

# ABLE Students Reflect and Move Forward

**T**his year was the mother-lode of special memories for me. I retired, met my 15-year-old granddaughter, fell in love, got married, and began my dream of going back to school. It was a momentous year. I hadn't seen my granddaughter since she was three weeks old. I had to tell her about the tragedy of her past, take her to that wall, and watch her slam into it. Her adoptive parents wanted her to know the truth. What started with pain ended in celebration when I had her stand up with me in my wedding. I am now sending her the things I write in school. I want her to know that tragedy and suffering are the things that can make a person great. They either make you or break you. A broken heart brings a depth of character and a sweetness that comes no other way.

**Peggy Detienne, Student**

As a middle-aged man, I have worked in a variety of different jobs, and they always lead me to a place called "nowhere". I always wanted a job that I could enjoy and be paid a decent amount of money. I always seemed to find the ones that made me miserable and didn't pay enough for me to be financially secure. Life seems to be very difficult when you're

barely making it. The stress of not having enough money to pay my bills has caused a lot of frustration and heartache in my life.



**ABLE student Peggy Detienne and daughter Emily Havener (former student now enrolled at MSU-B) enjoy learning.**

That's what lead me to the Adult Education Center. I know I need an education to build a career, so that's why I'm doing some college prep courses. My goal is to go to MSU College of Technology and pursue a career in computer systems technology. Since it is a two year course, I'm sure it's not going to be easy, but it beats working at a meaningless job. I will finally have a career and a decent wage to help relieve some of the pressures of life.

Jobs are usually for a short time, but careers are for a lifetime. A career will help me with doing something I will enjoy and has meaning to me. The benefits of having a career outweigh the issues of not having one. When a person has a degree, that means he or she makes more money than a person who does not have a degree. I can honestly say in the time I've been working, none of the jobs that I've ever had have been meaningful or enjoyable. I wished I would not have wasted so much time and put so much effort into going to that place called "nowhere".

**Anthony Henry, Student**

# To Remember and...

## Recalling Memories

One of my special memories of this past year is my birthday celebration. I went to Seattle with my husband in February for my birthday. My best friend, Kayoko, and her husband met us in Seattle. Our birthdays are only four days apart, so we celebrated together. We stayed at a nice hotel and went to a famous sushi restaurant. We shopped at a Japanese bookstore. I almost feel like I want to go back to Japan.

**Masae Ash, Student**

I was away from my family for the majority of this year. I met a lot of women that I have grown very close to during this last year. None of them can compare to the way that I feel about my mom, though. I distanced myself from my mom in my past. Sometimes I would miss her so much it would hurt. I was a runaway child that turned to drugs and unhealthy relationships that kept tearing us apart. I realized, somewhere along the road, that I was missing out on something very special. Now I've allowed myself to grow close to her again. I'm grateful that she is still there for me, and I love spending time with her.

**Brandy Banks, Student**

Last winter was very cold. My house had very old windows. This year we have new windows that are very warm. I am looking forward to winter because of our new windows. I'm very happy and feel good about my house.

**Lalita Devi Bruder, Student**

The best memories I had in the past year are when my cousin had her little girl and my sister had a boy. They're a month apart; I'm excited to be an uncle. So special occasions like Halloween, Christmas, Thanksgiving, and even birthdays are the special memories I had in the past year.

**Antone Bighead, Student**

One of my special memories of this past year is when we went to Helena for my father-in-law's funeral. We rented a motel with a swimming pool. We also met up with other family members. Our children and my husband enjoyed swimming in the rain. We drove around the Capitol and toured the city. Even though it was a sad occasion, we enjoyed spending time with our family. It was nice to be away from home and work.

**Ginger Bonner, Student**

Last year I went back to Thailand with my husband to see my family and friends. We had a lot of fun shopping at the new, big mall. We also went to many beaches to swim and fly kites. We also enjoyed riding banana-boats and watching the wind-surfers. We had a lot of fun and a safe trip home.

**Yuphin Boyer, Student**

At work we had two girls; one came from China and the other from Taiwan. We all worked together and I became very good friends with them. Over the next month, I took them different places in town and to Red Lodge. The last big place we went to was the Montana Fair. While at the fair, we had to stop at every food vending place because they wanted to try every different kind of food they had never seen or tasted before.

