with the Montana Natural History Center in June.**
   - **Front Desk Assistance** - We need a few volunteers for our front desk several days this month. Greet visitors, answer the phone, and enjoy hanging out at MNHC--it's usually quite mellow here. You don't have to sign up for a full day; a few volunteers signing up for 2- or 4-hour shifts would be perfect. View the schedule [online](#). Contact [Allison](mailto:Allison@MNHC.org).
   - **Help prepare for MNHC fundraiser** - We are looking for a couple more volunteers to help us prepare for the silent auction portion of our Fall Celebration & Auction, which will take place on Saturday, October 3, 2015. We need volunteers to help contact a variety of local businesses and organizations for silent auction donations. Time commitment will be around 2-5 hours/month from mid-June through early October.
     We'll be having an informational meeting on Monday, June 15, at 4 p.m. Contact [Allison](mailto:Allison@MNHC.org).
   - **Center Visit Assistance** - We have two groups of St. Ignatius students coming to MNHC this week and need a couple of volunteers to help us run some fun learning activities for them. Contact [Christine](mailto:Christine@MNHC.org).
     WHEN: Wednesday, June 3rd, 11-12 and 12-1
   - **miniNaturalists pre-K Program** – This summer, we will be mini-naturalizing in local parks. Come at 9:45 to help set up and be done by 11:15 at the latest. Have fun helping our pre-K kids learn about nature! Contact [Christine](mailto:Christine@MNHC.org).
     WHEN: Thursday, June 4, from 9:45 – 11:15 a.m.
WHERE: McCormick Park
-Volunteer Work & Learn Days at the Native Plant Gardens! Summer is almost here and that means it’s time to work in the garden! We need volunteers to help us weed, mulch, plant, and build to maintain the lovely learning space at our Native Plant Garden. The last half-hour of each session will be spent learning about native plant topics of your choice from identification to invasive control methods. Kids are welcome. Contact Christine.
WHEN: Most Thursday afternoons throughout the summer from 4 – 6 p.m.
June 4 & 18; July 2, 9, 23, & 30; August 13
WHERE: Fort Missoula
-Evening Lecture Assistance – We need a volunteer who can help set up, greet folks, direct them upstairs, and staff the front doors to let in latecomers. Contact Christine.
WHEN: Wednesday, June 17, from 6:45 – 8:30 p.m.
-Saturday Kids’ Activity Assistance – Help with set-up and check-in. Staff a craft or science station during the program. Help tidy up at the end. Contact Christine.
**“Awesome Osprey”**
WHEN: Saturday, June 20, from 1:45 – 3:30 p.m.

3. Volunteers needed for backcountry stewardship expeditions throughout the summer.
Hike the northern Rockies and help protect public wildlands! Join experienced leaders of the [Great Burn Study Group](#) for a weekend trip into the proposed Great Burn Wilderness. Help monitor wildlife, trails, weeds, and other information critical to wildland management. Backcountry experience is helpful but not necessary. There will be a brief, mandatory meeting before each trip.
Choose from eight backcountry adventures:
**June 27-28:** Explore the heart of the proposed Great Burn Wilderness via Cache Creek.
Difficulty: Moderate. Total mileage: 14.
**July 3-5:** Spend your holiday weekend following Straight Creek to a beautiful waterfall.
Difficulty: Moderate. Total mileage: 10.
**July 10-12:** Soak up lakes, meadows, and old cedar groves on a trip to Goose Lake.
Difficulty: Moderate/Strenuous. Total mileage: 12.
**July 24-26:** Cool off in peaceful, cliff-bordered Kid Lake after a scenic ridge walk.
Difficulty: Moderate. Total mileage: 10.
**August 1-2:** Hike and relax at the Oregon Lakes among huckleberries and great fishing.
Difficulty: Mild. Total mileage: 5.*
**August 14-16:** Enjoy Fish Lake, the largest in the area, with options to day hike to a scenic ridge.
Difficulty: Moderate. Total mileage: 8 (with option for 12).
**August 22-23:** Hike into Lost Lake, a remote glacial cirque near the Idaho border.
Difficulty: Strenuous. Total mileage: 10.*
**August 29-30:** Enjoy a stunning view of both ID and MT from the Stateline Trail via Heart Lake.
Difficulty: Moderate. Total mileage: 10.*
For more information, contact EVST alum Drew Lefebvre at (207) 450-4969 or via gmail.
*These trips co-sponsored by the Montana Wilderness Association.
All locations subject to change depending on weather and other circumstances.

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**EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES**
1. **Tours of Conservation Ranch in Bitterroot. June 9 and 25. Register ASAP.**
   Visit [MPG Ranch](https://mpgranch.org) near Lolo to learn about our current projects and long-term goals in wildlife conservation. This driving tour is limited to accessible roads and by weather. Plan to spend some time walking and dress for the weather. The tour is limited to 6 participants. Please contact us to register. We will reply with directions. We hope you enjoy your time on MPG Ranch and MPG North. Please be aware that you may encounter old barbed wire, metal or wood, uneven terrain, and other potential hazards. Please remain aware and use good judgment to avoid injury.

   To register, get directions, or with any questions, email [Joshua Lisbon](mailto:joshua@mpgranch.org) or call 406-396-6285.

   **WHEN:** Tuesday, June 9, and Thursday, June 25, from 1 - 3:30 p.m.

2. **Farmer Field Days. June 17, July 15, August 19, and September 16.**
   Community Food & Ag Coalition (CFAC) has organized a series of field days on farms, where farmers & future farmers can learn from one another. The Next Farmer Field Day is at Lifeline Produce.

   **WHEN:** Wednesday, June 17 from 5 – 7 p.m. – Potluck dinner to follow.

   **WHERE:** Lifeline Produce, Victor

   Started in 1978 by Steve Elliott and Luci Brieger, Lifeline Produce encompasses about 40 acres of pasture, hay, mixed vegetables, flowers, and herbs. They'll be focusing on the ways in which they incorporate livestock into their rotations and how they've specialized their tools and equipment for their specific farm operation.

   For more information on this and other Farmer Field Days and to register for any of the events, visit [CFAC's Farmer Field Days website](https://cfac.org/farmerfielddays).

   More Farmer Field Days later this summer include:
   - July 15: Paula's Garden, Paradise - flowers, online sales, and work-life balance.
   - August 19: River Road Farm, Missoula - CSAs, cover crops, and weeds/pests.
   - September 16: County Rail Farm, Dixon - marketing, efficiency, and crop selection.

3. **Solar installation training offered by Ameresco Solar. Missoula. Register ASAP; space limited.**
   A one-day training session on Outback Inverters (with 6 NABCEP credits) will be held on June 23 in Missoula. Based on the off-grid experience of the installers in the area, we will skip most of the solar 101 level info and spend time talking on multiple inverter applications, OPTICS remote monitoring, and new products. The $50 per person registration fee can be credited to a future order of over $500 to Ameresco Solar within 6 months of the training.

   Ameresco Solar is a Premier Distributor of Outback inverters as well as other solar-related items. Our history in the solar industry reaches back 30 years, and we enjoy supporting battery based solar electric systems. Full details on the training can be found at [Amerescosolar.net's Training webpage](https://www.amerescosolar.net) of by contacting David Love via email or by calling him at 360-358-3114.

   **WHEN:** Tuesday, June 23 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

   **COST:** $50

   **WHERE:** Wingate by Wyndham Hotel, 5252 Airway Blvd., Missoula.

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*This Newsline prepared by Vicki Watson and Theresa Duncan. Please send any comments [here](mailto:vicki@cfac.org).*