

After the long summer break,

the students of Belt Public Schools

23<sup>rd</sup>. The 2018-2019 school year marks

mentary students as they now enjoy the

new wing of the school. Along with the

new elementary wing came some new

teachers including: Ms. Croff, early

and lastly Ms. Rose, kindergarten

kindergarten, Mrs. Hedstrom, Title I,

through seventh grade special educa-

er for all of the grades, was ecstatic

bout the new grand piano in the Per-

tion. Also, Mr. Sutton, the music teach-

the beginning of a new era for the ele-

#### 31 August 2018

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## Welcome Back

forming Arts Center that promises to enhance the musical experience. went back to their desks on August the Along with the new physical

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additions to Belt Public Schools there were a few other changes made throughout the school. Minor changes to the student handbook have been made, such as the protocol when it comes to academic integrity and procedures. As well as those changes the upperclassmen received new options for the colleges classesthey will be taking their COT classes from, along with the Great Falls College classes... Cont. Pg. 2

## **Ribbon Cutting Ceremony**

After a year of construction, on Anthony Houtz from CTA Architects August 22<sup>nd</sup>, the ribbon was cut signaling that the new addition of the Belt School was done and ready for use.

About 225 local citizens convened at the front door of the new facility for the ceremony. Students and staff are most excited about getting the new elementary classrooms, expecting it to provide a better

learning environment for the children.

Belt School's superintendent, Mrs. Kathleen Prody, gave a speech addressing the school's gratitude to the community for supporting education in the valley. She also recognized Mr. Kyle Paulson, who won Principal of the Year for the Region II Principals Association MASSP. Also recognized were the main architects that worked on the project were Marty Byrns and

Engineers. Josh DeVos from Dick Anderson Construction also spoke about the new addition. Finally the



ribbon was cut and the open house proceeded. Following the open house community members were treated to a BBQ provided by the Belt cafeteria staff.

Once in-

side the new addition, community members were shocked at what they saw. The most impressive view for most was the brand new classrooms for the elementary students. The classrooms are now big enough for the large classes to comfortably fit in, and they are equipped for modern technology. The large windows allow for natural light to illuminate the classrooms. Cont. Pg. 3

ing in these challenging classes are

#### Welcome Back (Continued)

...students are taking classes online from MSU-North and MSU-Billings. This change is an excellent selves to excel this year. Throughopportunity for juniors and seniors, because the College of Great Falls switched to an eight-week format for their classes, potentially increasing the workload of students while the other colleges offer the usual one class per semester format.

Starting this year off right, many students are thriving in their new classes. The AP program, initiated with AP English, at Belt High is beginning its second year with new additions, AP Chemistry and US History. The students participatexcited to learn and push themout the entire school students are milling about, preparing for this school year, and are excited to do their very best. As always, Belt Huskies are going to help others, understand differences, show respect to themselves and others, be kind to all, ignite enthusiasm as homecoming approaches, expect to be the best, and show responsibility. The pupils will achieve greatness and complete another amazing school year at Belt Public Schools.

**By: Natalie Larsen** 

#### **City News**

On August 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00p.m. the Belt City Council convened for the second regularly scheduled meeting in August. Present to discuss city matters were Mayor James Olson, Clerk- Treasurer Lynn Schilling, Aldermen Delbert Darko, Annie Porter, Sally Miller, Paul Heikkela, Russell Roberts, and David Eggert, Project engineer Idaho Trenberth, and three members of the public.

The meeting began with an update about what is going on with the lift station that broke down before summer set in this past year. Mayor Olson reported to the council that NCI Engineering made applications to the USDA and DNRC for repair or replacement of the lift stations. Mayor Olson also reported that the company attained a grant/ loan package from the USDA for repair and replacement of all three lift stations. If the city accepts the \$850,000 package, a new engineering project will begin and increases to sewer rates may be necessary.

Then, Mayor Olson called for a motion to accept the USDA lift station funding which consists

of \$589,000 of grant money and \$261,000 of loans along with a motion to begin the new engineering project. The motion was passed by the council.

Later in the meeting, Mayor Olson brought it to the attention of the council that the USDA loan for the lift stations is contingent upon a very quick timeline and the final design for engineering must be submitted by September 14<sup>th</sup> and the project must be completed by October 31<sup>st</sup>. NCI engineer Trenberth began the design but is not confident that it will be finished by September 14<sup>th</sup> and he estimated the project to be completed closer to March than October.

