



The Valley Voice

Belt Public Schools



12 April 2019

Volume 10 Issue 15

Inside

Snow Shoeing	2
Government Debates Sophomore P-SAT	3
NAIA Basketball Carroll College, Rocky Mountain College, University of Montana Western, and the University of Providence faced off in Billings	4
PIR Day	
Golf First meets of the season took place at Pondera Golf Course and Signal Point in Fort Benton.	5
Expanding Horizons	6
Middle School Sports	
Scholarships	7
Principals' Cup Music Festival	8
Beware the Ides of April Julius Caesar was warned about the wrong month?	9
Educational Observation	
Missouri River Breaks Monument Presentation Fish Dissection	10
Featured Staff Mrs. Graham	1
MAPS Testing	1
DECA Bingo Night	
Calendar of Events	
Music Trip	1
Senior Calendar	2
Chairity Auction	

Honor Society Induction Banquet

On Tuesday, March 26th, the annual National Honor Society Induction Banquet took place in the Belt School Cafeteria. The evening started with introductions from Mr. Paulson and was followed by contributions from the senior officers, Elyse Adams, Morgan Cooper, MaKayla O'Neil, and Julia Vogt. Each officer recited one of the four chambers detailing what it means to be a part of the NHS program: scholarship, leadership, character, and service. This year one junior and two sophomores were inducted into NHS after meeting qualification by admittance. In addition to maintaining a 3.5 each applicant writes an essay about what it means to them to be involved in a group focused on higher education and what the four pillars of NHS mean to them.

Ms. Renae Hepfner, a 2010 Belt High graduate currently enrolled in medical school, served as keynote speaker and delivered a speech about how she made it into NHS and how

the program helped her fulfill her dreams and reinforced her commitment to never back down. She told all the members and guests at the banquet that the work they put in today will reflect... *(Cont. Pg. 3)*



High School Track & Field

After almost a month of practice, much of which was conducted indoors due to inclement weather, the athletes of the Belt High track team were awarded the opportunity to show off their skills at their first meet of the season in Choteau on April 6th. The Choteau Acantha Invitational featured almost twenty teams in both the boys and girls division.

For the boys, the short relay team consisting of Hunter Vogl began the day's events in the 110 meter hurdles, clearing the obstacles in 17.16 seconds and capturing 4th place. The meet then moved to the mile where

Husky athletes Asa Jassen and Cole Hepfner placed 4th (5:06.85) and 6th (5:13.11) respectively. A short relay team consisting of Vogl, Kaimen Evans, Treyton Hennes, and Brandon Wall the grabbed fifth place in the short relay, tag-teaming the 400 in a solid time of 48.03. Evans then continued to find success in the open 400, earning second place with a time of 55.57. Vogl then claimed first place in the 300 meter hurdles, crossing the line as the clock read 44.84. Aidan McDaniel was next in line to add to the team's ribbon count. *(Cont. Pg. 2)*

Track & Field *(Cont.)*

In the 800, McDaniel totaling the two laps in 2:14.53 and getting second with Hepfner right behind him at 2:21.62, good for fifth. Jassen took the track once again for the two mile and placed fourth with a time of 11:23. The final running event for the boys was the 4x400 meter relay where the Husky team of Vogl, McDaniel, Hepfner, and Evans ran for a time of 3:52.99 and received second place. In the field events, Brendan Wing jumped 40-01.75 in triple jump to get second place and bring the boys' total score to 52 which was good for a fourth place finish overall.

The Lady Huskies' success began with Brooke Schraner and Lindsey Paulson's runs in the 100 meter hurdles, the duo finished fifth and sixth with times of 17.85 and 18.39 respectively. Kolby Pimperton notched fifth in the 1600, com-

pleting the four laps in 6:32.71. The girls then competed in the short relay, consisting of Schraner, L. Paulson, Morgan Cooper, and Adelle Meissner, and earned a sixth place finish with a time of 56.08. The hurdling duo of L. Paulson and Schraner were then back in action for the 300 meter hurdles where they earned second (51.31) and third (51.90) respectively. Shelby Paulson then joined in on the girls' success as she claimed first place in the 800 with a final time of 2:38.98 and her younger sister, L. Paulson, added a sixth place finish in the 200, stopping the clock at 29.46. Next up was the two mile where Pimperton was the only female competitor, guaranteeing her a first place finish as she totaled the eight laps in 14:18.42. The last event of the day was the girls' 4x400 meter relay and the Belt team, made up of

Meissner, Paulson, Schraner, and L. Paulson cinched second place with a time of 4:35.53.

The Lady Huskies also triumphed in the field. Raily Gliko took first place in the shot put with a heave of 31 feet even and Ahmia Lords flung the discus 78-09 to take fifth place. In the long jump competition, Meissner leaped for 15-00.50 to capture fourth place and Cooper jumped a total of 29-06 in the triple jump, also good for fourth place. The girls' efforts added up to 70.5 points and earned them a third place finish overall.

