

Winnett Times

~Winnett Montana Community Newsletter~

May 2021 Volume 1, Issue 1



“Welcome to the Winnett Times Community Newsletter Project”

By Diane Ahlgren

A local group has decided a community newsletter would benefit the community and bring us together. It would include school news, local government and entities, organizations and committees, human interest, community humor, updates, feature articles, current events calendar, historical events, and any other news in between. The newsletter would be a benefit in promoting all the positive things that are moving and shaking in our community. A contractor who was doing some work in the area told a mutual friend. “Winnett just looks and feels different. There are things going on down there!” Let’s keep that feel and look going!

Since everything takes meetings – we met...and met... and met... and are now at the point of taking that leap of faith to get started. A very brief history of the curves that got us to the leaping point:

The Community Center group graciously offered space in their awesome quarterly newsletter; discussion led to the fact that some wanted a more regular publication; we debated combining with the school newsletter, or the school combining with ours; since all work is volunteer it would be easier to send it out for printing and have it come back ready for the post office; this is going to cost more; would people and organizations donate and have their name on a sponsor page? It turns out they will; Winnett ACES consented to being our fiscal sponsor and will hold funds and pay bills. And a fun tidbit is that Trish got permission to use the Winnett Times name.

So, after all that, Trish Smith will do layout, editing, and send the copy to the printer; Carie Hess will help with some grant requests, address lists, writing and...

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➤ Lindsey Wilkerson

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Community Spotlight

Lindsey Wilkerson

Few details about yourself and your family?

I'm originally from Miles City; my husband, Thierry, is from Burundi (central east Africa). We met at church in China. We have Lauren who is 3 years old next week and Gabriel who is 7 months old.

"I knew a lot about Winnett before I came, so I knew what I was getting myself into!" ~Lindsey W.



*Lauren
3 Years*



*Gabriel
7 Mths*

Education & other skills?

I have degrees in music education and educational leadership (UM, MSU). I speak a bit of French and very frustrated Chinese. Otherwise, I'm an amateur musician and cook. Also, I love to travel but it's not quite the same with children...

Current Job and duties & other job history?

Superintendent at Winnett School. Before this, I taught music at international schools for 4 years in Guangzhou, China and before that I was a HS choir director in Montana for 9 years. In high school, colleges, and summers off as a teacher, I've worked at McDonalds, Walmart, Albertsons and various camps!

What brought you to Winnett & why did you choose Winnett/School?

My grandmother (Gunda Lewis) went to school at Dovetail and both she and my mom graduated from Winnett High School, along with aunts and uncles and other family members. I knew a lot about Winnett before I came, so I knew what I was getting myself into :)

Where did you grow up/hometown and what did your childhood consist of?

grew up in Miles City and spent most of my time doing music, church, and school activities. My parents tried to...

Continued on Page 2



Wilkerson Family



Community Spotlight Continued...

help me be well-rounded by participating in softball and soccer when I was little, but I resisted. I think I was retired by 6th grade!

Interests, favorite things (food, etc) and Hobbies?

Music, languages, cooking, and travel.

What do you like about our little community and what do you wish Winnett had to offer that is does not right now?

I love the people here! I love the scenery and the lack of traffic. I wish there was a coffee shop to go to for an hour just to get away.

“One of my hopes for Winnett is to facilitate more development of places or activities for people with small children...”

What is something (fun Fact) that not many people may know about you?

My favorite country to travel to in Asia is Vietnam - it's my favorite kind of food besides Italian. My favorite place in Europe is Vienna, Austria.

Hopes, goals and final thoughts?

One of my hopes for Winnett is to facilitate more development of places or activities for people with small children, so that those children stay and grow up here. Goals: I'd like to be a really good pianist someday, and at some point in my life, I want to take my children on a shoestring tour of different places in the world, maybe 2 - 3 months at a time, and just experience a lot of different things together. But, we'll have to see if my husband lets me - it sounds like I think it's a better idea than he does!