Earlier this year, the city council allotted \$8,500 to improving Castner Park. The funds were to be used in order to install windows in the pavilion, attain a structural analysis of the pavilion from a licensed contractor, repair cracks on the basketball court, install basketball hoops on the tennis courts, install a yard light on the basketball court, reconstruct the planters, and construct a camping area with

**Backpack Program** Parent Notice



Student Senate and DECA are putting on a backpack program to combat child hunger.

The goal of the program is to provide nutritious foods for children on the weekends. On Friday afternoons your child can discretely receive a bag of food to help them until Monday. Anyone interested in the Backpack Program can contact the school at (406) 277-3351 to talk to Mrs. Kolar or Mrs. Tillman as soon as possible. Registration forms are available in the office.

marked spots and a pay box based on the honor system. The council discussed how the improvements were going and Mayor Olson assured the council that work on the project would begin soon.

The last item on the agenda for the city council to discuss was the possibility of installing a historical bridge where the swinging bridge previously hung. Alderman Darko informed the council that there may be funding for the bridge from the Adopt-a-Bridge program and the funding for installation could possibly come from the state. Darko will research further possible funding options.

At 9:30p.m. the meeting was adjourned and the meeting room cleared until the next regularly scheduled gathering. City council meetings are held on the first and third Wednesday of every month which deems the next meeting to be held September 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:00p.m. with the following meeting being on the 19<sup>th</sup>. As always the city council meeting is open to the public and resident attendance is encouraged.

**By: Adelle Meissner** 

## Ribbon Cutting Ceremony (Continued)

A new gym, stage, and weight room, will also be available for students and community members.





Everyone is really enjoying the new addition and would like to thank the community for all of the support along the way.

While under construction last year, the elementary was relocated to the high school wing of the school. This resulted in a very crowded learning environment, but everyone involved adapted as best as they could. None of the little ones were trampled but everyone agrees that the new environment will be an improvement. Since the remodel some of the high school and middle school classroom have been moved. Teachers and students are still adjusting.





## 2018 Cross Country

With the end of summer, interscholastic sports started off with a boom at Belt Valley High. Belt's cross country runners started their season on August  $10^{th}$  and the runners have been training for approximately three weeks in preparation for their first competition. Coach Mark Garber will continue as the head coach for the team which is a co-op with Centerville.

The girls' roster this year consists of returning juniors Shelby Paulson and Kolby Pimperton and freshman Lindsey Paulson. Last year the boys' cross country team graduated senior Keagan Stroop, who is now playing football for the Northern Lights. Stroop will be missed but the team has gained two new outstanding freshmen. The roster for the boys is made up of senior Robert Gliko and newcomers Cole Hepfner and Asa Jassen.

The BCXC, Belt-Centerville cross country, runners will taste competition for the first time today in Cut Bank and Coach Garber has high hopes for his athletes. The kids are looking forward to getting their season started and are excited to hit the trail.

**By: Kolby Pimperton** 

By: Abby Gliko

Husky Football

J-Hawks. The first play provided As the school year com-Old Belt faithful with a glimpse of what the new Husky offense could do as they put their first touchdown on the board within the first thirty seconds; however as the game played out "penalties and mistakes made their way into the heads of the in Husky players" and the game took a B; Belt turn in favor of Joliet.



After the Huskies' first touchdown, the J-Hawks were eager to put their own numbers up on the Husky scoreboard and they added 18 to the visitor's side. Going into the second quarter the J-Hawks were leading the Huskies 18-6. As the teams cleared the field for the halftime intermission, the score read 12-24 Joliet: while the Huskies held the J-Hawks to one touchdown that quarter they were also held to just one tally. After a short meeting with their coaches and a chance to catch their breath, both teams came out ready to play in the second half. Despite the Huskies best effort, a tough J-Hawk defense and a quick offense let Joliet run away with the game. When the final buzzer sounded, the score read Belt 12 Joliet 48. Starting defensive tackle Gavin Roberts said, "We came out strong but penalties and mistakes got to our heads," and the Huskies left the field with a record of 0-1.