The track team was back in action yesterday as they co-hosted a meet with Fairfield at Memorial Stadium and will head north tomorrow morning for a meet in Havre. Results of both meets will be posted in the next issue of the Valley Voice. **By: Adelle Meissner**

Snow Shoeing



Through the winter months school can drag on but short term rewards often give the students a chance to do something fun for the year and it motivates youngsters to do their best. Seven Belt middle school students who excelled in their science fair projects were given such an opportunity a fortnight ago.

On March 28th a select few students from the 7th and 8th grade enjoyed a three mile trudge through the snow at the Silver Crest Winter

Recreation Area on Kings Hill. These students earned this outing by winning their conservation or environmental themed science projects at the regional science fair recently held in Great Falls: Nate Gill, Clayton Jassen, Kennedie Martin, Reece Paulson, Johnny Tingey, Richie Andrews, and Garrett Metrione.

The students, Mrs. Stinson, and Freedom Dirkson, loaded the bus Tuesday morning and headed to the trails. At 10:30 a.m. the students met their guide Dwayne at the Silver Crest Area on Kings Hill and started their journey. Along the way the kids stopped and had lunch and they participated in snow shoe races. Their guide also gave them the chance to break trail through the six inches of fresh powder that came the night before. The trip took about



three hours to complete and the band of students made it back to the bus by 1:00 p.m. and returned to school by days end.

The day was an overall success and fun was had by all. Metrione stated, "My favorite part was getting out of school and that the day was not too cold." Metrione also enjoyed the Indian race that was conducted on the slopes. Rewards like these help keep the student in Belt motivated in the classroom. **By: Kolby Pimperton**

NHS Banquet *(Cont.)*

in the fulfillment of dreams down the line.

The current members of NHS include: Adams, Cooper, O'Neil, Vogt, Keely Drummond, Abby Gliko, Natalie Larsen, Adelle Meissner, Grace Norstedt, Shelby Paulson, Kolby Pimperton, and Hunter Vogl. The newest members

of this chapter are: Aundrea Glick, Riley Larsen, and Sierra Reece.

At the end of this year the group will say goodbye to their seniors and the students that remain will take part in service activities throughout the coming school year. Each will contribute to the "Can the Cats, Can the Griz" food drive and

the Red Cross Blood Drive and they will all complete their own personal service projects next year. Congratulations to the new inductees of Belt's National Honor Society program. The Valley Voice is confident in their future success and appreciates how they represent the school. **By: Kolby Pimperton**

That's Debatable

One of the highlights of the year in government class is a study unit on debates. Over a two week period in Mr. Koontz's class the students conduct a battle of words in a series of debates that result in a class champion being crowned when all is said and done.

Topics for debate run a wide range, from world-wide issues like nuclear proliferation to the value of Barbie as a role model for young girls. Each competitor must prepare for both sides of the debate and a coin flip determines which side he or she must argue. The entire class

scores the debate, and while it's not quite like NCAA March Madness, a tournament bracket is completed before a class champ will emerge.

The format for each battle is: A-Open, B-Rebuttal, B-Open, A-Rebuttal, B-Close, and A-Close. Ties are settled in what the class calls a "Debate Melee", where both competitors leave the room and each in turn is given 15 seconds to prepare before arguing in favor of a randomly chosen statement. A class vote again determines the winner.

The kids had a chance to practice a couple times before the

tournament brackets were created. The first two rounds have been completed, with semifinals and consolation matches scheduled for the first two days of the coming week.

Holding title aspirations are four semifinalists, creating matchups between Elyse Adams and Tori Shelton on one side, and Brendan Wing and Julia Vogt on the other. The winners of those contests will meet in the title match next week. The first three competitors will be recognized at the school wide academic awards ceremony to be held later this spring. **By: Tori Shelton**

Pre-ACT for Sophomores

The ACT, originally called the American College Testing in 1959, is an assessment that is taken in the United States that impacts college admissions decisions and merit-based scholarships. The exam is scored from one to thirty-six and is divided into four sections. Each subject is out of thirty-six points, and the average of those four is the test takers. Juniors take the test and present their scores to different colleges as part of their application procedure. The test is important, as it influences college admissions and scholarships.

On April 9th at 8:00 a.m., the sophomore class took the Pre-ACT to prepare for the real test that they will take as juniors. Excluding writing, the test included all the components of the ACT: English,

math, reading, and science. Although the assessment is not required by the state, Belt School conducts the test in preparation for the real thing. It offers the students better understanding of what will be on the ACT, showing what subjects the students need to advance in. It also gives students sense of how long they have to respond.

Sophomore Riley Larsen said the test was nothing like she expected. Larsen stated that the science portion had a lot more reading than she thought it would and she imagined the test would be a lot harder. Larsen said that she did not feel ready because she had no clue what the test would contain. To prepare for the actual ACT, Riley says she wants to practice pacing herself on other exams.

