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The Valley Voice



Issue 5

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Fall Concert a Hit

On Tuesday the 24th of October the Belt Music Department hosted a fall concert. It was the first concert under the direction of the new music teacher Mr. Sutton. The concert consisted of grades 5-12, band and choir students. There were an estimated 400 people in the stands at the Belt Public School gymnasium. The concert was divided between the 5th grade band, 6th grade band, grades 7-8 band, 9-12 concert band, and middle and high school choirs.

The 5th grade band students kicked off the concert with their newly

learned songs, warming up the crowd for the middle school and high school band and choir.

The songs that were played ranged from "Mary Had a Cool Lamb" in the 5th grade to the "Jupiter Hymn" from The Planets played by the high school concert band. There were countless solos and all of the students sounded exceptional. William Franzen, a sophomore flautist, provided accompaniment, playing for the high school choir with his mesmerizing flute. New instruments were played as well, including a bassoon, a horn,

and a bass clarinet.

The concert started at 7 p.m. and ended about an hour later at around 8 p.m. The next concert will be for the K-4 students on December 5th at 7 p.m. in the Belt Public Schools gymnasium. Direct quotes after the results of the fall concert from Mr. Sutton himself. "I though the concert was wonderful," "It is always encouraging for a music teacher when the students 'bring it' for the night of performance." He also stated that he is excited "for the momentum that this first concert has created."

By: Sydne Flinn

Playoff Bound

Two weeks ago the Belt football team added another win to their perfect record of 8-0 with a shutout victory over Centerville by final score of 26-0 to claim the Northern C Divisional football championship. The Huskies will take their unblemished record to the playoffs as they prepare for the first round match-up tomorrow in Belt.

On Friday the 13th at home on Remington Field, the Huskies pushed past old rival Centerville. As the band concluded their rendition of the National Anthem, the weather



took a turn for the worse, as round b-b like pellets of snow bounced across the valley, creating a sloppy setting. Despite this annoyance, Belt dominated right off the bat, scoring 12 points in the first quarter with both Troy Hennes and Keagan Stroop running 3 yards to find pay dirt.

Neither team scored

in the second quarter, and it was still 12-0 as the klaxon sounded, signaling half time.

The wet, sloppy weather made it seemingly impossible to move the ball via the air, so the Huskies relied on runs to gain yardage with sophomore Hunter Vogl's 3 yard touchdown run and Trey Heitzman's 3 yard run putting the score at 24-0 after three periods.

Scoring closed when the Miners snapped the ball through the end zone on a punt attempt, resulting in a safety

Cont. Pg. 2

Football (Cont.)

and the game ending score of 26-0.

Centerville	-	-	-	-	-
Belt	12	-	12	2	26

Tomorrow at 1:00 p.m., Belt, the number one seeded team from the north, will host a first round playoff game against the Scobey Spartans, the number four seed from the East. If the Huskies continue their winning streak and leave with a win, they will host the following week, November 4th against the winner of the Ennis vs. Arlee game.

The 8-Man playoffs begin across the state tomorrow with all first round playoff games scheduled for 1:00 p.m. (state bracket on pg. 9).

Great Falls radio station KMON will provide coverage of all Northern C games. The second place Miners will also host a first round game, against the Circle Wildcats. That game will be available at Kool 92.9 fm and <http://kool929fm.com/>. Third seed GFCC travels to Fair-



view and will be available on KMON 560 or www.560kmon.com. Choteau travels to Forsyth and can be heard on K99 or k99hits.com. Belt's game will be broadcast by Karl Koontz on Max Country 94.5 or 945maxcountry.com.

By: Maggie Andrews

Middle School Sports

The fall sports season has come to an end for the middle schoolers of Belt Public Schools. The cross country team made the long bus ride to Townsend for their last meet of the year on October 14th, and the volleyball team participated in their year-end tournament at the School for the Deaf and Blind in Great Falls. Despite the football coach's best efforts, they were unable to find another matchup for the young gridiron squad; the boys hung their helmets on October 6th.

In attendance at the Rusty Raisland Invitational Cross Country Meet were Belt/Centerville runners: Lindsey Paulson, Piper Denno, Annie Cook, Cole Hepfner, and Asa Jassen. The girls and boys both ran 3 kilometers. Paulson placed 10th in

the girls' race with a time of 13:48.76, the first of the Belt/Centerville girls. Denno stopped the clock at 14:01.47, good for 18th overall, and Cook came in 41st with a time of 15:03.78. Hepfner and Jassen finished consecutively placing 2nd and 3rd out of 89 male runners. Hepfner finished the 3k course in 12:02.49 and Jassen came in a second later, 12:03.87. The meet was a great finish to the Belt/Centerville cross country season.

The Belt volleyball team donned the maroon and gold for the last time on the 12th and 13th at the season-ending tournament. The Huskies played the Cascade Badgers for the first game and Belt was victorious in two games with scores of 25-13 and 25-20. The girls then

played the Fort Benton Longhorns for a spot in the championship. The Huskies won in two matches, outscoring the Horns 26-24 and 27-25. The Longhorns played their way back into the championship and beat the Huskies, 25-14 and 25-22. The tournament is double-elimination so the Huskies first loss to the Longhorns in the championship forced another game. Belt prevailed in the final game, securing first place in two matches with matching scores of 25-22. The team's final record was 14-1.

