

April 21st, 2017

The Valley Voice



Issue # 17

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Happy Easter

Easter is a great time of the year for many reasons. Spring weather and robins have arrived, spring break is nearing, and the holiday brings family and friends together. Many people celebrate with their families by hunting eggs and having a feast, and other people throw small parties and enjoy the holiday with friends. So what is Easter really about? And why doesn't a chicken deliver the eggs?

Easter is religiously known as the resurrection of Christ, and is one of the most important Christian holidays. It is believed that Jesus was celebrating Passover, a Jewish festival commemorating the ancient Israelites' freedom from slavery that took place in Egypt, when he was cruci-

fied. Three days later, he arose from his tomb and spoke to his mother. The day is usually celebrated on the first Sunday of April, but times vary due to the use of several different calendars and some churches abide by the vernal equinox. Although there isn't an origin for the religious name, it's been proven the Easter is derived from Eostre which is a Teutonic goddess of spring and fertility.

While the holiday is religious for some, it can be a treat and fun day for others. Over 90 million chocolate bunnies are made each year, and that doesn't even begin to count the candies, money prizes, and Easter eggs that are collected each

year during Easter Egg Hunts across the entire Western World

Through all of this excitement and fun, no one has thought to ask why a bunny, a mammal, was appointed the job of laying, decorating, and hiding eggs for children. The truth is, the Easter Bunny is a legend derived from the 19th century, and it was chosen because rabbits generally give birth to a big litter of kittens (yes, not bunnies – kittens) and they symbolize new life.

It doesn't matter whether a person prefers games, worship, or family time, what matters is the holiday is fun, exciting, and it brings communities, neighborhoods, families, and friends together.

By Morgan Davis

District Music Festival

On the sixth of April, both band and choir students performed at the District Music Festival, and then on seventh of April ensembles and soloists took their turn on the big stage. Both groups went under the direction of their music teacher Mr. Nordquist. Everyone did a great job performing. Three of the students who performed scored a one which is the best score available and qualifies the student for the

state festival. Kali Duncan and Adrianna Irvine scored a one on their clarinet & trumpet duet. Kali Duncan then went on and scored a one for the vocal solo she performed. Lastly William Franzen scored a one on his flute solo.

During the trip the choir and band students were split up and put in two separate areas to perform. The band

students performed in the UGF Theatre while the choir students went and performed at the McLaughlin Center. Both the band and choir students performed and were adjudicated on Thursday while everyone performing solos and ensembles performed on and were adjudicated on Friday. Mr. Nordquist says that he thinks all of the students behaved and performed well. He also
(Cont. Pg. 7)

Track and Field

As the spring term continues to move forward, so does season of track and field for the Belt athletes. The Husky team participated in the Choteau Acantha Invitational Meet on April 8th. The freshman and sophomore tracksters were able to participate in the Great Falls area JV meet on Tuesday, April 11th. The varsity squad did not have a meet this past week due to the Easter Holiday.

Hunter Vogl, the freshman hurdler, placed 4th in the 300 meter hurdles with a time of 45.12.

The long distance crew represented the team well throughout the meet. Keagan Stroop took 3rd in the 800 with a time of 2:07.54. Stroop also competed in the mile. He earned 2nd place with a finish of 4:52.55. Harry Green, a senior trackster, placed 5th in the mile. He crossed the line when the clock read 5:04.84. Green was a competitor in the 2 mile as well, finishing 2nd. He had a time of 11:12.63.

The short relay team consists of Vogl, Adam Langston, Stroop, and Brandon Wall, who are all underclassmen for the Husky squad. This promises the team success in the future. They finished 6th overall with a time of 4.49. The long relay only has one upperclassmen, Green. The rest of the team includes: Vogl, Nolan Myrstol, and Stroop. They finished 2nd with a finish of 3:48.

The throwers continue to improve as the year goes on. Jaren Maki placed in all three throwing events. With a distance of 155-09, Maki took 1st in the javelin. In the discus, a throw of 132-06 was good for 2nd place. Finally, in the shot put, Maki placed 5th with a push of 38-06.

Jess Bodner, placed 3rd in the triple jump with a leap of 37-04.75.