September 13, 2009, was the last day I had to spend with the girls before they caught their plane home. I picked them up at the hotel at 11:00 am, and then we went out to eat at the Golden Corral. That was their favorite place to eat since they had a variety of foods to try. At 1:00 pm, I dropped them off at the airport. We still keep in touch through email and a chat messenger. I hope someday they can come back to the U.S.

**Elizabeth Hodges, Student**

One of my special memories that I had this past year is that my family and I went to Disneyland, Las Vegas, and Sea World. My favorite out of all of them would have to be Las Vegas because of all the rollercoasters they had there. They even had a rollercoaster inside a building. When we went to Disneyland, we all felt like little kids there. The funny thing is that we didn't know there were two parts to Disneyland, so we stayed on the little kids side the whole time; it was still fun, though. Then in Sea World they had a lot of acts with the animals; it was neat. My mom put us in the first row of the Shamu act and we got soaked. I loved every place we went; we all had a blast!

**Sarah Reintsma, Student**

My special memory of this past year was my vacation. I took a one-week vacation to California to visit my friends. California is a big state and full of people. My friends took me to a lot of places. I went to visit the Golden Gate Bridge. That is a very big bridge; it looks imposing and famous. Then I went to Chinatown in San Francisco. That is a big town with almost all Chinese people living there. People built their houses on the hill. Their house and the road slants down and looks very interesting. They sell a lot of stuff from China, but the prices are not cheap.

**Phuc Chau, Student**

My special memories for this year are that in October of 2008 I met someone special, and we have been together now for a year. The other thing that is special to me is that I have decided to go back to school, and I'm very proud of myself, and so is my girlfriend and my family.

I'm 45 years old and I'm wanting to make something of my life. I'm wanting to better myself to where I'm not working two jobs and living paycheck to paycheck and wondering if we are going to have a roof over our heads and food in the house.

**Diana Hatfield, Student**

I can say that this year was a good one as well as a bad one although I have had probably some of my most treasured memories. A good memory of this past year is combined of many. December 2<sup>nd</sup> was my best friend Rhonda's little baby Luke's first birthday. I remember when he used to lie and not make a sound, and then learning where his most ticklish places are. We taught him to wave bye bye and to give hugs and kisses. Then he learned how to crawl. Family and close friends came and we had a fun time. Luke had a fun time digging into his own cake and made a huge mess. It was probably one of the cutest things I've ever seen. It will be a day that I will never forget!

**Sabrina Phelps, Student**

# to Reflect

## Recalling Memories

Returning to school is a challenge. I dropped out of high school in 1988 to help my family after my parents divorced. My father decided to head out on his own with no warning or means for us to survive. My mother, one of the strongest people I know, was left with the sole responsibility of raising three growing boys by herself. Watching her struggle broke my heart. Without asking or giving it a second thought, my solution for that was to drop out of high school and find a job. Was it going to make everything better? At sixteen, I thought it would. I was thinking I would return to school when the time was right. For me the time is now, twenty years later. I am now 38 years old and returning to school was the best decision I have made in all these years. In the workforce everything has changed; even education has changed since the 1970's. My nephew who is 10 is studying things that I'm just now learning as an adult. Rather than feeling small or belittled, I find this empowering. It encourages me to be a role model for the people that matter most — **my family!**

**Jason Williams, Student**

I think that the bravest thing of mine happened in the winter of 1977. My classmates and I went to the countryside to work. That countryside was located in the North of China. One day, the leader told me to go to another village to exchange some flour. I carried about 150 pounds of wheat by bicycle.

When I was departing, the sky was very cloudy. After I arrived at the other village and exchanged the flour, it started to snow. I took the flour and went back to our camp. But snow was getting heavy. I thought I was lost. The snow covered the road. I couldn't ride the bicycle, only push it forward. At that time, I had no cell phone. I couldn't connect with my other classmates. I thought if the snow got heavy, maybe I would die in the wild. So I couldn't think too much; I just went forward. When I was exhausted, I saw there was a village in front of me. I found the office of the village, and the people helped me to return to our camp.

**Lisa Stensby, Student**

I am a regular person. Also I live in a peaceful age, so I haven't even done many brave things. But I think one thing was brave. That was almost one year ago. I still worked in the Chinese restaurant, but I wanted to change my job. I was hoping to find a job in an America restaurant. I still wanted to be a server, so I went to many restaurants to take applications. When I returned the application, I always asked to talk to the manager. I wasn't afraid about my English. Suddenly, I got my job at the Golden Corral. When I look back, I am surprised how brave I was, and I know I had made my first step.