The middle school athletes will be starting basketball in late January. The Valley Voice will be keeping local readers apprised of the youngsters future athletic endeavors.

By: Adelle Meissner

Calendar of Events

- Oct. 27th District Volleyball Tournament @ GFCC. Times TBA
- Oct. 28th First Round FB Playoffs vs. Scobey @ 1 p.m.
- Oct. 30th End of Quarter 1
- Oct. 31st K-5 Halloween Parade in gym 3:15 p.m.
- Nov. 2nd – 4th Divisional Volleyball @ Chinook. Times TBA
- Nov. 4th Second Round FB Playoffs @ Belt (hopefully!)
- Nov. 6th and 7th Parent Teacher Conferences 4:00 p.m.
- Nov. 6th Spanish Class Fiesta Dinner @ P/T Conferences 6:00 p.m.
- Nov. 9th – 10th State Volleyball @ Bozeman. Times TBA



Youth Days

Youth Days is a series of two day conferences held throughout the state of Montana, sponsored by MBI in an effort to promoting tomorrow's leaders. Schools from all over the north-west attended, bringing along students with the potential to make a difference in their communities. The conference took place on Sunday, October 8th through Monday, October 9th in Great Falls. The Little Belt Conference Room, inside the Hilton Inn, was jammed full with participants from twenty high-schools and seven middle schools hailing from central Montana.

Sunday consisted of three breakout sessions that were hosted by three different speakers and groups such as Special Olympics Montana. Familiar faces made a reappearance this year, Youth Days leader, Joe Moriarty, former Division 1 athlete and NFL player Oscar McBride, health and wellness speaker Bruce Colton, were able to share their knowledge and wisdom amongst the group. Each brought a unique view and idea to the theme of a 'Sense of Purpose'.

The following Monday, groups of students from multiple schools were sent out throughout the city of Great Falls to participate in community service projects.

Conference attendees in places such as St. Vincent De Paul, West-Side Gardens, and the Rescue Mission. Afterwards, students were asked to bring back their rendition of their volunteering experiences and share with the rest of the groups. A commonality was amongst all the groups and that was the sensation a selfless act brings; a sense of purpose. Upon being interviewed by the valley voice, Freshman, Sabrina Wing, felt the service projects gave her an idea of how the Rescue Mission (her service project) is able to assuage families and people in need. It was also eye-opening for her to see the impact charities such as Rescue Mission have. Shannon Hoskins also commented on the behind the scenes work it takes to keep an organization founded purely on volunteerism and charitable funding up and running.

The conference concluded with each school creating an action plan built on the basis of constructing a better habitat for their academic endeavors. The Belt High School action plan is all about involvement and acceptance within and outside the school walls. Youth leadership is pushing to make the school and Unified Champions School, which means bringing together a Special Olympics team and

participating more actively in their events. The next big project the group is piecing together is the Speak Out Program which Jordan Swanson accredited to Columbia Falls High School. The basis of the program is to get students to share their opinions on school environment and help give the student body and staff and idea of how to make effective change inside the classroom. Letters can be sent anonymously to a council of students who will then look over the letters. These notes will then be shared in an assembly either by the writer or a council member. These assemblies will take place quarterly if possible. Lastly, the Youth Leadership group is setting up a tutoring system inside the school. Tutors can sign up in the library but must have passed the course and have a good understanding of the content at hand. Sign-ups to find a tutor will also be made available in the library.

The attendees for Belt School came back with a new sense of purpose and a drive to define it within their learning environment. Youth Days is another successful program initiated by the MBI staff and students at the school.

By: Shelby Paulson

Franzen Flute

Belt students are known to shine when it comes to athletics, academics, and theatre. However, one important aspect of the school often goes without the recognition it deserves; the music program. Recently, one of the music department's standout members received recognition for excellence.

Sophomore William Franzen sits in the front row of his high school band playing the flute, and he excels not only in the school set-

ting, but also in the professional setting.

This is proven from his acceptance into the Great Falls Youth Orchestra. This organization possesses a very high profile, and only a select number of



area youths are accepted into the program.

The group holds a practice every Sunday as they prepare for two performances annually. The first show was last week on November 19th. The Spring Concert will be March 25th. The Belt community is looking forward to supporting Franzen as he partakes in this production. Congratulations on a job exceptionally well done!

By: Maggie Andrews

Protests Spark Conversation

Players from several NFL teams are taking a knee during the National Anthem in protest of police brutality and social and racial injustice. Colin Kaepernick, pictured, a former 49ers quarterback, started this protest almost 14 months ago. He began the protest by sitting, and later advanced to kneeling to show more respect to military veterans. These protests gained publicity when President Trump brought these protests to the limelight via social media. This has created conversations about both the social/racial issues as well as the proper method of dissent.

