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The Valley Voice



Issue #2

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Homecoming

All the classes were in full throttle as Homecoming week arrived fast this year. On Tuesday September 5th, the "B" on the hill received a makeover. The graduating class of 2018 left after lunch and spent three hours rearranging the '17 into an '18 and coating it in fresh white paint. This tradition lets the seniors spend quality time together before adventuring out into the big world. Also this year's class added twelve solar lights so the outline of the "18" is visible at night.

The dress up days were a huge success with almost the entire student body participating. This year there were new dress up days than in the past: Tourist Tuesday, Favorite Team/Alma Mater Wednesday, Class Color Thursday,

and classic Maroon and Gold Friday. The seniors barely edged out the underclassman, winning the dress up days with 11 points. The competitions throughout the week all built towards the quest to win the Husky Spirit Stick.

Class Olympics took place Tuesday evening with the four high school classes battling it out. Six events comprised the two hour competition, organized by the Student Council. The seniors once again took first, gaining the Spirit Stick points accumulated as part of the week long competition. The juniors received second, sophomores third, and the freshmen fourth.

On Thursday evening, the Lady Husky Volleyball team dominat-

ed the co-opted Geraldine/Highwood Lady Rivals. Both the Junior Varsity and Varsity teams easily won in three sets. The Varsity girls' game went: 25-10, 25-9, 25-9. The Homecoming Royalty was also announced in-between games. Senior candidates: Tucker Johnson and Adrian Malek, junior candidates: Troy Hennes and Jordan Swanson, sophomore candidates: Robbie Flinn and Christina Fernandez, and the freshman candidates: Keagan Stroop and Dani Urick.

On Friday, the high school students were eager to get to their float building sites to bring their float blueprints to life. After four hours of hard work, all the high schoolers joined the younger students at the middle school football game

Cont. Pg. 4

Football

The Huskies are off to a great start in 2017, sporting an undefeated record three weeks into the campaign. In the last two weeks, the football squad snatched victories over Centerville and Box Elder on their own turf at S. A. Remington Field as the regular season kicks into full swing.

The Huskies were successful in their home

opener with a win against their old rival, Centerville, by a score of 36-28. Because of the new districting in the Northern C, this was a non-conference battle. The game kicked off and Centerville scored almost immediately, which stirred up confusion amongst the fans since Belt has a reputation for beating the Miners. The Huskies struck back and ultimately scored

12 points in the first quarter on touchdown runs by senior Keagan Stroop and sophomore Hunter Vogl. However, Centerville still trumped 14-12 as the horn sounded to end the quarter. In the second quarter Stroop found pay dirt with a touchdown run and converted the two pointer, helping Belt knot the score at 20-20 by halftime.

Cont. Pg. 2

Football (Cont.)

Neither team scored during the third quarter so the pressure was on for both the Huskies and the Miners stepping into the fourth and final quarter. The teams traded touchdowns in the final stanza and nerves were frayed as the minutes ticked down. With about four minutes remaining, Stroop got loose again on a zig-zagging 46 yard touchdown scramble (film review later revealed that he scurried about 120 yards on the play). Troy Hennes caught a two point conversion and the Husky defense held on for the win.

Centerville	14	6	-	8	28
Belt	12	8	-	16	36

Coming off the high of a winning streak, the Huskies took the field again on September 8th, their homecoming game against the Box Elder Bears. This is the first game that counted towards the playoffs which are coming up at the end of the season. And as per usual, the Huskies didn't disappoint fans with a resounding final score of 63-0.

The game started slowly as the eight starters took the field; these players surprisingly managed just one touchdown for a first quarter. After 12 minutes of play the only tally was Hennes' touchdown catch from Stroop with Robbie Flinn catching the

two point conversion. In the second quarter the Huskies exploded for 24 points to take control. Subsequent scores came on a Stroop punt return, a Vogl to Flinn pass, a Vogl to Flinn pass, and a Stroop run.

After halftime festivities and the magical royalty crowning, the Husky onslaught continued unabated. Trey Heitzman got in the act, catching a Stroop touchdown pass, and then Heitzman threw the conversion pass to Gavin Roberts. Flinn rushed one yard to the end zone with Antonio Heaton kicking the extra point. The third quarter ended with Vogl scoring again and Nolan Myrstol hauling in the two pointer. In the fourth period, Freshman Kaimen Evans notched his first varsity TD and Adam Langston capped the scoring with a run for the conversion.

