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The Valley Voice



Issue #13

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Ball Players in Butte

The Belt Boys basketball team closed out its 2017-18 season at the Class C State Tournament last weekend in Butte. While they lost out in two at the state tournament the hard work had been done just getting a ticket to play the most elite teams in the state. After a two game losing streak that included the 8C District championship game and the first round of the divisional tournament, the Huskies went on a four game winning streak to earn a spot in the big dance held in the Mining City.

The boy's first game against Arlee Warriors, remained tight throughout the entire first half. The leading score bounced back and forth between the two at quite the clip, with the first quarter score settling at 14 apiece. Walking off the floor after the conclusion of the second quarter, the Belt team trailed by three points to the defending state champs, 24-27. The score continued to climb in favor of the Warriors despite the ferocious efforts of the Belt boys. The final score for the afternoon contest rested at 37-58, send-

ing the Huskies to the loser-out side of the bracket where they hoped to compete for the bronze title. Keagan Stroop held the majority of the team's points at twelve, followed by Trey Heitzman who accumulated ten.

Melstone came ready for battle the next afternoon. The Broncs jumped out to a six point lead over the Huskies at the end of the first, with Stroop garnering the team's only five points.

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City News

The Belt City Council met twice in the past month to discuss inter-community issues and to maintain the happiness of Belt residents. The first meeting on February 7th was attended by: Mayor Jim Olson, Clerk-Treasurer Lynn Schilling, Aldermen Sally Miller, Paul Heikkila, Annie Porter, Russell Roberts, David Eggert, and Delbert Darko, Public Works Personnel Robin Franzen, Youth Council participant Gavin Olson, and five members of the public. Mayor Olson, Clerk-Treasurer Schilling, Aldermen Darko, Miller, Heikkila, Eggert, Roberts, and

Porter, Public Works Personnel Franzen and three members of the public were present at the second meeting of the month.

Recently, Mayor Olson is trying to gain a younger outlook on the community of Belt and has initiated a program that will allow the young residents to have a voice on the city council. Called the student council initiative, it allows three students attending Belt School to be non-voting members of the council. The first student selected for this position was Gavin Olson, a seventh grader Belt.

Cont. Pg. 3

Butte Ball *(Continued)*

The lack of offensive production and prolonged scoring droughts had plagued the Huskies throughout the campaign. That was the case in the final game. The Belt team barely managed to break into double digits with ten at the end of the second quarter. The trend would continue into the last half of play. The loser out game remained low scoring, despite the effort of both team on the hardwood that afternoon. The boys were unable to make their way back into the game and the Broncos ran away with the

victory of 20-37 over Belt. Stroop, Heitzman, and Hunter Vogl tallied a handful of points each and were the Huskies last leading scorers for the season.

The Huskies headed back to the valley after another successful season. This year's five seniors, Brayden Haugrose, Antonio Heaton, Heitzman, Troy Hennes, and Stroop, carried the team just a little further than their predecessors, making this the third state appearance during Coach Paulson's tenure. The *Valley Voice* commemo-

rates the boys for a season well done.

By: Shelby Paulson

Arlee	14	27	49	58
Belt	14	24	31	37
Melstone	11	19	28	37
Belt	5	10	13	20



Senior Center

The Belt Senior Center cares for many members of the community, providing meals, Pilates classes, and bingo. This March, every Monday and Thursday, Pilates classes are offered at 9:00 A.M. and lunch at noon with bingo following.

Every third Wednesday of the month, the Senior Center celebrates all the birthdays of the month. Every Tuesday, a bus is taken to G.F. for just three dollars. On Wednesday lunch is served at noon, and on Friday, you must make a reservation by 10:00 A.M. for meals. Meal deliveries are available from Monday through Thursday at 11:30 A.M.

Mrs. Larocque holds tutoring at the Senior Center, and Darcy Darlington holds dance lessons for children.

By: Aundrea Glick

Tournament Life

Over the last month, many of Belt's student body cheered on the high school girls and boys basketball teams at the 8C District, Northern C Divisional, and Boy's State C State basketball tournament. The teams did a tremendous job at the tournaments and represented the Belt Valley well.

By: Keely Drummond



City News *(Continued)*

The town of Belt also applied for a grant that will install a walking path around the community. If the town is awarded the funds, the path will encompass Belt in a three to five mile loop. The trail grant was submitted on behalf of the Belt Park Board. If the town is selected, they will receive a \$300 arbor grant to put in the proposed path; however, there is no news on whether Belt has received the grant.