From Left: Gabriel, Thierry, Lindsey's grandma, Gunda (Sikveland) Lewis (Winnett High School Class of '48), Lindsey & Lauren.

What about Winnett?

Winnett is a town in Montana and the county seat of Petroleum County, Montana, with a 2020 population of 165, it is the 113th largest city in Montana and the 17207th largest city in the United States. Winnett is currently declining at a rate of -5.71% annually and its population has decreased by -9.34% since the most recent census, which recorded a population of 182 in 2010. Winnett was named for Walter John Winnett, who was born at the Queen's Hotel in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. Winnett ran away from home as a boy, seeking adventure in "Indian country." His excellent marksmanship abilities helped him get jobs with outfits who were always looking for someone who could keep them in fresh meat. When he was captured by Sioux Indians and later adopted into the tribe, he was given the name Eagle Eyes because of his remarkable shooting skills.

Winnett established a ranch in Montana Territory in 1879 near an active trading post and the Hangman's Tree used by vigilantes in the area. The massive ranch house, which he built in 1900 housed his own family and served as a gathering place for the community. Dances, weddings, funerals, church services, and school were all held here. Billings was the closest town, so Winnett builtup a freight line business to haul supplies. Each of his outfits consisted of ten to twenty horses and huge wagons. In 1910 he built a store and petitioned for a post office.

Winnett Rams

The Superintendent's Corner

Wow - May. I almost can't believe we made it. In a few short weeks, we graduate the Class of 2021 and say goodbye to teachers and students for a much-needed break. If I think back to the uncertainties of last July and August as we tried to prepare for this school year, I'm once again so grateful for the year we've had. I want to extend my sincerest thanks to our teachers, staff, and substitutes for the work they've put in this year, and for the overwhelming support of the community as a whole. There have been many times throughout the year that our staff have subbed in multiple positions other than their own, just to make school "work" and our smaller-than-usual crew of amazing substitute teachers have spent more time here than they normally would. We are so thankful for all of you!

While we don't usually do a June newsletter, we're going to try an experiment this year. You can look for some school information and suggested activities for summer learning in the fledgling community newsletter and let us know how you like having all that community information in one place.

We'll spend the summer cleaning the building, updating computers and curriculum, and combing through the handbooks. We'll also look at how we can use our campus information system to communicate with parents more effectively. If you have suggestions, please send them our way. Have a wonderful and safe summer!
~Lindsey Wilkerson

UPCOMING EVENTS

- May 5 - Play Day @ Roy; 7th/8th Grade Field Trip to Battle of the Little Big Horn
- May 6 - AIMSWeb testing; Highwood Junior High track meet
- May 7 - AIMSWeb testing make-up/finish; Senior Trip to Coeur D'Alene
- May 8 - Al Walker Memorial track meet in Laurel
- May 10 - K - 6 students to Billings for Zoo field trip
- May 11 - Centerville JH Track meet; Sports physicals
- May 13 - Spring Concert at 7 pm
- May 14 - 8C District Track Meet in Great Falls
- May 16 - Graduation, 1 pm
- May 17—Awards Assembly & potluck 6 pm
- May 20—Last day of school



Available Winnett School Positions

Assistant Custodian 40 hours per week
May 24—August 13

Assistant Girls Basketball Coach

Substitute Teacher

Substitute Bus Driver
21-22 School Year

English/Spanish Teacher

Assistant Cook

PIE CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

P.I.E. (Partners In Education) is offering summer camp scholarships for up to \$100 per student. Summer camp scholarship applications will be sent home in students' folders or they can be picked up at the school office. Completed applications must be turned in by Monday, May 10th, 2021.

P.I.E. also has money available to assist Junior High/High School students attending summer tournaments. Students may come to our next meeting on Monday May 3rd, 2021 at 5:00pm in the library to request assistance with entry fees for these tournaments.