Box Elder	-	-	-	-	-
Belt	8	24	23	8	63

The Huskies are 3-0 overall in Northern C play and 1-0 within their subdivision. The boys hit the road once again tonight to play the CJI Hawks in Chester. Also, tomorrow Great Falls Central hosts Choteau in a critical Northern C showdown.

By: Maggie Andrews



Senior Spotlight

As the third week of school descended upon the students of Belt High, the class of 2017 is already complaining of senioritis. This year's seniors will be introduced in pairs throughout the school year. Up to the plate for the first senior spotlight are Cristina Fernandez and Robbie Flinn.

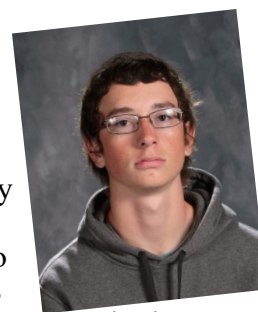
Cristina Fernandez moved to Belt four years ago from Inyokern, California. Cristina was quick to partake in athletics, competing in volleyball and track. She also engaged in activities outside of the maroon and gold jerseys joining youth leadership. In her free time, Cristina enjoys photography and learning sign language. She also enjoys hanging out with her classmates, the people



she is going to miss the most when she makes the leap from the small, provincial community of Belt into the vast world. Cristina's favorite memory of her high school experience is the fact that when she came to Belt her classmates thought she was good at sports. Her transition into the class of 2017 and Belt Public School was also made easier by her favorite teacher, Mr. Koontz. After high school Cristina plans to go to Salon Professional Academy.

Robbie Flinn, unlike Cristina, has lived in Belt for all 17 years of his life. Robbie has competed in football, track, and cross country throughout his middle school and high school career. During his downtime, Robbie enjoys hunting, going to school, and playing games with the boys. Along with Cristina, Robbie will also miss his class-

mates as he matriculates into the illimitable world. Robbie's favorite memory of life in Belt is making it to the semifinals in football his junior year. As Robbie came into high school and started switching classes and teachers every 50 minutes, he found that his favorite teacher would be Mrs. Graham. Pending his graduation in May, Robbie plans to pursue a career in welding.



Look for the next senior pair, Brayden Haugrose and Antonio Heaton, in the next issue of the Valley Voice.

By: Adelle Meissner

What's Cookin'?

While standing in line waiting to get lunch trays, many students fail to realize that every member of the lunch staff knows them by name. This is just one way that Teresa Elam, Ruth Sanborn, and Ellie Hill go above and beyond for the students of the Belt community.

While Ms. Hill has been here for five years, Elam and Sanborn have dedicated fifteen years to Belt's students and staff. When asked what her favorite part of the job is Sanborn chimed in right away with "the kids." Elam emphasized that she really enjoys all of the cooking.

In the past, the lunch ladies have encouraged the kids to eat healthy and get the most out of their food. This year the Belt kitchen crew is changing things around a little bit, especially with the initiative to get students to eat healthier. Elam emphasized that they really want more kids to drink their white milk. On a typical day, chocolate milk cartons

are never returned to the cafeteria, but when the young children run out of chocolate milk, white milk is all they have. On these days most of the children return their milk, and don't even take a sip. The cook staff has been setting up rewards for the students who do drink their white milk on these days, and the results are exactly what they had hoped for. Elam stated "We have had kids who hated white milk start drinking it," and it's not over. They even hinted at a drawing for the kids who drink their white milk.

Another thing that the lovely lunch staff added was a flavor station. This means that the students and staff can now flavor their food with spices like pepper and other nutritional seasoning instead of unhealthy options like salt. The Belt lunch ladies have been and are going to the ends of the world to make Belt a healthier and happier

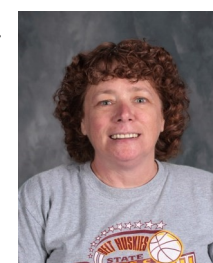
place.

One constant is quality food and cheery disposition of the kitchen staff in Belt. Thank you Ladies!

By: Natalie Larsen



Teresa Elam



Ruth Sanborn



Ellie Hill

Student Council

The student council and class officers are required, as leaders of the Belt High student body, to guide their subjects into a commendable new school year. Each high school class elected a president, vice president, secretary, and two representatives, just days before Homecoming began. The class officers started off the year by leading the class in a meeting to decide float ideas, electing homecoming candidates, and organizing class Olympics. The student council was elected last spring.

