



# The Valley Voice

Belt Public Schools



26 October 2018

Volume 10 Issue 5

## Inside

<b>Husky Football</b>	
In the past fortnight, the Husky football team took the field for their last two games of the season.	4
<b>Cross Country Middle School Sports Equine Corner</b>	
Featured Horse-Lover Karlee Permann	5
<b>Science Olympiad Mrs. Graham's Race</b>	
Mrs. Graham took over the program and Julia Vogt is organizing a hat and glove drive.	7
<b>New Staff</b>	
Belt received new paraprofessional staff Emily Highfill.	8
<b>Where are They Now?</b>	
Featuring Noelle Waters, 2008 Graduate	
<b>Earthquake Drill Elementary Basketball Middle School Field Trip</b>	
9	
<b>Bustling Belt</b>	
Showcasing the Diamond Sports Bar	10
<b>Focus Groups</b>	
<b>New Staff</b>	
<b>Senior Spotlight</b>	
This issue's featured senior-Morgan Cooper	11
<b>Calendar of Events Volleyball Preview Boosters</b>	
12	

## Huskies Make Music

On Tuesday night, parents and students filled the bleachers of the gym for the first concert of year. Musicians ranging from fifth to twelfth grade performed sixteen songs under the direction of Mr. Jonathan Sutton. Upwards of 350 audience members gathered for the performance which lasted about an hour.

Members of the fifth grade band include: flute players Lilana Corbett, Kylie Maas, Ireland Mears, and Lillian Puppe, clarinetists Sam Kirby, Madison Knutson, Tucker LaPlaunt, Brett Norrup, and Carter Young, alto saxophonists Cash Smith, Hayden

Green, Emerson Hoerner, Raenee Mapston, Parker Osterman, and Katy Smith, trumpeters Cade McCoy, Riley Peterson, Landin Schraner, Axis Throckmorton and Tobias Wilson. Kyle Atwood, Slater Lords, and Blake Waldner play trombone and Tavian Croteau plays baritone, along with percussionists Oliva Moran, McKenzie Pogany, and Jaida Pruitt-Warren. The rookie musicians treated the audience to three pieces of music consisting a Welsh folk song *Cardiff by the Sea*, an English folk song *Hot Cross Buns*, and a French folk song *Au Claire de la Lune*. (Cont. Pg. 3)

## Volleyball

As the 2018 regular season faded, the Lady Husky volleyball squad prepared to defend their district and divisional titles from last season. Over the last two weeks, the girls played their final four conference games against: Cascade, GFCC, Centerville, and Fort Benton. When the regular seasons action was complete, the girls had secured another 7C conference title. Coming off that winning streak, last night the Lady Huskies started the 7C District Tournament hosted at Great Falls Central Catholic School.

In the last edition, the *Valley Voice* reported a victory against the Simms Lady Tigers in four sets with scores of 25-17, 26-24, 29-31, and 25-22. Leading the team in kills, with identical numbers, Morgan Cooper and Kyelie Marquis each contributed 14 winners. Kolby Pimperton notched 40 assists, while Adelle Meissner dug up 30 balls. Meissner also led the team

with 2 aces, while Abby Gliko controlled the net with 3 blocks.

On Friday, October 12<sup>th</sup>, the girls went to Cascade. The C squad and JV started off with dual wins. Then the varsity won in three sets with scores of: 25-12, 25-17, and 25-14.

(Cont. Pg. 2)



Volleyball *(Continued)*

As the game progressed, the younger girls got a chance to clock some varsity minutes. Leading the way in aces was Pimperton and Marquis who each had 5, while Pimperton also contributed 22 assists. In addition to 10 kills, Cooper also led the team with 25 digs.

After their win the night before, the girls of maroon and gold loaded up the bus for a trip to GFCC. Sweeping the Lady Mustangs in three sets, Belt put a damper on their senior night. The scores of the sets were 25-14, 25-23, and 25-17. Once again leading the team in aces was Pimperton who had 4, who also notched 26 assists. Patrolling the front line with 4 blocks was Gliko, and Cooper dominated with 11 kills. Meissner also managed to dig up 27 balls.



The Huskies last home game was on October 15<sup>th</sup>, Senior Night, which gave the community a chance to honor two of the team's leaders. Before warm ups ended,



the senior volleyball players, Morgan Cooper and Tori Shelton, and their parents were introduced, after which the game commenced. Winning the first set 25-6, Coach Gondeiro decided to give the younger girls some glory minutes in the next set. The younger girls prevailed and pulled out a 25-19 win. The starters returned for the third set and triumphed 25-6. Leading the team with 12 kills was Cooper, who also led with 4 aces, while Pimperton led the team with 30 assists. Digging up the ball 18 times was Meissner, while Paulson contributed one block to the stats.

To close out the regular season, the Lady Huskies headed to Fort Benton to battle against the Lady Longhorns. Despite the c squad's best effort, they lost the match in five sets. Falling short in four sets, the JV missed out on a measure of revenge. Spoiling senior night once again, the girls notched the only win for the night in four sets. The scores of the sets were: 25-12, 12-15, 25-20, and 25-19. Leading the team with 3 aces was Paulson, who also covered the net with 4 blocks. Picking up 25 balls was Meissner which translated into 23 assists from Pimperton, which then lead to 8 kills by Cooper.