Aidan McDaniel commented that the test was pretty much what he expected because the questions were things that they had been learning all year. He said the questions weren't very hard but the most difficult part was the time limits. When asked if he was prepared for the test he replied, "No, I didn't study or worry about it." McDaniel says he will prepare for the ACT by studying more and also practicing assignments with time restrictions.

The students now have a better idea about what the ACT will contain and how they can better prepare themselves. The students will get their results back in about two weeks and can look over all the subjects they need to work on to achieve a higher score on the big test next year. **By: Livvy Shelton**

NAIA Basketball-Belt Grads

The NAIA National Tournament kicked off on March 13th at the Metra Park Arena in Billings, with four Frontier Conference teams (Carroll College, Rocky Mountain College, University of Montana Western, and the University of Providence) hoping to emerge as national champions. The University of Providence lost out in the first round in a close contest that went into overtime and the Rocky women also fell short in the first round. Carroll managed to make it to the second round but lost out in a close game against Oklahoma City University, 59-60.

The Lady Bulldogs were able to roll through the tournament and beat some tough teams along the way. They played four games to get into the title game and in the semi-final round they faced the Na-

tional Champions from last year's 2018 season, Freed-Hardeman University. Western was underdogs after finishing second in their conference tournament against Carroll. I was a real nail biter but the Montana girls prevailed in overtime earning them a spot in the title game. On the 19th of March the Montana Western ladies defeated Oklahoma City University, the 2017 champs, for the Division I NAIA National Tournament.

Many locals followed the tournament, especially since two Belt High alumni start for Frontier Conference schools. 2017 graduate Kerstyn Pimperton daughter of Gary and Polly is in her second year at the University of Providence. The sophomore is studying Biology with an eye towards a career in the medical field and was inserted into

the starting lineup midway through the season. Pimperton's fondest memory of this year was the result of seeing a lot of playing time and qualifying for the national tournament.

Dani Urick started most of her freshman year for the Ore Diggers of Butte and was one of their leading scorers. Urick's parents, Matt and Lisa, attend as many games as they can and are very supportive as their daughter embarks upon a business major.

The two Belt High graduates are combining athletics and education as they prepare for their futures. The entire community is proud to have produced two starters for the NAIA Division I teams and wishes them good luck as they continue their academic and athletic careers. **By: Kolby Pimperton**

Professional Development

PIR stands for Pupil Instruction Related. Every month or two a PIR Day students have a half-day of instruction while the teachers go off to learn new techniques for the classroom. Last week as the third quarter came to an end, this took place once again. Teachers discussed three new goals with Kyle Paulson, Belt School's principal, who also was responsible for organizing the day.

Three goals were set between teacher's. According to Paulson, these include: "enhancement of curricular maps that provide a universal year at a glance of content delivery, vertical alignments of content areas to ensure that gaps, redundancies, and misperceptions are addressed in the same content at different grade levels," and, finally, "summative assessments are designed accurately to inform instruction, provide feedback to students, and document progress."

The primary subjects discussed during PIR Day were instructional outcomes, curriculum vertical alignment, and summative assessments. Curriculum vertical alignment means making sure that from one grade to the next, K-12, curriculum is being built on in a logical sequence. Horizontal alignment makes sure that each class meets standards that are set depending on which subject is being taught.

While educators were busy working on bettering the Belt School, students got the afternoon off. Golf practice was cancelled, while throwing events for track were moved to a later time. Runners practiced as usual. With the spare time students had due to the shortened day, many different activities were embarked upon. Students used the day to complete any additional academic work that needed to be turned into the teacher before

grades were sent out and others, particularly seniors, used the day to complete scholarship applications. Those whose school work was complete or who did not want to do it, engaged in more "entertaining" activities, such as binge watching a Netflix show, going to a movie, or hanging out with friends.

PIR Day is a very important day for both educators and students. It gives students an opportunity to improve their grades and to get anything else done that they wouldn't have time to on a normally scheduled day. The teacher's worked on improving how they taught students, which is important for everyone in the school.

Professional development is an ongoing process as educators need to keep up with the latest technology and research in the field. This is the final PIR Day of the year and it was extremely productive for all involved. **By: Sierra Reese**

Lady Husky Golf

Golf season was in full swing last weekend with the first meets of the season taking place at Pondera Golf Course and Signal Point in Fort Benton. On Friday, five students headed to Conrad early that morning, excited for full-day of golf. Karlee Permann led the pack with an impressive score of 112, which also qualified her for the state meet in May. Next was Natalie Larsen with a 124, followed by Tori Shelton with a 135. Kylie Marquis shot a 140 and Sydne Flinn shot a 142. The team score for this day was 512, which was a sum of the top four scores (a Class B meet). Considering that this was only the second time the girls have been on a course this season Coach Stinson and Coach Koontz were impressed with the girls' development.



