



# The Valley Voice

Belt Public Schools



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## DECA

Last week ten Belt students traveled to Atlanta, Georgia to compete in the international DECA competition. There were four seniors, two juniors, and four freshmen including: Brady Drummond, Asa Jassen, Sarah Dollenger, Cole Hepfner, Aubrey Johnson, Hattie Bumgarner, Eliza Tingey, Addee Hoffmann, Walker Maki and Hans Bumgarner. Jessica Tillman was the Belt School Chapter Advisor with the help of Lori Bumgarner as a chaperone.

Belt High School made the trek along with several AA schools of Montana such as Great Falls High, CMR, and Helena Capital among others. Belt was the only Class C school to receive a place in the National DECA conference. DECA ICDC stands for International Career Development Conference. Multiple countries were invited to participate in the conference such as the United States of America, Spain, Germany, Guam and others.

In excess of 175,000 students

fighting for the coveted DECA glass in a wide variety of business specialties. There are many events that students can participate in such as written events, team decision making, principal events, and individual ones.

Drummond was in an individual event for Financial Consulting and received a medal for her role play execution. Dollenger and Hepfner decided to work as a team for a Sales Project. Jassen was a part of the Hotel and Lodging Management Series. Hattie Bumgarner and Johnson battled in the team decision event which was travel and tourism. Eliza Tingey and Addee Hoffmann also tackled decision making but they decided to go into hospitality and services. Walker Maki and Hans Bumgarner were part of the financial services team decision making. Each student or team completed a written test and made a presentation. Drummond received recognition for making it through the first round and received a medal, but did not qualify for the finals. (Cont. pg. 2)

## Farewell Mr. Ross

Mr. Jeffrey Ross is a long time teacher at Belt school, who has found a job at the University in Missoula. He will be retiring from Old Belt High and moving on to his new job as a professor at the college.

His teaching experiences in Belt have consisted of many intensive, challenging, and rewarding things. He began teaching at Belt High School in the fall of 2008, with no experience in teaching English at all. As a new teacher he was helped by Mrs. Prody, the old superintendent, and her English teaching skills. He has been constantly improving and getting better at

teaching over the past 13 years and hopes to continue doing this, but in a different place.

"Well, the "next chapter of my life" is just a continuance of my previous, so my memories are active, not static reminders of what I have done in the past." stated Mr. Ross. This is a great way to think about one's future, and have an optimistic mindset about moving forward in life.

Going back to the University for Mr. Ross will be both challenging and familiar as he has been at a University before. One of his primary responsibilities will be (Cont. pg. 6)

## DECA (Cont.)

The kids had some down time, which meant fun time. On Saturday the 23<sup>rd</sup> all the competitors of DECA were invited to spend the day at Six Flags, an amusement park. All the Belt kids had a blast exploring

and riding the fun roller coasters. On Sunday the 24<sup>th</sup>, they spent a fun evening at Top Golf. The next day the Belt students explored downtown Atlanta. On the last full day of their trip, everyone took in a

Braves baseball game at Truist Park.

Through the time they spent together, they grew closer together as a school but also encouraged each other toward success in their respective competitions.

DECA is a great opportunity for high school students to maximize their momentum and to show their people skills.

There are many activities and classes that can help students learn better business practices and marketing skills. High schools across the world have been helping their students by providing them with the chance to go show off their business skills. DECA has been a big deal in Belt for a long time; congratulations to this year's competitors

For more information about DECA go to [www.deca.org](http://www.deca.org) to see a list of winners, watch videos, and learn more about the organization.

**By: Eliza Tingey**



## Lady Husky Golf

The Lady Husky varsity golf team, with the addition of Alyssa Nebel, voyaged to the Marias Valley course in Shelby on Friday the 22<sup>nd</sup>. Addison Urick scored a 108 leading the team for the day. Following closely behind were Danika Lords with 112 and Kylee Permann with a 113. Osterman set a new personal record with 114 strokes while Nebel scored a 119. The team score was a 333 earning them second place losing only to Fort Benton.

The following day Urick, Permann, Nebel, Brooke Backus, and Madisen Feldman ventured to

the Pondera County Golf Course in Conrad. Urick, Nebel, and Feldman set personal records of their own at the meet. Urick scored a 101, Permann shot a 110, Nebel had 114, Feldman managed a 136, and Backus rounded it off with a 148. The ladies proved their skills at this meet and managed to walk away with the victory despite the cold and windy weather.