The lady track team competed well throughout the meet. In the hurdles, Sara Anderson placed 1st in the 100 and 300 meter hurdles with finishes of 17.58 and 49.44, respectively.

In the sprints, Adelle Meissner finished well in the 100 meter dash, she placed 3rd with a time of 14.28. Anderson also competed in the 200 meter dash. She earned 3rd place, crossing the line when the clock read 28.25. Kolby Pimperton ran the 2 mile in 14:16.45, placing 4th.

On the short relay team, Anderson, the lone senior, and three freshman, Shelby Paulson, Grace Norstedt, and Adelle Meissner race well against more developed teams. They finished 2nd with a time of 55.64. The long relay team consisted of Anderson, Kyelie Marquis, a freshman, Paulson, and Meissner. The Huskies earned 1st place with a finish of 4:33.67.

The Husky throwing squad finished well in all of the events. In the javelin, Kerstyn Pimperton heaved the spear a distance of 106-08, good for 1st place. Haley Stoker finished 5th in the shot put with a distance of 29-10.25.

Meissner also long jumped in the meet. She took 6th place with a leap of 13-04.5.

Overall, both teams finished well in the meet. The boys' track and field team earned 3rd place. The ladies finished 4th after all of the events were through.

In the JV meet, the hurdle crew fared well. Langston placed 4th in the 110 meter hurdles with a time of 18.39. Right behind him was Vogl. He finished with a time of 18.41. Vogl also took 5th in the 300 meter hurdles as he crossed the line at 48.58.

Vogl ran in the 400 meter dash as well. He finished atop the podium with a time of 56.75.

In the mile, Gliko found himself finishing 4th with a personal record of 5:17.77. He also placed 4th in the 2 mile. He crossed the line when the clock read 11:55.28.

The boys' short relay team

consisted of Vogl, Brandon Wall, Wyatt Marshall, and Gliko. They finished 5th with a time of 49.91.

The throwers also represented the Huskies very well. Gavin Roberts pushed the shot put 36-11.5 to take 4th place.

In the triple jump, Brendan Wing and Langston placed 5th and 6th, respectively. Wing leaped 35-02.25, while Langston jumped 33-09.

As for the ladies, Meissner ran the 100 meter dash, finishing 4th. She had a time of 14.08. In the 200 meter dash, Meissner finished with a time of 29.68, good for 4th. Right behind her was Grace Norstedt who had a time of 30.85. Brooke Schraner placed 3rd in the 400 meter dash with a finish of 1:09.59. Kol. Pimperton placed 4th in the mile with a time of 6:32.02. She also took 2nd in the 2 mile with a finish of 14:27.82.

The short relay crew for the ladies finished 2nd with a time of 56.81. Kol. Pimperton, Paulson, Marquis, and Maggie Andrews made up the squad. The long relay also took 2nd with a combination of Kol. Pimperton, Schraner, Abby Gliko, and Joely Stoker.

The girls grabbed points in the weight events as well. In the shot put, Norstedt and H. Stoker earned 3rd and 4th place with distances of 28-05.5 and 28-02, respectively. H. Stoker also placed in the discus. She had a throw of 81-09 to take 3rd.

It was a great meet for the young athletes to become more familiar with the level of competition they must face. Tomorrow the Husky track and field team will venture to Centerville as the Huskies continue preparation for upcoming district and divisional competition.

By: Kerstyn Pimperton

The Clock is Ticking

The speaker for the 2017 graduation is former head football coach and athletic director, Mick Delaney. Delaney has coached at Great Falls High School, Western Montana, Montana State in Bozeman, University of Montana, Colorado State and was an athletic director at Montana Tech. Delaney was born in Butte and currently lives in Missoula. Last year, Delaney was the speaker for the graduating class of 2016 at Great Falls High. He has accomplished a lot in his lifetime and continues to be a motivational speaker. The seniors are looking forward to the positive comments he has to share with them.

Currently the seniors have a lot on their plates. There was a variety of scholarships due on Wednesday, April 12th before their Easter break. They also have the last of their scholarships due May 1st. In addition to all



of the scholarships, the seniors also have to prepare for graduation. The seniors currently just gathered all of their adorable baby photos for the slide show.