These protests have generated a lot of talk around the school within classmates and raised a lot of questions and strong opinions. Senior Hannah Schweitzer has recently done a reading on the NFL protests and has quite a few strong opinions

on the matter. Schweitzer thinks what the players are protesting is important, but disagrees strongly with how they are protesting. She believes that the method of protest was chosen because “it would gain momentum”. Schweitzer also believes President Trump has overreacted towards the players, “They shouldn’t be fired...”, and thinks that disrespecting the flag should be illegal.

Sam Vaughn reports that her class has discussed the topic many times, and does not support the time and place the players are protesting. Vaughn believes that there are other ways to get the attention for the protests. She feels that the players are being disrespectful to the military and military families. Sam Vaughn concluded that the players should be fined for their disrespect.

Avery Newman from the

sophomore class has stayed away from the discussions on this issue, preferring to keep quiet about his opinions. He supports the protests, “...they are protesting racial injustice, something that they are promised as United States citizens...so I think they have a right to protest however they’d like.” Newman does not think they are disrespecting the flag, he thinks that President Trump has turned the protests away from social injustice and into disrespecting the flag.

The NFL has lost a lot of viewers because of this issue and it has become a problem for the league. Perhaps these protests should be carried out in a different fashion, as in many ways the discussion regarding the protests is not about the issues being protested in the first place.

By: Aundrea Glick

Middle School Field Trip

Last week called for not only a short school week, but also a field trip for the middle school students. On Tuesday November 17th, middle school teachers, Mrs. Vogt, Mrs. Meissner, and Mrs. Stinson, took the whole middle school on a trip to Butte so the kids could examine old mining sites. The busses left the school at 8:00 a.m., and they didn’t return until around 6:00 as the group engaged in numerous activities throughout the day.

The Butte expedition started off with a visit to The World Museum of Mining, where the students and staff got the opportunity to ex-



perience the life of a miner firsthand. They donned hard hats with headlamps, just like real miners do. Lights were shut off in order for the students to see just exactly what it was like to be underground mining with just the lights of their hats to guide them. The excitement wasn’t over for the Huskies as they also went to the college of Montana Tech to check out all sorts of new technology that the college had to offer. A windy tour around the Berkeley Pit, a former open-pit copper mine, closed off this excursion as the students and staff packed the busses back up.

This was the first time the middle school has taken this trip, and it was such a success that the three teachers hope make it an annual event. Potential destinations for next year’s trip are already being discussed.

By: Maggie Andrews

Pro Alley Scores

Week 8

High Game Men:

Drew Koffler 219 (+73)

John Larson 208

Brian Neill 1197

High Series Men:

Drew Koffler 567

Brian Neill 533

John Larson 515

High Game Women:

Sara Christensen 186 (+53)

Linda Lewis 155

Laura Koffler 154

Vicki DeKoning 154

High Series Women:

Sara Christensen 428

Linda Lewis 423

Vicki Dekoning 415

MAPs Testing

A couple weeks ago was the start of a set of standardized tests, also known as MAPS testing. MAP stands for Measure of Academic Progress. These tests are required around elementary, with an exception for juniors and seniors who don't take them. MAPs testing normally take place in the beginning and end of the school year. There is also going to be a test in the middle of the school year too. This year the Belt Public Schools will be taking the tests during September, January, and April. Most students don't look forward to these tests because of the lengthy, sometimes difficult questions. Some of the tests can take up to one or one and a half hours of the student's school day. The assessments are taken by students all over the country to record progress and

to make sure students are on the right track. As MAPs testing comes to a close Belt students will finally breathe a sigh of relief.

The tests are run by a program named NWEA, which stands for North West Education Association. They are a research based organization and they develop assessments for education. The tests range from math, science, reading, and language arts. The assessments are linked to the ACT tests, so ultimately the MAPs testing will record if a student is on track and college ready. Every time the tests are taken, the progress is stored in the private records. Only teachers and admins can view these records and review which student or students' needs more improvement in their work. Hannah Schweitzer who is a

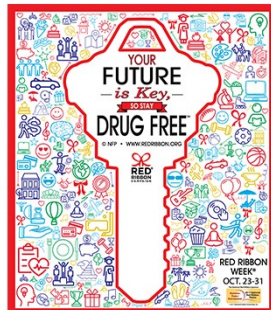
senior who hasn't the tests since sophomore year. She believes the tests are kind of a waste of time, she also stated that they have some good qualities but the cons outweigh the pros. Some students just don't like the tests but they can be influential to someone's abilities. Actually, preparing for the tests are quite easy. The day before the test someone needs to get a good night's sleep and eat a healthy breakfast in the morning. When taking the test, take as much time as needed, don't just speed through it. Most teachers supervise the test and will make any student restart the test when one is rushing on purpose. Just push through the tests and then in a week they will be over.

By: Sydne Flinn

Red Ribbon Week

Red Ribbon Week began in 1985 after Agent Enrique "Kiki" Camarena, an agent of the Drug Enforcement Administration, was kidnapped, tortured and murdered by drug dealers. Agent Camarena was undercover in Guadalajara, Mexico.

Red Ribbon week is a movement against drunk driving, drug use, blood disorders, and for the fight against AIDS. The Red Ribbon Foundation and Mothers Against Drunk Driving utilize the Red Ribbon symbol. Many schools



across America participate in Red Ribbon week during the week of October 23-31.