Tomorrow the team will embark to Choteau for another Class B match-up and then head to Fort Benton the following Tuesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>. That will be a Class C meet. The final competitions of the

regular season will determine Belt's top four players who will represent the team in postseason play.

The divisional meet will be held in Shelby on May 9<sup>th</sup>. The season will culminate on May 16<sup>th</sup> through the 18<sup>th</sup> at the state meet in Sidney. The top 25 individuals and top five teams qualify for the state finals. There are two divisions in Class C golf; Belt is part of the western half of the state, along with 22 other teams. The Lady Huskies will attempt to qualify a team at state for the fifteenth consecutive year, the longest streak in the state.

**By: Madisen Feldman**

## Honors Diploma Presentations

For several years Belt High has offered students the option of pursuing an honors diploma. The honors designation requires that the students earn six credits beyond the regular requirements to graduate. These six credits can be earned in a variety of ways such as: Advanced Placement classes, some COT Classes, and honors can also be obtained in some regular high school classes.

The honors designation on the diploma is required to be valedictorian or salutatorian.

There will be seven scholars presenting, this includes Sarah Dolinger, Brady Drummond, Raily Gliko, Asa Jassen, Ahmia Lords, Lindsey Paulson, and Molly Tingey. Students who will be graduating with an Honors Diploma will be presenting their portfolios to the

school board and honors committee in the library on May 10<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 p.m. The public is also invited to attend these presentations.

Congratulations to these students for obtaining their well-deserved honors diplomas. With the dedication these students have they will go very far in their academic careers.

**By: Brooke Holum**

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## Principal's Report

Throughout the month of March, there were a total of 25 referrals and 109 tardies, 32 high school, 45 middle school, and 32 elementary. These tallies are pretty similar to the 10-year average in the school. The norm has been 23 referrals and 149 tardies, 80 high school, 31 middle school, and 43 elementary.

On March 29<sup>th</sup>, the junior class took their ACT test. The ACT is used for college admissions as a standardized academic reporting assessment for the state. Three Special Education students also completed their test with accommodations over two days and close to 10 hours of testing. Sophomores also took their pre-ACT on March 22<sup>nd</sup>, which gives them a basis on how to succeed on their ACT next year.

The Class C State basketball tournament wrapped up last month and it was held at the Pacific Steel and Recycling Four Season's Arena. The Huskies had a great showing with fans, students, cheerleaders, and pep band all showing their pride while the boys managed to capture 3<sup>rd</sup> place.

The Belt Prom was a successful night on March 19<sup>th</sup>. The theme for the Prom was "Viva Las Vegas" and started with pictures, followed by the Grand March. The students finished out the Prom with dancing and a variety of card games. Thank you to Devan

Wieferich (Visocan) for taking pictures, and April Wells, the Vogls, Mrs. Patty, Mrs. Tillman, Mrs. Horton, and Mr. Koontz for putting together such a great Prom.

The National Honor Society (NHS) banquet was hosted in the school cafeteria on March 21<sup>st</sup>. Former Belt Husky and current Belt Art Teacher Taylor Mavrinac spoke about the four pillars of National Honor Society during the catered dinner. After the dinner, six sophomores (JD Shepard, Clayton Jassen, Reese Paulson, Johnny Tingey, Ella Pethel, and Danika Lords) along with one junior (Hailey Gliko) were inducted into NHS. One of the Pillars is service, including volunteering. This year, 38 students volunteered 302 hours of community service during Youth Leadership activities.

High school Student Council members attended the District 2 Student Council Spring meeting in Power on March 23<sup>rd</sup>. Students listened to a leadership presentation by Miss Montana Jessica Criss, who then held a self-defense workshop to the students.

On March 25<sup>th</sup>, Mr. Paulson and Mrs. Horton took 10 of Belt's top students to the annual Principal's Cup, which was held at Simms this year. Belt's Gold Team, consisting of Asa Jassen, Memphis Black, Johnny Tingey, Reese Paulson, and Walker Maki, took home

fourth place overall out of 32 teams. The team also won first from the small school division. The ranking was the highest that Belt has landed in the last 12 years.

The District Music Festival was held on Thursday and Friday, April 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>. On Thursday, the collective band and choir performed pieces and sight-reading in front of a panel of three judges. Both groups received a "superior" rating and will advance to state. On Friday, students split into small groups and performed different pieces for judges, and all but three students received superior ratings and will advance to state for those as well. The State Music Festival will be held on May 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> in Helena.

