



The Valley Voice

Belt Public Schools



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On Saturday morning, girls woke up early to get their hair and makeup done while the boys headed to Great Falls to pick up corsages and double check their dinner reservations - all in preparation for prom later that night.

This year the Class of 2020 took charge of the event and chose a carnival theme, complete with games such as basket toss, ring toss, tic-tac-toe, bowling, connect four, corn hole, and

trivia in addition to the traditional dance floor. The participants of the games were awarded raffle tickets which were drawn from a bucket, allowing the "chosen one" to win prizes

including Under Armour t-shirts, gift cards to various businesses, and gift baskets. The raffle also featured three door prizes: two televisions and a pair of air pods which were drawn for at the end of the night.

The raffle and door prizes were part of an initiative to keep the students at the dance later, an effort meant to increase the likelihood of them arriving home sober and safe. In order to be eligible to win any of the prizes, one had to be present at the time of the

drawing which did not occur until 11:30, a scant thirty minutes before the conclusion of the dance and an hour before most of the attendees' curfew. *(Cont. Pg. 3)*



All-Stars

Over the past two weeks the senior basketball players from Belt High have been busy playing with other Class C standouts from across the state. Morgan Cooper was excited to play in the Treasure State Classic in Billings and the HIT Tournament in Havre on the third and fourth weekends of March. Brendan Wing also earned another shot at competing as he was selected for the Billings Hotel Senior Classic.

At the Treasure State Classic in Billings Cooper was coached by Roy-Winifred coaches, Mauri Ellness,

Marietta Boyce, and Dave Bahnmler from Highwood-Geraldine. Cooper logged many minutes for the Northern C Division squad. Her teammates included four Tri-Cities girls and two Winnett-Grass Range players. The Northern C girls dominated the tourney and battled their way to victory in the championship game at noon on Saturday the 16th against all stars from the Eastern C team. Cooper said that the competition was a great experience because she had the chance to play with the girls from the Northern C and competed in the *(cont. pg.3)...*

Crazy Carnival Caper (Cont.)

Many groups went out to dinner before returning to the valley for pictures by Cora Creek Photography at 7:30 followed by Grand March at 8. At the conclusion of Grand March, Sydne Flinn and William Franzen were crowned royalty by last year's queen Sam Vaughn.

After taking many pictures and congratulating Flinn and Franzen on their new position as royalty, it was time for the dance to begin. This year, Mr. Paulson dressed up as a "carney" and sat in a makeshift ticket booth as he welcomed the students into the cafeteria, Mr. Ross

monitored the games and handed out the raffles tickets, Mrs. Graham watched the dance floor, and Mrs. Prody hid out behind the scenes to make sure everything ran smoothly.

Class president Shelby Paulson quoted, "I'm just relieved that everything ran smoothly, we kept everyone at the dance until 12:00, and it seemed that everyone had a good time!" Fellow junior Karlee Permann said, "I think it was cool that we incorporated games with the dance to keep people interested."

The tremendous effort put forth by this year's junior class definitely paid off, as most of the original attendees were still dancing when Mr. Paulson shut down the party at midnight. The Class of 2020 set a high expectation for the annual dance next year, as participation was at an all-time high at this year's "crazy carnival caper."

By: Adelle Meissner



All-Stars (cont.)

First ever championship game that consisted of two Class C teams.



This also marked the first time for a Class C team won the championship game.

The same week-end Wing played in the Billings Hotel Senior Classic also taking place in

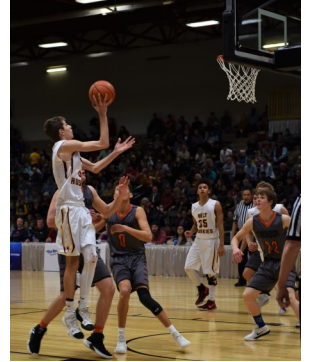
Billings. The Northern C boys went

1-2 at the tournament and Wing scored a game high 14 points in their loss to the Western B division; however, Wing did not get a chance to participate in the HIT tournament.

Last week Cooper headed to MSU Northern to play one last time for Coach Graham on the Class C team for the HIT Tournament. She again suited up alongside two seniors from Winnett-Grass Range and one of the four girls from Tri-Cities. The Class C girls made it to the championship match but fell short to the power house Class B ladies. Cooper noted, "...playing for Coach Graham one last time was more than I could ever ask for."

Congrats to the seniors and

their accomplishments over their four years at Belt High. Belt has a reputation of producing athletes of a high caliber and this year was no exception.



