The Montana State University Billings students enrolled in the Construction-Carpentry Program at City College began building a home the first week of October. By the end of the academic year, the second-year students help to construct a single-family home on the west end of Billings. Upon completion, the home will be sold on a regular real estate market. Francisco Saldivar, Chair, Business, Construction & Energy Technology Department at City College, said this opportunity is available to the school and our students via a public-partnership with developer Classic Home Designs. Students gain valuable on-the-job training and premier cabinetry skills.

The College of Business, in partnership with their advisory board, established the Montana Business Hall of Fame as a way of showcasing Montana's entrepreneurial and business spirit with the hope of giving students and the community positive economic role models from their state. College of Business Dean, Dr. Wheeling, said, “The Hall of Fame is an example of people living their dreams and being successful at it.” Inductees are selected based on a number of criteria such as their level of business leadership and ethics, willingness to take risks, concern for customers and employees, innovation and impact on their community and the state’s economy. The inaugural class included outstanding business leaders throughout the state including: Ian Davidson (Great Falls), Sam McDonald (Billings, posthumously), Chris Nelson (Bozeman), Bill Oftedal (Miles City), and Mike Schaeer (Billings). At the unveiling ceremony, attended by campus and community, local artist Joe Heins of Heins Creative, painted oil-on-canvas portraits of the inductees to be displayed in the College of Business. Heins created watercolor portraits to be given to the inductees.

TEDx was on campus in October hosted by Extended Campus. Among the numerous speakers and performers was MSUB’s Dr. Robert Hoar, Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, addressing “College Readiness Math MOOC.”

MSUB hosted The Montana Post-Secondary Education Opportunity Council (MPSEOC) Billings College Fair with an estimated 1,500 students in attendance from area high schools. The organization represents 25 institutions of higher education across the state to promote higher education to students, parents and guidance counselors.

Sam Mihara presented a lecture on the MSUB campus, “Memories of Heart Mountain” and “Colors of Confinement”, a personal account of the imprisonment of Japanese-Americans in Wyoming during WWII. Mihara developed his presentation in hopes of educating people across the country to ensure the egregious civil rights violations he suffered at the hands of his government aren’t dealt to citizens again.

The annual Fall Faculty Recital featured Professor Emeritus, Gary Behm, on clarinet and saxophone performing classic jazz compositions. He was joined by Alex Nauman on guitar, Parker Brown on bass, and Brad Edwards on drums. Additionally, MSUB Assistant Professor, Douglas Nagel performed a solo voice recital, accompanied by pianist, Sandi Rabas.

A bronze bust honoring the contributions and service of legendary MSUB Professor Emeritus and former gymnastics coach, Dr. Jay Shaw, were dedicated during a ceremony at MSUB’s Corridor of Champion in the physical education building. Among Shaw's awards and honors are: Outstanding Teaching Award (1984), the Achievement Award for Excellence in Teaching (1994), and the Faculty Meritorious Award (2002, 2005).

The College of Business welcomed Mike Ryan to campus as a means of engaging the finance and business students in discussion. Mr. Ryan is the Chief Investment Strategist for Wealth Management Americas and Regional Chief Investment Officer for Wealth Management U.S. With more than 30 years of experience in the financial industry, he is widely recognized as a leading market expert.
With the country now in the midst of the 50th Anniversary of the 60’s, the MSUB Library spotlighted a Library Lecture Series exploring the 1960’s. The weekly lecture series featured various lecturers from different departments: Dr. Keith Edgerton, History; Dr. Susan Balter-Reitz, Communication and Theatre; Dr. Michael Havens, Psychology; Leanne Gilbertson, Art; Dr. Stuart Snyder and Dr. Loren Acton, MSUB College of Arts & Sciences; Dr. John Jurist, Biophysics & Aviation at Rocky Mountain College; and MSUB Dr.’s. Mark Fenderson, John Roberts, Gary Behm and local musicians Brad Edwards and Eric Olson.

With the support or ASMSUB Editor, Devon Sutton, and faculty advisor, Joy Barber, the student newspaper The Retort is back to being the voice of MSUB after a nearly two-year-long hiatus. As an ASMSUB senator last year, Sutton saw how communication could be improved between students and campus organizations through a newspaper and got to work reviving the publication.