With the election of Mayor Olson, the town was left without a city judge as the position was previously held by the mayor. The city has hired Lauri Cary to fill the open position. Judge Cary is the active judge in Cascade, but she has elected to fill Belt's position as well. Judge Cary will split her time between the two communities. City Hall has designated an area in the front of the building with a raised podium to act as a courtroom. The city will not construct an official courtroom and Judge Cary is satisfied with the current arrangement.

During the second city council meeting in February, Sarah Converse from the Sweet grass Development visited the council. Converse presented a program that includes environmental assessments and cleanup planning using Environmental Protection Agency funding. Sweet grass assists public and private landowners when expansion, redevelopment or reuse of property hampered by environmental issues. Also relating to the environment, Mayor Olson reported that the Department of Environmental Quality will be visiting Belt on Friday to discuss land issues related to their mine water cleanup project.

The council also focused quite a bit of their discussion to Butte Street which runs along Castner Street behind City Hall, Belt Chiropractic, and the Belt Perform-

ing Arts Center. It was suggested that the road be plowed and sanded as necessary. The council suggested that the road be closed only as needed and that the snow from the road be plowed on school property so as to avoid conflict with private landowners. Superintendent of Belt School, Kathleen Prody, agreed that the snow could be plowed to an area on the back playing field. A no through traffic sign will also be posted along the road to keep the public off the street when driving conditions are bad.

The council allotted a large portion of the meetings to the discussion of ordinances within the city. It was brought to the council's attention that city ordinances were not being enforced regularly. The city will begin to enforce the Nuisance and Parked Vehicle Ordinance on April 1st. The council will be acting on complaints beginning in April and will begin to make citations on more severe violations as the year progresses. Next winter, the city will also begin to enforce Ordinance 302 which states that residents and business owners must remove snow from their sidewalks following a snow storm. The town will also do a better job of clearing their sidewalks and will strictly enforce the ordinance, requiring the public to do the same.

The city council is in the process of drafting and approving two new city ordinances. The first suggestion was to draft an ordinance that will control the habitation of campers and dwellings not hooked up to the municipal water/sewer system within city limits. It was brought to the councils' attention by a member of the public that many people's financial situation only allows them the funds to live in a camper. The council will be exploring the option of developing

a local RV park. The proposed ordinance would make it possible for residents to have one camper on their property regardless of whether it is being used or stored. The ordinance will also make it illegal to have more than one water/sewer hookup per residential city lot. The council will review the ordinance and engage in further discussion.

The second proposed ordinance addressed strip clubs and other sexually oriented businesses within Belt. The ordinances will ban the building of such establishments. The council was urged to approve this ordinance because it is the best course of action for the safety and welfare of Belt residents and the town as a whole. The council moved to approve and begin the enactment process of proposed Ordinance 0118 - "Strip Clubs;" the motion passed by a unanimous vote of those present. The ordinance will be posted and read at the following three scheduled meetings of the town council.

Council meets are on the first and third Wednesday of every month with meetings beginning at 7:00 p.m. They are held in City Hall on Castner Street and the public is welcome to attend. The next meeting will be held on March 21st beginning at 7:00, and as always, Belt residents are encouraged to attend.

By: Adelle Meissner

Daylight Savings

Be sure to change your clocks when you go to bed tomorrow night. Early on Saturday March 11th, Montana officially switches its clocks (officially at 2:00 am). Set your clocks forward one hour and enjoy the extra light each evening as the days grow longer.



Equal Protection

The U.S. Ninth District Court is sponsoring a contest to help improve students' understanding of the U.S. Constitution and what it means to young people. The subject for the contest is "What does equal protection mean to students". This topic touches on the 14th Amendment, which ensures American citizens equal protection and freedom.

The Ninth District started to accept entries on February 1st and the deadline is April 1st. Students in the Ninth District have a choice to either write an essay, explaining what equal protection means to stu-

dents, or enter a video for the same topic, or do both. The essay has to be between 500 to 1,000 words and the video has to be between 3 to 5 minutes long.

The media class here in Belt, happens to be doing the video portion of the contest as a class assignment. They were split into groups of three and set out on their own to create fantastic videos on the topic, in hopes of at least placing in the competition. If a student or group places 1st they will win \$2,000, 2nd earns \$1,000, and 3rd earns \$500. As if winning money wasn't enough, the student/group

will get to travel to Anaheim, California to compete in the Circuit-Wide contest.

This contest is a very enjoyable opportunity for students to have fun and learn more about the constitution and the government. It also gives them the opportunity to voice their opinions on matters across the country and to their peers.

For more information on the contest go to https://www.ca9.uscourts.gov/civicscontest/2018/2018_Civics_Contest_Combined_Rules.pdf.

