

Malta Middle School NEWSPAPER

CURRENT EVENTS @ THE MALTA MIDDLE SCHOOL

- Written by the 7th grade students in Mrs. Lien’s *Current Events* classes



Our Malta Middle School Secretary
Donna Scheffelmear

BY CARSON SAUTTER

Donna has been the Malta Middle School Secretary since the 2018-2019 school year. She graduated from Greenfield High School in Greenfield, Wisconsin in 1980. Her favorite thing to do in her free time is to spend time with family, especially with her grandchildren; TJ, Beau, and Leo. She said she also enjoys the needlework craft of crochet. She crochets many things like afghans, sweaters and stuffed animals and more. She said her grandmother taught her to crochet when she was 8. (See the Mustang afghan she made below). Donna also enjoys singing, she sang in chorus all through school and is a member of the church worship team at Malta Assembly of God.



Donna’s favorite thing about being the Middle School Secretary is the kids! She enjoys hearing happy kids in the hallways and when she hears the nearest class learn something new it brings a smile to her face and joy to her heart. She also enjoys helping kids when they come to her counter. Her favorite vacation spot is going back to Wisconsin to visit family. When she was a child she loved going to Northern Wisconsin to see her family up North.

Malta Mustangs Afghan made by Donna



Finn is the 2022 County Spelling Bee Champ!

Finn Witmer: The 2022 Phillips County Spelling Bee Champion

BY ALEX SNELL



Finn Witmer competed in the Phillips County Spelling Bee in Whitewater on February 9th along with 4 other Malta Middle School qualifiers; Kael Young, Renzey Raymond, Dawson Hammond and Courtney Merriman. The alternates were TJ Siewing and Jeremy Scott. Finn was the Phillips County Champion! He won on the 13th round spelling the word “sedentary” correctly. The county spelling bee is for 5th-8th grade students from Malta, Dodson, Saco, Whitewater and two homeschoolers. Finn went on to compete in the State Spelling Bee in Bozeman on March 12th, he made it through 4 rounds at state. He said the hardest word he had to spell at state was the word he got out on “embezzlement”. He was 18th place out of 57 contestants in the state. Congratulations Finn on a job well done!

VFW PATRIOT’S PEN ESSAY WINNERS

Malta Middle School 7th grade and 8th grade English students composed essays for the VFW Patriot’s Pen. Patriot’s Pen is conducted nationwide, this VFW sponsored youth essay competition gives students an opportunity to write essays expressing their views on an annual patriotic theme. Mrs. Clausen submitted her students’ essays to the Malta VFW post. This year Malta Middle school had three winners in the local level advance to the regional level! **Honorable Mention: Sonny Gray, Third Place: Layla Messerly, Second Place: Neva Jacobson and First Place: Lola Snell. Congratulations!**



L to R: VFW Chairman Col. Donald Klinko, Chairwoman Kari Hould, Post Commander James Layton, Sonny Gray, Neva Jacobson, Lola Snell, Shyla Clausen and Sharon Kindle (not pictured Layla Messerly)



SPORTS PAGE

MIDDLE SCHOOL BOYS BASKETBALL

BY KADEN GREEN

The Malta Middle School Boys Basketball team started practice on January 3 and ended with the final game in the Middle School Tournament on February 12th in Malta. The teams that we played against were Glasgow, Harlem, Poplar, Scobey and Wolf Point. We played Harlem twice and each tournament we played two teams. There were not enough 7th graders for an 8th and 7th grade team so we had an A team and B team. The A team coach was Jake Stuart and the B team coach was Allen Williamson. The A team players were Dawson, Duke Trooper, TJ, Sonny, Jericho, Rylee, Michael and Kayden. The B team was Cody, Olycee, Trydell, Michael, Kayden, Skylar, Rylan and John. The A team played in the year end Middle School Tournament and made it into the championship game, but lost by 12 points to Scobey and ended up 2nd place. I interviewed Dawson Hammond about the season. He said, “we liked our coaches and teammates and we had fun in practice.” His favorite part of the season was the bus ride home after a win. Dawson said, “we appreciate Mrs. Cederberg and our coaches, Jake and Allen, for getting everything organized this season.”



