

# The Howl



## Community Gifted With Skate Park

by: SHS Senior Journalism Class

2020. Sadly, a year when Covid created more “closed signs” than “opening soon signs;” However, in the midst of this bleak time, the City of Shelby received an email of benevolence offering to build a skatepark for the community.

Larry Krystkowiak, a basketball player for the University of Montana (UM) Griz before being drafted to the NBA, was raised in Shelby, Mont. As a result, Krystkowiak connected the city of Shelby with Jeff Ament, lead bassist for Pearl Jam, who’s foundation gives money to build skate parks for communities all over Montana.

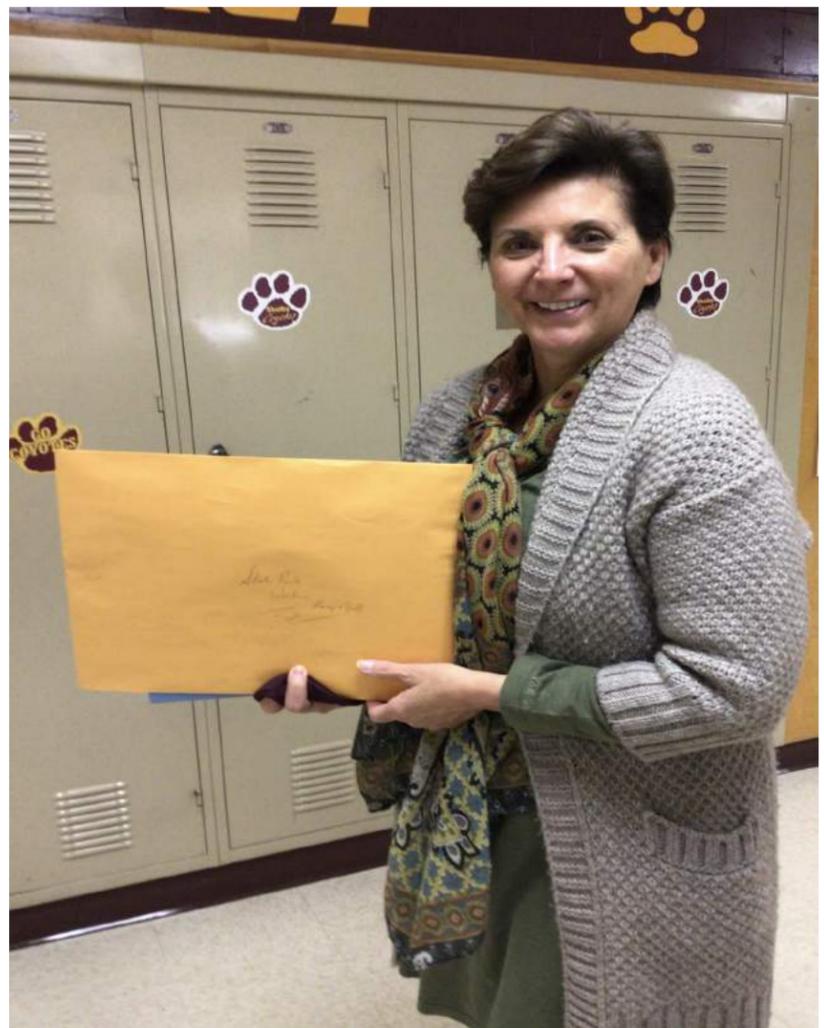
Community Development Director of Shelby, Lorette Carter, said within a few days of getting an email from Krystkowiak, she received a call from Billy Coulon of Evergreen Skateparks to schedule a date to look at city-owned land locations for the park.

Due to Montana’s unpredictable weather, the early snow caused the timeline to shorten. The construction crew, from Evergreen Skateparks, extended their work time by putting up lights and working until well after dark. They started working on October 12, and finished 3 weeks faster than planned. According to Lorette Carter the Evergreen park cost up to \$140,000, donated by Jeff Ament’s charity the Montana Pool Service.