By: Tori Sherwood

Golf Season Preview

With the basketball and wrestling seasons over, spring sports are right around the corner. The Lady Husky Golfers are set to begin practice on Monday, March 12th and with a second place finish at the state tournament last year, the Husky golfers are more than ready to get the season rolling. In order for the students to qualify for the state tournament at Fairmont's Golf Course in Anaconda on May 15-16 2018 they must shoot at 120 in a marked group. Four of the Belt golfers can qualify with at least three required to make a team score.

The Lady Huskies will spend the next few weeks preparing for their first meet at the end of March, which is typically thrown by Belt High at Fort Benton. Although practice is set to start on the 12th the weather might be an issue. Due to snow being on the ground the likeliness of practice being indoors for a while is extremely high, which limits the kind of practice the golfers can do. They will focus mostly on chipping and putting while there is a substantial amount of snow on the ground.

Coach Stinson, the head

coach and middle school ELA and math teacher, and Mr. Koontz, the assistant coach and middle and high school history mentor are looking forward to the eleventh season of competitive golf for high school athletes in Belt.

As another golf season comes to a start, the students involved couldn't be more excited. Golf is a great way for students to get involved in high school. With a great year on the horizon, the Lady Husky golfers will work hard and bring home another state trophy.

By: Natalie Larsen

A Night in Neon

Prom 2018

Don't Miss Out
March 17th

Pictures		6 pm	
Grand March		7pm	
Prom		7:45-11pm	
Tickets	Singles-\$15	Couples-\$20	

Dance the Night Away



Voyager Reading Program

For the past seven years, the Great Falls Voyagers have run a reading program. This year's theme is "9 Innings of Reading". It's a program that encourages elementary students to take on the habit of reading. "It is our mission, with the help of our partners, to encourage our community's young readers to engage in the lifelong skill and hobby of reading." The Voyagers stated in a letter sent to parents.

So far there are eight schools that are participating in this program, and the Voyagers hope to eventually expand the program to every elementary school.

The program runs for nine weeks, starting on February 26th and ending on May 7th. The program has students set goals for reading as they strive to "hit" a goal such as a single, double, triple, or homerun to win prizes. How much they read also depends on their grade level. Kids who reach their goals throughout the program get to have a Subway party with the Voyagers mascot Orbit.

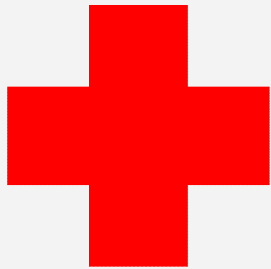
This program encourages students to read and gives them a great opportunity to have fun while doing so. "It's honestly a pretty good idea," stated Natalie Larsen, a

sophomore at Belt Public School. "The fact that they added prizes makes it even more fun for the students and it will most likely make the students read even more."

The Voyagers ended the letter with "We're excited for another year of fun, prizes and reading! We hope you are too!" The elementary students of Belt are definitely pumped to start reading more and earning prizes. It will be an enjoyable and educational process for the students and in the end they get to celebrate their hard work with a party.

By: Tori Sherwood

LIFEGUARD



Looking for a fun, rewarding summer job and a chance to work on your tan? Lifeguarding at the Belt Community Pool might be for you!

Qualifications: Must be 15 as of January 1st, 2018
Must become CPR/Lifeguard Certified

Please contact April Hansen at (406) 899-4258 if interested.

Theatre Performances

Since the start of the school year, the Belt Valley Shakespeare players have been preparing for their first performance of *Much Ado About Nothing*, which of course is another Shakespeare play. With an hour and fifteen minutes of practice three times a week, the group is not quite ready to step out on the stage just yet. All together there are ten members of the group and quite a few of them just recently joined.

The band is currently working on blocking out scenes, memorizing lines, and overall just trying to make the performance very entertaining and enjoyable for the audience. "It's honestly been a very

complicated past couple of months," stated Charity Highfill, a sophomore in the troupe. "This year has just been very strange considering the fact that we lost over half of our crew and everything is kind of scattered around."

Although the group was working through normal pre-show issues the past few months, they're on the right track now. They are planning to perform on April 26th at Carroll College in Helena. The starting time of the performance is still unknown at the moment, but will hopefully be released in the next few days. "It's kind of frightening to think that our first performance will be for a college and

there's so much pressure that comes with that" noted Keaghan Opheim, a second year performer.

The group is also planning a performance in the new Belt theatre sometime this May. The troupe is inviting many different school's to come out and watch them perform during school hours, and so far there have been quite a few schools that are interested. "It's pretty exciting to think that we are going to be the first people to perform in the newly reconstructed Belt theatre. It's a grand opening for the theatre and with us performing, it's definitely going to be grand" Opheim stated with confidence.

