

## The Wednesday Reader

### January 16, 2019

#### It's Time to Register for the High School Business Challenge—Spring 2019 Edition

The key to getting your students to understand key business concepts is through hands-on activity. If you've not yet done so, consider this simulation designed to develop management, financial, marketing and critical thinking skills in a competitive, learning enhanced environment.

The Montana High School Business Challenge, sponsored by the Montana Chamber Foundation and administered by the Montana Council for Economic Education lets your students actively participate in a state-wide simulation as real entrepreneurs. The students manage the business of a Digital Music Player manufacturer, and many daily decisions face the students, including financial, ethical, legal, and competitive issues. It is a dynamic simulation that can be incorporated into many different class disciplines.

The state-wide competition runs eight weeks, beginning Wednesday, February 13 and concluding Wednesday, April 17. College scholarships are awarded yearly to the top three teams, as determined by an academic year-end playoff. The cost is \$15.00 per team.

**REGISTERING TEAMS FOR SPRING SEMESTER? QUESTIONS?:** To register teams for the fall Business Challenge competition or if you have any questions, please contact Tim Alzheimer via e-mail, [timalz@montana.edu](mailto:timalz@montana.edu), or by telephone, 994-2263 for further information. Team registration deadline is Wednesday, February 6.

**INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING?** First-time participants need to be trained prior to involvement in the Business Challenge by webinar training sessions which introduces the teacher to the concepts and procedures the simulation. It will be held on Monday February 4, and Tuesday February 5 from 4:30-6:00 p.m. If you are a first-time participant, or simply want to re-familiarize yourself with the fundamentals of the Business Challenge, please register online at: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/2911424723066560525>.

**REFRESHER WEBINAR FOR PAST PARTICIPANTS:** A webinar is scheduled on Wednesday, February 6, from 4:30-6:00 p.m. for teachers that have previously participated in the Challenge who want to refresh their skills and learn more about the simulation. This webinar is voluntary, and is open only to teachers that have previous HSBC involvement. Space is limited. The web address to register for this webinar is: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/2076204904282350093>.

#### Update Regarding Montana Content Standards Development for Career & Technical Education and Computer Science

The Montana Office of Public Instruction is currently under the Research and Review stage related to the update and development of Montana Content Standards for Career and Technical Education, Computer Science, Library Media, Social Studies, and Technology. Following the close of the Research and Review stage, revision and writing teams will be assembled and will meet in Helena in July 2019.

As part of the Research and Review stage, the Office of Public Instruction is currently gathering analysis and feedback on

- [Computer Science](#)
- [Career and Vocational/Technical Education and Workplace Competencies](#)
- [Technology and Library Media-Information Literacy](#)
- [Social Studies](#)

The Revision stage will take place May-October 2019, which includes the development of Content Standards Revision Teams.

The Office of Public Instruction is seeking applicants/nominations for participants in the revision of content standards. Applications should be submitted via the following Google Form:

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeJNDghtR9Q\\_9h6CBx9RTZyDp5iIHLQ23aTNi-WECWP4Clqw/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeJNDghtR9Q_9h6CBx9RTZyDp5iIHLQ23aTNi-WECWP4Clqw/viewform). If you require an alternate version of the form, please contact Colet Bartow, [cbartow@mt.gov](mailto:cbartow@mt.gov).

The deadline for applications is Friday, May 3, 2019. Successful applicants will be notified via email before June 1, 2019.

The selection criteria for participants include:

- representation from PK-20 teacher experts in each of the content areas
- geographic distribution
- large/small district representation
- cultural diversity and special populations' representation
- at least one administrator

For additional information, see Content Standards Revision Guidelines

<https://sites.google.com/opiconnect.org/mtstandardsrevision/standards-revision-guidelines>

Individuals seeking to be a member of a Content Standards Revision Team are required to complete the [Montana Content Standards 101](#) course via the [OPI Teacher Learning Hub](#) (<https://learninghub.mrooms.net>). After completing the Montana Content Standards 101 course, you will receive a Certificate of Renewal Units for one (1) unit.

