



# The Valley Voice

Belt Public Schools



30 November 2018

Volume 10 Issue 7

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## Shakespeare in the Schools

Yesterday at 8:20 in the morning, there was a Shakespeare performance in the Belt School gym. The Shakespeare in the Parks organization came to the school and acted out *Julius Caesar* in front of an audience of about 150 people. After their performance, the actors held workshops that took place around the school.

*Julius Caesar* is based on the actual actions of Julius Caesar leading up to the Ides of March in 44 B.C. Caesar rose to power and even though there were several people who adored him and were completely loyal, there were still some individuals who questioned his ways. A few of these specific people were: Brutus, Cassius, and Casca. These were the main conspirators in the assassination of Caesar. Once Caesar was dead, war broke out between those who supported those who opposed him. Ultimately Brutus and Cassius committed suicide in order to preserve their honor and Octavia rose to power.

Shakespeare in the Schools is an outreach program sponsored by Montana State University in Bozeman.

The play was a historically based tale that was organized by Belt High's English teacher, Jeffrey Ross. All of the Belt middle school and high school students attended the performance. Many students expressed how much they loved getting the opportunity to watch this presentation and even participated in workshops that were held shortly after the show. In total there were four workshops: (1) The Public: Persuasion Through Art, (2) Ambition: Thirsting for Power, (3) Revolution: Violence and its Consequences, and Governing Between Ancient Rome and (4) Modern America from the Local to the National on the World Stage. Each of these seminars were set up to teach and instill new ideas.

Shakespeare in the Schools is an annual recurrence at the Belt School. The troupe performs at fifty schools and audiences around the Treasure State each year. This tradition continues to spread culture to each school they visit.

**By: Sierra Reese**

## Volleyball Champions

The Lady Husky volleyball season came to an end on November 10<sup>th</sup>, with tears and smiles apparent through Brick Breeden Fieldhouse in Bozeman. For the second time in three years, the Belt girls captured the top prize at the state Class C tournament. Along the way the girls won four out of five matches and finished the weekend off with an amazing comeback.

On Thursday, the girls tasted their first competition when they faced the Tri-City Lady Titans, the second

seed from the south. Using this game to exorcise the jitters out and acclimate to the feeling of state, the girls won in four sets. The scores of the sets were 25-21, 25-15, 22-25, and 25-15. Abby Gliko, Kyelie Marquis, Adelle Meissner, and Shelby Paulson all contributed with one ace, while Paulson also added 4 blocks to the stats. Meissner had 31 digs, which translated into 40 assists by Kolby Pimperton. Marquis also led the team with 15 kills.

*Cont. Pg. 2*

Volleyball *(Continued)*

After their first win, the girls were anxious to play Ennis in the revenge match of the year. With last year's state championship defeat still in their mind, the girls wanted to avenge that loss. The maroon and gold defeated the Lady Mustangs in 5 sets with scores of 25-21, 19-25, 17-25, 25-13, and 17-15. Leading the team with 49 assists was Pimperton, who also had 3 aces. Marquis dominated the court with 21 kills, 29 digs, and 4 blocks. Paulson also dispensed 4 blocks. By winning this match, the girls were propelled into the semi-finals.



The Lady Huskies would face a familiar foe in the semi-final match, in the form of the Simms Lady Tigers. After a pep talk about mental toughness by Coach Christine Gondeiro, the players came out and swept Simms in three sets. The scores were 25-21, 25-14, and 25-23. Meissner, Brooke Schraner, and Paulson tallied one ace apiece, with Paulson also leading with 3 blocks. Cooper, Marquis, and Meissner all picked up 26 balls, while Pimperton notched 30 assists. Cooper also led the team with 10 kills.



Heading into the championship game Belt was set to face the Bridger Lady Scouts, who worked their way up through the loser bracket. Coming out flat, the Lady Huskies lost in four sets with scores of 19-25, 18-25, 25-19, and 25-16. Gliko, Meissner, and Pimperton all fired off one ace, while Pimperton also had 35 assists. Cooper led the team with 33 digs, while Gliko killed 13 balls. Paulson ruled the net with 8 blocks. The loss forced an "if necessary" game, since both teams had only experienced one loss in the true double elimination tournament.

After a thirty minute recuperation period, the girls hit the court once again, determined to come out on top. Riding the momentum from an 8 set winning streak, Bridger won the first two sets. With their backs against the wall in the decisive match, the girls knew they had to win the next three sets. After realizing they wanted the win more the Scouts, they found the fire within and won the next three sets in a miraculous comeback. The scores of the match were 14-25, 21-25, 25-22, 25-17, and 15-12. Leading the team with 32 digs was Meissner, while Pimperton had 50 assists. Schraner ran the net with 4 blocks, while Marquis had 23 kills. Pimperton also had 4 aces throughout.



The tourney capped an eight year run to the state tournament which has included two championships, three second place trophies, and one fourth place finish. The Valley Voice would like to congratulate the Lady Huskies on their amazing season, and wishes them good luck in future competitions.