The school officers were elected last spring, as they applied by writing an essay for the council advisor, Mrs. Tillman. Those officers include: President Hannah Schweitzer, V.P. MaKayla O'Neil, Keely Drummond who serves as Secretary/Treasurer, along with student body

representatives Tori Shelton and Andrew Stice. The class representatives act as the student's voice during board meetings and the experience gives each an understanding of political leadership. Each class also elected their officers the first week of school.

For the freshman class, the elected class president is Riley Larson, their vice president is Sierra Reese, their secretary is Zach Buskirk, their treasurer is TJ Hennes, and their class representatives are Livy Shelton and Sabrina Wing.

For sophomores, Keely Drummond as president, Shelby Paulson as vice president, Natalie Larsen as secretary, Adelle Meissner as treasurer, and Hunter Vogl and Andrew Stice as the class rep-

resentatives.

The juniors elected Elyse Adams as president, Makayla O'Neil as vice president, Grace Davison as secretary, Julia Vogt as treasurer, Elyse Adams and Matt Dollenger as class representatives.

The Class of 2018 elected Nolan Myrstol as president, Troy Hennes as vice president, Ashley Triviso as secretary, Adrian Malek as treasurer, Antonio Heaton and Dani Urick as class representatives.

Without the student council and class officers the student body would not have a voice in the school issues, and the elected representatives provide leadership for class activities.

By: Aundrea Glick

Homecoming (Cont.)

The middle school football team blew away the Box Elder Bears with the final score of 22-0. This contest set the pace for the Varsity game that evening. At 5:00 p.m. the Belt community lined Castner Street for the parade. Starting the line of cars were, Grand Marshals, Mary Beth Larsen and April Wells representing the Class of 1978. All of the class floats were an eye catching site, but the sophomores edged out the upperclassmen and freshman to capture the float title. The seniors received second, juniors took third, and freshman fourth.



The parade led right to the school where the pep rally started in the gym. The last contest for the

spirit stick was the Husky Roar. After one time through the chant, the crowd decided that the seniors and sophomores tied and needed another try. While the seniors were barely louder than the sophomores, both classes were extremely loud. The juniors took third as the freshman received fourth. At seven o'clock the Husky boys stormed onto Remington Field ready to take on Box Elder. After a dull start in the first quarter, the Huskies scored forty seven points in the next two. The final score was 63-0 with the Maroon and Gold capturing a "W" on homecoming. During half time of the football game the Homecoming Queen and King were announced. Crowned by 2017 Prom Queen Shannon Hoskins, underclassman candidates Christina Fernandez and Keagan Stroop received the titles.

On Saturday evening, the Golden Husky volleyball team



earned a win over Simms to stay undefeated. The scores of the sets were: 25-13, 26-24, 25-16. After the game was the third annual DECA Homecoming Dance. This was the last event of the weekend and everyone who attended had a great time.

Now as the exciting memories of Homecoming fade into the past, students have to get back to business and continue with school for the remainder of the year.

By: Keely Drummond

9/11 Memorial Poetry

9/11

As the news catches the planes
crashing,
The Country becomes depressed,
All the chaos and flashing,
The Country feels betrayed,
The President and the People be-
come mad,
As the President seeks for answers,
The people say prayers for the peo-
ple in the twin towers.

Ethan Triplett

September 11, 2001

Devastating, Terrifying
Run, Scream, Burn
World trade center, Twin towers,
Pennsylvania, Pentagon
Die, Grieve, Cry
Miserable, Heartbroken
9/11/2001

Ryann Osterman

9/11

chaotic, terrifying
yelling, running, struggling
planes, twin towers, terrorists,
wreckage
collapsing, rescuing, fleeing
smoky, noisy
World Trade Center

- Clayton Jassen

New Students

There are quite a few new stu-
dents who recently joined the eighth
grade class of 2022. Three of them
include: Lillee Vitale, Rosalynn Ken-
ner-Carrington, and Sarah Dollenger.
In the issues to come, we will feature
three more new students and their ex-
perience so far.

Lillee Vitale moved all the
way across the coun-
try to Montana from
Virginia. Vitale en-
joys watching televi-
sion and watching
YouTube videos.
She also enjoys
spending her time



playing video games. She isn't in any
sports and doesn't really have a plan
to join any. She currently doesn't
have a favorite teacher. When asked

about her favorite class she laughed
and replied "lunch".