By: Tori Sherwood

State DECA Officer

The Belt DECA Chapter is proud to say that they will be represented throughout the state of Montana in the 2018-2019 year. Sophomore Maggie Andrews was one of four girls selected as a state DECA officer for the coming year. Her duties this year will include attending multiple leadership conferences around Montana and the United States and planning the 2019 Montana State Career Development Conference.

When asked why she wanted to be a state officer, Andrews replied with “Being a state officer promises to provide me with an outlet to improve on my leadership abilities while also traveling the country and meeting new people along the way”.

The sophomore also said that she did not decide that she was going to apply until a few days before the applications were due. “The process of creating a resume, writing a cover letter and filming a video was a whirlwind.” Andrews said. “I didn’t have much time to stress over the process until everything required was turned in”. When she got the email that confirmed her position on the state officer team, Andrews exclaimed that “I’m just surprised the whole town of Belt couldn’t hear me freaking out with excitement!”

“Team 68” is composed of four girls this year; Andrews, Ashley Walden and Anna Riek both from Bozeman High School, and Amanda Penley from Capital High School in Helena.

Andrews said that this year she is most looking forward to traveling all over the U.S. while developing life-long leadership skills.

By: Keely Drummond

Alcohol Awareness

Throughout the month of February the high school students have been participating in AlcoholEdu, which is an online program that teaches students the dangers of alcohol. The juniors and seniors began the online program during the first week of February and continued for two weeks, while the freshmen and sophomores began the program just last week and will continue into the end of the month. AlcoholEdu for High School takes a public health approach to preventing alcohol abuse, incorporating evidence-based prevention methods to create a highly engaging user experience. The goal is to provide students with more knowledge about the risks and dangers of underage drinking.

Mrs. Gliko, the Belt Public Schools counselor, is in charge of administering and overseeing the program. Mrs. Gliko learned about AlcoholEdu from Alliance for Youth, which is also sponsoring the program. Many of the students have provided Mrs. Gliko with positive feedback about the things they have learned while going through this curriculum, and she believes that it

has been an overall success within the student body. Tori Sherwood, a Belt sophomore stated “It was definitely educational and I learned a lot about the dangers of alcohol.”

At this point in time the only people that have participated in the program are the high school students, but Mrs. Gliko is hoping to expand it to the middle school students later this spring. There is a separate course for middle school students that is different from the high school program, so the information that they are learning is more relevant to them.

“Alcohol misuse doesn't just put students at risk; it threatens the ability of schools to achieve their educational objectives,” is a statement from AlcoholEdu. Their main goal is to reduce the amount of underage drinking and enlighten the students about the subject by providing facts and statistics about the effect of high school drinking. By bringing this program to Belt, students are encouraged to truly think about the risk they make their own decision about alcohol use while they are still in school.

By: Natalie Larsen

Belt Valley High School Adult Welding Classes

Instructor:

Kyle Gillespie

What is it:

This course will provide introductions of Oxy-acetylene welding, cutting, and shielded arc welding and the start of learning different joint types and welding positions.

Location:

The back of the Belt School in the shop

Dates/ Times:

March 12th—March 29th
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday (6:00 - 9:00 p.m.)
Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to noon

Description:

- Class limited to 10 participants
- \$50 per adult
- No high school participants
- For registering call the Belt School at (277-3351) or email Kyle Gillespie at kegilles7@yahoo.com
- Students at the end of the course will be graded on the introductions of the welds on a pass/no pass setting.

Materials:

- Must bring dark and clear safety glasses to each class
- Steel toed shoes or boots
- Other materials are provided

MCTM Contest

Students at Belt High School are busy preparing for the annual MCTM or “Montana Council of Teachers of Mathematics” contest held at Great Falls High School on Wednesday March 14th, ironically on Pi Day. Each year high school math teacher Mrs. Graham takes math students who choose to engage in this contest along with top performing seventh and eighth graders.

The MCTM contest is open

to all students in grades seventh through twelve. Every year, participants from schools all over central Montana gather at the Great Falls High facility in order to take a series of three tests with scholarships awarded to the top male and female performers.

New to the competition this year is a pizza dinner held in between the second and third test, students will have to pay \$2.00 in addition to the \$3.00 participation fee

in order to receive their pizza. All participants will be rewarded with a certificate, the top 15% scorers will be awarded superior rating, while the top 20% will receive honorable mention. The top senior male and top senior female scorers will win a \$200 scholarship for the Great Falls region. These competitors will then be eligible to advance to the state level where they could potentially win an additional \$500 scholarship.