Both the boys and girls basketball teams in Belt made it to the divisional consolation game in Great Falls, and these games provided a chance to display their skills. The *Voice* wishes the seniors the best of luck with their future plans. **By: Kolby Pimperton**

Prom 2019



Art Mobile of Montana

On Thursday March 14th at 9:00 a.m., the Art Mobile of Montana set up shop in the Belt School's Library. Michelle Summers, the teaching artist for the activities, conducted two presentations for the elementary students to partake in, as well as two art lessons for the kindergarten and 3rd graders. These presentations included Montana-made artworks featuring: pottery, interactive sculpture, photography, and several paintings done in various mediums.

Grades kindergarten through 2nd had their one hour interactive seminar commence at 9:00 a.m.

while grades 3rd through 5th received their presentation from 10:15 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. After that presentation, the kiddos took a lunch break and the 3rd graders resumed their art lesson at 1:00 p.m. To finish the day of creative activities, the last demonstration commenced at 2:00 p.m. for the 1st graders.

Art Mobile of Montana is an educational, interactive program on wheels. The program provided access to extraordinary exhibits and lessons for smaller, rural schools. Professional artists piloted these sessions that provided kids access

to craft galleries or original fine art. The objective of Art Mobile of Montana is to bring modern cultural artwork to small communities across the state of Montana.

The visitation of the Art Mobile was funded by Belt's Indian Education For All funds as a portion of the program focused on Native Montana/Indian artwork. This was J.J. Meissner's first year organizing the program and she was stoked to see how it would play out. According to Meissner, the students had a blast and really enjoyed learning about art that echoed the spirit of Montana. **By: Livvy Shelton**

State Poetry Out Loud

In the thirteen year of Montana's Poetry Out Loud competition the top three places have always been occupied by class AA students from places such as: Helena High School, Capital High School, Hellgate High School, Sentinel High School, Butte High School, and Flathead High School; however, on March 9th, at the 2019 Montana Poetry Out Loud competition, Belt senior Victoria Shelton placed second at the contest, taking one place higher than last year's state champion. Junior Adam Langston also competed in the contest and earned an appearance in the final round of competition as well as a top eight finish.

Mr. Jeffrey Ross, high school English teacher and advisor of Poetry Out Loud, stated, "It's hard to find much fault with Tori's second place and Adam's top eight finish at state, especially in our first contest. The students performed with poise, accuracy, and appropriate expression. I am especially pleased with the enthusiasm the entire high school demonstrated during the competition."

When asked what his expect-

tations for next year are he said, "I expect a smoother, better organized event on my end, and an increased appreciation from the students for the work and skill necessary to compete against these larger schools," adding "I will try and do a better job of stressing the importance of practice for success. I will argue that Tori and Adam have a built-in advantage with their naturally emotive delivery that establishes that crucial, close connection with the audience and judges. Many of us can achieve the same results but with more practice."

Shelton got the chance to perform three poems; "Earth You Have Returned to Me" by Elain Equi, "The Obligation to be Happy" by Linda Paston, and "The Sorrow of Love" by William Butler Yeats. She recited them extremely well, impressing both Ross and the judges. When speaking with Shelton she exclaimed, "I was scared when I was sitting their anticipating my turn but once I got up there, it all went away and I felt very confident." Shelton added "Sadly, I am a senior and this was my only chance to compete in Poetry Out Loud. I

really loved the experience and I wish I could do it again. I'm extremely happy for the first place winner but it would have been extremely cool to make it to nationals."

Langston also recited three poems; "Respiration" by Jamaal May, "Acquainted with the Night" by Robert Frost, and "I, Too" by Langston Hughes. Langston said, "I was very nervous but I definitely think it was fun experience." When asked what he looks forward to for next year Langston stated, "I will hopefully make it to the state contest next year and continue getting better."

The *Valley Voice* would like to congratulate both Langston and Shelton for a job well done. Hopefully, this worthwhile program continues to grow, allowing more students to succeed at all levels of competition as well as enhancing their appreciation for performance arts. **By: Natalie Larsen**



Principal's Report

With the third quarter over, members of Belt High hustled from activity to activity both in and outside the school. From the science fair, to track practice, to math competitions, students continue to embark upon more extracurriculars as the schools year progresses.

