



The Valley Voice

Belt Public Schools



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Volume 12 Issue #4

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Highfill Speaks Out

Since 1947, the Veteran's of Foreign Wars organization has sponsored the Voice of Democracy nationwide speech competition to start students' journey on public speaking and becoming more active in politics; while it has been around for quite some time, the Belt community has participated since the 1970's.

These days it's part of the Senior Government class curriculum. Each student writes their own speech based on a theme; this year was "America: Where do we go from Here?"

The orators presented their recitation twice, first in Government class and then to a panel of judges from Black Eagle VFW Post 4669. The school champion is determined by the VFW members, including local Jim Porter and post commander Frank Tuss. The VFW also presents generous cash awards to the top three competitors.

The local champion for 2021 was John Highfill, followed by Ahmia Lords. Molly Tingey finished in the third spot based on judges votes.

These three will now submit their speeches to districts, hopefully moving on to the state level. If one exceeds this rank, they move on to nationals, with a chance to win a \$30,000 scholarship.

Traditionally, the community winners deliver their speeches at the Veteran's Day Program that the school hosts; though COVID-19 is preventing many things, plans are to return to this tradition at this year's program.

Belt students have a strong tradition of excellence in state wide competition and all three expect to do well again this year. Molly Tingey states "It was fun to write the speech and present it. I am excited to move forward." Good Luck goes out to each of these contestants and a big thank you to the VFW for making this opportunity available.

By: Kyndal Schraner



Cross-Country

In just two short weeks on October 23rd the Huskies will voyage to Missoula for the state cross country meet. The boys will attempt to run their way to the first state championship title that Belt School has ever had in their grasp; the ladies will strive to claim victory for the first time since 2011. In the meantime, the team has continued preparing with a couple very successful regular season meets over the past fortnight.

On October 1st, the team ventured to Great Falls to run at Anacon-

da Hills Golf Course, while many AA schools attended also. Coach Megan Graham quoted: "It is one of the toughest courses in the state to run in." Even though it is a challenging course, it was no match for Belt Huskies' athletes, Lindsey Paulson and Asa Jassen. Paulson, the returning state champion, earned first place in the varsity race with a time of 19:31.69, beating some of the biggest schools in Montana. Jassen also snatched first place in the boy's JV race with a time of 17:45.65. (Cont. pg. 3)

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Cross-Country (Cont.)

At the Bill Roberts Golf Course in Helena on October 7th our cross-country team did pretty well. There were many AA and A schools there along with some B and C schools who were competing. Lindsey Paulson captured 4th place in the varsity race, a great accomplishment indeed considering the level of competition. Asa Jassen

finished 19th place with a very respectable time of 17:25.

This all builds up to the state meet to be held in the University of Montana Golf Course in Missoula on Saturday, October 23rd. One of the biggest competitors is Manhattan Christian for both the girls and boys. Coach Megan Graham stated "If Christian runs well,

they will be really tough to beat. Their top 7 runners are within the top 10 in the state. Right now, the boys have a shot to get second place if we run well and are healthy." Lindsey Paulson will battle to defend her state title and the girls will try to tack on an 8th state team championship.

By: Brooke Holum

New Belt Business

Backroads Pizza has opened a coffee shop at 2 Valley Drive. The machines were purchased from Morning Light Coffee Roasters, beans and syrups as well.

Laura Koffler, Rachel Heberly, and Addison Norstedt will be serving from 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. Monday through Friday. They will also be open 8 a.m.-11 a.m. on Saturday and 9- a.m. - 1 p.m. on

Sundays. This beverage will also be available in the evenings when pizza and bowling are open.

Backroads menu will be filled with items like lattes, frappes, caramel macchiatos, Italian sodas, milkshakes, regular coffee and more. Muffins and cinnamon rolls will also be available for breakfast.

Backroads will have a grand opening when their drive-thru is

finished. The drive-thru is projected to be finished by the end of October. While this option is not yet available, this number, 277-3245, is available to order ahead.

The bowling alley can be reserved for a coffee party or pizza and bowling at 788-7790. Currently, there are no Covid-19 restrictions.

By: Madisen Feldman

Husky Football

Over the past two weeks the Belt boys have played Rocky Boy and Shelby, taking the win for both games. As the season builds toward its climax, the Huskies host Shelby tonight; a win means a berth in the state playoffs.

The Maroon and Gold Squad competed against the Rocky Boy Stars as their final conference game of the year. Belt rolled to an early lead behind a diverse offense, with 9 different players catching the ball. Garrett Metrione and Reese Paulson keyed the offense, combining for 16 completions, 285 yards, and 4 touchdowns. Coming back from an injury, freshman Declan Bergstrom was also to take several snaps in the win.

Belt led 14-0 after a period and then exploded for 30 points in the second to insure the victory. The Northern Stars kept at it, scor-

ing 3 TD's in the 3rd period, but the outcome was long since determined.

The Belt Valley Huskies hosted the Shelby Coyotes on Friday, October 8th resulting in some great entertainment for the Husky fans. In the first half of the game Belt scored 36 points and Shelby scored 8 points. Lots of Belt kids handled the ball carrying duties, including: Jeremy Nebel, Ethan Triplett, Garrett Metrione, Reese Paulson, Isaac Maki, Zach Feldman, Rylan Davison, Ben Gillespie, Lane Waldner, Eli Bodner, and Declan Bergstrom.