Closing out the season with

a perfect 11-0 conference record (28-2 overall), the girls earned the number one spot going into tournaments.



Yesterday afternoon the Lady Huskies opened 7C District Tournament play with a resounding victory over Geraldine/Highwood 25-17, 25-15, 25-14, propelling into the semi-final matchup again Fort Benton today at 11:30.

The top two teams from the 7C will advance to the divisional round of competition. Those matches will be hosted in Belt next week on the first three days of November. The teams will be vying for the top two spots for the opportunity to advance to state the following week (divisional and state preview on page 12).

**By: Abby Gliko**



## Music (Continued)

With a year of experience, the sixth grade band performed a trio of more advanced music such as *Frere Jacques*, *Variations on a French Melody*, and the *Saints Go Marching In*. The sixth grade ensemble features: flutist Zoie Anderson, clarinetist Rylan Davison, alto saxophonists Luke Highfill and Eliza Tingey, trumpets Ben Gillespie and Declan Bergstrom, trombonists Eli Bodner, Andrew Dullum, Mac Hedstrom, and Walker Maki, euphonium player Trevor Shimerdla, and percussionists David Bond, Addee Hoffman, Bronik Miller, and Carson Sher-



wood.

The seventh and eighth graders combine to form a choir and band. The choir is made up of seventh graders: Miya Anderson, Marshall Cond, Natalee Downard, Madisen Feldman, Caiden Groux, Chloe Lehnerz, Kennedie Martin, Ryann Osterman, Madison Pogany, Kyndal Schraner, Kandice Stice, and Tanner Stoddard as well as eighth graders: Hailey Assels, Chloe Feit, Zachary Feldman, Owen Halley, Haley Hoerner, Makaila Marchington, Garrett Metrione, Ryan Moon, Sawyer Myrstol, Alyssa Nebel, Gavin Olson, and J.J. Triplett. The group performed *To the Greenwood*, a traditional piece arranged by Christian Morris, and *Montana* by Charles Cohan and Joe Howard.

The seventh and eighth grade band treated listeners to *Londonderry Aire*, an Irish folk song which feature solos from Tara Hedstrom, Reese Paulson, Nate Gill, Johnny Tingey, JD Shepherd, and Bridger Vogl as well as *Rimrock Overture* by Mark Williams. The band is composed of: flutists Keely Dirkson and Ella Pethel, Nicholas Rubeck, Kylee Permann, and Addi Urick on clarinet, Isaac Maki on the bass clarinet, alto saxophonists Memphis Black Danika Lords, and Bridger Vogl, trumpets Richie Andrews, Deanna Davison, Tara Hedstrom, Alex Knutson, Ryann Oster-

man, and Lane Waldner, JD Shepherd on the horn trombonists Clayton Jassen, Alex Hunsaker, Ryley Mapston, and Jeremy Nebel, tuba player Johnny Tingey, and percussionists Karson Arndt, Keagan McDaniel, and Ethan Triplett.

The high school choir was next to perform and graced the audience with their rendition of *Homeward Bound* arranged by Jay Althouse, *Bashana Haba'ah* by Manor and Hirsch, and *Good News*, a spiritual song arranged by Neil Johnson. The choir features: sopranos Mika Haagenson, Charity Highfill, Rosalyn Kenner-Carrington, Riley Larsen, Makayla O'Neil, and Sierra Reese, altos Grace Davison, Faith Hawthorne, Cierra Kelly, Madisyn Lords, MacKenzie Martin, and Shelby Paulson, as well as Baritone/Bass voices Aidan Bergstrom, TJ Hennes, Braeden Moon, Andrew Stice, and David Wall.

The high school band gave the final performance of the night. Consisting of flutists William Franzen, Molly Tingey, and Julia Vogt, Adelle Meissner and Maddison Osterman on clarinet, bass clarinetist MaKayla O'Neil, alto saxophonists Zach Buskirk and Lindsey Paulson, trumpeters Asa Jassen, Cole Hepfner, and Shelby Paulson, tuba specialist Adam Langston, and percussionists Rosalyn Kenner-Carrington, Corbyn Nebel, and Andrew Stice.

At the conclusion of the concert, Mr. Sutton announced the members of the high school band and choir that auditioned and were accepted into the Northwest Honor Band and Choir. MaKayla O'Neil, Charity Highfill, Rosalyn Kenner-Carrington, Sierra Reese, Grace Davison, Andrew Stice, and Braeden Moon were selected from the Belt choir while William Franzen, Julia Vogt, Adelle Meissner, Zach Buskirk, Adam Langston, and Corbyn Nebel were chosen from the band. The elite group will travel to Cut Bank on November 26<sup>th</sup> for a day of rehearsal and stay overnight for a performance on the 27<sup>th</sup>.

