

## **The Wednesday Reader**

### **October 23, 2019**

#### **Remember 2020 is Leap Year; I did not. Whoops!**

Thank you to everyone who was able to hit the road last week and attend the Montana BPA Fall Leadership Conference, the New CTE Professionals 2019 Workshop, and the Montana ACTE 2019 Fall Institute.

As I was unpacking and putting materials away, I realized the dates listed in the [Montana Business Education 2019-2020 Planning Calendar](#) for the Montana BPA State Leadership Conference were incorrect. The dates listed (March 9-11) do not account for 2020 being a Leap Year; the correct dates are March 8-10.

For your reference and use, an updated Montana Business Education 2019-2020 Planning Calendar can be downloaded at <http://bit.ly/MTBusEd19-20>.

#### **Montana Business Educator Named Montana's Career & Technical Education Teacher of the Year**

Nicole Bogunovich, Business Educator, BPA chapter advisor, and Technology Integration Specialist at Billings West High School was named the 2019 Montana Career & Technical Education Teacher of the Year by the [Montana Association for Career and Technical Education](#) during the Montana ACTE 2019 Fall Institute in Great Falls, October 17-18.

Nicole also teaches business courses for Montana State University Billings and has been instrumental in growing the various dual enrollment courses at Billings West High, such as the first Accounting 201 dual credit offering in Montana. Nicole is constantly searching for new tech tools and innovative ways to integrate those tools in her classroom and school.

Nicole received a B.S. in Business-Finance from MSU Billings, her B.S. in Business Education and Computer Applications from UM Western, and an M.Ed. Educational Technology from MSU Billings. This past spring, she completed her MBA from the University of Montana.

Nicole recently won the Golden Apple Award for high school, which is awarded to one high school teacher in the Billings, MT district each year. In the past, she has been nominated for Life Changer of the Year, MBEA Young Business Teacher of the Year, and the Montana ACTE New Teacher of the Year.

Nicole competed against other teachers from Montana's career and technical education program areas and will now advance to represent Montana at the ACTE Region V Leadership Conference in Lake Tahoe, Nevada, in April 2020.

#### **Montana Business Education Association Recognizes Four During 2019 MBEA Business Meeting**

The [Montana Business Education Association](#) (MBEA) held its annual business meeting Thursday, October 17 as part of the Montana ACTE 2019 Fall Institute in Great Falls.

Calie Wineinger, MBEA President from Froid High School, began the awards portion of the meeting by recognizing the Montana Business Educators who retired at the end of the 2018-2019 school year—Kent Haab, Capital High School; Charlanne Lemke, Powder River County District High School, Broadus; Sharon Mattix, Hamilton High School; Julie O'Dell, Hardin High School; Deb Paisley, West Yellowstone High School; Jo Phillips, St. Ignatius High School; Cheryl Udelhoven Winifred High School; and Sue Zielanski, Bigfork High School.

Nicole Bogunovich, MBEA Past President from Billings West High School, presided over the awards presentations and recognized three Montana Business Educators and one Montana business for their contributions.

The 2019 Montana Business Education Association New Teacher of the Year award was presented to Tanner Curey of Bozeman High School. A graduate of (Missoula) Sentinel High School and the University of Montana, Tanner shares his experiences of having lived abroad with his students. Upon coming back to Montana, Tanner began his teaching career at Frenchtown High School and then joined the Bozeman High School Business Education department in fall 2019 and serves as co-advisor for the Bozeman DECA chapter in addition to his teaching duties.

The 2019 MBEA Outstanding Secondary Business Teacher of the Year award was presented to Casey Donahue of Polson High School. While currently serving as the MBEA President-elect, Casey teaches a variety of business, computer science, and marketing courses Polson High School and advises the Polson High DECA chapter. Casey is a Code.org certified instructor, has

participated in a number of state and national-level professional development opportunities related to the teaching of computer science and currently serves on the Western Business Education Association's Executive Board and on the Montana ACTE Executive Committee as the Montana ACTE Secretary/Treasurer.