Belt led 16-0 after one quarter and 36-8 at intermission. The second half belonged to the reserves and Belt continued to roll on the way to a 64-8 win.

A win is a win, but this one meant nothing as it was a non-conference game. Shelby is in the "B" subdivision of the Northern C. Belt, meanwhile,

finished in the 2nd place, behind Fort Benton, in the "A" subdivision.

The valley boys are now 4-1 conference play and 6-1 non-conference play. The next game will be played tonight at 7:00 a.m. at Remington field against the Shelby Coyotes for the second week in a row, with a lot more on the line. The winner of this evenings battle earns a trip to the state playoffs as either the 3 or 4 seed out of the north. If Belt wins, a coin flip will determine whether they travel to Fairview or Culbertson to open the playoffs the last weekend of October.

The game will be broadcast on 560 KMON & kmon.com, with Chris Kelly and Karl Koontz providing play-by-play coverage.

By: Gabriel Triplett

Belt	14	30	12	8	64
Rocky Boy	-	6	18	-	24

Shelby	-	8	-	-	8
Belt	16	20	14	14	64

Volleyball

The Belt volleyball girls' amazing season continues to unfold as tournament time nears. Over the last two weeks, the ladies faced conference rival Valier and notched a big win for the program, but also fell to Class B Fairfield.

On October 2nd, the Belt Huskies faced the second-place team in the 6C District, the Valier Lady Panthers. Belt took the victory in three sets. The first set was very stressful for the team because they didn't know how good Valier was, but they grasped the victory 25-14. The second set was an even closer match but the girls pulled through and ended 25-15. The third set ended the game with a final score of 25-13 and Huskies grabbed the win.

Addi Urick racked up 15 of the 46 team digs. Without passes there would be no way to set the ball up for an attacker to kill it so that's why digs are so important in this game. Lindsey Paulson tallied 3 aces, 6 kills, 2 blocks, and 7 digs. Danika Lords had 1 kill and 3 digs that helped for other attackers besides her to have an opportunity to hit. Ella Pethel contributed 4 aces, giving the Huskies four points in their favor, 1 kill, and 9 assists.

On October 7th, 2021, Belt faced off against the Cascade Badgers. The volleyball girls traveled to Cascade to play what was supposed to be a home game but due to inconveniences the venue was changed to the Badgers den.

The Huskies won the game in four sets. The first set was a terrifying game where the Badgers reigned victorious, but the Huskies rallied in the next three sets to capture the evening. The first set went 22-25, the second was 25-22, the third was 25-18, and the fourth set was 25-14.

Urlick amassed an impressive number of digs, 34, and 3 aces. Senior Raily Gliko added 3 aces, 10 kills, 21 digs, and 1 assist. Aaliyah Gaylord had 1 ace, 4 digs, and 14 assists. Lindsey Paulson logged 4 aces, 5 kills, 4 blocks, and 5 digs. Kylee Permann fired 3 aces, 9 kills, and 7 digs to go with Pethel's single ace, 10 digs, and 13 assists. Hattie Bumgarner recorded half a dozen kills, 2 blocks, 1 dig, and 1 assist and Addee Hoffmann, had 1 kill, 1 block, and 2 digs.

The Lady Huskies faced off again against the Fairfield Eagles, after besting the old rival in Teton

County earlier in the season. The Maroon and Gold girls put up a fight but still lost in 5 sets, as the Eagles reversed the prior result. The first two sets the Belt squad came out and fought fiercely, but the next three they crumbled away at the beak of the Eagles. Despite the girls hard work, they fell short of victory after a night of momentum swings back and forth. It was tough, and the Huskies lost their first game of the season other than showcases.

Urlick, Gliko, and Permann showed the way defensively, leading the team in digs with 29, 16, and 11 respectively. Permann's 11 kills outdid Gliko by one, and Gliko and Pethel combined for seven aces. Pethel also chipped in with 15 assists and Gaylord donated 12.

Belt sits on top of the league, followed by Valier, then Simms, Cascade, Power, GFCC Dutton/Brady, Augusta, and last but not least Heart Butte Warriors.. The Huskies are 6-0 in conference and 5-1 in non-conference. Tomorrow night, Heart Butte will come to Belt to face the mighty Belt Huskies with district, divisional, and state tournaments right around the corner.

By: Addee Hoffmann

New Students

Mason Albert and Harley Schraner in 4th grade have shared their experiences with the *Valley Voice*. The first couple months of their 4th grade class have been great and they are looking forward for the rest of their elementary division.



Young Mr. Albert was homeschooled for his 4th grade education because of the pandemic. There have been many changes between

homeschool and a classroom. Previously, Mason did other activities while being homeschooled. He watched movies to learn, only went to classes for four hours, and slept in. He does Tae Kwon Do and homework in his free time. The thing he likes about Belt is being able to see all of his friends again.

Similarly, Harley Schraner was homeschooled during the pandemic. The biggest difference between homeschooling and being in the Belt School is that she was able to complete different activities and school work. Harley states, "I don't get to do as much as I used to and it

has changed from homeschooling."

She enjoys being able to see her friends and play the violin. In her free time, she finishes homework, practices her violin, practices basketball, and practices volleyball.

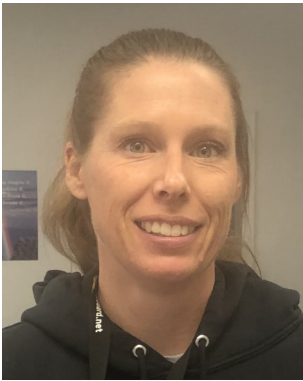
Belt Public Schools wishes the best for these students in their years of schooling here in Belt.