By: Adelle Meissner

## HAT AND GLOVE DRIVE

Belt senior Julia Vogt is conducting a hat and glove drive as part of her National Honor Society service project. Please help the less fortunate members of our community get through the tough winters for which Montana is famous. Drop off new or gently used hats and gloves at any of the following locations before November 16, 2018:

**Belt School Office**  
**Belt Valley Bank**

**Belt Valley Grocery**  
**Belt Post Office**

## Husky Football

In the past fortnight, the Husky football team took the field for their last two games of the season. On October 13<sup>th</sup> the team went north to Fort Benton for their last away game and took to Remington Field for the last time this season last Wednesday.

<b>Belt</b>	-	6	-	12	<b>18</b>
<b>Fort Benton</b>	22	22	14	6	<b>64</b>

As the Belt boys loaded the Husky bus for the last time this season, they made the 45 minute trek to Fort Benton for a game against the Longhorns. The matchup, part of the Northern C end of season seeded games, served as the last game of the season for the Horns and the home team was quick to put points on the board. In the first quarter, the Longhorns accumulated 22 markers while their defense held the Belt scoreless.

In the second quarter, the Maroon and Gold earned their first points of the contest on a touchdown by Aidan McDaniel, receiving a 22 yard pass from Kaimen Evans. The two point conversion was no good. Despite the Huskies best defensive efforts, Fort Benton doubled their first quarter score. As the teams broke for halftime the score read Belt 6 Fort Benton 44.

After a quick break to catch their breath and catch up with their coaches, the teams took the field for the third quarter. The Longhorns defense prevailed in holding the Huskies scoreless during the period and the Horn's offense was successful in scoring two touchdowns and one two point conversion. With one quarter left to play the score was 58 -6 Fort Benton.

Not quite ready for the game to be over, Belt's offense came alive in the fourth quarter. TJ Hennes found glory in the end zone

as he caught a 26 yard pass from Evans, although the attempt for two was unsuccessful. The Huskies scoring wrapped up with a 35 yard pass by Evans to freshmen Aidan Bergstrom. While Belt added 12 points to their side of the board, the Horns earned one more touchdown to make the final score 64-18 in favor of Fort Benton.

Although McDaniel sparked the Husky defense with an interception the first play of the game, big plays and poor tackling weighed on Belt's defense according to Coach Jeff Graham. Evans and Brandon Wall led the team in tackles with nine and eight respectively.

<b>Cascade</b>	-	12	-	12	<b>24</b>
<b>Belt</b>	20	-	8	-	<b>28</b>

Eager to earn a win in their last home game, the Belt boys took control of the game against Cascade right from the get go. Evans put the first points on the board with a 15 yard run for a Husky touchdown with a failed attempt at two. The Huskies continued to roll as Evans threw a 12 yard pass to Hennes in the end zone for another Husky score as Evans ran for the extra two points. Evans scored for Belt yet again with a five yard run into the end zone. After one quarter of play the score read Belt 20 Cascade 0.

The Badgers got in on the scoring action in the second quarter. The visitors added two touchdowns to their side of the ledger and held the Huskies scoreless in that period. As the teams broke for halftime the score was 20-12 in favor of Belt.

After a quick pep talk from Coach Graham, the Huskies took the field for the second half of play. Wall quickly found pay dirt with a 15 yard run and a touchdown. Evans ran for the two point conversion and the Huskies bumped their lead

to 16 points. With one quarter left to play, Belt held control of the game 28-12.

Continuing their scoring pattern from the second quarter, the Badgers added another 12 points to their side of the scoreboard while their defense kept the Huskies at bay. As the final klaxon ended the game and the Husky season, the Belt boys notched a victory with a score of 28 -24. The 2018 football squad completed their season with a record of 3-5 overall, 3-4 in conference play.

The conclusion of the game coincided with the end of seniors Matt Dollenger and Robbie Gliko careers as Husky football players. Dollenger wore the pads for the Huskies for the two years he spent at Belt High and Gliko donned the maroon and gold all four years of high school.



As the state playoffs continue, the *Valley Voice* will keep readers apprised as the post-season unfolds. Tomorrow at 1:00, Northern C champion Shelby hosts Darby and runner-up Great Fall Central plays at Memorial Stadium against Superior/Alberton. Other Northern C teams in action include Chinook, Choteau, and Centerville, who all hit the road for first round games.

**By: Adelle Meissner**

---

## Cross Country

As Indian summer took hold of Montana the state cross country meet in Missoula wrapped up the 2018 Belt Centerville harriers season. The Belt Centerville girls earned a second place finish at the state meet last Saturday capturing their first hardware since 2013. The boys also finished their season at the University Golf Course beneath the "M."

A week prior to the state meet the runners bolted from the gates at the Rusty Raisland Invitational meet in Townsend. The frost on the ground and the wind in the air did not dissuade the competitors from their 5k assignment. Lindsey Paulson sprinted across the finish line first for the team with a time of 23:17, placing 17<sup>th</sup> out of 36 girls.

Kolby Pimperton completed the course in 23:57, good for 23<sup>rd</sup> place and Shelby Paulson stopped the clock at 24:51, notching a 28<sup>th</sup> place finish.