All writing team members MUST be available to attend the scheduled work sessions in July 2019. Additional online work sessions may be scheduled by the individual teams between August and November 2019.

In order to participate on a revision committee, you must be available to travel to Helena during the dates below.

- July 24-26, 2019: Career and Technical Education/Workplace Competencies; Social Studies,
- July 31-August 2, 2019: Computer Science; Technology; Library Media

More information about the standards revision process can be found on the [K-12 Content Standards and Revision page](#) of the OPI website.

### **Seeking Partnership Highlights for CTE Promo Video to be Used for Montana Rotunda Activities February 26 & April 3**

The Montana Office of Public Instruction's Career, Technical and Adult Education Division is seeking highlight local Career Technical Education programs and/or Career & Technical Student Organizations who are working with local business and industry partners, including non-profits and community organizations..

The video project will be used for the Rotunda events held during the 2019 Montana Legislature session on February 26 and April 3. The event in February will focus on CTSO's and the April event will focus on Industry connection in the classroom. The premise for the video will be focused on highlighting a particular and specific story in each CTE division that brings things full circle, meaning connects teachers, students, parents, industry etc.

For example, Darby High School's Industrial Trades & Technology Education program has partnered with Measure Nets (a local fly fishing net company sold in the state of Montana) to make the wooden frames for their fishing nets. Once the net is sold in the local fly shops around Montana, part of the revenue then goes back into the high school program for additional funding for new equipment. This in turn shows students making a difference in their community empowering others to do the same and possibly enroll in CTE

The video will be compiled in to a montage for a larger 10-minute video used at the Rotunda events, then further broken out to promote each of your divisions individually as well. Each of program/CTSO videos will be about 2-3 minutes in length highlighting the stories and each CTE divisions as a whole. The videos will be promoted on the OPI website and other platforms.

The production of the videos are being coordinated by Austin Schweitzer, Marketing Coordinator for the Career, Technical and Adult Education Division. If you are interested in sharing the great projects and accomplishments of your program and your students, please let me know.

If you have questions, please feel free to contact myself or Austin directly at [austin.schweitzer@mt.gov](mailto:austin.schweitzer@mt.gov).

### **FREE Regional Trainings for CTE Manager—New Work-Based Learning Management System for Montana CTE Programs**

The Career and Technical Education Division of the Office of Public Instruction would like to invite you to attend one of the five regional trainings being provided on the new work-based learning management system, **CTE Manager**.

This online system will allow teachers, employers, students, parents and administrators to better monitor the work-based learning that is occurring in and out of classrooms across Montana. We at the OPI are rolling out the CTE Manager on a state wide, two-year trial, to help local programs emphasize the importance of work-based learning for all CTE students, and provide an easy way of tracking students' progress and skill growth.

This *free* training will be for Career and Technical Education Teachers, Administrators, School Counselors, or Work Based Learning Coordinators to learn about the CTE Manager Online system. The training will provide them with information on how to use the system, how to train teachers, as well as student and employers. These will be regional trainings provided to schools at no cost. We realize that not all of your teachers may be able to attend, but we encourage every school with a Career and Technical Education Program to send a representative to one of the trainings. Those in attendance will receive four hours of OPI renewal units.

--Billings: Monday, February 4, 2019; Billings Career Center Auditorium, 12:30-4:30 pm  
--Glendive: Tuesday, February 5, 2019; Dawson Community College Toepke Center, 8:30 am-12:30 pm  
--Great Falls: Wednesday, February 6, 2019; Springhill Suites Great Falls, 8:30 am-12:30 pm  
--Missoula: Thursday, February 7, 2019; University of Montana University Center Room 340, 8:30 am-12:30 pm  
--Bozeman: Friday, February 8, 2019; Holiday Inn Baxter Lane Bozeman, 8:30 am-12:30 pm

Please register at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/R3MXGYH> by January 28, 2019.

Attendees are encouraged to bring a laptop or tablet to the training. There will be WIFI and parking available at all locations.

We look forward to working with you and your programs to better serve our Career and Technical Education students, teachers and programs to meet the employment needs of Montana's growing workforce.