Today, the seniors made a list of who they will be giving roses to and placed their flower orders. Next Tuesday, April 25th, there will be a parent meeting in the Belt School library at 6:30 p.m. This meeting is an opportunity for the parents to contribute to the

graduation celebrations and offer their input. The honor students are currently preparing for the speeches they have to present to the Board of Trustees on May 9th in the library at 6:30 p.m.

Following that day, on May 10th, there will be a senior dinner hosted by St. Mark's Catholic Church. Parents need to make reservations to Ms. Patty before then so the church has an idea of how many parents and students will be attending. On May 15th in the school gymnasium there will be an Academic Awards Assembly at 8:30 a.m. This is where all of the students' hard work pays off and they receive special awards for their achievements.

On May 19th, the seniors are set free as they rehearse for graduation and check out of school. Then finally on May 21st, graduation will be held in the Belt Gymnasium at 2:00 p.m. The seniors are looking forward to graduation and the speaker, Mick Delaney.

To the dismay of some and the glee of others, "Senioritis" has really kicked in for the Class of 2017 and they are ready to embark on the next chapter in their lives.

By: Kara Neal

Senior Countdown Calendar

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
	1 Last Major Scholarship Deadlines	2	3	4	5	6
				May 2017		
7	8	9 Honors Students present to the Board @ 6:30 pm	10 Senior Dinner @ St. Marks Catholic Church	11	12	13
14	15 Academic Awards Assembly in gym @ 8:30 am	16 Senior FINALS	17 Senior FINALS	18	19 Seniors last day of school	20
21 Graduation @ 2 p.m. in the gym	22	23	24	25	26	27

Chasing the Dragon

This past Thursday, the students from grades 7th through 12th gathered in the Belt School gymnasium for the Chasing the Dragon Assembly. The students had the opportunity to watch an incredible documentary filmed by the FBI and DEA. This film, “Chasing the Dragon: Life of an Opiate Addict,” focused their attention on recovering opiate addicts and the family members of those who died or were damaged by the scourge of drug addiction.

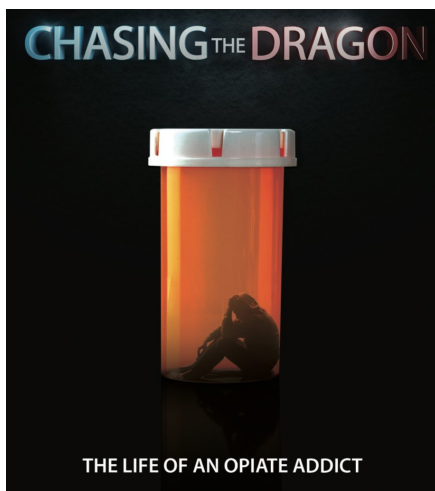
The film also mentioned when drugs began to become very serious and what it can do to the body. This film really got into each of the students hearts as it changed their perspective of drugs. The students also was able to listen to many touching and inspiring speeches from professionals that describe their route in addressing the problem.

The presentation was rather graphic, and had a serious impact on many of the students in attendance. Senior Kerstyn Pimperton comment-

ed that while she has never actually seen any of these types of drugs, “It is still a terrifying proposition to see how opiate addiction ruins so many lives.”

The assembly was designed to reinforce the healthy message students hear from teachers and parents regularly; “take care of yourself and make responsible decisions.”

By: Kara Neal



Bowling

Week 27

Men's High Game

Dave Anderson	224
Drew Koffler	222
Brian Neill	212

Men's Series

Drew Koffler	562
Brian Neill	555
Dave Eggert	550

Women's High Game

Teri Cummings, Lisa Urick	169
Polly Pimperton	164
Vicky Hicks	155

Women's Series

Lisa Urick	473
Polly Pimperton	437
Sandy Francom	423

The 2016-17 season is officially over. High scores from the campaign include:

High Game:

Men-John Larson	263
Women-Linda Lewis/Lisa Urick	209

High Series:

Men-John Larson	625
Women-Lisa Urick	545

Town of Belt

The Town Council recently had a meeting on Wednesday, April 5th. In attendance were: Mayor Wells, Clerk-Treasurer Lynn Schilling, public works employee Robin Franzen, Alderman Delbert Darko, Annie Porter, Paul Heikkila, Glen Enderson, Sally Miller, and Nadine Hardinger.