7TH and 8TH grade Boys Basketball team 2022

PICTURE CAPTION: L to R Back Row: Coach Williamson, Duke Williamson, Sonny Gray, TJ Siewing, Dawson Hammond, Jericho Eklund, Rylee Brusse, Olcyee’ SaintLouis. L to R Front Row: John Ritchey, Skylar Gilkerson, Michael Love, Trooper Stiles, Kayden Green.



Out of bounds play: Trooper, Dawson, Duke, TJ, Sonny

MIDDLE SCHOOL WRESTLING



PICTURE CAPTION:
L to R: Back Row: Trevor Knowles, Straud Simms, Kayden Green, Skylar Gilkerson, Zander Fuller, Jericho Eklund, Tripp Lefdahl, Kael Young.
L to R: Front Row: Lane Spencer, Silas Young, Steeler Blunt, Luke Simanton, Hoyt Mahan, Karson Kelsey.
(5th grade wrestlers not pictured: Corby, Gabe, Josh, Colby, also not pictured: Kenan LaBrie, Whitewater)

BY TRIPP LEFDAHL

Malta's Middle School Wrestling program has a fresh start with brand new mats and new coaches. The wrestling program hasn't been the most popular with this year only being 18 people. But the new coaches are Trey and Nolan Simanton, both of which are masters of folkstyle wrestling. This year we have five meets, four of which have already passed. The highest place at our meets being Straud Simms placing first in Havre. Also, Lane Spencer took second during state with an outstanding performance. The other placers at State were Gabe Oshio with 3rd place and Corby Mears with 3rd place. This season started on Valentine’s day and will end next week with a meet at Harlem. Thank you guys for an amazing season and for many more to come!

MIDDLE SCHOOL TRACK coming soon...

The first day of middle school track practice is Monday, March 28th. The first track meet is scheduled for April 9th at the Glasgow Invitational. Track ends on Saturday May 14th at the Lewistown Invitational. There are five meets total for the season. The meets are in Glasgow, Havre, Malta, Havre again for the North Star Invitational and Lewistown. (*This is the tentative schedule, subject to change.) The coaches will be Mrs. Clausen, Mrs. Gilkerson, Mrs. Rummel and Ms. Scott. Everyone in 6th, 7th and 8th grade is encouraged to go out and participate in Middle School Track this Spring!



Kael Young wrestling at MS State in Lewistown

Middle School FFA

BY BOBBY MAYER

This is what Mrs. Murphy had to say about what MS FFA has been up to since the last paper: The middle school has been doing a lot! They have been helping with FFA concessions, preparing for contests at Conrad seminars and CDE Days. Those contests are Veterinary Science and horse judging. They were a big help at our annual pancake breakfast and advocating for our program with the other middle schoolers. The big thing was their first overnight trip to KMON in Great falls. These students got to compete in livestock judging. The different classes consisted of market heifers, breeding bulls, pigs, rams, breeding ewes, and goats. They also judged different qualities of forage suitable for a herd of ewes. These competitors had to give two classes of reasons to a judge. While they weren't at the contest, members were able to go through the MAGGIE show and talk to industry professionals and try new and innovative technology such as a virtual welder.

Picture Caption: L to R: Layla Messerly, Sadie Branham, Karlie LaBrie, Amanda Volk, Mrs. Murphy, Kenzie LaBrie, MJ Beaman, Kaden LaBrie



B.U.G. (BRINGING UP GRADES) AWARDS
These are the students who received B.U.G. awards for 2nd Trimester. The local Kiwanis group provided an ice cream party for the students who earned this award. Congratulations and keep it up middle schoolers!



