



The Valley Voice



Belt Public School

20 April 2018

Issue 16

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Seniors Sign

Belt High is renowned for its excellence in athletics and many graduates continue to excel in those athletics into college. Three gentlemen from this year's graduating class, Troy Hennes, Tucker Johnson, and Keagan Stroop all signed letters of intent to continue their competitive careers at the next level.

Hennes has agreed to play football at Rocky Mountain College in Billings. Hennes chose to advance his football career because of the fact that he loves the sport. He plans on studying political science while attending Rocky. Looking back on his career of high school football, Hennes noted that



his favorite memory had to either be "the game against Circle my junior year or open fields in the summer." He is most looking forward to being in the dorms and making new friends while at college.

Johnson will attend MSU Northern on a rodeo scholarship. He has been involved in high school rodeo for the 3 years and has decided to advance on to the next level of bull riding. "It has always been a passion", stated Johnson when asked why he chose to continue his rodeo career, "I've been encouraged by my family and friends."



(Cont. pg. 2)

Principal's Report

Boasting academic and athletic prowess, Belt Public Schools is wrapping up the year with lively spring activities. The students of Belt High also are a-buzz with anticipation as they prepare to usher off another class of successful seniors out into the adult world were some will advance their educational standing and become higher functioning members of society. Preparing to receive a new wave of students, the school will be able to move (next year) the elementary into the new addition of the school, which will support the influx of young minds. As the 2017-2018 academic year comes to an end, Belt closes the year with numerous spring activities.

From March 12th to March 29th, Kyle Gillespie taught a 30 hour adult welding class titled "Introduction to

Welding". The five participants that attended were immersed in the basics of Oxy-fuel and Shielded Metal Arc Welding. Two new Miller Multimatic stick, wire, and TIG welding machines were added to the plethora of equipment in the shop, through the adult educational course.

In other news, Maggie Andrews, a Belt sophomore, was selected to be a Montana DECA State Officer for the 2018-19 educational year. She will also go to Atlanta to represent Montana and Belt's DECA chapter in the Parade of Flags ceremony at the International Career Development Conference. The honor reflects aptly on the prestigious Belt DECA chapter and its numerous accomplishments throughout the years.

(Cont. pg. 3)

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Seniors Sign *(Continued)*

to study automotive or welding while at Havre and hopes to work at Herzog Rail in the future. Johnson, like Hennes, is also looking forward to meeting new friends and rooming. He noted that he will miss being having time to spend with his little sisters and watching them grow up, as well as not being able to visit his great grandpa.



Keagan Stroop also signed with MSU Northern but to play football. Stroop is planning to study plumbing, welding, and business with the aspiration of landing a plumbing job. The senior decided to join the

Lights to help his parents out financially and to continue his love for football. He is most looking forward to rooming with Jaren Maki, a 2017 Belt graduate. Stroop's favorite quote is "Kill them with success and bury them with a smile". Once Stroop departs Belt this coming fall, he voiced that he will miss his mom's home cooked meals and beating up Kale, his little brother. As he starts his new chapter of life, he said "I would like to thank the community for all the support for the last four years."

Best of luck to these three seniors as they embark on their new courses of college and the events that come along with it.

By: Keely Drummond

Senior Center

The Belt Senior Center continues to care for many members of the community, providing meals, pilates classes, and bingo.

This April, every Monday and Thursday, pilates are offered at 9:00 A.M., lunch at noon, with bingo following. Every third Wednesday of the month, the Senior Center celebrates all the birthdays of the month. This means that April birthdays were celebrated communally last Wednesday, the 18th. On the other hand, May birthdays will be celebrated on May 16th.

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. Darcy Darlington will be holding dance practice at the Senior Center, and Mrs. LaRocque holds tutoring at the Senior Center as well.

The Belt Senior Center remains an important part of the community. Beyond the services provided for area retirees, the center is also a gathering place for many to exchange stories of days gone by, keep up on more current events both nationally and locally, and stay in touch with the world.

By: Aundrea Glick



Student Spotlight

This week's edition of student spotlight features the question, "if you could choose any person to teach at Belt Middle or High School, who would it be and why?" These were answered by Senior Hannah Schweitzer, Freshmen Sabrina Wing, and eighth grade student Ahmia Lords.

Ahmia Lords and eighth grade student was the first to be questioned. Her reply was "I would choose Donald Trump because he is the president and it would cool to see what he was actually like in person." This reply was well thought out and it showed an obvious inter-

est in the government system the United States runs under.

The next person was Sabrina Wing and she said, "I would choose Mrs. Metrione to become a teacher within the high school. She was one of my favorite teachers in Elementary school and it would be great to have her teach us again."