Red Ribbon week in Belt is

mostly focused on drug prevention and making good choices. The elementary students received a series of promotional items like pencils, pencil grips, and other items.

As Red Ribbon Week comes to a close, students and staff at Belt School hopes people take the time to join in the spirit by wearing a red ribbon, a tie, red clothes, boots, Husky gear, and listened closely during the Husky Time video.

Red Ribbon week has been celebrated for a very long time in school across the nation. This last week was a time to join in on the spirit and perhaps talk with peers about issues that arise with drugs.

By: Aundrea Glick

Blood Drive/NHS

National Honor Society is conducting a blood drive November 13th. Donors must be at least sixteen to participate, with a parent's signature required (forms in the office). Community members are encouraged to help out. Contact either Mrs. Ray or one the students involved.

NHS students are also start-

ing their personal service projects. Adrian Malek and Shannon Hoskins, who's also tutoring, are volunteering at Benefis. Julia Vogt runs a winter hats and glove drive with donation baskets at the bank, post office, school, and Belt Grocery Store from October through November. MaKayla O'Neil will run a pie social during the 5-12

Spring Concert, sending donations to local charities for students. Morgan Cooper will volunteer at the Special Olympics with Jordon Swanson while Nolan Mystol will help the little guy wrestlers. Finally, Hannah Schweitzer and Elyse Adams are volunteering at the Children's Museum.

By: Natalie Larsen

City News

On September 27th at 7:30 p.m. a city council meeting commenced for the town of Belt. The meeting was attended by: Mayor BJ Wells, Clerk-Treasurer Lynn Schilling, Aldermen Delbert Darko, Annie Porter, Paul Heikkila, Glen Enderson, Sally Miller, and Russell Roberts, Public Works personnel Jerry LaPlaunt, and nine members of the public.

Darko reported that he has spoken to Rick Schutz and Brian Clifton of the Highway Road Department regarding the gravel crushing activities east of town and the truck route through Belt that has developed. From a standpoint of public safety, the county should consider an alternate route that would not bring large trucks through town regularly. The water utility lines may be damaged due to excessive numbers of trucks traveling through town. Darko stated that the trucks will now be operating at a lower rate of speed and they will be weight checked. Porter suggested that a mileage speed indicator be set up as a deterrent. Roberts commented that a trailer mounted unit may be available to borrow from the Cascade County Sheriff's Office. Due to Porter's recommendation a mileage speed indicator has been set up entering and leaving town on Highway 331.

In regards to a city court, Schilling reported that Scott VanDyken of the Cascade County Sheriff's Office had contacted the Justice of Peace in Great Falls regarding the possibility of having the JP act as Belt's judicial arm and hear Belt cases. Mayor Darko will be meeting with Judge Fagenstrom in connection with that possibility.

Robin Franzen of Public Works has been unable to find anyone to repair/replace the inoperative and leaking hydrants in Belt. Porter asked if there was a current list of hydrants showing their status, location, maintenance schedule, and need for replacement or repair; Mayor Darko reported the he did not have that list but will secure one before the next meeting Porter then pointed out that it has been over six months since the list had been requested. Miller inquired as to whether the inoperative hydrants had been marked or covered. Miller went on to say that it was a liability and risk to Belt's ISO rating in failing to maintain the hydrants. It was suggested by Idaho Trenberth of Neil Consultants that a contractor be hired to accomplish the task. Alderman Roberts said that the inoperative hydrants should be covered with locking bags. Acting Mayor Darko said that he would get that accomplished through public works

immediately.

The town of Belt is offering a variety of surplus items for sale by closed bid, including: a tractor, a mower, and a post hole digger package. There are posters around town with more information. Interested buyers can contact City Hall at 277-3621 with questions. Sealed bids are scheduled to close on November 13th.

Beauford Wells resigned from his position as the Mayor of Belt on September 28th. The council nominated and voted Delbert Darko as interim mayor. Darko has been serving since October 4th and will continue until December 31st when a new mayor will take office. Ballots for the mayoral election were mailed to Belt residents on the 20th; the final votes will be tabulated on November 7th. Also on the ballot will be the candidates for the open alderman position in Ward 3, Russell Roberts and write in candidate, Clifford Williams.

The council met again on October 18th. The highlights from that meeting will be posted in the next issue of the Valley Voice. The next City Council meeting will be on November 1st at 7:30 PM. The meetings are open to the public and attendance by city residents is encouraged.

By: Adelle Meissner

Poker Tournament Results

The 5th Annual Matt Darko Memorial Poker Tournament was held on Saturday, October 14th at the East Side bar. 23 players paid the \$100 to enter the no limit Texas Hold'em event that lasted for about five hours. About \$2,000 was raised for the scholarship program this year. When the tournament ended, three winners were declared.

Colleen Browning took first place, it was her first time playing

live poker, and she will receive a trophy buckle by the Montana Silversmiths. Delbert Darko earned second place. Richard Browning, husband of Colleen Browning, placed third. Congratulations to the Brownings and Delbert Darko.