Malta A team playing against Harlem 8th grade: Dawson pass to Duke

Middle School 2nd Trimester Honor Roll

6 TH GRADE	7 TH GRADE	8 TH GRADE
ADDISON BENSON	BRIDGER BENTON	MACKAYLA BACHMEIER
STEELER BLUNT	EMMA EREAUX	MJ BEAMAN
KAMBER BROCKIE	LANDON HONEY	KYLIE BISHOP
HUDSON HONEY	CAITLYN LANKFORD	SADIE BRANHAM
TREVOR KNOWLES	AVEREE MATTHEWS	KENDALL CLAUSEN
HOYT MAHAN	ROBERT MAYER	JERICH O EKLUND
KAZNER OXARART	CARLY MEARS	SONNY GRAY
JEREMY SCOTT	RENZEY RAYMOND	DAWSON HAMMOND
SABRA SIMS	OSLO STENBERG	SHAYLEE HINES
LANE SPENCER	TAILYNN WILKE	NEVA JACOBSON
KRUISE STILES		KARA JOHNSON
TAYA WILKE		BROOKLYNN KNOWLES
SILAS YOUNG		KARLIE LABRIE
		KENZIE LABRIE
		LAYLA MESSERLY
		ALEXANDRIA OSHIO
		ALYSSA SCOTT
		STRAUD SIMS
		LOLA SNELL
		EMREE STUART
		DENVYR TUSS
		AMANDA VOLK
		KAE L YOUNG



Our Middle School Title I Tutors:
Mrs. Wendy Simanton and Mrs. Shay Garfield





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Our Malta Schools Superintendent

5 QUICK QUESTIONS WITH MR. GENG

BY IZZY DUMAS

What has been your favorite job so far? I have enjoyed my entire educational career, my favorite or what I enjoy the most - is working with students.

What are your hobbies? I enjoy: gardening, collecting LP's, working on "old" cars and reading among others.

What is your favorite place that you have vacationed? I spent a week in the Washington D.C. area. Which was amazing. Unfortunately, it was in August, so the temperature was over 90 degrees with 90% humidity.

What do you think needs to be improved at Malta Schools? There are numerous physical improvements/repairs that need to be made to both schools. Educationally, the number and type of electives need to improve to meet the needs of both the students and the community.

What degrees do you have? I have a Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education (K - 8) and a Masters in EDLD with a K-12 Principal and Superintendent Endorsements.

Student Spotlights

Alex 7th grade and Trydell 8th grade



ALEX SNELL SPOTLIGHT
BY TRIPP LEFDAHL

Alexander Snell is the newest and one of the most interesting students in the 7th grade. Alex said he had a pretty good first day of school here, nothing out of the regular. Alex also said that Malta was the best school he has been to so far. With that being said he has been to four schools in his life. Alex said that the school lunch at Malta is amazing! He also said the teachers have really helped him grow and improve here. Current Events has been his favorite class so far. Some additional information, he is 12 years old his favorite color is red and his favorite pastime is playing Minecraft. His favorite sports team is the LA Lakers and his favorite season is winter. Alex is a very nice kid and addition to Malta Middle School.

TRYDELL RAMIREZ-MANUEL SPOTLIGHT
BY LANDON HONEY

Trydell is a new kid to Malta Middle School this year, he is hard to miss at 6 foot tall and can be found wandering the halls and making people laugh. He said he really likes this school and is looking forward to picking his own classes when in High School next year. The thing he likes about Malta Middle School is that there are more classes offered. Trydell's favorite subject is Finance and he also said he has always liked History and had never had a bad history teacher. His favorite color is turquoise or "some sort of light blue/green color". He likes to play video games and play football in his free time and his favorite team is the Dallas Cowboys. His favorite food for dinner is spaghetti and for dessert sugar cookies. He said he also really likes to eat Chili. Trydell said Nicholas Cage is his favorite actor but he really likes Danny DeVito's movies. He has a large extended family, his siblings are an older sister Taliyah, younger sisters Mia and Hazel and younger brother Michael. His parents are Latricia and Michael. His favorite holiday is Native American month because it celebrates his heritage. Trydell works at The Villa Theatre in Malta, he said enjoys his job at the Theater and encourages everyone to come see a movie!