Lastly, Hannah Schweitzer was interviewed. She replied, "I would absolutely want my mom to be a teacher within our high school. My mom and I are really close and it would be really cool."

Thanks to all participants for the great responses on Student Spotlight.

By: Natalie Larsen

Bowling Scores

High Game Men

Mike Ezop (+57) 213
Drew Koffler (+60) 212
Scott Puppe (+40) 199

High Series Men

Drew Koffler 558
Scott Puppe 535
Bruce Keaster 527

High Game Women

Lisa Urick 181
Linda Lewis (+25) 165
Sanna Skelton (+35) 162

High Series Women

Lisa Urick 493
Polly Pimperton 462
Linda Lewis 446

Principal's Report *(Continued)*

On March 17th prom transpired in the Belt School cafeteria and was chaperoned by Mr. Hoyer and Mrs. Tillman, the junior class advisors. The theme selected was "A Night in Neon" and the King and Queen voted as this year's royalty was Brendan Wing and Samantha Vaughn. The night went down smoothly marking another successful annual dance.

On the other hand, the seventh grade Montana history class was given a presentation on the Missouri River Breaks National Monument. This monument spans from Fort Benton all the way to the Charles M. Russel National Wildlife Refuge in Glasgow protecting a picturesque component of Montana's famous country. The class also learned about the rugged beauty of the area. Samantha Strable and Taylor Mudford, from the Missouri River Breaks Foundation, discussed the history of the Breaks and opportunities to volunteer.

On March 20th, the juniors were administered their state-wide ACT tests while the sophomore class was given the PreACT test later on the 27th. The sophomores have already received their results which were discussed with Mrs. Gliko following their return. Unfortunately, the juniors' results aren't expected back until May.

A representative from the National Forest Service, Bob Gliko and Dave Kemp, a wildlife biologist, conversed with the 5th grade class to gear them up for their annual snowshoeing trip that was on March 22nd. The pair presented on snow survival, avalanche safety, animal tracks, tree specimens, and ecology and biomes.

Back to high school news, National Honor Society inducted eight members in Belt's chapter of NHS. The inductees were admitted

during the NHS banquet held on the 26th of March. A belt alumni who was also involved in the NHS program and is now a successful anesthesiologist, Dr. Tracy Lords spoke at the banquet and warmly welcomed the new students into the chapter. The new members are sophomores: Keely Drummond, Abby Gliko, Natalie Larson, Adele Meissner, Grace Norstedt, Shelby Paulson, Kolby Pimperton, and Hunter Vogl. They joined the nine existing junior and senior members of the National Honor Society and will continue to hold up the four pillars: character, service, leadership, and scholarship.

Spotlighting the brightest for Belt, two, five person teams headed off to academically represent Belt School at the 18th annual Principal's Cup. The event was held at Simms High School on March 31st where the students, from each high school grade level, underwent a series of head-to-head trivia challenges in a double elimination bracket. The following students made the journey to face-off against surrounding school's academic leaders: Troy Hennes, Shannon Hoskins, Adrian Malek, Nolan Myrstol, MaKayla O'Neil, Julia Vogt, Adelle Meissner, Shelby Paulson, Riley Larson, and Livvy Shelton. The academic challenges were buzzed in like Jeopardy.

Speaking of Jeopardy, the Hooked on Fishing Program has graciously sent a number of guest speakers this month to present to the 7th grade class. Dave Hagengruber presented to the students about the distribution of water in the Earth, Daryl Hodges helped to guide the students through the dissection of the fish that they caught in February ice fishing, and Kathy Ketcham reviewed what the students learned throughout the course

with a game of Fish Jeopardy. The middle school science program is now 'hooked on fishing' and the younger students look forward to the month long experience that has them learning about a crucial part of Montana's ecosystems.

In recent news, "Camp out for S'More Reading", a family reading night prompting parent involvement and encouragement of their children's reading, was a success. The event was hosted by Husky club, Title I and the elementary teachers, taking place this month on the 10th of April. The event received over 146 parents that attendants for the evening.

Also, Kyle Paulson, the principal at Belt Public Schools, attended a conference two weeks ago in Fairmont Hot Springs. The Montana Association of Secondary Principal (MASS) and the Montana Association of Elementary and Middle School Principals held the conference where they awarded Mr. Paulson the National Conference on Education Incentive Award. The prize provides the travel, lodging, and expenses for Mr. Paulson to attend the National Conference in Chicago this upcoming July.

Finally, Belt Theater students will keynote on two all-conference breakfasts at the Arts Integration Convention from June 27th through 29th. The Conference takes place at the University of Montana where the students address hundreds of teachers on their theater experiences. The young actors and Mr. Ross will also present a workshop in the Masquer Theater on the UM campus. The event is another honor for the troupe.