As state rolled around the squad was well prepared to take on the course and the competition. The girls' event took place at 11 on a beautiful Saturday morning and with the sound of the gun the pack embarked on their mission. The lady BCXC representatives placed 14<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, and 16<sup>th</sup> as Shaylyn Dille, L. Paulson, and Pimperton crossing the finish line with times of 22:11, 22:16, and 22:42 respectively. S. Paulson grabbed the 25<sup>th</sup> spot, stopping the clock at 23:33. The girls and Coach Garber were ecstatic about their individual times

and the team's final effort that brought home a 2<sup>nd</sup> place trophy.

Although the boys ended up short of the trophy podium, they finished 6<sup>th</sup> out of 18 teams. Robert Gliko was the first runner from the Belt Centerville team ending up taking 11<sup>th</sup> out of 114 runners overall. Gliko ran a time of 18:20. Cole Hepfner stopped the clock at 18:50 with his fastest time of the season and placed 22<sup>nd</sup>. The last to cross the finish line was Asa Jassen at a time of 19:20 and earning a 27<sup>th</sup> finish overall.

The Valley Voice would like bid adieu to senior veteran runner Gliko in completing his final season as a Belt Huskies and wishes him well in his future.

**By: Kolby Pimperton**

---

## Middle School Sports

This past two weeks has spelled the end for the fall middle school sports season. The gridiron squad played their last game on the 9<sup>th</sup> of October against Simms. The middle schoolers won this match up, completing an undefeated season.

Along with football the volleyball girls ended their season at the Middle School tournament that took place two weekends ago. The Huskies played GFCC first and

came away with a win, which kept them in the winner's bracket. Later, the team played Cascade and played hard but ended up losing. The next day the Huskies faced Centerville and came out on top, keeping them alive in the tournament. The Huskies played GFCC and ended up losing that match, ending their season.

The last meet for the cross country runners took place in Townsend on the 13<sup>th</sup> of October.

The two boys that ran in the 1.8 mile race were Clayton Jassen and Mac Hedstrom. Jassen clocked a time of 12:48.8 which earned him of second place, while Hedstrom ran 20:48.9 for 51<sup>st</sup> place in the race.

It was fun and successful season for all, but now it's back to the book for the young Huskies until they have a chance to compete in winter sports.

**By: Natalie Larsen**

---

## Equine Corner



In this edition, the *Valley Voice* features another student at Belt High who loves to spend time with the majestic beasts that used to roam free on the prairies will be showcased. Even though junior Karlee Permann doesn't have a lot of time to spend with horses, she still has a fondness for them.

Permann has been around horses her entire life, at one point owning four of her own. While

most horses around this area are used for ranch work, Permann used hers purely for pleasure. Permann would ride once or twice a week when she was younger, but that time was cut down once she got more involved with school, sports, and friends.

She plans on being around horses in the future, but only for fun and pleasure riding.

**By: Abby Gliko**



## Science Olympiad

This year's first Science Olympiad meeting for the high school and middle school kicked off on Wednesday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>. Twenty-six high schoolers and twenty-seven middle schoolers attended the meeting. Sadly, the school is only allowed to take thirty students, fifteen high schoolers and fifteen middle schoolers, so some students were unable to participate.

On November 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>, thirty students from Belt along with advisors Renzi Horton and Debbie Vogt, will make their way to Bozeman for the annual Science Olympiad competition. Science Olympiad is a science based contest in which students participate in events such as building a mouse

trap, constructing an airplane, or taking a test.

The students will depart Belt School at lunch time to head to Bozeman. When they arrive they will check into the Best Western Inn located in Bozeman where they will be staying. Next, as a Belt Science Olympiad tradition, the students will go to Applebee's. Afterwards the students will head to the Museums of the Rockies for "STEM Fun Night". Students will get the chance to walk around the museum and look at all the exhibits. Then, they students will go to the planetarium and also watch the magic show the museum is presenting.

The next day the kids will

head to Montana State University where they will get ready to start their events. The variety of events and venues will have Belt kids spread across the MSU campus. After their events they will get a chance to go replenish and wait for the rest of the students to get back from their competitions. After all of the contests, they will then depart from the university and head back to Belt.

Last year Belt High School placed 14<sup>th</sup> out of 52 schools and the Belt Middle School placed 24<sup>th</sup> out of 49 teams. Many students placed in the top 15 in their events and Horton and Vogt have high hopes for this year's crop.

By: Livvy Shelton

## Mrs. Graham's Race



Mrs. Megan Graham has spent a lifetime involved with athletics, which is probably required being married to Coach Graham. Her competitive focus has shifted to distance running.

On October 13<sup>th</sup>, Graham and four other runners headed up to Polebridge, Montana, to compete in a 50 ultramarathon. Polebridge is a town of about 130 people in Flathead County about 8 miles south of Canada.

The relay team included: Graham, Katrina Paulson, Jessi Knudson, and Mara Osborne. They completed the race in a stunning time of 6:29.48, averaging 7:48 minutes per mile, good for first place.