On the Morning of Friday, April 8<sup>th</sup>, middle school and high school students participated in a presentation/discussion on suicide and suicide prevention with regional director and actress Rosie Seitz Ayers. Ayers, who is currently the coordinator of *Project Tomorrow Montana*, a statewide suicide prevention initiative, was in Great Falls for a performance and through the coordinated efforts of Kristy Stroop, Mr. Ross, Theater Board Member Amy Olson, she was able to come perform in Belt. The performance was very moving and powerful, and it got good responses from students and teachers at Belt.

**By: Rylan Davison**

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## Young Businessmen

Last semester in Mrs. Simon's agricultural entrepreneurship class, students were tasked with creating their own local business.

The company could either be new or previously existing. Students created these entities for the Montana Chamber of Commerce Prospects Business Competition. In order to submit their proposals, students had to write a summary and

create a video to explain their idea.

The Montana Chamber of Commerce, in conjunction with Youth Entrepreneurs created this challenge to engage youth in their local businesses and with community leaders. There are two competitions, one for high school and the other for middle school students statewide.

There were many opportuni-

ties to receive awards such as scholarships, airline tickets, and cash prizes. There were over 113 submissions, with Belt sophomores, Clayton Jassen and JD Shephard, winning one of the local entrepreneurship awards for the Great Falls Area. They received 500 dollars for their idea of CJD Fencing and deserve hardy congratulations.

**By: Madisen Feldman**

## Senior Spotlight

The senior that is being featured for the *Valley Voice* this issue is James Leitheiser. He has been an important part of the Belt community since he arrived in Kindergarten.



He would describe his schooling career as great and fun with some challenges along the

way. One of his best memories that he has acquired is spending prom night at Maverick Black's house and watching Johnny Tingey play a scary video game.

The extra curricular activities that he has participated in for high school include managing football and track and field. During track and field, he partakes in the shot put event. Leitheiser is most proud of his contribution to the football team and his recognition as academic all-state. The advice he would give to younger students and children is, "Whatever you do, give it 100%."

His plans for after high school and his future include attending MSU Great Falls for two years and then transferring to Webster University to pursue game development, a product of his love of computers. When he departs from Belt, he will miss doing spectacular activities with his friends.

The *Valley Voice* would like to congratulate Leitheiser on his achievements and accomplishments throughout his high school career. They *Voice* would also like to wish the best for him as he proceeds on in his future endeavors.

**By: Walker Maki**

## End of Year Reminders

The 2021-2022 school year is coming to a close and there are several important events that will occur from the publication date until the final days.

| Dates                                  | Upcoming Events                | Dates                                      | Upcoming Events                  |
|--|--------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|
| May 2 <sup>nd</sup>                    | Sports Physicals               | May 19 <sup>th</sup>                       | Divisional Track                 |
| May 3 <sup>rd</sup>                    | School Election                | May 22 <sup>nd</sup>                       | High School Graduation           |
| May 6 <sup>th</sup> -7 <sup>th</sup>   | State Music Festival in Helena | May 23 <sup>rd</sup>                       | Spring Sports Banquet            |
| May 9 <sup>th</sup>                    | Divisional Golf                | May 23 <sup>rd</sup>                       | High School Even Finals          |
| May 13 <sup>th</sup>                   | District Track in Lewistown    | May 24 <sup>th</sup>                       | High School Odd Finals           |
| May 16 <sup>th</sup>                   | Academic Awards Assembly       | May 24 <sup>th</sup>                       | 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Graduation |
| May 16 <sup>th</sup> -18 <sup>th</sup> | State Golf                     | May 25 <sup>th</sup>                       | Last Day of School               |
| May 17 <sup>th</sup>                   | 7-12 Pops Concert              | May 26 <sup>th</sup>                       | Teacher Check Out                |
| May 18 <sup>th</sup>                   | Baccalaureate Dinner           | May 27 <sup>th</sup> -28 <sup>th</sup>     | State Track                      |
| May 18 <sup>th</sup> -19 <sup>th</sup> | Senior Finals                  | May 29 <sup>th</sup> -June 4 <sup>th</sup> | Close Up Trip                    |

## Color Run

The Color Run that took place on April 16<sup>th</sup> was very successful. It had approximately 75 runners, and 20 parents and students that helped set up, throw colors, and clean up.

