

1st December 2017

Belt Public School

The Valley Voice



Issue 7

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Shakespeare in the Schools

For the past twenty four years, an acting crew from Bozeman known as Shakespeare in the Schools has travelled across the state to perform Shakespeare plays at 50 different schools. The company is run and put together by Montana State University. Each year they perform a different play, for example last year they did *Hamlet* and this year they did *Twelfth Night*. They performed at Belt Public School on the 29th of November and the play lasted from 8:30 to 10:20. All together there were a couple hundred Belt students from grades 4-12, as well as the staff members. This was the third time that Shakespeare in the Schools performed *Twelfth Night*.

The eight actors on

tour include: Ben Barker (Sebastian and Sea Captain), Nate Cheeseman (Orsino and Sir Andrew), Marcus Cunningham (Antonio and Curio), Miles Duffey (Sir Toby and Priest), Erik Pearson (Malvolio and Officer), Ariel Richardson (Olivia), Jess Thigpen (Maria), and Lauren Grace Thompson (Viola/Cesario).

Shakespeare is known for his profound productions, cross dressing, and love triangles. *Twelfth Night* is another hilarious play. The comedy takes place in the Kingdom of Illyria. Duke Orsino is madly in love with Lady Olivia. However, Lady Olivia is mourning the loss of her father and will not accept any proposals. Meanwhile a horrible storm

caused a terrible shipwreck.

A woman by the name of Viola and her twin brother were on the ship and as Viola is swept to the shore she believes that her brother drowned. Viola decides to start looking for some work and since Lady Olivia won't speak to strangers Viola if forced to look somewhere else. She decides to disguise herself as a man and go by the name of Cesario so that she can work for Duke Orsino. While Viola is disguised as a man she falls in love with Duke Orsino. Since Orsino is madly in love with Lady Olivia, he has Cesario (Viola) deliver her a love letter. Olivia eventually falls in love with Cesario not knowing that he is actually a girl.

Cont. Pg. 2

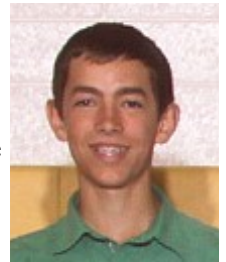
Geography Bee

On November 15th, 29 qualifying students ranging from 4th grade to 8th grade gathered in the Belt Gymnasium to compete in the annual Geography Bee. The National Geographic Society conducts this competition held in thousands of schools nationally. Mr. Koontz organizes the competition with help from Mrs. Meissner and Mrs. Stinson as judges. This event consisted of six preliminary rounds of ques-

tions conducted similar to Spelling Bee style.

As the questions progressively became more difficult throughout the initial six rounds, the contestants dwindled down to six finalists, including 8th graders: Piper Deno, Asa Jassen, Corbyn Nebel, and Molly Tingey, 7th grader Isaac Maki and 6th grader Jeremy Nebel. The only candidates to answer one of the final round questions correctly were Corbyn Ne-

bel and Jassen, securing them a berth in the championship round. But it wasn't over for the other four who had missed questions as third place was to be determined. After one round of questions, Maki was the only one to answer correctly, earning third.



Cont. Pg. 3

Shakespeare in the Schools (Cont.)

Viola loves Orsino, Orsino loves Olivia who loves Cesario and everyone is miserable. The audience was also introduced to a few other characters including the drunken antics of Sir Toby and Maria along with Sir Andrew who seemed to take a liking to our own Mrs. Horton! Poor Greg. In the end, Viola and her twin brother, Sebastian are reunited, many get married, except Malvolio who swears to seek his revenge for being tricked into wearing a fabulous pair of yellow stock-

ings (tights) with black ribbons.

At the end of the performance the actors gave the audience a Q&A. Some of those questions included: who was your favorite character to perform as and whose costume would you rather wear (most wanting to wear the flamboyantly thrown-together green and red look of Sir Toby). Kegan Opheim also questioned how ethical it is to remove scenes and change the music from Elizabethan dance to pop songs on the ukulele in order to

adapt the play for a high school audience. Erik Pearson (Malvolio) and Jess Thigpen (Maria) answered that there wasn't any copyright or way to know how the plays were performed originally, so in short no it's not unethical to adapt Shakespeare's plays for the audience due to the plays being hundreds of years old. Not only was the play, *Twelfth Night*, interesting and hilarious, but very educational being overall a great experience.

By: Tori Sherwood

Football Wrap-Up

Beginning on fresh green fields and finishing on frozen tundra, the Huskies wrapped up their successful 2017 season with a loss in the quarterfinals of the Class C playoffs to the Ennis Mustangs, who lost in the next round to Forsyth who fell in the state championship to perennial powerhouse Flint Creek (Drummond/Philipsburg). Other state champs included: Billings Senior in AA, Columbia Falls in A, Eureka in B, and Westby Grenora in class C 6 man.

With the season's conclusion come individual awards based

on truly outstanding play with the Huskies being well represented at both the divisional and state level.