Another new 8th grader is
Rosalynn Kenner-Carrington. She
arrived this
summer from
Helena. Her
hobbies in-
clude: singing
and running.
She wowed the
crowd at
Homecoming



with her rendition of the National
Anthem. She also enjoys theater.
With her hobby of running, she
plans to join the middle school
track team later on in the year. Her
favorite class thus far is history,
when asked who her favorite teach-
er was she didn't have one yet.

Sarah Dollenger moved to

Belt from the
Misawa air
force base in
Japan. Her
hobbies in-
clude sleep-
ing, spending
time, hanging
around her
friends, and eating. She is current-
ly on the middle school volleyball
team, she normally plays soccer
but isn't on a team right now. Her
favorite teacher so far is Mrs.
Vogt. Her favorite class is P.E.



In issues to come, the
Voice will feature three more new
students and their experiences so
far in Belt.

By: Sydne Flinn

Now that football season is upon us drinking and driv-
ing may be more tempting than ever, but with the right plan
the two should never meet. Make sure that as an adult you al-
ways have a designated driver, and buckle up. Getting every-
one home safe is all the community wants, but without the
right strategy it will never happen. Remember just having one
drink can affect your ability to drive. So always make a plan.

Don't Drink and Drive!

This message brought to you by your
Cascade DUI Task Force



Husky Volleyball

The Lady Husky volleyball team is on a 6-0 winning streak. The girls played five volleyball games in the past two weeks to kick off a great season. On September 2nd the Husky teams took on the Fairfield Eagles, followed by the Highwood-Geraldine Rivals on the 7th, the Simms Tigers on the 9th, the Great Falls Central Catholic Mustangs on the 12th, and the Centerville Miners on the 14th.

The "C" Squad fell to the Eagles in three on September 2nd, but the JV and Varsity rallied; the JV winning in four and the Varsity winning in three. The Varsity got the win with set scores of 25-23, 25-18, and 25-18. Leading the team in digs was Dani Urick with 15, Adrian Malek with 13 kills, Urick also led the team with 2 blocks, Morgan Cooper had a whopping 5 aces, and Kolby Pimperton notched 27 assists in the Husky victory.



September 7th the Huskies played the Highwood-Geraldine Ri-



vals on the Huskies home court for their first homecoming game. The junior varsity beat the Rivals in three sets. Building on the JV's win, the varsity also bested the rivals in three matches with scores of 25-10, 25-9 and 25-9. Pimperton led the Huskies with 24 assists, Urick contributed 15 digs. Urick also led the team with 3 blocks, Malek and Urick both had 9 colossal kills, and Cooper added two aces for the win.

For their second game homecoming week, on September 9th, the Lady Huskies took on the Simms Tigers. The JV beat the Tigers in three sets. The varsity continued to roll in their undefeated season, beating the Tigers in three as well. The Belt varsity trumped Simms with scores of 25-13, 26-24, and 25-16. Malek led the team for aces with 4

untouchable serves, Cooper had a team high of 12 kills, Shelby Paulson had 3 blocks, Urick added 17 digs, and Pimperton set for 33 assists, sealing a homecoming victory.

September 12th was a big day for the Husky volleyball team. The two teams travelled to Great Falls for a game versus the Great Falls Central Catholic Mustangs, the only other team in the district with an undefeated record. Much like diamonds, the JV cracked under the pressure. The JV lost in five matches, unable to over-



ride the Mustangs power. The varsity was eager to defend their undefeated record. The Huskies were led in aces by Marquis and Paulson with two



each, Malek had 22 killer hits, Urick contributed four blocks, Marquis added 24 digs, and Pimperton set for 24 assists to help the Lady Huskies. The first set disappointed the team, who fell to Central in the first 25-23. Winning the next two matches 25-21 and 29-27, the Huskies reassured their fans and strengthened the support of the Old Belt faithful. The ladies faltered in the fourth set losing 25-23, but came back to win the fifth match 15-11 securing their coveted, undefeated record.

Last night, the Huskies took on the Centerville Miners in Belt. The JV took the win in three sets. The varsity continued to build on the JV's win and their undefeated record, hammering the Miners in three quick sets, outscoring them 25-5, 25-17, and 25-4.