The main focus of the student body this month was the science fair. Every student enrolled in a science class in grades 3-12 competed in the local science fair and advancement to the regional competition was optional. While the elementary students were not judged collectively, there were winners for each grade level. The third grade competition was dominated by Rogue Roberts and Hosanna Wilson with their project "Keep the Heat" while Hope Maki and Kate Hedstrom won the fourth grade division with "It's Only a Matter of Time" and Emerson Hoerner and Rainee Mapston took first in the fifth grade division with their project "Waterproof Bandages." In the middle school division Ethan Triplett claimed third place with his project titled "Smoked," Reese Paulson and Clayton Jassen earned second with their project "Trash to Gas," and Haley Hoerner grabbed first with "Pain, Pain, Go Away." Finally in the high school competition, Sierra Reese and Kenzie Martin got third with their project "Bacteria vs. Cleaners," Asa Jas-

sen's project "Drinking Water Testing" earned him second place, and Cole Hepfner's project "L-Rod Dowsing" led him to win the division.

After all the excitement from the science fair wore down, Belt alum Charmayne Burton spoke to the high school history and government students on behalf of the National Guard Heritage Outreach Program. The presentation focused on the history of Montana citizen soldiers and their historical/cultural impact on United States' conflicts.

The 3rd grade class also received a special guest, this time former teacher Kathy Remington. "Mrs. Rem," as students used to call her, came to speak about her visit to the Iditarod sled dog race in Alaska as the students have been racking the mushers on their 998 mile trek from Anchorage to Nome.

Also this month, spring sports have begun and are in full swing. The middle school basketball team boasts 14 girls and 30 boys while the high school track team includes 10 girls and 19 boys and the golf team has 14 female athletes. The elementary students also got in on the physical activity during their ski trip yesterday.

On the 14th of the month, the art mobile visited the school and showed many students an interactive presentation. The following day, a team of middle school math-

letes traveled to Butte for the MCTM State Math Competition and the Booster Club hosted a Calcutta. The Calcutta was followed by prom where the high school students had a blast and made many memories.

The following week saw the conclusion of the third quarter which granted the students a 12:30 early out on Wednesday the 20th. That Friday, two team's made up of Belt's top academic achievers attended the Principal's Cup, a trivia competition held at Paris Gibson Education Center in Great Falls. Last Tuesday, the National Honor Society inducted three new members at their annual banquet and yesterday the student council attended the regional concert and CMR while the fourth graders attended a music tip to Mansfield Theatre for a youth matinee.

A group of middle school girls left for the Expanding Horizons Science Trip in Bozeman this morning and the junior class will take the ACT next Tuesday while the sophomores will take the PACT on the 9th.

With the last quarter of the year underway, the students of Belt School are looking forward to summer and the freedom to sleep until noon and then take a nap, but until then they will continue with their busy school schedule.

By: Adelle Meissner

Senior Skip Day

Every year at least some of the seniors skip one school day. This year's was held on Monday the 25th. Not all thirteen seniors decided to spend the day together. Some of them went to brunch at R & R Casino. Some decided to grab a bite to eat and see a movie, while others simply took the day for themselves to get ahead on homework and scholarship applications.

Elyse Adams, Morgan Cooper, Robert Gliko, Keaghan Opheim, Sam Vaughan, and Brendan Wing, were all part of the group that went to brunch. They met at 10:30 a.m. at the R&R, ate and broke off on their own. Tori Shelton and Grace Davison decided to sleep in before embracing the day. They picked up Adams, went to Yogurt City, shopping, and saw

Captain Marvel. MaKayla O'Neil and Julia Vogt, took it upon themselves to work on their academics at home for the day...#nerds.

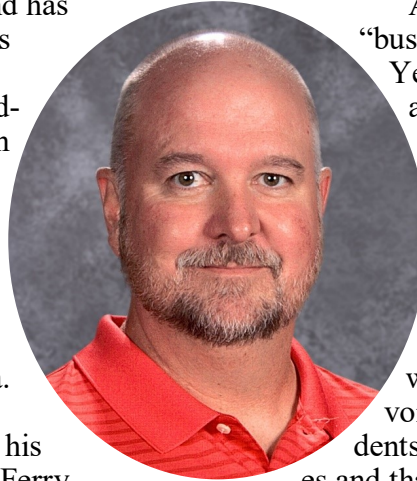
Each had their own take on how to spend senior skip day. Though many seniors went their own ways on Monday, they came back to school Tuesday, refreshed for the home stretch of their high school careers. **By: Tori Shelton**

Featured Staff

This issue's featured staff member is Keith Hoyer. He has been chosen due to the exemplary work he has been seen performing in the Belt School. For twenty three years, Hoyer has been working as a member of the Belt school. During that time he has led many different groups in the school and has certainly not lacked in helping students reaching their full potential.

