



The Valley Voice

Belt Public Schools



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Poetry Out Loud

Poetry Out Loud is a national education program sponsored in part by the National Endowment for the Arts. Its goal is for students across the United States to dive into poetry. Last year's local champion, Brady Drummond, repeated the feat again in December, and three Belt high schoolers are now preparing for the the state level of competition. This program is run through Mr. Ross' high school English classes each year.

Drummond was delighted with the results the contest, "I look forward to Poetry Out Loud every year, especially now after winning state last year and having the chance to compete at Nationals. With my 1st place in this year's school competition, I am hopeful for another successful year."



Senior Molly Tingey, who

grabbed second spot, finished on the podium for the second consecutive year. When asked about how she felt about the competition, Tingey explains "It was fun to compete again, I enjoyed picking out poems and polishing my performance. I'm really looking forward to move on and have the experience of reciting in front of a large group of people, especially since last year we had to record our poems at the theater."

Gracie Watson competed for the first time ever, and received the third place award for her effort. She is very excited to participate in the continuation on to the next phase. She quotes "At first I was super nervous, then I got my first word out and then ended up getting 3rd place in the school competition after getting 1st in the class competition! So far this has been an amazing experience."

Congratulations and good luck to each of these ladies as they progress to the regional competition. The date for that contest is not yet set, but it will occur in the early days of February.

By: Kyndal Schraner

Door Decor

During the holiday season, teachers, staff, and students adorned doors schoolwide for the annual Door Decorating competition. In this contest, the doors that are decorated are judged by the cheerleaders. There are multiple categories including: most related to the subject area, most humorous, most Christmas spirit, and most husky spirit.

The winners for each category were Mrs. Simons, Mrs. McNally, Mrs. VandenBos, Mr. Paulson, and the custodial staff. Mrs. Simons won

"Most Related to the Subject", Mrs. McNally and Mrs. VandenBos won "Most Christmas Spirit", Mr. Paulson won "Most humorous" and the custodial staff won "Most Husky Spirit" with Mrs. Mavrinac as an honorable mention, since she made the best out of all four categories.

Mrs. Simon's door, "Fleece Navidad" featured a sheep saying "Fleece Navidad we wish ewe a merry Christmas" which is related to animal science which is one of the classes that she teaches. (Cont. pg. 8)

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Boys Hoops

As 2021 was turning into 2022, there were lots of basketball games that occurred in the community of Belt. The boys played Roy Winifred, Fairfield, Centerville, and Great Falls Central Catholic before the break. When they arrived back from the interruption, they played Winnett Grass Range and Hobson.

The first conference game of the season started off with Roy Winifred traveling to the home of the Huskies. The first quarter was a defensive period with Bridger Vogl, Aidan Bergstrom, and Keaghn McDaniel scoring a total of 7 points and leaving the Outlaws with 4. The 2nd quarter was a large improvement for the Huskies as they proceeded to score 16 more points, and again limiting Roy Winifred to a pair of field goals.

After the break, the teams surfaced from the locker rooms and the third quarter ended with Belt scoring 6 and Roy Winifred scoring 11. The concluding quarter of the game finished with the Huskies scoring 22 and the Outlaws scoring 13. The culminating score of the game was 51 Belt, and 32 Roy Winifred.

On December 18th, the Huskies traveled to the home of the Fairfield Eagles and the 1st quarter was a defensive battle. Garret Metrione and Bridger had a combined score of 6 points in the 1st quarter and left Fairfield with only 3 points. Both teams played a better offense in the 2nd quarter with Belt scoring 14, and Fairfield scoring 17. At the end of the half, both teams were tied at a score of 20.

After halftime, both teams came out ready to play and had a high scoring 3rd quarter. Belt scored 19 and Fairfield managed to score 23. Both teams fought hard in the final quarter and the score remained close until the concluding minutes. The final quarter ended with a diffi-

cult loss for the Huskies with the ending score being 51 Belt, and Fairfield 58. It remains the lone blemish on the Huskies' record this season, and they forward to a rematch next weekend in Belt.

A few days later, the Belt boys traveled to Great Falls Central Catholic and dominated the court. The 1st quarter was a well-played defensive and offensive period with the Huskies scoring 17 points and leaving the Mustangs with 4 points. The 2nd quarter was very similar to the 1st with Belt scoring 15 and GFCC only scoring 5.

As both teams recuperated from the halftime break, they sprung onto the floor with Belt scoring a total of 18 points and GFCC scoring 10. The final period of the game ended with Belt scoring 9 points and GFCC scoring 11. The scoring on Belt's side was very distributed with almost every person scoring points. The ending score was Belt 59, and GFCC 30.

The first time the Belt Huskies played the Centerville Miners was on December 22nd, and the Huskies came out of the gate ready to play. The first quarter started with the Huskies dropping 18 points and the Miners only making 5. The 2nd quarter was very similar to the first with the boys achieving 12 and Centerville with the same 5 points.