By: Walker Maki



Featured Staff

Mrs. Heather Remington



was chosen for the featured staff of the week. We choose a staff member every other week, and tell about their time in Belt and what

they teach and what are some of their favorite things about teaching.

Mrs. Remington holds a teaching degree and is certified to teach 5th through 12th grade math, but her expertise goes well beyond

that. Her past teaching assignments were in Colorado and Cascade.

She started her local work by subbing in Belt three years ago just two days a week when her daughter started preschool and has moved up from there. She is now the Academic Success teacher and her main focus is to help students with math but she does support students with other subjects such as English and History.

Mrs. Remington says “I really enjoy working in a smaller school where I get to know the students and get the opportunity to work with students from several different grade levels. I am fortunate to be able to work with stu-

dents in a small group setting enabling the students to get the attention they need”. Mrs. Remington states that she is planning to stay in Belt and is looking forward to helping students reach their full potential for the next several years.

Mrs. Remington says that she doesn’t have a specific favorite memory here but she loves seeing her students who have been struggling with a particular subject find success in the hard work that they put in while being in her class. Mrs. Remington's favorite classes to teach are Algebra 1 and 2 but she likes all math too.

By: Gabriel Triplet

Husky Rewards

The staff at Belt Schools recognizes the importance of behavior inside and outside the classroom. Positive behavior enhances educational opportunities for all students. In addition to a good old fashioned pat on the back or an “atta kid”, students in the Belt Elementary can earn more substantial rewards for doing the right thing at school.

There are three types of tickets that students can earn. First there are the white tickets, where teachers can give out as many as they please. These are a privilege that they can get by being kind or helping out with simple everyday things. The white tickets have their name on them and are rewarded with a prize out of Mrs. Hoffmann’s treasure box.

The next step up is the gold-

en tickets, which are for the students who get noticed for going above and beyond and following the expectation matrix for Husky behavior. There is a 10 by 10 grid just outside of Mr. Paulson’s office and each time a ticket is earned they get to place their name on a slip of paper and put it anywhere in the graph they would like. When there are 10 pieces of papers in a row, those kids get the opportunity to go bowling and have pizza with Mr. Paulson once a month.

Last Monday, students Mark Hoffman, Ellison Garza, Leah Maves, Garrett Remington, Ryle Paulson, Grady Kerkes, Patrick Larson, Bailey Adkins, Lily Goodman, and Huck Turville earned a trip to the bowling alley along with some pizza. These 10 kids went above and beyond, and showed they

could be a Husky.

Last but not least, for the middle schoolers and high schoolers there are the green Husky Tickets. Husky Tickets can be earned pretty much the same way as the other ones, but instead of a treasure box, or a pizza party/bowling, every Friday there are usually about three kids that are drawn along with a teacher winner and they are given a drink of their choice made by the yearbook staff every Friday.

Mr. Paulson announces the winners each week and roars of approval arise from classrooms that house one of the lucky winners. The object of the program is to help create a great learning environment, which it does, but it also adds a little fun to each day and week in the Belt School system.

By: Gracie Watson

Cole’s Pantry

Cole’s Pantry is a program that is funded by a grant that Belt School’s received from Town Pump for \$8,000 last year. With this money items were purchased from Sam’s Club to stock the program for the beginning of the school year.

Volunteer students from National Honor Society and Student Council assisted in purchasing the food and putting together the backpacks.

The objective of this program is to provide food for hungry students within the community.

Some students are eligible to receive a backpack full of food every weekend, while others only receive backpacks on an occasional basis. The school also has a stock of snacks for students who are unable

(Cont. pg. 7)

Booster Calcutta

The Belt Booster Calcutta is a fundraising event for the Belt booster club. The dinner and Calcutta were held in the Belt Performing Arts Convention Room on October 2nd.

The event kicked off with a silent auction for various memorabilia and prizes followed by a catered prime rib feast. The after dinner entertainment consisted of the Calcutta auction.

The Calcutta is a fun event

where people buy tickets, each of which ticket goes into the jar. Every ticket in the jar is drawn, and each 5th ticket drawn wins \$60, and every 10 tickets drawn goes on the board. The 10 names that are on the board get auctioned off. People place bets on who is going to win and the name that gets drawn gets \$200, and the person that bet on that name gets part of the Calcutta pot.

When asked why they do the fundraiser, booster Jill Gliko

said, "To help Belt athletics". Money raised is used to purchase a wide assortment of equipment for athletics, among other things.

The Belt Booster club sold 99 tickets for Calcutta, and raised about \$10,000. It was a fun night for all the participants. "The Belt Boosters would like to thank the community for their support" added Gliko. Contact Mrs. Gliko to become a Belt Booster.

By: Addee Hoffmann

It's a Scary World Out There

Get ready for the scariest night of the year, where kids and adults of all ages can scare each other and have a great night of fun and festivity. The last two years of Halloween have not been the same, due to the Coronavirus. This year for Halloween there will be more freedom for the trick or treaters. Still, Halloween is a scary time, and phobias are all about scared.