On Saturday Belt hosted their own tournament at Signal Point. It was a cold windy day making for difficult scoring conditions. Permann fired a 108 to lead the way again for the Lady Huskies. Despite the gusty day five girls managed PR's (personal records), including; sophomores Sierra Reese (129) and



Livvy Shelton (133), and senior Raenita Berlinger (131). Since it was first meet for Freshmen Maddie Osterman and Sarah Dolinger, they also had personal bests with a 140 and a

148. Marquis shot a 141 and Larsen fired a 145. On this day the stop three varsity scores were totaled giving Belt a team score of 382.

The girls all performed well this past weekend, as the Huskies already have one state qualifier in Karlee Permann. The upcoming schedule is in flux because of Montana's typical spring weather. A junior varsity meet slated for yesterday in Choteau was moved to next Thursday. Tomorrow the girls travel to Choteau for a varsity contest and as the weeks roll on the ladies will play meets in Shelby, Fairfield, and Fort Benton.

The girls will continue to work on their games as the season unfolds. The coaches and players are confident they will field a full team for the state tournament the second week of May. In order to post a team score, at least three ladies must shoot a qualifying score of 120 or better in a marked meet. If four players qualify, then all can play and the team can discard the highest score, so it's a big advantage to get a full team suited up for state. This years state meet returns to the Double Arrow Resort course in Seeley Lake, where the Lady Huskies captured their only



state title four years ago. Stay tuned for the results the next issue of the *Valley Voice*. **By: Natalie Larsen**



Expanding Your Horizons

Seven girls traveled to Bozeman on March 30th in order to attend Expanding Your Horizons at Montana State University (MSU). They left early Saturday morning, at approximately 5 a.m., so they could participate in multiple workshops designed to make middle school girls more aware of careers in the subject areas of, science, technology, engineering and math, which is more commonly referred to as STEM.

The girls were split into different color groups, with each group consisting of approximately six or seven students who traveled together throughout the day to four

different workshops. The students had to fill out sheets before the program where they picked eight preferred color groups based on the activities they would have liked to participate in.

Mrs. Debbie Vogt, the advisor of this trip and middle school science teacher, stated "The best part about this event is seeing the girls become more aware of and excited about different topics they can study in college, as well as different careers they might want to pursue." Tara Hedstrom, who has participated in Expanding Your Horizons all three years of middle school stated, "It's a lot a of fun and

if I could I would definitely do it again." The other girls who attended attested to this saying it was a really fun time and they learned a lot from the experience.

Expanding Your Horizons is a great experience for middle school girls and helps develop and maintain interests in the STEM programs, as historical girls have tended to veer away from such studies after high school. Throughout the day the students got to do a lot of activities like creating a water filtration system or evaluating DNA. The students this year had a fantastic time and cannot wait to go back next year. **By: Natalie Larsen**

Middle School Sports

With the massive snow-melt, drizzling rain, and over all soggy conditions, these past few weeks have been quite eventful for the young athletes in Belt's Middle School. The middle school students traveled to Winifred on the 16th of March to play against the Roy-Winifred Outlaws. As usual the girls B team took the floor first earning a win 13 to 11. The boys B team also ended with a win as their final score read 29 to 23. The Lady Huskies of the A team played next, but they sadly lost to the Roy-Winifred ladies as their final score read 34 to 21. The final gaming of the evening was between the boys A teams, with the Husky's winning 34 to 16.

The 22nd of March was the second home game of the season, as the Husky's played the Centerville Miners. The girls B team played first defeating Centerville 22 to 13. The boys B team also won against the Miners as their score read 30 to 23 at the final buzzer. Then the girls A team took the floor but in a gallant effort fell to the Lady Miners with a final score of 22-40. The

boy's A team however beat Centerville 38 to 21.

The 23rd was another home again, but this time the Husky's faced off with the Tri-Cities Titans. The girls B team defeated the Titans 43 to 6, and the boys B team also earned a win against Tri-Cities with a final score of 30 to 15. Next the girls A team defeated the Lady Titans as their final score was 36 to 22. In the final game of the evening the boys A team defeated the Tri-Cities Titans 42 to 4.

April 4th the student traveled to Highwood where they took on the Rivals. The girls B team played first and won with a final score of 38 to 27. Next was the boy's B team who also won as their final score read 35 to 19. Then the girls A team battled the Rivals and ended up winning a close game with a final score of 25 to 21. The boy's A team was the last team on the floor finishing the night with a win of 60 to 33.

The following day, Friday the 5th, the Huskies played the DGS Bearcats. The girls B team started the night with a win, the final score

reading 24 to 14. The boy's B team played a close game against the Bearcats, but the final score was in favor of the Huskies 25 to 23. The girl's A team took the floor next, but in a very close game lost 19 to 22. Lastly, the boy's A team took on the Bearcats and won 53 to 40 to finish off the night.

The last regular season game took place on Saturday against Roy-Winifred. The girl's A team, as usual, played first but sadly lost with a final score of 14 to 18. Then the boy's B team played and beat Roy-Winifred 31 to 23. The girl's A team took the floor next and lost 15 to 39. Finally, the boy's A team ended the night with a fantastic win of 52 to 15.