The Le Grizz 50-mile Ultramarathon has taken place since 1982, with upwards of 25 teams participating. The race is organized by Pat Caffrey and the Cheetah Herders. The rights to the race were purchased by Polebridge Mercantile. Paulson and Graham both ran for 11.9 miles, while Osborne and Knudson ran 13.1 miles. The team managed to notch the second place finish.

The Valley Voice would like to congratulate all of the member of that team and wish them good luck in future races.

By: Abby Gliko

## Baskets for Bucks!

The Belt teachers and staff have created gift baskets in an effort raise money for scholarships for Belt students pursuing education degrees. This scholarship fund has provided thousands of dollars in tuition assistance for Belt grads over the last several years. Check them out...



Tickets cost \$1 per ticket/ 6 tickets for \$5 and will be available at

Parent-Teacher conferences on Nov. 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>.

Direct donations to the scholarship fund are also welcome. For more information contact Mrs. Debbie Vogt: [dvogt@beltschool.com](mailto:dvogt@beltschool.com)

## National Honor Society

This year the National Honor Society has been taken over by Mrs. Graham after the retirement of former advisor and librarian Mrs. Debra Ray. As of now the NHS consist of twelve members: Ma-Kayla O'Neil, Elyse Adams, Morgan Cooper, Julia Vogt, Abby Gliko, Shelby Paulson, Kolby Pimperton, Keely Drummond, Adelle Meissner, Grace Norstedt, Natalie Larsen, and Hunter Vogl.

The advisors of NHS look for students who have demonstrated academic success throughout high school and maintain a 3.5 GPA or higher. Therefore, these students have managed to meet the requirements throughout their high school careers and were inducted into National Honors Society by writing an essay about what the four pillars of NHS (scholarship, leadership, character, and service) mean to that individual. These students will now use their academics to help them throughout their lives and will volunteer their time to complete service projects throughout the year.

On Wednesday of this past week, the NHS committee had a meeting to start the wheels turning by talking about the service projects and electing senior officers.

The first order of business for the NHS committee was the selection of the senior officers. Adams was elected president, Vogt vice president, Cooper secretary, and O'Neil treasurer.

With that out of the way, the organization conversed about the upcoming events that will take place in the school including the annual Blood Drive and canned food collection initiative, "Can the Cats, Can the Griz". The Blood Drive will take place in the



*National Honor Society-Belt Chapter 2017-18*

school on November 12<sup>th</sup>, from 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. in the library. Some students will sign up to volunteer by checking donors in while others may choose to simply donate their own blood to the Red Cross.

On that same day, Can the Cats, Can the Griz food drive will commence, raising canned foods for the Belt Food Bank. While these two projects will wrap up in November, plans are already in the works for the NHS to take on another group service project later in the year. Stay tuned to see how the Blood Drive and Can the Cats, Can the Griz goes as well as what NHS plans to add to their agenda of service projects.

**By: Kolby Pimperton**

As tournament season rolls around in the Belt Valley there can be a lot to celebrate but that doesn't give anyone the right to drink and drive. 3.4% of people in the state of Montana admittedly reported driving after drinking. This is higher than the national average by nearly two percent. It is time, not only for the people of Montana, but especially those in the Belt community to take responsibility and choose not drive home after a night, or day, of drinking.

DUI's are not just for the influence of alcohol but also any type of drug that inhibits one's ability to drive. This fall it is time to do the right thing and...

## Never Drink and Drive!

This message brought to you by your  
Cascade DUI Task Force





---

## New Paraprofessional Staff

This year, small town Belt, Montana has received a new paraprofessional staff member in the community, Emily Highfill. She is a former Belt graduate from the mighty class of 2017 and because of her love for children, she decided that she wanted to see if teaching is a career that she is interested in pursuing. Her previous experiences with children are not limited in the slightest. She worked at a daycare for two years, was a leader for a nursery at church, and comes from a home with seven siblings.

This caring young woman currently works with the kindergarteners as well as the teachers Mrs. Vandenbos and Mrs. Hoffman. During recess and lunch, however, she works with early kindergarten through fifth grade. Highfill has not fully decided if she wants to commit to teaching at this



point, but she has earned herself an entirely new perspective on this career. She now sees how it can be a “thankless... and not easy job,” but if she does choose to take this career path, then she hopes to inspire students at the same magnitude that her teachers inspired her.

An interesting character, Ms. Highfill has more passions than helping children. While her favorite color is burnt pink, she loves to read in her spare time. Highfill also enjoys painting as well as traveling.

Although she's only been working at the Belt School for a short time, Emily Highfill is proving how bright her future is. Even if she does not choose to teach, she will still go on to do great things with herself.

**By: Sierra Reese**

---

## Where Are They Now?

This week's issue features a 2011 Belt graduate, Noelle Watters. Watters arrived at Belt in 2008, midway into her sophomore year of high school. During her time at Belt, she participated in volleyball and basketball for two years, then managed basketball her senior year. She was also in track for one year and golf for two.

After high school, Watters attended school at Great Falls College-Montana State University (GFC-MSU) for three years. She received an Associates in Arts of Science and Applied Science in Accounting. She also took some online classes through Montana State University Billings (MSUB) for 3 years, where she earned a bachelors in Business Administration with Accounting.