The last two months have concluded the third quarter and made way for the final leg of the educational year.

By: Shelby Paulson

S'more Reading Night

Tuesday the 10th of April from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m. many students within Belt Elementary School participated in the S'more Reading Night that was put on by Husky Club, Title I, Elementary teachers, and The Boys and Girls Club to promote family involvement and to encourage parents to read with their children. Students involved in National Honor Society also helped run the event. The turnout was great and the staff believes that it was a great activity to encourage more reading outside the classroom. All elementary students were allowed to go as long as they

had a parent with them. All enjoyed a bit of food, including: hot dogs, beans, chips and of course S'mores.

Each teacher had their own activity set up for students and parents to participate in. There were also surveys set up for parents to complete for Husky Club, Title I, and Reading. Parents that filled out surveys were given the chance to be entered into a prize box for 8 different drawings. Prizes included: 2 gift cards from Papa Murphy's, 2 gift cards from Barnes and Noble, 2 free movie rentals from Belt Valley Grocery, and 3 different collections of books that were donated by

classroom teachers, Mrs. Ray and Barnes and Noble. The activities gave the students plenty to do and kept them busy as they ventured throughout the hallways.

With the crazy weather around Montana and Belt recently, this event gave the students a sense of summertime fun, that also provided an excellent chance for students to learn and grow their reading skills. Hopefully, all of the students that participated in this had a great time and the wonderful staff of Belt School can continue these fantastic activities.

By: Natalie Larsen

Weather Permitting...

Punxsutawney Phil got it all wrong this year. If all went according to Phil's schedule winter would've come to an end a month ago, but Mother Nature continues to drown Montana in rain and snow with a few sunny days here and there. Mother Nature's indecisiveness has left the elementary students without recess and led to the cancellation of nine spring sporting events.

The winter-like spring weather that has plagued Montana for the last month is keeping elementary students inside during their recess time instead of being outside burning energy. The built up energy in the young ones affects the whole school, the teachers spend more of their time trying to burn off the kids' energy inside and trying to contain the wildness within the classroom doors while the high schoolers try to play with the youngsters in the halls as they pass between classes. The high schoolers, teachers, and elementary students alike hope Mother Nature grants them with some sunny weather for recess.

Golf isn't like all the other sports; for golfers, there is no district or divisional tournament. In order for a golfer to qualify for state, they must shoot a qualifying score at a meet in the regular season. The heavy snow and rain have led to the cancellation of three golf meets this season. The Shelby, Choteau, and Conrad meets have all been cancelled (hopefully just postponed) which means that Belt golfers have lost three opportunities to qualify for state. Making the situation even more unfortunate for the golf team is the fact that a qualifying score must be marked by an adult, but Belt doesn't have enough markers for each player to have their own. The low number of markers and meets greatly lowers the chance of Belt's golfers making it to the state tournament which is right around the corner on May 15th.

In order to compete at the district tournament and gain the chance to move on the divisional and state, a track athlete must compete in two meets prior to districts. It seems like getting in two meets in

the two month span before districts would be the easy part, but with Montana's weather lately the two meet requirement might be the hardest part of track season. According to the original schedule Belt should have been to at least four meets by now; however the team has currently been to none. In an effort to get to at least one meet this month, the Huskies have signed up for meets that weren't even on their original schedule. Meets in Fort Benton, Lewistown, Havre, Cut Bank, and Columbus have been cancelled because of the treacherous weather. The runners hope to get in two meets before districts which is on May 11th.

This week the young students of Belt School finally got out to the playground for recess and it looks like the weather is starting to warm up. The golfers' next meet is tomorrow in Fairfield and the next track meet is set to be in Choteau tomorrow. The Voice wishes all the spring athletes the best of luck in their upcoming spring competitions, weather permitting of course.

By: Adelle Meissner

Senior Art Tiles

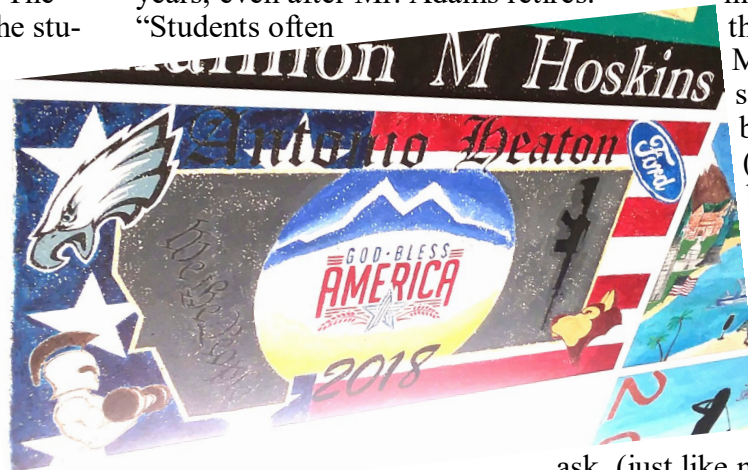
Since 2011, every year the seniors who are in advanced art create a senior art tile. A student would have to have completed 9-11 basic art and would have to be in advanced art their senior year in order to participate in this activity. This year there are seven seniors that are creating an art tile, these seniors include Hannah Schweitzer, Ashley Triviso, Dani Urick, Jordan Swanson, Shannon Hoskins, Christina Fernandez, and Antonio Heaton.