The MBEA Distinguished Service Award was presented to Sheridan Electric Cooperative for their support and sponsorship of northeast Montana CTE programs and students. Sheridan Electric Cooperative, Inc. serves Daniels, Roosevelt, and Sheridan counties in Montana and Divide and Williams counties in North Dakota and with 2,836 miles of line and has 1,844 members.

New this year, MBEA awarded a Lifetime Achievement Award to Linda Cotton, who retired from Cascade High School in the spring 2018 after over 40 years in the classroom. Linda began her teaching career in Geysers before moving to Cascade. During her career, she advised the Cascade High School's Business Professionals of America chapter—which had state officers nearly every year and Montana's first National Officer, Nick Robbins, from 2006-2008—served as the Region 3 Coordinator, served as the interim Montana BPA State Advisor and Montana Business Education Specialist, and was a member of the Montana BPA Executive Board of Directors and the Montana Business Education Association Officer Board. Her students and chapter received numerous state and national awards in addition to leading a large number of school and community projects including Red Ribbon Week, Special Olympics, and starting a clothing and food bank.

Thank you MBEA retirees for your years of dedication, inspiration, leadership, and professionalism and congratulations to MBEA's truly-deserving award winners.

The Montana ACTE 2020 Fall Institute will be held at Fairmont Hot Springs, October 15-16.

### **Montana Business Education Association Elects New Vice President and Secretary**

Members of the [Montana Business Education Association \(MBEA\)](http://www.mbea.info) ([www.mbea.info](http://www.mbea.info)) elected a new slate of officers for 2020 during the MBEA 2019 Business Meeting. The MBEA 2019 Business Meeting was held in Great Falls on Thursday, October 17 during the Montana ACTE 2019 Fall Institute.

The 2020 MBEA officers include

- President: Casey Donahue, Polson
- President Elect: Mandy Wichman, Hobson
- Vice President: Stephanie Hess, Ennis
- Secretary: Cathy Workman, Cascade
- Treasurer: Terri Norman, Capital (Helena)
- Membership: Director: Jeanette Barreto, Colstrip
- Past President: Calie Wineinger, Froid

Both Casey and Mandy will represent the Montana Business Education Association on the Western Business Education Association's Executive Board when the WBEA Executive Board meets in February during the WBEA 2020 Conference.

### **Registration is Now Open for the WBEA 2020 Conference in South Bay, CA**

The Western Business Education Association's [2020 Conference](#) will be held February 14-17 in the South Bay area of southern California. The host site is the Torrance Marriott Redondo Beach, just a short 10 miles south of Los Angeles International Airport (LAX), three (3) miles from the Redondo Beach Pier and Pacific Ocean, and across the street from the third-largest shopping mall in the US, Del Amo Fashion Center.

The early bird registration rate for NBEA members is \$325 and is available thru December 7, 2019. This includes all breakouts, computer workshops, one industry tour, two receptions with food, a continental breakfast, the exhibitor's luncheon on Saturday, the awards banquet on Sunday. Your registration and payment can be completed online at [bit.ly/wbea2020conference](http://bit.ly/wbea2020conference).

Hotel reservations at the Torrance Marriott Redondo Beach can be booked online at [bit.ly/wbea2020marriott](http://bit.ly/wbea2020marriott). Room rates for the [WBEA 2020 Conference](#) are \$155 plus taxes. Hotel reservations must be completed before January 23, 2020.

For complete [WBEA 2020 Conference](#) details, please visit [bit.ly/wbea2020conference](http://bit.ly/wbea2020conference).

## **Scholarships and Awards from the Western Business Education Association—Including First-Time WBEA Attendees**

Nominations for the Western Business Education Association (WBEA) Awards and Scholarships are now being accepted.

Please consider nominating someone for one of the following.