The Huskies will be back in action tomorrow in Big Sandy. The Husky conference record is 5-0 and the overall record is 6-0 The JV game will begin at 6:00p.m. with the varsity game to follow 20 minutes after the last bump, set, spike.

By: Adelle Meissner

New Staff Members



Belt Public Schools are getting back into the swing of classes and meeting new faces. One new addition to the staff is a new K-12 music teacher, Jonathan Sutton. He is excited to begin his teaching career here in the valley.

Mr. Sutton is originally from Bozeman, where his parents still live. This is Mr. Sutton's first "real"

teaching job, having only subbed before. His parents were teachers, they, and various other supportive teachers, inspired him to choose teaching as his profession. He would like to support his students as much as his teachers.

The main focus Mr. Sutton wants to emphasize on the elementary students is letting them learn to love music at a young age so they can develop a passion for it. For 5th graders and middle school students he wants to develop a sturdy foundation to learn their instruments,

giving them the basics on a new skill.

With the high school band he wants the students to feel comfortable with their instruments and will push them with new music. All choir students will have expectations of singing their hearts out all year. Mr. Sutton has very high hopes for pep band with plans of bringing middle school students into the mix with hopes of pushing new songs into the agenda.

By: Aundrea Glick

Belt Creek Clean-Up

The characteristically orange water that runs straight through the town of Belt's heart, is soon to be restored to all its beautiful blue, green glory. Coal mining operations from the 19th century, which were especially prevalent in the 1890's, have left Belt with the ecological scars that remain today.

The project is scheduled to begin in 2018 and the treatment plant, as of now, is planned to be up and serviceable in 2019. The current building cost is estimated at six million dollars, and an additional \$460,000 per year to keep the plant up and operational. Restoration of the Belt Creek water is all funded by the DEQ Abandoned Mine Lands Program using grant funding. The plant is set to be built in the Coke Oven Flats area where

the worst of the acid mine drainage (AMD) is infiltrating the creek.

Coal extraction through the 19th century was executed by room and pillar mining, leaving huge cavities stripped of coal and pillars of original rock remaining to keep the room from collapsing in on itself. These subterranean pockets became a place where water collected, then drained into the creek. This draining water breaks down the pyrite nodules found in coal, creating sulfuric acid and it also carries other toxic and heavy metals found in the adits, open mine shafts.

The extraction plan is to send the groundwater, before it makes its way into the creek, through a series of clarifiers. These clarifiers will add chemicals such as hydrated lime and flocculent to con-

dense and sludge the acid and metals found in the water making them easier to remove. Options for where the leftover sludge will be deposited are still being discussed. Some of these potential methods of disposal include: drying the sludge then transporting it to a nearby landfill, pumping the sludge back into the mine workings out of the path of water, or drying the sludge and putting it in a state-owned depository.

The benefits to Belt's public will be tremendous. In addition to the aesthetic advantages of restoring Belt Creek to its former blue opulence, this treatment plan will also help restore wildlife populations and reset the balance of the ecosystem.

By: Shelby Paulson



Check these photos out online to view in color. They were taken yesterday upstream from the swinging.

Middle School Sports

Along with the start of high school sports, the Belt Valley Middle Schoolers donned the maroon and gold to compete in a variety of sports. Football, cross country, and volleyball are the sports available to the sports-crazed middle schoolers during the fall season.

The middle school football team consists of eighth graders: Jon Highfill, Gabriel Triplett, Cole Hepfner, Kaiden Marquis, Aidan Bergstrom, Archer Throckmorton, Hayden Urick, Corbyn Nebel, and Asa Jassen, seventh graders: Zach Feldman, Sawyer Myrstol, Gavin Olson, Memphis Black, Josiah Triplett, Garrett Metri-one, Isaac Maki, Ryley Mapston, Richie Andrews, Bridger Vogl, and Owen Halley, and sixth graders: Alex Knutson, Johnny Tingey, Jeremy Nebel, Lane Waldner, JD Shepard, Ethan Triplett, Alex Hunsaker, Clayton Jassen, Karson Arndt, and Reese Paulson. The cross country team, cooped with the Centerville Miners, is represented by eighth graders: Lindsey Paulson, Asa Jassen, Piper Denno, Cole Hepfner. The Husky volleyball A team consists of eighth graders: Lindsey Paulson, Piper Denno, Maddie Osterman, Sarah Dollenger, Ahmia Lords, Riley Kuebler, and Raily Gliko and seventh graders: Haley Hoerner, Deanna Davison, Tara Hedstrom, Hailey Assels, and Alyssa Nebel. The B squad consists of sixth graders: Addie Urick, Kyndal Schraner, Danika Lords, Brynn-Leigh Dickinson, Natalee Downard, Keely Dirkson, Madisen Feldman, Kennedie Martin, Ella Pethel, Ryann Osterman, Kylee Permann, and Madison Pogany.