Yesterday, the Husky basketball teams began their district tournaments. The boys went into the tournament undefeated with their record being 12-0. The girls are 6-6 going into this final tournament. The *Valley Voice* wishes luck to all of the athletes this weekend as they defend past Husky hardware, and have a lot of fun.

By: Natalie Larsen

Scholarships

Name	Amount	Requirements	Due
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
Belt Valley Bank Community Scholarship	2 \$1,000 Awards	2.5 GPA or better. Based on academic achievement, educational goals, school extracurricular activities, and community activities. Special awards, financial need, or results of ACT or SAT may be looked at as well.	April 26 th
Matt Darko Scholarship	1 \$1,500 for a boy and a girl	Belt 2019 graduate with at least a 2.0 GPA. Creative essay on "Where will I be and what will I be doing five years from now?" No required word count or length.	April 26 th
Belt School Educational Foundation Scholarship	1 \$500	Belt 2019 graduate attending a college, university, or trade school during the fall immediately after graduation	May 1 st
Cummings Leadership Scholarship	\$500	Belt 2019 graduate attending any college or trade school (requires a chronological list of leadership positions during HS and essay)	May 1 st
Hoyer Family Scholarship	1 \$1,000	Must be a Belt senior during application submission and attending a 4 yr. college/university, a 2 yr. institution where credits are transferred to a 4 yr. institution, or a trade school	May 1 st
Helen Wood Memorial Scholarship	\$500	Graduate of Belt High pursuing a degree at a MT college, university, or 2 yr. institution where credits transfer to a 4 yr. institution.	May 1 st
Eva Strober Scholarship	\$500	Graduate of Belt High pursuing a degree at a MT college, university, or 2 yr. institution where credits transfer to a 4 yr. institution.	May 1 st

With spring in full effect slick roads can cause quite dangerous road conditions, but adding substance abuse, as in alcohol or drugs, can make the likeliness of a crash seemingly guaranteed. This spring keep in mid the consequences of one's actions when making the decision to drink and drive as well as the lives that can be put in danger. Sixteen percent percent of car accidents involve drugs and/or alcohol. This spring don't become part of this statistic, always buckle up and...

Never Drink and Drive!

This message brought to you by your Cascade DUI Task Force



 Principals' Cup

On March 22nd, ten of Belt High's brightest students boarded the bus and headed to the Paris Gibson Education Center in Great Falls for an academic competition, the Principal's Cup. Each round of the tournament featured sixteen questions in a variety of topics including: English, science, math, and history. Teams were awarded five points for a correct answer and had two points subtracted from their score if they answer incorrectly; however, it is not required that the team answer every question.

The Huskies took two teams to the trivia bowl, Belt 1 consisted of seniors Elyse Adams and Julia Vogt, junior Shelby Paulson, sophomore Sierra Reese, and freshman Asa Jassen and Belt 2 was made up of senior MaKayla O'Neil, junior

Adelle Meissner, sophomores Hunter Adams and Riley Larsen, and freshman Lindsey Paulson. Vogt and Jassen were recognized for their individual scores on the qualifying test which was taken online prior to the competition, Vogt captured third and Jassen placed sixth in their age groups; Vogt then went on to place third overall for her score on the exam.

Belt 1 took on the Augusta Elks in the first round of competition at 9:00 a.m. and despite the Huskies best efforts, they were defeated and fell into the consolation bracket. After taking a round off to recuperate, Belt was back in action against the Fort Benton Longhorns' team. The Huskies were bested once again and their day of competition was over.

Belt 2 kicked off the bowl with a matchup against Fort Benton 1 but was upended by the Longhorns and joined Belt 1 in the loser-out bracket; however, the second Husky team rallied to defeat the Simms Tigers and stay alive. In the next round they faced the Fairfield Eagles who ousted Belt and continued on to earn second place.

The team from Charlie M. Russell High School took first place in the competition, followed by the Fairfield Eagles in second, and Great Falls High claimed third. The 16th annual Principal's Cup provided the students with a positive experience and while they did not earn any team hardware it was an enjoyable chance to bond with their schoolmates in an academic competition. **By: Adelle Meissner**

 Music Festival

Today, District Music Festival continues, but yesterday, the group performances took place. The Belt band and choir perform two pieces with very different styles.

The band performed *Pavane* by G. Faure, arranged by Anne McGinty. Their second piece was *Kaleidoscope* by Frank Bencriscutto. The choir performed *Inscription of Hope* by Z. Randall Stroope and *Keep your Lamps* by Victor Johnson. Belt's music students put a great amount of work into learning their parts and have spent months perfecting their performances.

Today there are six vocal soloists performing: Charity Highfill with *Lullaby* by Cyril Scott, Grace Davison on *Silent Noon* by Ralph Vaughn Williams, Sierra Reese singing *Into the Night* by Clara Edwards, Andrew Stice vocalizing *Heavenly Grass* by Paul Bowles, Braeden Moon performing *Silver* by John Duke, and MaKayla O'Neil with *Gretchen Am*

Spinnrade by Franz Schubert. There are also two vocal duets. The first is an Italian-based song, *Funiculi, Funicula* by Luigu Denza, arranged by Leonard Van performed by Davison and O'Neil. The next duet is Davison and Reese singing a Latin piece called *Ave Maria* by Jean-Philippe Rameau.