If you have questions about the training please email Shannon Boswell at [Shannon.boswell@mt.gov](mailto:Shannon.boswell@mt.gov) or T. J. Eyer at [teyer@mt.gov](mailto:teyer@mt.gov).

### **Montana ACTE Rotunda Activity—February 26 in Helena at the Montana State Capitol**

The [Montana ACTE](#) Legislative Committee invites the students and advisors of your Career & Technical Student Organizations (CTSO) to participate in Montana ACTE Rotunda Activity (Legislative Day) to be held on Wednesday, February 26, 2019, in Helena, Montana.

You can make a difference by participating.

Montana ACTE ([www.montanaacte.org](http://www.montanaacte.org)) hopes to inspire new leaders and encourage continuing communication with legislators. All students participating in the Rotunda Activity must be accompanied by his/her CTSSO advisor while in the Capitol. The students should have received legislative training on appropriate behavior and protocol prior to February 26. CTSSO students are expected to wear their organization's appropriate uniform or professional business attire.

There is a \$250 stipend for expenditures such as gas, meals, or overnight stays from Montana ACTE.

For more information contact Kellan Standley, Montana ACTE Rotunda Coordinator at [kstandley@bainvilleschool.k12.mt.us](mailto:kstandley@bainvilleschool.k12.mt.us).

### **CTE Curriculum By Teachers for Teachers**

The [Montana ACTE](#) and OPI Career and Technical Education have partnered with the Arizona CTE Curriculum Consortium to make available CTE curriculum for Montana CTE teachers at a very affordable price.

If you are interested, you can review an introductory [video](https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=4&v=VifbZMXiDZM), ([https://www.youtube.com/watch?time\\_continue=4&v=VifbZMXiDZM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=4&v=VifbZMXiDZM)), review their infographic or contact Tammy Bonner at [tbonner@pimajted.org](mailto:tbonner@pimajted.org) or Lisa Doll at [ldoll@pimajted.org](mailto:ldoll@pimajted.org).

### **Registration is Now Open for the 2019 ACTE Region V Conference in Bozeman, April 10-13**

The [Montana Association for the Career & Technical Education](#) (Montana ACTE) is excited to announce [registration](#) is now open for the 2019 ACTE Region V Conference—*CTE Roundup Under the Big Sky*—in Bozeman, April 10-13, at the Best Western Plus GranTree Inn.

ACTE members from all across the western US and throughout the Pacific Islands will be taking part in the [2019 Region V Leadership Conference](#) in Bozeman. Montana ACTE members are able to register at a discounted rate of \$350, a \$75 savings off the \$425 Early-Bird rate. The deadline to register with the Montana ACTE member rate will be February 15, 2019.

The room rate at the Best Western Plus GranTree Inn is \$94 plus taxes. Reservations can be booked directly with the GranTree Inn by calling 406.587.5261 and using group code *MACTE*.

Details about the 2019 ACTE Region V Leadership Conference, including a tentative schedule, keynote speakers, tour options—including a pre-conference tour to Big Sky and West Yellowstone—and dinner & entertainment details can be found in the ACTE Region V Conference Registration Packet at <http://acte.informz.net/ACTE/data/images/2019%20Region%20V%20Final.pdf>.

If interested in being a part of the conference's program, the [Call for Presentations](#) is now open and can be completed online at <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdbsul0vQzz1sfNgCZf8M335X2QLrSTdWrUPOxCT9a18uzbeQ/viewform>. Breakout sessions will be held Thursday and Friday, April 11 and 12.

### **Planning to Attend the ACTE Region V 2019 Conference? Want Graduate Credit for Lane Change &/or Renewal? Only \$99.**

The [ACTE Region V's 2019 Conference](#) will be held in Bozeman, Montana, April 10-13, and Montana ACTE is excited to provide attendees with an added benefit. Attendees of the ACTE Region V 2019 Conference will be able to earn graduate-level college credit from Montana State University Billings. The cost for the credit is \$99.00.