The football team, coached by Tim Lords, John Metri-one, and Felix Anderson, has already won their first game. On August 25th the Huskies made the trek to Cascade and were victorious with a score of 36-0. The Little Huskies faced off against the Centerville Miners on September 1st.

The Huskies snatched the victory 42-0. The players took the field again on September 8th for the homecoming game versus the Box Elder Bears. Once again, the Huskies were victorious winning the game 22-0. The football team is 3-0 overall, boasting three shut-outs.

Mark Garber, as well as coaching the high school cross country team, heads the middle school team as well. The team, consisting of Belt eighth graders: Piper Denno, Lindsey Paulson, Cole Hepfner, and Asa Jassen, seventh grader: Richie Andrews, and Centerville eighth grader: Annie Cook. The runners have had one meet. On September 1st, the middle school cross country team travelled to Cut Bank. Lindsey Paulson landed 3rd place with a time of 10:52, Piper Denno ran for an 8th place standing running 1.5 miles in 11:34, and Annie Cook cinched 10th place with a time of 11:36. No boys participated in the meet in Cut Bank because they elected to stay in Belt for the Friday night football game.

The Husky volleyball team is coached by Taylor McNally and assisted by Jill Gliko. The B team under the leadership of Gliko got off to a rocky start, losing their first three games. On August 31st against the Fort Benton Longhorns the young ladies lost in three matches. The girls were able to win the first set 25-7, but were beat in the next two with scores of 25-20 and 16-14. For their first homecoming game on September 7th the Huskies fell to the Highwood-Geraldine Rivals in two sets. The scores of the two sets were matching, 25-21. The second homecoming game was on September 9th and the B team lost to the Simms Tigers in three sets. The Huskies lost the first set 25-17, but were able to rally and beat the Tigers in the second set 25-9. The team ultimately fell to the Tigers,

losing the third set 15-8. The Huskies made the short trek to Great Falls Central Catholic on September 12th and the B team came home victorious. The current record for the B team is 1-3.

The A team, coached by McNally, was victorious in their season opener, beating the Fort Benton Longhorns in two sets, outscoring the Longhorns 25-22 and 25-23. The Huskies were victorious again on September 9th against the Rivals of Highwood/Geraldine, winning in two sets with scores of 25-17 and 25-16. Continuing their winning streak, the A team beat the Simms Tigers in three sets for another homecoming win. The scores of the sets were 25-21, 18-25, and 15-11, with the Huskies losing the second set. On September 12th the team played the Great Falls Central Catholic Mustangs in Mustang territory. Despite the home court advantage, the Huskies whipped the Mustangs in two matches with easy wins of 25-15 and 25-11. The A team hosted Centerville last night. The results of the game will be in the next issue of the Valley Voice. The A team record stands at 4-0 pending last nights results.

The football team will hit the road and head to Chester tonight for a 4:00 game versus the Hawks. The cross country team's next meet will be on September 23rd in Havre; The gun fires at 10:00 a.m. The Husky volleyball team will take the floor again tomorrow in Big Sandy. The B game begins at 4:30p.m. and the A team will start 20 minutes post the conclusion of the prior game. Subsequent issues of the Valley Voice will track the continuing progress of these younger Huskies.

By: Adelle Meissner

Husky Cheer Squad

Before cheerleading kicked off this year the team lost eight members out of the twelve, but since it is a new year the team welcomed five new members including a new assistant coach. The new cheerleaders include Hannah Schweitzer (Senior), Cierra Kelly (freshman), Sierra Reese (freshman), and Madisyn Lords (freshman). This year there are a total of seven cheerleaders including the three that have been a part of the team for a year or more. The three older cheerleaders are Grace Davison, Mika Haagenson, and Avery Newman.

