THE WEDNESDAY READER December 13, 2023

MCEE Announces the Fall 2023 Big Sky Biz Sim Top Performers

The <u>Montana Council on Economic Education</u> (MCEE) extends congratulations to everyone on an exciting finish to the <u>Big Sky Biz Sim by First Interstate Bank</u> competition this semester. MCEE announces the top teams and will be sending out prizes and certificates this week.

Cash prizes for the top three teams will be going to teams at Sidney High School coached by Russel Biniek, congratulations.

MCEE will also be sending out Visa Gift Cards to every top performing team in each Industry. It is exciting to see several new or relatively new teachers lead their students to success. MCEE is actively promoting for more participation so this is a welcome indicator.

Below, the Top 15 by Stock Price are listed so you can see how things stacked up. MCEE will be sharing these results with OPI, their sponsors, and on their social media, so if you want to engage, please visit <u>MCEE on Facebook</u>.

MCEE hopes to see many of you register for the Spring Biz Sim; registration will be opening soon with the deadline of January 30 to register with the first trades due February 7, 2024.

<u>Team</u>	Stock Price	School	<u>Teacher</u>	<u>Prize</u>
A15	81.03	Sidney High School	Russel Biniek	\$500
A17	75.29	Sidney High School	Russel Biniek	\$250
A16	72.68	Sidney High School	Russel Biniek	\$100
A19	68.89	Lockwood School	Lacie Boespflug	\$50 Visa Gift Card
B3	65.69	Manhattan High School	Kay Adams	\$50 Visa Gift Card
C2	59.5	Skyview High School	Molly Barta	\$50 Visa Gift Card
D1	76.14	Sidney High School	Russel Biniek	\$50 Visa Gift Card
E6	63.82	Frenchtown High School	Ryan Goris	\$50 Visa Gift Card
F13	63.98	Whitehall High School	Lincoln Leary	\$50 Visa Gift Card
G9	64.62	Glacier High School	Josh Munro	\$50 Visa Gift Card
H15	64.43	Three Forks Schools	Jessica Oehmcke	\$50 Visa Gift Card
I18	67.64	Skyview High School	Kurt Wohler	\$50 Visa Gift Card
J7	61.82	Skyview High School	Kurt Wohler	\$50 Visa Gift Card
<u>Place</u>	Stock Price	<u>School</u>	<u>Teacher</u>	
1	81.03	Sidney High School	Russel Biniek	
2	76.14	Sidney High School	Russel Biniek	
3	75.29	Sidney High School	Russel Biniek	
4	72.68	Sidney High School	Russel Biniek	
5	68.89	Lockwood School	Lacie Boespflug	
6	67.64	Skyview High School	Kurt Wohler	
7	66.77	Sunburst Schools	Jeffrey Nix	
8	66.52	Lockwood School	Lacie Boespflug	
9	65.69	Manhattan High School	Kay Adams	
10	64.78	Sunburst Schools	Jeffrey Nix	

11	64.62	Glacier High Schools	Josh Munro
12	64.43	Three Forks Schools	Jessica Oehmcke
13	64.29	Gallatin High School	Tanner Curey
14	63.98	Whitehall High School	Lincoln Leary
15	63.82	Frenchtown High School	Ryan Goris

Applications Now Being Accepted for Perkins Rural Reserve Grants for 2023-2024

Purpose: To create career awareness, recruit, and retain students within a CTE Secondary Program of Study that leads to a high skill, high wage, or in demand occupations.

There are currently 176 schools offering over 260 Career and Technical Education courses to students in grades 5-8 in our Montana schools. The most offered course is in career exploration. Montana does not allocate Perkins's funding for middle school programs this year's Rural Reserve Grant will be to encourage pathway work for the middle grades.

Schools could use the funds to help:

--establish innovative delivery methods for career exploration,

- --expose students to employability skills earlier,
- --establish foundational elements for work-based learning,

--improve transitions from middle grades into secondary Career and Technical Education pathways.