The seniors started the tiles during the beginning of the first quarter and finished them at the end of the quarter, giving them roughly 8 weeks to complete them. The point of the tiles was that the students who had spent their time working, perfecting and advancing their art skills would be rewarded with something that would last forever and would be seen by younger relatives that attend the school, and anyone in general who enters the art room. Mr. Adams, the art teacher himself stated “The students that paint these tiles have put in the time and dedication to develop their artistic skills, and it should be considered a privileged to leave something permanent behind.”

The art tiles are a perfect way for students to express themselves in the way they want to by showing who they are and what



they enjoy on a ceiling tile, which will be around for generations. This tradition is an ideal opportunity for many people, which is why it should continue on throughout the years, even after Mr. Adams retires. “Students often



what I'm going to do when I run out of tiles. I'm pretty sure I will be retired before that happens. After I retire down the road the next art teacher can decide whether to carry on the ceiling tile tradition or not.” Mr. Adams stated. The Ceiling tile tradition is often one that many students look forward to as they get older, and it would be a

shame to end it.

Senior, Hannah Schweitzer, stated “I have six sections on my tile and each one represents something I enjoy or something I like. I highlighted some important things such as golf, skiing, MSU, my love for forensic science (including dead bodies), of course Kermit (my meme true love), and because I am a queen, I have bought a crown, just because I wanted one, and so of course I had to mention a quote. I also included Montana because I love this state even though it's bipolar (just like my husband) with the weather. I decided to do it this way because it's the best idea I had and I couldn't think of anything else. I've been looking forward to doing a senior tile since middle school. I loved seeing them every year and I wanted to do one, so I did.” Sophomore, Avery Newman, stated “I'm really excited to start my senior art tile, I actually have most of it already planned out and I hope it goes as well as I think it will.”

The Senior Art Tiles are a great way for the school to allow the students to show who they are and leave behind a sort of legacy for many future generations to see.

By: Tori Sherwood



Spanish Fashion Show

Every year Senorita Hiatt has the students in her Spanish I class put on a fashion show. The students were paired and together they put together outfits that differ from their everyday attire. The outfits range from dresses and bandanas to suits and ties, the fashion show is a great opportunity for students to express their individuality and show off the clothes that they wouldn't normally wear.

Srta Hiatt started the fashion show with the goal of giving the students a creative way to incorporate the vocabulary and grammar concepts that they've been working hard to learn over the course of the year. Srta Hiatt also loves to put on the fashion show because it gets the kids out of the classroom which is

something that Srta tries to do as much as possible, she likes to keep the students up and moving around as much as she can. Srta Hiatt says the fashion show gives the added bonus of encompassing several of the foreign language curriculum world standards.

This year's fashion show was a little rushed and discombobulated with MAPS testing taking away some practice time, but the results were still great. MAPS testing kept the sophomores out of class for two of the four days the kids worked on the fashion show, so the descriptions of the outfits and even the outfits themselves weren't extremely exciting but all the students put in a good effort and the show still turned out well.

The fashion show got a late start, as seems to always happen in the fashion industry, and the models were kept on the runway while they were supposed to be in math class. Srta Hiatt was very appreciative of the flexibility of the teachers and was appreciative of them suffering for the sake of fashion. The models were probably just fine with skipping a little bit of math class to continue strutting the runway.

The Spanish fashion show has become a staple in Srta Hiatt's curriculum and it's something that all the students have come to enjoy. The kids like to see all the crazy outfits that everyone else comes up with as well as showing off their own obscure ensemble.

By: Adelle Meissner

No Violence Week

April is Childhood Abuse Prevention Month, so on April 2nd - 6th the Great Falls College MSU held the annual "No More Violence Week". To kick this event off, students from Sunnyside Elementary helped plant hundreds of pinwheels on the lawn of the College on Tuesday morning. The "Pinwheels for Prevention" is a national public awareness campaign which portrays a happy symbol of childhood and visualizes the message that every child deserves to be raised in a safe environment.