The Montana Association for Career and Technical Education has partnered with Montana State University Billings to provide ACTE Region V 2019 Leadership Conference participants with the option to earn one (1) graduate-level credit from MSU Billings' Extended Campus. Registration and payment for the credit can be completed at <https://goo.gl/7k4WRi>.

The credit, EDCI 589-400, is not applicable to a Master's degree offered by MSU Billings; however, the credit may be used to fulfil K-12 licensure requirements, "lane changes," or other continuing education requirements for professionals.

[ACTE Region V 2019 Leadership Conference](#) attendees who wish to earn the graduate credit will be required to provide proof of registration and attendance (such as a copy of registration receipt and nametag), provide a written agenda/synopsis listing all the conference sessions and all the conference-related activities attended (including workshops, tours, networking sessions, etc.), and create a lesson plan in which materials and/or resources gained from the ACTE Region V 2019 Leadership Conference are implemented. All materials will need to be submitted by May 3, 2019.

For complete details about the credit offering, including a syllabus, a template for the lesson plan, directions for utilizing the lesson plan template, and a copy of the rubric which will be used to evaluate the lesson plan and lesson materials can be found on the ACTE Region V website at [www.acteonline.org/region-page/region-v-events](http://www.acteonline.org/region-page/region-v-events) along with other details regarding the 2019 event in Bozeman.

Questions regarding the graduate credit offering can be sent to Eric Swenson at [eswenson@mt.gov](mailto:eswenson@mt.gov). See you in Bozeman.

### **Apollo's 50th Anniversary Celebration Contest**

NASA is celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Apollo 11 mission to the moon, and NASA has planned a competition for middle and high school students and their teachers.

OPI is looking for teachers to train in programming and lead groups of middle and high schools students in a lunar landing mock-up competition using drones and Lego rovers.

A statewide competition will be held at the Montana Learning Center in July 2019. Registration details will be coming in January 2019.

Contact OPI Science Instructional Coordinator [Michelle McCarthy \(MMcCarthy5@mt.gov\)](mailto:MMcCarthy5@mt.gov) for more information about this exciting opportunity.

### **NBEA 2019 Convention—Chicago, April 16-20—Now Ready for You**

The [National Business Education Association \(NBEA\)](http://nbea.org), [nbea.org](http://nbea.org), is excited to share with you the tremendous educational sessions that will be offered at the [NBEA 2019 Annual Convention](#), which will be held April 16-20, in Chicago, Illinois. The NBEA Convention is consistently rated as the most valuable conference for business educators.

With over 90 educational sessions, you will find new and creative ways to enhance your classrooms and business education programs. Access a complete listing of all concurrent sessions by [clicking here](#) for the convention program brochure and the convention registration form.

The Chicago Marriott Downtown Magnificent Mile will be the host site for the [NBEA 2019 Annual Convention](#). Conference room rates are \$165 Single; \$165 Double; each additional person in room is \$20. Online reservations can be completed at <https://book.passkey.com/e/49816955>.

Please note the following dates & times as you plan to attend the NBEA 2019 Convention:

--Technology workshops begin on Tuesday, April 16, at 9:00 a.m. and conclude on Friday, April 19, at 11:00 a.m.

--The Business Education Research Conference will hold a Wine & Cheese Expo on Tuesday, April 16, at 4:00 p.m. Sessions (including more than 20 "My Favorite Assignment" sessions) begin on Wednesday, April 17, at 8:00 a.m. and conclude on Friday, April 19, at 11:30 a.m.

--A full array of concurrent sessions begin on Wednesday, April 17, at 10:30 a.m. and conclude on Friday, April 19, at 4:45 p.m.

--A workshop with the culinary team at the Chicago Marriott Downtown Magnificent Mile takes place on Wednesday, April 17, from 9-11:30 a.m.

--The W!SE Certification for Personal Finance will be held on the morning of Friday, April 19.

Please review the program carefully before making your hotel and travel arrangements to Chicago, so you can take full advantage of the educational and networking opportunities. The Opening General Session take place on Wednesday, April 17, at 3:00 p.m. and the Closing General Session will be on Saturday morning, April 20.