By: Maggie Andrews

The Battle of the Books

Hosted by Mrs. Meissner, the eighth grade class every year competes over the course of about seven weeks to “battle” books in a tournament. Each student starts off with a book randomly chosen and then put in the book bracket. The battles start by twelve pairs of two’s, each partner must read their book and their competitor’s by the end of two weeks. They will each AR quiz on them, then together, decide which book will move forward based on which story had a interesting plot and characters.

When the winner is finally chosen he/she will receive a small prize. If their book has a movie the whole class gets to watch it. If some students had voted a book out along the way but enough people had read it and decided they really liked it, the book could be voted on and be “brought back from the dead.” That book then is cast back into the bracket with hopes of challenging the two semi-finalists. The Battle of the Books will be finished around the middle of April, midway through the fourth quarter.

This tournament provides students the opportunity of a reading experience of up to ten books, and a chance to see where their book may place. The winner of the entire tournament will get a small prize and the satisfaction knowing that their book was the king of the hill. Eighth graders for the past six to seven years have had this tournament, and each new school year has brought a new found reading experience to the winner as well as the entire class.

By: Sydne Flinn

With the spring on the horizon it is very important to be careful on the still icy and increasingly slushy roads. Poor road conditions are dangerous to the people of Montana but adding alcohol to that mix is fatal. This spring don’t make poor decisions and make sure that plans are made to get home when going out on any occasion. As the road conditions get better it is still just as dangerous to drink and drive and no matter the season it will never end pleasantly.

Approximately every fifty minutes somebody in the United States dies from a drunk driving incident. This can happen to anyone. Don’t chance anyone’s life when deciding to drink. This spring make sure that you make a plan, buckle up, and...

Never Drink and Drive!

This message brought to you by your
Cascade DUI Task Force



MVP

Suffer well, is the quiet mantra of the Montana Vet Program (MVP), which has inspired the healing of veterans the program has been able to reach out to and make an impact on. The mission that Luke Urick, program director, has built... “is to provide Veteran Led Therapeutic Adventure Trips (VLTAT) to our state’s, and the surrounding state’s struggling veterans in order to promote healing through: comradery, physical activity, adventure, and tough-minded healing.”

Every week one veteran in Montana takes his own life, an alarmingly high stat. Instead of suffering alone, MVP promotes healing through suffering together.

Each VLTAT is led by veteran team leaders, not counselors. The trips normally range from two to four days, with all supplies provided. These veterans have been able to experience the healing beauty of Montana at locations like the

South Fork of the Tenderfoot Creek and the Absaroka Beartooth Wilderness.

The Montana Veteran Program’s next trip is scheduled to embark May 17th-20th in the Upper Missouri River Breaks. Urick and his crew of volunteers come ready to make an impact on their fellow veterans. The crew carries on trips a 75 pound “Pig Egg” filled with around 7,000 dog tags from the men and women who sacrificed their lives in Iraq and Afghanistan, showing another way the MVP has transformed suffering into healing. This unique path that takes its members through rugged and treacherous terrain not only takes a toll on the body but on the soul as well, showing how a sense of togetherness can bring a great amount of healing.

The MVP is a non-profit organization associated with Eagle Mount in Great Falls, but they provide their own funding. The Mon-

tana Vet Program is currently holding a raffle with prizes ranging from a .300 WIN MAG rifle with a Trijicon scope to a Bear Paw knife. Tickets are \$25 each. The program is also holding a “Knuckle Buster” that is five plus miles in length and features 20-25 challenging obstacles. Registration for the event begins July 21st. The MVP has a multitude of ways for the community to get involved in helping Montana veterans and accepts donations and volunteers to help their efforts of creating a path to healing. For more information on how to get involved in the Montana Vet Program contact them at: mtvetprogram@gmail.com or visit their website at <https://www.eaglemount.net/mt-vet-program/>.

The website hosts a multitude of short videos bringing to life the program that makes such an important difference in the lives of those who have served this country.

By: Shelby Paulson

Gun Control Laws

Gun control has been highly questioned by many politicians and citizens alike. The matter of different kinds of laws have been highly discussed in the year of 2018, as this year alone, there have been 52 mass shootings, and 12 school shootings. This massive, absolutely horrifying number, could grow in 2018 unless something is done.

In the US, an individual wishing to purchase a gun must pass a federal background check. Sometimes, there is a waiting period between reaching the background check to the time in which the gun can be purchased. Private sellers, however, are able to sell weapons without any background check whatsoever. The mass shootings were all committed by individuals that had access to weapons, semi-automatic weapons, and at-

tachments, such as bump stocks, that imitate the effects of a fully automatic weapon. How were these people, upcoming and former criminals, able to obtain weapons? At least 54 percent of mass shooters have records of domestic violence and state crimes. Unfortunately, State crimes do not show up on Federal background checks, and that is part of the reason why the mass shooters were able to obtain these kinds of weapons.