The meeting began with Idaho Trenberth from NCI Engineering discussing the sewer expansion/irrigation project. Trenberth discussed the possible need for another sewer rate increase for the proposed upgrades. Even though there was a sewer rate increase implemented a year and a half ago, Trenberth continue to discuss why another rate hike might be necessary. The plan for the project is to start breaking ground this summer. Shortly after the discussion of the sewer project, Alderman

Darko announced that the VFW will be hosting an antique car show. The show is scheduled to happen in Belt on September 23rd 2017. There are over 200 cars expected to participate in the event. The proceeds from the event will benefit students of the Belt School.

The town will, again be sponsoring the annual free clean-up dumpsters in Castner Park beginning on May 1st. The dumpster will be in Castner Park for the entire month of May. Following that discussion, the council deliberated on the policies during rodeo weekend. The Town Council decided not to charge a deposit for baseball field use during the rodeo. However, large groups would be required to provide their own dumpster for garbage and possibly an extra port-a-

potty. There will also be “No Open Fires” signs posted around Castner Park. There was also discussion that during the rodeo, food concessions might be limited to local vendors and Belt School groups. Miller recommended giving local groups priority over out of town food vendors and allowing nonprofit local groups to operate free of the town’s usual permitting fees. Before the decision is made, a survey of local vendors planning to operate at the 2017 rodeo will be completed.

The City Council held a meeting on April 19th. The information from that meeting will be published in the Valley Voice on April 7th. The next council meeting is scheduled for May 3rd.

By: Kara Neal

The Old Gym

The following effort at poetry was submitted by Mr. Koontz in the interest of nostalgia. The Voice was also a touch short on news material.

Buildings have no feelings,
Only serving human goals.
But if you're really lucky
You'll find barns that touch your soul.

I know of such a structure.
With its floor and stands and rails
A place where dreams were gained and lost,
A witness to great tales.

A simple brick box,
Filled usually to the brim.
There was clearly something special about
Our magical Old Gym.

In '49 they built it,
It lived for fifty years.
It hosted celebrations,
'Twas scene of many tears.

The floor was small, but sturdy,
The baskets square and true.
It was made to hold 500 souls,
Yet more it often drew.

The bleachers filled the north wall,
Faced raised stage across the way.
And in the realm between these points,
Passed heroes of their day.

And youngsters watched their idols,
Such a sight for all to behold.
And they waited for their own turn
To don Maroon and Gold.

Everyone who played there
Thinks fondly back to when
They played their best for good or bad
And would love to do it again.

The home team usually won here,
Even if the foe was best.
All played better ball here
All felt the place was blessed.

But old things make their way for new,
That's just the way things go.
In '98 they tore it up
A devastating blow.
They built a bigger box then,
More suitable for the time.
It held twice as many people,
To some it was sublime.

The gym became a library,
Offices, and classrooms too.
They said we wouldn't miss it,
With one so shiny and brand new.

But all of us who knew her
Miss her very much these days.
There were so many memories
Still fond in reflections haze.

-Karl Koontz



Super-State Selection

Belt High junior Dani Urick has had a pretty good year, excelling in volleyball, basketball, and track. She has been a big reason the Lady Huskies are ruling the State Class C ranks in both volleyball and basketball. Coming off a state championship and an MVP performance in Belgrade, Urick received one of the highest honors in Montana sports.

Urick was named to the Great Falls Tribute Super State basketball team, representing the top ten players in all classes state-wide. She was the

only Class C athlete to be named to the squad. The Super State team is selected by a vote of Montana sports writers and broadcasters. This honor recognizes her as one of the best basketball players in the state of Montana.

The Belt community would like to congratulate Urick on her accomplishments on the hardwood. She won the same honor as a sophomore, truly and amazing accomplishment

By: Kerstyn Pimperton

Lady Husky Golf

The Lady Husky Golf Team has competed at two golf meets in the past two weeks. On April 7th, the JV girls travelled to Choteau and the following day, the varsity girls made the same trek to Teton County.