Keagan Stroop, Troy Hennes, Trey Heitzman, and Robbie Flinn each made the Northern C All-State selections. In addition to this recognition, for the Northern C subdivision, Keagan Stroop received safety 1st team and quarterback 1st team. Robbie Flinn earned outside linebacker/cornerback 1st team and wide receiver 1st team. Trey Heitzman was awarded with inside linebacker 1st team and tight end 1st team. Troy Hennes received

defensive line 1st team and fullback 1st team. Nolan Myrstol earned defensive end 2nd team and center 1st team. Coach Graham was also awarded coach of the year.

The Belt Football team played a rewarding season and while all the seniors will be missed, returning athletes for the 2018 season look to be: juniors, Robert Gliko and Matt Dollenger, and sophomores, Adam Langston, Gavin Roberts, Hunter Vogl and Brandon Wall, and freshman Kaimen Evans and TJ Hennes.

By: Maggie Andrews

Middle School Science

On November 11th the science classes of Mrs. Vogt had Mrs. Quincie Jones introduce the students to biology while Kathy Ketchum taught the 7th grade class Gyotaku. Although many guest speakers visit classrooms around Montana teaching students about fish identification, water distribution, fish math, and fly-tying, the 7th graders were taught by Ms. Ketchum, a retired teacher working with the Hooked



on Fishing Program.

According to Ms. Ketchum, Gyotaku, literally translated as 'fish printing', began as a way for fishermen to record the size of their catch. Ms. Ketchum introduced the 7th graders to the types of rubber fish that the students used to make fish prints, similar to how one inks a stamp, on t-shirts or paper. In line with the Hooked on Fishing Program, the 7th graders will also go ice fishing in February dissecting the fish later in April. Retention of all the

aquatic information was tested via fish jeopardy.

Mrs. Vogt's science classes were introduced to biology by Mrs. Quincie Jones. Teaching biology for 16 years, Mrs. Quincie Jones is currently the Head of the Biology Department at the College of Great Falls. Mrs. Quincie Jones went from part of a cell to organs explaining that heart and brain cells can't be replaced and cancer is rapidly dividing cells.

Overall, Mrs. Vogt's science students learned a lot from Ms. Ketchum and Mrs. Quincie Jones.

By: MaKayla O'Neil

Geography Bee (Cont.)

In the championship round competitors are asked the exact same questions and the one to answer the most correctly is deemed champion. Each competitor correctly answered 1 out of 3 so sudden death was required in order to crown a champion. Each youngster missed five in a row, then Jassen snatched the title by answering the final question correctly, "A large

lake called the Salton Sea is located near the Imperial Valley in what state?"

Jassen will now take an online quiz in hopes of qualifying for a state wide Geography Bee held in Billings in February. Triumph there could land him a spot in the National Bee, taking place in Washington D.C. The winner of

this competition will be awarded with a \$50,000 dollar scholarship. But for now, the Belt community congratulates Jassen and wishes him good luck in the upcoming competitions. The answer to the championship question is hidden somewhere in this edition of the Valley Voice.

By: Maggie Andrews

Girls' Basketball Preview

On November 16th, the girls' basketball players invaded the gym with hopes of repeating last year's state championship. The team lost starters Sara Anderson, Kassie Hoyer, and Kerstyn Pimpton to graduation last year but returns two first-teamers, Dani Urick and Adrian Malek. Seniors, Ryan Schraner and Briana Wall, and junior, Morgan Cooper, also experienced valuable minutes last season.

Community members were provided a glimpse at the team's talent last night at the annual scrimmage. The girls look forward to the season which begins with a tournament in Shelby this weekend, December 8th and 9th. The junior varsity will play the Shelby Coyotes on the 8th and the Cut Bank Wolves on the 9th while the varsity will face the Malta M-Ettes on Friday and the Shelby Coyotes on Saturday. The team's first regular season game will be against the Winnett/Grass Range Rams on December 15th in Belt.

As the Huskies are scouting out the competition. Eleventh year head coach Jeff Graham speculates that Froid-Medicine Lake, Twin Bridges, Arlee, and Savage will provide the girls with some competition statewide. Froid-Medicine Lake provided the Huskies with a tough first game at state last March, and Belt will probably see the Blackhawks again this season. Twin Bridges worked their way to the state tournament last year. It is likely the Falcons will make another appearance this season. Arlee was one of the final teams left in the 2017 state tournament. The Scarlets always seem to have a strong team and will probably make the state tournament again. The Savage Warriors made an appearance at state last year; the team graduated no seniors and should be back at the tournament this March.

Closer to home, in the Northern C division, the Box Elder Bears and the Fort Benton Long-

horns will provide the Huskies with some much needed competition. While Box Elder didn't make it out of the divisional tournament last year, the Huskies bested the Bears by a mere three points. The Fort Benton Longhorns graduated two starters from last year's 3rd place team, but seem to have a strong program and will likely be back at the divisional tournament.

In the 8C district, it seems that last year's second place team, the Winifred Roy Outlaws, and the third place finishers, the Winnett Grass/Range Rams, will challenge the Huskies. Both of the teams will be good competition for Belt as they prepare for the higher level of play seen at the divisional and state tournament.

The girls are very excited for this season and hopeful for the success it will bring. The Valley Voice will continue to keep readers apprised of the promising season ahead.