**Yanfei Qiu, Student**

## I Love You, Grandma Rosie

Oh, that cold, frigid day.  
How it is forever sketched in my memory,  
Sitting next to you on the couch,  
Holding your hand.  
I didn't want to be by your side at first,  
But, Grandma, I was scared,  
You couldn't talk  
And you couldn't open your eyes!  
My mom told me, baby,  
You're going to want to say goodbye.  
I didn't want to, I couldn't!  
I needed you to stay and be there  
To see me graduate,  
And to be at my wedding.  
I sat there with Uncle Roman,  
He promised no more trouble,  
No more jail!  
I promised to keep the family strong,  
And go to church every Sunday.  
A tear shed down my face, I said I love you  
I'll see you again someday.  
I started to get up and you,  
You started to squeeze my hand,  
You were gasping for air.  
You took your last breath and I was right there.  
I'll keep my promises to you.  
I love you, Grandma Rosie.  
**Morgan Nava, Student**

# To Appreciate and...

## War

War is a horrible thing. However, we have to live with it.  
Families sit and wait for their soldier to come home,  
We watch on TV names of soldiers who have died or are very injured,  
We feel sadness for those who have lost a loved one,  
We can't lose hope. We must be grateful for those who are alive.  
We have to pray the rest will come back to us alive,  
That we will be done fighting other countries for a while,  
That we don't have to say good-bye to ones we love,  
That they will be around for a good amount of time,  
So we can have a Thanksgiving Day with them every year.  
So if you see a soldier or know a family who has a family member in the war,  
Give thanks and try sending letters, writing a thank you letter, or doing something nice,  
Our soldiers really need our love - even if you don't know them, they will thank you

**Amanda DeVerniero, Student**

## Being Grateful

The one thing that I appreciate is freedom of life. You, as an American, have the freedom of individuality. Many people on this planet have this luxury stripped from them due to dictatorship, communism, and other outside influences. Many of these places lack the government protection of freedom for its people; therefore, many people seek the refuge of the United States to bask in the glory of its freedom. I feel a great deal of honor that I was able to protect our freedom and preserve our way of life in the United States of America.

**Gerrad Cowee, Student**

The one thing I am grateful for are my two kids. They make my life better and give me something to do every day. My two little boys are my world I love them so very much. Another one is being back in school so I can make a better life for them.

**Sklya-Rae Isaakson, Student**

Something I am truly grateful for is my family. I appreciate them highly, and I don't have a clue what I would do without them. Eunice, my grandmother, is my hero. I hope to be like her in so many ways. She isn't rude or disrespectful to anyone and her faith is strong and is an inspiration to others and myself. She is a great example to her family and friends, and I love everything about her. She doesn't start something and not finish it. She works on it until it is accomplished. I look up to her for so many things and in so many ways. She is an amazing person in my life. Without family I feel most people would be lost. We need them to help ourselves get through anything. Whenever you seem to be needing a shoulder to cry on or just someone to come to, family is there, no matter how difficult they may seem at times.

**Monique Bittner, Student**

I'm grateful for grandparents, the oldest/wisest ones, who seem like they can NEVER get enough hugs and kisses, but we still love them. I'm grateful for brothers/sisters. No matter the age, they still seem to find the right nerve to jump on. Last but surely not least, I'm grateful for parents. It's a love/hate relationship. But you know what they say? You don't miss the

water 'till the well dries up. So, to sum that up, I'm grateful for my family. They are there when I need them. They can actually be pretty useful, and no matter what you do, they always care about you. Even though events like family reunions and Thanksgiving dinner can be pretty boring, it's worth it.

**Chris Cleek, Student**

I am grateful for being accepted at adult education, and I appreciate my teachers' time and effort to help me reach my goals.

**Chris Phillips, Student**

I am grateful for each day that I breathe. Even though there are hard times, and I'm unsatisfied with things going on in my life, I am lucky to live another day. I look forward to the morning kisses, smiles, and "I love you's" from my son, along with the laughter from the tickles, the innocence in his eyes, and the love he has for me. These everyday joys give me a reason to look forward to another day. Each day is a blessing, and I want to keep it that way. We should be thankful for the lives we have because it could always be worse.

**Carrie McMahan, Student**

I am grateful for my children. They make my life feel more meaningful and bright. They are all great kids and are smart and healthy. They bring enjoyment to my life and make me strive to do better with my life. I want to make something more of myself to show them that life can be great if you are willing to work at it. My kids are an unconditional love that I wouldn't trade for anything in the world.