Music News

We are already at the end of the school year?!? Wow, time flies! The music program had a Clinic Day on April 21st, in lieu of Festival this year. Winnett was honored to have brought in experienced Music Teacher, Mr. Dohn Ratliff to be our adjudicator for the event. Mr. Dohn Ratliff has taught for over 30 years, in Montana, teaching Band, Choir, Guitar, Music Theory, Music History, and more. He has taught at several small schools and is currently teaching in Hardin, Montana.

Clinic day was full of music. The grading seen at the Festival was implemented into Clinic Day. Winnett School has received 4 Superiors and 7 Excellents this year! A Superior is the equivalent of an A in academics. An Excellent is the equivalent of a B. We are incredibly happy for our children and what they are capable of! Below are the scores received by our solos and ensembles:

Winnett Band: 2(Excellent)
Cooper Doman: 1(Superior)
Shani Browning: 2(Excellent)
Parker Hanson: 2(Excellent)
Winnett Choir: 1(Superior)
Gracie Gill: 1(Superior)
Arianna Howard: 2(Excellent)
Kaitlyn Carter and Hanson: 2 (Excellent)
Kaitlyn Carter and Gracie Gill: 2(Excellent)
Arianna Howard and Gracie Gill: 2(Excellent)
Gracie Gill: 2(Excellent)



Congratulations to everyone that participated in Clinic Day and we hope to keep bringing the opportunity to our children in the future. May 13th, you don't want to miss! It is our Spring concert here at Winnett School. K-12 Music, will be performing at 7:00 p.m. in the Winnett Gymnasium. Weather it's raining or shining, we will be performing a vast ray of songs (All puns on purpose). Awards and lettering will be presented at the Spring Concert. Can't wait to see you there!

WINNETT/GRASS RANGE 2021 PROM



Kindergarten

Hi! This is Kaylee Obrigewitch bringing you the kindergarten news.

This month we celebrated 100 days of kindergarten on April 15th. Sheriff Bill and Gary picked us up from the school in the cop cars and we rode around town. We turned on the sirens! Did you hear us? We toured the courthouse and got put in jail! It was freaky in there! Then we got picked up in a fire truck. We learned all about the fire trucks and firefighting at City Hall with Kardy, Leonard, and Ray. Sam showed us the ambulance. Thank you to everybody who made it a great day!



Guess what?! We have been incubating chicken eggs in our room. Yesterday we watched a chick hatch! We have been counting down 21 days and then the chicks were cracking all around the shells and pushing out of the shells. Lots hatched in the night and then dried off until the morning. There's lots of cheeping noise all day in our classroom.

We drew firefighters, police officers, and chicks using Art Hub for Kids online and our pictures turned out great! I am an artist!

Kindergarten is two big thumbs up!

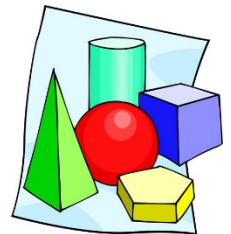
1st & 2nd Grade



Hi! This is Hadlee, Brody, and Brady, giving you the news from the first and second grade. We have been learning about butterflies. We are even raising them! They started as a caterpillar and turned into a chrysalis. Next, they become butterflies through metamorphosis. We get to release them after they all become butterflies! In our math we have been reviewing addition and subtraction and much more. We built tool boxes in the shop with Mr. Tholt. We are going to paint them, too. In library, we are writing books about our partner we picked. In PE, we are playing mat ball. It is a fun game. You can stay on base the whole time. Our Spring concert is May 13th. We are singing 4 songs. We are doing a long one! It is called Do-Re-Mi. We are excited for Play Day next week! Summer is coming soon and we are ready for some really warm weather!

Third and Fourth Grade

This month's news is by Jasper and Lealen. In P.E we are playing kick ball this week. In class, we are doing our end of the year tests. We think they are long and hard. In math 3rd is doing area, perimeter and geometry while the 4th is working on units of measurement. In social studies we are doing a research project on different people in history. Jasper chose Amelia Airhart and Lealen chose Abe Lincoln. In music we are practicing Turn Blue, on our recorder for the concert in May. Most of us are excited for Play Day next week in Roy. We only have 17 more days until summer break!