Recipients will be recognized at the February WBEA Conference held in California, February 14-17, 2020.

### **NEW: First Time Attendee to the PDLT Scholarship**

In addition to the First Time Attendee Scholarship, this scholarship is offered to those wishing to attend the annual WBEA Professional Development Leadership Training conference session. State board and general members are welcome to attend for leadership training.

### **First Time Attendee Scholarship**

The First Time Attendee Scholarship is offered to those wishing to attend the annual WBEA conference for the first time who need financial assistance with the travel or conference registration fees.

### **Educational Opportunity Scholarship**

To offset tuition costs of those pursuing an advanced degree in business education.

Applications and additional information for each scholarship can be found on the WBEA website at

<http://www.wbea.info/professional-development.html>

### **Distinguished Service**

An individual who has contributed to WBEA and business education

### **Distinguished Service for Company, Company Representative, or Legislator**

A company or individual who may not be affiliated with WBEA but has made significant contributions to business education

### **Outstanding Educator**

### **Newsletter Recognition**

State, Territories, Provinces (S/T/Ps) for maintaining contact with members regularly and promoting all aspects of the profession

### **Outstanding CTSO Advisor**

WBEA Advisor for achievement, promotion, and service to Career and Technical Student Organizations

### **WBEA Recognition**

Awarded by the state to those who make significant contributions to business education

Nomination information for each award can be found on the WBEA website at <http://www.wbea.info/awards.html>.

Nominations and Applications for all scholarships and awards are due December 1 to Ariel Dykstra at [adykstra@mvsd320.org](mailto:adykstra@mvsd320.org).

## **Last Two Workshops Next Week to Inform & Prepare for Perkins V Implementation in the 2020-2021 School Year**

Perkins V legislation was passed last summer (2018), and this fiscal year (2019-2020) is Montana's Transition year to work with schools on the changes within the new law.

The Office of Public Instruction and the Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education are offering schools the following training opportunities to learn more about the changes to the law.

The workshops are open to all interested parties including CTE teachers, school counselors, school/district administrators, district clerks, school/district CTE coordinator and CTE advisory committee members.

All Workshops are scheduled for after school or on a Saturday morning so you should not need substitute teachers. You may ask your administration if Perkins funds (from 2019-2020 funding) can be used for your travel, stipend, and meals (if traveling over lunch or dinner). Please note, no beverages or snacks will be served at these workshops.

Content to be covered:

- Rigorous MT Career Pathways defined
- Alignment to Workforce labor needs
- Work-based Learning
- Dual Enrollment
- Comprehensive Local Needs Assessment
- Data-driven Decision-making
- Continued Integration of Academics and CTE

A copy of the [Comprehensive Local Needs Assessment](http://opi.mt.gov/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=J8IIGVwkL_M%3d&portalid=182) template and guidance document can be downloaded at [http://opi.mt.gov/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=J8IIGVwkL\\_M%3d&portalid=182](http://opi.mt.gov/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=J8IIGVwkL_M%3d&portalid=182). Please note, copies will not be distributed during the workshops.

Workshops will be held on the following schedule

- Missoula: Friday, September 20, 4-6 pm, at Missoula College, Room 340
- Kalispell: Saturday, September 21, 9-11 am, at Flathead Valley Community College, Arts & Technology Building, Room 144
- Billings: Wednesday, September 25, 4-6 pm, at City College, Health Sciences Building, Room 119
- Butte: Monday, September 30, 4-6 pm, at Highlands College, Room 119
- Glendive: Thursday, October 10, 9 am-4 pm, at the Prairie View Curriculum Consortia offices
- Havre: Tuesday, October 15, 4-6 pm, at MSU Northern, Brockmann, Room 202
- Belgrade: Thursday, October 17, during the MFPE 2019 Educator Conference
- Great Falls: Thursday, October 17, 2-3:30 pm, during the Montana ACTE 2019 Institute at the Heritage Inn
- Helena: Montana, October 28, 4-6 pm, Helena College Donaldson Campus (1115 North Roberts)**
- Bozeman: Wednesday, October 30, 4-6 pm, Willson Building Library**

For questions about the workshops, please contact Renee Erlandsen at [rerlandsen@mt.gov](mailto:rerlandsen@mt.gov).