Phobias start with an irregular neurotransmitter system in the brain. This means that something in the brain isn't connected or there is something different with the person's brain. About 10% of the general population have some kind of phobia. One common phobia is a social phobia, also called Social Anxiety Disorder. Social Disorder is when the people with the disorder are put in a situation which includes communicating with strangers they get uncomfortable with. Ricky Williams, a NFL player, struggled with Social Disorder. He noted, "I felt extremely isolated from my friends and family because I couldn't explain to them what I was feeling. I had no idea what was wrong with me." Others with SAD agree with Williams, they give up on certain activities. They will find a way to avoid social interactions. With the correct treatment, Social Anxiety Disorder can resolve quickly.

Halloween is all about scaring people, and what gets people scared. The first written example of phobias was dated way back to 420 B.C. A Greek physician named Hippocrates wrote about one of his patients that had a fear of the flute. Hippocrates wrote, "When the piper began to play, the music immediately threw him into such a great fright, that he was not able to bear the disorder of it." Now-a-days if someone has a fear of some style of music, or a certain pitch it is called melophobia.

Another common phobia is agoraphobia, the fear of open spaces. The word agora means a public open space, and the word phobia means extreme or irrational fear. Not a lot of people have this phobia, but those who do most likely keep themselves in closed spaces. The opposite of this phobia is claustrophobia. Claustrophobia is a fear of being or staying in an enclosed space. 5%-7% of the general population suffers from claustrophobia.

An odd phobia that people claim to possess is Decidophobia, Vestiphobia, and Phobophobia. These fears all are uncommon and not thought to be a phobia. Decidophobia is the fear of making decisions. Some people get so stressed out with making a decision that they have panic attacks. Another

way to define decidophobia is the fear of making the wrong decision. The phobia might not just be of making decisions but making the wrong decision. This can push back someone's plans for their day, because they think that they made a wrong choice.

Vestiphobia is the fear of clothing. When someone has an irrational fear of clothing, they feel like clothes suffocate them. To avoid this feeling, many people with Vestiphobia wear loose clothing. Finally Phobophobia is the overwhelming fear of receiving a phobia. This phobia can cause dizziness, heart pounding, anxiety, and panic attacks. The mind of someone with Phobophobia will stress about not getting something wrong, and they are worked up about not receiving something that will make them feel stressed.

All of these phobias change a person's life, for better or worse. Phobias can impact a person's life so hard that they could change their life for it. Some phobias are really scary and can make a person scared all the time. Halloween is all about scaring people, so watch out for someone trying to scare you.

Have a Happy Halloween from the *Valley Voice*! BOOOO!!!

By: Eliza Tingey

Close-Up

Close up is an exciting opportunity for 9th and 10th graders to take a trip over the summer of 2023 to Washington D.C. and New York City. Close up is a national non-profit organization to give students an understanding of democratic and government processes.

There was a meeting on Monday October 11th at 6:00 p.m. in the Belt School Cafeteria for parents and students to answer questions about many issues, like: trip details, cost, fundraising, and a variety of other elements to the trip. It's not too late to join; anyone interested should contact Mrs. Hoffmann or Mrs. Visocan at the school.

The kids are in for a great week of educational fun. Sunday when the kids arrive they will go to a group dinner, a group orientation and an introduction workshop.

For those who have not seen the Mall in D.C., it is full of memorials, museums, and interactive events. Some highlights includes memorials to: Thomas Jefferson, Martin Luther King, and Franklin D.

Roosevelt, and Abraham Lincoln. There are also monuments honoring veterans from all major American military conflicts. The National Archives and multiple Smithsonian Museums along with the Holocaust Museum are "must see." If that wasn't enough, the students will participate in workshops, debates, and mock legislatures.

When the kids take a bite out of the Big Apple, it will be a short excursion that will entail a trip to the Metropolitan Museum, Broadway, the 9/11 Memorial and Times Square.

Close Up Students will be selling fruits and coffee during the month of October. The sale is different this year because the original vendor unfortunately went out of business. The students will be selling oranges, grapefruits, mandarins, and 12 oz. bags of Copper Creek Coffee, light and dark roast in whole bean or ground bags. Orders are due October 31st. Get your coffee and fruit now while sales last.

By: Addee Hoffmann

Where are They Now?

"Failure is failure only when we stop trying anymore," stated Sri Chinmoy, who completed 241 races. Sri Chinmoy was a well-known man who advocated the benefits of fitness, much like Chinmoy stands similar to Lonnie Adams.

Lonnie Adams is a Belt High School graduate from the mighty class of 1999; he enjoyed sports very much, played basketball, and often went skiing. "I did spend a lot of days skiing when I should have been in school, that is for sure," quotes Lonnie.

Right after graduation he worked construction for about a year and a half before going to school. He decided to attend because "school was way easier than adulting that is for sure!" "Adams spent a good chunk of his time doing things he loved, like skiing, which pushed him towards partially attending Bozeman. Eventually, he made the switch to Montana Western in Dillon, where he still spent a large portion of his time fishing and hunting.

While his extracurricular activities may prevent most people from graduating, Adams achieved this five and a half years later. He earned a Bachelor's Degree in Social Studies and minor in Economics; with no shortage of master's degrees, in Middle Level Education with emphasis in Social Studies and Language Arts. Though he never attended college for a scholarship in sports, he played intramural sports, "but mainly just skied and hunted."

His advice to all college students is "Don't

hurry and try to experience as many things as you possibly can that schools offer. They will be the cheapest adventures you will ever get to experience!"