5th & 6th Grade



We are well on our way into the end of the school year!! With just a few short weeks, we are getting jam packed full of information. We are greatly looking forward to Play Day, on the fifth of May, as well as our field trip to Zoo Montana! (More information on that coming soon). All of our state testing is officially done, and our claymation videos will be uploaded to the school Facebook page once we're finished with them! These last few weeks we are planning on finishing up our sewing journey, as well as finishing up our claymations. School's almost out for summer!! Yahoo! ~Mrs. Iverson's fifth and sixth grade class

WINNETT BOOSTER CLUB

Our next meeting will be May 11th at 6:30 p.m.

There will be a form available May 4th for students to fill out asking the Winnett Booster Club for financial assistance to attend camps and/or tournaments. The student will have to bring the form to the meeting on May 11th and tell us a little bit about the camp they plan on attending. The Winnett Booster Club has set aside \$1,000 to help with camps and/or tournaments.

All the support from the community makes it possible to give back to our students.

We appreciated all the donated items, and your attendance for the first annual Booster Bash.

1ST ANNUAL BOOSTER BASH AT THE FLATWILLOW HALL - MAY 1ST



LOCAL COOKBOOK RECIPE HIGHLIGHT

CHEESY EGG BAKE

Diane Ahlgren

2 T. margarine
2 T. flour
salt and pepper to taste
1 c. milk

½ c. cheese whiz or Velveeta
5 sliced hard boiled eggs
½ lb. fried crumbled bacon

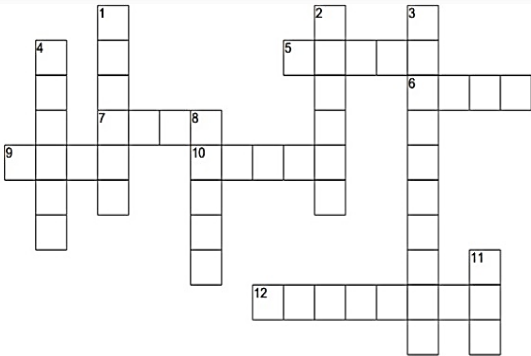
Melt margarine and stir in flour, salt and pepper over medium heat. Gradually stir in milk and cheese and heat until slightly thickened. Add sliced eggs and pour into 1 qt. casserole. Sprinkle with bacon. (At this point, you can refrigerate to bake the next day.) Bake at 350° until bubbly. Serve on toasted English muffins.

Kid's Korner

Montana Spring

B B R A N D I N G Q J N P B X
 E F I S H I N G L E V P J R Q
 E W T P F V Y O B C G T U E C
 S C S K H P U B A D H T N E A
 W H H B L U E B I R D I E Z L
 E W R D S F L O W E R S C E V
 E B U T T E R F L Y Q Z S K E
 T F M E A D O W L A R K S O S
 P A Q B B H I V O R X W T Y C
 E W B V U Q F H C W O B V Y B
 A N U F N L I G H T E N I N G
 S S M R N D Y A Y Y D F V E I
 W C A O Y K U Z G R A S S D R
 R Z Y G B W K V B L O S S O M
 Q S U S T V C R I C K E T S L

- | | | | |
|-------------|------------|-----------|-----------|
| Meadowlarks | Lightening | Butterfly | Blue Bird |
| Crickets | Branding | Fishing | Blossom |
| Sweet peas | Flowers | Chicks | Bunny |
| Bees | Grass | Calves | Breeze |
| Fawns | Frogs | June | May |



ACROSS

- 5. A flower
- 6. Precipitation
- 7. Not cold or hot
- 9. Flying a _____ is the perfect windy day activity
- 10. Another month of Spring
- 12. Rain or sun protection

DOWN

- 1. A brief fall of rain
- 2. A small pool of water
- 3. A day for playing tricks
- 4. The season after winter
- 8. A month of Spring
- 11. Mother's Day is celebrated on the second Sunday of the month of



The Kindergarten Class had 42 donated eggs in incubation. They hatched out 33 chicks and the kindy kids took care of them in their room for a week before the chicks went to their new homes 😊



“Things Kids Say”

What is your favorite summer vacation thing to do?