The Matt Darko Scholarship is awarded to a Belt High School graduating male and female each year. Last year each winner received \$1500. During the four years

the scholarship has been in place, over \$4,000 have been awarded

Other annual fundraisers for the scholarship include a Coyote Derby and a softball tournament. The Coyote Derby this year has 30 plus participants and is usually the largest money maker. The scholarship committee would like to thank all who have contributed to the Matt Darko Memorial Scholarship.

By: Aundrea Glick

Cross Country

Over the course of the last two weeks the BCXC team competed in their final regular season meet in Townsend. The Belt-Centerville team crossed the mountains to run State in Helena. Completing their last high-stakes race of the season.

The Belt-Centerville runners took off to Townsend last Saturday, the 14th, to run on the Old Baldy Golf Course, a particularly flat venue. Carrying an almost full bus load across the mountains to compete, the Husky-Miner team was prepared for a full day of x-country. Shaylyn Dilley, Kolby Pimperton, and Shelby Paulson all ran on that breezy afternoon for the high school girls. Dilley strode in with a breathless time of 22:24. Following behind her was Paulson with a personal record of 23:51. The last BCXC girl to cross the line was Pimperton at 24:09.

Robbie Gliko, William Franzen, Jacob Kelly, and Trajan Caivarelli all made their way to the start line at the conclusion of the girl's race. Stopping the clock at 18:17 was Gliko, who was the first

of the BCXC Boys team to make his way across the finish. Next to complete the course was Kelly with a solid time of 21:03. Next, Caivarelli loped in following Kelly with a time of 33:42 and last to cross the finish line was Franzen, who clocked in at 34:36. That completed the weekend for the high school runners along with the regular season of x-country.

State week had the six qualified runners in nervous anticipation for the grand finale of their running season. Friday, the 20th the Belt Centerville runners headed to Helena, the state's capital, to compete in their last run of the year. Saturday the runners geared up to run on the Bill Roberts Golf Course.

The Class C Boys' race started 1:10 p.m. that chilly afternoon. Competing through those icy gusts were Keagan Stroop, Robbie Gliko, and Jacob Kelly. Stroop hauled across the line in 16th with a hard-earned time of 18:32. Next to break the white line was Gliko who followed closely behind Stroop at 17th with a break-neck finish of

18:49. The last BCXC runner to end his 2017 cross country season was Kelly with a time of 21:10.

The Class C Girls' race kicked off second last that afternoon at 2:10 p.m. Running the hilly course for the Belt-Centerville co-op team was Shelby Paulson, Shaylyn Dilley, and Kolby Pimperton. Dilley was the first of the Husky-Miner co-op team to cross over the finish line with a swift time of 22:23. Dilley also placed 16th overall, representing her team with pride. Next to stop the clock at 23:42 was Pimperton and behind her was Paulson who ended the BCXC running season at 24:15.

The runners left their hearts out on the course, the boy's teams taking home sixth place and the girl's team tying for seventh overall. The cross country season crossed its final finish line this year with great achievements from all the runners on the team. The Voice congratulates the Belt-Centerville team with a season well done.

By: Shelby Paulson

With Halloween right around the corner the risks of drunk driving are higher than ever. Make sure throughout this Halloween weekend you make a plan and steer clear of your car after you've been drinking. Someone dies every 51 minutes in the United States due to drunk driving, and those risks are even higher on a weekend most everyone goes out.

Make sure to make a plan, and be safe this Halloween weekend, because you can never know what will go wrong. Make sure to buckle up, and...

Never Drink and Drive!

This message brought to you by your
Cascade DUI Task Force



Leaf Raking

As most know, during the fall the 4th and 5th graders go around Belt and rake people's yards. This will be the 9th year, Kathy Metrione, the 5th grade teacher, will be escorting the children around Belt, as well as Walmart in the month of

December for Operation Santa.

Every year Metrione has a goal of \$1,400, and every year they succeed. Though they do other fundraisers throughout the beginning of the year, leaf raking seems to be the most successful. Some of the other fundraisers include raffle tickets, and bake sales. Metrione also accepts donations.

Operation Santa is an activity that all of the students in those grades take place in. They are all split into groups and each group is given a certain amount of money. Since the students will be in charge of picking presents for children they have been practicing three different jobs. The jobs include a banker, an accountant, and a shopper. Each

group is assigned a list of items that the child likes and the students are in charge of deciding what to get them and how to use their money wisely. This activity teaches students how to cooperate, keep track of money, and how to spend the money. It also teaches students the value of charity.

When most people think of raking leaves they think about how boring it is, but the 4th and 5th graders find it enjoyable. Not only are the students having a blast, but so are the teachers and chaperones. They find it entertaining and quite amusing. More importantly, it is a great way for students in Belt to connect with the holiday spirit.

By: Tori Sherwood



Volleyball

Regular season play has come to an end for the Lady Husky Volleyball team. The girls finished out the season last week with a game against the Big Sandy Pioneers in Belt on October 14th, a game in Simms against the Tigers on the 16th, and then they played the Fairfield Eagles in Fairfield on the 17th. It was another great year for the girls as tourney season arrives.