**By: Abby Gliko**

## Honor Choir

Last Monday and Tuesday a group of students attended the honor band and choir of 2018 in Cut Bank, Montana. The attendees who represented the Belt High school were: Rosalyn Kenner (freshman, soprano 2), Brayden Moon (freshman, bass 2), Corbyn Nebel (freshman, percussion), Sierra Reese (sophomore, soprano 2), Zach Buskirk (sophomore, saxophone 1), Adam Langston (junior, tuba), Andrew Stice (junior, tenor 2), Charity Highfill (junior, soprano 1), Grace Davison (senior, alto 1), and MaKayla O'Neil (senior, soprano 1), all of which were accompanied by their music teacher, Jonathan Sutton.

In order to make it into honor band and choir, the students had to make audition tapes and then they were chosen whether or not they made it in. The competition was vigorous. A slew of students auditioned but not all were chosen. Those who were picked had outstanding singing or playing abilities. The myriad of honored individuals practiced the pieces that they were given for several hours with a lunch and dinner break in between. They made one performance Tuesday night, showing off their talents and everything that they had learned from the past days of practicing.

While the Belt students were down there, they went to the Glacier County Historical Museum, which

added a historical element to their trip. The students were able to see two museum exhibits, an oil worker's house, an oil derrick, a 1917 schoolhouse, a 1980s caboose, and a replica of a homestead house. The tour took place right before the students began their journey as part of the honor band or choir.

Honor band and choir is a phenomenal accomplishment for students. All Belt students who were chosen have great skills and will most likely continue on in the program if they can. In the future, many more gifted students from Belt High will attend this event as their talent continues to cultivate.

In just his second year in the Belt School system, band and choir teacher Jon Sutton continues to add to the legacy of musical excellence in the valley. He added that he appreciates the support of the staff and community and invites all to attend the Christmas Concert scheduled for this coming Tuesday in the Belt School Gymnasium. Sutton also is a member of the Great Falls Symphony Orchestra.

**By: Sierra Reese**



## Geography Bee

Gymnasium on Wednesday November 14<sup>th</sup>. Twenty-nine 4<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> graders gathered to battle for the top prize in front of a crowd of 200.

The contenders each got a shot to display excellence in their geography skills, and eighth grader Tara Hedstrom emerged as the champion.

Each individual was provided the opportunity to answer six questions during the preliminary round, being awarded a point for correct answers. Eleven of the twenty-nine competitors survived that round, only to have that number reduced to the final three for a series of championship questions. The last three standing were Hedstrom, Josiah Triplett, and Reese Paulson.

In the championship round, each competitor was asked a series

of questions until he or she got two wrong and was eliminated. The first to succumb was Paulson leaving Hedstrom and Triplett to vie for the title as the tension mounted. Each was then asked the three final questions, and Hedstrom got one of three right to secure her victory.

Hedstrom has already begun studying for the next level of competition. She must complete an online test which will be judged against results from across Montana. The state champions will eventually gather in Washington D.C. to see who is best in the U.S. The Geography Bee is conducted by the National Geographic Society and Belt students have taken part in it for the last twenty years.

The answer to the final question is hidden somewhere in this edition of the Valley Voice.

**By: Kolby Pimperton**



*"February 2019 marks the start of the Alpine World Ski Championships. This competition will be held in which country that is the most populous in Scandinavia?"*

The answer to that question turned out to be the winning response in the annual school-wide Geography Bee held in the Belt

## Girls Basketball Preview

On November 15<sup>th</sup>, the Belt Lady Huskies opened practice and the 2018-19 season commenced. The team parted with last year's seniors: Dani Urick, Adrian Malek, Ryan Schraner, and Briana Wall, leaving Morgan Cooper as the only returning starter. Coach Graham opened practiced with seventeen eager athletes who will represent Belt throughout the winter.

After last season ending earlier than the girls expected, the Lady Huskies are excited to get back to work. They are set to start their year off at the Coyote Classic Tip-Off Tournament in Shelby on the 7<sup>th</sup> of December against the Florence-Carlton Falcons. They will play at 2:30 that Friday and again at 2:30 on Saturday against Bigfork. The junior varsity will also compete at the Toole County season opener.