By: Adelle Meissner

Senior Center

The Belt Senior Center continues to care for many members of the community, providing meals, Pilates classes, and bingo. This November, every Monday and Thursday, Pilates are offered at 9:00 A.M., lunch at noon, with bingo following. Every Tuesday, a bus is also taken to Great Falls for just

three dollars. On the third Wednesday of each month, the Senior Center celebrates all the birthdays of the month.

Then on Wednesdays lunch is served at noon, and on Fridays, people must make a reservation by 10:00 A.M. for meals. Meal deliveries are available from Monday

through Thursday at 11:30 A.M. Darcy Darlington will now be holding dance practice at the center, and Mrs. Kim Larocque conducts classes at the Senior Center as well, keeping the place lively throughout the week.

By: Aundrea Glick

Boys Basketball Preview

The 2017-18 boys' basketball season is just getting warmed up for the year ahead. After bidding farewell to the graduates Jess Bodner, Harry Green, Jaren Maki, and Taylor Olson, the team this year looks to improve upon their hard earned fourth-place finish at Divisionals last year.

This year's roster features seniors: Brayden Haugrose, Antonio Heaton, Trey Heitzman, Troy Hennes, and Keagan Stroop, juniors: Robbie Gliko and Brendan Wing, solo sophomore, Hunter Vogl, and the freshmen pair of Kaimen Evans and Treyton Hennes. The team also pulled up five eighth-grade newbies: Cole Hepfner, Caiden Marquis, Aidan Bergstrom, Asa Jassen, and Jon Highfill, letting them acquire high school basketball experience. The team is coached by Kyle Paulson and assisted by Tony Cooper, who is replacing Megan Graham. Mrs. Graham is currently on maternity leave with her newborn baby James "Jimmer" Griffith Graham.

When asked who were this year's competitors in the high school boy's bracket, Coach Paulson gave an insightful opinion on this year's NBA line-up, "The Cavs are going to be hard to beat this year, but Golden State is probably going to repeat." After consulting Coach Cooper on a similar topic he was quick to contradict Coach Paulson's previous statement, "The Celtics are going to win. Who has the best record in the league right now? Celtics. And North Carolina is going to repeat."

After a long series of investigative research and questions, the Voice was able to obtain who this season's real contenders are. The teams that made the list were: DGS (Denton, Geyser, and Stanford), Centerville, Box Elder, Heart Butte, Scobey, Arlee, and Manhattan Christian. To get in on some of these great games, tune into KMON Radio 560-AM; some of these riveting games will be broadcasted by the Valley Voice's very own Mr. Koontz. The following games are

tentatively scheduled for broadcast: Belt at Centerville on Saturday, December 16th at 6:30 (boys only), Roy-Winifred at Belt on Tuesday, December 19th at 7:30 (boys) and 6:00 (girls), Belt at Fairfield on Thursday, December 21st at 5:45 (boys) and 7:15 (girls), Tri-Cities at Belt on Saturday January 6th at 6:30 (boys only), Belt at Conrad on Thursday, January 4th at 6:00 (boys only), and Fairfield at Belt on Saturday, January 27th at 6:30 (boys) and 5:00 (girls).

The boys showcased their skills while scrimmaging yesterday night at 5 o'clock in the Belt Gymnasium. The team will head to Shelby next weekend to compete in their first games of the year. The JV Husky Boys times are tentatively set for 1:00 p.m. vs. Malta on December 8th and 8:30 a.m. vs. Florence on December 9th. The Belt Boys Varsity game times are tentatively set at 11:30 p.m. vs. Cut-Bank on December 8th and 1:00 p.m. vs. Florence on the 9th.

By: Shelby Paulson

A Harvest of Memories

As the month of November comes to a close the small town of Belt took a moment to reflect on the friends and families that gathered for Thanksgiving, an annual ritual to gain ten pounds in one holiday. Some students from the Belt High School had some thoughts about their Thanksgiving experiences. Sophomore, Aundrea Glick, stated that she was the most thankful for her friends, family, and laughed when stating this, "food as well". She loves her mom's home-cooked green bean casserole and appreciates the turkey and gravy she ate too.

Sophomore, Abby Gliko was also thankful for her family, of

course the sports she participates in, and mostly appreciates the sleep she receives on the extra days off. She loves eating pumpkin pie every Thanksgiving and looks forward to it every year. Also a sophomore, Natalie Larsen loved having her Thanksgiving break filled with her favorite's, mashed potatoes and apple pie. She stated that she was thankful for her small family, animals everywhere, and of course, the long Thanksgiving break.

The long week and weekend break consisted of three extra days off from school, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday, which gave staff and students a celebrated relief from the

rush of classes. Although there was a break from school there was no relief sports, as girls and boys basketball practices and wrestling were held many times throughout the long week.

Many shops were closed for the holiday including The Belt Valley Grocery, but the Senior Center wasn't; until everyone had to go home to their family and friends. Shortly after Thanksgiving was over, another tradition event took place the next day, Black Friday. In addition to the hundreds of millions dollars spent on sale items, more than a hundred million calories were consumed as well.