The U.S. Government is considering banning bump stocks, improving background checks, raising the legal gun purchasing ages, reducing gun magazine sizes, and banning AR-15 style weapons. The State House has already passed the bill to ban bump fire stocks, on February 23rd. Improving background checks and raising gun ages

have bipartisan support, though it is unlikely that Democrats and Republicans will agree on everything.

Over 50% of Montana’s own registered guns, and there are certainly many more with unregistered guns purchased from private sellers. These gun restrictions may interfere with how Montanans purchase and use their guns. The state as a whole may not support some of the decisions that are going to be made on gun restrictions, though it should be encouraged that they consider the safety of the nation as a whole rather than just personal reasons. The people of Montana may have a few things to say about the upcoming laws, but they should also be open-minded about the laws and propositions that will come out of the upcoming year.

By: Aundrea Glick

Middle School Sports

As the high school seasons came to a close this last week, the middle schoolers executed a full invasion of the Belt gym. With numbers in the high forties, the youngsters of Belt Junior High continue Belt's tradition of excellence on the basketball floor. The middle school kicked off the season with a clean sweep against the Highwood/Geraldine Rivals on February 20th, made yet another clean sweep against the Denton/Geyser/Stanford Bearcats in Geyser on the 5th, and went head to head with the Center-ville Miners at home last night.

The girls' "B" team features sixth graders: Addison Urick, Miya Anderson, Makayla Marchington, Madisen Feldman, Danika Lords, Kyndal Schraner, Kylee Permann, and Kennedie Martin, seventh graders: Tara Hedstrom, Hailey Assels, and Alyssa Nebel, and eighth grader, Charla Hook. On February 20th, the Huskies traveled to the home of the Highwood/Geraldine Rivals for their first game of the 2018 season. Under Coach Renzi Horton, the young Belt girls kicked off a night of Husky triumphs with win over the Rivals 37-12. The girls then continued to build on that success Monday night as they defeated the DGS Bearcats 24-14.

The girls' "A" squad in made up of sixth graders: Kylee Permann and Danika Lords, seventh graders: Hailey Assels and Alyssa Nebel, and eighth graders: Shanae Johnson, Raily Gliko, Piper Denno, Maddisen Osterman, Ahmia Lords, and Lindsey Paulson. The girls "A" team was eager to continue their winning tradition and dominated the Rivals in a 37-8 victory. Once again, Belt added a notch in their win column against DGS. The Huskies outscored the Bearcats 31-13. The Huskies were led by eighth grader Lindsey Paulson who accounted for 19 points against High-

wood and 15 against DGS, amassing half of Belt's points in both games.

The boys' "B" team is comprised of sixth graders: Karson Arndt, Nick Rubeck, Lane Waldner, Jeremy Nebel, Johnny Tingey, Nate Gill, and Jeremy Shepard and seventh graders: Riley Mapston, Owen Halley, Isaac Maki, Richie Andrews, and Zack Feldman. For many of the boys, this was their first season as middle school basketball players but they've been playing the game for years. The advanced skill of the Belt boys showed against the Highwood/Geraldine Rivals when the young Huskies beat them 29-19. The high level of play continued to carry the Huskies to victory. The time spent practicing paid off once again with a victory over the DGS Bearcats 23-19.

The boys' "A" team consists of sixth graders: Reese Paulson and Ethan Triplett, seventh graders: Garrett Metrione, Bridger Vogl, JJ Triplett, and Gavine Olson, and eighth graders: Cole Hepfner, Asa Jassen, Kaiden Marquis, Jon Highfill, and Aidan Bergstrom. The eighth graders that don the maroon and gold for the Husky "A" team also had the experience of playing high school basketball this fall. The skills that the group gained from the higher level of play catapulted them into the beginning of an undefeated season. Belt ended a clean sweep against the Highwood/Geraldine Rivals when the boys "A" won 57-16. On Monday, the middle schoolers continued to showcase their talent and came out triumphant with a score of 28-12 over the DGS Bearcats.

The young Huskies hosted their first home game of the season last night. Belt hosted the Center-ville Miners for their third matchup of the season. The results of those

games will be featured in the next issue of the Valley Voice. The Huskies will be back in action next Thursday, the 16th, with a home game against the Tri-City Titans.