When conference play begins on December

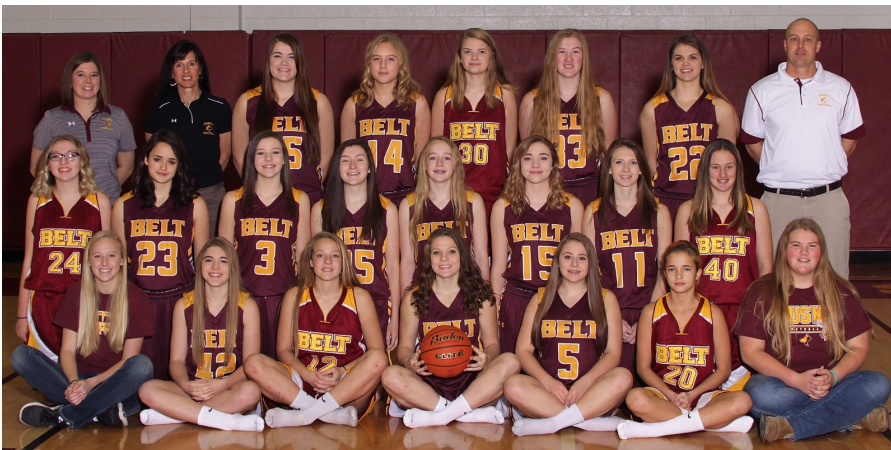
14<sup>th</sup>, the 8C District race could be a battle for the ages. The Tri-Cities Titans graduated two seniors and will have all of their starters back this season. Last year they advanced to the divisional tournament and finished fourth in the competition. Another team that the girls are going to look out for is the Winnett/Grass Range Rams who finished second at state last year and are returning two starters. The Lady Outlaws of Roy/Winnifred will be out for blood as they did not get a chance to advance to the divisional tournament and are full of potential. Each of the teams in the 8C District is looking for a shot at the state tournament this year. The regular season runs through February 8<sup>th</sup> when the district tournament will be held at Fergus County High followed by divisional and state which will both use the Four Season Arena as their venue.

Beyond the district level talented teams around

the state include: Box Elder, Ennis, Twin Bridges, Fairview, and Gardiner. March is a long ways away and the Lady Huskies hope to still be standing when the final eight gather for the ultimate battle.

Last night the ladies got to showcase their talent at the Maroon and Gold Scrimmage. The Valley Voice will keep the community updated as they follow the team throughout their season.

**By: Kolby Pimperton**



## Boys' Basketball Preview

On November 15<sup>th</sup>, a couple dozen Husky hopefuls hit the hardwood with hopes of donning the maroon and gold for 2018-19 basketball season. The Huskies bid adieu to last year's seniors Brayden Haugrose, Antonio Heaton, Trey Heitzman, Troy Hennes, and Keagan Stroop who led the team to a second place finish at both the 8C District and the Northern C Divisional tournaments, success that the team hopes to build on this year. While the final roster is not yet set, the team returns "impact" players and seniors Robbie Gliko and Brendan Wing.

After a trip to state last year despite going into divisionals as an underdog, it became apparent to head coach Kyle Paulson that "as good as the boys' defense has been, it is essential that they increase offensive production in order to be competitive this season."

Regarding his goals for the season, Coach Paulson commented that he would like to "teach the

boys to be great teammates as well as putting a competitive team on the floor and continuing the proud tradition of Belt basketball."

According to Coach Paulson, the biggest challenge the Huskies will face this year is to establish cohesiveness. The 8C district promises to be very balanced and competitive this year, dictating the challenge to Belt to play together in order to succeed.

After a few weeks of practice, the boys will be headed to a pre-season Coyote Classic Tournament in Shelby on December 7<sup>th</sup>. The tournament includes both girls and boys basketball as well as both varsity and junior varsity games. The varsity is set to play at 1:00 p.m. on Friday against Florence and at 7:00 p.m. against Cut Bank on Saturday while the JV will play at 10:00 a.m. against Malta and Florence at 2:30 p.m. on Saturday.

**By: Adelle Meissner**

## PIR Day

Last week on November 14<sup>th</sup>, the Belt School had an early out. For students, this day was just another day to enjoy their own activities or catch up on school work. For teachers, however, the rest of their day consisted of them examining another teacher from one of the Great Falls schools to see what methods they used.

Several students around the school have reported that they went home and watched Netflix for multiple hours on end. The shortened Wednesday was also used to complete homework that has piled up or to get ahead of the game. Anna Pethel, sophomore, stated that all

she wanted to do during this break was “watch Netflix.” This extra few hours off gave the young pupils a chance to rest their brain as well as pushing their minds to the limits.

Although this day seems like a break to a student or parent, teachers were still hard at work to improve their teaching skills. The Belt pre-k to high school teachers visited Roosevelt Elementary, East Middle School, and Great Falls High School and sat in an hour long class and completed an evaluated the classroom environment.

Specifically, they were tasked to watch how the teachers interacted with the students, their

teaching methods, and how the teacher responded to the different learning needs of students. Anything that had been examined was used to implement new ideas into the Belt School System.

PIR stands for Pupil Instruction Related activities and last Wednesday’s activities were part of the ongoing effort to provide professional development for Belt’s teaching staff. Students were relieved to have some extra time on their hands to embark on their own personal agendas. Overall, The PIR day was extremely beneficial to teachers and students alike.