After the break, the scoring was a little more even with Belt scoring 9 tallies and Centerville with 8. The Huskies finished the game with 14 more points in the last quarter and the Miners only gaining 2. The final score of the game was Belt 53, and Centerville 20.

Winnett Grass Range was a tight game that had the crowd on their feet at multiple points. The first quarter stayed close with the Huskies tallying 13 points and the

Rams getting 14. The 2nd quarter was a little rough for the boys with Belt scoring 11 and Winnett Grass Range making 16.

After the short intermission, Belt came out of the game ready to play and put up 19 points with Winnett Grass Range getting 17 in the 3rd quarter. The 4th quarter got the crowd on their feet and Belt scored 12 and Winnett Grass Range scored 8. The Huskies got the game tied up in the end and took the game into overtime. The Huskies pulled away in overtime keeping the Rams from scoring and making 9 points in the end. Belt went on a 16-2 run to win the match. The final score was Belt 64, and Winnett Grass Range 55.

The following day, the Huskies travelled to Hobson to play Tri-Cities. The boys came out of the gate strong with scoring 21 points in the 1st quarter and keeping Tri-Cities to 5. The 2nd quarter was a great defensive period for the Huskies with them holding the Titans to 2 points and scoring 12.

When the teams came out of the locker room, Belt started the 3rd quarter with scoring 18 and Tri-Cities making 4. The Belt Huskies finished the game with Belt scoring 58 points and leaving Tri-Cities with 20. The scoring of the game was varied with almost every Belt player scoring points.

Last night the Huskies were scheduled to play a home game against the Rivals of Highwood-Geraldine, but that game was postponed due to illness. At press time, the new time and date had not been established. The boys 8-C record now stands at 5-0 and their overall mark is 7-1.

The Huskies travel to Geyer tonight to play DGS. There will be more information about that game in the next issue of *Valley Voice*.

By: Walker Maki

Girls Hoops

Over the past few weeks, the Lady Huskies played many rivals on the court. On December 18th, they even battled their opponents from the 2020 co-state championship, the Lady Outlaws. The huskies have nine games left,

A few weeks ago, the maroon and gold girls employed stifling defense to outscore their rivals, Roy Winfred. The home team pressured the outlaws by pressing in a two one two formation, falling back into a two three zone; this zone attempted to shut down both of their posts. In the first two quarters, they switched between a few of their zone offense plays, although they both pivot off of the high post presence.

In the second half of the game, the Huskies continued their defense and remained swapping between the two offenses. Kylee Permann was the main scorer, tallying 12 points through the game. Lindsey Paulson followed just behind with 11 buckets. The Lady Huskies were defeated, not due to a lack of effort, by three points. They are planning on getting them next time, on the Outlaws home court.

Just the next day, the Maroon and Gold Girls voyaged to the Fairfield gymnasium to play a non-conference game. They pressed the eagle in one of their many presses, and fell back into a two-three zone. In the beginning of the game, the ladies implemented their familiar weave offense. The ladies won both of the first quarters, leading at the mid-game buzzer with 25-18.

The final half went quite smoothly for Belt, as they outscored their rivals in both quarters once again. They held the eagles to seven tallies in each quarter. Raily Gliko led the way in terms of points. She scored just short of the opponents 31 buckets, with 20 total points.

On December 21, they trav-

eled to Great Falls Central Catholic's school to claim yet another victory. In the first half of the game, they remained in the same zone defense that they implemented throughout many of their previous games. They ran their zone offense, the very same one that they used against the Lady Outlaws.

After the mid-game buzzer, the Lady Huskies came out of the locker room strong. They played similarly to the first half, succeeding once again. Lindsey Paulson led the way with the most steals, deflects, and points. Kylee Permann and Hattie Bumgarner followed behind with 11 and 10 tallies. Any of the three added together would equal more than the mustang's total points.

Their final game of 2021 was against Centerville, the team claimed victory on their homecourt once again. The Huskies settled into their weave offense, while taking quick and open shots. They pressed for the majority of the game, falling back into their zone.

The second portion of the game was fairly different, as their defense changed immensely. The ladies employed a man-to-man defense, which worked phenomenally. Kylee Permann once again paved the path to points, as she had 17 total; she also had the most assists during this game.

Last week, the ladies battled the Rams, tripling their total points by the final buzzer. The Maroon and Gold Girls employed great defense, once again their zone. The girls ran the floor, scoring off many transitional layups. The ladies once again played at a quicker pace, taking the first shots that they had.

After the half-time buzzer rang, the ladies contin-

ued on their quest to finish at the rim. The ladies ran a four-wide offense, feeding the ball to Gliko. They continued their familiar zone defense. Gliko, once again, tallied 20 points throughout the game. Paulson and Bumgarner followed behind with 13 buckets a piece.