High School Awards: Grants of **up to \$5,000** each will be available to secondary Perkins eligible: school districts who receive less than \$15,000 in Perkins funding Schools will have had to complete the Perkins Comprehensive Local Needs Assessment (CLNA) and E-Grant application as well.

Middle School Awards: Grants of **up to \$5,000** each will be available to secondary Perkins eligible school districts to support CTE work in the middle grades (5-8). Schools will have to complete the Perkins Comprehensive Local Needs Assessment (CLNA) and E-Grant application as well for the 2023-2024 Grant cycle. Middle School programs will need to apply through their high school district to submit the application.

Districts are only eligible for a total of \$5,000 in awards, must have completed the Perkins Grant Application for Fiscal Year 24 and receive an allocation of less than \$15,000. Grant winners notified on an ongoing basis. First reviews will be January 2, 2024.

Use of Funds: Applicants need to show a middle school/ secondary program partnership. Money will be granted to the Secondary Program to use for Middle School CTE Development/Support.

Click <u>here</u> for the application.

WBEA 2024 Professional Development Leadership Training-Register to Participate Today

Each year, the <u>Western Business Education Association</u> (WBEA) hosts the Professional Development Leadership Training (PDLT) as part of the yearly conference for Presidents-elect, Membership Directors, and other new and emerging leaders from the western region's states, territories, and provinces (S/T/P) business education organizations.

The PDLT is a great opportunities for S/T/P leaders, and those identified as future/potential leaders, to learn more about the Business Education profession and the role the National Business Education

Association (NBEA), WBEA, and the local S/T/P associations play in the development and support of Business Educators and the profession of Business Education.

Participation is open to anyone interested in taking advantage of this unique professional development opportunity by completing the <u>PDLT application</u>. Please submit your application by February 1, 2024.

PDLT participants will meet Saturday, February 17, from 7:30-9 am. A continental breakfast will be provided. PDLT participants will also be recognized at the WBEA Awards Banquet on Sunday evening.

The WBEA leadership team looks forward to seeing you at this year's <u>WBEA 2024 Conference</u> in Eugene, Oregon, February 15-19, 2024. Register today.

For questions, or for more information, regarding the WBEA PDLT, please contact Chris Liebelt-Garcia, WBEA's Representative to the NBEA Executive Board, at <u>chrisliebelt_garcia@yahoo.com</u>.

Early-Bird Registration for WBEA 2024 Conference Ends December 31

The <u>Oregon Business Education Association</u> invites you to this year's <u>Western Business Education</u> <u>Association's Conference</u> to be held in Eugene, Oregon, February 15-18, 2024. The conference committee has been busy at work and continues to do so to provide educators with high-quality professional development in Personal Finance, Economics, Marketing, Accounting, Computer Science, Entrepreneurship, and more.

Reasons to attend: Dynamic speakers, breakout sessions, viticulture experience, certification workshops, networking, and vendors. Available tour include University of Oregon Hayward Field Museum, NIKE, Cascade Raptor Center, 5th Street Market & Alley, and a Viticulture Business Seminar and Tour.

<u>Registration</u> for the WBEA 2024 Conference is now open and can be online with a NBEA-member early bird rate of \$375.00 if paid by January 1, 2024. After January 1, 2024, the NBEA-member early bird rate increases to \$425.00.

Rooms can be reserved at <u>The Graduate Hotel</u> online at a conference rate of \$159.00 plus tax/fees.

For travel planning, a <u>conference overview and schedule</u> is available.

Save the Date for the <u>WBEA 2025 Wild Card Conference</u>, *Path to Collaboration and Discovery*, February 14-16, 2025, at the DoubleTree by Hilton in Billings, Montana.

Youth Serve Montana Scholarships 2024 Applications Now Open

The Governor's Office of Community Service, <u>Reach Higher Montana</u>, and <u>Montana Campus Compact</u> are pleased to offer \$125,000 in scholarships for 2024 graduating seniors via the <u>Youth Serve Montana</u> <u>Scholarship</u> program.