The JV girls that competed in Choteau included: Tori Shelton, Karlee Permann, and Elyse Adams. Shelton scored a 129. Following Shelton, Permann shot a 135, and Adams scored a 144. The team score added up to 408. The varsity girls who traveled to Choteau the following day were: Kara Neal, Hannah Schweitzer, Adrianna Irvine, Kali Duncan, and Mo Wall. Irvine placed 3rd individually with a score of 106. Following Irvine, Schweitzer scored a 107. Behind Schweitzer, Neal shot a 115, Wall scored a 123, and Duncan shot a 131. The girls shot 328 for their team score.

The top six girls recently competed at the Meadow Lark Country Club in Great Falls on Monday, April 17th. Hannah Schweitzer, Kara Neal, Adrianna Irvine, Kali Duncan, Mo Wall, and Tori Shelton totaled a team score of 351. That mark was good for second place in the team event, falling several shots behind Class B Shelby. Neal led the way with a 111, with Schweitzer tallying a 114. Following Schweitzer, Irvine shot a 126, Duncan and Wall scored 136, and Shelton shot a 141.

The Lady Husky Golf Team has been having a successful season so far. Today, the JV girls are competing in Conrad. The varsity girls will head to Conrad tomorrow bright and early in the morning.

This weekend mark the halfway point in the season, with subsequent meets scheduled for Fort Benton, Fairfield, Chinook, and Seeley Lake (site of the state competition). Irvine, Schweitzer, and Neal have all already qualified for the state meet, and Coach Stinson is hopeful to “get another one or two across the line.” In Class C golf, a team can enter four players in the state meet, with the best three scores creating a team score. “It’s nice to have an extra golfer at state, because it’s a tough course and it takes a lot of pressure off each individual”, noted Stinson.

By: Kara Neal



Belt on the Fringe Edinburgh 2017

Raffle Fundraiser-\$20 per ticket

Great Prizes!!!

**Kimber Stainless Steel 30-06
Vintage 12 gauge shotgun
Trout Fishing Package
Handmade Gun Sling**

Tickets and additional info:

Sandra Irvine: 788-5242

Tiffany Vermeland: 781-4002

Tickets are also available at the Harvest Moon Saloon, Belt, MT

Drawing Date: June 19th

*Need not be present to win.

Middles School Hoop Tourney

The middle school basketball season came to a close for both the boys’ and girls’ team. The Huskies squads competed for the gold on Saturday, April 8th. Coached by Tony Cooper, the boys competed against the Roy/Winifred Outlaws, but lost in the title game by a single point.

The ladies on the other hand,

defeated Tri-Cities to earn 1st place. Coach Renzi Horton led to Huskies to another successful season.

The boys’ team is full of 8th grade boys, including: Kaimen Evans, TJ Hennes, and Cole Marks.

These boys will contribute to Coach Kyle Paulson’s team in the years to come. The ladies have four 8th grad-

ers who will be competing on the high school squad next year. They include: Faith Marchington, Kenzie Martin, Alivia Shelton, and Sabrina Wing.

The Belt community would like to congratulate both teams on their success this season.

By: Kerstyn Pimperton

District Music Festival (cont.)

says that the trip was very successful for all involved. Along with getting to perform, each of the students learned different ways that they can improve their playing techniques. The students learned how they compare with other Class C schools & students in the district.

All in all, the students and Mr. Nordquist enjoyed the time they spent at the District Music Festival, from performing for many to hear all the way to learning how to improve. Everyone who went did a fantastic job while performing. Mr. Nordquist is very proud with how efficient and dedicated the students were while both practicing and performing. A good job goes out to all of the students who took the time and patience to prepare and perform at the annual event. Hopefully everyone does just as well and even a little better next year than they did this year.

By: Abby Marchington



Public Notice

The Belt School District will host a garage sale on Thursday and Friday, April 27th and 28th from 1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. each day.

A wide variety of treasures will be available, including: furniture, electronics, books, and games.

Items for sale will be displayed on the north end of the school near Remington Field. Some items will be given away while others will be available at "Fire-Sale" prices.

For more information, call the school at 277 3351.

Crazy fact: Driving while intoxicated can kill you and those around you. Yet, hundreds of people continue to do each and every day. Luckily some people do learn after experiencing some of the harsh consequences of making the choice to drink and drive, but sadly others brush it off like a piece of lint on a jacket; as if nothing ever happened. These people continue to make the same mistake over and over again. They just don't learn.

It's easy and simple to avoid making this simple and obvious mistake before it's too late. Make sure to prevent it.