### **Applications for Three (3) Content Standards Negotiated Rulemaking Committees Due Next Week, October 31**

The Office of Public Instruction is seeking applicants for [three negotiated rulemaking committees](#) related to K-12 content standards revision.

[Applications](#) from interested parties are needed to serve on one of three committees: Career and Technical/Vocational Education, Social Studies, and Computer Science/Library Media/Technology.

The agency will seek individuals likely to be significantly affected by the proposed rule amendment, including individuals from the following groups:

- school district trustees
- K-12 school administrators
- higher education faculty
- school business officials
- parents
- taxpayers

Members of the committee will be selected based on the following criteria:

- cultural diversity
- geography
- related content experience

- district and school size
- grade levels served

To apply to serve on a negotiated rulemaking committee, please fill out [this form](#).

Nominations and application can be made through the same form and must be received no later than the close of business on October 31, 2019.

Montana is a local control state where classroom curriculum is developed by local districts and approved by local school boards. However, the state content standards, adopted by the Board of Public Education (BPE), serve to guide curriculum development at a broad level. The Superintendent recommends revisions of the K-12 content standards to the BPE through the negotiated rulemaking process.

Additional information can be found on the [OPI's website](#) or contact Colet Bartow, Director of Content Standards and Instruction, [cbartow@mt.gov](mailto:cbartow@mt.gov) or 406.444.3583.

### **State CTE/VoEd Funding Final Allocations Posted**

The State CTE/VoEd funding final allocations for the 2019-2020 school year are posted for review. The State CTE/VoEd funding final allocations are generated based on the data entered into TEAMS (Terms of Employment, Accreditation, and Master Schedule) for the prior 2018-2019 school year.

The CTE tab in TEAMS was made available last April and districts were asked to complete a few additional items on the tab and review the details carefully to make sure the data was accurate.

The 2019-2020 State CTE/VoEd Funding allocations will be distributed to districts by November 1.

The [State CTE/VoEd Funding final allocations](#) can be found on the [CTE page](#) of the [OPI website](#) under the Funding heading.

The direct link to the final allocations can be found at <http://opi.mt.gov/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=38pruRu8CfU%3d&portalid=182>.

### **Registration Now Open for 2020 Montana High School Mock Trial Competition Sponsored by Montana Bar Association**

Through participation in the Montana High School Mock Trial Competition, students from all over Montana have a hands-on opportunity to examine the legal process and current legal issues, engage with local attorneys and the judicial branch of government, and develop important critical thinking, presentation, public speaking, and teamwork skills.

Students play the roles of attorneys, witnesses, timekeepers, and courtroom artists (optional). Students prepare both sides of the case. A student may be an attorney for one side and a witness for the other, or an attorney for both sides, or a witness for both sides. Timekeepers keep the competition rounds on schedule. Courtroom artists provide a visual record of the proceedings.

Teachers help recruit team members, handle team logistics, assist with fundraising, and partner with attorney coaches to prepare students for the competition.

Attorneys provide a lawyer's perspective on the case materials and work with the teams to learn trial practice skills and develop trial strategies.

Mock Trial Quick Facts:

- Open to grades 9 to 12
- Teams of 6 to 9 students
- Students can play the role of an attorney, a witness, or both!
- State competition in Helena
- Earn a chance to compete in the National High School Mock Trial Competition in Evansville, Indiana

## Important Dates:

- October 1-January 31, 2019: Registration Open
- November, 2019: Case Materials Released
- March 7, 2020: State competition in Helena
- May 6-9, 2020: National Championship in Evansville, Indiana

Registration: For more information, including volunteer opportunities and to register a team, please visit the Montana High School Mock Trial Website [www.mocktrial.montanabar.org](http://www.mocktrial.montanabar.org). For questions, please email [mocktrial@montanabar.org](mailto:mocktrial@montanabar.org).