Pictured Below: The 8th grade quintet performing "Water Music", Brooklynn Knowles, Neva Jacobson and Emree Stuart, all playing saxophone, Sonny Gray playing trombone, Dawson Hammond and Straud Simms both playing trumpet.



Pictured to the Right: Trevor Knowles (playing trombone) and Regan Stuart (playing trumpet) performing a duet of the song "The Conquering Hero" at the Middle School Music Festival in Malta.

MIDDLE SCHOOL MUSIC FESTIVAL

BY LANDON HONEY

The Middle School Music Festival was held in Malta on Feb 22. Malta hosts this music festival and invites surrounding schools. The schools that participated along with Malta were Hinsdale, Lustre, Nashua, Opheim, Saco and Whitewater. All Malta Middle School choir and band members performed. We had 14 solos, 6 duets and 7 ensembles for vocals and



guitar. Mrs. Murdock said that they did really well. She liked that there were a lot of solos, meaning people were not too scared to sing and play guitar in front of a crowd. In the band Mr. E said that they did a really good job! There were 14 solos, 4 duets, 5 trios, 3 quartets and 5 quintets for band performances.



Mrs. Murdock
Retiring After 36
Years in Education!

BY AMELIA JOHANNESEN

How many years have you been teaching? What have you taught?

I taught for 32 years in Whitewater. I retired in 2011 and moved to Bozeman to manage the Eckroth Music store. I came back to Malta in 2018 and taught 4 more years, which makes 36 years all together. I’ve taught elementary music, band, choir, guitar, theory and composition. I also have an elementary education degree, and have taught reading.

What are you going to do after retirement? I am going to continue to teach private lessons in piano, guitar and voice. I’m also going to babysit my grandchildren and help where I can on our ranch.

Did you like teaching the class that you have? I’m glad I came back out of retirement to teach in Malta. I’ve really enjoyed my time here.

Did you like playing the guitar, what's your favorite instrument to play?

I do like playing guitar. I’m glad I got to share the fun of guitar playing with the Malta middle school students. I also play ukulele, recorder, organ, trumpet and baritone. My favorite though is the piano.

Did you like to travel for the music festival? Yes, it’s great to take students on music trips. I was sorry that Havre no longer is doing the middle school festival – I really felt the two years we got to go were fun and very beneficial. Maybe they will start it back up some year! I’ve also taken high school students in the past to district, state and Northwest Honors Choirs, as far as Spokane, Boise, Portland and Seattle. They were all great trips, and great learning experiences for the students.

What has been your favorite part of teaching? It’s been very fun getting to know the Malta students. We’ve played and sang some wonderful music, and had some great concerts. I’m looking forward to our final concerts and festivals this year, and seeing what wonderful things you all will be doing in the future!



5 questions with our Counselor
Mrs. Webb (pictured above with her husband and 2 kids)

BY CARSON SAUTTER

When did you start teaching and what is your degree in? I received my K-12 Art Education Undergraduate Degree from University of Idaho in 2014, and started teaching 7-12 grade Art at Harlem High School in 2014. I started my School Counseling position at Malta High School in 2017, and have a Masters of Education in School Counseling.

What do you like to do in your free time? I have many hobbies and I love to try new things. I love to golf, cook and bake, exercise, swim, create things (drawing and calligraphy), read, relax, binge watch Netflix, get outside even for just a walk, and shop. I also try to use that time to catch up on things that are important to me such as spending time with my kids, family, friends and taking care of myself.

Where do you like to go on vacation? I love to travel and experience new things and try to visit somewhere new each time I choose to travel. I visited various states in the United States, and my favorite place in the US is definitely Hawaii (snorkeling and whale watching were among some of my favorite things). I have also traveled outside of the US to places such as Jamaica, Scotland, Canada, and Mexico.

What goals do you have for teaching? My overall program mission is “we will provide students with classroom, small group and individual counseling in order to help students gain the knowledge and develop skills in the social- emotional, academic, and career domains. Our mission is to enable students to reach the Malta Public Schools mission of creating lifelong learners who can contribute to society and succeed in a changing world.” I create personal and program goals around this mission statement every year according to feedback and data I collect throughout the year. Each year presents different situations and needs of students, staff, and community, therefore it’s important that my goals adapt as well.