**Mandie Morgan, Student**

I'm grateful to have a strong mom who has been there for me from the start. She's amazing! She does a lot for me and my family. Since I didn't really grow up with a father figure in my life, my mom had to be there extra, and she has been there for the last 20 years. I'm hoping to develop some of her strengths, so when I have kids of my own, I'll be there for them just as she has.

**Shay Ward, Student**

# to thank

## Being Grateful

I am grateful for having had "Critter," our black Labrador retriever in my life. He was handsome, loving, loyal, playful, and super intelligent. Critter made my husband and me laugh, cry and forget all of our troubles when things were tough. He was so handsome that people would ask us if they could take his picture. When I was very ill, he would put his head on the edge of my bed, moan, and then lay next to my bed and check on me ever so often. He would play with and protect little birds and butterflies. Critter was always ready to go somewhere with us. He would never get into any of our vehicles without permission, except our old red truck. If my husband Kevin left the door to the truck open, Critter would be waiting inside the cab of the truck for Kevin so they could go on their next adventure.

### Lucy Prophet, Student

I have several things I am grateful for. I am grateful because I am learning English and have a job at McDonalds. I have a nice car, nice house, and a really nice husband. I have really nice teachers, and I have good American friends. Between my husband and me, we make enough money to keep the bills paid. I appreciate this because I am really living the good life, and I appreciate it very much.

### Jennie Blanchard, Student

One person I really appreciate is my mom. Through my entire life, she's done so much for me. After my mom found out she was pregnant with me, she immediately quit a ten-year smoking habit until I was born. When my parents divorced and she was the only parent around, she did the best she could to raise my sisters and me and help us get through the ordeal. She introduced me to my love for photography and gave me my first camera. Recently, she told me that she wanted to help me pay for part of college, which will help me out very much. In addition to all of this, she has always been there for me, and for that, I am very grateful to have her.

### Eli Wickenburg, Student

I am grateful and appreciate my parents and my kids. My mom & dad have done a lot for me, and I appreciate them for all of the things they have done and are still doing for me. My parents babysit for me while I am in school and work,

so I don't have to worry about missing school or work. If my kids get sick, my mom will still take care of them. I know she will take care of their needs while they are there. I am also grateful for my kids and how they make me look at life in a different way and how I have grown up in life. I have learned a lot from my kids and really appreciate that. I am working hard for what I want in life and not stopping this time or making excuses. In the end when I am all done, I will be grateful for working hard for what I want and appreciate the outcome in life.

### Katrina McKeen, Student

I am very grateful for being out of prison. This holiday coming up will be the first holiday in eight years that I will be able to celebrate. In prison, holidays are not very fun. Actually, it is very depressing for most people around the holidays when you are locked up. I appreciate the simple things that most people take for granted such as being able to go to the store or go for a walk or call anyone you want. People don't realize what losing your freedom is until they have lost it. Freedom is what I really appreciate and am grateful for.

### Noel Morris, Student

There are many things that I am grateful for, but the greatest of all is my husband and my children. Growing up in the country and being the youngest in the family, I was always lonely. So when God blessed me with a family of my own, I was the happiest girl in the whole wide world. I really appreciate my family; they brighten up my life. There is so much love and laughter in my home that there will never be a lonely day again.

### Dorla Roberts, Student

I am very grateful for being in peace, having good friends, and for having my mother and father with me. I appreciate all these things by being with them and giving thanks. And, of course, I enjoy it. Life is a gift. Everything around us and all we can do are great gifts from God: seeing, hearing, speaking, moving, eating, drinking, smelling, touching, reading, singing, writing, thinking, etc. There are infinite things that each one has as a gift to be grateful for.

### Luisa Martinez, Student



Monique Bittner, Amanda DeVerniero, and Sarah McFadden share their spirit during the Adult Education Annual Appreciation Dinner.

# To Share and...

## Sharing Traditions

Ukraine has a lot of winter traditions. My favorite is Maslenitsa. It is very old Slavic tradition, which usually begins in the last week before Great Lent and lasts about seven days. Maslenitsa is a sun festival celebrating the imminent end of the winter and beginning of spring. The most popular food of Maslenitsa is bliny (Russian pancake); it's symbolizing the sun, round and golden. It is made from butter, eggs, and milk. My favorite is bliny with red caviar. Maslenitsa is very fun—people singing, dancing, and sledding. They build the scarecrow (symbol of winter) and burn it, thus sending away winter and welcoming spring.