By: Adelle Meissner

Bowling Scores

Week 22

High Game Men

Dave Anderson (+61) 227
Mike Christensen (+44) 219
John Larson 203

High Series Men

Mike Christensen 607
Dave Anderson 555
John Larson 522

High Game Women

Lisa Urick (+34) 195
Dena Goodman (+36) 162
Sandra Francom 160

High Series Women

Lisa Urick 532
Sandy Francom 460
Laura Koffler 426

Week 23

High Game Men

Sam Olson (+61) 569
Mike Christensen (+37) 214
Brian Neill 193

High Series Men

Sam Olson (+61) 569
Brian Neill (+37) 528
Mike Christensen 193

High Game Women

Lisa Urick 202
Patti Sweeney (+55) 201
Denise Puppe (+56) 191

High Series Women

Lisa Urick 536
Patti Sweeney 482
Stephanie Eggert 446



Science Fair

On Monday and Tuesday, the Belt Science Fair took place in the school's library, and students showcased their experiments to judges. The teachers overseeing the science fair, Mrs. Vogt and Mrs. Horton, believe that this year's science fair was even better than last year's, and they could tell that students were really prepared. For the middle and high school students that placed, the next step is the regional science fair at Great Falls MSU-Great Falls on March 15th. The students that placed aren't the only ones allowed to go as Horton and Vogt said that other high scoring projects will be allowed to compete at regionals as well.

On Monday, elementary students shined at the annual science fair. For the third grade, first place went to "Water Bottle Challenge" by Kolin Halley, Dezirae Goodman while second place was "Neosporin or Not" by Cadence Graham, Sidney Paulson and Cliff Pethel. In third place, "Power to Plants" by Graham Halley, Cohen King, Addy Urick tied with "Bad Hair Day" by Rachel Madden. Kate Hedstrom, Hope Maki. The next class was the fourth grade and their first place trophy went to "My Pet Chameleon" by Riley Peterson, second place was "Greasy" by Jayda Pruitt-Warren, and then third place went to "Make that Ice Disappear" by Parker Osterman. Lastly for the elementary students was fifth grade where first place went to two different projects, "Crunch Time" by Luke Highfill and "That's Disgusting" by Trevor Shimerdla. Second place was "Tandigrades" by Eli Bodner and third went to "The Course to Relax" by Walker Maki. These students did an excellent job and the elementary judges and teachers were very impressed.

After the elementary science

fair on Tuesday the 27th the middle and high school science fair commenced. The first class to present were the freshmen and their winning projects were first place "Horse Jumping" by Anna Pethel, second place "Copper vs. Bacteria" by T.J Hennes and Sabrina Wing, and last third place went to two students "Gel Electrophoresis" by Livvy Shelton and "Heartburn Be Gone" by Sierra Reese. The next class were the sophomores and they had some excellent projects. First place was given to "Power of Momentum" by Andrew Stice and Matt Dollenger, second went to "Seeing in Color" by Adelle Meissner and Shelby Paulson and third place was "Faucet Bacteria" by Sydne Flinn and Tori Sherwood. Finally the juniors and seniors competed together, due to small amount of them in the science fair. First place went to "What's in Your Bottle?" by Tori Shelton, second was given to "The P's of Energy Production" by Robert Gliko and then in third place was "Give Me S'more" by Shannon Hoskins and Hannah Schweitzer. After each of the classes' winners were announced, the judges decided on high school overall winners. First went to "Seeing in Color" by Shelby Paulson and Adelle Meissner, second place "Power of Momentum" by Andrew Stice and Matthew Dollenger, and lastly in third place "Copper and Bacteria" by Sabrina Wing and T.J. Hennes. The high school's science fair displayed many amazing projects and it was very hard for the judges to pick on a few winners.

Next was middle school. The first ones up were the sixth grade students, and their first place title went to two different groups which were "Insulators" by Reese Paulson and Ethan Triplett and "Battle of the Batteries" by Clayton

Jassen and Johnny Tingey. Second place went to "Weather Tester" by Kylee Permann, and third place was "Dirty Truth" by Danika Lords and Ella Pethel. The seventh grade student's competed next, and first place went to "Tasty Rainbow" by Haley Hoerner, second was "Food from Floors" by Bridger Vogl and Ryley Mapston, and third place was given to "Poop Power" by Tara Hedstrom. The last group of middle school students to present were the eighth graders. The first place title went to "Want More Wheat?" by Asa Jassen, second place was "Brace Yourself" by Cole Hepfner and Gabe Triplett, and third was given to "Archer's Archery Extravaganza" by Archer Throckmorton. Once again at the end of all of the presentations the judges decided on some middle school over all winners which are as followed, first place "Insulators" by Reese Paulson and Ethan Triplett, second place "Brace Yourself" Cole Hepfner and Gabe Triplett, and lastly in third place was "Want More Wheat?" by Asa Jassen.