By: Sydne Flinn

Paris Gibson Square Museum of Art

Walking into the refurbished middle school, now the Paris Gibson Square Museum of Art, one is washed in the myriad of colors from the stained glass windows while simultaneously creating hal-low creaks with every step. The museum's staff are very helpful, so don't worry about feeling lost. In fact they will even open closed exhibits if the person is interested. Currently, some of the exhibits include... Also, the annual Christmas Collection.

Visiting in order to write a paper on art history, I discovered several extraordinary works of art, but *It's the Body I Remember but the Face I Don't* made by Sarah Justice in 2015 spoke to me in particular. This piece was a part of a collection on the second floor called *A Woman's Perspective*. Spanning three years, Sarah Justice explores her journey becoming a woman. The plaque that goes along with this collection goes on to explain that Justice asked herself several questions including: How have I honored, cheated, mistreated, and explored my womanhood? In the final paragraph of Justice's plaque she says that she wants her audience to view her work while thinking about their own personal story. It's important to keep Justice's purpose behind her collection of art when viewing *It's the Body I Remember but the Face I*



Don't. The most intriguing element of Justice's sculpture are the hands strategically placed on the torso. Overall, there are nine hands one the piece with there being more left hands than right hands. What really

brings this sculpture to life are the implied shapes being the body that the hands would be attached to. The hands appear too delicate to be the hands of the torso, a masculine figure, therefore implying that a woman is touching him. The woman's position relative to the man can be summed up as the front view of the statue being very close and sensual supported by the left hand on the statue's butt, right hand near the crotch, and the pair of hands resting on his back like an embrace. From the back, the statue takes on a different feeling as the left hand on his left arm pulls him back. The position of his raised left shoulder hides the lower half of his face causing the viewer to feel that he is shying away from the woman. Traveling anti-clockwise around the statue, the viewer observes the tale of a passionate relationship ending.

Looking back at what Justice's plaque said, it may be assumed that the statue represents her regret on how she dealt with this relationship supported by the cool grey and blue palette used. A large part of growing up and into womanhood are the relationships women have. Although it's unclear whether

she did cheat, mistreat, or honor this man, it does cause me to reflect on my own sad attempts on relationships. The act of removing half of the man's head and leaving just hands on the statue abstract the statue enough that I am able to see myself through the lens of the statue. Only a seventeen year old girl, I haven't grown into my womanhood. The two relationship that I had stemmed from a deep yearning for the joy and comfort Rom-Com's promised and a lack of foresight to realize that I'm not willing to sacrifice my time.

The last relationship I let fizzle out by not longer talking to the guy. I get the urge to ask how he's doing, yet I stop knowing that he'd pull away from me just as the statue pulls away from the woman's touch. In the end, I'm grateful for this opportunity to visit the Paris Gibson Square Museum of Art for the first time and discover not only the extraordinary sculpture, *It's the Body I Remember but the Face I Don't* by Sarah Justice, but also my own flaws.

Visitors to the Paris Gibson Museum of Art should know that it's alright to take photos as long as no flash-photography is used. There are many extraordinary exhibits including the permanent collection of statues made from logs and other recycled items.

By: MaKayla O'Neil



K-4th Grade Winter Music Concert

Tuesday, December 5th @ Belt School

Come enjoy the show, as the children of Belt Elementary School present a lovely concert for all to watch.



Proposed Processing Plant

Friesen Foods, an Albertan livestock production and animal nutrition company, has applied for a special use permit (SUP) with the Cascade County Planning Division to build a processing plant 8.3 miles east of Great Falls. The company has already purchased 3,018 acres of farmland outside of Great Falls in preparation of its construction. This plant would be a multi-species food processing building and would provide up to 3,000 jobs.

The completed plant would include, according to the special use application filed, “a state-of-the-art, robotically controlled, environmentally friendly, multi-species food processing plant for cattle, pigs and chickens and the related further processing facilities for beef, pork and poultry. In addition to the meat packing elements, the project will also incorporate facilities for the

processing of both fresh milk supplied by local and regional dairy producers into a variety of cheese products, as well as a distillery, which will source the grain necessary for the production of Montana branded spirits from cereal crops grown by area farmers within the “Golden Triangle.”

The building would use up to 3.53 million gallons of a water a day to support a fully operational plant. All of the water would be drawn from wells in the Madison Aquifer. The giant slaughterhouse would also produce approximately 103,000 pounds of animal waste daily. The company’s solution is anaerobic digestion, which would convert energy (methane gas) to power electric turbines. This process, which occurs in the absence of oxygen, breaks down animal waste to produce energy in the forms of

biogas and bio-fertilizers. U.S. Highway 89/200 will also most likely be modified to support the increase of traffic generated by truck arrivals and departures (estimated at 165 weekly).

A public hearing has taken place letting community officials and members speak out on their opinions on the controversial subject of the Friesen Foods slaughterhouse with many worried on the waste produced by the new slaughterhouse. Another public meeting organized by the landowners group is scheduled for Tuesday Dec 5th at 6:45pm at the Civic Center (Missouri Room).