The ladies bussed out to Hobson last Friday to battle the Titans Belt employed a stifling defense to ensure that their opponents never made more than five points in a quarter. The team interchanged between their zone offenses.

It was 44-5 at the break, and the girls coasted to their 8th win of the year. Paulson dominated play with 20 points, and Bumgarner followed behind with 16.

Last night's contest against Geraldine-Highwood was called off, but the kids are back in action tonight at Geyser. The ladies conference record is now 6-1 and they are 8-1 against all competition.

By: Kyndal Schraner

Roy-Winifred	9	6	16	14	45
Belt	5	14	7	16	42

Belt	19	6	8	10	43
Fairfield	12	5	7	7	31

Belt	19	6	8	10	43
Fairfield	12	5	7	7	31

Centerville	4	3	13	5	17
Belt	21	14	5	13	61

WGR	5	7	5	4	21
Belt	20	23	11	9	63

Belt	25	19	6	12	62
Tri-City	4	1	-	3	8

Where are the Now?

Walt Disney once said “All your dreams can come true, if you have the courage to pursue them.” Julia Vogt represents the truth of that statement, as she has pushed farther into her education and has now acquired a new scholarship.

Vogt graduated from Belt High School in 2019. She currently goes to Western Governors University, where she is working on a bachelor’s degree in software development. Although she didn’t have a scholarship when she enrolled, she does now. She transferred to WGU, a leading online college, shortly after graduating from Great Falls College, MSU Great Falls.

She was one of the first people to obtain a scholarship from Greg Gianforte; this was awarded to

her to celebrate a new agreement between the WGU and Montana. WGU is interested in providing access to degrees for many rural scholars. The accord that Gianforte signed added WGU to the Montana university system, connecting it to public schools in Montana.

Vogt was chosen because “I am a rural student who graduated from a Montana community college. WGU is dedicated to providing access to degrees for rural students.” After graduating from WGU, she intends to get a software developer position. She is hoping to maintain a remote job, in an attempt to continue living in the Belt Valley. Several former Belt students and current teachers as well have obtained degrees from WGU.

While Vogt has embarked

on her career journey, that doesn’t stop her from reminiscing on the memories that her hometown holds. She

really enjoyed homecoming, or similar special events, though theatre holds a major part of her best recollections. She was a part of the Belt Valley Shakespeare Players and travelled to the Fringe Festival in Scotland with the group twice.

Tune in for the next “Where are They Now?” for updates about another Belt High graduate.

By: Kyndal Schraner



Dual Credits

COT classes are dual enrollment classes that are offered by the school from different colleges around the state. These classes help students complete college level classes in high school, which could lead to graduating high school and college earlier. COT Classes are 1/3 of the cost of a normal college class students could take in college, so they are good options for saving money too.

For students to be eligible

for these classes they must be a junior or a senior. There are around 25-30 different options including core classes which makes it easier for students to get them out of the way. Currently, 24 students are taking 29 of these classes. Seniors are able to take two of them while juniors can take one. Students are able to get 1-2 periods during the day to work on their COT classes.

In Montana there is a program called 1, 2, Free. This pro-

gram makes it so that the first two classes that a student takes are free which can save around 800-1000 dollars. Colleges around the country accept these credits.

Students can take these classes if they are looking for a challenge or just want to have more options. The school counselor, Mrs. Gliko, oversees all the COT classes and is available if one has questions at jgliko@beltschool.net.

By: Brooke Holum

Comfy Fashion

It was finals week from January 7th through the 10th, which meant the style took a back seat to comfortable. Walking through the halls there was a lot of comfy clothing. Sweatpants, Birkenstocks, sweatshirts, and messy buns were some of the few fashion statements during the week.

Sweatpants are a great alternative to pajamas, because they are just as comfortable but school ap-

propriate. Sweatpants come in so many different colors and are definitely in style right now. Black sweatpants are the most common garb right now along with pastel colors.

Birkenstocks go with everything. There were a whole bunch of them walking around the hall. They come in a variety of colors, so even if it’s not high fashion at least they match..

Sweatshirts, and hoodies are in style and just about everybody is wearing them. They can fit into every outfit, and are comfy, cozy, and warm. Sweatshirts of the team, or of a camp are really cool too.

Messy buns are super easy, cute, and in style. This was the style for the finals week. Most kids were concerned with tests anyway, so it was a perfect fit. It was Comfy Fashion. **By: Addee Hoffmann**

Aim Higher

On December 15th a couple high school students from each grade were chosen to attend the AIM Higher Leadership Training. This consortium is sponsored by MHSA, which is the high school association. It focused on leadership training, mentoring, making good choices, sportsmanship, staying away from drugs and alcohol, and an all-day workshop.

