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Weekly News Digest 09/28/2016

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News

[Hakala '98 Earns Mike Mansfield Fellowship](#)

Announcements

This Week in Photos

- [Volleyball vs Concordia Moorhead](#)
- [Environmental Studies Poster Presentation](#)

You Are Invited: Soup and Substance Political Series: Educated Voting

The Office of Community Engagement will host the first Soup and Substance of the semester on Thursday, September 29, at 6 p.m. in the Student Center's Oyate Hall (Alumni Room). "Educated Voting" will focus on how and why people should be educated voters. This discussion is the first of a three-part political series. The event is designed to provide an open forum for members of the Stevens County and campus communities to discuss issues of local, regional, national, and international importance. For more information, please [contact the Office of Community Engagement](#).

Palmer to Present "Rivers of America"

[Author and photographer Tim Palmer will give a presentation titled "Rivers of America" on Wednesday, October 5, at 7 p.m. in Imholte Hall 109.](#) Palmer is the award-winning author of 22 books on rivers, conservation, and the environment. He is also an accomplished photographer with one of the most complete collections of photos of rivers in the United States.

A public question-and-answer session with Palmer will take place on Thursday, October 6, at 5 p.m. in the Lower Level of Briggs Library. Palmer is game to talk about his life of adventure, exploration, communication, nailing the photo, and publishing. He also is willing to discuss marriage, idealism, despair, hope, and practical politics for our times. Come for a lively and friendly conversation! Refreshments will be served.

Accomplishments

Lackey's Latest Book Released by Bloomsbury

[Biographical Fiction: A Reader by Michael Lackey, professor of English, has been released by Bloomsbury.](#) In *Biographical Fiction: A Reader*, some of the finest scholars and writers of biofiction clarify what led to the rise of this genre, reflect on its nature and form, and specify what it is uniquely capable of doing; combining primary and critical material, this accessible reader will be invaluable to students, teachers, and scholars of biofiction.

Pietz '86 Receives National Endowment for the Humanities Grant

[David Pietz '86, UNESCO chair of environmental history at the University of Arizona—along with Dorothy Zeisler-Vralsted, political science and international affairs at Eastern Washington University—received a Landmarks Grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities for *Grand Coulee Dam — The Intersection of Modernity and Indigenous Cultures*.](#) The project is a collaborative effort between EWU and faculty from several universities, including the University of Arizona, Washington State University, and Maastricht University in the Netherlands.

Morris Hosts UMTC Sustainability Minor Class

Last week students and staff from the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities Sustainability Minor class met with **Troy Goodnough**, sustainability director; **Mary Jo Forbord**, Morris Healthy Eating coordinator; and students **Alexa Barta '18**; **Sydney Bauer '19**; **Sophie Bishop '17**; **Mckenzie Dice '19**; **JoMarie Garcia '18**; and **Maeve Maron '18**. The Sustainability Minor team learned about student-driven projects, visited Morris clean energy systems, learned about the [Morris Model](#), and visited several off-campus community destinations.

Vavra Crowned Homecoming King

Wyatt Vavra, facilities management assistant custodian, was crowned Homecoming King of Morris Area High School on Monday night. Vavra is a senior at MAHS.

In the News

Upworthy Talks Rural Masculinity with Stermer '16

Brendan Stermer '16, Montevideo, talks rural masculinity in *Upworthy's* "[18 men opened up about what it's like being a man in rural America.](#)" Stermer produced the digital series [Manhood in Rural America](#) as an intern with the Center for Small Towns.

Burquest's '19 Mother Is "Already a 'Survivor'"

What's the Morris connection to the new season of *Survivor*? [Cougar baseball pitcher Brock Burquest '19, Brooklyn Park, is cheering on his mother.](#)