October 14th was the last home game for the Belt Huskies. The junior varsity easily defeated the Pioneers in 3 matches. The varsity also won with ease outscoring the Pioneers in 3 quick matches. It was Senior Night in the Belt gym and the upperclassmen led the show. Seniors Dani Urick and Adri-

an Malek led the team in kills, digs, and aces. Malek had a team high 14 kills and Urick recorded 10 digs. Kolby Pimperton set for 23 assists and Pimperton, Urick, and Morgan Cooper combined for 9 aces.

October 16th was "Pack the House Pink Night" in Simms. The Huskies participated in the support of breast cancer survivors and wore pink shirts. The C Squad fell to Simms in 5 drawn out matches. The JV bested the Tigers in 4 matches, while the varsity was more efficient, winning in 3. The Huskies beat the Tigers 25-19, 25-19, and 25-22. Urick killed 16 balls, Malek and Cooper added 12 digs, Urick blocked 3 Tiger hits, Malek offered 2 aces, and Pimperton notched 19

assists as the Huskies triumphed.

October 17th was the last game before tournaments begin. The C squad was defeated by the Fairfield Eagles in 5 matches. The JV amended the C Squad's loss and triumphed in five sets, completing their season. The varsity was victorious in their last game, winning in 3 matches with scores of 25-23, 25-9, and 25-18. Pimperton notched 32 assists, Shelby Paulson added 2 blocks, and Urick and Pimperton offered 2 aces each. Malek led the team with matching states of 14 kills and 14 digs.

The Huskies are battling in the 7C District Tournament at Great Falls Central Catholic this week. Yesterday afternoon they beat the Fort Benton Longhorns in three sets with scores of 25-17, 25-23, and 25-19. Today they will face the Great Falls Central Mustangs for a spot in the championship game. The game will begin 30 minutes after the conclusion of match 6 (roughly around 11:30 a.m.).

By: Adelle Meissner



The Lady Husky seniors prepare for their last post-season run

Husky Club

Many students in Kindergarten through 5th grade participate in Husky Club. It is an afterschool program funded by a 21st Century grant. The students complete homework and then an enrichment activity of some sort. The Club is managed by teachers and parents and their efforts are invaluable. Mrs. Swanson heads the program with Mrs. Horton, Mrs. Visocan, and Mrs. Vogt teaching the students and Mrs. Elam and Ronnie Davison helping as aids. This is the 10th year that Belt Public Schools has been the host site for Husky Club.

There are many activities that the youngsters are performing throughout the year. Every other Tuesday, Mrs. Vogt teaches the K-2 students and then the 3-5 students a STEM learning activity. Other programs that the kiddos do are

“Harvest of the Month” which is a ten month curriculum through the MTEDU and Montana State University that focus on a vegetable that is grown in Montana. Last month’s harvest was summer squash and this month’s is kale. The children explore activities relating to the vegetable, such as studying it as well as trying the cuisine. They also do differing arts and crafts, such as constructing science projects and creating turkeys on paper.

Each month the teachers are doing a “Career Hero of the Month”. The objective of this program is to immerse the youngsters in ideas for jobs as they get older. Anyone interested in being a career hero should contact Mrs. Swanson at the school at 277-3351.

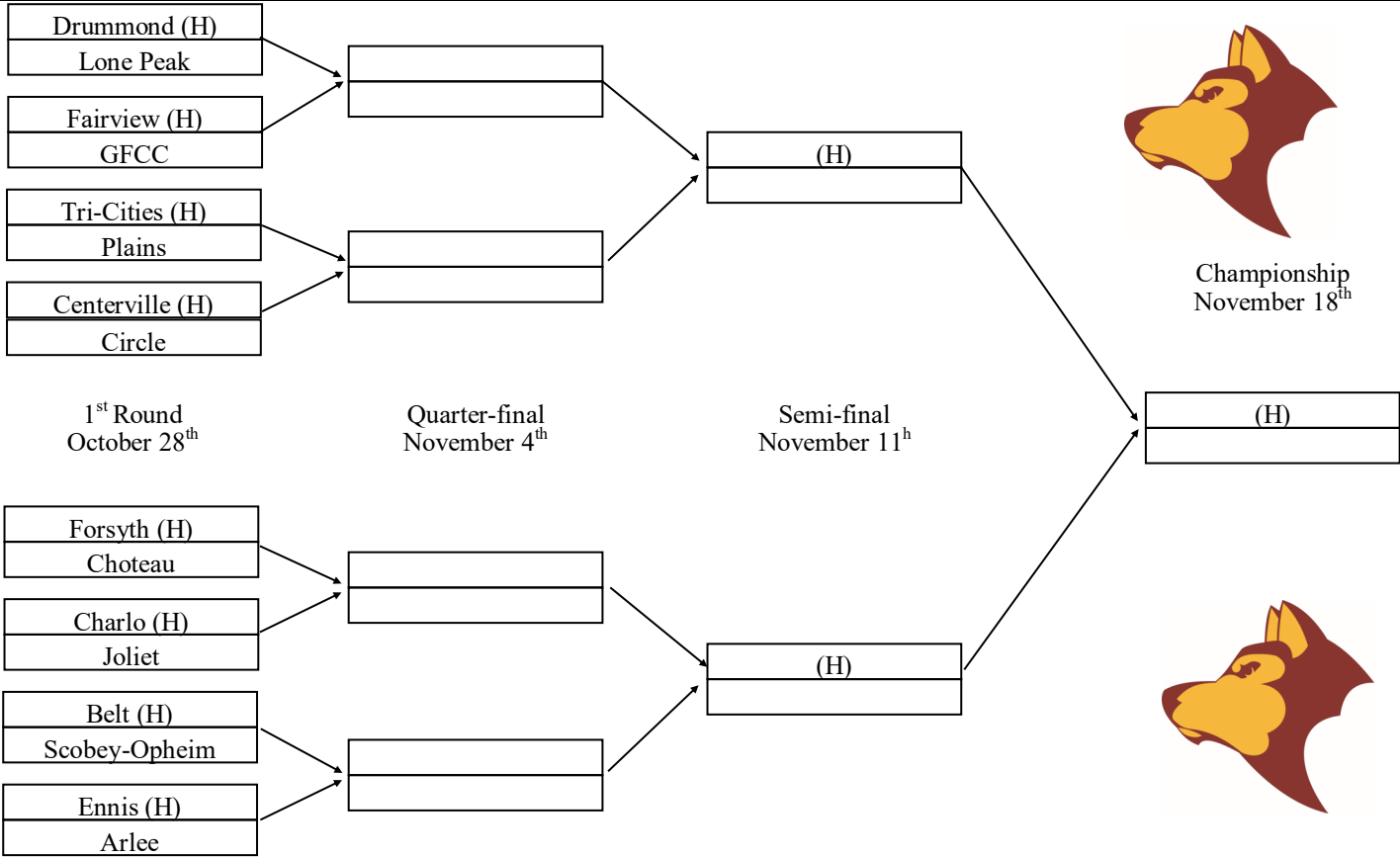
Husky Club will be collaborating with Title I and the elemen-