Hoyer grew up in Belt and graduated in 1987 as a Belt Husky. He then went on to receive his undergraduate degree in Business Education from the University of Montana-Western in Dillon, where he played football for the Bulldogs. Later, he received his Master's Degree in Educational Leadership from the University of Montana. Today, he sports his love for the latter college with Griz memorabilia around his room. He then spent a year at Canyon Ferry Lake until he moved to Ely Nevada for three years, where he taught at the Ely State Prison, a male maximum security prison, and coached football at White Pine County High School.

After being recognized by one of his students from the prison he taught at in the real world, he and his wife decided that it was time to look for jobs elsewhere due to the fact they he was unaware that the



prisoners "got out." Coincidentally, Hoyer's high school business teacher, Carol Byerly, was retiring at this time from Belt. She called Hoyer and recommended he apply for the position, which worked out perfectly for Hoyer and his wife.

At this time, Hoyer is in charge of the "business" wing of the school. He is the Yearbook advisor, Youth Leadership advisor, and senior class advisor. In the past, he has been a DECA advisor, National Honor Society co-advisor, MBI facilitator, assistant football coach, assistant basketball coach, assistant volleyball coach, and school television advisor. Out of the twenty-three years Hoyer has worked at Belt, he states that his favorite memories are when former students return to visit, recount their successes and thank him for being a part of their journey through life.

In the past, present, and future, Hoyer has and will be a very beneficial part of student success. Students and staff alike enjoy his company and are perfectly comfortable talking to him when they need assistance with anything. His services are greatly appreciated and the Belt School is very lucky to have him.

By: Sierra Reese

Senior Spotlight

As the school year winds down so do the numbers of the Class of '19. There are only three seniors left on the list. This week's senior in the spotlight is Sam Vaughan. Vaughan was born in Great Falls but came to Belt in Kindergarten.

When recalling her favorite grade out of her fourteen years of schooling, she says pre-school was her fondest year. "I miss pre-k because we got to take naps." While her favorite year was all the way back in elementary, her favorite teacher is Mr. Hoyer. "He is smarter than Aristotle, more gifted than Beethoven."

Despite her favorite teacher being a K-12 info processing and business teacher, Vaughan's favorite subject in school will always be physical education (P.E). "P.E during freshman year was definitely the best because longwall short wall was life." While looking back at her thirteen years at Belt, her favorite



memory, even though very embarrassing, was peeing her pants in the second grade.

Although Vaughan hasn't necessarily been as active in her school since freshman year, she is currently very involved in a Netflix series call "Unsolved". The show investigates the unsolved deaths of Tupac and Biggie, she is about three episodes in but it is a very time consuming activity. After graduating in May, Vaughan plans on either completing her general courses at Great Falls Community College or "sending it to Bozeman". Vaughan quotes, "I'm honestly just waiting to win the lottery and marry ASAP Rocky."

Vaughan only has a few weeks of high school left and she is just trying to embrace it and make it through until the end. Tune into the next issue of the Valley Voice as the second to last senior, Julia Vogt, is put under the spotlight.

By: Tori Shelton

Educational Observation

On March 14th the two English teachers from Fort Benton High School ventured to the Belt Valley High English classroom for an observation with “master English teacher” Jeffery Ross. Catherine Dorian and Miranda Woodhouse wanted to come watch Mr. Ross teach a class because his stellar local reputation as well as him being a nationally recognized teacher.

Ms. Dorian and Ms. Woodhouse came to Mr. Ross’ classroom with the goal of learning what they need to do in order to be a teacher of his caliber. Dorian referred to

Ross as a “master teacher” with the experience she hopes to gain, allowing her to increase the quality of her skills as an English teacher.

The observation was part of a teacher to teacher peer observation which is a collaborative form of professional development, the objective of which is to share instructional techniques and methods in hopes of improving students learning.

The initiative, however, is not just between Belt and Fort Benton; teachers from outside our district have observed and been ob-

served in several different classrooms ranging from elementary to high school.

Earlier this year, the teachers of Belt journeyed to three schools in the Great Falls district in order to gain from observation of experienced teachers at the elementary, middle, and high school levels.

The observation program is one that Belt principal Kyle Paulson hopes to continue with other schools in the future, as it provides the teachers with a great opportunity to see new instructions strategies.