In addition, throughout this week the college held numerous presentations on homelessness, human trafficking, substance abuse, suicide. On Wednesday, following the "Suicide in Montana" presentation, Belt sophomores: Maggie Andrews and Keely Drummond, gave a presentation at Heritage hall in the college about why the two became the youth voice for the app #LetsTalk. This app provides resources and information in the form of videos, articles and "safe spaces". The girls explained how they

identified the need for the resources in their community and put their plans into action by partnering with Alliance for Youth of Great Falls to create the app.

This year's "No More Violence Week" was a huge success as it encompassed both community members from Great Falls and visitors from all over the state. The Great Falls College MSU and community members look forward to next year's rendition as the 2018 week wrapped up.

By: Maggie Andrews

DECA

The Belt DECA chapter will be traveling to Atlanta, Georgia on Saturday April 21st for the International Career Development Conference (IDCD). The four day conference will be held at the Mercedes-Benz stadium and the Georgia World Congress Center. Those who qualified were Maggie Andrews, Keely Drummond, Natalie Larsen,

Riley Larsen, Livvy Shelton, Tori Shelton, and Hannah Schweitzer. The Belt DECA advisor Jessica Tillman will be chaperoning the girls on the cross country trip.

Between presentations and award ceremonies, the girls will tour downtown Atlanta, the World of Coke, and the Georgia Aquarium. They also will attend the DE-

CA sponsored concert of Andy Grammer who has the hit songs "Honey I'm Good" and "Good To Be Alive". The girls have been excited for this trip ever since the state conference. After countless hours of working hard, their hard work will pay off as they fly into the "Empire City of the South".

By: Keely Drummond

Belt Cleanup Day

Since Mayor Jim Olson took office this January, it has been one of his goals to clean up the town of Belt and to maintain a nice image of the town throughout the year. On Saturday, May 5th Mayor Olson will be leading a Belt Cleanup Day along with an Arbor Day celebration. The day's festivities will begin in the Little Belt Park at 9:00 a.m. Mayor Olson will make a few comments and then the cleanup will kick off. Following the day's work, volunteers and city workers will meet in the Little Belt Park again for a free barbecue celebration. The celebration is open to the public, anyone is welcome.

Recently, the City Council completed the writing of a Strategic Plan. The plan set improvement goals for the town and outlined ways that the council, in combination with the community, can achieve those goals. One of the main priorities written into the plan is the cleaning up of the town. Mayor Olson takes it as his role in the city to implement that plan; and he thinks spring is an excellent time to start. Mayor Olson is providing

families and kids with the opportunity to be able to play in the parks and along the creek without garbage littering the trails and creek bed.

It is Mayor Olson's wish that this group activity will help reassert the town's shared value for cleanliness and will give the residents a chance to join together in work for a collective good. The actions of volunteers on cleanup day will reflect a pride in Belt's unique, scenic, and historic background. Mayor Olson greatly hopes that the students will step up and lead the way; older students should be setting the example for the younger kids by picking up garbage as a routine habit and not be contributing to the litter sometimes seen around town. It is Mayor Olson's goal that as citizens of Bel, we can all take pride in having a clean town.

It is important for everyone in the community to get involved in the cleanup since Belt is their home. There is trash littered along sidewalks and the roads and creek create an eye sore and negatively impact the environment. We want our

visitors to see the respect residents have for Belt, and enjoy its natural beauty. It's the town's desire to be clean and to foster a sense of pride.

The cleanup specifically will focus on picking up areas around the school, parks and along the creek/dike. The ward aldermen from the city council will lead members of their ward in cleaning other public areas. This is a great window of opportunity for volunteers to offer assistance to the elderly or disabled in our community with the cleanup. The day as a whole, is a great way for residents who would like to be more involved in the community, and who would also like to see the community look better by getting involved in making a change in their environment.

Thank you in advance for any help you can give on Belt Cleanup Day! The City encourages citizens to regularly clean up around the parks, neighborhoods, and public areas. Volunteers can also get involved with the Belt Park Board and help with the planting of flowerbeds in the parks.

By: Adelle Meissner

As the spring weather begins to become more frequent the dangers of drinking and driving are still high. Even when the roads are nice and snow-free that doesn't mean they are less dangerous once someone has a beer or two. Just because one believes they will fine it does not give them the right to put others' lives in danger.

In 2015, 10,625 people died from drunk driving accidents and in 2016 that number was even higher. Drinking and driving is a dangerous activity that no one should allow themselves to do. This spring make good choices and...

Never Drink and Drive!