Since attending Belt High, Watters, has had many different occupations. A few of these consist of: working at the Belt Café, being an assistant dispatcher for John Pardun, tutoring and working at a bookstore at GFC-MSU, and as an insurance agent at Western Heritage Insurance. All these jobs led up to her current position as manager at Montana Milling.

Watters has been extremely successful out of high school. One major accomplishment of hers is finding a job that supports her and her fiancé. She has been living a healthier lifestyle and staying active. Watters is engaged to Hunter McDowell. She met



McDowell her junior season of golf and they have been together ever since. Watters and McDowell are to be married tomorrow, October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

Watters has already accomplished a plethora of great things, but she has also set many goals that she has yet to complete. “Plans, goals and accomplishments come and go whether they are done early or later in life.” Watters stated. Within the next five years she wants to start a family with her soon-to-be husband. She wants to keep living life, and making the best of it, “Just supporting each other to the fullest.”

Although Watters has had a full and accomplished life since high school, this is not where she expected to be. She did think that she would still live in Montana and to college here, but also thought about moving back to Wisconsin to be with her family. “I do love all of my family and friends who I’ve met here in Montana. They are such great people and some of the best times are with them,” Watters remarked after being asked what is keeping her here in Montana. Her and her fiancé also own their own house and have set their own roots. “Will we ever move? Most likely not, unless Hunter’s job takes us elsewhere.”

Tune into the next issue as we shed a little light on another past Belt graduate and where they are now.

**By: Tori Shelton**



## Belt Students “Shook” after Earthquake Drill

It's time to drop, cover, and hold on. Last week, an earthquake drill was held at the Belt School. This drill is organized annually by the Great ShakeOut organization. Millions of schools, organizations, and individual people across the world participated in this drill at 10:18 on October 18<sup>th</sup>. Many schools, like Belt, were closed on this day because of MEA/MFT conferences, but still participated in the drill. In Belt, exercises were conducted on October 15<sup>th</sup>.

As a result the students and staff learned that there are only a few steps that need to be taken when an earthquake occurs. The

individual needs to drop down to the ground on their hands and knees, cover their head and neck with an arm, crawl underneath a sturdy table/desk, and hold onto the leg of the shelter. If there are no tables or desktops around, then the person should stay on their hands and knees, but bend over into the fetal position. This protects their vital organs as well as their head and neck saved by both arms and hands. These steps provide the most safety when followed during this specific emergency situation.

In order to prepare for any unforeseen events in a real earthquake, the school also had two

teachers pretend to be incapacitated. Different passageways were also blocked off, so students and staff members had to react by changing their course of action, assuming a teacher or other leader were to get injured and become unable to lead students to safety.

Many Montanans don't realize that there are dozens of active faults beneath the treasure State. Several teachers shared information with their classes about the 1959 Hebgen Lake Quake in Madison County, which created a new lake (Quake Lake) and claimed the lives of 28 people.

**By: Sierra Reese**

## Elementary Basketball

With fall sports for the middle and high school students still in full swing the elementary girls have been playing quite a bit of basketball. The fourth grade girls are competing in the fifth grade division while the fifth grade students are participating in the sixth grade division.

Each of these teams has been playing one or two games with

multiple practices a week since Labor Day.

The two teams both played in the fifth grade division last year with Raenee Mapston, Emerson Hoerner, Kenzie Pogany, Lily Puppe, Jaida Miller, and Kyelie Mass on one team. The other squad is comprised of: Hope Maki, Destinee Goodman, Desirae Goodman, Cadence Graham, Sidney Paulson,

Maren Keaster, Morgan Heitzman, and Carsyn Groux.

There was a tournament a few weekends ago in Fairfield for both the fifth and sixth grade level teams. The teams performed very well and are looking forward to the rest of the years as they continue their practices, games and tournaments.

**By: Natalie Larsen**

## Middle School Field Trip

On October 16<sup>th</sup> the middle school students departed from the school at 8 a.m., as the first bell of the day was ringing, heading to the Old Montana Prison Museum and the Grant-Kohrs Historical Cattle Ranch in Deer Lodge, Montana. All of the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders took this trip along with three middle school teachers, Mrs. Andrea Visocan, Mrs. Debbie Vogt and Mrs. Michelle Stinson.

At the Grant-Kohrs Ranch the students were divided into three different stations. These stations were to either take a guided tour of the main home, experience a chuck wagon talk, or complete a bunk

house scavenger hunt. The Grant-Kohrs Ranch educated the scholars about the history of open-range ranching, the lifestyles and day to day activities of the cowboys, and the intricacies of the largest open-range ranch in Montana. Students also got to sample "cowboy" coffee and examine relics of the 1800's.

Then the bright pupils visited the Old Prison Museum Complex where they had another guided tour. At this time the students traveled to the old Montana State Prison, which taught them about the history and lore of the prison and showed them what life was like for a prisoner during that time. Visocan

added, "These activities made quite the impression on the students." Finally, the pupils visited the Classic Car Auto Museum where students viewed antique cars from every era and learned about the history of the automobile industry.