Montana Pool Service started in 2006 building over 20 parks since then, but Jeff Ament’s first skatepark project was in Seattle, WA in 2000. Jeff Ament grew up in Big Sandy, Montana and that’s where he built his first skateboard ramp in 1976. He helped fund skateparks all over Montana and more with Pearl Jam’s Vitalogy Foundation and Montana Pool Service. On Pearl Jam’s website, bassist, Jeff Ament says “Growing up in a small town, two things helped from my young identity: music and skateboarding. I want to give young people a place to call their own where they can get outside with their friends and ride.” He dreams to build a skateboard park in every town and city in Montana.

The city will incur the expenses for the upkeep of the park: mowing, trash removal, and water for the irrigation system. Carter said they also plan to plant trees and put fences up around the park. (sign)

According to Lorette Carter some of the rules and regulations are no dogs, no food, no smoking, and people will skate at their own risk. If someone was to get hurt or injured, the state would not be held accountable for their injuries. Tagging is not allowed on the skate park or near it. The hours that the skate park will be open is 8am-8pm. Their reason for this is because



Lorette Carter, Community Development Director, picks up thank you letters from students for the new Shelby Community Skate Park that was recently constructed on the corner of 7th Ave. North and Mainstreet.

the skate park is by residential housing and kids playing at the skate park may get loud.

Lorette Carter has high hopes for the skate park. She said that this generous gift for the city of Shelby will be enjoyed and she wants people to respect. There’s also a possibility that a playground might be built in the area, creating a park the entire family can enjoy. We, the citizens of Shelby, are fortunate to have this opportunity to bring our community together.

THE HOWL

December Edition 2020

# December Student Council Activities

By: Jahna Welker

The Shelby Coyotes started off the month of December with Christmas cheer. December 1st was Holiday Hat Day where students could come to school sporting Christmas themed hats, setting the mood for this festive season, and throughout the month there's more to come! Like Holiday Hat Day, many other fun dress-up days are being planned for Tuesdays and Fridays. The Student Council has big plans brewing for the last day of school before everyone gets out for Christmas break.

December 18th is a day to look forward to. The entire school day, 8:15 am to early release at 1 pm, is dedicated to jollification. Students will get a break from their usual classes to participate in fun activities broken up into 30 minutes at a time at eight activity stations. Cohorts will rotate through the stations and take part in doing some Christmas crafts, playing board games, and making delicious cookies!

The members of the Student Council aim to "increase stu-

dent morale and involvement," as Mrs. Clark says: "This has been a tough year for so many people, and the Student Council is committed to bringing joy and cheer to students this year!"

Jackson Appley, Student Council President, believes "that having a fun high school experience is very important to lighten the load. So a fun day before a break is very helpful to give students good things to look forward to."

His Vice President, Logan Leck would like to add that "the student council believes fun days are a good way to make the year more tolerable and fun. I want people to have a very Merry Christmas and a happy New Year"

The Student Council also asks students to leave a \$1 donation in the jar outside Mrs. Clark's classroom for a charitable project. Nothing is set in stone yet so anticipate a month filled with surprises and festive fun!

## Key Club Volunteers

By: Jazzmyn Ewing

On the 20th of November, the Shelby High School Key Club hosted their semi-annual blood drive, and on the 30th, the Shelby Chapter of the National Honor Society volunteered to decorate at the Marias Heritage Center.

The Shelby Key Club, who is a sub-unit of the Kiwanis organization, aims to cultivate a sense of community and leadership in young people. On the 20th, they sponsored the Red Cross to come to the high school. The drive was different this year, as masks had to be worn at all times, screening was more stringent, and

all blood samples were tested for Covid-19 antibodies. Still, the blood drive was a huge success. With a goal of 18 pints, the Red Cross collected 20 pints of blood.

The National Honor Society strives to push students to excellence, both in and outside the classroom. On the 30th, they hung lights and put together trees at the Marias Heritage Center. As the advisor for the Shelby Chapter, Eric Tokerud, summed up, "Covid has made things tough, but we will find a way around it."



Jahna Welker painted Christmas designs on the Sports Club window for the US Bank. Welker did this as a community service project for her JMB Class.