tary teachers to host the “Lights on Afterschool” event on November 15th. This is a family math night including a free spaghetti dinner at 5:30 in the school cafeteria. Afterwards, there will be various math games set up for the kids to practice math and parents can experience firsthand what their children are learning at school.

Husky Club is a great opportunity for students Kindergarten through 5th to get their homework done, learn about the community in various ways, and be in a safe environment.

By: Keely Drummond

2017 State Football Playoff Bracket



The Great ShakeOut

On Wednesday, October 18th, all the K-12 students participated in a worldwide earthquake drill. “The Great Montana ShakeOut” is a program that has been occurring for nine years that focuses on the safety precaution in the event of an earthquake. Belt Schools participates in this drill, even though it is not required by state law.

At 10:23 a.m., Mr. Paulson came on over the speakers and an-

nounced that the school was going into an earthquake drill. Student and staff dropped, covered, and held on to desks or chairs. This lasted for about the time span of one minute while “earthquake sounds” resonated over the speakers. Everyone in the school then evacuated to the football field and waited for the “all clear” to proceed back inside. This past July, many student and even staff members felt their first major earthquake. A 5.8 magnitude

tremor rattled the whole state of Montana in the early morning hours of July 6th. Shakes could be felt all the way to Spokane, Washington and Calgary, Alberta, Canada. In previous years, this drill has not seemed practical to the students since they live in Montana and major earthquakes are rare. The earthquake in July really put into perspective that an earthquake can occur anywhere at any time.

By: Keely Drummond

The NILE

This past weekend, thousands of people from all over the United States and Canada gathered in Billings, Montana for the annual Northern International Livestock Exposition (NILE). The NILE is a nine day long event that promotes livestock, agriculture and the western way of life. It boasts a stock show, horse sales, rodeo, and tradeshow. The 2017 year was the 50th anniversary of the NILE

Brothers, Asa (8th grade) and Clayton (6th grade) Jassen helped their neighbors, Mary Hill and Jeanne Rankin of Raynesford, show their Gelbvieh cattle. Asa showed a yearling steer in the Open Pair class and brought home a Grand Champion. When asked about how the time commitment

that it took to raise and train the steers he said, “I didn’t halter break or train these steers and heifers to set up. That was all Mary and Jeanne, I just helped fit them and show them in the ring. But I know from my own experience with my 4 -H steers that it is long and sometimes exhausting task. With lots of dedication, it can result with the judge picking you for grand champion and that is the best feeling in the world.”

Switching sides from the cattle end of the expo to the horses, there were horses sold in the Gold Buckle Horse Sales from Belt. Ashley Quarter Horses, owned by Lynn and Lanell Ashley, had four yearlings and two-year old horses that were consigned to the sales.

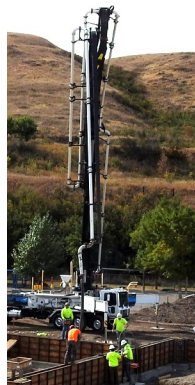
Furthermore, the NILE PRCA rodeo, the first rodeo of the 2018 Montana Circuit season took place Wednesday October 18th to Saturday October 21st. This gives cowboys and cowgirls an opportunity to jumpstart the season before the summer months. Finally there was also the NILE Ranch Rodeo Finals where teams compete in ranch type competitions such as; ranch bronc riding, wild cow milking, team branding, and team doctoring. There were multiple prizes up for grabs such as an invitation to compete in the Western States Ranch Rodeo Association Finals in Winnemucca, NV, money, belt buckles and top hand awards.