**By: Sierra Reese**

## Science Olympiad

Monday, November 19<sup>th</sup>, thirty-one Belt students ventured down to Bozeman to compete in the annual Science Olympiad where they battled against students from all around Montana. The students departed the school at noon and were on their way. The bus stopped in Helena for the kids to stretch their legs and get something to eat or drink.

When the Belt Huskies finally reached their destination, they settled in to Best Western Grand Tree. After that, they headed to Applebee’s to replenish before they headed to the Museum of the Rockies where they toured the exhibits, went to the planetarium, and watched a magic show.

The next morning the stu-

dents awoke bright and early to eat breakfast and head to the University. Once the students reached campus, they dispersed in all different direction to get to their events that were spread out from 9 to 11:30. After several hours of competition, the tired competitors loaded up the bus and headed home Tuesday afternoon.

Five high school groups, and five middle school groups placed in their events. Keely Drummond and Hunter Vogel took the top prize in “Write it Do it”. Asa Jassen got third with his “Boomilever”. Shelby Paulson and Cole Hepfner grabbed seventh in “Mission Possible”. Ahmia Lords and Brady Drummond placed ninth in “Thermodynamics” and William

Franzen also placed ninth in “Sound of Music”.

For the middle schoolers, Clayton Jassen and Reese Paulson were second best in “Boomilever”. Molly Tingey and Chloe Feit placed eighth in “Fossils”. Memphis Black and Bridger Vogel secured seventh in “Roller Coaster” and Bridger Vogel and Richie Andrews also placed seventh in “Write it Do it”. Chloe Feit and Tara Hedstrom rounded out the scoring with a ninth place finish in “Heredity”.

Overall all the Belt Huskies did a great job and brought back some hardware. Mrs. Horton and Mrs. Vogt were proud of the student’s hard work and effort and plan on returning next year.

**By: Livvy Shelton**

## Fall Athletic Awards Banquet Announcement

As the fall sports season has come to a close, the coaches and community would like to acknowledge all the hard work and success of the athletes. Letters and participation certificates will be awarded for cross country, volley-

ball, and football, along with individual awards for each sport.

The banquet will take place Monday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, at 6:00 p.m. in the school cafeteria. Girls are expected to bring salad while the boys are expected to provide the desserts

for the meal. Belt Boosters will be providing chicken for the main course. There will be a booster meeting to follow and everyone is welcome to attend and contribute to athletics in the valley.

**By: Abby Gliko**

## Equine Corner

Adelle Meissner has been around animals her entire life, but horses are a particular favorite of hers. Since Meissner is a “part time rancher” when she stays with her mom, horses have a major effect on her way of life.

Meissner’s life has consisted of these four legged beasts for as long as she can remember, which means there were a lot of horses in her life. At this point, Meissner has “too many to keep track of, but at least 10 horses.” Today Meissner’s main mounts consist of Elvis and



Apples, and of course, Buttercup the bucking pony. The horses are used mostly for working cows, with the exception of Buttercup. Meissner uses him for the children and “to buck off my friends or people I don’t like.” Horses appear to be in Meissner’s future, but only when she comes home to help her parents on her “part time ranch.”

Tune in to the next issue of the Valley Voice for the touching tales of more horse-lovers in Belt.

**By: Abby Gliko**

## Expecting Educators

The Belt School family will soon be increasing with two of the teachers expecting children, Jessica Tillman and Dayna VandenBos.

Tillman’s due date is December 20<sup>th</sup> but she claims that she is expecting closer to the 13<sup>th</sup>. Her bundle of joy is a boy and her and her husband decided that they wanted to name him Noah James. For her maternity leave, she intends to take of De-



cember 12<sup>th</sup> through March 14<sup>th</sup>.

VandenBos is having a girl, whose name will be Brinley Jean VandenBos. The expected due date is January 1, 2019. She plans on taking December 21<sup>st</sup> through April 1<sup>st</sup> off, during that time a substitute teacher will fill in.

Congratulations to both members of the staff!

**By: Sierra Reese**



## Breakfast with Santa Tomorrow

Get up bright and early tomorrow...have a hearty meal...visit Santa...and Support a Great Cause!



Saturday, Dec 1<sup>st</sup> 2018  
Belt School Cafeteria  
8:00-11:00 a.m.

### Many Activities for All Ages

The Belt Swimming Pool is a fantastic local resource for the valley, but it needs your help to stay afloat. Tomorrow morning you have a chance to benefit the entire community, especially the young people in Belt.

Breakfast cost-\$5 per person, plus additional costs for activities.

Also featuring a Silent Auction!

Wide assortment of gifts and cards

See the items and a list of generous sponsors at [facebook.com/beltpool](https://facebook.com/beltpool).

## National Honor Society

National Honor Society is used to recognize exceptional students but also to challenge them to create positive change within their community. Each member undertakes a service project that benefits the Honor Society member and the community at large. The students design their own project with the help of NHS advisor Mrs. Graham.