Up to 100 seniors will receive scholarships for completing volunteer service hours in the 12 months prior to submitting their application. Students who have completed 50 hours are eligible for a \$1,000 scholarship, and students who have completed 100 hours are eligible for a \$1,500 scholarship.

Applications are now being accepted and closes January 31, 2024.

Visit the <u>Youth Serve Montana Scholarship</u> page for complete details and to apply.

ACTE's New Online Entrepreneurship Institute for Middle & High School Teachers

The <u>Association for Career & Technical Education</u> (ACTE) announces an online professional learning opportunity focusing on <u>entrepreneurship and preparing students for the new Innovation and Gig</u> <u>Economy</u>.

The Innovation and Gig Economy requires students to graduate with an entrepreneurial mindset (opportunity recognition, critical thinking, problem-solving, creativity, innovation, initiative, collaboration, etc.) even if they do not start their own business. 40% of Americans have a side hustle and nearly 50% of today's youth say they intend to start their own business someday.

Entrepreneurial skills are an increasingly essential part of workforce development and overlap with the workplace readiness skills employers say they want in new hires in a rapidly changing, innovationbased workplace. Communities also thrive when its members are empowered to become change agents by offering business-centered solutions to unmet community challenges.

Using experiential learning and a field-tested curriculum, this all-new <u>Entrepreneurship Institute</u> runs in two parts—February 19-March 22 and April 8-May 17—and offers participants instructional best practices, classroom-ready resources, and assignments they can use with their students.

Easily customizable, the Institute's online modules are self-paced. Live Zoom classes feature introductions to community partners and grassroots entrepreneurs who share lessons learned, and breakout groups for national networking, resource sharing, and lesson planning.

Attendees will receive 55 hours of professional development or an optional three hours of undergraduate or graduate credit. <u>Learn more</u>.

Perkins Fall CTE Data Collection Due December 31, 2024

The fall is the time to contact graduates of the Class of 2023 identified as CTE Concentrators to determine and report their post-graduation placement.

Graduates are identified by one of the following post-graduation status categories.

--Post-secondary Education or Training: attended(ing) a post-secondary program or additional training

- --Employed: currently employed, not enrolled in a post-secondary program or in the military
- --Unemployed: after graduating, student became/remains unemployed
- --Military: student joined the military
- --Not Known: student's status after graduating from high school is not known
- --Other: student's status after graduating from high school is something other than above options

For assistance in completing the data collection, a <u>User Guide</u> is available for entering the data in AIM.

NBEA's 2024 Convention Registration for Myrtle Beach is Open

Registration is now open for the <u>National Business Education Association</u> (NBEA) 2024 Annual Convention. The <u>NBEA 2024 Convention & Expo</u> will be held Tuesday-Friday, March 26-29, 2024, at the Sheraton Myrtle Beach Convention Center Hotel in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. Both in-person and virtual participation options are available.

Get ready for a one-of-a-kind conference experience at the picturesque beach destination of Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. Join us for the 2024 NBEA Convention & Expo to combine learning, networking, and perhaps a little bit of sand. Soak up the sun, build valuable relationships, and gain invaluable knowledge as NBEA goes to the beach. Now included with the in-person registration:

--Continental Breakfast Wednesday, Thursday & Friday

- --Lunch Wednesday, Thursday & Friday Awards Luncheon
- --Wednesday evening welcome reception
- --Transportation on Wednesday evening to Broadway at the Beach
- --Thursday Networking Event: Rooftop Dinner at RipTydz

Virtual registrants can attend sessions from the comfort of their own homes. Sessions will be broadcast live via ZOOM! Select whether you plan to attend the event live, in Myrtle Beach, or virtually when you register.

All attendees will have access to session broadcasts, and most concurrent sessions will be recorded and posted for later viewing for convention registrants.