The application, though already submitted, has yet a long list of approvals it must gain from state and federal agencies before construction can begin.

By: Shelby Paulson

Honor Band & Choir

This past week honor band and choir students left the school for two days, the 27th and the 28th of November. The students traveled from Belt to Choteau High School in Teton County. The event included students practicing and performing over 8 hours of continuous music and singing in a mass band and choir performed by the Belt High School students and other high schools.

Hannah Schweitzer a Belt senior, who plays the trumpet, stat-



ed that “I love it very much. I like that all the people there are real, because everyone is very good and actually knows what they’re doing. Everyone there had to audition to get accepted”.

The band and choir students from Belt had to get on the bus at 7:00, taking away their normal schedule of sleeping since school starts at eight. Honor band and choir students had a great opportunity to make new friends, learn new music, and just have fun. Although it takes only one audition to get to perform, any band or choir student can submit their auditions and if they get in, participate in the exciting event.

By: Sydne Flinn

WHEN: Saturday, December 16th—1:30 PM
WHERE: Centerville School Cafeteria
WHO: All are welcome to enter

Please email Wendy Cavill by Dec. 1st if you would like to enter your Chili into the Cook Off or if you have any questions regarding the Cook Off.

wendyc@centerville.k12.mt.us



CENTERVILLE SCHOOL CLOSE UP
 HOSTS



Bring a large crock pot of your famous chili and put it to the test!

THE 1ST ANNUAL CHILI COOK OFF !

Prize awarded by the four judges and crowd’s favorite.

NHS Blood/Food Drive

This year's NHS Blood and Food Drive were a success! Thank you, Belt community for taking the time to either come into the library to give blood or send kids to school with canned food. Although the blood drive didn't meet its goal of 20 units, the Red Cross still left with 14 units of blood. That sums up the Belt Chapter of the NHS's group service project causing NHS members to focus more on their personal projects.

Although the beginning of

the week started off slow, the competition over Can the Cats, Can the Griz escalated toward the end of the week. Unlike past years, the high school was lumped together with collection boxes being put in just Mr. Koontz's room due to the fact that many high-schoolers don't even have class in their adviser's room. The 6th grade class and Mrs. Jones 3rd grade class won an ice cream party celebrated last Tuesday, while the Cats ended up getting the most cans. The weekend

passed with the Cats beating the Griz in their football game correlating with the results of the food drive. Due to massive support, the food drive smashed its old record out of the park sending 900 pounds of canned and dry goods to the Belt Food Bank. Once again, the NHS would like to thank the Belt community members for going out of their way to help others by either donating blood or participating in Can the Cats, Can the Griz!

By: MaKayla O'Neil

Surplus Sale by Closed Bid

- 100hp vertical A.C. Motors
- Red fiberglass pickup topper
- Ford diesel powered trailer mounted water pump
- John Deere IX279 lawn tractor with 48" mower deck... does not run
- Lawn Boy self-propelled lawn mower
- Crane 1 1/2" irrigation pump with US electrical 15hp motor
- MacCulloch chain saw... poor operating condition
- 2 John Deere 44" snow plows... minimum bid \$100
- Wilray 300 gallon fuel oil tank... minimum bid \$100



*sealed bids can be submitted to City Hall or by mail Attn: Clerk/Surplus Sal Bid PO Box 453 Belt, Mt 59412 (name, phone number, address, and bid amount must be included on the envelope)

10,497 people died in drunk driving accidents in the United States during 2016, and this number had gone up 1.7 percent from 2015. With an increase of drunk driving accidents it is important, now more than ever, to always have some sort of plan whenever drinking is involved. With many families on the road during the Holidays it is crucial that people take the responsibility of never drinking and driving.

As little as one beer can hinder the driving skills of anyone, including self-proclaimed "driving experts." When deciding to drive under the influence make sure that the thoughts of the families, and children that will be out on the road this Holiday season are running through everyone's minds. A bad decision made by one person can affect an entire family. Be responsible this Holiday season, and...

Never Drink and Drive!



This message brought to you by your
Cascade DUI Task Force

City News

On October 18th a town council meeting was called to order in City Hall on Castner Street. In attendance were Interim Mayor Delbert Darko, Clerk Treasurer Lynn Schilling, Aldermen Glen Enderson, Paul Heikkila, Annie Porter, Sally Miller, and Russell Roberts, NCI project engineer Idaho Trenberth, Judge Jim Olson, and various members of the public.

The votes for the election on October 18th have been counted and the results are now in. Jim Olson will be the mayor of Belt effective on January 1st of 2018. Olson gained 109 votes while John Masonovich tallied 49, Beauford Wells received 8, and Don Crowell had 2. For the alderman position in Ward 3, Russ Roberts won by 40 votes. Roberts acquired 42 votes and write in candidate Cliff Williams collected 2. Olson and Roberts will officially take office on January 1st. As Olson is the current mayor of Belt, it will be necessary for a new judge to also take office. Resumes are currently being accepting (see ad on page twelve for more details).

Mayor Darko reported to the council that the Belt Creek Cafe property has been sold. The building is going to be destroyed and the new owners have plans to construct a coffee shop and an office space creating new jobs in the future.