This was a workshop for high school students all around the state, from double A schools, to C schools. The people from Belt High School that were chosen this year were, senior Sarah Dollenger, juniors Bridger Vogl, Memphis

Black, and Aubrey Johnson, sophomores Reese Paulson, Addison Urick, and freshmen Rylan Davison, and Gracie Watson. Along with the chaperone Jill Gliko. Selection criteria for these students as representatives at this leadership workshop was based on their leadership qualities and their involvement with school activities.

Belt School has been attending this program for a few years now. There were workshops and different learning opportunities, and leadership activities. This training did not only benefit the students that attended, but also affected the people working with or around

them. These undergraduates are learning from each other to be better leaders in the real world. The AIM Higher program began in 1989 as a tobacco, alcohol and other drug prevention program and citizenship program for Montana high school students. The program has evolved over the years, and much of the focus for workshops now concentrates on leadership, mentoring, making correct choices and sportsmanship. "It was very useful, and gave me a really good understanding about the problems in other schools and how they deal with them."

By: Gracie Watson

Elementary Concert

On December 16th, 2021 at 7 p.m. the Belt Valley Elementary conducted their Christmas concert. This concert was put on by the Early Kindergarten-5th grade, with lots of help from Mr. Wilson and Mrs. Anderson.

The Early Kindergarten was directed by Hannah Anderson, the Pre-K teacher. These young kids performed "Christmas Time is Here" and "Ring, Ring the Bells". These adorable students wowed the audience with their compassion towards their songs.

Then the 5th grade students showcased their developing talents as they played "Good King Wenceslas", a traditional song, "Ode to Joy", written by Beethoven, and ended their performance with "Jingle Bells", a traditional song. This is the first year that this class learned their instruments, but through practice, they are gaining confidence through their instruments.

Next up was the Kindergarten and 1st grade. They surprised the group with their songs of "Children, Go Where I Send Thee", arranged

by Paul Jennings, and "Hip Hop Reindeer", written by Teresa Jennings.

The next group was the 2nd and 3rd graders. They were proud to sing their songs. The first song up was "The Coventry Carol" arranged by Paul Jennings. Their final song was written by Teresa Jennings, "There's someone in the Chimney". Johnny Tingey was the "mysterious voice" echoing in the chimney, and added a funny moment in the play.

4th grade was the last single group to showcase their skills with their songs of "Masters in This Hall" arranged by John Riggio and "Grandma's Chicken Soup" written by John Riggio.

The finale of this Elementary Holiday Concert was performed by the grades K-5th students. The song that wowed the crowd was "Just One Candle" writ-

ten by Teresa Jennings. This was a spectacular performance by the elementary school.

Mr. Wilson would like to thank the Elementary teachers for helping corral the students during the concert. A huge thanks to April Wells for decorating and preparing both the high school and elementary performances. Also, to Isaac Callender for lights, sounds, and production. To the administration for their support, and finally to parents for encouraging their children's musical endeavors.

By: Eliza Tingey



Denton Relief

The first day of December brought tragedy to the neighboring community of Denton, as wind driven flames swept through the small town causing massive damage. As the fire hit town, everyone was told to evacuate which added up to about 300 people.

There was a significant amount of destruction to the town and to people's property, farms, and ranches. There was a total of 25 structures that were damaged or in other cases, destroyed. It was recorded that vehicles. Shops, houses, a bridge, a church, townhall, and a couple 100-year-old grain elevators all fell victim to the inferno. The effect of this fire was the loss of many businesses and homes. Thankfully nobody was hurt, but the fire ended up covering over 7,000 acres of land before finally being put out.

Back on December 3rd, the Belt Varsity Cheerleaders organized a Hat Day fundraiser to benefit the

victims of the Denton fires. Students could donate \$1 or more to wear their hats all day at school. Normally, hats are prohibited as part of the school dress code, but exceptions are sometimes made for special reasons.

Belt School raised over \$1,000 in just under 8 hours. Because there are only about 300 students enrolled in the school, it shows that they donated way more than just the bare minimum. The money is being given to families of Denton Public School System that are directly affected by the fire.

Head Cheer Coach Andrea Visocan was proud of the contribution the girls were able to assist with in support of those in need. As Denton continues to recover, the gesture from the Belt Schools demonstrates the fact that small town Montana really is one extended community.

By: Gracie Watson

OPI Controversy

Public Education in Montana received a jolt the first week of December when a consortium of school superintendents published a letter of no confidence to School Superintendent of Public Instruction Elsie Arntzen. All of the AA superintendents created a letter concerning the disappointment and lack of leadership that Elsie Arntzen has shown. The five-page letter was dispatched from Billings Public Schools on December 6.

The complications that the AA superintendents found were: Unlicensed Educators, Updated Content Standards, Federal Programs Monitoring Press, Special Education, Professional Code of Ethics, Work Force Development and Career/Technical Education, Concerns with the Chapter 57 Review Process, EGrants, and Accreditation.