The game was a nonconference, as Belt resides in the Last Friday night, the Husky Northern C and Joliet competes in the south. Belt's record stands at 0-

ence play. The Northern C division contains Choteau, Great Falls Central Catholic, Chester-Inverness-Joplin, Box Elder, Belt, and Hays Lodge pole in Pool A and Centerville, Shelby, Simms, Fort Benton, Cascade, Chinook, and Rocky Boy Pool 6 6 - - **12** any Joliet 18 6 16 8 48 Husky

matchups outside of the Pool A will not go on Belt's conference record. A change this year will allow five teams from the Northern Division to advance to the state-wide 16 team bracket instead of four. Tomorrow afternoon the Huskies will load the bus and head to Box Elder for their second game of the season which is set to kick off at 1:00p.m.

**By: Adelle Meissner** 

## Salvation Army Flag Football

Grades K - 5



## Volunteers Needed

Registration is \$80.00 per participant and ends September  $12^{th}$  at 4:00 p.m. (or when league limits are met)

Forms can be found in the Belt School office. Return all forms and payments to Belt School.

Practices (may) begin the week of September 17<sup>th</sup>

For questions contact either: Belt School at (406) 277-3351 or Salvation Army at (406) 452-9641

menced on August 24<sup>th</sup>, the Husky football team had been in the gym and on the field practicing for weeks. The team will look a little different than last year's as the Huskies bid adieu to six graduated seniors: Robbie Flinn, Brayden Haugrose, Trey Heitzman, Troy Hennes, Nolan Myrstol, and Keagan Stroop. During the 2017-18 season, the Husky team accomplished a 9-1 record which currently ranks highly among the school's past records. After such a great finish in 2017 Husky fans were eager to see the young athletes back in action this fall and there was no shortage of maroon and gold as the young men took to Remington field Friday night.

The Husky lineup this year consists of seniors Matt Dollenger and Robbie Gliko, juniors: Adam Langston, Gavin Roberts, Andrew Stice, Hunter Vogl, and Brandon Wall, sophomores, Jayce Ballbach, Kaimen Evans, TJ Hennes, and Aidan McDaniel, and freshmen: Aidan Bergstrom, Cole Hepfner, Asa Jassen, Kaiden Marquis, Gabe Triplett, and Hayden Urick. The Huskies are led on the field by head coach Jeff Graham, along with assistants: Alan Lake, Matt Triplett, and Paul Maki.



football team kicked off the season with a home game against the Joliet 1 overall as they prepare for confer-

# Fall High School Varsity Sports Schedule

## Volleyball

(varsity gam	es follo	w 20 minutes af	ter the JV gar	ne. JV g	ame sta	rt times	vary)
Date		Opponent	Time		Facilit		57
August 25	Showe	case in Belt	TBA		Belt		
August 30	Cascade		+20		Belt		
Aug 31-Sept 1			TBA		Cascade		
September 6	Gerald	line-Highwood	+20		Belt		
September 8	Center	rville	+20		Center	ville	
September 13	GFCC	l ,	+20		Belt		
September 20	Fairfie	eld	+20		Fairfie	ld	
September 21	Simms	5	+20		Simms	3	
September 27	Fort B	enton (Homecor	ming) +20		Belt		
September 29	Showe	case @ Choteau	TBA		Chotea	au	
October 4	Fairfie	eld	+20		Belt		
October 6	Gerald	line-Highwood	+20		Highw	'ood	
October 11	Simms	5	+20		Belt		
October 12	Casca	de	+20		Cascad	le	
October 13	GFCC	l ,	+20		GFCC		
October 15	Center	ville (Sr. Night)	+20		Belt		
October 17	Fort B	enton	+20		Fort B	enton	
October 25-26	Distric	et	TBA		GFCC		
November 1-3	Divisi	onal	TBA		Belt		
November 8-10	State		TBA		Bozen	nan	
		Fo	otball				
Date		Opponent		Place		Time	
Friday, August 24	ŀ	Joliet		Belt		7:00pr	n
Saturday, Septem		(a) Box Elder		Box E	lder	1:00pr	
Saturday, Septem		(a) GFCC		GFCC		1:00pr	
Friday, Septembe		ŬJI		Belt		7:00pr	
Friday, Septembe		Hays-Lodgepo	le (HC, Sr N)	Belt		7:00pr	
Friday, October 5		(a) Choteau	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Chotea	au	7:00pr	
Fri/Sat, October 1		Playoff Game		TBA		TBA	
Oct 18/19/20		P layoff Game	(or bye)	TBA		TBA	
Saturday, October	r 28	1 <sup>st</sup> Round Playe		TBA		TBA	
Saturday, Novem		$2^{nd}$ Round of P		TBA		TBA	
Saturday, Novem	ber 11	3 <sup>rd</sup> Round of Pl		TBA		TBA	
Saturday, Novem		4 <sup>th</sup> Round of Pl	layoffs	TBA		TBA	
Cross Country							
Date			Destination		C-Vill	e B	<u>elt</u>
Friday, Aug 10 <sup>th</sup>		TBA	First Day of I	Practice	TBA		TBA
Friday, Aug 31 <sup>th</sup>		4:20 PM	Cut Bank		11:30	AM	12:15 PM
Friday, Sept 7 <sup>th</sup>		2:00 PM	Kalispell		8:15 A	М	9:00 AM
Friday, Sept. 14 <sup>th</sup>		3:00 PM	Great Falls		12:45	PM	1:30 PM
Monday, Sept. 17 <sup>th</sup>		TBA	Shelby		TBA		TBA
Saturday, Sept. 22 <sup>nd</sup>		12:00 PM	Havre		6:30 A	М	7:15 AM
Saturday, Sept 29 <sup>th</sup>		9:30 AM	Missoula		4:30 A	М	5:15 AM
Thursday, Oct 4 <sup>th</sup>			Helena		10:00	AM	10:45 AM
Saturday, Oct 13 <sup>th</sup>	1	11:00 AM	Townsend		6:15 A	М	7:00 AM
Saturday, Oct 20th	1	Girls Race 1	Missoula (Sta	ate)	Leave	on Frid	ay
*The Belt School web site will also keep up to date on any schedule changes.							