Don't drive while intoxicated.

This message brought to you by your
Cascade DUI Task Force



Spring Events

The elementary, middle, and high school students have a lot going on throughout the rest of the school year. The juniors recently their ACT test on Wednesday, April 19th. The teachers helped prepare the juniors for this difficult timed test. The juniors won't receive their scores until the end of May.

The following Thursday, April 20th, the 7th through 12th graders watched the "Chasing the Dragon Documentary" following it with a discussion. This day was an opportunity for the middle and high schoolers to be more aware of the dangers of drugs. Starting today, the annual Craig Cummings Tournament will take place in the gymnasium and will go to Sunday. This co-ed tournament is for a great cause and helps the students clear their heads while they are on the court before they return to their busy school work.

On Saturday, April 22nd, the middle school girls will be traveling to the college in Bozeman for the "Expanding Horizons." This event is a day of STEM activities for the middle school girls. The event will go from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. There will be a variety of workshops to choose from; each participant attends four workshops, which are clustered into "color groups."

The elementary students from grades 3rd through 5th will be having to take SBAC tests on April 24th to

April 28th. On April 25th, the high schoolers will have the opportunity to learn CPR. They can participate during PE classes or go in during their free time to learn how to save a person's life. Also on April 25th will be mid-term for the students. The mid-term gives the students an opportunity to be aware where their grades stand and how much they need to improve them before the end of the quarter. If parents would like to check their child's grades they can contact the school to ask for their username and password for PowerSchool. During the evening on April 25th, the seniors and their parents will be having a meeting with the counselor, Jill Gliko. This is the opportunity for the parents to give any ideas for graduation before it's too late. On April 26th, the Student Council will be gathering together for a district conference.

From May 1st to the 5th, the 6th-8th graders will be taking their SBAC tests. During the same week as the SBAC tests, it will be teacher appreciation week. This week gives the students an opportunity to show appreciation to their teachers and display how grateful they are for them before the school year is over with. On May 1st the high schoolers will be traveling to Great Falls for the COT high school Industrial Arts trip. Just a few days after the trip, the AP English seniors will taking

their exam. This test determines whether they will graduate with an AP credit or not.

On May 5th, the 4th and 5th graders will be traveling to the Lewis & Clark Caverns for a fun and interesting field trip. The Spanish students will also be taking a field trip to Great Falls on May 9th to put their Spanish speaking skills to the test. The students will travel to Walmart for a Spanish speaking scavenger hunt. After Walmart, the students will go to a restaurant and have a good time. That following evening, the high school honor students will be presenting their academic portfolios to the Belt Board of Trustees at 6:30 p.m. After all of their hard work they present to the board a compilation of all of their accomplishments and what they have gained from the Belt High School honors program.

It is easy to see the students in Belt are often overwhelmed with everything that needs to be done in such a limited amount of time. Even though the students are crammed with lots of activities, tests, and trips, they still manage to stay on task and complete their work. The 2016-17 school year has been very successful and memorable, and it's hard to believe it's almost over.

By: Kara Neal

It's No Bull

Last weekend, junior Tucker Johnson (pictured right) won a rodeo in Vaughn, Montana. He had a blast and was excited that he was able to come out on top. He participated in the bull riding event and succeeded due to his positive attitude and optimism. He was in the high school division against other kids ranging from 15 years old to 18 years old. His favorite part about the competition was the atmosphere and being able to be around everybody. He claims that the environment is contagious and he never wants to leave. He also enjoyed competing with some familiar friends. He earned a belt buckle representing his big win and he couldn't be happier about the outcome.

By: Isabelle Newman



Back to the Old Country

Belt was fortunate enough to house two foreign exchange students this year: Javi Infantes Lobo from Spain and John Coelho from Brazil. Both boys are happy with their experience here in the states and even have some things they want to take back home with them.

Coelho was housed with the



Andrews family this year. Richie Andrews is in 6th grade while his sister Margaret Andrews is a freshman. Coelho leaves on May 31st to depart back to his home country, however he feels split between wanting to go home and spending more time here. He states that it will be a bittersweet moment because he doesn't want to leave his family and new friends that he has met here, but he also can't wait to see his family and friends back home after not seeing them for over nine months.