Since she took the job, there has been a 90% turnover rate of people in her office. Because of the turnover rate, people waiting to be teachers are disgusted with the fact that she doesn't complete her work and certify them. Schools have lost money because of the certification issues when The Office of Public Instruction doesn't complete their work.

There are issues with not updating the content standards that teachers are legally required to teach. The superintendents are annoyed with the fact that there is no effort in trying to create better education and materials for teaching. Arntzen has made comments of how parents can opt out of their kids following school policies. This causes issues within the school when students don't respond appropriately to their school policy.

Mrs. Arntzen responded by saying that she took the feedback "humbly and seriously." Also, she commented, "At the heart of everything we do, our collective mission is to always put Montana students first... To do that, it's imperative that we have unity and ongoing support readily available for our students, teachers, administrative staff and school districts." People inferred that she didn't understand the information in the letter and replied unintelligently.

After some time passed, two school board trustees issued a letter of support for Elsie Arntzen and stated, "We thank you sincerely for the compassionate, professional, and steadfast support you offer to local school boards, and most of all, parents and students. We are so proud of the work you do." Those supporting letters came from Missoula and Kalispell districts. They also said, "Ultimately, the superintendents targeted you because of the idea that got you elected. The superintendents hate the idea that parents have the fundamental right to direct the upbringing, education, health care, and mental health of their children. Shame on them." The letter was signed by hundreds of people in support of Mrs. Arntzen.

Like so many things these days, the opinions regarding Elsie Arntzen are politically motivated with predictable responses coming from each side of the aisle. The impact of this event has not yet been felt by the Belt School, but even though the issue is no longer front page news, it continues to generate discussion among many people around the state with a strong interest in Montana education.

By: Walker Maki

Big Husky-Little Husky

On December 20th the elementary kids joined the high school kids in a fun activity called Big, Husky-Little Husky. Each high schooler was paired with an elementary kid, and had to stay with them throughout the game. They played Sharks and Minnows and then exchanged suckers.

Many high school and ele-

mentary students say that doing these exercises or activities helps them bond, and get to know each other. The younger students look up to the high schoolers and doing fun things with them just creates a special bond.

The last time they had a Big Husky-Little Husky, they asked for a more interactive thing that re-

quired more activities to do. Their wishes were granted when they got to play Sharks and Minnows with the little kids. Many of the little kids said they really enjoyed running around and burning energy.

Big Husky-Little Husky continues to be a favorite among both young and old students in Belt.

By: Addee Hoffmann

COVID Update

Many people want desperately to put the pandemic behind them, but this last holiday week there were 7,519 flights canceled and delayed, creating pandemonium in airports and impacting travel. Flights were canceled in relation to COVID-19, the Omicron variant, and the short amount of staff.

Aubrey Johnson shared her story about her adventure with the major travel snafus. Her family flew down to Arizona to spend the holidays with her sisters and new niece. Her family was preparing to leave for their flight through Allegiant but was alerted that it had been canceled. Johnson's parents promptly searched for a flight and found one that would only hold two, so they decided to leave their kids in Arizona and fly home. Aubrey and her brother's flight were scheduled to

fly out two days after her parents departed, but just before their flight home, it was canceled again. Johnson reports that both flights were canceled due to COVID-19 and shortage of staff. Finally, the Johnson kids found a flight through Delta, and traveled safely home.

The COVID-19 numbers have skyrocketed since the holiday. As of January 11th, 2022, the number has reached 62,841,581 affected citizens, which is about 20% reported cases in the United States. The death toll is 862,556 with a recovery number of 42,542,946 people.

Before the holiday break, there were about 52,059,667 affected people. That number skyrocketed up around 10 million in just a couple weeks. The deaths have also risen by about 40 thousand, with the recovery number set at approxi-

mately 2 million more from December 21st, 2022.

Recently, the Great Falls Schools have gone remote, due to COVID-19 related problems. This week, their finals will be administered online. Natalee Downard, a former Belt student and current Great Falls student noted, "School is out because there are not enough subs for the teachers who are out... some finals got canceled and some didn't, but it's a lot less stressful about finals. It's awful because sports got canceled for the week."

The pandemic spread has hit still closer to home with several basketball games in Cascade and JB Counties cancelled or postponed. The Valley Voice reminds all to follow protocols and stay healthy in the brand new year.

Eliza Tingey

Basketball is a fun, but winter can be a dangerous season. Yes, you can get hurt on the court, but also on the way there, or home. As of right now the roads are not very safe to drive on. It is proven that there are more vehicle accidents on horrendous road conditions.

Highways.org says that there are over 1,300 fatal car accidents per year due to snow, slush, and ice. This website also states that there are 544 million vehicle-hours of delay per year, due to the same conditions, and fog. So, all in all, compete, but not on the roads.