The Early-bird, NBEA-member rate for in-person registration is \$499 and \$349 for virtual registration The early-bird rates end February 27, 2024.

If participating in-person, rooms at the <u>Sheraton Myrtle Beach Convention Center Hotel</u> can be booked for \$159+taxes & fees. The convention room block ends February 26, 2024.

Visit the <u>NBEA 2024 Convention & Expo</u> page for complete convention details.

Announcing the 2024 National STEM Festival—April 11-13

The U.S. Department of Education and EXPLR are excited to announce their public-private partnership to co-present the first-ever <u>National STEM Festival</u>, a nationwide effort to identify and encourage the next generation of innovators in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM).

Under the Biden-Harris Administration, the U.S. Department of Education has prioritized rigorous, relevant, and joyful STEM education for the nation's students to engender a sense of belonging in STEM and to ensure 21st century college and career readiness. The U.S. Department of Education and EXPLR are committed to creating equitable opportunities for STEM learning for students from all backgrounds.

The National STEM Festival will take place in person, April 11-13, 2024, at The Square, 1850 K St., NW, Washington, DC. The schedule to date follows:

--April 11: the Department will host a 2nd You Belong in STEM Convening (invitation only) --April 12: student innovators will exhibit their projects for the media and federal VIPs. (invitation only)

--April 13, 12:00-5:00 PM: student innovators and federal STEM agencies will exhibit for the public (open invitation)

"The Biden-Harris Administration is thrilled to have the U.S. Department of Education team up with EXPLR to host the first-ever National STEM Festival," said U.S. Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona. "To Raise the Bar in education, we must provide all students with rich and engaging STEM learning experiences that unleash their love of learning and problem-solving skills. This event is an exciting opportunity to celebrate our future scientists, creators, and innovators, and to help more students recognize they that too belong in STEM."

"EXPLR is passionate about helping kids realize their potential," said EXPLR CEO Jenny Buccos. "Through the National STEM Festival, we are shining a spotlight on this nation's brilliant young minds, including those from underrepresented backgrounds. Genius should never go overlooked.

AP Business Principles Course Under Consideration by the College Board

Earlier this month, <u>National Business Education Association</u> (NBEA) Executive Director Joseph McClary shared some preliminary information about a potential <u>AP Business Principles</u> course being considered by the College Board.

Through an engaging, full-year course that parallels the content and rigor of introductory, college-level business coursework, AP Business Principles is designed to prepare a diverse group of students for business careers, while also giving them the college credit and placement benefits of AP. AP Business Principles is designed to prepare a diverse group of students for careers in business and to improve readiness for subsequent courses in Marketing, Finance, Accounting, and Entrepreneurship. In the course, students explore how businesses operate and the role of business in society, and they apply their learning through case studies and a through-course business canvas project of their choosing.

A presentation with additional details about the AP Business Principles course can be viewed <u>here</u>.

If you are interested in learning more about the course and/or interested in being involved through the course development process, please complete the <u>AP Business Principles Interest Form</u>.

First Submissions for The Prospects 2024 Began Friday, December 1

The <u>Montana Chamber Foundation</u> is excited to announce the 2024 edition of <u>The Prospects</u>, an entrepreneurship competition. With over \$75,000 in cash, prizes, and scholarships available, this is a great opportunity to get your students' ideas exposed to business leaders in Montana.

<u>Tiana Yates</u> (<u>tiana@montanachamber.com</u>), the Montana Chamber Empowered Coordinator, will be your main contact for this year's competition. You do not have to be teaching <u>Empowered</u> to participate in the contest.

<u>The Prospects</u> includes both a high school and a middle school division. The Fall competition is open now with submissions being accepted beginning December 1, 2023. Submission will be judged as they are submitted with finalists being announced on February 1, March 1, and April 1. The 2024 Virtual Awards Ceremony will be held April 24, 2024.