His favorite holiday while being in the U.S. occurred this past weekend, Easter. He enjoyed getting to celebrate Easter over spring break with his host family. He states that he enjoyed getting a couple days off of school and relaxing before having to go back. One valuable lesson that Coelho is taking back to Brazil with

him is to "not judge people based on how they look." He is very grateful that his horizons have been broadened enough here to recognize this.

Some of his favorite classes include World History, P.E., Spanish, and Math. He admits that he is going to miss the safety and security that America offers because he doesn't get those qualities back home, however Coelho also admits that he can't wait to chow down on some quality food when he returns to Brazil. He confesses that he is going to miss his Belt family and friends the most and isn't quite ready to leave them.

Javi Infantes, on the other hand, is pretty much ready to return home. He has been housed with the Newman family which consists of freshman Avery Newman and senior Isabelle Newman. He also leaves May 31st, the same as Coelho, to go back to Spain. Infantes states that he is leaning more towards wanting to go home than leaving here, but there are obviously some things here that he'll never want to leave.

Infantes loved spending Christmas time with the Newman's.



He really enjoyed spending the time in the snow and spending time with his host family. A valuable lesson he admits to learning is "don't spend time of things that aren't important enough."

His favorite classes include Art, Biology, and World History. Infantes is going to miss the school and being able to use his locker the most. He explained that he doesn't have a locker in Spain and has to carry his books all the time. He admits it is sort of a nuisance and likes the luxury of having a locker. Infantes said that America has a more sensitive way of teaching children than at his school in Spain. He also states that America has a lot more fast food whereas Spain has more natural produce and markets. In addition to the food, he noted Spain's longer history as a difference between the countries.

The kids are glad they received an opportunity to come visit America, and looking at their experiences, both of them would like to come back later in their life. They have made friends and built relationships with their host families and peers at the school that will survive throughout their life. In addition, they were able to teach their share with their peers in Belt the unique aspects of their own culture. Not only did they become more cultured, but Belt kids gained a better understanding of the outside world. Belt has been a great location for both of these students as they are both from completely different communities and environments.

Belt definitely represented well and showed Infantes and Coelho the beauties of not just America and Montana, but of rural Montana as well.

By: Isabelle Newman

Orange Against Hunger



lion people continue to turn to this organization for food. This day is exclusive to Montana and schools/communities around the state have been conducting projects to continue to raise awareness for those kids.

Children are living in food- insecure households all around the country and don't have access to a reliable food source every year. In 2015, 31.1

million children lived in food- insecure homes and there haven't been many dents recently put in these statistics to change it. In the same year, nearly 20% of the child population in America lived in poverty. Some of these children went without shelter or food for days on end and this one week in Montana serves to raise awareness for those children.

in a food- insecure home or grow up in poverty, they are far more likely to end up involved in crime. Some children with younger siblings try to steal food from the grocery store just to have enough sustenance for the day because their families cannot afford to feed them at home.

The Student Council at Belt High put on a backpack drive earlier this year for the children in Belt who didn't know where their next meal was coming from. Belt's Chapter of National Honor Society also contributed earlier this year with the can the "Can the Cats, Can the Griz" food drive for the local food bank.

The school continues to support this epidemic every year, whether it be helping set up food drives throughout the school year, or just wearing a little orange to raise awareness.

This isn't just for Belt or the state of Montana, but for nationwide hunger awareness for the future generations of America.

Wear Orange Wednesday was an event that the Belt Public School took part in on April 19th as a part of Fight Childhood Hunger Week in Montana. Nearly 15 million children all over the nation go hungry every day and this one week a year raises awareness for those children in need. Food banks all around the nation continue to believe that hunger is a problem that can be solved and are using this week to really promote the need for these children.

Feeding America's Networks is a national organization in which food banks from around the country come together to fight to end hunger in America and 48 mil-

lion children lived in food- insecure homes and there haven't been many dents recently put in these statistics to change it. In the same year, nearly 20% of the child population in America lived in poverty. Some of these children went without shelter or food for days on end and this one week in Montana serves to raise awareness for those children.

Fortunately, there are programs in schools around the country that offer families in need free lunch. However, this only covers one out of the three meals a day. Thanks to Belt Schools,

they are one of the schools in the nation that offers free breakfast and lunch to families with financial issues that can't afford school lunch. However, not all school have programs like these.