This message brought to you by your
Cascade DUI Task Force



More Husky Hardware

Track season has been up and running in the high school since March, but the Belt Middle Schoolers are just now bringing their basketball season to a close. In the final week on regular season play, the young Huskies ventured outside the valley for two contest, one against the Tri-City Titans in Hobson and the other against the Winifred/Roy Outlaws in Winifred. After the two aforementioned games on the road, it was tournament time for the Belt Huskies. On their path to the silver plaque the Lady Huskies faced the Winnett/Grass Range Rams, the Tri-City Titans, and the Winifred Roy Outlaws. As the boys' team embarked upon their trek to the bronze trophy, they battled the DGS Bearcats, the Winifred Roy/Outlaws, the Tri-City Titans, and the Winnett/Grass Range Rams.

The girls "B" team concluded their season in the best way possible, with two victories. For their last two games on the season, the girls loaded the bus headed for Hobson and Winifred. Against the Tri-City Titans the girls were eager to avenge their loss to the Centerville Miners the weekend before. The Huskies outscored the Tri-City Titans 34-21. On the floor for the last time this season, Belt didn't want to end with a loss; however the young athletes' efforts were bested by the Winifred/Roy Outlaws with a score of 22-33.

The boys "B" team also wrapped up their season with two wins, bringing their undefeated season to a close. The boys made their final road trips with the Belt Middle School 2018 basketball team to Hobson and Winifred. The boys made the most of their game in Hobson, outscored the Titans 27-10. Realizing it was their last chance to play together this season, the boys put their best skills to work and defeated the Roy/Winifred Outlaws 28-19.

The girls "A" team used their last two regular season games to prepare for tournament time. They dominated the Tri-City Titans 27-10 and caught a glimpse of what would be their championship game when they played the Winifred/Roy Outlaws; despite the Huskies best efforts, Belt was outscored 14-33. For their first game in the end of the season tournament, the Huskies went head to head with the Winnett/Grass Range Rams. The girls snatched a win in the first round 28-19. In the semi-finals the girls met the Tri-City Titans who they just defeated the previous week. Yet again, Belt came out on top with another victory 46-10. In the championship, the girls met the only team they lost to this season, the Winifred/Roy Outlaws. The Huskies put forth a valiant effort, but when the final buzzer rang the score read Belt 14 Winifred/Roy 26.

The boys "A" team also used their last two games to try and prepare for their tough competition in the tournament. The boys easily controlled the Tri-City Titans as they outscored them by a stunning 36 points, the final score being 46-10. The boys were then outscored by the

Winifred/Roy Outlaws 28-37 as they headed into the tournament. The boys kicked off the tournament with a victory over the Denton/Geyser/Stanford Bearcats 46-21. Then the boys went head to head with the number one seed, the Winifred/Roy Outlaws. Belt had been unable to outscore the Outlaws all season, and tournament time was no different. The Huskies fell to the Outlaws 33-37. Not ready to end their season just yet, Belt took the long way round to claim the third place trophy. The Huskies defeated the Tri-City Titans 58-13 and the Winnett/Grass Range Rams 30-22.

All the Husky teams had great success this season, a tradition in Belt's basketball program. The girls captured the second place plaque and the boys snatched the bronze trophy at this year's end of the season tournament. The middle schoolers started track last Monday and the Valley Voice will continue to keep readers apprised of the young athletes' successes.


By: Adelle Meissner

Latigos & Lashes Coronation Gala

Saturday, April 28, 2018
Times Square Event Center
(525 Central Ave. Great Falls, MT)

Doors open: 5:30 p.m.
Tri~Tip Steak Dinner: 6:30 p.m.
Music and dancing to follow
Silent Auction/Live Auction/Games

Purchase tickets at: [paypal.me/missteenrodeomontana](https://www.paypal.me/missteenrodeomontana)
or mail check to Keely at PO Box 153, Belt, MT 59412



Tickets: \$35
Table of Eight: \$275

Keely Drummond
2018 Miss Teen Rodeo Montana
Check out my Facebook event "Latigos & Lashes" for a sneak peak of incredible items up for auction!

Featured Staff



This issue of the Valley Voice features the middle school science teacher, Mrs. Vogt. Vogt has been teaching at Belt for 16 years! She initiated her career in the Belt Valley as the Gifted and Talented Coordinator and advisor of 3rd Grade Reading and 5th Grade Social Studies in 2002. By 2004, Vogt began teaching grades 3-5 at Pleasant Valley Hutterite colony. She transferred in to the main school after that and taught 5th grade for 8 years before she took over middle school science two years ago.

graduation, Vogt received her bachelor's degree and teaching certificate from Gonzaga University in 1990 and her Master's degree from Walden University. Vogt was inspired to become a teacher after witnessing the positive effect which her father had on his students, therefore she aspired help students reach their full potential. Since then, Mrs. Vogt found her passion in teaching, enjoying her students' humor while teaching them learning is fun.