“Camping with cousins at Fort Peck, riding my bike to the pool and working with dad.” ~Kaylee



“Go camping at the lake with my cousins.” ~Chloe



“Traveling to Florida.” ~Sadie



“I like to go fishing at Fort Peck with my family. But especially Devils Creek to dig for Shark Teeth and Fossils.” ~Jade



Newsletter cont....

bookkeeping; Terry Lewis will help with writing, humorous content, and editing; Kambri Sandman will help with interviews, humor and writing; Lindsey Wilkerson and staff will provide school news; Laura Nowlin will help with writing and committee updates; Chelsea McKenna Hollander will be Trish's backup/helper for layout; Diane Ahlgren will help with contacts and, in general, hinder progress. We are proposing a 6-month trial run that will include a monthly eVersion edition and a print edition that will go to all box holders/postal patrons, along

with some fringe community addresses. Printing, shipping, and mailing costs will be approximately \$500-\$600 per monthly edition.

Tax deductible donations are welcome along with any help and input for an improved process.

If you have not been contacted and would like to be featured, provide an update, or in any other way participate, please let us know. This project is proposed to be a fun community effort, to support positive projects, activities, and attitudes; and keep that "different feel and look" going on!

Looking Back Photos



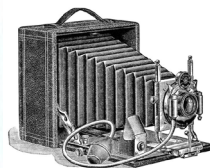
"The power was disconnected in September 1987 and the doors were locked on the Blakeslee schoolhouse."



The Three Buttes School



Blakeslee School (1957) George Dengel, Teacher; Mark Lewis, Jack Munski, Linda Munski, Linda Lewis, Twila Baccett, Vicki Baccett



From the Petroleum County Pages of Time



Welter or Mountain View schoolhouse. Built large for use as community hall, also.

Winnett News Scrapbook

Dec 02, 1913

Fergus paper

W. J. Winnett has just completed a large dam on McDonald creek four miles above his home ranch.

The Winnett irrigating canal and lake at War Horse butte is nearing completion.

Winnett has a barber shop, a store, a saloon, livery barn, hotel, blacksmith shop, and is the busiest little town in the state.

Our banana crop this season was not up to date, owing to the early frost, but we surely had a good corn crop.

Winnett will in five years hence be a second Billings. It has everything in its favor.

Winnett is noted for its pretty women and homely men.

WINNETT COMMUNITY CALENDAR

May 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Catholic Church 530pm (MASS) BOOSTER BASH 6-10PM HS TRACK LAUREL
Lutheran Church -4pm (Mosby) Methodist Church 10:30	2 3 PIE MEETING 5pm	4 Junior/Senior Banquet 7pm PCCC MEETING 6pm	5 PLAY DAY in Roy AMBULANCE MEETING 6PM	6 JH Track in Highwood SENIORS CEC MEETING 5:15pm	7 8C Districts Track In Great Falls	8 HS Track in Laurel Senior Trip 8th-10th Coeur D'Alene
MOTHER'S DAY Catholic Service 10am(WORD) Methodist Church 10:30	9 10 ELEMENTARY ZOO FIELD TRIP CHELSEA H. GRAPHIC DESIGN WKSHP -SCHOOL PC COMM. MEETING 9AM	11 SHERIFF'S RESERVE JH DISTRICT TRACK in CENTERVILLE BOOSTER CLUB 6:30	12 TOWN COUNCIL 5-6pm	13 SENIORS School Spring Concert 7pm RIMROCK READERS 7PM VOL. FIRE MEETING 7PM	14 Catholic Church 530pm (MASS)	15
Baptist Church 11 am Methodist Church 10:30 WINNETT GRADUATION 1 pm	16 17 Awards Banquet -6pm ACES BOARD MEETING 4-6pm	18 19 SCHOOL BOARD MEETING 7pm PCCC MEETING 6pm	20 21 C Divisional Track-GFs SENIORS LAST DAY OF SCHOOL	22 23 C Divisional Track Gfs SENIORS	24 25 TEACHER PIR/RECORDS DAY	26 27 C State Track Missoula
Catholic Service 10am(WORD) Methodist Church 10:30 Baptist Church 11 am	23 24 PCCD MEETING 3-5PM	25 26 LIONS CLUB	27 28 4H meeting 1:00pm 3/4 TH CLASSROOM	29 30 SENIORS	31 C State Track Missoula	32 C State Track Missoula
Catholic Service 10am(WORD) Methodist Church 10:30 Baptist Church 11 am	30 31 MEMORIAL DAY					