“This year has been off to a great start with an awesome group of cheerleaders” stated Jackie Newman, the head coach. “They are a great bunch and definitely a group of new faces. They are always willing to do and try new things, they are just awesome”

In addition to four new cheer-

leaders there’s also a new assistant coach. Nettie Davison recently joined the team and has been a big help. The cheerleaders welcomed Coach Davison as soon as she got involved and everyone has been appreciating her company and support.

Senior, Hannah Schweitzer has definitely been enjoying cheerleading. “I love it, I honestly wish I had done it earlier” she said “I’ve always wanted to do cheerleading and since it’s my last year why not try it out?”

Freshman, Cierra Kelly has also been having a good time, “I did it for fun and I just wanted to get back into it since I did it when I was younger, it also looks good on college applications.”

Freshman Sierra Reese and Madisyn Lords decided to do it for fun and so far they really like it.



The cheerleaders have definitely shown their spirit in the last few weeks and put in a lot of work, especially for homecoming. They made signs to put around the school to remind students what to wear, they made signs to put on the athletes lockers, and they put in a lot of time and effort to make this homecoming an amazing experience for everyone. They are an awesome group that made this homecoming one to remember.

By: Tori Sherwood

Fall Sports Teams



<h2>Calendar of Events</h2>	<h2>Whose It?</h2>
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On the Horizon:

Sept. 15th Cross Country @ Great Falls
 Sept. 15th Football @ CJI
 Sept. 16th Volleyball @ Big Sandy
 Sept. 18th School Picture Day
 Sept. 18th MS Cross County @ Great Falls
 Sept. 20th Early Release 12:31 p.m.
 Sept. 21st Volleyball vs Cascade
 Sept. 23rd Cross Country @ Havre
 Sept. 23rd Volleyball @ Geraldine-Highwood
 Sept. 22nd Football vs Choteau
 Sept. 25th Quarter 1 Mid – Term
 Sept. 25th MS Cross County @ Great Falls

In this weeks issue the game/puzzle is hair.
 Who's lovely locks are these?



(Hint: This highschooler is about as crazy as his hair)
 The answer will be featured in the next issue.

<h2>AP Classes</h2>

AP US History and AP Chemistry joined AP English in Belt's repertoire of classes. Although there seems to be a 50/50 chance of passing the final AP exam, the classes will challenge the students of Belt at the college level, requiring both Mr. Koontz and Mrs. Horton to take courses over the summer to become AP certified. This begs the question of what an AP class is and why students should consider taking them.

First of all, AP stands for advanced placement. Passing an AP class by getting a 3 or higher on the AP final subverts the need for that student to take that class in college. Although the tests do cost about \$90 to \$100 each, the college class could cost upwards of \$1,000, saving both parents and students a great deal of cash. AP classes are standardized across the country meaning that the class, test, and students are held to the same standards across the nation.

As previously mentioned teachers need to become AP certified, 32 hours of training, before they can teach a viable AP class and a lot of work has been put into getting these classes off the ground.

Starting with Jeffrey Ross three years ago, the AP classes have been a cooperative effort including Karl Koontz, Renzi Horton, and Jill Gliko. After acquiring textbooks and creating syllabi that meet AP standards, the AP classes ended up costing for tax payers no more than a regular class and are ready for the 2017-18 school year.

Giving students the college experience while costing 1/10th of a college class, AP classes are a great option for every student. Although some students and parents may consider the cost of the AP exam to be too much, some students may be eligible for either a partial or full waiver from the cost. Simply talk to Mrs. Gliko for more information.

The main focus of these classes is not the money saved if one passes the exam, but rather to expose students to the academic rigor required to succeed at the college level. Although U.S. History, Chemistry, and English have changed their syllabi, the teachers are focusing more on challenging their students with a more in-depth curriculum. To be honest, these classes have more homework and students should know what they're

getting into, but don't despair. The staff at Belt will be far more helpful in helping students discover how to manage this workload than any college teacher bogged down with hundreds of students.

In the end AP classes may even be able to narrow a student's search for colleges, since some colleges like MIT (the Massachusetts Institute of Technology) only accept scores of 5 on the tests, ruling out colleges that don't accept lower student scores. For example, the University of Montana accepts AP test scores starting from a 3 meaning that a student, who gets a 3 on the AP U.S. History class here in Belt, will already have 6 General Education Credits covered upon entry into college.