If you have questions about putting together a team, you can email Kacey Askin, Helena High School, at [kaskin@helenaschools.org](mailto:kaskin@helenaschools.org).

## **Free FinLit Resources for October Financial Planning Month**

EVERFI welcomes you back to school with several updates for 2019-2020:

- A newly designed [teacher center](#)
- A fully updated High School Financial Literacy course: [EverFi](#)
- A fully updated Digital Wellness and Responsibility course: [Ignition](#)

October is Financial Planning Month! Use EVERFI's digital resources to bring Financial Planning to life for your students.

EVERFI provides free digital resources, including lessons in Financial Literacy education for Elementary, Middle School, and High School. Their High School FinLit suite includes the [updated flagship course](#), as well as [Venture - Entrepreneurial Expedition](#), and [Marketplaces - Markets and Investing](#).

Easy to use, flexible implementation, no commitments or obligations, and local support. [Check out EVERFI's entire catalog here](#).

Montana's local EVERFI representative is Sean Thomas. For more information or to get registered, contact him at [sthomas@everfi.com](mailto:sthomas@everfi.com).

## **NGPF PAYBACK Challenge: Over \$125,000 in Scholarships Available**

Want to give your students the opportunity to earn scholarships while simultaneously teaching them to make better money decisions about college? Enter the Payback Challenge from [Next Gen Personal Finance](#).

Watch the 90-second video for details at <https://youtu.be/frjM4JPYaU>.

### How to participate in the PAYBACK Challenge

#### Step 1: Teachers Register Intent

--Once you've filled out this [Intent to Participate](#) form, you will receive the Essay Template for your students as well as next steps.

#### Step 2: Students Play [PAYBACK](#)

--Do you have ELL students? [PAYBACK can also be played in Spanish](#).

--Short on computers in your classroom? PAYBACK is now mobile-friendly!

#### Step 3: Students Write a Short Essay Addressing One (1) of Two (2) Prompts

1) Write a letter to your future self that you will open after your freshman year of college, reminding you of the key skills you will need to thrive during your college years.

or

2) How could you use the online game, PAYBACK, to have a conversation with your parent/guardian about paying for college?

Step 4: Teacher Nominates and Submits One Student Essay

--You will receive an email with instructions on how and where to send in nominations after you register

Application Deadline: 11:59 pm (PST), November 13, 2019.

Each state will be represented on the podium. That's right, NGPF is aiming to award scholarships to students from every state.

Cash Prizes:

--National Grand Prize Winners: 10 at \$5,000 each

--Honorable Mention Awards: 100+ at \$500 each

### **TEAMS (Terms of Employment, Accreditation, and Master Schedule) is Now Open—Ensure Your CTE Data is Correct**

TEAMS is **now open** and closes on November 1, 2019. The OPI has updated security features for TEAMS and user accounts may be locked due to inactivity. If you experience login issues while trying to access TEAMS, please contact [OPITEAMS@mt.gov](mailto:OPITEAMS@mt.gov). If you do not have access or need to grant access for an employee, please have the Authorized Representative (AR) complete the [TEAMS Security Access Form](#).

Data from TEAMS pertaining to Career and Technical Education courses, student enrollments, and teacher certification is used for Carl Perkins accountability reporting and factors that determine the State CTE (State VoEd) funding allocations. Additionally, the data is also used to verify and approve Montana Career Pathways.

Therefore, it is imperative CTE teachers work with school/district officials to ensure the information submitted is complete and accurate.