Do not miss this dynamic convention dedicated to business education. NBEA looks forward to seeing you in Chicago.

### **FREE 2019 AICPA Advanced Accounting Trainings—Including Helena, June 24-26, 2019; Registration Now Open**

The American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA), the Montana Society of Certified Public Accountants, and the Career & Technical Education division of the Montana Office of Public Instruction are excited to announce a FREE three-day training for the [APBP: Accounting Program for Building the Profession](#) (formerly known as Accounting Pilot & Bridge Project).

The registration for the [APBP: Accounting Program for Building the Profession](#) training to be held in Helena at Helena College is now open. The Helena training will be held June 24-26, 2019.

As in past years, the AICPA has partnered with state CPA societies and/or state departments of education throughout the country to bring you training sessions to equip you with higher order accounting curriculum that will increase your students' engagement.

Becoming a part of APBP will enable you to level up your accounting class with more engaging, advanced content. Even better, registration is provided for FREE, courtesy of the AICPA Foundation.

Exclusively for high school accounting teachers, those that complete the full program will also receive:

- Daily lesson plans and assignments
- Pre-written exams with answer keys
- A textbook, including teacher's notes and PowerPoint presentations
- Refresher videos and webcasts
- Continuous support from APBP trainers

Graduate-level college credits and OPI renewal units will be available.

More than 1,000 high school teachers in 42 states have attended the training, received their free materials and been provided ongoing support. Are you interested? Head over to the APBP website ([startheregoplaces.com/teacher/apbp-advanced-accounting](http://startheregoplaces.com/teacher/apbp-advanced-accounting)) to register for the Helena training. To see the topics to be covered in the training, download a [PDF of the sample rubric](#).

### **2019 CSTA Annual Conference Registration is Now Open—Phoenix, July 7-10**

Take Advantage of Early Bird Registration to the [2019 CSTA Annual Conference](http://csteachers.org/page/2019conference), [csteachers.org/page/2019conference](http://csteachers.org/page/2019conference).

Unlock the discounted registration rate of \$175. This early bird rate includes access to sessions, the exhibit hall, plenary sessions, two lunches, and the reception on the first evening.

New this year: Register by January 6, 2019, to get unlimited workshops for a flat rate of \$200, with a week of early access to select your workshops before they open to the public.

The [2019 Computer Science Teachers Association Annual Conference](#) will be held in Phoenix, Arizona, July 7-10, 2019, at the Phoenix Convention Center.

Conference details can be found on the CSTA website at [www.csteachers.org/page/2019conference](http://www.csteachers.org/page/2019conference).

### **U.S. Computing Olympiad Announces 2018-2019 Season**

The USA Computing Olympiad (USACO) provides free online training materials and programming contests to prepare and equip pre-college students with coding and computational problem solving skills.

USACO ([usaco.org](http://usaco.org)) offers four online programming contests (about 3-5 hours in length) at four separate levels—free, open, and accessible to all (even students with no algorithmic training).

While targeted to pre-college students, others may compete and be ranked separately as observers. Submissions in C, C++, Java, Pascal, or Python will be accepted.

Students can schedule and complete their contest individually at anytime during the following windows (all web-based with proctoring or pre-registration required):

- December 14-17
- January 18-21
- February 22-25
- March 29-April 1

Looking to improve algorithmic coding skills? The USACO website, [usaco.org](http://usaco.org), offers several free training and practice materials, including prior contest problems and solutions.

Contact Brian C. Dean ([bcdean@clemsan.edu](mailto:bcdean@clemsan.edu)) with any further questions.



### Montana Teenpreneur Roundup—Submission Portal Now Open

Calling all BPA and DECA advisors. Will your students be entering a Competitive Event for entrepreneurship-related categories OR do they operate a School-Based Enterprise?

If YES, you should encourage them to submit entries to [Montana Teenpreneur Roundup](#) where they can receive cash prizes and a free 4-day entrepreneurship workshop at MSU.