After college he went to Alaska and taught in small bush villages for three years. After that he moved to central Wyoming; he began teaching and has done so for the past 13 years. He got married eight years ago and during that time he enjoyed the mountains and high deserts of Wyoming.

In addition to his academic prowess, Adams began training about five years ago, for an intense triathlon. Ironman is a company that makes races, 70.3 miles (half) and 140.6 miles (full). The company hosts the world championship in full and half distances.

Over the past year he rode the bicycle for more than 4k miles, ran over 1k, and swam around 100 miles in training alone. He began multisport about 12 years ago, but around five years ago he had some major injuries take place; due to them, he needed a hip labrum reconstruction, which took almost two years to build back what was lost. "... I would say the last three years I have trained my best."

Training varies based on the phase of the season; essentially running 3-5 days, bikes 3-4 days, and swims 2-3 days a week. "During the Prep and Base Phase I can string together 18-20 days of consecutive training, then a rest day." During the build phase rest days are needed much more often. They occur about every 10-12 days. The final one is called (*Cont. pg. 7*)

Where are They Now? (Cont.)

the race phase, it is anywhere from 7-10 weeks long depending on the importance of the race. Workouts get cut to around 4 days running, 3 days for biking, 1 or 2 days for swimming; the specificity increases so Adams needs more rest days than before. He spends roughly 9-



15 hours per week on training. His training has started to begin to pay off, as he qualified for the 70.3

World Championships in May and raced in September, at St. George, Utah. To qualify for this one must do an Ironman company race and place high enough to earn a slot.

There are many different age groups, each has separate amounts of slots available, of which Adams is in the most difficult to qualify for. "Qualifying for a WC and belonging there are two very different things, but I am glad I took my slot."

He claimed 46th out of around 290 other men in his age group around the world; therefore, he was in the top 13% in that race and roughly third percentile in the world. Although Adams was not first, he states "I was truly nowhere near the front of the race; there are guys in their 40s that are still faster than a lot of guys in the 20 and 30-year old range, so it is humbling to get absolutely crushed by those guys."

Adams doesn't come back

to his hometown often, as his parents have moved to be closer to his brother J.D. and him. He even states that it saddens him because there are many amazing people that impacted his life at a young age that he would love to catch up with.

When given the opportunity to add more information about his life, he mentioned his wife Casey, who is also amazing when challenged with a triathlon. "She is an amazing long course triathlete. She has qualified for the 70.3 Worlds and the Ironman World Championships in Kona Hawaii." He also has a dog that is primarily known as a hunting dog, the breed is Brittany, and her name is Duke.

Stay tuned for the next "Where are They Now?"

By: Kyndal Schraner

Cole's Pantry (Cont.)



to provide their own. Additional items are also given on holidays such as Christmas, Easter, and Thanksgiving.

A typical backpack includes two breakfast items, two lunch items, two dinner items, and several snacks. Some usual items are: oatmeal, cereal, ramen noodles, macaroni and cheese, ravioli, soup, granola bars, and ap-

plesauce. When it is possible Cole's pantry provides healthy items such as fruits and vegetables.

Students can qualify for this program through a referral from school staff or community members. Parents can apply, but unlike many other assistance programs, families do not have to demonstrate a particular income level. Cole's Pantry aids any family or student that is hungry all school year or on an as-needed basis.

By: Madisen Feldman

Support Belt Students!

Buy a chance to win a great gift basket being auctioned off by the Belt Federation of Teachers. All proceeds go to the BFT Scholarships fund, which helps out with college tuition for Belt High grads pursuing a career in the field of education.

Everything from spa certificates to books/toys, and candy are available.

Items will be displayed at the Fall Concert (10-26) and at Parent-Teacher Conferences (11-1 & 11-2) Tickets are \$1 each of 6 for \$5. Contact the school office for more information 277-3351

April 10th, 2016, six-year-old Khaiden and four-year-old Samuel lost their lives to drunk drivers. The mother of these brothers, at the time, was under the influence, as was the driver ahead of them. There was a trash compactor that the vehicle in front of them had dropped but didn't notice, later the family crashed into it. Just because two drivers were drinking, two innocent young boys are no longer with us. Don't drink and drive, so that you are not a part of a story like this.

Don't Drink and Drive!



Sluice Box Clean-Up

Youth Leadership allows students and staff to participate in volunteer hours. 35 students have joined this cause at the beginning of the year and already tallied 138 hours.

The students bused out at 8 a.m. on October 3rd and were back around noon. In just a few short hours, the students hauled out a whopping 25 bags of knapweed and garbage; knapweed is a very aggressive and common species of plant, many buds string off of one line/branch of knapweed.

Colin Moss, the Sluice Box

State Park director, Region 4 Fish and Game, as well as State Park Service, make this an amazing opportunity for the students. Moss is in charge of both the Sluice Box state park and the Smith River corridor and has held the position for 16 years.

Youth Leadership, led by Keith Hoyer and Jill Gliko, try to find something that is truly helpful for the environment every year around "Public Lands Day," September 24th. Hoyer states with extra emphasis, "It is an opportunity to appreciate this State Park "gem"

that is right in our backyard."

The Sluice Box State Park is among the most heavily visited parks in Montana and is located in the same district as the Valley; furthermore, creating phenomenal opportunities to visit and guarantee that the future generations can also enjoy.

The school has done the fall clean-up for the beautiful place for the last five years, and many more opportunities are available to the students throughout the year by joining Youth Leadership. Plans are in place for several future events, including but not limited to a state park trail maintenance in the spring.