The Close-Up students raised about \$4,000 to defray the cost of their trip. Runners started at the school, circled around by the senior center, turned at the bowling alley, and ended the course by run-

ning behind the practice field. Some adventurous runners ran the one mile course twice.

This has been the third annual color run, and new this year were the two selfie stations that were set up so that participants could take pictures with their colorful array of clothes. One of the backdrops for a selfie station was created by Mrs. Taylor Mavrinac, the art teacher. There were also T-

shirt design tables, a hydration and snack station, and posters with the different levels of sponsors. At the T-shirt design tables runners could find their color run names and design their shirt with that name on it, this was especially a fun time for the creative participants.

The event was fun and profitable, and perhaps best of all, concluded before the snowstorm hit.

**By: Addee Hoffmann**



## Big/Little Husky

Every kid needs friends and role models, and needs to learn how to be more confident in finding them.

Belt school tries to contribute to this by having what is called Big Husky, Little Husky. This is when the high school kids get about 20 minutes with grades kindergarten through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade to build connections and create something fun. This time the kids got to make egg parachutes in line with the Easter.

The Seniors got to help with the Kindergarten. Juniors got to help with the 1<sup>st</sup> grade, and Freshman got to participate in this project with the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade. And the Sophomores got the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade.

Big Husky/Little Husky creates lasting bonds between older and younger students, giving the little ones guidance and affording the older students a chance to serve as role models.

**By: Gracie Watson**

## Staff Appreciation

Many know the public face of Belt school to be teachers and administrators. This past week Belt School has been honoring their non-licensed support staff such as bus drivers, custodians, teachers aids, lunch personnel, and office administrators. There are around 20 plus of these people who work behind the scenes to make Belt a better place for everyone.

Staff appreciation week has been celebrated by playing guess the staff member over the morning announcements. Mr. Paulson described two mystery staff members by stating their favorite cereal, movie, clothing style in high school, and their idols. The first class to call in with the correct answer received a prize. Prizes consisted of snacks, granola bars, cookies, and more for each member of a classroom including the teacher and teacher's aide if there is one.

**By: Madisen Feldman**

## Baccalaureate

Baccalaureate dinners are a tradition dating back to Oxford University a couple hundred years before Columbus sailed the ocean, but the celebrations continue in modern times.

On Wednesday, May 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. all the graduating seniors at Belt High School will be attending a Baccalaureate dinner. This dinner will be hosted by the St. Mark's Catholic Church. The dinner is specifically for the seniors and their parents.

During the dinner, the seniors and their parents will be entertained with a speech, then a dinner provided by the host church. The mission for the Baccalaureate dinner is to prepare the seniors for their next step and to express gratitude for the work the seniors have put into their high school years. The dinner will be one of the last times the Class of 2022 will be together.

**By: Eliza Tingey**

## Academic Awards Assembly

The annual Academic Awards Assembly will be held at 8:30 a.m. on Monday, May 16th. There will be various different awards distributed to students from grades kindergarten up to high school. Mr. Paulson will be leading the assembly.

The first awards that will be given out are for the youngest students. Mrs. McNally and Mrs. VandenBos, Mrs. Waldner, Mrs. Jones, Mrs. Gaylord and Mrs. Metrione will distribute math and reading awards. Mrs. Metrione will also be announcing the winner of the CMR essay competition.

Mr. Graham and Mrs. Pimperton will honor winners for the pacer test, Iron Husky, and Lady Iron Husky awards. Mrs. Vogt will declare the Science Fair awards along with the National Scholastic challenge winner.

Mrs. Stinson in the company of Mrs. Visocan will recognize the Spelling B winner and the Top AR readers for 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade. the Science Olympiad winners and the Regional Science Fair Awards come from Mrs. Horton.

Mr. Ross's will hand out AP English and Poetry Out Loud Awards, while Mr. Hoyer will be announcing the Fastest Keyboarding and marketing awards. Mr. Koontz is in charge of the Geography Bee and Senior Class Debate Tournament. VFW 4669 in Black Eagle will dole out Patriots Pen, Voice of Democracy, and the Citizenship prizes.

Mr. Wilson's awards include: Honorary Honor Band Award, the John Philip Sousa Award and the National Choral awards. Mrs. Tillman will share DECA accomplishments.

Mr. Gaylord will be declaring the Honors Diploma Recipients. Mrs. Patty will be announcing the Perfect Attendance award winners.