As the bus rolled into the parking lot of Belt Public Schools, the students were exhausted as they had a long day of learning behind them. The memory of this trip will stay with these middle school students forever. Hopefully, the these pupils had a great time learning as much as they could and experiencing the history of Montana.

**By: Natalie Larsen**

## Bustling Belt



Visitors coming down Castner Street they are greeted by flashing “open” signs, welcoming customers and providing details of what the local business has to offer. Beginning years ago, one of the watering holes on the west side of

Belt’s main drag was called the Black Diamond Bar, later the Black Diamond Supper Club and the Two Bucks Tavern before re-opening under new management as the Diamond Sports Bar and Casino.

Becky and Jason Harmala opened “the Diamond,” as the business has come to be called, on September 14<sup>th</sup>, completing the string of buildings open and in use along Castner Street. The mother-son duo offers customers a choice of two atmospheres. The north half of the building is more a sports bar setting with flat screen TV’s and a bar while the south half features electronic gaming machines.

Open from 11 to midnight

Sunday to Thursday and 11 to 2 a.m. on Friday and Saturday night, the Diamond offers a large variety of pizza toppings ranging from simple cheese to more elaborate combinations. The staff tries to rotate in different kinds and keep the menu fresh with new house-made pizzas. Along with traditional eight slice pizzas, customers are also offered a single slice for \$2.

The Diamond offers great atmosphere to grab a slice of pizza and watch a game on the big screen. J. Harmala also owns the SISU gym which sits just a few doors down and will be the next business featured in the Bustling Belt series.

By: Adelle Meissner

## Focus Groups

Approximately a month ago all of the students in grades 9-12 took the annual My Voice survey, which is used to help the staff at Belt School make corrections throughout the school to give the students a better learning experience. During Husky Time this past week, a period of twenty minutes between lunch and fifth period, each day randomly selected students from each grade met. The girls convened in Mrs. Horton’s room while the boys got together in Mr. Hoyer’s room. This annual survey has been conducted since the 2010-2011 school, so eight years of data is there for the teachers and staff to reflect on. This is very beneficial as it gives the staff of the Belt High School comparisons to years in the past in order to make any changes needed within the school.

The students participating in these meetings are seniors: Julia Vogt, Brendan Wing, Faith Hawthorne, Robbie Gliko, Morgan Cooper, Matt Dollenger and MaKayla O’Neil, juniors:

Brooke Schraner, Anthony Wall, Maggie Andrews, Andrew Stice, Natalie Larsen, Adam Langston, Kolby Pimperton and Gavin Roberts. The Sophomores who were within the focus groups were Cierra Kelly, Livvy Shelton, Sabrina Wing, Sierra Reese, Aidan McDaniel, Zach Buskirk, T.J. Hennes and Jason Wall with the freshmen being Raily Gliko, Brady Drummond, Shanae Johnson, Maddie Osterman, Kaiden Marquis, Braeden Moon, Maverick Black and Corbyn Nebel.

The students spend these days going through survey questions and results. The students then discuss these results and how the teachers, staff and administrators can make the learning environment better for the students and in many cases better for teachers as well. This really gives the teachers feedback on what they may need to change and also gives the students the chance to express their thoughts and concerns to the teachers in order to make any necessary changes.

By: Natalie Larsen

## Close Up Fundraisers

Show Your  
Husky Spirit



**Annual Fruit Sales**  
**October 30<sup>th</sup> –**  
**November 16<sup>th</sup>**

**Foam Dogbone Spirit Stick**

**Roll-Up Fleece**



**Maroon and Gold Husky Beads**  
**\$1 each or 3 for \$2**

For additional information, please contact Mrs. Gliko or Mrs. Meissner at the school.



## New Staff

This year, Belt has gained a Title I staff member along with all the other excellent staff acquired at Belt Public Schools. Her name is Nicole Hedstrom and she comes from a long string of Belt graduates including: her mom (Kim Wichman), all of her sisters, her husband (Travis Hedstrom), and her mother-in-law (Betty Hedstrom). Her step-father, Jim Wichman, also taught at Belt for several years, spending some of his hours in the high school math room. Her children, Tara, Mac, and Kate, all currently attend Belt school and continue to lengthen the string of family members that have graced the halls at Belt.

After graduating from Belt, Mrs. Hedstrom continued her education at Montana State University earning her Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary



Education. Prior to coming back to Belt, Mrs. Hedstrom also taught for a time at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic School and Holy Spirit. Currently, the Hedstrom clan has their hands full with the framing of a house with a daylight basement that lies adjacent to the homeplace just before the town limits of Raynesford.

Hedstrom also said that what she is most looking forward to while teaching here, in Belt, is “helping my [her] students reach their full potential and to learn new teaching strategies from the great teachers that I am working with.” Without a shortage of teachers to mentor Hedstrom, she will definitely affect several various students throughout her career and will improve their abilities in learning as well as hers in teaching.