**Iryna Gabriel, Student**

One of our old family Christmas traditions was baking lots of banana and fruit bread and delivering it to our neighbors on the countryside. It was a time for catching up on the year's past events—all the triumphs and sorrows. These gatherings were welcomed and anticipated by all. We visited each other throughout the year, but these visits were hurried and usually work-related. Christmas, however, was a special time, and we hurried to get our chores done so we could gather in our or one of our neighbor's living rooms. It was time to reflect on the year coming to a close with hot beverages and delicious homemade bread. Through neighborly spirit, we were able to show them how much we meant to each other; it was God's love manifested.

**Juanita Alvarez, Student**

Wintertime is my least favorite season, but one of my favorite traditions is building snowmen. Snow can be fun if you're making funny snowmen with your friends. When I was younger, I couldn't make snow sculptures quite as well as I can now, since I'm taller and can lift heavier snowman parts. Spending an afternoon making snowmen with friends and having snowball fights can brighten up any winter day. Of course, after spending time in the frigid outdoors, a cup of hot chocolate with marshmallows is always the best way to end the activity.

**Sarah McFadden, Student**

Every Christmas my family migrates over to my grandmother's house for a Christmas Day feast. About 25 people show up to eat and most of them stay for a while and chat. At the end of the evening, we usually have a couple of presents each to open for the 15 or so of us left. By the very end of the night, we all go home with lifted spirits and full bellies. I don't expect the same for this Christmas since everyone is starting their own traditions with their new families.

**Chance Ickes, Student**

Well, one of my traditions is going to see and enjoy my granddaughters participate in a school Christmas play. I love watching them enjoying themselves. Just having them know grandpa is there to watch them makes me happy.

**Charleston Yellow Fox, Student**

At the beginning of every December, my siblings and I go over to my parent's house and spend a day helping them decorate and put up the Christmas tree. My parents still have all the ornaments from when we kids were in school, and it's

so much fun looking at all the stuff that we made when we were little. Now that we all have kids of our own, we are adding ornaments for them, too. It's so exciting watching how much enjoyment we all get out of this one very simple task of decorating the tree.

**Rachelle Blessing, Student**

One of my special memories of this last year would be this summer when I bought my son a SpiderMan bicycle. He was really excited because SpiderMan is his favorite character. Every day we would get up, have breakfast, and then he would want to go for a bike ride. Sometimes we would go ride bikes almost all day ...

**Gary Grussing, Student**

To prepare for my winter tradition, you will first need an ice auger or a screwdriver to chip through ice. Next you will need to wear very warm clothes, and don't forget gloves. Then you will need a rope tied around you and the end of it tied to something stable on shore. This is for your safety only. The last things you will need are the most important items, a fishing pole and bait. Yes, I'm talking about "Ice Fishing."

**Steven Skundberg, Student**

When my boys were young, we lived in Joliet. In December, the community businesses sponsored St. Nick Day. We'd roast hotdogs and marshmallows over a fire. People entered their chili for a chili-tasting contest. We would then go on a horse-drawn wagon ride and then have our pictures taken with Santa. In the evening we'd attend the Christmas Sing at our church. It was an event we looked forward to every year.

**Diane Erhart, Student**

One of my winter traditions would have to be making snowmen. Whether they're using their heads to bowl down snow pins or just looking jolly while people pass through, being outside with my younger siblings and laughing is how the cold can draw a family together. As for you, the reader, I wish you a Merry Christmas, and hopefully you enjoy the winter and all it brings.

**Corey Ward, Student**

One of my favorite winter traditions is to go snowboarding. My friends and I try to go at least once every weekend. We go whether the snow is good or bad. We sometimes go when the weather is below zero. We also go to the winter carnival every year that's held in Red Lodge at the ski resort. It is one of my favorite times in the winter season.

**Jordan Harris, Student**

One of my winter traditions is making candy. When it's almost time for Christmas, my grandma and I make mostly hard candy like peanut brittle or flavored candy. Every year we find more flavors. We give candy to the garbage man, mail lady, and family members. My favorite kind of candy is peanut brittle. The good thing about making candy is we never have to go to the store for treats and my grandma and I get to spend more time together.

**Kelee Krank, Student**

# to Resolve

## New Year's Resolutions...

### What about the Rest of Your Life?

So, what are your typical New Year's Resolutions? Lose weight? Work out regularly? Eat healthful foods? Save money? Start a new hobby? Take a class? Learn a new skill? Make new friends?