Mrs. Gliko will announce the Grandma Joyce - Elementary Citizenship Award, the Pimperton Cash Award for an outstanding High school freshman citizenship, with a passion for sports and music, the \$200 Heisey Foundation award for improvement in citizenship, scholarship, and effort, along with the DAR Good Citizen Award.

Mr. Paulson will end by ceremony with the Bright Flight Award Winners, dedicated to the Top three ACT Scores in the Senior Class.

The entire program will last about an hour and the public is invited to attend. It all takes place in the main gymnasium at the school.

**By: Brooke Holum**

## Board of Trustees Election

The Belt School Board of Trustees mail in election closes on May 3<sup>rd</sup> and John Hepfner's seat is up for grabs. District residents are in the process of choosing between two registered candidates. Each year either one or two seats are up for election to the board that oversees education in the valley.

The five-member volunteer board is responsible for establishing school policy, setting the district budget, and working with the superintendent to oversee the general operations of the district. Each term of office is three years.

The two competitors for the seat are James Bumgarner and Michael Christensen. Each candidate was presented with a set of questions designed to help

the voters make their decision about which direction the school should navigate.

Mr. Bumgarner shared his thoughts and concerns with the *Valley Voice*. The reason that he is seeking a position is to serve the students and people of the Belt community.

He has been a part of the community since he was a young student, and participated in the Belt Valley Schools from preschool to graduation. He then proceeded to graduate from Bozeman with a Bachelor's of Science in Constructional Engineering. For approximately 20 years, he has been an Estimator/Project Manager for a Construction Company in Great Falls. He has been in the Montana Air (Cont. pg. 7)

## Fashion Corner-Swimwear

With swimsuit season arriving in just a few short months, it is time to start searching for the perfect swimsuit to express the unique styles in season. While two piece swimsuits are very fashionable, and widely common, the one piece swimsuit is making a comeback, but in a very different style. The one piece swimsuits barely even look like one piece anymore, they have so much crossing, and skin showing that technically they should not be a one piece. One piece one shoulder swimsuits are also very in season right now. While they are still technically one piece, they are very different, but in style for swimsuits.

High waisted swimsuits are widely known around the world and are considered very fashionable. They frame any body shape perfectly, and come in many different styles. Some have sides that you tie

to connect the front and the back, and some have a lacy texture that covers the whole swimsuit. These high waisted bottoms can go with any swimsuit top and look amazing all the time.

Long sleeve swimsuit tops are an amazing way to impress everyone on the beach, and they also prevent sunburn, but when looking for a tan they won't help much. Lacey long sleeve swimsuit tops that are either white, or pastel yellow are super stylish, and look good on anybody. Also another cute swimsuit top would be a strapless swimsuit top with low rise swim bottoms.

These are the styles that are in season for swimsuit fashion. They will bring all eyes looking at them, and are very trendy.

**By: Addee Hoffmann**

## Ross (Cont.)

guiding undergraduates down the path toward a teaching career. He will be the English teaching program teacher, and the Director of Montana Writing Project. His goal is that he makes sure the students make the transition as seamlessly as possible. He will also be taking over for the retiring Dr. Beverly Chin,

an icon in the English Teaching field and Mr. Ross's mentor.

This is a one year position that Mr. Ross is proud to take on, and he plans to do both writing, teaching, and directing in Belt and Missoula.

Mr. Ross is not slowing down at all when it comes to work load, "Do

[my] future plans include Belt and the Theater?" This is perhaps the most important question. Yes! I am not retiring. The Belt Valley Shakespeare Players are alive and well and will be returning to Edinburgh in 2024 as part of the American High School Theater Festival. I am also continuing my involvement with the Belt Performing Arts Center as a Director, writer, and teacher. The Pythian Players, our community theater troupe should be opening their doors this summer." Mr. Ross also informed the school that the Belt Theater performers will soon be ready to put on another show in the coming school year.

Mr. Ross will be moving on, but he will never leave Belt behind. He will continue his work here with the theater and the Belt Performing Arts program. Many of his students will be sad to see him leave, but they were lucky to have him.

**By: Addee Hoffmann**



## Board of Trustees Election (Cont.)

National Guard for 30 years and now he is a Chief Master Sergeant. West of Belt, he operates a cattle, gamebird, and hay farm. Mr. Bumgarner owns and operates the Thousand Hills, LLC, a fencing company.