Shelby Paulson and Adelle Meissner have chosen to do a project to reach out to veterans and active duty service men and women around Belt. The two selected this task because they felt that as Veter-

ans Day was coming up they need to make a difference in the lives of veterans. They were inspired by local veteran Luke Urick's Montana Veterans Program.

Their project will take about two months to implement and they want to get the community involved. Individuals interested in participating should write letters to veterans (general or to a specific vet) and then give them to Meissner or Paulson who will distribute the letters to the recipients. By embarking on this project the two have learned to show appreciation, rec-

ognize sacrifice, and that a little goes a long way.

The service projects that each individual are going through are teaching the students how to become better men and women. As they start their projects none of them know what is going to happen but each individual looks forward to what they are providing for their community. In subsequent issues the Valley Voice will provide insight to other service projects being performed by National Honor Society members.

**By: Kolby Pimperton**

## Wrestling

With the end of falls sports season, the Belt High wrestling team got going the last couple of weeks. This is the 12<sup>th</sup> year of the program and the participants are hoping for much success during the 2018-2019 season. The first day of practice was Thursday the 15<sup>th</sup> and the first meet is scheduled to take place early in December.

Coach Tim Lords will miss the contribution of Nolan Myrstol, who finished his senior year successfully as he qualified for the

state meet and represented the Belt Huskies very well at the event in Billings.

Returning junior Brandon Wall had a great season last year as he qualified for the state meet. Matt Dollenger did not make it to state last year, his first year on the team but he is very excited for this season as it is his goal to make it to the state tournament.

This year's roster includes the two upperclassmen mentioned previously along with freshmen

Corbyn Nebel. Coach Lords hopes the small squad can do big things in the weeks to come. The state meet is slated for February 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>.

This season the Husky wrestlers will undoubtedly perform very well and will hopefully, have several successes at all of their meets. The *Valley Voice* wishes these athletes luck and skill this season and expects them to make the entire community proud while out on the mat.

**By: Natalie Larsen**

With the roads getting increasingly more icy and even more dangerous it is very important for everyone to decide not to drink and drive this winter. When deciding to go out for an evening of fun it is always the safest to make a plan in order to get home safely. Drinking and driving is a major problem in the state of Montana and the problem only gets worse as the years go on.

Sixty seven percent of all accidents involve some sort of alcohol or drug influence. DUI's are not just limited to alcohol but any other drug as well. This holiday season make sure to always make a plan and...

## Never Drink and Drive!

This message brought to you by your  
Cascade DUI Task Force

The winning Geography Bee answer was Sweden.



## Principal's Report

With a quarter of the school year already in the books, things are in full swing at Old Belt High. In the gym, fall sports of volleyball, cross country, and football have given way to boys' and girls' basketball as well as wrestling. Among the fall festivities were middle school field trips aimed at gaining knowledge about the state and community as well as honoring the country's veterans at the annual Veterans Day Program.

On October 15<sup>th</sup>, the Statewide Earthquake Drill was conducted and followed by a building evacuation drill in which randomly selected teachers were presented with emergency situations. Shortly after the safety drills, on November 12<sup>th</sup>, the National Honor Society scholars sponsored a Red Cross Blood Drive. The drive is an annual group service project that the group puts together with the help of their supervisor, Mrs. Megan Graham.

More of the high school students were involved with service projects on November 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> when the youth leadership members attended Youth Days in Great

Falls. On Sunday afternoon, the group participated in leadership classes and on Monday they were sent out to complete service learning projects around the Great Falls community. High school students also went to Bozeman for the Science Olympiad competition on November 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>.

Thirteen Belt High students were selected by audition for the North Central Honor Band and Choir. The students left for Cut Bank on November 26<sup>th</sup> for a day of practice and returned after their performance on November 27<sup>th</sup>. Seven band members and two choir members were selected from the Husky ensembles. Belt's younger musicians were showcased on November 12<sup>th</sup> at the annual Veterans Day Program. Matt Dollenger delivered his winning Voice of Democracy speech and Reese Paulson presented his first place Patriot's Pen essay. Mrs. Visocan and Mr. Sutton also performed a duet in conjunction with the elementary students' musical performance.

The third graders studied Belt history and met Marilyn Enderson at the Belt Museum for a

presentation as well as stopping at City Hall to visit with clerk-treasurer Lynn Schilling. The seventh graders were visited by Bruce Auchley from Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks. Auchley taught the students about identifying fish in Montana using his "Hooked on Fishing" program. On October 16<sup>th</sup> the middle schoolers visited the Grant-Kohr Ranch National Historic Site and the Old Montana Prison Museum complex in Deerlodge for the annual rewards field trip.

Yesterday, the school gathered in the gym for Shakespeare in the Schools presentation of Julius Caesar. This afternoon, the fourth graders will be conducting their annual ginger bread house construction. Coming up this weekend are Breakfast with Santa and the Holiday 3 on 3 tournament on Saturday. The following Monday marks second quarter midterm and the fall athletic banquet will be at 6:00 p.m. Tuesday night at 7:00 p.m. will be the EK-4 Christmas Concert. With the school year well underway, Belt School is eager to continue the year's successes.