New Year's resolutions help you evaluate where you are and set some immediate goals, but what about the rest of your life? Given that you will spend most of your waking hours for the majority of your life working, carefully choosing your career should be a priority upon which you spend a considerable amount of time and effort. Can you answer the following questions:

1. What are you passionate about?
2. What are your strengths?
3. What can you do well?
4. What do you value and why?
5. What would you love to do even if no one paid you?

Have you discovered the career that you will enjoy doing and are able to do well? If not, you are invited to begin work on your career plan here at Billings Adult Education.

In order to develop your career plan, begin with a clear understanding of yourself. The PEP Talk Blueprint will lead you through the following processes to develop your Personal Employment Plan (PEP):

1. Create a portfolio account for the Montana Career Information System (MCIS).
2. Verify your workplace skills using SKILLS Cards and SKILLS Worksheets.
3. Complete the IDEAS Interest Assessment and/or the O\*Net Interest Profiler to produce a list of occupations that match your highest interest areas.
4. Identify potential barriers via the Life Inventory.
5. Explore and compare occupations of interest using the Montana Career Information System (MCIS) and other tools.
6. Set personal and career goals that are SMART: Specific, Measureable, Attainable, Realistic, and Time Bound.

Start your New Year with more than a New Year's Resolution. Design your Personal Employment Plan (PEP) and set SMART goals to help make your plan a reality as soon as possible. Ask your counselor about career planning with Suzette Fox in Lab 114. Suzette also enjoys helping each student develop a resume that will grab the employers' attention, write cover letters for specific jobs, complete job applications, and answer interview questions positively and honestly. Maintaining successful employment after you get the job will require understanding Essential Workplace Skills discussed in Suzette's class as well.

Join your colleagues in Lab 114 where Computer Applications, Career Planning, and Workplace Skills are part of everyday learning. Suzette will partner with your counselors and supporting agencies to assist you in every way possible. Use PEP to determine what you achieve in 2010!!!

**Suzette Fox, Instructor**

## Sharing Traditions

I'm from Mexico, and we celebrate the New Year with a big party, and one of the traditions is this. On the 31<sup>st</sup>, you eat 12 grapes at 12:00 am; when you eat a grape, you need to wish something because that night you have 12 wishes. We also run outside of the house with a big bag. You put whatever you want for the next year inside; if you want money, put \$20 inside; if you want to be in a constant party next year, you put a bottle of wine inside; and if you want to be on lots of vacations, you need to run for longer period of time. This tradition started before I was born, and I hope my kids follow this tradition.

**Ana Laura Suda, Student**

One of my winter traditions is having a family dinner together, opening one present, and then opening the rest on Christmas Day. Spending time with my family is the best gift of all among everything else on Christmas. To see my boys' expressions when they open their presents is the most thrilling thing in the world. Their joy reminds me of my own childhood with my Mom and my grandparents. I remember one memory in particular when I was little; it was on Christmas Eve. I heard noises on the roof and told my Mom and my

grandparents it was Santa and his reindeer. They told me that it was snow dropping onto the roof. I went to see if it was Santa, and I swear I saw him going up the chimney. And earlier when I went to look at the presents under the tree, there weren't very many. But afterwards, when I looked again there were more presents than before. I told my family and they laughed at me, but they tried to go along with it for my sake.

**LeAnn Mettler, Student**

One of my favorite winter traditions is taking a trip to Pioneer Park. There I start to climb to the peak of the tallest hill and sled down. To some this seems pointless. They say, "Why go through the task of scaling massive snowy hills in order to slide back down in a matter of seconds?" And these were my first thoughts, but seeing all that glistening, fluffy, white snow and receiving the adrenalin rush are worth the long journey up. So I have forever adopted this extravagant tradition to enlighten my winter season and to bring back the child that once was me.

**Andrew Walter, Student**

## Student of the Week

### Congratulations to the following students:

Diana Hatfield	Luisa Martinez
Dean Carpenter	Donna Theis
Phuc Chau	Carrie McMahan
Antone Bighead	Sufian Hasan

*Expressions'* articles have been proofread, not edited.

### Calendar

December 23 - January 3	No school
January 10	No school
February 24	<i>Expressions</i> Deadline
March 27 - April 4	No school



**Smiles  
welcome!**



*Expressions* is now available on the Billings Adult Education website at <http://www.billings.k12.mt.us/adulted/adulted/index.html> > under Links.

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## Adult Education Center Newsletter