He feels that since the Board of Trustees is elected by the community, they are Belt's voice. If he is elected, there aren't any changes that he would like to implement because his focus is to ensure the students have the best possible chance to succeed in academic, vocational opportunities, sports, etc. Mr. Bumgarner would like to add, "My fami-

ly has been a part of this community for 100+ years. I look forward to serving the community, but most of all setting our kids and the kids to come up for success!"

Mr. Christensen is the other candidate for the selected position and he believes that because he has children in school, he would like to be involved with what they are doing. Also, he believes he can be of assistance to the board when making decisions that could affect the school and children.

His professional and academic background consists of a high school diploma and two years of college. For approximately 21 years, he has been an employee at Northwestern Energy and is a "Sub Foreman of a crew taking care of mechanical maintenance on the genera-

tion dams and has been a shop steward in the electrical unit."

The Board of Trustees provides a voice for the community and his opinion is that the board members listen to concerns from the community and then they discuss those in the upcoming meetings.

Mr. Christensen would like to add, "During my time with Northwestern Energy and the Union, I have been involved with negotiations, labor and management meetings and dealing with employee issues within the company. I am married to Sara Antonich, and also my mother is Myrna Larson, who were both graduates from Belt."

It's often a thankless job, but necessary nonetheless to ensure that the Belt School District provides the young members in the community with a solid educational base for their futures. Thank you for voting and to all who serve.

**By: Walker Maki**



Get a Jump On Summer Reading



**SCHOLASTIC**  
Book Fair

**Buy One Get One Free  
Book Fair!**

**April 26<sup>th</sup> ~ May 3<sup>rd</sup>**

Location: Belt School Library

Regular hours:

Before school from 7:45 – 8:00 or after school 3:30 – 4:00  
(2:30 – 3:00 Friday)

Extended Hours:

May 3<sup>rd</sup> 3:30 – 6:30 p.m.

Items for sale include:

Pens, Pencils, highlighters, erasers, posters, cook books, and more!

*Children must be accompanied by an adult to attend*

# Last Chance!

Friday, April 29<sup>th</sup> at 7:00

**Come and See**



# Bridge & Wolak

**A comedic duo with musical excellence**

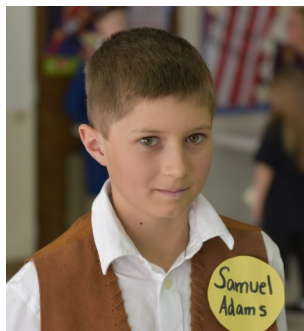
**Final Belt Theater**

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**Call before they sell out!**

## 5th grade Wax Museum

On Wednesday, April 13<sup>th</sup>, the 5<sup>th</sup> graders got to create their own historic Wax Museum. Parents, friends, and family were all



able to come watch and find out fun facts about famous people in history. They got to choose just about any important individual from America's past.

These students had about 2 weeks to prepare. They needed to write and memorize a paragraph about their person, and present it to the audience in the cafeteria. Each kid was expected to have props to

look the part.

Ellie Graham selected Thomas Jefferson, for the reason that all the other ones she had desired were already taken. Graham stated, "I loved learning new facts about him, but I didn't like talking in front of all the people."

Madison McLaughlin chose Sojourner Truth. McLaughlin thought that this was very fun to prepare for and loved it. "My favorite part was being able to say my speech off the top of my head, but I didn't like the whole line of people I had to say it to."

Landon Hansen picked George Washington, because apparently everyone knows him the best. Hansen had stated that it was very hard to do in front of people, because to him it

was embarrassing. His favorite part was the dressing up and being able to get the weight off his shoulders after finishing.

Overall, this was a very fun project for the 5<sup>th</sup> grade students and the audiences. The Belt community can't wait for next year's 5<sup>th</sup> grade Wax Museum!

**By: Gracie Watson**



## Featured Staff –Wilson

This issue's featured staff is Mr. Wilson the k-12 music teacher. He is certified to teach k-12 music, although he knows much more.

He earned his bachelor's degree in Music Composition from Seattle Pacific University. After doing a few TA jobs, (teachers assistant), he started teaching music at an international school in China. He decided to get his teaching certificate, and also got a Masters in Education from Montana State University. For



nine years he taught k-12 music in Highwood, until he found a position at CMR that was a choir, and guitar

teacher. That was all before he was introduced into Belt.