The *Roundup* provides BPA and DECA students a great “twofer” opportunity to win prizes and receive statewide recognition for their business savvy while also preparing for their CTSO competitions. *Roundup* submissions can copy-and-paste from materials they create for Competitive Events and our business summary template is easy to complete for students running a SBE.

Submission deadline is February 10, 2019.

Visit the [Montana Teenpreneur Roundup](#) homepage for information about our two submission categories, examples from last year's entries to help guide your students, evaluation rubrics our judges will use, and much more.

The *Roundup* is part of a suite of entrepreneurship-related programs for high school students and educators hosted by Bozeman-based [One Montana](#). For additional information or questions, contact Jim Masker at [jim@OneMontana.org](mailto:jim@OneMontana.org).

### New for 2018—the Bank On It!® Challenge Online Accounting Game has been Taken to a New Level

[Bank On It \(bankonitgame.com\)](#), the ever-popular online game created to reinforce the accounting fundamentals you're teaching, has been expanded once again. This new **Advanced Accounting** version takes things up a notch with an entirely new game board and more complex questions on topics such as Fixed Assets, Inventory, Time Value of Money and Debt & Equity financing.

The advanced version also gives students the opportunity to complete high-level financial statement analysis through a new feature that puts financial statements right in the game. And like all of our [Bank On It](#) versions, it can be played in the classroom, on the go or via tournaments.

So whether you're new to Bank On It or it's already a classroom staple, learn more about our new advanced version by trying a game for yourself or downloading the updated [Educator's Guide \(startheregoplaces.com/teacher/classroom-resources/bank-it-game-and-educators-guide\)](#)

### 2018-2019 Montana Teenpreneur Roundup Now Open for Student Submissions

Do you teach students who exhibit an innovative spirit, the kind who ask "How might we?" or "Couldn't we try it this way?" or "I have an idea." Are you looking for a unique Project-Based Learning activity to try with your students? If yes, then please help us find, celebrate and reward Montana's next generation of entrepreneurs and innovators. You know who they are for they are already sitting in your classroom and participating in your CTSO club.

Now in its third year, [Montana Teenpreneur Roundup](#), sponsored by Bozeman-based nonprofit [One Montana \(onemontana.org\)](#) provides high school students an opportunity to demonstrate their creativity by submitting ideas for innovative products and services that solve problems in their lives and for solutions they see to improve their communities, Montana and the country, as a whole.

Since 2017, the *Roundup* has distributed \$5,000 to students with innovative ideas and their teachers. Students are celebrated during an awards ceremony hosted by the Governor at the Capitol. And, they are eligible to attend an all-expenses-paid 4-day accelerated entrepreneurship workshop at Montana State University.

The *Roundup* seeks students who have...

Category 1- New Business Ideas: Students with innovative ideas for new products or services that have the potential to improve our lives. It doesn't matter if the idea is serious or whimsical as long as it is an innovative solution to a contemporary problem.

Category 2- Existing Businesses: Students who already run small businesses. Some do it to earn spending money, while some do it as fundraising projects for their school clubs. It doesn't matter how small the existing business is, as long as it is profitable.

For more information about *Montana Teenpreneur Roundup*, go to [www.OneMontana.org](http://www.OneMontana.org) and click on the hyperlink for the *Roundup*.

### **Fun Facts and Trivia**

Ranked the world's sixth cleanest city in 2016 by List 25 rating service, Reykjavik is the capital city for the Republic of Iceland

Iceland won its independence from Denmark on June 17, 1944; Icelanders celebrate Independence Day as a national holiday on each June 17.

The Capital Region, also called Greater Reykjavik, encompasses Reykjavik city limits plus six surrounding municipalities. The Capital Region's population count was 213,619 for 2016 living over a land territory of 521 square miles

Of Iceland's 332,750 residents, 64 percent, live in the Reykjavik region—with 37 percent within the capital's city limits.

Just two degrees south of the Arctic Circle at a latitude of 64 degrees and 8 minutes north, Reykjavik is the northernmost capital on the planet.

Reykjavik's proximity to the North Pole means that it gets as little as four hours of sunlight in the winter and as much as 21 hours of daylight in the summer.