\*The Belt School web site will also keep up to date on any schedule changes.

### New Students

To begin the 2018-2019 school year, Belt School has picked up quite a few new Huskies. In future issues of the Valley Voice, more students will be introduced, but to get things started the focus is on sophomore Jessica Moon, and kindergartener Kora Johnson.

Jessica Moon, a sophomore, is from a military family, so they have

moved around a lot. She recently moved from Alabama to Great Falls. She was homeschooled in Great Falls for a while and then was put into Belt School this

year.

When she was homeball and thinks she will try volleyball here at Belt and maybe basketball with the Lady Huskies later in the year. Her biggest fear about coming to Belt was not being accepted by her peers, but she says that so far that has not been a problem. She's very excited for the new school vear and is eager to meet new people and make new friends. Jessica also two brothers in the school, Braedon and Ryan.

> The next new student is Kindergartener Kora Johnson. Kora is looking forward to

coloring and learning new things in class. When asked what her biggest schooled, she participated in volley- fear about coming to school was,

Kora replied, "on most days my mommy walks me to my class but sometimes I have to walk by myself". Kora is looking forward for this year and excited to be in Mrs. Vandenbos's class. In the next issue.

freshman Braeden Moon, third grader Hosanna Wilson, and early kindergartener Rylee Garouttee will be introduced along with their experiences of Belt. **By: Livvy Shelton** 

Every year the students of Belt have the first Monday of September off due to a long celebrated holiday, Labor Day. This day was created during the labor movement of the nineteenth century and celebrates the social and economic achievements of working American citizens. The holiday is a yearly reminder of the hard work that people random day off of school each year, contribute in order to better the entire nation.

Labor Day began in New York unofficially, but the first state to actually pass the law was Oregon to make the great country that eve-

## Labor Day

in February of 1887. After this a series of states followed in the footsteps until the law was recognized as a federal holiday. At that point the first Monday of September was selected as the official date and Americans have been celebrating the holiday ever since.

This celebration is not just a although students are grateful. It is a reminder of the hard work and dedication that civilians throughout the centuries have put forth in order

ryone lives in today. As the students spend time with their families over the course of the long weekend, hopefully, they think about their parents, friends, and teachers that dedicate their lives in order to advance the entire nation.

The Valley Voice wants to thank everyone who has contributed to the success of the community, state and even the entire country, hoping that everyone enjoys their long weekend and no students show up Monday.