By: Adelle Meissner

Lewistown Hoppers

On the 14th, 15th, and 16th of February, the boys and girls basketball teams ventured down into Fergus County to Lewistown for Districts at Fergus High School. Both teams played a total of six games and competed in the championship contests. For the Class C halftime entertainment during the championship matches, there was a little surprise for the eager fans.

As the buzzer rang sending the teams to the locker rooms, the Lewistown Hoppers flooded onto the court. They performed numerous stunts in a dance with jump ropes as they followed the beat of their music. To start the show, students of all ages stepped onto the

hardwood floor with their jump ropes in hand and began their routine. For part of their act, the older Hoppers grabbed two large skipping ropes, performing a double Dutch style jump while older Hoppers did flips and other stunts inside of the two ropes. As the basketball teams started to depart the locker rooms and wait to return to their battle for the top, the oldest performers exited off the court doing a number of flips, such as cartwheels, front flips, aerials, etc.



It was a departure from the normal dance routines performed by cheer squads at center court. The acrobatics and energy were a dynamic display that lit up the crowd.

This performance was without a doubt amazing to watch and several observers claimed that they can’t wait to see if the Hoppers at future 8-C tournaments.

By: Livvy Shelton

With the official start of spring being this past week the roads are still in pretty rough condition. This makes drinking and driving even more dangerous than normal. As drinking and driving has a pretty high fatality rate when adding the terrible road conditions it adds to the risk. When one decides to drink and drive they are putting more than just their life at risk, they are putting everyone around them in danger. This spring be responsible, buckle up, and never drink and drive and...

Never Drink and Drive!

This message brought to you by your
Cascade DUI Task Force



Regional Science Fair

On the 7th and 8th of March elementary students in grades three through five along with forty-five middle and high school students traveled into Great Falls in order to compete in the Regional Science Fair. The Regional Science Fair has been a source of much success for Belt in past years as many of the students have placed or earned Merit Awards at the competition. This year's fair was no exception as many students performed spectacularly, representing the Belt community extremely well.

The elementary students were up first as they journeyed to the Regional Science Fair on Thursday. All students in grades three through five participated and kids in all classes did very well, earning both top places and various awards. The third grade class had three groups place, as the dynamic duo of Camree Puppee and Lilly Silverstre placed first with their project "Safety Time" and JJ Hoffmann along with Kaylynn Madden took second with "Magnificent Markers." Lastly for the third graders was Weston Tingey and William Moore who placed third with their project "Oil Slick."

The fourth grade also won many awards and did an excellent job at this year's science fair. They also had three groups place at the competition. Reagan Jassen and Maren Keaster took first with "Squeaky Clean" and Sidney Paulson accompanied by Cadence Graham placed second with the project "Put Your Cleaner to the Test." "How Much is too Much?" by Destinee Goodman, Carsyn Groux and Morgan Heitzman earned third place at the competition as well. The fourth grade also had one individual placement in Dezirae Goodman's project "Pucker Up."

The fifth graders had two group winners, with Blake Waldner and Tobias Wilson earning first place with their project "Fizzing Pop." Raenee Mapston and her partner Emerson Hoerner took second with "So You Call that Waterproof." The fifth grade had one individual winner, Riley Peterson, and his project "Grains of a Gun."

The middle and high school Regional Science Fair took place on Friday the 8th. Those students departed school early that morning in order to compete in the prestigious competition. The sixth graders had one group place, as Declan Bergstrom, Eli Bodner and Walker Maki earned first place in the Physical Science category. For the seventh grade Clayton Jassen and Reese Paulson had quite a bit of success. They placed third in the seventh grade group Clean Energy category as well as second place in the seventh grade group Biology section. Along with placing in the competition both Jassen and Paulson earned Merit Awards

along with recognition from the Forest Service, which allows them to take a snowshoe trip with other winners of the award. Nate Gill and Johnny Tingey were also recognized by the Forest Service, meaning they will be taking the same snowshoe trip as Paulson and Jassen. Ella Pethel and Addi Urick earned third place in seventh grade group Biology, and JD Shephard won a Military Award. In eighth grade, Richie Andrews won second place in the eighth grade individual Biology category, as well as winning a Merit Award. Andrews will also be taking the snowshoe trip. Memphis Black and Isaac Maki received second place in the eighth grade group Physical Science sector, as well as the Outstanding Award. Keaghn McDaniel along with Bridger Vogl earned second place in eighth grade group Biology category.

The high school students also had some fantastic achievements as four of the ten participants earned some type of award. Junior William Franzen earned a Merit Award for Computer Science. Grace Davison, Elyse Adams and Julia Vogt placed sixth overall in the high school contest, as well as receiving a Psychology Merit Award.