Key Dates for The Prospects 2024

--December 1: First Submission Date

--February 1, March 1, & April 1: Advancements Announced

--March 15: Final Submission Date

--April 25: Virtual Awards Show

--May 19-21: In-person competition in Bozeman for the Grand Champion prize

The Prospects categories for the High School level include

Existing Business Idea: Any high school students already running their own small business. Pitch your business and how you intend to grow and sustain it moving forward.

<u>New Business Idea</u>: Do you have the next big thing? We want high school students to reach for stars and come up with the next amazing, new idea.

<u>Hack My State</u>: Take time to help us come up with solutions for one of our state's biggest concerns right now, Childcare. Come up with a solution that could help solve the problem for finding childcare all across Montana.

<u>School Enterprise</u>: Does your school, class or club run a business? If so, tell us why it exists and ways to improve or expand to benefit your school.

At the Middle School level, the Junior Prospects competition categories include

<u>Design Challenge</u> (6th grade only): 6th graders will be tasked to combine three items and let their creativity shine. Create the next big thing and help innovate Montana.

<u>Hack My School</u> (7th & 8th grade): Let's be solution makers. We want you to take a deep dive into your school and come up with a realistic and attainable solution to make your school better for everyone.

<u>Vacant Lot</u> (7th & 8th grade): Like Hack My School, but we want you to look at your community to be the next generation of change makers. Look at the vacant lots, existing buildings, and other areas of your community and pitch to us your solution to make your hometown better.

Existing Business Idea (6th-8th grade): Any middle school students already running their own small business. Pitch your business and how you intend to grow and sustain it moving forward.

Eligibility: Any of Montana's high school and middle school students are encouraged to submit their innovative ideas and solutions or enter their existing businesses.

Submissions: Pitch Video (2 minutes or less), Business Summary (1,000 words max.), a Waiver Form signed by an Educator and/or Parent or Guardian, and a completed W-9 Form.

Complete contest and submission details can be found on <u>The Prospects page</u> of the Montana Chamber Foundation website.

For questions, please contact Tiana Yates at <u>tiana@montanachamber.com</u>.

Each participant will receive an extensive digital resource handbook specifically designed for this seminar. The handbook includes:

--Sample prompts and strategies for using AI tools to create engaging and personalized business lessons that cater to individual student learning needs

--Ideas and resources on how to make the best use of AI tools in your classroom

--Descriptions and overviews of the AI tools covered in the seminar as well as additional tools to consider for specific business ed content areas

--Ways to use AI to automate routine administrative tasks, allowing more time for teaching and student learning

--Practical strategies and tutorials to more effectively introduce AI tools to business ed students

Using AI Tools To Enhance Student Learning In Business Education

Presented by Diane Marsh (former Business Educator at Columbia Falls High School) for the Institute for educational Development, <u>Using AI Tools To Enhance Student Learning In Business Education</u> is an exciting opportunity for Grades 6-12 business teachers to explore the latest developments in Artificial Intelligence (AI) and their specific applications in the world of business education.

Participants will learn how to create a learning experience that strengthens students' critical thinking, creativity, and engagement. This seminar is designed to provide teachers with practical, actionable strategies and skills you can implement immediately to enhance your existing business curriculum, making it more interactive and impactful for your students. Join Diane for a highly practical day filled with ways to make best use of AI tools to strengthen your students' business learning, streamline grading and assessments, enhance your instruction, and improve your own productivity.

Each participant will receive an extensive digital resource handbook specifically designed for this seminar. The handbook includes:

--Sample prompts and strategies for using AI tools to create engaging and personalized business lessons that cater to individual student learning needs

--Ideas and resources on how to make the best use of AI tools in your classroom

--Descriptions and overviews of the AI tools covered in the seminar as well as additional tools to consider for specific business ed content areas

--Ways to use AI to automate routine administrative tasks, allowing more time for teaching and student learning

--Practical strategies and tutorials to more effectively introduce AI tools to business ed students

The <u>Using AI Tools To Enhance Student Learning In Business Education</u> virtual seminar will be held January 29, 2024, from 7 am-1:30 pm (MST), with additional options to participate on February 2, 2024, or March 1, 2024.