**By: Natalie Larsen** 

#### Shakespeare Fundraising

The Belt Valley Shakespeare Theatre Program is fundraising for The Fringe Festival trip next summer to Scotland. They will be selling many sizes of t-shirts, long sleeves, sweatshirts, and other Husky products. Pictures of the two designs are available online. Orders will be taken until September 10<sup>th</sup> and will arrive by Homecoming Week. For any questions contact Debbie Vogt. Direct links to the website below:

Https://www.customink.com/fundraising/belt-valley-shakespeare-players https://www.customink.com/fundraising/belt-valley-shakespeare-players-belt-husky



The Lady Husky Volleyball commenced their season this past Saturday at the Belt Showcase. The girls dominated play, winning all five of their games. Saturday's contests were non-conference but provided a good look at what Class C rankings will be for the season. Coach Christine Gondeiro is the head coach once again this year, but be a little more challenging for the she has a new assistant. The team welcomes Dayna Vandenbos as the new assistant coach and is looking forward to a great season.

This year, the team consists of: seniors Morgan Cooper and Tori game. The Huskies prevailed and Shelton, juniors Candyce Davison, Abby Gliko, Natalie Larsen, Kyelie Marquis, Adelle Meissner, Shelby Paulson, Karlee Permann, Kolby Pimperton, Brooke Schraner, sophomores Riley Larsen, Anna Pethel, Sierra Reese, Alivia Shelton, Sabrina Wing, freshmen Sarah Dollenger, Raily Gliko, Lindsey Paulson, and Maddisen Osterman.

The Showcase included ten teams: Belt JV, Cascade, Centerville, DGS, Harlotown, Belt Varsity, North Star, Roy-Winifred, Big Sandy, and Reed Point Rapelje. The against the DGS Lady Bearcats. teams were split into two separate

## Volleyball

pools to play in the morning. The first set of games were used to seed competition for afternoon tournament play. During pool play, the teams played two sets to 25.

The Lady Husky varsity team started the tournament off strong, beating Big Sandy 25-7 and then 25-8. The next game proved to girls. They played North Star and won the first set 25-14 and then won the second set 25-23. Next up was Reed Point Rapelje. This game also proved to be an entertaining won both sets 25-21. Finally, the game of the day rolled around, the Lady Huskies vs the Lady Outlaws. In a tense battle, the Lady Huskies lost the first set 25-24. Out for revenge, the Huskies came out and won the second set 25-24. For the  $6^{\text{th}}$  year in a row, the girls won the showcase. They played the Harlotown Engineers, kingpins of the other pool in the championship and won both sets 25-11 and 25-8.

The JV competed in the varsity tournament, facing off first The Lady Bearcats won the first set

25-20. While the Lady Husky JV tried to rally back, but they also lost the second set 17-25. The JV's second game was against the Harlotown Lady Engineers. The Lady Huskies lost 25-18 and 25-10. Next up for the Belt JV was the Centerville Lady Miners. The Lady Huskies won both sets 25-11 and then 25 -23. That was the end of the pool play, and because of the point totals, Belt JV went into the afternoon as fourth seed out of their pool. They played the fourth seed from the other pool, which turned out to be Reed Point Rapelie. The Huskies lost the first set 25-10, but came back in the second set looking for a win. They won the second set 25-24, but ultimately ended up losing the third set 15-13.

The girl's record now stands at 5-0. Their next contest is against Cascade at home on August 30<sup>th</sup>. Then they will head to Cascade for a tournament on August 31<sup>st</sup> and September 1<sup>st</sup>. The Lady Huskies are excited for the season and looking to avenge their second play at state last year. Good luck throughout the season.

**By: Abby Gliko** 

As the 2018-2019 school year begins the staff of the Valley Voice encourages all of the Belt community to stay clear of drinking and driving. Drinking and driving is deadly and can affect more than just the person driving the vehicle. Now that school is in full swing many students and families are on the road and it increases the risk of a serious accident. Everyone needs to think before making a critical decision that can end the lives of others.

This school year, hopefully, the effects of drinking and driving touch no one within the community but it is up to each individual to make the decision to not drink and drive. The Valley Voice wishes everyone a great year and hopes to spread the message to always buckle up and...

# Never Drink and Drive!

This message brought to you by your Cascade DUI Task Force



## Middle School Sports

Along with the beginning of the school year comes the start of the fall sports season. One of the big lows their high school affiliates as well. They have changes for students moving from elementary school to middle school is the opportunity to compete in interscholastic athletics.

There are three sports that middle school students can participate in including football, volleyball and cross country. These teams have been practicing since the 13<sup>th</sup> of August and are preparing for their first competitions, which all took place within the first week of school.