What other things are you involved in at Malta School? My job as a School Counselor involves many different duties in itself. I am the testing coordinator for Middle School and High School, teach classroom curriculum, deliver small group and individual counseling for all students 6-12 grade, am the Career Internship course advisor, as well as the advisor and coordinator for Edgenuity courses, CNA online course, and support students in signing up for Dual Credit courses for High School Students. I am the advisor for the Sophomore class, and coach High School Golf. I was, in previous years, the Builders Club Advisor, Middle School Girls Basketball coach, and National Honors Society Advisor. I coordinated a High School Career Day two different years, and have taken Seniors to College Visits and College Fairs. I coordinate College Representative meetings, as well as National Guard and Military Representative visits.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM MRS CEDERBERG:

- MONDAY, MARCH 28TH TRACK PRACTICE STARTS AND THE SPRING PLAY
- THE 8TH GRADE CLASS SKI TRIP TO SHOWDOWN IS FIRDAY, APRIL 1ST
- APRIL 5TH IS SPRING PICTURE DAY
- APRIL 6TH MS ACADEMIC OLYMPICS
- APRIL 14TH - 18TH SPRING BREAK!!! ENJOY YOUR TIME OFF
- MAY 7TH IS THE MS POPS CONCERT
- MAY 24TH WILL BE A MOVIE/PIZZA PARTY AT THE VILLA THEATRE
- WEDNESDAY, MAY 25TH AT 1:30PM IS THE 8TH GRADE CERTIFICATION
- MAY 26TH IS THE LAST DAY OF SCHOOL! WE WILL HAVE A FIELD DAY AND WE ARE DISMISSED AT NOON! 😎

CURRENT EVENTS CLASSES TAKE A FIELD TRIP TO THE PHILLIPS COUNTY NEWS OFFICE

BY MRS. LIEN

Our two 7th grade Current Events classes from Malta Middle School were able to take a field trip to the Phillips County News office to learn about everything that goes into making the Phillips County Newspaper each week. Each employee at the Phillips County News explained to the us what role they play in their job at the PCN and how the paper is created each week. Pierre Bibbs talked to us about being the publisher, sports writer and photographer of the newspaper and showed the students the neat program he uses to put the articles, ads, etc. together and build the newspaper. Mark Foss talked to us about the archives and researching the past papers at the library and also writing articles and conducting interviews for articles. Jennifer French talked to us about selling and creating ads for the PCN. She explained the importance of advertising for the newspaper to generate income and also the importance of ads for our local businesses to be able let people know what they have to offer and to show their support of our local community and local newspaper. Wanda Bushman told us about subscriptions and bill collections and distributing the newspapers. The students enjoyed this day out of the classroom to learn something new and get tips on how to help us create and improve our own Malta Middle School Newspaper. We are very grateful to Pierre, Mark, Jennifer and Wanda for a fun, engaging and educational field trip for our Current Events classes. Also thank you to the PCN staff for putting all the students name into a drawing for a PCN cup filled with goodies! The lucky winner of the drawing was Carson Sautter. Thank you Phillips County News 😊



Current Events students and PCN staff pictured at the PCN office to the (left):
Amelia Johannesen, Bobby Mayer, Wanda Bushman, Pierre Bibbs, Landon Honey, Mark Foss and Jennifer French.

Current Events students and teacher pictured at the PCN office (below):
Carson Sautter, Mrs. Lien, Tripp Lefdahl, Kayden Green, Finn Witmer, Alex Snell.



BUILDER'S CLUB HAVING A LUNCH MEETING



Builder' s Club has been helping with community involvement by donating money to Toys for Tots and Malta Kid's Club, sending holiday cards to the nursing home and more! Builder's Club also helps promote kindness in the school and will have drawings coming up for good behavior and kindness at school. The fundraiser this year was sucker sales for Valentine's Day with notes of kindness. Mrs. Simanton, club advisor