**By: Adelle Meissner**



## Belt Theatre Christmas Ornaments For Sale

The creation of local artist, Sheree Nelson, these beautiful ornaments will accent any holiday display. Pick up one for yourself or as a gift from the following locations: Civic Center in the Planning and Community Development Office and Events, the City Library, Gallery 16, the History Museum, Cascade County Library, Belt Valley Grocery, Jack's Beans, and Belt Town Hall.

Only \$15.00

Proceeds will benefit the  
Historic Preservation Advisory Commission



Veterans Day Programs



November 12<sup>th</sup> marked the beloved Veterans Day Program that takes place annually. Mrs. Twyla Jones was the organizer of this year’s program and put together one of the best shows performed to date. The beginning of the concert featured the National Anthem sung beautifully by MaKayla O’Neil. After this the performance proceeded with Mrs. Kathie Metrione and Mrs. Lori Swanson doing a roll call

of all of the veterans in attendance of the program. Then the elementary students honored the veterans by singing a few songs. Then the students began speaking and reciting facts about the American flag. After more songs, Reese Paulson, the winner of the Patriots Pen Essay contest, recited his speech.

Paulson’s speech was centered on the prompt, “Why I Honor the American Flag.” The speech was wonderfully written and the crowd seemed very impressed by Paulson’s thought and opinions. Following this the younger students honored the veterans once again with several musical pieces. Next was the recitation of the high school Voice of Democracy (VOD) winner, Matt Dollenger. The prompt of this year’s VOD speeches was

“Why My Vote Matters.”

Once again the younger elementary students beautifully sang American songs, and to conclude the concert Mrs. Andrea Visocan sang the veteran’s version of “Hallelujah” by Sailor Jerri. Visocan sincerely impressed the crowd even bringing some to tears.

This year’s Veterans Day Program was absolutely fantastic with the students and teachers receiving much praise for their beautiful performances. The annual Veterans Day concert is a grand celebration for the veterans in our community and around the country. The members of the community and veterans in attendance enjoyed the concert very much and can’t wait for next year’s program.

**By: Natalie Larsen**

2018-2019 Belt High Basketball Schedule

Date	Opponent	Location
December 7	Florence	Shelby
December 8	Bigfork	Shelby
December 14	Winnett-Grass Range	Winnett
December 15	Centerville	Belt
December 20	Fairfield	Fairfield
December 21	Roy-Winifred	Winifred
January 3	Conrad	Belt
January 5	Tri-Cities	Hobson
January 10	Geraldine-Highwood	Highwood
January 11	Denton-Geyser-Stanford	Belt
January 18	Winnett-Grass Range	Belt
January 19	Centerville	Centerville
January 25	Roy-Winifred	Belt
January 26	Fairfield	Belt
February 1	Conrad	Conrad
February 2	Tri-Cities	Belt
February 7	Highwood-Geraldine	Belt
February 8	Denton-Geyser-Stanford	Stanford
February 14-16	District	Lewistown
February 20-24	Divisional	Great Falls
February 28-March 2	State	Great Falls



Basketball season tips off next weekend for both boys and girls at Belt High. Game times will vary throughout the season, but both squads will play their varsity competitions on the dates noted. Junior varsity contest will vary, as sometimes they will be partial games due to team size. Good Luck to the Maroon and Gold teams as they hit the hardwood this winter!

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## Bustling Belt

Originally constructed as the Farmer and Miner State Bank, City Hall is nestled between SISU gym and the Belt Valley Realty office. While the building started as a bank and currently serves as City Hall it was also, at one time or another, a library as well. Built in 1916, the eighteenth century building shares a wall with the gym next door, meaning that the two small businesses literally rely on each other.

In the transition between bank and city hall, the building underwent some internal renovations. The interior of the bank featured marble walls; however during the renovations some of the marble was

lost. The two rooms in the front of the building used to be home to the president's office and the safety deposit room and the room in the back which was previously where the machines were is now the city council's meeting room.

City hall is open Monday through Thursday from 9:00 to 4:00 and Friday from 9:00 to noon without closing for a lunch hour; however the door of the building features a 24 hour slot through which residents may pay their utility bills.

Town council meetings are held in the back room of the hall on the first and third Wednesday of every month at 7:00 p.m.. Agendas

for the meetings are posted at City Hall, the Post Office, Belt Valley Bank, and the kiosk next to Montana Ranch Insurance 48 hours in advance of a meeting. Anyone who wants to be put on the agenda may call City Hall at 277-3621 by Monday morning two days prior to a regularly scheduled meeting.

Town council meetings are open to the public and community members are encouraged to attend. The next regularly scheduled meeting is December 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.. The next issue of the Valley Voice will feature Jack's Beans, the local coffee shop.