The volleyball schedule for the middle school team almost follows that of the high school. The only changes that will be found is that their tournaments will take place in October 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>. The middle school A and B team schedules are listed below:

### Middle School "A" Volleyball

Date	Opponent	Time	Facility
Aug 30	Cascade	5:00pm	Belt
Sept 1	Fort Benton	11:00am	Fort Benton
Sept 6	Geraldine- Highwood	5:00pm	Belt
Sept 8	Centerville	4:00pm	Center- ville
Sept 13	GFCC	5:00pm	Belt
Sept 21	Simms	5:00pm	Simms
Sept 27	Fort Benton	5:00pm	Belt
Oct 6	Geraldine- Highwood	5:00pm	Highwood
Oct 12-13	MS Tournament	TBA	TBA

#### Middle School "B" Volleyball

Date	Opponent	Time	Facility
Aug 30	Cascade	4:00pm	Belt
Sept 1	Fort Benton	10:00am	Fort Benton
Sept 6	Geraldine- Highwood	4:00pm	Belt
Sept 8	Centerville	3:00pm	Centerville
Sept 13	GFCC	4:00pm	Belt
Sept 21	Simms	4:00pm	Simms
Sept 27	Fort Benton	4:00pm	Belt
Oct 6	Geraldine- Highwood	4:00pm	Highwood

The middle school football boys schedule folalready had one game this season and that game can be expected to be featured in the next Valley Voice issue under "Middle School Sports." Following is the middle school football schedule.

<u>Junior High Football</u>				
Date	Opponent	Time	Facility	
September 1	Box Elder	10:00am	Box Elder	
September 8	GFCC	10:00am	GFCC	
September 14	CJI	4:30pm	Belt	
September 17	Fort Benton (6/7 <sup>th</sup> Grade)	4:30pm	Belt	
September 28	Hays- Lodgepole	2:00pm	Belt	
October 5	Choteau	4:30pm	Choteau	
October 9	Simms	4:30pm	Belt	

Lastly there is the middle school cross country team who is coached by Mr. Garber, a teacher in Centerville. Their meets do not go directly with the high schoolers many similarities can be found. Their schedule will be disclosed below:

<b>Junior High XC</b>			
Date	Time	Location	
Aug 31 <sup>st</sup>	3:30 PM	Cut Bank, MT	
Sept. 17 <sup>th</sup>	TBA	Shelby	
Sept. 22 <sup>nd</sup>	10:00 AM	Havre, MT	
Sept 24 <sup>th</sup>	4:15 PM	Great Falls – Lyons Park	
Oct 1 <sup>st</sup>	4:15 PM	Great Falls – Jaycee Park	
Oct 13 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 AM	Townsend	



#### **By: Natalie Larsen**



## Thank You BRFD

Late Saturday night on August 11<sup>th</sup>, while a score of people were gathered at the pavilion for a local wedding reception, a strip of lightning started a field on fire. Emergency vehicles with sirens blaring went flying by the rodeo grounds as they were in route to extinguish the blaze. The crew was successful in their battle with the flames and for that Marty Dawson and other local ranchers would like to thank the Belt Rural Fire District (BRFD), not only for their efforts against the August 11<sup>th</sup> fire but also for their dedication throughout the dry summer months.

Ranging from the ages of sixteen to seventy-four the Belt community, which only boasts a population of six-hundred people, has constructed a volunteer crew of twenty residents who are willing to put their lives a side in order to help the community. In order to volunteer on the crew, Montana requires thirty hours of training each year, a minimal requirement that many Belt volunteers double or triple. An emergency responder class which will add up to about ninety hours of instruction and testing oversees the work of Belt's fire crew. During their time of enrollment, the crew will still be responding to all of their regular calls which can last to one to four hours.

Operating out of two stations in Belt with a house eight apparatus, the department runs around one hundred calls for service per year. Coming in at all hours any day volunteers' lives are often put on hold to put out a blaze. Volunteering on the crew is not a light commitment. The crew responds to more than just the fires in the local area but also to motor vehicle accidents, helicopter landing zones, etc.

The BRFD holds training meetings on Wednesdays at 7 p.m. and would appreciate more volunteers. There is always room for more members and the Fire Department is always looking.