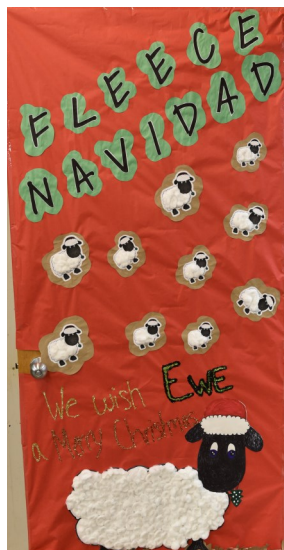


Don't Drink and Drive!

Door Décor (Cont.)

Mr. Paulson's door depicted him as an elf and it was called "There's room for everyone on the nice list."

Mrs. McNally and Mrs.



VandenBos had a very festive approach to their doors, they even decorated the wall connecting their doors too. Their "door" was called "swing into the holidays like a boss"

and depicted a scene of snowmen and Christmas lights. The Custodial staff made a "Look who's in the doghouse" that had a Husky looking out of a dog house.

The teachers and staff members who participated in this competition won a gift certificate for a free coffee from year-book.

By: Brooke Holum



JV Sports

The Huskies JV teams had a couple of games over the past couple of weeks and the groups had pretty good turnouts. Between publications, the JV teams played games against: Roy-Winifred, Fairfield, GFCC, Centerville, WGR, Tri-Cities, and Great Falls Home-school Team.

The girls played Roy-Winifred first and they won that game. It was only a half game,

which led to a low score, but the game still counted and the Huskies still won by a final score of 12-8. The boys followed that performance with a full-length game against the Outlaws. The Huskies offense came out hot. But so did Roy-Winifred's offense. The Huskies went into the locker room for halftime up 24-21. The Huskies picked up the intensity on both sides of the ball for the second half,

which allowed them to pull away for a final score of 54-37.

The next day, the JV teams travelled northwest to take on the Fairfield Eagles. The Lady Huskies used tough defense and shooting to rally past the Eagles. The halftime score was 22-12 in favor of the Huskies, and the final score was 36-25 victory for the girls. The boys played a hard-fought game,

(Cont. Pg. 9)

Senior Spotlight

This week's featured senior in the *Valley Voice* is Ahmia Lords who has been in Belt her entire life and her whole schooling career starting with Pre-Kindergarten. Ms. Lords is on her final stretch of her high school career and shared some of her memories and future plans.

She describes her Belt experience as amazing. She loves the atmosphere and the fact that the Belt school has the best staff and community around. Throughout her life in the



valley, she has acquired many memories. Her favorite memory would be all of the homecoming activities and sporting events that she has participated in.

The extracurricular activities that she participates in are: Cross Country for two years, Basketball all four years, Track all four years, Youth Leadership all four years, Science Olympiad, Student Council, and National Honor Society. The achievements that she has obtained are: Academic All-State in both years of Cross Country, three years for Basketball, three years for track, Montana student of the week, and All-State Track for one year. She is planning to add another year to a lot of these achievements in her senior year.

Her advice for younger kids would be, "Get involved with as much as you can and don't be afraid to challenge yourself." She will miss the other students and the community support the most when she departs from her hometown.

Her plans for after high school are to attend MSU in Bozeman and pursue a degree in cell biology and neuroscience with a minor in genetics. Then she will apply for Medical School.

The *Valley Voice* would like to congratulate Ms. Lords on her schooling career and they wish her the best as she proceeds to move on to her next chapter in life. The next senior to be featured on *Senior Spotlight* will be Colton Lombardo.

By: Walker Maki

JV Sports (Cont.)

but despite having the lead for the whole game, the Eagles rallied at the end to hand the boys a loss. The boys went into halftime with a 24-21 lead, but ended the game with a 48-46 loss.

The following week, the teams took the short bus ride into Great Falls to take on the GFCC Mustangs. The girls played first and put on an offensive masterclass. They used perimeter shooting to lead them to a 34-12 halftime lead, and they carried that over to the 2nd half. They finished the game with a score of 69-21. The boys took the floor next, but they only had a half-game. Both teams struggled on both sides of the ball, leading to a 9-9 score at the half. The Huskies came out with a lot more intensity to power through the Mustangs by a final score of 27-11.

Just a couple days later, both teams got a chance to protect the home court against their rivals, the Centerville Miners. The girls played good, hard defense to force a halftime score of 28-4 in favor of

the Huskies. The girls kept their foot on the gas and rallied to a 55-12 final. The boys came out the gate hot, but cooled off in the second quarter. After a small run for the Miners, the halftime score was 26-21. The boys came out of the locker room ready to pull away from the Miners, and that is exactly what happened. They finished the game with a final score of 56-37.

Last Friday, the Winnett-Grass Range Rams came into town to take on the Huskies. The girls played their match first and they were carried to victory by a fire-powered second quarter. They started the quarter with a 9-0 run, and went to the locker room with a 22-11 score. The girls kept the train rolling for a 44-18 victory. The boys took the court next and showed nothing other than pure domination. The boys started on a 12-0 run, and went into halftime with a 35-9. The Huskies kept the pressure on and ousted the Rams by a final score of 68-15.