The factors that brought him to Belt was the fact that his children were going to school here before he started teaching here. He wanted to be more involved in their lives and it also simplified the family situation. As of right now he is teaching elementary general music, beginning in music through high school band, and middle and high school choir. He also does middle school band.

The best parts of teaching is watching the students succeed, and helping them build skills. "Empowering students to make music (in my case) on their own is the best part of teaching because I get to see their confidence grow and wonder bloom as they open more and more doors." Mr. Wilson said.

His long term career goal is

to make the best music program he can with the constraints on his time and energy, and also see the children grow in music prowess.

One of his favorite memories from Belt is the excitement and wonder on the faces of the elementary students every day when they come into the classroom. It is priceless, he said, to watch the students master a song or dance, and help them learn something new. Also he wants to congratulate the High school groups performing and the festival this year. He said getting to see themselves performing and looking well was a great culmination to the year, and one of his favorite memories from this year.

Mr. Wilson hopes to continue teaching at Belt, and brightening young minds by sharing with them the beauty of music.

**By: Addee Hoffmann**



## Middle School Hoops Wrap-Up

The middle school basketball season officially came to a close on April 2<sup>nd</sup>. For the first time in two years, the middle school A-teams were able to take part in the post-season tournament. Overall, the season was successful, with the girls taking home 1<sup>st</sup>, and the boys taking 3<sup>rd</sup>.

The first game the boys played was against the Tri-Cities Titans. The game was decently close for the whole game, but Belt was able to maintain a steady lead and capture the victory by a final score of 38-26.

The boys next game was played against the Roy-Winifred Outlaws. The game was tight for the first half. Unfortunately for the Huskies, a cold second half would lead them to their demise as they fell short 50-28.

The following game was played against the Highwood/

Geraldine Rivals. This game was not close since the tip-off. The boys were on fire the whole game and shut down the Rivals, stomping them by a final score of 42-16.

The boys' final game was against the Winnett-Grass Range Rams for the 3<sup>rd</sup> place title. The game was close throughout the whole contest, with the score at the end of regulation reading 36 each. In overtime, the Huskies were able to fend off the Rams and cruise to a 45-40 victory to take home hardware.

The girls first game was against the Highwood/Geraldine Rivals. The tip-off would be the closest the game ever got, as the girls showed that they were way too much to handle for the Rivals, as they crushed their opponent by a final score of 42-12.

The girls following game was played against the Roy-

Winifred Outlaws. The game was decently close, but the Outlaws couldn't quite bring it close enough, as the Huskies rallied to a 34-21 victory to go to the championship game.

In the chipper, the Huskies took on the DGS Bearcats. The game was close all through the course of the contest. Luckily for the Huskies, the girls were able to hold off the Bearcats and win 39-30 to be crowned Class C middle school girls basketball champions.

Congratulations to both teams and coaches for bringing home hardware to end a great season. The boys will be losing 8<sup>th</sup> graders Slater Lords, Blake Waldner, Cash Smith, Tucker LaPlaunt, and Landin Schraner. The girls will be losing 8<sup>th</sup> graders Raene Mapston, Aaliyah Gaylord, Aizalyn Flaten, and McKenzie Pogany.

**By: Rylan Davison**

## HS Track & Field

Over the last two weeks, a singular track meet occurred at Choteau in a meet sponsored by the Acantha. The weather was not ideal with gusts of wind and a high of 31 degrees throughout the day. It started at approximately 10:00 a.m. with the 110m hurdles.

There were a total of 24 schools at the event including athletes from: Belt, Augusta, Big Sandy, Box Elder, Cascade, Centerville, C-J-I and many more Class C schools with one Class B department being Fairfield. For a total team score, the Belt boys placed first out of all the teams by a difference of 16 total points, and the girls placed fifth.

During the boys 800m, Clayton Jassen achieved second place with only a small gap. However, Jassen placed first in the 1600m by a large gap of close to seven seconds. JD Shepard accom-

plished second place for both the 110m and 300m hurdles. In the 4x400m relay, Belt had one team that placed second. Multiple field placings were recorded with Memphis Black coming in first for shot put and discus. Also, Isaac Maki was the runner up for discus and Luke Highfill placed third for shot put with a personal record. Bridger Vogl saw a tough competition in long jump, but pulled through and placed third.

In the girls 400m dash, Lindsey Paulson attained second place, and won the mile race by a very large gap of around 35 seconds. In the girls field events, Raily Gliko accomplished first in shot and Ahmia Lords placed second in discus.