Regarding the gravel trucks passing through the community, Darko and Porter were informed that it would cost taxpayers \$93,000 extra to map a longer route to avoid Belt. Brian Clifton and the County Commissioners stated that they would not be diverting the route of the gravel trucks due to the cost.

Idaho Trenberth spoke to the council about the proposed Bond Resolution. Trenberth proposed to borrow money and buy a portion or the Milos property as a site for the current sewer project. The council then discussed the merits of adopting the resolution without knowing what rate increases may have to be implemented as a result. Darko called for a motion to approve Bond Resolution 684, an official action to borrow money from the Coal Severance Fund to buy the Milos property for the construction of a wastewater improvement project. The motion passed.

Trenberth was also asked to give an update on the problem of leaking water meter valves. Trenberth reported that he had attempted to go through the manufacturer of the valve, saying the valves were faulty and substandard. Boland Construction has been notified that an increasing number of the valves they installed are turning up with leaks; however, the contractors

have not responded. The first valves began leaking before the meter project was complete a year ago, so the one year warranty has now expired. There are 7 reported leaking.

Jim Porter suggested that the town seek to buy a flag for the Council Chambers. He also informed the council that he could get them a discount through the VFW. Trenberth reported that NCI would like to buy a flag for the Town of Belt Council meeting room.

Darko met with Judge Fagenstrom, Great Falls Justice of the Peace, who said that the JP's resources are too stretched to take on more cases, so they will not be able to hear Belt's cases. Darko suggests that the town set up an active court system in the next few weeks. Darko also encouraged everyone to attend public meetings related to the proposed food processing plant and oppose the construction.

The council also reviewed and approved the budget for the fiscal year 2018. More funds will be expended this year in the repair and upgrade of Belt's city streets and alleyways. The town council meetings will now begin at 7:00 p.m. instead of 7:30, effective until May 1st. The next meeting will be December 6th at 7:00 p.m.

By: Adelle Meissner

Special Olympics

While the students of the Belt community are starring on the home field/court, a few students have been starring in the Special



Olympics. Madisyn Lords, and James Leitheser have been competing in the Special Olympics, and have done exceptionally well for themselves in the

past. Our school is full of talent, and they are definitely a big part of that.

Madisyn and James are certainly looking forward to the events they are competing in next. They put in hard work all year round to compete at their best ability in the Special Olympics, and the community of Belt is proud of them. As they compete in their events, hopefully, they do well, and represent

the town of Belt, and its student body well. Best wishes to Madisyn and James. Just remember the most important aspect of sports is not winning or pure athleticism, but to simply go out and have fun.



By: Natalie Larsen

Sexual Abuse Prevention

Last week the 4th grade had a visitor, Tara Walker, who discussed sexual abuse and what to do if it happens. A survivor of being sexually abused by her step-dad at age six, Walker's mom couldn't believe her daughter. Walker went to the police when she was twelve. Now, after counseling, she is twenty-nine and happily married with kids, traveling all over the country to educate youths on what to do if something as atrocious as this were to happen to them.

She presented a video first that is designed to introduce herself, explaining how she lobbied to get a law signed that would allow for education on the topic of abuse. Perhaps the most important message this video really tries to get across is the high numbers of offenses, since there are over 42 million U.S. citizens who live with sexual abuse. 1 in 6 boys and 1 in 4 girls will statistically be attacked. Both of those numbers are absolutely insane. The point is that if someone has been

raped or molested in their lives that they are not alone. Many people have been through similar trauma and they can be help other victims heal appropriately.

Walker had the students write emotions or how they could feel in certain situations on the board next. She then went through different scenarios, having the students tell her what emotion they would feel. Some of her scenarios were attending a new school for the first time, speaking in public, or constantly failing.

Walker then discussed with them what to do with their bad feelings and had them all write their own safety circle of five people. The very highly recommended traits associated with the people in each circle were people who will believe the victim, are available, and will take action. She recommended parents, grandparents, relatives, older siblings, police, teachers, and maybe even a coach.

To end her visit she decided

to finish with secrets, more specifically, what kind of secrets are appropriate to be secrets.

Good, healthy secrets could be a surprise party or where a clever mother has cunningly hidden the presents under loose floor boards that are underneath the Christmas tree. Things that shouldn't be kept secret are if someone stole something, or if someone is hurting someone else. If something like that or worse is happening and a student witness's it or is sworn to secrecy, they should still tell someone on their safety list.

She handed out bookmarks to remember her wise words by and asked all the pupils to tell their parents about their safety circles. The Belt school and all within send their thanks to Tara Walker for spending her time helping to educate kids in case the worst happens. The national hotline for all kinds of child abuse is (1-800) 422-4453, as well as 911 to contact authorities.

By: Keaghan Opheim

Science Olympiad

Last Monday and Tuesday, 30 students from Belt High and Middle School ventured south to Bozeman for the annual Science Olympiad, a science based completion in which students participate in events ranging from taking a test on reptile classification to building airplanes out of balsa wood and hovercrafts from foam and small motors. Students who place first in their event can go to the National Science Olympiad. Overall the Belt High School placed 14th out of 52 schools and the Belt Middle School placed 24th out of 49 teams.