The JV boys were the only

JV team to play Tri-Cities last Saturday. They shut down the Titans offense and rallied to a 28-9 halftime score. The boys picked up the intensity for the second half, which resulted in a 58-10 final.

Yesterday, the boys and were both in action again as they hosted the Great Falls Home School Bulldogs. Each team won in convincing fashion; details will be available in the next issue of the *Voice*.

Because of a shortage of players at DGS, when the varsity teams head to Geyser tonight the younger Huskies will once again get to taste home cooking as a pair of games are set for this afternoon in Belt. The girls JV will battle Great Falls Home School once again at 3:00 p.m. and the boys will take on the sub-varsity squad from Fort Benton. Tip-off for the boys game is set for 4:30 p.m. With the season over half done, the kids have just a few more weeks to continue honing their basketball skills.

By: Rylan Davison



New Husky Gear!

Show your *Husky Pride* with a new t-shirt just in time for basketball tournaments. These new shirts will be short sleeve and are black,

with a gold and white Husky basketball logo.

Shirts are \$10 each and can be paid with cash or check

Make checks out to **Belt Close Up 2023**
Forms need to be returned by January 28
2022

Contact the school office for forms!



Notice

The Belt Performing Arts continues to break top shelf entertainment to the valley, and tomorrow night they will add a down home twist to the slate of talent.

The Pollo Loco country group has been selected to take their turn at the Belt Performing Arts Center. The concert is set to kick off at 7:00 p.m. This will be the first performance of the Belt Theater in the year of 2022.

The Pollo Loco group will be performing music for the community, including original and popular cowboy covers. The three piece band has been entertaining crowds in Central Montana and beyond for decades and the show promises to be memorable.

Tickets will be \$25 each, if anyone is interested in purchasing a ticket before the performance, call (406)-277-3844. Tickets, if any are left will be available at the door.

By: Eliza Tingey

Let's Go Huskies!

Cheerleading is a great activity that gets more kids involved and allows them to enjoy the games and the atmosphere of interscholastic sports. In a week and a half youngsters in the valley have a chance to get a taste of what Cheer Squad is all about.

The Belt High School varsity cheerleaders welcome all students from kindergarten to 5th grade to join in the fun. The annual Cheerleader Camp will be held in the cafeteria from January 24th to the 27th.

The girls will be learning a dance to "Under the Sea" from the *Little Mermaid*. The little cheerers will also be learning a lot of cute little moves, and cheers. The elementary school will be getting shirts to show they participated in the event. The total cost for the cheerleading camp is \$20.

The Cheer clinic participants will perform during the girls varsity basketball game on Friday, January 28th at 6:00 p.m.

Boys Box Score

Roy-Winifred	4	4	11	13	32
Belt	7	16	6	22	51

Belt	6	14	19	12	51
Fairfield	3	17	23	15	58

Belt	17	15	18	9	59
GFCC	4	5	10	11	30

Centerville	5	5	8	2	20
Belt	18	12	9	14	53

WGR	14	16	17	8	-	55
Belt	13	11	19	12	9	64

Belt	21	12	18	7	58
Tri-City	5	2	4	9	20

RAMP

Life that Counts, Inc. (LTC) was founded in 2012 by John Williams, who was a veteran youth worker. Today, the work reaches people across the United States where they specialize in helping young people navigate the challenges of life. They partner with local schools, law enforcement agencies, military recruiters, faith communities, and others who have a dream to build up the next generation. Students learn how to focus on the future while harnessing the skills needed to practice self-efficacy.

It is their goal to deliver as much information as they can to help students make the right choices. The program stretches from Alabama to Montana, but can reach to wherever students that have been in the program relocate to. Kelley Bushong-Traver is in her second year leading the program, and she is one of the two people from Mon-

tana who works for LTC, along with six others from Alabama. RAMP is funded by federal grants.

The program teaches five parts to the whole person, value, legacy, positive/negative influences, healthy relationships, self-confidence, future life goals, direct and indirect connections, self boundaries, peer pressure, bullying, stereotypes, and many other topics along those lines. The RAMP program works with kids ranging from middle school to high school.

The most important message that they want to communicate to the kids is that each kid has value to this world and although it may not seem like it now, there is so much time for each one to provide their value to this life. Bushong-Traver says that "Our circumstances do not define us; we define us!" The RAMP program reaches 10 rural schools in Montana and 21 rural

schools in Alabama.

Bushong-Traver brought her message to the middle school students in Belt the second week of December. As a guest speaker in Health-PE classes, she shared important information with the youngsters in the valley about taking care of themselves and living a positive life style.

RAMP stands for Rural Alabama Montana Project. They wanted to start the program because multiple studies show that teens from Montana and Alabama have similar tendencies when it comes to risky situations. Now going on their 10th year, the RAMP program continues to help students make the right choices, and it doesn't look like they are going to stop anytime soon. For more information or questions, just click:

kelly@lifethatcounts.org.