For complete details and to register to participate in one of the three offerings, please visit the <u>seminar</u> <u>page</u> on the Institute for Educational Development website.

NCCE 2024 Conference Offering Half-Day Tracks—Including a CTE

the <u>Northwest Council for Computer Education</u> (NCCE) 2024 <u>Conference</u> will be held in Seattle, February 14-16, at the Seattle Convention Center.

New this year, the NCCE 2024 Conference will be offering four (4) half day summits on Wednesday, February 14.

--Future Ready Librarians Summit, 8-11:50 am

--Building the Pipeline with CTE Opportunities Summit, 12:30-4 pm

- --<u>IT Cybersecurity Summit</u>, 12:30-4 pm
- --Leading with Intention for Innovative, Sustainable Change (Leadership) Summit, 8-11:50 am

Visit the <u>NCCE 2024 Conference</u> for details regarding <u>registration</u> and <u>housing</u> at the Hyatt Regency Seattle.

<u>Scholarships</u> are also available for first-year and preservice teachers attending the NCCE 2024 Conference for the first time.

AWS K-12 Cyber Grant Program

Recognizing the need for the K12 community to enhance cybersecurity protection against intrusion, ransomware attacks, and data breaches, AWS created a non-competitive <u>K12 Cyber Grant Program</u> and is investing \$20 million in AWS promotional credits for new and existing customers.

The grant is open to K12 public school districts, regional education service agencies (ESAs), and state departments of education (DOEs) to implement cloud-based cybersecurity solutions to increase their security posture. Grant awards take into consideration the type of entity, student enrollment for districts, and students supported (ESAs and DOEs).

In addition to the grant funding, AWS has committed to upskilling staff through no-cost training, and providing no-cost cyber incident response assistance to AWS K12 customers in the event of a cyberattack.

Click <u>here</u> for complete details and to apply. The application deadline is December 31, 2023.

Encourage High School Seniors to Apply for the Cutler-Bell Prize

The <u>Computer Science Teachers Association</u> (CSTA) has opened applications for the <u>2023-2024 Cutler-</u> <u>Bell Application</u>, which looks to recognize up to four high school senior students residing in the US for their projects in computer science.

Winners will receive a \$10,000 prize to go to their college/university of choice.

Applications are due by January 19, 2023.

<u>Share the application</u> with your students. Have questions about the award? <u>Join the CSTA Awards</u> <u>committee</u> for one of their three Q&A sessions about the award. These sessions are open to students as well.

Hawaii ACTE Invites You to Join Them for the ACTE Region V 2024 Conference

The Hawaii Association for Career & Technical Education is hosting the <u>ACTE Region V 2024 Conference</u> in Honolulu, April 9-12, at the <u>Ala Moana Hotel</u> in downtown Waikiki.

<u>Registration</u> for the conference is now open and can be completed online. The early-bird registration rate is \$475 which includes tour options for Wednesday, April 10; breakfast each morning Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday; lunch on Wednesday; and receptions Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. The early-bird registration rate ends February 1, 2024.

If the 2024 conference is your first time attending an ACTE Region V conference, <u>apply</u> for a <u>First</u> <u>Timer's stipend</u> of \$450.

Rooms can be booked at the <u>Ala Moana Hotel</u> at the conference rate of \$169 or \$189 depending on tower selected.

To help with travel planning, a <u>Schedule At-a-Glance</u> is available along with a <u>letter</u> to help justify your attendance at the conference.

To be part of the conference program, submit a <u>Call for Presentation</u> to present a session. Calls for Presentations are due February 1, 2024.

Montana Perkins State Plan Review Survey

The Carl D. Perkins Act is federal legislation that provides funding for the specific purpose of developing career and technical education training and employability skills for secondary (high school) and postsecondary (college) students.