Departing at noon on Monday and pulling into their hotel later that afternoon, the students went to the Museums of the Rockies for the "STEM Fun Night". Here students

walked through the museum stopping at science specific stations scattered throughout the exhibits. There was time for finishing projects, swimming, and relaxing before a fun-filled following day.

Early Tuesday morning, the Husky Bus arrived at Montana State University full of eager kids. Many student groups headed off in all directions on campus to get to their designated event location. The kids from Belt tested and completed 28 projects in three hours.

Overall, the students from Belt did a terrific job on their projects, with many placing in the top 15 of their respective event. Shelby Paulson and Adelle Meissner placed 4th in Hovercraft, Julia Vogt and MaKayla O'Neil placed 10th in

Experimental Design and 17th in Herpetology, Jordan Swanson and Shannon Hoskins placed 10th in Optics, Asa Jassen and Cole Hepfner placed 11th in Write It Do It, Keely Drummond and Anthony Wall placed 13th in Ecology, Robert Gliko and Anthony Wall placed 14th in Helicopters, Asa Jassen and Cole Hepfner placed 14th in Potions & Poisons, and Lindsey Paulson and Sarah Dollenger placed 15th in Crime Busters.

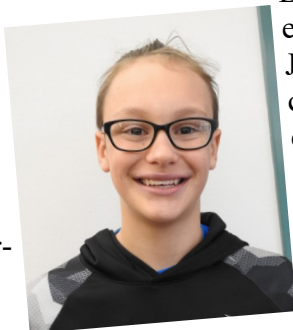
The trip added to a hectic week, as Thanksgiving break greeted the students back in Belt. Science teachers Renzi Horton and Debbie Vogt were proud of the kids' efforts and plan to return next year.

By: Keely Drummond

New Students

This issue of the Valley Voice features three new students. Rylan Davison, Eli Bodner, and Katharine Rubeck moved to Belt this year and are thriving in their new school.

Rylan Davison, transferred from Lewis and Clark Elementary in Great Falls to Belt this summer. As a 5th grader, Davison is looking forward to being in middle school next year but is still enjoying his time in elementary school. He said that some of his favorite projects he has done this year include dissecting owl pellets with Mrs. Metrione and watching the Shakespeare play. In his free time, Davison enjoys playing all sports but particularly football, basketball, and golf. He plans to participate in football and basketball next year in middle school. Davison also said he loves to eat and sleep. Davison wants to be a professional football or basketball player when he grows up. He said that his favor-



ite animal is a cheetah just because they are really cool and fast.

Eli Bodner, the final 5th grader, didn't move houses, but rather transferred from Geyser to Belt. He is the younger brother of former Belt graduate, Jess Bodner. His favorite class is art because he gets to express his creativity and imagination. Bodner loves to spend his time playing football and basketball and cannot wait for next year when he can play in middle

school. Currently he is playing on the 4th/5th grade parochial basketball league. His favorite school lunch is definitely the egg rolls and Chinese food. Bodner said that when he grows up he wants to go into the military, but there is still a lot of time for him to decide. Bodner said that one really cool unique fact about him is that he just got a new Border collie puppy named Dixie.



Katharine "Katy" Rubeck, is a 4th grader who loves to spend her free time reading,

chilling out, and riding horses. She moved to Belt from Everett, Washington this summer. Currently, her favorite books are *Where the Red Fern Grows* and *Packs*. This fits hand in hand because Rubeck's favorite class is easily library with Mrs. Ray.



Rubeck had a horse named Galveston when she lived in Washington and is hoping to get another one now that she has moved and settled in Belt. When Rubeck grows up, she wants to study to become a marine biologist. The next issue of the Valley Voice will showcase the final two additions to the Belt Community.

By: Keely Drummond

Pewee Hoops

While high school basketball players just started hitting the gym, the youngsters of 5th and 6th grade started practice in September. Coached by: Logan Gondiero, Dusty Bergstrom, and Scott Davison, the team has blazed into the start of an undefeated season.

The team consists of sixth graders: Karson Arndt, Adam Charboneau, Nate Gill, Clayton Jassen, Brady Moran, Jeremy Nebel, Reese Paulson, Jeremy Shepard, Tanner Stoddard, Ethan Triplett, Johnny Tingey, and Lane Walder, as well as fifth graders: Declan Bergstrom,

Eli Bodner, Rylan Davison, Andrew Dullum, Ben Gillespie, Mac Hedstrom, Luke Highfill, and Walker Maki.

The young hoopsters play Our Lady of Lourdes, the Fairfield Eagles, the Simms Tigers, Foothills Christian School, the Centerville Miners, and Fort Shaw. The boys have played the Eagles, Foothills Christian School, Centerville, and Simms. The Huskies handily won all of their games. At the conclusion of the season, the Huskies will participate in the parochial tournament at Great Falls Central Catholic to

end league play.

The boys catch a break from five on five action on December 2nd when they split up into five troikas for the Belt Valley Holiday 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament. The tournament is a fundraiser for the high school basketball teams and provides the youngsters with a festive holiday tournament. With five teams in the bracket, the odds are looking good for the Huskies.