By: Rylan Davison

Bandwidth

Before the New Year dawned, the administration has informed the students that the internet capacity is being overwhelmed. There have been issues with students getting kicked off programs on the chrome books because of the maximum capacity of bandwidth. The bandwidth slowed down because of the number of devices connected to the Belt School Internet. With almost everyone in the school having a chrome book, the amount of bandwidth is becoming overloaded.

According to Verizon Wireless, the definition of bandwidth is, "The maximum amount of data transmitted over an internet connection in a given amount of time. Bandwidth is often mistaken for internet speed when it's actually the volume of information that can be sent over a connection in a measured amount of time." Bandwidth is

the amount of information and data that a certain device receives each second.

Streaming on the devices takes up a large amount of bandwidth and the school might be required to purchase more. The time that it takes for the information to travel to each destination is indicated as bitrate and measured in bits per second (bps). Bandwidth is purchased in quantities of hundreds of thousands in Indian rupees. One American dollar is equivalent to approximately 75 Indian Rupees.

The three different ways to increase bandwidth is to acquire a greater internet plan, obtain an upgraded router, or have the computer directly connected to an ethernet cable. People can reduce their use of bandwidth by: not accessing streaming websites, limiting the amount of time they spend on their devices, getting off the Wi-Fi, and

turning off the location on their phone. Also, people can manage the total amount of bandwidth consumed on their devices by creating limits.

A couple important procedures that students must follow will really help. First, they need to turn off their chrome book when it's not in use, rather than simply closing the top, because the device is still using bandwidth. Students are also reminded to limit the number of open tabs on their machines for the same reason.

The Belt School website experienced a technological update a couple months ago and it is much easier to navigate through the website. There is an abundance of more information included in the new variation of the website and members of the community are thankful for the more developed database.

By: Walker Maki

Birthdays		
Date	Grade	Husky
1/23	3	Ryle Paulson
1/22	5	Olivia Knudsen
1/17	6	Rogue Roberts
1/22	7	Kate Hedstrom
1/19	7	Cadence Graham
1/14	7	Rachel Madden
1/8	7	Mylah Flaten
1/19	8	Tobias Wilson
1/15	10	Lane Waldner
1/22	12	Aidan Bergstrom

Event Calendar		
Date	Time	Event
1/14	3:00/4:30 p.m. 6:00/7:30 p.m.	JV Basketball in Belt HS BB @ DGS
1/18	5:30 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	MS Boys BB JV Boys @ Power
1/19	6:00 p.m.	6-8 Ski Day 3 rd /4 th Boys BB
1/20	5:30 p.m.	MS Boys BB
1/21	6:00/7:30 p.m.	Varsity BB @ Winifred
1/22	9:00 a.m. 5:00/6:30 p.m.	MS Boys BB Varsity BB vs. Fairfield
1/24		1 st , 3 rd , 5 th Dental Screening
1/25	6:00 p.m.	Boys C Basketball vs Fairfield
1/26	6:00 p.m.	3 rd /4 th Boys BB
1/28	6:00/7:30 p.m.	NHS Pass the Bucket Varsity BB vs GFCC

Bowling Scores

Another two weeks of bowling had just concluded at the Backroads Bowling and Pizza. Some highlights of the games are an outstanding 267 scratch game, courtesy of Mike Christensen, and a 246 handicap game bowled by Bailey Cooper. In case anyone was wondering the elusive perfect game of 300 still has yet to be achieved in Belt. Head to Backroads Bowling and give it a go. Here are scores from weeks 15 and 16.

Week 15

Men's Scratch	Women's Scratch
Mike Christensen-219	Celeste Hoyer-170
Neill Sweeney-198	Trish Kenney-168
Men's Handicap	Women's Handicap
Neill Sweeney-242	Celeste Hoyer-230
Mike Christensen-226	Jo Cooper-228
Men's Scratch Series	Women's Scratch Series
Mike Christensen-654	Trish Kenney-627
Kalem Halley-510	Patti Sweeney-450
Men's Handicap Series	Women's Handicap Series
Mike Christensen-675	Trish Kenney-627
Neill Sweeney-640	Teri Cummings-598

Week 16

Men's Scratch	Women's Scratch
Mike Christensen-267	Bailey Cooper-178
Matt Lewis-207	Patti Sweeney- 173
Men's Handicap	Women's Handicap
Mike Christensen-272	Bailey Cooper-246
Matt Lewis-257	Trish Kenney-228
Men's Scratch Series	Women's Scratch Series
Mike Christensen-697	Sara Christensen-469
Zac Banta-483	Laura Koffler-462
Men's Handicap Series	Women's Handicap Series
Mike Christensen-712	Sara Christensen-649
Matt Lewis-610	Bailey Cooper-644