For more information on the joining process or questions about Youth Leadership, contact Mrs. Gliko or Mr. Hoyer at the school. The *Valley Voice* would love to take this opportunity to thank both the students and teachers for making voluntary hours a reality.

By: Kyndal Schraner



Football Around Montana

As fall leaves start changing, so do the stakes of the games played by Montana high school football teams as they start preparing for the end of the regular season and get ready for the post-season.

Teams from all across the state start preparing for a chance to make a run in the playoffs, and ultimately, a state championship. Belt has hopes to make it into the 16-team state championship tournament, but people can stop what they're doing and take a look at the power rankings for each school.

The defending 8-man championship winning Drummond/Granite (Flint Creek) Titans plan to win back-to-back championships, which would be their 4th in 5 years. They are currently ranked 3rd for the 8-man teams in the state. They sit behind the Thompson Falls Blue

Hawks, who sit at number 2. The leader of the pack at the 6-man football teams is the Froid/Medicine Lake Redhawks.

The defending 11-man class B champion Manhattan Tigers look to defend their state title as they sit at 14th in the rankings. The team that leads the rankings are the Florence-Carlton Falcons. Closely behind them sit the Columbus Cougars at 2nd, and the Bigfork Vikings at 3rd.

The reigning Class A champion Laurel Locomotives have hopes to return to the big game, as they sit at 2nd in the rankings. They are closely follow the division leading Hamilton Broncs. Billings Central, who hopes to return to the big game for revenge, sit at 5th in the rankings with a record of 4-1.

The Missoula Sentinel Spar-

tans have hopes of being repeat champions, and it looks good for them as they sit as the number 1 team in the class AA rankings. Closely behind them are the Billings West Golden Bears at number 2 and the Helena Bengals at number 3.

To take things a little more local, the Great Falls High Bison sit at number 10 in the 11-man class AA rankings. Ahead of them at number 6 are their rival CMR Russell Rustlers. The big cross town game between the two Great Falls teams will take place on October 22nd, in Memorial Stadium at 7:00 p.m.

The Belt Huskies currently sit at number 16 for the 8-man rankings and hope to make their run at a state championship as well.

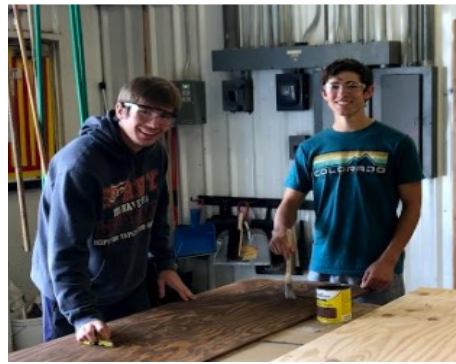
By: Rylan Davison

Construction Projects

Recently with the new shop teacher Mrs. Simons the construction class has taken orders from teachers and staff around the school, for projects to make so that the shop is producing things for the school. Some of the things that have been requested by staff are book cases, podiums, and even a chess board requested by Mr. Koontz.



Mrs. Simons made the students create a material list for their project and look for what the shop already has and buy what the shop doesn't have. The



purpose of making projects for other people is that it makes the students actually try to make a quality product, which is what would be happening in an actual work setting in real life.

One of the goals for the class that has been agreed upon by the students with Mrs. Simons is to use all the spare materials that are already in the shop because lots of it is a bunch of scrap wood that is

useless and needs to be used or thrown away. So, some of the students' projects have to try their best to restore some of the wood to use it.

The class is learning a lot with the new structure in the shop, things like how to use tools safely and how to conserve materials to produce products in the best possible way. **By: Gabriel Triplett**



Rodeo

The last two recent rodeos were in Dillon and White Sulphur. On September 25th and 26th, Brady Drummond, Hailey Gliko, Ryley Mapston, and Raene Mapston competed in Dillon, and they all competed in the rodeo in White Sulphur on October 2nd and 3rd. When asked about the rodeo, placements, averages, events, times, they all gave a variety of answers.

Brady Drummond competed in both rodeos, all for 4 days total. She chose to compete in the barrels, poles, and goat tying. Placing in the top 10 in poles at both rodeos shows that practice really pays off. She added, "I had really good runs all weekend. We were very consistent in the barrels and poles, which is something I have been working on."

Furthermore, she received a new personal record in the goat tie with a time of 10.12 seconds. Her goals for this season are to have a single digit time run for goat tie,

win a rodeo in the poles, and qualify for state in all 3 of her events. Continuing to practice and work hard, she looks forward to the final fall rodeo this weekend in Havre.

Hailey Gliko also attended both rodeos. She took part in the barrels and pole, and placed fairly well. Overall, she placed 14th in the poles, and 6th in the barrels. Along with Brady Drummond, she also made the 10 in one of her events, but this time in barrels as she has in almost every rodeo she's entered so far.

Gliko also enjoys earning points that help her make it to nationals, and getting to run her new horse. Her goal is to actually get to nationals and be able to compete.

Ryley Mapston entered in tie down roping and team roping in both Dillon and White Sulphur. He placed 3rd in tie down, and no luck in team roping in Dillon. Thankfully he ranked higher in White Sulphur with 3rd in tie down again,

and this time 1st in team roping. Ryley also won the average in the tie down during his 4 days of competing. "The moment that stands out for me is when I'm in my run because that is when I am the most focused and once it's over I am able to think back on my run, and am able to tell if it was successful or not."-Ryley Mapston.