ALL community meetings & Events may not be listed. Calendar will be updated as any new info is given. CONFIRM day/time of meeting or event before attending.

Please contact Patti at 429-5601 BEFORE WEDNESDAY to reserve a SENIOR MEAL.



Custer Montana 3 x 3 Basketball Tournament in April. Congrats to our WGR girls' teams. Our 3/4/5th girls placed 4th and our 7/8th girls placed 3rd. Thank you to their coaches Cody Martinez (7/8th) and Reba Ahlgren/Shana Grant (3-5th) for taking them to the tournament.

ATTENTION Winnett Community Members:

The Winnett Times is made possible by our sponsors – **THANK YOU!** Sponsors will have their name and/or business name listed in future editions of the newsletter. We greatly appreciate your support!

Sponsor Levels:


Bronze	\$25 - \$99
Silver	\$100 - \$249
Gold	\$250 - \$499
Platinum	\$500 - \$749
Diamond	\$750+


PLEASE SEND YOUR TAX DEDUCTABLE DONATIONS TO:
 Winnett ACES, PO Box 118, Winnett, MT 59087 with "Newsletter" in the Memo.

Thank you to WINNETT ACES for being our Non-Profit Sponsor. WINNETT ACES has agreed to handling all funds and without their support this project could not happen. Thank you!

A huge THANK YOU to David Ponte, Publisher of "The roundup Record Tribune & Winnett Times" for giving us copyright permission to use the old "Winnett Times" name on our newsletter. It has nostalgic value to our community and we appreciate your generosity!

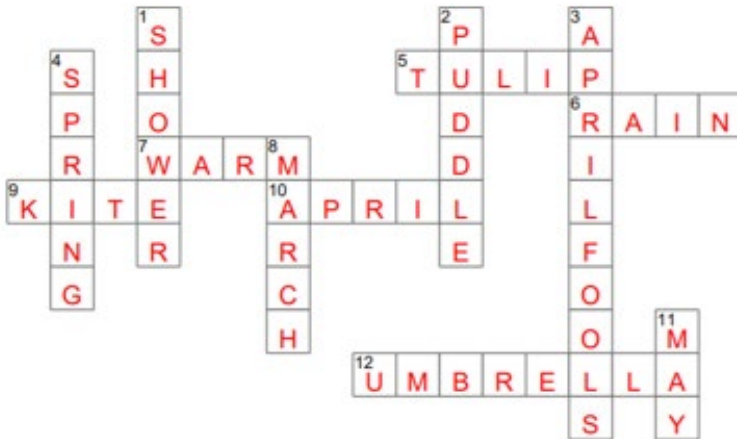
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Cemetery Clean Up Day
 May 15th 1pm
 Please bring your mowers and weed eaters.
 NOTE: If it rains, will move to May 19th at 5pm.

Foot Clinic/Toe Nail Trimming
 Dr. Jerry Carpenter
 May 10th
 Call Linda Gershmel for an appointment (406) 429-5511


HELP WANTED
LIFEGUARD:
 Must be 16 years of age, have lifeguard training & CPR. Megan Flint (406)380-0002 and Barb Solf (406)928-4321 will be holding lifeguard training/CPR classes. Applications available at Town Hall & with Megan Flint.

Page 8 Puzzle Answers



CONTACT INFO

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