While close to the Arctic Circle and the North Pole, thanks to the gulf stream of Mexico, Reykjavik experiences climate very similar to New York City.

Ingólfur Arnarson, a fugitive from Norway, became the first Icelander when he settled on the island in the 870s, around where Reykjavik is now.

The steam rising from the area's hot springs gave Reykjavik its name, which literally translates to "Cove of Smokes," or more eloquently, "Smoky Bay."

Iceland holds the honor of having the world's oldest parliament, which was formed in 930 in Thingvellir. Although it was discontinued for a period in the early 1800s, the national parliament, Althingi, was reestablished in 1844 in Reykjavik, where it's still housed next to Austurvöllur Square.

One of the most popular foods in Iceland are hot dogs and there is no better spot to get the wieners than Bæjarins Beztu Pylsur, a local stand.

The Bæjarins Beztu Pylsur kiosk has been in the Reykjavik harbor since 1937, but President Bill Clinton's 2004 visit solidified its constant long line of locals and tourists waiting for the lamb-based frank doused in ketchup, mustard, remoulade (mayonnaise-based sauce with sweet relish), and both raw and fried onions, which give it just a bit of a crunch.

Perched atop the Öskjuhlíð hill is Perlan, or The Pearl—a dome sitting atop six water tanks each holding more than a million gallons of water at a temperature of 185°F; while the tanks provide the water for the greater Reykjavik area, the dome above it features 1176 window panes and holds a rotating restaurant revealing a sky-high panoramic view of the capital.

The country's biggest flea market is Kolaportið, located near the Reykjavik Harbor, where visitors can find vintage records to shark meat from the indoor stalls, started in 1989.

Prohibition in Iceland started in 1915, but red wine was legalized less than 10 years later, and spirits followed suit in the 1930s; however, beer was illegal in the country until March 1, 1989.

There are not any McDonald's restaurants in the country as the last Golden Arches closed in Iceland on October 30, 2009.



Although artist Jon Gunnar Arnason's stainless steel structure, *Solfar Sun Voyager*, resembles a Viking ship—especially because of its waterfront location on the Reykjavik shoreline—his intention was for it to serve as an "ode to the sun."

Reykjavik has become a hub for annual events, including the Winter Lights Festival, the International Festival of Children's Literature, the Reykjavik International Film Festival, the Reykjavik Fashion Festival, Design March, and Ingólfshátíð Viking Festival—where Vikings from around the globe gather to celebrate their heritage.

Reykjavík is the only capital city in the world that is home to a major puffin breeding colony. Iceland, of course, is home to the largest and most important nesting grounds of the Atlantic puffin—an estimated 60% of the entire world puffin population nests in Iceland. As many as 3 or 4 million pairs of puffins nest in Iceland each year.

Dogs were banned in Reykjavík from 1924 to 1984 as the thinking behind the ban was quite simple: A city is no place for a dog and were considered farm animals which really could not adapt to urban life.

While very close to Danish and Norwegian, the Icelandic language remains totally unique; unlike other languages that have changed drastically over the centuries, Icelandic remains very close to its original roots.

There are no surnames or family names in Iceland—Icelanders use the traditional Nordic naming system, which includes a last name that is comprised from their father's (or mother's) first name with the addition of -dóttir (-daughter) or -son.

There are strict laws on what names are allowed in Iceland, the point is to preserve Icelandic language; therefore, all names not previously accepted must go before the Icelandic Naming Committee, which either allows them if they abide to the laws on Icelandic names, or rejects them, forcing parents to find another name for their child.

Icelandic telephone directories list Icelanders by first name alphabetically.

Mosquitoes do not exist in Iceland.

The English word "geyser" comes from the name of the great geyser, Geysir in Haukadalur, South Iceland.

Issues of the Wednesday Reader are archived on the Montana Business Education Association (MBEA) website at [www.mbea.info](http://www.mbea.info). The Wednesday Readers are under the Newsletter section and listed most-recent first.

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"You don't make decisions because they are easy; you don't make them because they are cheap; you don't make them because they're popular; you make them because they're right." ~Rev. Theodore Hesburgh