For band, there are five soloists. Stice and Corbyn Nebel are both performing snare-drum solos. Stice is playing *Main Street Strut* by Jay Wanamaker and Nebel is playing *Syncopation* by John Beck. On the flute, Vogt is playing *Allegro* by Jean Baptiste Loeillet and Franzen is performing *La Flute de Pan* by Jules Moquet. O'Neil is also playing *Romance* and *Troika* by Prokofieff on bass clarinet.

Students are graded based on tone, intonation, accuracy, interpretation, balance/blend, vocal technique, and other factors, such as professionalism. Each section uses a one through five point scale, five

being the best. At the end of the grading system, there is another scale, again, one through five. This end part ranks how well the group or soloist performed. Division V is zero to ten points and Division IV is eleven to sixteen points. These are poor and then fair for skills. Next, Division three includes any person who received seventeen to twenty-three points which is considered "good." Division II is "excellent." A person needs to have twenty-four to thirty points to receive this rating. Finally, Division I or "superior" requires a score of thirty-one to thirty-five points.

Students receiving a one will move on to State Music Festival. It will take place May 3rd and 4th. Tune in to an upcoming issue of the *Valley Voice* to find out how the Belt Husky music students performed. **By: Sierra Reese**

Beware the Ides of April

Julius Caesar was warned about the Ides of March, but was he warned about the wrong month? Throughout the course of history, a dark shadow has hung over the 15th of April. This day may even be viewed as cursed. Events such as famous people's deaths, wars and natural disasters have taken place on this particular day.

In 1865 the 16th president of the United States died from injuries inflicted by John Wilkes Booth. On April 14th, President Abraham Lincoln was enjoying a show with his wife at Ford's Theatre, when he was shot in the head. His injuries did not take his life until the next day, the 15th.

If the assassination of the president isn't tragic enough, flash forward to April, 1912. Five days prior to the 15th, the largest ship afloat set sail on the Atlantic for New York City. The ship was designed for luxury and no expense was spared, but what came on the 15th couldn't have been prepared for. On the April 14th, the ship struck an enormous iceberg, and over two thousands passengers began to plummet. The great vessel plunged into the water officially on the 15th and only half of the passengers survived. This ship of course was the Titanic.

More recent events include a volcanic eruption causing mass amounts of smoke and ash to fill the sky. Flights in Europe had to be grounded until clear skies and better flying conditions. In 2013, two bombs went off near the finish line of the Boston Marathon. Over two hundred and fifty civilians were wounded and three spectators were killed. A year later, over six thousand miles away, Nigerian schoolgirls were abducted by Boko Haram. On April 15th, more than two hundred girls were kidnapped by a terrorist group. After four years of capture, over a hundred of them were freed.

Human culture is replete with curses. Ancient Egyptians were superstitious about the curses associated

with the tombs of their mummies. In sports, some curses are connected to individual teams. Boston Red Sox believed in the Curse of the Bambino. The Chicago Cubs believed in the Curse of the Billy Goat. Both those curses have recently been exorcised. So it might be best to err on the safe side;



**Spring
Craft Show**

Saturday, May 4th 9am - 3pm
Showcasing Local Artists, Craftmakers
and Direct Sales Vendors.

Belt Schools Multipurpose Room

#1 Church Street
Belt, MT 59412

10 x 10 Space \$30
10 x 10 WALL Space \$40
Access to Electricity, add \$5
Tables Not Included

To Register, contact Debbie Vogt
788-1993 dvogt@beltschool.net
<https://squareup.com/store/belt-valley-shakespeare-players>

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 of his stellar local reputation as well as his 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 observed in several different classrooms ranging from elementary to high school.

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 instructional strategies.

By: Adelle Meissner

Friends of the Missouri River Breaks

On April 2nd the seventh graders of Mrs. Visocan and Mr. Koontz were treated to a presentation by Lacey Gunther and Tori Hill of the Friends of the Missouri River Breaks Monument. The 45 minute presentation featured interactive online games with candy rewards for correct answers as the two seventh grade history classes merged for the demonstration.

The organization known as the Friends of the Missouri River Breaks Monument established itself as a non-profit in 2001 with the mission to “protect and preserve the Monument by educating the public, advocating for responsible access and environmentally responsible uses, and to support groups and agencies that protect and restore the Monument.”

Extending 149 miles along the Upper Missouri River, the Monument features biological, historical, and geological sites. The array also extends into portions of Arrow Creek, Antelope Creek, and the Judith River as it winds from Fort Benton to the Charles M. Russell National Wildlife Refuge. The Monument also engulfs six wildlife study areas including: the Cow

Creek Area of Critical Environmental Concern, segments of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail and the Nez Perce National Historic Trail, the Fort Benton National Historic Landmark, a watchable wildlife area and the Missouri Breaks Back Country Byway.