In the words of Travis Johnson, Chief of BRFD, "It's one of the most rewarding volunteer jobs, to be able to help your neighbor or a stranger on what might be the worst day of their life." Although it cannot match the dedication and selflessness of the volunteers, the Belt community would like to extend yet another thank you to the volunteers of the Belt Rural Fire District.

**By: Kolby Pimperton** 

### Miss Teen Rodeo Montana

Last January, Belt's very own Keely Drummond won the title of Miss Teen Rodeo Montana. When asked what made her decide to run for MTRM, she replied with "I just wanted to do something out of

the ordinary." Drummond's title means that she gets to travel all around the state of Montana promoting Ag. While she does go to banquets, her main job is appearing at PRCA rodeos. While at the rodeos she helps with: the grand entry, carrying sponsor flags, interacting with fans, and pushing the cattle out of the arena. Being MTRM has helped Drummond become better at public speaking, being more comfortable in large crowds, and has improved her horsemanship greatly.

Being Miss Teen Rodeo Montana has given Drummond many memories, some good and some bad. According to Drummond, one of her favorite memories that has come with being MTRM was when she got to push Tuf Cooper's calf out of the arena at the Fourth of July rodeo in Red Lodge. While a lot of the memories have been good

> there have been bad memories that have occurred too. One of her worst memories/experiences was when Miss Rodeo Montana, Kaitlin Kolka, broke her collarbone after a horse dumped her during the grand entry. Since Kolka couldn't ride or do much, Drummond had to step up and fill not only her own title, but also the title of Miss Rodeo Montana.

Drummond will have her crown until this coming January when she will have to give it up. She plans to still be involved in the organization by helping other girls run for the title. "It will depend on where I am in my life when that time comes" is what Drummond had to say when asked if she would run for Miss Rodeo Montana.

By: Abby Gliko



## Valley Voice Staff

While retaining a few members, the 2018-2019 Valley Voice staff is being rejuvenated by a new crop of journalists. As always, the managing editor is Mr. Koontz with senior, MaKayla O'Neil, returning as student editor for the second year in a row. Otherwise, the only other senior in the newsroom is Tori Shelton, joining the staff for her first year. As for juniors, Natalie Larsen and Adelle Meissner return for another year, while Abby Gliko and Kolby Pimperton join the staff. Finally, sophomores Sierra Reese and Alivia Shelton round off the new additions to the Valley Voice staff, bringing the total to eight reporters. The new Valley Voice staff hopes to serve the community of Belt for another year.



Top: Alivia Shelton, Abby Gliko, Sierra Reese, MaKayla O'Neil, Tori Shelton, Karl Koontz Bottom: Natalie Larson, Adelle Meissner, Kolby Pimperton

## Horseshoe Tournament

On the afternoon of Saturday, August 25<sup>th</sup>, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Greg Leritz Memorial Horseshoe Tournament was contested at Castner Park in Belt. Entered in the



tournament were thirty four two person teams vying for the top spot in the competition. For the second year in a row, Matt Urick, a former world champion horseshoe thrower, and his daughter Emily Urick won the title. They raised \$1200 for the Montana Veteran Program. The tournament was a huge success and the event continue to grow.

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## Calendar of Events

- 31<sup>st</sup>-1<sup>st</sup> Aug. 10:00 a.m. HS VB Showcase @ Cascade
  - $31^{st}$  Aug. 4:00 p.m. XC @ Cut Bank
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Sept. 10:00 a.m. FB @ Box Elder
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Sept. 10:00 a.m. MS VB @ Fort Benton
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> Sept. Labor Day—No School!
  - 5<sup>th</sup> Sept. School Pictures
  - 6<sup>th</sup> Sept. 4:00 p.m. VB vs. Geraldine/Highwood
  - 7<sup>th</sup> Sept. 2:00 p.m. XC @ Kalispell
  - 8<sup>th</sup> Sept. 10:00 a.m. FB @ GFCC
  - 8<sup>th</sup> Sept. 3:00 p.m. VB @ Centerville
  - 11<sup>th</sup> Sept. 7:30 p.m. Board of Trustees
  - 13<sup>th</sup> Sept. 4:00 p.m. VB vs. GFCC
  - 14<sup>th</sup> Sept. 3:00 p.m. XC @ Great Falls
  - 14<sup>th</sup> Sept. 4:30 p.m. FB as. CJI

## Puzzle

What last year sophomore is jumping for joy on tourist day?



The answer will be in next week's issue.