There was a track meet that occurred yesterday afternoon, also in Choteau, and the results of the activity will be recorded in the up-

coming issue.

With the Northern C Divisional Meet looming just a couple weeks away, the tracksters have a busy schedule ahead of them. They travel to Great Falls for competitions four times in the next seven days to run, jump and throw against teams from around the area. Tomorrow Belt/Fairfield hosts a meet, Tuesday it will be the Top 8 Meets, Thursday the freshmen will give it a go. And next Friday the Brent Hitchcock Memorial Meet will take place. All those events will be held at Memorial Stadium in Great Falls.

The postseason schedule is as follows: The 8-C meet will be contested in Lewistown on May 13<sup>th</sup> (no school that day), The Northern C divisional will be May 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> at Memorial Stadium and state will also be at Memorial Stadium on May 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>.

**By: Walker Maki**

## Scholarships

| Scholarship                             | Date | Amount | Criteria  | Information   |
|---|------|--------|---|---|
| Belt Federation of Teachers Education   | 5/1  | Varies | Any school, education field   | <a href="http://www.beltschool.com/cms/lib07/MT01001385/Centricity/Domain/59/_Files/Scholarships/Belt_Federation_of_Teachers.pdf">http://www.beltschool.com/cms/lib07/MT01001385/Centricity/Domain/59/_Files/Scholarships/Belt_Federation_of_Teachers.pdf</a>                     |
| Craig Cummings Leadership               | 5/1  | \$500  | Belt graduate attending any public or private college or trade school | <a href="http://www.beltschool.com/cms/lib07/MT01001385/Centricity/Domain/59/_Files/Scholarships/Craig_Cummings.pdf">http://www.beltschool.com/cms/lib07/MT01001385/Centricity/Domain/59/_Files/Scholarships/Craig_Cummings.pdf</a>   |
| Belt Public School Education Foundation | 5/1  | \$500  | Any school, any field   | <a href="http://www.beltschool.com/cms/lib07/MT01001385/Centricity/Domain/59/_Files/Scholarships/Belt_Education_Foundation_Scholarship.pdf">http://www.beltschool.com/cms/lib07/MT01001385/Centricity/Domain/59/_Files/Scholarships/Belt_Education_Foundation_Scholarship.pdf</a> |

| Birthdays |                  |       | Calendar of Events |                                      |   |
|-----------|------------------|-------|--------------------|--------------------------------------|---|
| Date      | Husky            | Grade | Date               | Time                                 | Event   |
| 5/7       | Aiden Moffit     | 3     | 4/29               | 9:00 a.m.<br>2:30 p.m.               | HS Golf @ Fort Benton<br>BOGO Book Fair   |
| 5/11      | Raleigh Iverson  | 5     | 4/30               | 9:00 a.m.<br>9:00 a.m.               | HS Track @ Great Falls<br>HS Golf @ Choteau   |
| 5/12      | Blaze Eisch      | 6     | 5/2                | 3:30 p.m.                            | Sports Physicals<br>BOGO Book Fair  |
| 5/10      | Hosanna Wilson   | 6     | 5/3                | 10:00 a.m.<br>3:30 p.m.<br>7:00 p.m. | School Election Day<br>HS Track @ Great Falls<br>BOGO Book Fair<br>K-5 Spring Concert |
| 5/1       | Holter Bumgarner | 7     | 5/5                | 4:00 p.m.                            | Freshman Track @ Great Falls High   |
| 5/5       | Carson Sherwood  | 9     | 5/6                | 9:00 a.m.<br>9:00 a.m.               | HS State Music Festival @ Helena<br>HS Track @ Great Falls<br>HS Golf @ Fort Benton   |
| 5/2       | Addison Urick    | 10    | 5/7                | 10:00 a.m.<br>10:00 a.m.             | HS State Music Festival @ Helena<br>MS Track @ Cascade<br>HS Golf @ Chinook           |
|           |                  |       | 5/9                | TBA<br>8:00 a.m.                     | HS Divisional Golf @ Shelby<br>5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Field Trip                       |
|           |                  |       | 5/10               | 7:30 p.m.                            | Board of Trustees   |
|           |                  |       | 5/11               | 8:00 a.m.                            | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade Field Trip  |
|           |                  |       | 5/13               | 10:00 a.m.                           | No School—HS District Track @ Lewistown   |

