

# Compact Connects

The Newsletter of The Montana Campus Compact ♦ July 2001



## MTCC Breaking News ...

### Around Montana ...

**MTCC Headquarters** - MTCC VISTA members **Jessica McCrossin** and **Shelly St. Romain** are working on several grants to fund The Montana Campus Compact and its four programs. Jessica and Shelly attended

a grant writing workshop in May and have outlined a list of over 40 grants that they will attempt over the next year. Good Luck Jessica and Shelly!

**MISSOULA** – Amy Esp a Campus Corps Team Leader and Carrie Cochran MTCC's Campus Corps Program Manager will be giving a presentation on "Service Learning in Rural America" at The National Conference: Community Volunteering and National Service in Minneapolis, MN on July 1st. The purpose of the National Conference is to provide individuals involved in community volunteering and national service with knowledge, skills and resources which allow them to generate collaborative solutions to community problems.

**GREAT FALLS** – Campus Corps member Cynthia Kellems is working with Camp Sky Child, a summer camp offered by The University of Great Falls to address the needs of children with incarcerated parents. Cynthia will work as a camp counselor and will coordinate and provide mentoring during the two week summer camp.

**BOZEMAN** – Even Howard, a Campus Corps member at Montana State University – Bozeman is working with a Montana Reads Summer Program. Even will establish herself as an active participant in programs around the community which encourage reading and the development of literacy skills. She will also seek out community activities through which she can reach children by providing reading time as part of a community event.

**BUTTE** – Montana Tech of The University of Montana Campus Corps Members Stacy Ferentchak and Wendy Dyer are working with Upward Bound this summer. The program encourages first-generation high school students to stay in school and attend college. Activities provided include tutoring, mentoring, service projects, computer training and job shadowing.



## Spotlight on Service

- Molly Collins

In April 2000, Lynda Vande Sandt donned a new hat— AmeriCorps\*VISTA and became a member of the 2000-2001 VISTA project for the Montana Campus Compact. Besides being a wife, a mother, and at the time a student at Montana State University-Northern she accepted a new position as Research and Grants Coordinator at the Community Service Center on the MSU-N campus.

Lynda's first year was very successful. She and another VISTA, Neil

creating the Corporation for National Service. This legislation includes a working definition of service learning as a tool for civic education. According to the National Community Service Trust Act, service learning programs must be:

- Conducted in the community and meet community needs
- Coordinated from an elementary or secondary school, an institution of higher learning or a community-service program
- Integrated with student curriculum or with the educational component of the community service program
- Structured to allow participants to reflect on the service experience.

Many educators believe that civic responsibility can best be developed when teachers work toward linking three components: community service, learning outcomes and civic education. Quality service learning exists only when all three come together.

Constitutional Rights Foundation, in conjunction with Close Up Foundation, has developed Active Citizenship Today (ACT). This service-learning program is designed to foster civic responsibility by teaching young people how to participate effectively in a democracy. ACT does this by linking an in-depth study of civics with active community involvement and service. Through their participation in ACT, students:

- Learn about the people, processes and the institutions most effective in improving community conditions.
- Develop skills necessary to participate in policy making.
- Foster attitudes about the value of lifelong service for the common good.

These approaches attempt to teach civic responsibility by forging strong links between classroom work, community service and civic education. You can get more information on ACT at [www.crf-usa.org](http://www.crf-usa.org).



The first person to answer the following question correctly wins an MTCC \*VISTA t-shirt. Send your responses to [mtccinfo@yahoo.com](mailto:mtccinfo@yahoo.com)

**Name the only President born on July 4th?**

Richard Nixon  
George Bush

Liberty without learning is always in peril and learning without liberty is always in vain.

-John F. Kennedy



Congratulations to **Kirsten Graham** former

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