Best of luck to the young athletes as they continue their season.

By: Adelle Meissner

Senior Spotlight

The final year of high school has commenced for the class of 2018. After graduation, it's off to whatever the rest of the world has to offer for the newly-graduated adults. This issue's Senior Spotlight shines on Nolan Myrstol and Ryan Schraner both of whom are looking forward to the day they put on their gowns and cross the dais to accept their diploma.

Nolan Myrstol has attended Belt School since kindergarten; he moved to Belt from Clyde Park just in time to begin his academic career. Like many of his peers, Nolan found Mr. Koontz to be the most enjoyable teacher. Growing up in Belt, Nolan participated in football, wrestling, track, and National



Honors Society. Nolan's favorite memory could not be specified. He has greatly enjoyed all of the fun

times that he has had in athletics and the memories made while the class painted the "B". The memories that he shares with his school mates are also what he will miss the most when he leaves Belt. Nolan will remember sports and all the friends he has made over the years when he thinks back to high school. In his free time, Nolan enjoys skiing, playing cards, and board games. Upon graduating high school he plans on attending Mon-

tana State University in Bozeman to earn his pre-med degree, then moving on to become a pediatric endocrinologist.

Ryan

Schraner moved to Belt just in time to start her

sixth grade year. Since Ryan moved from the small town of Harlowton, it was easy for her to fit in with the

equally small student body in Belt. Ryan's favorite classes are English and history, not because of the subjects but because she enjoys the teachers, Mr. Ross and Mr. Koontz. During down time, Ryan likes to spend time with her family and play basketball. Ryan is a part of the basketball team and she also participated in volleyball and track. Ryan is going to miss Mr. Koontz and Mr. Ross, the lunch ladies, her basketball coach, Jeff Graham, and her

best friends, Briana Wall and Cristina Fernandez. After graduating in May, Ryan will eventually go into criminal justice, but for now she is moving to Colorado.

The Valley Voice wishes these seniors the best of luck in their future endeavors. The next senior spotlight will feature Hannah Schweitzer and Keagan Stroop.

By: Adelle Meissner



Board of Trustees

As usual, there was a meeting for the Board of Trustees this November, and it began with a nifty little presentation by Dick Anderson Construction and the CTA. They went over all the costs, details, and the timeline for the elementary wing as well as propositions for changes. The remodel of the high school bathrooms were heavily discussed they agreed upon decision was to wait on the remodel. Next, the front door safety vestibule was discussed again and was added to the current work order as well as the "scope" of the project. The Board also requested prices on laminated glass vs. safety glass, and then the presentation finale was a tour of the construction.

Tori Shelton, student representative, discussed Football, Cross

Country, Volleyball, Cheerleading and Pep Band. The Belt Backpack program and its overseer, Jessica Tillman, accepted a very well received grant for \$2500. Alongside the Backpack program the Little Husky Big Husky made its return to the spotlight. Finally, Shelton wrapped it all up by reporting on picture retakes, the fall music concert, the NHS blood drive, Veteran's Day Program, OSHA training in the shop, and archery lessons.




The answer to the Geography Bee championship question was California.

To finish off the meeting Superintendent Kathleen Prody delivered her report on recent school matters. Senate Bill 2 was brought up, mainly the fact that it could affect some financing for the school

and would need to be sourced from other places. Next, she tackled with renewed vigor the new policies, touching point by point on language changes, new stipulations, and brand new policies. The two new policies are the administration of medication to students and updating the school website.

Last but not least was the Family Math night held at the school on November 14th. It was a huge success! Teresa Elam, the head cook, provided a full spaghetti dinner to all who attended. Afterwards all attendees went out to roam the halls in search of daring math games that had been so helpfully set up by the elementary teachers. For the future, a reading night is in the works.

By: Keaghan Opheim

Puzzle	Calendar of Events	City Judge Position Open
<p>What Belt Montana building has this sign hung up outside?</p> 	<p>Dec 4th Second Quarter Mid-term Dec 5th K-4 Winter Music Concert Belt gymnasium @ 7:00 p.m. Dec 8th – 9th BBB and GBB Tournament JVar and Var @ Shelby Times TBA Dec 12th Board of Trustees meeting @ 7:00 p.m. Dec 14th 5-12 Winter Music Concert Belt gymnasium @ 7:00 p.m. Dec 15th Boys and Girls Basketball–WGR @ Belt</p>	<p>◇ Submit your resume to City Hall or mail it to Belt Attn: Judge PO Box 453 Belt, Mt 59412</p> <p>◇ No prior experience necessary... position needs to be filled quickly</p>
<p>Last Week's answer was Jeff Graham's set of crazy eyes.</p>		
		<p>Contact Info</p> <p>◇ City Hall—277-3621 or bch@3rivers.net</p> <p>◇ Judge Jim Olson—277-4449</p> <p>*Appointee will be required to pass State Certification exam within 6 months of appointment and attend training twice a year</p>
<p><i>Construction moves along on the facility upgrades at Belt Schools.</i></p>		

Valley Voice
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