The Missouri River segment and corridor were designated as a National Wild and Scenic River by Congress in 1976 and the area has remained as natural as possible after the passing of Lewis and Clark on their journey over 200 years ago; however, most Montanans have never heard of nor visited the Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument, hence the creation of the aforementioned organization.

The Friends of the Missouri River Breaks Monument is a small organization funded primarily by grants. The company uses these funds to support a presentation circuit around the state in order to “spread awareness about one of Montana’s national treasures and to get as many people out to experience Montana’s public land as possible.” They would also like to aid earth and environmental science teachers by demonstrating that what

students learn in class can be found in their “backyard.”

The presentation has reached a total of 740 people so far and is on track to extend to over 1,000 before the end of the circuit, record-breaking numbers. The group addressed the history of Native Americans, Lewis and Clark’s expedition, and fur trapping on the Monument and discussed earth science in reference to unique rock formations and cottonwood ecology along the Missouri River. The presentation is also adapted to specific audiences, adding interactive games when given to younger viewers and focusing on key points during demonstrations to more sophisticated audiences.

The Friends of the Missouri River Breaks Monument organization is doing a great job of spreading awareness about one of Montana’s greatest and most forgotten natural attractions. Their presentation circuit has extended knowledge on the Monument as well as increasing interest in visiting the Breaks. For more information about the Missouri River Breaks visit the website <https://missouribreaks.org/>.

By: Adelle Meissner

Fish Dissection

Last Wednesday the seventh graders got the chance to dissect the fish they caught earlier this school year on the annual ice fishing trip. This, along with ice fishing, is part of the program “Hooked on Fishing,” a program imitated by the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks about twenty years ago. Through this program, students witness several presentations and do various projects that teach them about Montana wildlife and fish, with an added lesson in conservation.

Seventh grader Addison

Urick stated, “The best part of this project was learning how to dissect the fish. Also removing all of the organs.” On the other hand Kylee Permann stated, “I liked dissecting the fish’s eyes. I also liked learning more about the fish.” Urick, when asked what her least favorite part of the project was stated, “I didn’t have a least favorite part, and I really liked it all.”

Permann added, “My least favorite part was definitely cutting open the fish, because of the smell!” When asked if they had any advice for next year’s seventh grad-

ers Urick declared, “Definitely plug your nose because the smell is pretty bad.” Permann quickly agreed with, while also adding, “The smell was really gross, but other than that it was interesting.”

Mrs. Vogt, the advisor of this project, stated, “The kids had a lot of fun learning about the different parts of the fish and examining them.” This project is something that most students look forward to, and is one that everyone remembers long after. The seventh graders definitely learned a lot about fish this school year. **By: Natalie Larsen**

Featured Staff

This week's featured staff member is Megan Graham. Her career in the Belt School began in the fall of 2012. Throughout her time spent working at the School, she has done many different things and has continuously been a role model for students.

Graham graduated from Great Falls High School in 2002. She continued on to attend the University of Montana, where she received her Physical Education and Mathematics degree. Next, she received her Master's Degree in Using Technology in the Classroom.

In November of 2008, Graham moved to Belt. This was because her husband, Jeff Graham, worked here. He had worked



in Belt since the fall of 2007 and was the football and basketball coach. Mr. and Mrs. Graham also believed that Belt would be a good place for them to raise their children.

Throughout her teaching career in Belt, M. Graham has helped with many different activities. In regards to sports, she has helped with track and high school boys' basketball. At this time, she is the advisor for National Honor Society. Despite the time and work Mrs. Graham puts into her students, she still has time to enjoy her own personal hobby, running. In her free time, which is pretty limited, she enjoys running in races and even in half and full marathons. **By: Sierra Reese**

MAPS

Today, there is an emphasis on using tests to assess students on their academic progress. In preparation for the tests that determine college admissions decisions and merit scholarships, the MAPS test measures student progress toward achieving high scores on the ACT and SAT. While most Belt students only take the ACT, which measures math, science, English, reading, and writing, the MAPS test still gives educators direction on how to develop and administer curriculum. MAPS is an acronym for Measure-

ment of Academic Progress, and is used to see the student's growth in mathematics, reading, and science.

The tests are administered in three different sessions, fall, winter and spring. While this test is not state mandated like Smarter Balance testing (also given during the spring), Belt uses MAPS to get a better understanding of the effectiveness of the curriculum being taught in the school on a triannual basis. MAPS is given to K-10th graders and is an online adaptive test administered by Mrs. Gliko. K-

1st grade students take reading and math tests, while 2nd-10th take reading, math and language arts tests. As with any test, parents are encouraged to make sure their children are well rested during the testing cycle and eat breakfast each day. Although many students feel burnt out taking so many tests, MAPS testing (along with Smarter Balanced testing) is here to cater Belt's teaching curriculum to the students. Ultimately, MAPS testing is a force for better Belt education.