When she is not in the classroom, Mrs. Vogt enjoys spending time with her family, reading, and cooking.

By: Maggie Andrews

When Mrs. Vogt was 2, her father was hired to be the guidance counselor in Belt where she fell in love with the small town atmosphere and decided to reside. Upon high school

Great Falls Symphony Field Trip

Mr. Sutton, the K-12 music teacher, performs every month in the Great Falls Symphony. His recent concert was on the twelfth and he took his students with him. Mr. Sutton rode on the bus and supervised ninety kids that ranged from the fourth to the eighth grade. The students left around 12:15 p.m. and got there right on time at 1:00. The performance was at the Civic Center in the Mansfield Theater, where they normally perform. Mr. Sutton arranged with the orchestra so he could ride with the students and take the bus, instead of arriving earlier.

school couldn't provide, and the experience of learning and being inspired by the higher levels of music. After the concert Mr. Sutton stated that he thought "the students seemed to enjoy it as did I." The trip was meant to expose young students to classical music to provide an experience that they might want to have.

The theme of the orchestra that afternoon was "Exploring Beethoven," with excerpts from his 5th, 7th, and 9th symphonies and his works of Egmont Overture. Mr. Sutton, who played his base trombone, performed Beethoven's 9th symphony. He stated that his performance was "fun, and an overall good performance, there was little to no stress, the only stress was having to get ninety kids place to place." Overall, this trip provided a fun experience where students got to see their teacher perform.

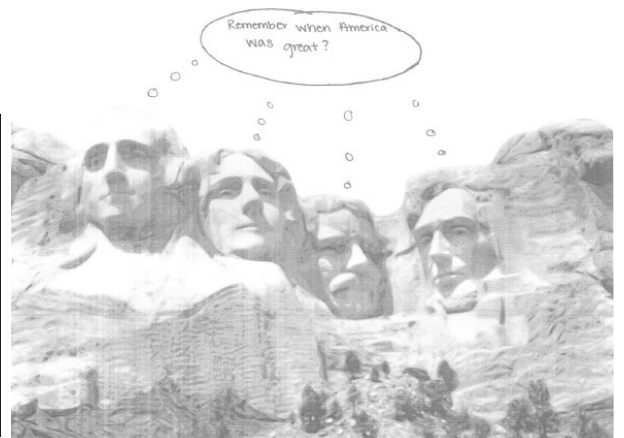
By: Sydne Flinn



WEAPONS OF WAR



Government Class Cartoons



Valley Voice

City News Corrections

In Issue 15 of the Valley Voice the city news article had a few mistakes. The following bullet points are published in the spirit of clarity.

- The council recently approved the proposed ordinance regarding RV and Trailer Parks, not Mayor Olson
 - The proposed ordinance also does not include the state definition of an RV
- The dumpsters in the park are placed in the parking lot in Castner Park
 - They will remain there until May 31st
- The porta potties will remain in the park until sometime after Labor Day
- The city council will not raise the town's rates unless it is necessary to comply with DEQ mandated project costs
 - The rates are increased according to the town's obligations related to bond issues and the repayment of associated loans
 - The council will do everything within their power to avoid a rate increase

Miss Montana

Last week, the students in grades kindergarten through 3rd, were visited Miss Montana 2017 Maddie Murray. She gave a presentation to the students of the different ways that kindness can spread through a community. She started with showing a video that demonstrated that by doing one small good deed for someone unexpectedly, it will eventually circle its way back to the original person. Murray then proceeded to have the kiddos play a "game" with kindness as the mindset. All of the students seemed to be intrigued by Murray and had many questions that they asked her.

Murray is nineteen years old and resided in Corvallis, Montana. She was crowned at the Miss Mon-

tana pageant in Glendive this past June. Nearing the end of her reign, Murray has been through numerous incredible experiences. "My favorite parts of being Miss Montana has been able to travel 30,000 miles all over Montana, meeting new people, volunteering at the Shodair Children's hospital and visiting school on my school tour and of course the Miss American pageant in New Jersey."

Murray has not been a pageant girl all of her life. "Growing up, I showed pigs in 4-H and participated in about every sport I could. In high school I was an avid cross country and track runner until I injured by ankle as a sophomore and was told I would never run the

same. In order to take running off of my mind, I stated to volunteer with different groups in my community. I went on a service trip to Nicaragua where I decided that I wanted to become a doctor or a nurse. In order to pay for my schooling, I stated to look for scholarships. I found that the Miss Montana pageant offered scholarships to every girl who competed and here I am today."

One thing is for certain, the kindergarteners, 1st graders, 2nd graders, and 3rd graders really enjoyed their visit from Montana's reigning royalty. Thank you Maddie Murray for coming to Belt Public Schools.