The *Valley Voice* would like to send a congratulations to all of those who participated, and commend them on a job well done. Hopefully, the science fair success continues in the following years and the students all enjoyed their time at the Regional Science Fair.

By: Natalie Larsen

BACK ROADS PIZZA AND LANES



Enjoy a slice! Fresh hot Pizza right here in Belt. Sample any of the dozens of varieties of mouth watering combinations...

Join a bowling league at Back Roads Pizza and Lanes this spring! In the summer, there will be kids leagues and couples leagues as well as 3 and 4 person teams in the spring...

Contact Laura Koffler at 788-7790 or Back Roads at 277-3245 to join a league or to ask any further questions.



Cross Curricular Day

During the same week National Honor Society raised money for Pennies for Leukemia, “cross curricular day” took place on one of those days where the middle schoolers analyzed different facts about Montana fish. Cross curricular day was meant to intertwine different subjects in school with others so the students could create more connections.

In Tony Cooper’s PE/Health class, the students had a discussion about going fishing and how eating fish positively impacts a person’s health. Next, the students played a well known game called “Sharks and Minnows.” This is where a small group of people are “sharks” and they need to tag the rest of the students who run across the gym in large groups. The runners are considered “minnows.” Another game called “Fish and Fisherman” commenced and is a form of dodgeball. The group of “fishermen” had to try and hit the “fish,” or remaining students, with dodgeballs, while the students ran in the area that was

designated to be the stream. Fishermen, however, could only stand on the side of the stream or on the rocks in the middle of it.

The middle school English Language Arts teacher, Andrea Visocan, had the students first research the pros and cons of catch and release fishing and then they analyzed five different informational articles from multiple different viewpoints. After this, the students assembled their research into a persuasive business letter to the Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks regarding the ethics of catching and releasing native fish populations in Belt Creek. The final activity students performed in this class was writing “fish poetry.” This was essentially where the students wrote a poem about a fish.

Michelle Stinson and Debbie Vogt teamed up to do a graphing activity about Salmon populations over periods of time. The students graphed on paper and also used Google Sheets. They also answered questions they were given

and analyzed historical data about what factors may have influenced fish populations. The goal of this was to look at how salmon population has decreased and what factors have influenced this.

In art, Troy Adams had students take four different images of Montana trout and compile them into one fish. The shape of trout is universally similar, so this is why Adams chose trout as the chosen fish. The students broke the fish on their paper into four sections and designated each section to a different trout. This resulted in some very creative fish.

This program is continuing to develop in the Belt School. At this time, a cross curricular day is being planned for the high school in April. The RTI team intends to meet and discuss what was liked and disliked about the new program. The ultimate goal is for them to implement one high school and one middle school event for the incoming school year.

By: Sierra Reese

NHS Service Projects

As winter turned to spring the last of the NHS service projects were wrapped up by students at Belt High. This week the Valley Voice recognizes Julia Vogt and Grace Norstedt for their efforts to create a glove, hat, and scarf drive for underprivileged people in the area during the cold months.



The pair started their project in December and hoped to get as many donations as possible by the middle of February. When Febru-

ary rolled around they were proud of what they accomplished and were eager to kick off their initiative.

Contributors placed their unwanted or unneeded winter wear in charity boxes located in the Belt School Office. After about ten weeks of collections, the duo took their bounty to an anonymous homeless shelter in Great Falls. The donations were then distributed to people around the city of Great Falls to families struggling to find enough warm clothes for the winter.

In the end, the two felt that their project gave them a better look at the outside world and they realized that there are many people who do not have basic necessities that

many take for granted. Norstedt stated that the project made her appreciate what she has and it has made her more inclined to help people in the future.



The honor society projects conducted by this year under the guidance of Mrs. Graham were a smashing success. In addition to providing services to the community, the initiative also provided NHS members with valuable life perspectives. **By: Kolby Pimperton**

Booster Bash

On March 15th, the Belt Boosters hosted a fundraising dinner which was held at the Belt Performing Arts Center. Admission included a fantastic shrimp or prime rib dinner, and a spot in a cash drawing that completed the evening. In addition to those, the festivities also included two silent auctions and a 50/50 card drawing. Boosters sold 88 tickets for the night, and were very pleased with the turn out. The auctioneer for the evening was Jeff Arndt, with Karl Koontz serving as emcee.