Overall, the teachers stress that learning, not passing the AP exam, should be the paramount focus of AP student. To quote Mrs. Gliko, AP classes are, "constantly challenging students to challenge themselves," and to paraphrase Mr. Ross, "passing the AP exam is extra; the real value of AP English is the experience."

By: MaKayla O'Neil

Cross Country

The runners of BCXC competed in their first meet at Cut Bank two Fridays ago. The middle school girls ran first: Lindsey Paulson, Piper Denno, and Annie Cook also tagged along for an exciting race day. L. Paulson snatched a 3rd place time of 10:52, as Denno and Cook were neck and neck with almost twin times of 11:34 (Denno) and 11:36 (Cook).

Making the race for the high school boys, Sophomores William

Franzen and Trajan Caivarelle came to represent the maroon and black of the Belt-Centerville Co-op. Coming in first out of the pair was Franzen with an outstanding time of 34:49.0 and following not too shortly behind was Caivarelle at 35:54.0. Shifting over to the girl's side of things, Shaylinn Dilley, Kolby Pimperton, and Shelby Paulson all came ready to run that hot Friday afternoon. Dilley managed to cross the

finish line at 24:03.0 and coming in hot at second out of the Husky-Miner girls Pimperton snagged a sweet time of 24:11.0 along with S. Paulson at 25:03.0.

Exceptional finishes all around from high school to middle school left the team with a great first meet experience. The next race will take place in Great Falls on Friday the 15th at 3:00.

By: Shelby Paulson

Construction Project

Construction is well under way at Belt Public Schools, remodeling and improving the facility for generations to come. The construction is moving along in complete accordance with the schedule, and the end of this monumental project is in line to be finished in 10 months. These changes will truly change the future educational experiences of the students attending school in Belt.

By the end of this month, September, the concrete walls will be complete and preparations will be taken to pour the concrete floor. The over-frame of the roof will begin as well, providing cover for the elementary wing and boiler

room. In the big, ultimate picture, the facilities (such as the weight room, activity room, etc.) should be open for use by June 1st, 2018.

Although projections are always contingent on a number of factors, the project is moving along at a pace that will meet these deadlines. Many companies are involved in this strenuous event, including Dick Anderson Construction and Asbestos and Lead Abatement for the Safetech. Dick Anderson Construction is shouldering the bulk of the work for this project as they are in charge of general framing, trusses, the erecting of the metal building and the metal panels within that, the concrete, general hardware, and more.

This construction is affecting the entire community, but the students (and their parents) and teachers are most heavily impacted. Many teachers in both elementary and high school have switched rooms and all K-12 classes are being held in the existing middle and high school classrooms. Everyone has had to make adjustments, but things are moving quite smoothly considering despite the congestion. A third bell was added in the morning that sends the elementary students scurrying off to class before

the older kids.

One year of inconvenience will result in a much improved learning environment for future students. The security of the building will be greatly enhanced as the elementary wing will be separate from the rest of the building when special events are taking place in the high school or in the existing gymnasium. Classrooms will be larger and more technologically advanced, improving the learning opportunities in the elementary.

Also, a new air flow unit will be introduced. This clever contraption provide much better air circulation in the elementary as well as the rest of the building to help keep everybody cool. For the high school kids, teachers, and community members the multipurpose room, stage, weight and fitness room will provide a much better fitness facility and venue for a variety of performances.

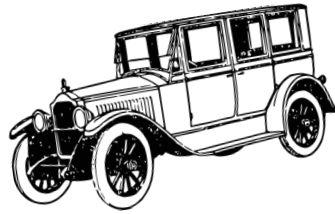
Logan Gondeiro, project engineer for Dick Anderson Construction and Belt High graduate noted "I am truly excited to be part of this project, and excited to be able to upgrade a school that my family has attended for many generations."

By Keaghan Opheim



Car Show Saturday, September 16th

The fun all starts at the weigh
station at Armington at 12:30
p.m.
\$5 Registration Fee



Free to the Public
FOOD AND BEVERAGES AVAILABLE
50/50 DRAWING
FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!

Belt Park, Belt, MT

12:30pm - 6pm

More Info Contact Wally—(406) 868-9337

The VFW Post 4198 is renting out their building on Castner Street, including: kitchen, bathroom, and great room, for meetings, baby showers, bridal showers, large family dinners and more!



Contact Anita Virts (406) 868-4325
or Marcus Laird (217) 778-4185

Valley Voice
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