**By: Sierra Reese**

## Senior Spotlight

This week’s issue focus on its next senior, Morgan Cooper. Cooper came to Belt from Eagle Point, Oregon in 2013, her 7<sup>th</sup> grade year. Although moving schools can difficult, especially in your teens, Cooper was fast to fit right in to the Belt Community. Prior to attending Belt, Cooper attended two different elementary schools, in Leadore Idaho, and in Eagle Point, Oregon. Cooper went to middle school at Eagle Point Middle School, Eagle Point, Oregon, and now attends high school in Belt.

Cooper’s favorite grade was fourth grade at Eagle Rock Elementary. Cooper quoted “I liked fourth grade because it was the easiest and most enjoyable.” Her favorite school subject, math, is also taught by her favorite teacher, Mrs. Graham. Cooper states “I like math because I’m either right or wrong. No in-between.” She also stated that Mrs. Graham is her favorite teacher because she makes math easier and is understanding.

Moving schools can difficult, especially in your teens, but Cooper was fast to fit right in to the Belt Community. Cooper has excelled in



many extra circular activates and school clubs. She has participated in youth leadership, National Honors Society, volleyball, basketball and track all throughout high school. She has been on varsity and has lettered in all three sports since her freshman year. Cooper stated that wining a state title in both volleyball and basketball, her sophomore year, are her favorite memories from her times here at Belt.

**“#HUSKYNATION”**

After high school, Cooper plans on going to college at either Rocky Mountain College in Billings, or Montana State University in Bozeman (MSU). “I would want to go to Rocky for an athletic scholarship, if not I will probably end going to MSU.” Cooper wants to pursue a profession somewhere in the medical field. “I’m not sure what exactly what, but I know I want to do medical.” Cooper also stated that when she leaves Belt, she’ll miss having a supportive community.

Tune into next *Valley Voice* issue as we shine a little light on the next senior, Grace Davison.

**By: Tori Shelton**

Picture Puzzle

Which varsity volleyball player has crazy hops?



Tune into next issue to find out.

Sudoku

	8			4	5	6	7	
	3		1		6			
	6	2					5	
		5	4			7		1
4		6			1			9
8	2			6				
			5				9	6
9	1				2		4	7
	5		7			3		

Last Issue Answer Key

5	3	4	6	7	8	9	1	2
6	7	2	1	9	5	3	4	8
1	9	8	3	4	2	5	6	7
8	5	9	7	6	1	4	2	3
4	2	6	8	5	3	7	9	1
7	1	3	9	2	4	8	5	6
9	6	1	5	3	7	2	8	4
2	8	7	4	1	9	6	3	5
3	4	5	2	8	6	1	7	9

Calendar of Events

- 10/26 10:00 a.m. District Volleyball @ Great Falls Central Catholic
- 10/29 Child Find (Early Kindergarten Screening) in Library
- 10/29 End of First Quarter
- 10/30 Picture Retakes
- 11/1—11/3 Divisional Volleyball @ Belt
- 11/4—11/5 Youth Days in Great Falls
- 11/5—11/6 Parent/Teacher Conferences
- 11/6 Election Day!
- 11/7 5:00 p.m. Girl Scouts Meeting
- 11/8—11/10 State Volleyball @ Bozeman

Divisional-State Volleyball Preview

With the district volleyball tournament being contested yesterday and today, the Lady Huskies are looking for a berth at the divisional tournament. Two more wins later today would garner a trip to divisional and the girl's 11<sup>th</sup> district title in a row. Even if they fall short of the district championship, they can still advance if they finish in the top two places. The Northern Divisional Volleyball Tournament will be hosted in the Belt gymnasium on the first three days of November. The top two from divisional's will advance on to the State Class C Tournament in Bozeman on November 8<sup>th</sup> through the 10<sup>th</sup>.

While the girls are taking nothing for granted, local volleyball fans can't help but look ahead to the ensuing tournament season. While nothing is guaranteed, volleyball fans can expect the Simms Lady Tigers, Fort Benton Lady Longhorns, and the Lady Huskies to field the strongest teams at the next level. Although Simms and Fort Benton are both tough teams, each was defeated during regular season by the Huskies. Another 7C dark horse could be the Central Mustangs.

Looking beyond to the state level, Coach Christine Gondeiro had a chance to scout possible competition that will vie for state hardware. According to Coach Gondeiro, she is expecting the competition be of high caliber this year. From the west, traditional powers Ennis and Gardiner look to be worthy contenders this year. The Huskies tangled with both Ennis and Gardiner at the state tournament last year, losing to a pair to Ennis but defeating Gardiner twice. One team that hasn't made an appearance at the state tournament in the last two years is the south's Manhattan Christian. Gondeiro has high hopes that the Lady Huskies, along with their northern division counterpart will do very well.

By: Abby Gliko

Boosters

This year's Northern C Divisional Volleyball Tournament will be hosted in the Belt Gymnasium on Thursday, Friday, Saturday, the first three days of November. The Belt Boosters are desperately looking for parents and other community members to volunteer to work concessions for the event. Anyone interested is encouraged to contact Jill Gliko at [jgliko@beltschool.com](mailto:jgliko@beltschool.com) or 277-3351.

By: Abby Gliko