**By: Adelle Meissner**

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## Thanksgiving

With the students getting out for break on the 21<sup>st</sup>, Thanksgiving was on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of November. The two-day week was refreshing for the students as many were ecstatic for the five-day break. Some students traveled over the long weekend, while others hosted Thanksgiving at their house and enjoyed the company of family along with endless amounts of food.

Thanksgiving has been celebrated for centuries in America with

the origin being the "First Thanksgiving" where the European settlers, from England, feasted with Native Americans after their first harvest in 1621. The celebration was first recognized during the presidency of George Washington and proclaimed a holiday that was originally just a harvest festival. Until Abraham Lincoln recognized it as a federal holiday, Thanksgiving was celebrated on and off as a federal holiday. Since then, Thanks-

giving has been celebrated annually on the third Thursday of November. While food is a big part of the holiday, it also a time to be thankful.

The *Valley Voice* hopes everyone had a splendid holiday and enjoyed all the family time. With Thanksgiving over, the holiday season began with many people putting up their Christmas trees. As weather turns cooler, the Holiday season would warm many hearts.

**By: Natalie Larsen**

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## Potential Predator

On November 6<sup>th</sup> April Wells, an employee of Belt Public School, found a dead deer between the maintenance shed and the outdoor concession building. Fish, Wildlife, and Parks (FWP) officials are trying to determine if a mountain lion was responsible, and while that has not been confirmed it is probably best to take precautions.

With no confirmation that the killing was a mountain lion attack, FWP will not take any action until it is determined that a mountain lion is continually revisiting the area. While Principal Kyle Paulson

was unsure of any confirmed sightings, he has received second and third hand information of a mountain lion in the area; however, none of these sightings have been around or on campus.

Belt Schools asks all staff to keep a more vigilant eye out and ensure playground gates remain closed when not in use. Paulson encourages the community to get informed. "We live in an area where there is a chance that you could see or meet a mountain lion and a quick internet search can provide plenty of information on how

to better safeguard your home and what to do if you have an encounter."

If one encounters a mountain lion it is encouraged to stand your ground and back away slowly; do not run, approach the animal, or crouch/bend over in anyway. If the mountain lion approaches, do your best to look intimidating and fight back if the animal begins to attack. The Valley Voice encourages everyone to keep an eye out and be aware of possible mountain lions within the valley.

**By: Adelle Meissner**

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 Featured Staff

This issue's featured staff member is lifelong Belt community member Jessica Tillman. Excluding college periods, Tillman has lived in Belt her entire life, growing up on the Dawson family ranch. Constantly helping out students, she is extremely involved in the school. Considering her efforts to aid students, Tillman is celebrated in this article.

In 2007, Tillman graduated from Belt High School. She continued on to attend college at MSU Billings where she graduated in 2011 obtaining her bachelor of arts degree in history education, her bachelor of science in political science, and her broad-field social studies endorsement. In 2013, she also received her special education endorsement from UM Western. During her time at Belt School, Tillman has worked one year as a Mental Health Associate for the Alta Care Program and then seven years after that as a special education teacher.



Although the official title of her position is "7-12 Special Education Teacher," Tillman does much more than the job description. She also is a DECA advisor, student senate advisor, backpack program coordinator, and School Wide Assistance Team Leader (SWAT) for the middle school and high school. When asked why she took this position, Tillman stated "I wanted to work in the community I grew up in. I have a passion for learning and helping students." Her love for this profession definitely shows given all of the extra work she does.

Tillman does an extraordinary amount of work for the school. She takes charge of several different activities and goes above and beyond what is expected of her. This fantastic woman does a lot for the Belt School system and is greatly appreciated by everyone she works with and helps.

**By: Sierra Reese**

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## Senior Spotlight

This week's issue features senior Matthew (Matt) Dollenger. Dollenger was welcomed to Belt the May of 2017, his junior year of high school. Prior to coming to Belt, Dollenger attended eight different schools. He has lived in three states and two countries, A typical life for a military "brat".

After traveling the world, his family finally decided to settle down. Dollenger was welcomed to good ole Belt High, in 2017. His father retired from the Air Force and bought a house out in Riceville.

Even though Dollenger has attended eight different schools, Belt has been his favorite. 11<sup>th</sup> grade was his most enjoyable year. "It's my favorite because of all the kids I met in Belt." Dollenger also stated that his favorite teacher is Mrs. Graham. "I don't know why she is my favorite but she just is."

His favorite teacher may be a math teacher, however that is not his favorite subject. Dollenger's

favorite school subject is shop class. After high school, he plans on joining the Air Force then to pursue something in construction.

Since his time at Belt, Dollenger has been involved in football, wrestling, and track for two years. His favorite high school memory was going down to watch the girl's win state volleyball. His buddies Brendan Wing, Wyatt Marshall, Treyton Hennes, Hunter Vogl, Kaimen Evan, and Aidan McDaniel, made the trip the most memorable.