The State of Montana is asking you for your help in developing the state's vision and goals for career and technical education and workforce training. This <u>survey</u> will take five minutes or less to complete.

The deadline for taking this survey is February 1, 2024. Please share this survey widely with friends, family, colleagues, classmates, etc.

Fun Facts & Trivia

Located within northwest Montana's Flathead and Glacier counties, Glacier National Park was established in 1910 when President Taft signed the bill establishing Glacier as the country's 10th national park.

In the late 1890's, visitors arriving at Belton (now called West Glacier) could get off the train, take a stagecoach ride a few miles to Lake McDonald, and then board a boat for an eight-mile trip to the Snyder Hotel.

While no roads existed in the mountains, the lakes allowed boat travel into the wilderness.

Soon people, like George Bird Grinnell, pushed for the creation of a national park.

Grinnell was an early explorer to this part of Montana and spent many years working to get the park established.

The area was made a Forest Preserve in 1900 but was open to mining and homesteading; Grinnell and others sought the added protection a national park would provide.

The park encompasses approximately 1.4 million acres of wilderness and some of the most beautiful mountain scenery in the western United States.

A combination of spectacular scenery, diverse flora and fauna, and relative isolation from major population centers have combined to make Glacier National Park the center of one of the largest and most intact ecosystems in North America.

Glacier National Park was established to protect the area's spectacular scenic values, as characterized by the geologic features of the Rocky Mountains and valleys and the native plant and animal life.

Recent archaeological surveys have found evidence of human use dating back over 10,000 years.

The general park area was once the homeland of the Blackfoot and Kootenai Indian tribes and many sites in the park are sacred spiritual sites.

The Blackfeet Indians controlled the vast prairies east of the mountains and the Salish and Kootenai Indians lived and hunted in the western valleys; the also traveled east of the mountains to hunt buffalo.

In the early 1800's, French, English, and Spanish trappers came in search of beaver.

In 1806, the Lewis and Clark Expedition came within 50 miles of the area that is now the park.

The high mountains that bisect the park from north to south capture rainfall from the western slopes.

This warm, moist Pacific-like environment produces dense forests of larch, spruce, fir, and lodgepole pine.

In the Lake McDonald valley, forests of western red cedar and hemlock are common.

The alpine areas provide the setting for some of the best wildflower displays in North America.

In 1932, the 50-mile long Going To The Sun Road opened.

This scenic road weaves through the park and crosses the Continental Divide at 6646 feet Logan Pass where it can accumulate up to 80 feet of snow during the winter season.

The Going to the Sun Road is registered as a National Historic Place, National Historic Landmark, and Historic Civil Engineering Landmark.

This famous road is featured in the opening credits of the horror film classic "The Shining."

In the heart of Glacier National Park sits 8020-foot Triple Divide Peak where water drains to the Pacific, Atlantic (via the Gulf of Mexico), and Arctic (via Hudson Bay) Oceans.

The highest point in the park is Mount Cleveland at 10448 feet.

The Great Northern Railway constructed nine chalets between the years 1910 and 1915.

The sites were Belton (West Glacier), St. Mary, Sun Point, Many Glacier, Two Medicine, Sperry, Granite Park, Cut Bank, and Gunsight Lake.

Visitors would take a trip by horseback from chalet to chalet to see the park; this used to take several weeks.

In 1932 Waterton Lakes National Park (Alberta, Canada) was combined with the Glacier National Park (Montana, United States) to form the world's first International Peace Park.

The two parks share 21 miles of international border.

If you cross the US-Canada border at Goat Haunt while in the park, you'll receive a goat shaped passport stamp.

In 1974, Glacier National Park was established as an International Biosphere Reserve.

In 1995, UNESCO declared the Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park parks a World Heritage Site.

Issues of the Wednesday Reader are archived on the Montana Business Education Association (MBEA) website at <u>www.mbea.info</u>. 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