He enjoys competing and being around his friends and family at rodeos. His goal is to place consistently and get as many points as possible. He also won the tie down events in Helena, and Sidney, and has placed in most of the rodeos.

These students have their last rodeo this weekend in Havre. This is their chance to show people how hard they have been training, and prove to them they will and they can. This will also be their last chance this season for them to reach for the goals they have set for themselves.

By: Gracie Watson

Senior Spotlight

Gabriel Triplett is commencing his final round of his high school career and has been featured in the *Valley Voice*, regarding his life in Belt Public Schools.

Mr. Triplett would describe his overall Belt experience as great. He loves the small-town school and has acquired many memories while hanging out with his friends. Gabriel comments, "He loves the atmosphere of being an offensive lineman." His favorite memories of Belt School are homecoming weeks. He enjoys



dressing up during the week and competing against other classes.

The extracurricular activities that he has participated in are football and Brazilian Jiu Jitsu. In his martial arts, he achieved 3rd place in Helena in April of this year. He has lettered three years of his football career and has no doubt that he will letter for his final round. In his free time, he finds cleaning weapons entertaining and watching football. He has been able to watch the Griz play in their hometown almost every home game this season.

He will miss Mr. Koontz and his family the most when transitioning into his next chapter of life. His plan after graduation is to enlist in the military and he will be shipped off to basic training, followed by tech school, one week after graduation. His advice for younger kids would be to work hard, and pursue your dreams.

The Belt School wishes the best for Gabriel Triplett as he pushes forward through his military career and life. He is thankful for the people that have helped him make his way through high school successfully. The next senior that will be featured in the *Valley Voice* will be Lindsey Paulson.

By: Walker Maki

Covid-19

Ever since late 2019, the Covid-19 virus has changed the world in many different ways. There has been a rise and fall in the number of cases, leading to either more restrictions or fewer limitations.

For the last couple of months, new forms of the Covid-19 have been discovered. These changes are called variants, and each variant has different qualities. Some of the variants include the Delta variant. Delta is more susceptible to infect more forms of life. This new mutation is easier to catch versus the Covid-19 virus. The CDC organization states, "Certain monoclonal antibody treatments are less effective against this variant." This means that this modification is not badly affected by the Covid-19 vaccine. To prevent this modification to affect others' health, many doctors suggest to wash hands, wear a mask in overcrowded rooms, and to give social distance, whenever possible. Please be considerate of others, even if they have different views or opinions about the Covid-

19 pandemic.

The Covid-19 cases in the United States reached 44,786,258 cases on October 5th, 2021. Fortunately, 34,282,121 people have recovered from the Covid-19 pandemic, and 724,838 citizens have passed away from the pandemic.

The Montana cases are standing at 154,739 cases with 2,048 deaths. The numbers have been going up in Montana for the last two months, to 1,200+ in the first week of October. The vaccine has been provided for anyone who seeks it.

The Montana Governor Greg Gianforte states, "It's clear the vaccine works," Gianforte said. "It helps protect people. I would just really encourage folks to speak with their doctor about whether the vaccine is the right thing for them. I know I've gotten mine, and I would encourage other people to consider getting vaccinated. (It's) the best way to protect yourself and your family." If anyone is interested in the vaccine, the locations supplying the treatment are: The Great Falls

Clinic, the Montana Expo Park Family Center, CVS, etc.

So far in the Belt School academic year, masks aren't required but they are provided. There are still hand sanitizers in every classroom and all over the school. There have been a few cases of Covid-19, but the Belt School administration has made sure that all the kids are safe.

Despite precautions, there have been a few canceled sports games. Fortunately, those games have been rescheduled, and played out. Some schools have a mask mandate that is required by the students, facility, and traveling sport teams. Even with these few rifts the Belt Huskies have always worked through it and played successful games.

For more information about the Covid-19 Pandemic, the vaccine, or the Covid-19 variants go to the CDC website, located at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus>. The *Valley Voice* will report on the Covid-19 changes in the next issue.

By: Eliza Tingey

Secure in Place

On October 6th Belt Public School went into a *Secure in Place*. The office received a threatening phone call so law enforcement was called.

The *Secure in Place* was called in by the principal, Mr. Paulson, after the call. Classes continued but security measures were taken to ensure student and staff safety. It took around two hours for police to make sure the whole building was safe, students were able to leave the school at around 5:10 p.m. by grade. The caller has been identified

and it's determined that the person responsible is not a danger to the school.

A *Secure in Place* is when there is no immediate threat to student safety, but there is a disruption or concern affecting the school. *Secure in Place* is different than a *Lockdowns* because lockdowns are for more dangerous matters and requires more strict measures. Each classroom has an emergency folder addressing these and other safety concerns.

There were messages that

were sent out to parents by the school to inform them of what happened. It is encouraged that parents refrain from trying to contact the school or their children during these situations because it can choke down the internet, which can make it more difficult for law enforcement to do their job.

Belt School appreciates all the help from law enforcement and the students staying calm and orderly during these confusing and difficult circumstances.

By: Brooke Holum

Fashion Corner

An outfit can be pretty but hair is what completes the look. Hairstyles vary from easy to hard, to sporty looking ones. Hair is an amazing gift people were born with. But then again, as Mr. Koontz and Coach Graham know all too well, lovely locks can be a fleeting gift.