By: Keely Drummond

Construction Progress

Since the last time the Valley Voice has shed its ever glowing eye upon the construction project, some things have changed. Easily the most notable of everything is the pouring of the giant slab of concrete. The use of this is the floor for the elementary classroom, as well as the slab that will support the multipurpose room. Work continues on the large project and completion of the entire project remains on schedule with the goal of a operating facility at the beginning of the 2018-19 school year

By: Keaghan Opheim



Teen Driver Safety

October 15th through the 21st is known as Teen Drivers Safety Week. In Montana, it's recognized on the third Tuesday of October. Teen Drivers Safety Day/Week encourages conversations between teens and their parents about the responsibilities that are taken on when driving a car. It wants the messages such as "Don't drink and drive," and "U drive. U text. U Pay" to ring in teens ears every time they sit in the driver's seat. The choices that teen drivers make can have devastating effects on their lives as well as somebody else's.

Sixteen year olds have a higher crash rate than any other age, and 33% of deaths among teens are caused by car accidents. These statistics show the importance of enhancing education on how to be a safe driver. Thankfully, Teen Drivers



ers Safety day gives Montana the chance to do that, and it is very important that the helpful messages this day spreads continue throughout the entire year.

The bill that was passed in Montana to dictate that the third Tuesday in October being called Montana Teen Drivers Safety Day was engineered by three Belt students eight years ago. The students included: Jessica Anderson, Mariah Gonderio, and Sam Keaster. They came up with the idea for a DECA

project, and in the end resulted in a day that Montana uses to recognize the dangers that teen drivers face.

Hopefully, the conversations stirred during this week will help students understand being a safe driver is important, and their actions can have severe consequences when it comes to driving a vehicle. It's a lesson that should no be lost on adults either. It seems like a good idea for everyone to stop and think before turning the key.

By: Natalie Larson

Senior Spotlight

The countdown to graduation proceeds for the Class of 2018. Shannon Hoskins and Tucker Johnson are looking forward to the journeys they will embark upon as they walk off the graduation stage carrying a diploma in their eager hands.

Shannon moved from the small community of Winifred, Montana to the equally small town of Belt for the beginning of her sixth grade year. Shannon was eager to participate in extracurriculars, indulging in: volleyball, Science Olympiad, Youth Leadership, National Honors Society, band, and choir. When she's not busy with all of her school related activities Shannon enjoys attending



sporting events, hunting, fishing, shopping, hiking, hanging out with her friends, and like all teenage girls, watching *Grey's Anatomy*. Shannon's favorite memory from her high school experience is laughing really hard almost every day in math and advanced biology. Mrs. Graham's tolerance of the continuous jokes led her to become Shannon's favorite high school teacher. After high school, Shannon plans to attend college with hopes of becoming a neonatal physician.

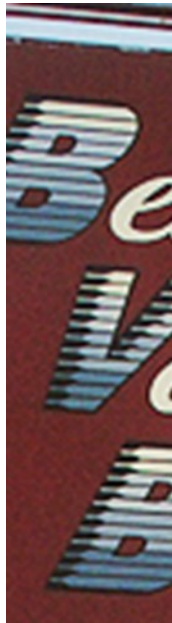
Tucker has lived in Belt for seventeen years, his whole life. Tucker has fit into the student body at Belt High very well, taking part in rodeo, youth leadership,



DECA, and band. During his free time Tucker revels in participating in rodeos, hunting, skiing, and weaving baskets under water part time. Tucker's favorite memory is the irreplaceable bond that he forged with Mr. Paulson while sitting in the "chair of poor decisions." He is going to miss making memories with his classmates every day and all the teachers. When asked who his favorite teacher was, Tucker originally said Mr. Koontz, but then he crossed that out for the true answer, "they all love me so I love all them." Upon graduation in May, Tucker plans to attend MSU in Bozeman or U of M in Missoula and join the rodeo team.

Next issue's Senior Spotlight will feature Adrian Malek and Dayton Marquis, as the nineteen Belt seniors count down...3 more quarters...

By: Adelle Meissner

Puzzle	Poetry Corner	
<p>What building in this small town has part of this sign outside?</p>  <p>Last week's answer was Keaghan Stroop's cleat.</p>	<p>Untitled Haiku</p> <p>Swish swoosh swish swoosh swish The rudder goes back and forth Slicing the silence</p> <p>By Anthony Wall</p> <p>Students of all ages wishing to submit their own poems to the paper, contact MaKayla O'Neil at makaylaroneil@gmail.com. If requested the author can remain anonymous.</p>	<p>Finally</p> <p>The hangman hated me Long-necked miniature girl handing in my future Long overdue The judgment will be passed Thirteen steps away</p> <p>The teacher despised me Overloaded plebeian drowning in my slumber Overdue work The stress will dissipate Six feet down under</p> <p>The student once was me Tired liquid cerebrum draining out my nostrils Tied snug down to The homework that will die Fifty-nine percent</p> <p>Author Unknown</p>

Valley Voice
P.O. Box 197
Belt, MT 59412