By: Keely Drummond



Orange for Hunger

Thursday the 18th the students of Belt Public School were expected to wear orange in order to support those who don't have the luxury of knowing exactly where their next meal is coming from. Sixteen million American children struggle with hunger each year and sixty two percent of teachers state that they have children coming to class hungry. These numbers are alarming and open people eyes to this crisis that America is facing. This challenge inhibits children from doing their best in the classroom, as children who are hungry are twice as likely to skip a grade.

These startling facts conjure a sense of charity and many people

begin to ask what they can do to help. A single person can do their fair share to help exterminate this problem and there are multiple ways to give back to the community. For example, people can advocate for child hunger which means speaking publicly or letting people within your community know what needs to be changed in order to diminish this issue. This is especially helpful when it comes to getting government funding and new laws to help prevent child hunger.

Other things people can do includes: volunteering, donating, and spreading the awareness of childhood hunger. Even if the act is small, every little bit helps the prob-

lem that is childhood hunger.

In Belt spreading awareness is the route that was taken on Thursday the 18th because most of the student body participated and wore the color orange. Even though Belt is a small community by wearing orange the people within the community that do struggle know that the school and its students support them. Hopefully, everyone learned from this experience and understand that not everybody gets three amazing meals a day and it is important to show those who don't have this luxury that the Belt student body and staff truly care about their well-being.

By: Natalie Larsen

National Sibling and Pet Day

Over the course of two days the internet exploded with photos and captions expressing people's love and gratitude towards their pets and siblings, because it was National Sibling and Pet Day.

On April 10th, social media picked up on the National Siblings trend, as people posted and tagged their siblings in posts showing how much they appreciated them, even if they didn't show it. April 11th, however, was National Pet day and

even more people showed their love towards their furry children.

Many students that attend Belt Public School posted about their sibling and their animals on the days of these events as well as everyone else with a social media account. Sophomore, Abby Marchington posted about her siblings, simply stating "Happy Siblings Day!" with over 15 photos of her and her siblings. A little over 15 Belt students posted about their ani-

mals and pets, middle and high school.

Whenever the opportunity to post about something or someone a person loves pops up, everyone seems to take it. This goes for birthdays, holidays, and other occasions. National Siblings and Pet day was just another opportunity for people to post and share their gratitude and passion for their loving siblings and pets.

By: Tori Sherwood

Theatre Update

Since the beginning of the school year, the Belt Valley Shakespeare Players have been preparing for their first performance. It has been confirmed by the director (Jeff Ross) that the group will not be performing at Carroll College in Helena on April 26th at 6 p.m. The group will, however, be performing at the Belt Theatre on the 4th and 5th at 6:30 p.m. They will also be performing on the 9th at 9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. of May.

The group will be performing *Much Ado About Nothing*, which is another classic Shakespeare play. The group was inspired after they had seen the play at the Globe located in London, England.

"This year has been very strange," stated Charity Highfill, who has been a member for two years, "It's been very slow, and for some reason we're really just not on our game. Ever since the seniors from last year graduated, things

have just been really weird. I feel like even though we've been "working" all year, we're still not very prepared."

The eleven cast members have been working extra hard, devoting five days out of the week in hopes of improving the performance. There is still a lot of work to be done before the future performances, but most are hopeful that they will do an amazing job.

By: Tori Sherwood

Puzzle

The eye and ear belong to which student? Hint: él es muy alto.



Last Edition's answer: Brandon Wall

Calendar of Events

- April 20th – District Music Festival @ Great Falls
- April 20th – MS Track Meet @ Simms
- April 20th – 22nd – Craig Cummings Memorial Basketball Tournament
- April 21st – 25th International DECA Conference @ Atlanta, GA
- April 21st – Expanding Horizons MS Science Trip @ Bozeman
- April 21st – HS Track Meet @ Choteau
- April 21st – HS Golf Meet @ Fairfield
- April 24th – 4th Quarter Mid-Term
- April 26st – HS Track Meet @ Choteau
- April 26th – CMR Chamber Orchestra Presentation
- April 27th – HS Golf Meet @ Fort Benton
- April 27th – MS Track Meet @ Fort Benton
- April 28th – HS Track Meet @ Great Falls
- April 30th – HS Pre-State Golf Meet @ Fairmont Hot Springs
- May 1st – Top 8 Track Meet @ Great Falls
- May 1st – Festival of Nations @ 5:30 p.m.
- May 1st – 5-12 Spring Concert @ 7 p.m.
- May 2nd – Buckle Up Presentation
- May 3rd – MS Track Meet @ Belt
- May 4th – HS Pre-District Track Meet @ Great Falls
- May 4th – 5th State Music Festival

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