Easy hairstyles are good for a day when people don't feel like waking up and getting ready. A messy bun is the simplest and most popular way to do hair when a person is running late. A high ponytail is an easy hairstyle too. Low ponytails and a low loose braid are so easy people can do them in the car on the way to school (but not while driving!), or in the back of the bus. There are many easy hairstyles and these are just a few.

Braids are some of the most popular, but the hardest ways to style hair. The Dutch braid is a cute braid that puffs out, and if done loosely it looks even cuter. Then there is the French braid, the exact opposite of the Dutch braid, and also very cute in style. A Dutch braid into a bun on top of the head looks so cute and is great for everyday wear. Many braided hairstyles are cute and fashionable.

Some sporty hairstyles are a Dutch braid going around one's head and into a ponytail, or a really tight braid crown that goes into a high ponytail. Also a high ponytail is good when a person plans to active, like for a sporting contest when other styles can be a nuisance

Last but not least are the

ways to curl hair. The older method of the curling iron has been largely replaced by teens these days with the wands. The wand leaves a beach wave look in the hair if brushed out, it creates a loose ringlet look. The curling iron can have different sizes and all of them leave a different looking curl. All the curls are a cute, easy and effortless way to prep hair for school, it just might take a little bit more time.

Hair can make all the difference, whether it's a day at school or a night on the town. These are the hairstyles of the century, or a person can leave it alone and rock natural hair too. Either way the hairstyle completes any outfit, even sweat pants and a sweatshirt.

By: Addee Hoffmann

Pink Night

On Tuesday October 19th at 6:00 p.m. the Belt Cheer team will be doing a Pink Out Night for Breast cancer awareness month. They ask that everyone who comes to the game participates in this event and wears pink.

The cheer squad will make a Breast Cancer Awareness poster that will be put in the hallway by the main gym. Anyone can put the names of their family members or

friends who have been affected by Breast cancer.

Breast cancer awareness month is celebrated throughout the US annually; bringing attention to breast cancer and charities help support families and survivors who have been affected by this. About 1 in 8 women develop breast cancer, it is important that women know the symptoms so they can get it treated as early as possible.

People commonly wear pink during Breast Cancer Awareness Month to honor those who have it, and to remember those to have it. A woman named Charlotte Haley is responsible for the idea of wearing pink for Breast Cancer since she had battled it. Some charities sell pink ribbons and use the profits to go towards women battling this disease.

By: Brooke Holum

Calendar of Events

Date	Time	Event/s
10/15	7:00 p.m.	Seeded FB playoff game
10/16	2:00 p.m.	HS VB vs. Heart Butte
10/18	6:00 p.m.	HS VB @ GFCC
10/19	3:30 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	Fiddle Club HS VB vs. Cascade
10/20	3:30 p.m.	End of 1 st Quarter
10/21	N/A	No School
10/22	N/A TBA	No School State XC departs
10/23	1:30 p.m.	State XC Meet @ Missoula
10/25	9:00 a.m.	1 st quarter grades run
10/26	3:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Fiddle Club 6-12 Fall Concert
10/28	TBA	District VB @ Simms
10/29	2:15 p.m. TBA	Halloween Parade District VB



Birthdays		
Date	Husky	Grade
10/20	Nash Turville	1
10/24	Ellie Osterman	1
10/22	Jolten Marn	1
10/19	Korben Carrizels	2
10/29	Liam Knudson	3
10/20	McKenna Allery	6
10/28	Kayanna Adam	7
10/27	Walker Maki	9
10/23	Trever Shimerdla	9
10/27	John Tingey	10

Family Reading Night

Last Monday, October 11th from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., students Early K through 5th grade were welcome to participate in the family reading night with no fee. Because of the inclement weather, the reading night was moved into the multipurpose room.

The kids, along with their parents, were provided with a grab-and-go dinner. They are offered yogurt, cereal, string cheese, apple sauce, and pop tarts. They are also given books to read, along with a bingo card. The card was a 3 by 3 with the title of a book in each box, and each of the books that the students read they got to cross off the box. After 1 bingo they won a book. A second "Bingo" earned the kid a sucker and if one of them managed three wins, they were rewarded with a blow-pop.

After the event, every Belt Elementary student who attended was able to take home a new book of their choice. "My favorite part was when I got some candy!"-Nora Watson. The staff that was there to help were mostly the elementary teachers and aids. Over all this reading night with students and parents was a huge success.

By: Gracie Watson

Luau Night at Remington

Last Friday night the Husky cheer squad hosted a luau night to raise spirit. People were involved by wearing Hawaiian themed attire and cheerleaders were handing out leis to spectators. Andrea Visocan, head coach for cheer, got her inspiration from A and B schools and quotes "I thought it would be fun to try."

During halftime the cheerleader's put-on a limbo competition in the endzone. To participate in this competition people had to pay two dollars, which along with the t-shirt sales was a fundraiser for the cheerleaders. Husky Luau shirts were sold at the game for 10 dollars.

The most dressed up fans, Jackson and Lincoln Newcomer, received Husky hats. The boys were wearing leis, grass skirts, and attempted to make their own Tiki masks. In the first grade, Newcomer states "It felt really good to win." Tinley Jones won the limbo contest and received a grass skirt and lei bracelets. When asked about the competition, Jones states "I had perseverance, flexibility, and I told myself I could do it."

Mrs. Visocan would like to continue to do theme nights such as this one for different sports and continue these annually. Currently plans are in place for a retro night during basketball season.

By: Madisen Feldman