By: Abby Gliko

DECA's Bingo Night

Saturday April 6th, the eight finalist of the Belt chapter put on a very successful night of Bingo. The event included concession sales, a silent auction and of course bingo itself. The night started at 5:30 p.m. and ended roughly around 8 p.m. The event was very successful considering the (roughly) sixty community members in attendance, and around \$2000 dollars raised.

The silent auction included thirty-three donated items from community members and businesses from Great Falls. Some major items included a "Pizza Hut for a

Year" gift card, donated by the local Pizza Hut, a kitchen/college basket generously given by E & S Recovery LLC, a \$20 gift card and blanket by Patty Kolar and Katie Heitzman, an outdoor fire pit donated by Home Depot and Fresh local Honey by Viki Johnson. The donation were much appreciated and made for a fantastic evening that provided much need funds for the Belt DECA program.

Along with the silent auction, every bingo winner was able to pick from a variety of prizes. The prizes ranged from gift cards to

Subway and Cold Stone, to a miniature tool set, and to little trinkets for the kids.

The night went very well and got positive feedback from the community. The DECA chapter plans to continue this fundraiser and to try to hold this event twice a year. All the funds raised will greatly help the eight Belt High DECA members heading down to Orlando, Florida on the 26th of April for the international conference. The members of the Belt Chapter would like to thank everyone involved for their support. **By: Tori Shelton**

Calendar of Events

- 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
- 4/13 MS GBB & BBB Tourney
- 4/15—4/17 Spring Book Fair in Library
- 4/17 9:30 a.m. B & C Science Fair Winners Trip
- 4/17 5:00 p.m. Union Contract Negotiations
- 4/19 2:30 p.m. Dance Classes on Stage
- 4/19—4/22 Spring Break—No School
- 4/24 9:00 a.m. 4th Quarter Mid-Terms
- 4/24 5:00 p.m. Union Contract Negotiations
- 4/25 7:00 p.m. 5-12 Spring Concert
- 4/26 2:30 p.m. Dance Recital on Stage
- 4/26—5/1 National DECA in Orlando Florida

Music Trip

On the 28th of March, the grade 4th class took a field trip to watch the Great Falls Symphony in action. Interestingly enough, Belt School’s very own Jonathan Sutton is a member of this esteemed group. The trip exposed 4th grade students to the magic of classical music, and the instruments which some of them will be given the opportunity to play in their upcoming 5th grade year. This trip taught kids about orchestras and how they create music as a whole.

This year, twenty-five 4th graders attended the trip. They departed the school at noon and the performance began at one o’clock. The theme of the production was “Tall Tales with the Great Falls Symphony.” Each piece told a story through the music it created. The pieces performed included: Edvard Grieg’s *Peer Gynt Suite*, Offenbach’s *Orpheus in the Underworld*, and an excerpt from Haydn’s *Surprise Symphony*. As an additional treat, they played the Star Wars “theme song” as some people would refer to it.

In the future, this trip hopes to become an annual event. Although more grades may attend in future, it is just more practical to bring only one bus load of students at this time. This is a great opportunity for students and will be a great learning experience as future generations gain a chance to expand their knowledge about music. **By: Sierra Reese**

Graduation Schedule

4/23	6:30 p.m.	Parent Meeting in Cafeteria
4/26		Senior Picture for hall due to Patty
		Senior Pictures due to Elyse and Tori (slide show and yearbook)
		Roses order due to Mrs. Gliko (up to 15 roses will be covered by the class, additional roses will be purchased by the student)
5/1		RSVP for Senior Dinner to Patty or Mrs. Gliko
5/8		AP English Exam
	6:30 p.m.	Senior Dinner @ St. Mark’s Church
5/10		District Track Meet
		Honors Portfolios due to Mrs. Gliko
5/13	8:30 a.m.	Academic Awards Assembly
5/14	6:30 p.m.	Honors Presentations in Library
5/14—5/15		Senior Final Exams
5/16		Divisional Track Meet
5/17		Graduation Rehearsal in the morning and Senior Checkout
5/19	2:00 p.m.	Graduation

Chairity Auction

On March 16th, the third annual Team Rogue “Chairity” Auction took place at the Harvest Moon Saloon. The revenue made at the event went to the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation to help search for a cure for children with diabetes.

Beginning at 7:00 p.m. with a taco bar, the chair auction followed at 8:00 p.m. Fourteen chairs were auctioned off during the night, all of which were donated by local artists or businesses from the area with the highest chair, a set of stadium seats, sold for \$1000. Jeffrey Arndt ran the night with the microphone and served as the auctioneer for the event. After everything was said and done, the affair raised \$6080. The place was packed all night and fun was had by all.

Team Rogue would like to thank Becky Harmala and her staff for the use of the Harvest Moon Saloon and Stephanie Eggert for running the 50/50 drawing. They would also like to thank Dan Gliko, Jerry Marn, and Matt Urick for providing music after the auction as well as the Belt Community their support throughout the years. **By: Abby Gliko**