It is also proven that when children grow up



By: Isabelle Newman

Oliver Larson

Old rivalries were renewed and high school friends were able to reminisce about their “glory days” at the 43rd Annual Oliver Larson Tournament. The competition kicked off over the Easter break at the Belt gymnasium, attracting athletes from high school all the way up to adults in their 50’s. The Larson boys, Josh, Jake, and John hosted the tournament to bring the community together to enjoy some hardwood action.

Regardless of wins or losses, each team played three games. Friday night eight teams took the floor for their first game. The next day, all teams participated in two more games. Champions were also crowned on that Saturday afternoon. The championship team consisted of Brett Christensen, Hannah Croff, Brett Keaster, Jake Larson, John Larson, Ty Martin, and Alyssa Pimperton.

The Oliver Larson Tournament has always been a great way to get the community together.

Matt Urick, an old timer on the wrong side of 50, participated in the event. Both high school students and alumni competed.

The Belt Brew Pub fed the players and created

a time to spark up conversations. The tradition is alive and well as it continues to unite young and old in Belt around the common bond of basketball.

By: Kerstyn Pimperton



Facility Meeting

Belt Public School is going through many changes in the year of 2017. Not only will the school undergo construction this summer for the facility upgrades, but new classes and a different schedule will be offered at BVHS for the 2017-18 school year. Students are excited to see the physical changes of the school environment, but they’re pumped up for more opportunities in the classroom.

Although many classes will be added to the school schedule, graduation requirements will stay

the same and Belt Public School will continue practicing the 8 period day. The adjustments will only affect the high school, adding: AP U.S. History, AP Chemistry, Financial Math, and Creative Writing. Students will be required to make their schedules before the end of the year to ensure time for adjustments. This is a great chance for students to participate in new classes, classes they couldn’t take in the past, and it will give them a more diverse choice in classes

By: Morgan Davis

Awards Banquet

The 2016-2017 Spring Athletics Awards Banquet will be held on Monday, May 22nd. The banquet will begin at 6:00 p.m. in the Belt cafeteria with a potluck dinner. Chicken will be provided by the Belt Boosters. The awards ceremony will follow in the cafeteria at approximately 6:15/6:30pm.

We ask that all of the female athletes please bring desserts and the male athletes please bring salads.

Belt’s basketball, wrestling, track, golf athletes and cheerleaders had tremendous years and this will be a chance to recognize their efforts. Everyone is invited!

There will also be a short Booster Club meeting following the awards.

Summer Camps

As the school year comes to an end, different summer sports camps begin. The 2017 Belt High School Lady Husky Girls’ Basketball Camp is for girls entering grades 9-12. The camp runs June 5th through June 7th. The 2017 Belt Middle School Basketball Camp lasts from June 5th-8th. Both girls and boys going into grades 6th-8th are able to join in the fun. The 2017 Belt Elementary Basketball Camp is for girls and boys currently in grades Pre-K-4th grade. It will begin on May 22nd - May 24th. The final camp is MS boys football mini-camp This camp is for boys entering grades 6th-8th, and will last from July 17th-19th. For more information regarding these camps, visit the Belt School website at: <http://www.beltschool.com/>.



Games/ Puzzles

This week's game is about National Honors Society. What student was chosen by Mr. Ross to dress up like a crane during their induction banquet in March? (Hint: It's and NHS officer)...



Answer to last week's game: Mrs. Metrione

Inspirational Quotes

This week's Valley Voice is going to hone in on living in the moment. As the year draws to a close, students should realize how fast each year is going by and how they're not going to get another year like this one, especially for the might class of 2017.

"You must live in the present, launch yourself of every wave, find your eternity in each moment. Fools stand on their island of opportunities and look toward another land. There is no other land; there is no other life but this."- Henry David Thoreau

"All I have is all I need and all I need is all I have in this moment."- Byron Katie

"Life is a preparation for the future; and the best preparation for the future is to live as if there were none."
- Albert Einstein

There is no promise for another tomorrow, so live life to the fullest, in the present, now. Now is the time for action. The past can't change, but the present can. Enjoy what you have now because you may not have it tomorrow.- Isabelle Newman

Valley Voice
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