The science fair went off without any issues and the projects that were presented were spectacular. Belt Public School couldn't be any more proud of what the students achieved in order to create these projects and the outstanding delivery. The school would like to thank all of the wonderful judges that volunteered their time and made great decisions when it came to the winners of this friendly competition. The science fair was a great way to challenge students and use the science they have been learning in the classroom in real life. Hopefully, this lovely tradition can continue and the Belt community can witness many amazing science fair projects in the future.

By: Natalie Larsen

Spring Springs

As another successful basketball season wraps up, students in the Belt Valley look forward to the initiation of spring activities. With numerous academic activities and the beginning of the spring sports season - it will be a busy couple months in the valley.

March 12th marks the first official date of high school spring sports. Student athletes look forward to the track season as well as the 11th year of Lady Husky golf.

Middle school basketball season continues on through spring, and the young athletes have been busy practicing for their annual tournament. Succeeding the basketball season, middle school students will embark on track right away, joining the high school students during their after school practices.

On March 6th, qualifying students in grades 6th through 12th achieved the opportunity to make the short journey to the Great Falls College MSU for the regional science fair. Students needed to score well at the school wide science fair, which was held February 26th through the 27th in order to compete in this event.

Prom falls on March 17th this year, ironically on St. Patrick's Day. The theme this year is "A Night in Neon" and the junior class will provide all attendees with glow sticks and other various neon objects to help students get into the spirit. There will be a professional DJ at this event for music.

After prom, Belt DECA students will host a father-daughter, mother-son dance for the elementary students. The Elementary Ball will be held on Sunday March 25th from 2pm to 4pm. Tickets are set to be at \$15 per adult-child group and \$5 for each additional child or adult, to purchase a ticket please contact the school. Photography packets will be available and light refreshments will be provided, this dance is open to moms, dads, uncles, aunts, grandmas and grandpas. All proceeds will go towards DECA students' travel expenses for their upcoming travels.

On April 19th, high school honor band and choir students will participate in the district music festival which is to be held in Great Falls over the span of two days.

Other academic activities

include the DECA ICDC (International Career Development Conference) which will be held in Atlanta, Georgia on April 21st through the 24th. In January, seven students from Belt qualified at the Montana SCDC (state career development conference). Maggie Andrews, Keely Drummond, Natalie Larsen, Riley Larsen, Hannah Schweitzer, Livvy Shelton, and Tori Shelton are busy fundraising and preparing for the journey across the country to represent Montana.

Towards the end of the year, the 5th through 12th grade music concert will be held on May 1st, at 7:00 p.m. Following this event will be the Kindergarten through 4th grade concert on May 15th. These concerts provide students with an opportunity to showcase their musical expertise which they have been improving on all year.

To cap off the school year, May 20th marks the date of the seniors' graduation, which will be held from 2pm to 3pm. The mighty class of 2018 will graduate 19 students who are all beyond excited to make their mark in the real world.

By: Maggie Andrews



Come dance the afternoon away at the
Ties and Tiaras
Bows and Boutonnieres
 2018 Elementary Ball

Moms, Dads, Uncles, Aunts, Grandmas,
and Grandpas are all welcome
Photography packages will be available
Light refreshments will be provided



Sunday March 25th, 2018

2 to 4 p.m. at the Belt School Cafeteria

Tickets: \$15 per adult-child group. \$5 for each additional adult or child

All proceeds will go to Belt DECA

Calendar of Events

March 12th – First High School Winter Sports Practice
March 13th – Kindergarten – 5th Grade Regional Science Fair @ Collage of Great Falls MSU
March 13th – Board of Trustees Meeting @ 7:30 p.m.
March 14th – MCTM Math Contest @ Great Falls High
March 15th – 6-12 grade Regional Science Fair @ Collage of Great Falls MSU
March 15th – Child Find/Screening @ Belt School
March 16th – MS Girls Basketball vs. Tri-Cities (B – 4:00 p.m. A – 6:00 p.m.)
March 16th – MS Boys Basketball vs. Tri-Cities (B – 5:00 p.m. A – 7:00 p.m.)
March 17th – MS Girls Basketball vs. Winifred-Roy (B – 11:00 p.m. A – 1:00 p.m.)
March 17th – MS Boys Basketball vs. Winifred-Roy (B – 12:00 p.m. A – 2:00 p.m.)
March 17th – High School Prom
March 20th – End of 3rd Quarter
March 23rd - Principal's Cup @ Simms
March 23th – MS Girls Basketball vs. DGS (B – 3:00 p.m. A – 5:00 p.m.)
March 23th – MS Boys Basketball vs. DGS (B – 4:00 p.m. A – 6:00 p.m.)

Puzzle

Who's lips are these? Hint: This person probably doesn't wear lipstick.



Last edition: Sam Vaughan's brows.

Valley Voice
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