Any high school district planning to apply for Carl Perkins and/or State CTE (State VoEd) funding for next year (2020-2021) should confirm the data in TEAMS for all CTE programs at their high school is correct.

The data for your program and courses within TEAMS should accurately reflect the following

--Name of teacher(s) for courses

--All current courses for the 2019-2020 school year are listed with the correct course title listed as the District Course Title

--All courses listed are aligned to the correct Course Code & Title

--Number of students enrolled and breakdown of males and females

--Term Type for courses (Semester, Full Year, Quarter, etc.)

--Class Minutes (the minutes of instruction for each individual course per the term type)

--If an extended contract is identified along with the number of days of the contract

To assist with providing the correct TEAMS data for your program and courses, a [Montana OPI K-12 Course Codes and Descriptions Reference Manual for Business & Marketing Education](#) and a [worksheet](#) to assist teachers and administrators with mapping district courses to the OPI K-12 Course Codes before the data is entered into TEAMS can also be download at <http://bit.ly/MTBusEd19-20>.

### **Updated MT Business Education Planning Calendar, Framework, CTSO Crosswalks, & Course Codes Available for Download**

The [Framework for Business Education in Montana](#) has been updated for the 2019-2020 school year. Within the Framework, updates have been made to the competitive event crosswalks for Business Professionals of America and DECA. The updated crosswalks reflect updates and changes to the competitive event programs at the national level effective for the 2019-2020 school year.

The Framework for Business Education in Montana provides teachers with common guidance for curriculum development and course content development. Review and update work for the Framework for Business Education in Montana was by a committee Montana business education professionals representing all classifications of Montana High School as well as business education

teacher program coordinators from the University of Montana and University of Montana Western and the State Directors for Business Professionals of America, Montana Association and Montana DECA.

The course information within the Framework is organized by Career Clusters with the Common Career Technical Core as the standards for each cluster. Additionally, course content is aligned to the *National Standards for Business Education* and is crosswalked to the *National Standards for Business Education* and to the competitive event programs for Business Professionals of America and DECA.

A complete PDF version of the Framework can be downloaded at <http://bit.ly/MTBusEd19-20>. If you would like to just download the [2019-2020 BPA and DECA competitive event crosswalks](http://bit.ly/MTBusEd19-20), they can also be downloaded at <http://bit.ly/MTBusEd19-20>. While in the [Google Drive folder](#), be sure to download the [Montana Business Education 2019-2020 Planning Calendar](#).

Also updated for the 2019-2020 school year is the [OPI TEAMS Current Listing of All Montana K-12 Course Codes and Descriptions Reference Manual for Business & Marketing Education](#). The Montana K-12 Course Codes and Descriptions are used for the reporting of course taught in all schools and at all grade levels via the OPI TEAMS school staffing system. Updates to this year's manual include the removal of duplicated courses to help streamline course identification and the removal of "other" courses and codes. Additionally, the manual includes a complete listing of Montana teacher licensure course codes.

Within TEAMS, all courses taught are identified and aligned to a national SCED Code with the local school course title listed as well as term type, enrollment numbers, and length of instruction. For Montana's Career & Technical Education programs, the TEAMS data is also used to generate the Montana CTE Student Participation Reports which are used to determine State CTE/VoEd funding allocations.

The [OPI TEAMS Current Listing of All Montana K-12 Course Codes and Descriptions Reference Manual for Business & Marketing Education](#) can also be download at <http://bit.ly/MTBusEd19-20>.

To assist teachers and administrators with mapping district courses to the OPI/SCED codes before the data is entered into TEAMS, a [TEAMS Participation Report Worksheet for Course Codes](#) worksheet is also available at <http://bit.ly/MTBusEd19-20>.

If you have problems accessing any of the documents noted above, please contact Business Education Specialist Eric Swenson at [eswenson@mt.gov](mailto:eswenson@mt.gov).