The main event of the night was the Calcutta auction. Eight lucky ticket holders got their money back for their dinner and another octet of tickets were placed in a separate bin. The second set of tickets was eligible to be drawn for a cash prize. In this drawing, the first five tickets that came out of that group were thrown away, and the remaining three ticket holders won


money. But before that drawing took place, all eight tickets were auctioned off in a blind Calcutta.

At this point Arndt stepped in, seized the microphone, and called out for bids for each of the potential winners. After all the bids were placed, the final drawing took place. The winning ticket holders consisted of: first place Patty Sweeney, second place Randy Triplett, and third place Krista Bergstrom. Most of the Calcutta bids were done by tables and the group that won the Calcutta portion of the drawing included: Anne and Aaron Triplett, Randy Triplett, Jeff Graham, and Jeff Marn.

Fun was had by all, and the event went off without a hitch. The Belt Boosters made around \$5,000, which will be put back into the school system to benefit the children and the community. They would like to thank everyone for their support and are planning on


making the Calcutta Dinner an annual event.

By: Abby Gliko




Thank You




To the following businesses and people for donating to the Calcutta Dinner:



Jeff Dawson
Todd Vogl



Montana Ranch Insurance/Dan Miller
Big Sky Subsurface/John and Jen Hepfner
East Side Bar/Dusty and Krista Bergstrom
Leisure Lawn/Aaron Heitzman
Remax/Katie Heitzman
Alliance for Youth/Kristi Stroop
Vince and Patty Kolar
Belt Brew Pub

The boosters would like to thank the community for their support of the Belt students.

Backpack Program

The Belt DECA chapter Backpack Program is designed to help meet the nutritional needs of children at risk of hunger during non-school hours, specifically weekends and holidays. The need is urgent for many people in our community and donations can be taken to the school office or Mrs. Tillman's room.



Grains:

Graham and/or Animal Crackers
Popcorn
Whole Grain Cereal/
Granola Bars
Individual Cereal Boxes
Instant Oatmeal
Ramen Noodles

Protein:

Spaghetti & Meatballs
Ravioli
Beefaroni
Lasagna
Peanut Butter

Fruit:

Canned Fruit
Fruit cups in light syrup
Dried fruit
Applesauce



Miscellaneous:

Fat-Free Sugar Free
Pudding Cups
Jell-O Cups
100% Juice



Library Biomes

In the library of the Belt School, biomes were lined up on top of bookshelves. According to *vocabulary.com*, a biome is defined as, "a specific environment that's home to living things suited for that place and climate."

These biomes were created by Mrs. Lori Swanson's fourth grade science class. Each student was responsible for creating their own biome project at home with the assistance of their parents. The projects were judged on their detail and accuracy. There was a great variety ranging from arid desert scenes to other exotic locations on planet Earth. Each biome was the size of a shoe box, but it stretched the imagination of students well beyond those limits.

The students received a grade based on completion. They

also had to conduct research about their biome of choice and write a summary. Additionally, they had to write a riddle which the other students had to solve in order to guess what each biome represented.

Activities like this one are commonly used in the Belt School System. They create good visuals for students and advance their learning on their own time by studying a subject that interests them.

For this project specifically, students chose any biome that they were interested in and researched it in order to create a proper look and feel of the distant environment. Visual aids are very important in teaching some classes and students enjoy them greatly. Future projects will continue to spread more knowledge and engage the students' minds.

By: Sierra Reese

Senior Art Tiles

Advanced Art can be a very difficult and challenging class, but it can also be a very fun and expressive one. Every year, Mr. Troy Adams, gives the senior students in his Advanced Art classes a tile from his ceiling to decorate and paint to each person’s likings. This year five students from the class of 2019 had the chance to create their own masterpieces. The five students were; Elyse Adams, Morgan Cooper, Grace Davison, MaKayla O’Neil, and Tori Shelton. The five seniors were given one quarter to create an art filled tile that will forever stay in the ceiling of the Belt High School’s art room. Each student had their own unique take on their boards.

The tiles were a free range

project. Every senior had to come up with their own concepts that would be displayed. Adams expressed her love of the color teal, horses, cacti, and, of course, art. All of her passions were combined within her home state. Cooper, took a different approach, drawing the United States. She filled the states that she had been too with either what reminds her of the state, or what she loved most about them. Davison decided to dedicate her board to her love of the world fantasy. She split the board in two sides, one for a Harry Potter theme and the other for Twilight. O’Neil wanted to capture her creativity and what she loves doing. This includes, music, art, and ligature. The fifth and final senior of the Ad-

vanced Art Class, Shelton, wanted the board to display her passion for science, and outer space, but also didn’t want to leave out her love for Disney.