This spring, Dollenger will walk the stage and accept his diploma. He will enlist into the Air Force and leave his family behind. Even though his time at Belt was short, it became his home. "I'll miss all my friendships", Dollenger stated, as he thought about his future.

Turn into the next issue of the *Valley Voice* as a little light is shed on the next senior, Robert Gliko.

**By: Tori Shelton**



## Calendar of Events

11/21—11/23	Thanksgiving Break—No School
11/26—11/27	Honor Band/Choir @ Cut Bank
11/29 8:00 a.m.	Shakespeare in the Schools
11/29 3:30 p.m.	Baby Shower for Mrs. Vanden Bos & Mrs. Tillman
11/30 8:00 a.m.	Gingerbread Houses
11/30 5:00 p.m.	Staff Christmas Party
12/1	Breakfast with Santa
12/3	2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter Mid-Term
12/4 7:00 p.m.	EK—4 Christmas Concert
12/8 10:00 a.m.	Drama Craft Show Fundraiser

## Girls Basketball Roster

Belt Lady Huskies 2018-2019 Varsity			
No.	Name	Height	Grade
2	Kolby Pimperton	5'7	11
3	Morgan Cooper	5'8	12
5	Grace Norstedt	5'8	11
10	Kyelic Marquis	5'8	11
12	Brooke Schraner	5'7	11
14	Shelby Paulson	5'10	11
15	Tori Shelton	5'8	12
32	Karlee Permann	5'3	11
33	Abby Gliko	5'10	11
42	Adelle Meissner	5'5	11

Belt Lady Huskies 2018-2019 JV			
No.	Name	Height	Grade
3	Candyce Davison	5'7	11
22	Lindsey Paulson	5'10	9
23	Livvy Shelton	5'10	10
25	Ahmia Lords	5'7	9
30	Sabrina Wing	6'0	10
34	Maddisen Osterman	5'3	9
45	Raily Gliko	5'11	9

**Head Coach:** Jeff Graham

**Assistant Coaches:** Suzy Maki, Renzi Horton

**Managers:** Alyssa Nebel, Danika Lords, Kylee Permann, Addy Urick, Maddisen Feldmen, Kyndall Schraner

**Superintendent:** Mrs. Kathleen Prody

**Principal:** Mr. Kyle Paulson

**Athletic Director:** Mr. Jeff Graham

**Band Director:** Mr. Jonathan Sutton

**Cheerleading Director:** Mrs. Andrea Visocan

**Cheerleaders:** Grace Davison, Mika Haagenson, Petra Kelly, Riley Larson, Madisyn Lords, Sierra Reese, Sarah Dollenger, Charla Hook, Rosalynn Kenner-Carrington

**School Song:** *Song Director*

**School Enrollment:** 75

**School Colors:** Maroon & Gold

**School Mascot:** Husky

## Titans Triumph

As the sixteen team state playoffs advanced to the semifinal round, the four finalists prepared for their last games of the season. The Great Falls Central Catholic Mustangs met the Fairview Warriors at Memorial Stadium in Great Falls, the Flint Creek Titans and the Shelby Coyotes faced off in Coyote territory, and finally the Mustangs and the Titans went head to head for the championship game in Butte.

Great Falls Central dominated the Warriors right from the beginning of the game with a score of 15-7 at the end of the first quarter. As the teams continued to battle, they both accumulated one touchdown in the second quarter to leave the score at 21-6 when the teams broke at halftime. A strong Fairview defense held the Mustangs scoreless in the third period of play while the Warriors added a touchdown to their side of the board. With one quarter left to play the score read GFCC 21 Fairview 12. As the final buzzer sounded, Great Falls Central prevailed with a final score of 28-18.

The game between the Coyotes and the Titans was close right from the beginning. Flint Creek led by just two points at the end of the first quarter, 8-6; however, Shelby was not ready to let their state championship hopes go and the two were tied at halftime 14-14. With a tremendous defensive effort from both teams in the third quarter, neither team scored and the score sat at twin 14's. The fourth quarter concentrated more on the offensive side of the game as the game concluded with a Titan triumph 28-20.

Neither Central nor Flint Creek had the home field advantage as the two met in Butte for the final game of the season. The Titans were quick to control the game, holding the Mustangs scoreless in the first quarter and adding 8 points of their own. While the Mustangs got things going on the offensive side in the second quarter, their defense was unable to contain Flint Creek. As the teams cleared the field for an intermission the score read Flint Creek 28 GFCC 14. Despite the Mustangs' best effort, they never found pay dirt again in the second half and the Titans continued to put points on their side of the board. The game concluded with a score of 50-14.

At the conclusion of the game in Butte, the Flint Creek Titans were awarded the state champion trophy for Class C 8-man football and the Great Falls Central Catholic Mustangs claimed second. The Valley Voice congratulates both teams on a season well done and wishes them the best of luck in their future athletic endeavors.

**By: Adelle Meissner**