### **[NCWIT Award for Aspirations in Computing Contest for Montana Girls Now Open for Applications](#)**

This is the eighth year for the Montana NCWIT Award for Aspirations in Computing Contest.

For a number of years, the NCWIT (National Center for Women and Information Technology) has given national awards to high school girls. The NCWIT Award for Aspirations in Computing is for young women with aspirations and achievements in technology and computing.

This year will be the eighth year that there also will be a MONTANA contest for Montana girls. The time to submit applications is September 1-November 5 and the application is found at [www.aspirations.org/participate/high-school](http://www.aspirations.org/participate/high-school).

There are many qualified high school girls that would apply if they just had a little push from a leader like you. Any interested female high school student would need to fill in the on-line application, and get a parent and a school official to approve it to be entered into both the national and Montana contests.

In the past, Montana winners have been from high schools in Absarokee, Anaconda, Arlee, Beaverhead, Billings West, Bozeman, Bozeman Petra, Broadwater, Butte, Cascade, Cut Bank, Great Fall High, Hamilton, Helena Capital, Helena High, Hobson, Jefferson High, Libby, Missoula Big Sky, Missoula Hellgate, Missoula Sentinel, Noxon, Park County, Red Lodge, Seeley-Swan, Simms and Whitefish High Schools.

Hopefully your school will be represented on the winners list this year, but girls have to apply.

We are looking forward to recognizing Montana's talent, and hope that you would encourage the young women that you know to apply. Sometimes all they need is a little encouragement and you are the person to provide that.



For questions, please contact Steve Harper and Ted Wendt Carroll College's Computer Science department at [sharper@carroll.edu](mailto:sharper@carroll.edu) or 406.447. 4466.

P.S. There also is a Montana educator award (**with \$1000 for professional development**) given each year. Do you know a good teacher that you should encourage to apply (maybe you?)? Encourage them to go to [www.aspirations.org/content/encourage-educator](http://www.aspirations.org/content/encourage-educator).

Need help applying? The following resources are available: [Application Guide](#), [Parent Approval Guide](#), [Endorsement Guide](#), and [FAQs](#).

### **Fun Facts and Trivia**

Guava is tropical fruit that belongs to the myrtle family.

While the exact origin of guava is unknown, researchers believe it originates from Central America and Mexico.

There are around 150 species of guava that can be found in tropical and sub-tropical areas around the world.

Strawberry guava and apple guava are invasive species of guava as they easily conquer new habitats and eliminate native species of plants.

Several species of guava are endangered, and Jamaican guava is already extinct, due to habitat loss.

Guava grows in the form of evergreen shrub or small tree with cultivated varieties usually reach 20 feet in height

Guava has glossy, dark green leaves that are elliptical or oval in shape.

Fruit of guava is oval, round or pear-shaped.

Ripe guava fruit is covered with yellowish, greenish or maroon skin and the flesh can be white, yellow, pink or red colored.

The guava fruit has strong, lemon-like musky odor and the rind can be bitter or sweet, while flesh has creamy texture and sweet-tart taste.

Guava starts to produce fruit two to eight years after planting and under the optimal climate conditions, guava produces fruit two times per year.

Fruit of guava contains 100 to 500 miniature, edible, seeds, located in the middle of the fruit.

Tropical species of birds and mammals eat guava and facilitate dispersal of seed.

Guava is rich source of vitamins of the B group and vitamins C, A and E and is also an excellent source of dietary fibers and minerals such as potassium, manganese, magnesium and phosphorus.

Guava is often labeled as "super fruit" because it contains four times more vitamin C than orange, three times more proteins and four times more fiber than pineapple, two times more lycopene than tomato and slightly more potassium than banana.

Leaves of guava are used as source of black pigment that has application in the textile industry.

The oil extracted from guava seeds, which is known to be rich in linoleic acid, is a component in many cosmetic products.

Guava wood is prized in the world of meat smoking.

In El Salvador, the wood of a guava shrub is used to make hair combs.

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*