The tiles where finished and put up in the ceiling of the art room March 19th. The end of the school quarter was on the 20th and all finished art work had to be turned in. The senior tiles are a project that Mr. Adams has enjoyed bringing to Belt. They are an accurate representation of each student’s personalities, and is a tradition that art students look forward to years into their futures. Each board is just another mark that a student makes on the school of Belt.

By: Tori Shelton

Picture Matching

Based on the “Senior Art Tile” article, can you match the seniors to their tiles?

- Morgan
- Elyse
- Grace
- MaKayla
- Tori



Help Wanted Belt Public Schools

Bus Drivers

Starting Wage \$18.20
All State and OPI eligibility requirements apply.
CDL training is needed and will be paid for.

Substitute Teachers

Starting Wage Certified Teacher: \$100 Day
Classified: \$86 Day

Substitute Paraprofessional

Starting Wage: \$13.15

Pick up the application from in the Belt School office

*Background checks required for all positions

Calendar of Events

- 3/29 2:30 p.m. Dance Classes on Stage
- 3/30 Expanding Horizon’s MS Trip
- 3/30 11:00 a.m. MS B-Ball vs WGR
- 4/2 8:00 a.m. Juniors’ ACT Test @ St. Marks
- 4/2 3:30 p.m. Spring Sports Pictures
- 4/3 K-2 Ski Trip
- 4/4 4:00 p.m. MS B-Ball @ Geraldine-Highwood
- 4/5 2:30 p.m. Dance Classes on Stage
- 4/5 3:00 p.m. MS B-Ball vs DGS
- 4/6 5:00 p.m. Family Bingo Night
- 4/9 Sophomores’ Pre-ACT
- 4/9 5:00 p.m. Elementary Reading Night
- 4/9 7:30 p.m. Board of Trustees in Library
- 4/11 TBA MS B-Ball Tourney
- 4/11 7:30 a.m. Spring Book Fair in Library
- 4/11—4/12 HS Music Festival @ CMR
- 4/12 7:30 a.m. Spring Book Fair in Library
- 4/12 2:30 p.m. Dance Classes on Stage
- 4/12—4/14 Craig Cummings Tourney

Where Are They Now?

Six years ago Danielle Meissner left little Belt High to start her journey to become a veterinarian. In high school Meissner participated in volleyball, basketball, track, National Honor Society, yearbook, science Olympiad, and pep band. Along with her extracurricular activities, some other major high school accomplishments were “not killing my two younger sisters, especially”, winning the PJ Osterman Award, being named academic all-state, track MVP, and receiving various athletic accolades.



Currently Meissner is very busy with her academic related activities so she not as involved in her community as she once was. She lives in Pullman, Washington, but plans on moving to Louisiana, after graduating college, for a year of internship. She didn’t start off in Washington; she embarked on her college career at Montana State University in Bozeman. She attended MSU for three years where she earned a bachelor’s degree in Animal Science before transferring to Washington State. She will graduate in May, with a doctorate in Veterinarian Medicine (DVM).

Since graduating from high school, she has worked alongside local veterinarian Jay Green at his practice and at the Grand Union Bar and Hotel in Fort Benton. She is not working at the moment as her current occupation is simply just being a full time student.

Meissner has been doing very well for herself, and this is exactly where she planned to be after leaving Belt. In the next five years she has some plans for herself. She plans to return to the rural Northwest United States and begin practicing large animal medicine upon completion of her education. She wants to specialize in reproduction, aka Theriogenology.

The next issue of the Valley Voice will feature yet another Belt Valley Graduate and catch on their progress.

By: Tori Shelton

Family Bingo Night

On April 6th in the Belt School cafeteria

BINGO

Concessions start at 5 p.m.
Taco in a Bag & Husky Spud (loaded baked potato)

Bingo is from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. with prizes for the winners and all elementary students. There will also be a Silent Auction!

Help raise money for the National DECA trip to Orlando!

Upcoming Scholarships and Deadlines

Name	Amount	Requirements	Due Date
Mountain View Co-Op	10 \$500 Awards	Students/parents must be members/employees of Mountain View Co-Op Preference to students whose studies are Agriculturally related	April 15 th
Black Mountain Software Scholarships	2 \$500 Awards	Must be attending accredited institution to reach higher education (includes: trade schools, technical schools, college or university)	April 15 th