

## The Wednesday Reader

April 3, 2019

### Friday, April 5, is Deadline to Register for Grad Credit if Attending ACTE Region V 2019 Conference in Bozeman Next Week

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 fulfill 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.

### Montana Business Education Summer Update 2019—June 24-26: Accounting Training from AICPA & Grad Credit in Helena

The 2019 edition of the Montana Business Education Summer Update will be held in Helena at Helena College, June 24-26, 2019. 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).

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.

A word from a 2018 trainee:

*"By having a high school teacher, who currently teaches the course, a college professor, who is a CPA and author of the text, and a representative from AICPA teach the Advanced Accounting material, this workshop bridged teaching strategies to be used with high school students with generating a stronger understanding of the content for the classroom teacher. This in-depth, fast-paced workshop left me wanting to attend it again!" – Beth Huguét, Hellgate High School in Missoula, MT.*

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

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.

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](#).

Also, check out the following video from AICPA and Start Here. Go Places.® about the Accounting Project to Bridge the Profession, [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hpkPPscP7U&feature=youtu.be&utm\\_source=Twitter&utm\\_medium=Social%20Media&utm\\_campaign=APBP2019&utm\\_content=State%20Societies](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hpkPPscP7U&feature=youtu.be&utm_source=Twitter&utm_medium=Social%20Media&utm_campaign=APBP2019&utm_content=State%20Societies).

[APBP: Accounting Program for Building the Profession Montana Training](#) participants can earn up to 22 OPI Renewal Units as well as one (1) Graduate-Level credit from Montana State University Billings for \$99.00. To register for the credit from MSUB, visit <https://extendedcampus.msubillings.edu/wconnect/CourseStatus.awp?&course=E194PDAPBP1> and submit your \$99.00 payment. The deadline to register for the graduate credit is Friday, June 21, 2019.

Details regarding course requirements for the credit—including the course syllabus, lesson plan template, lesson plan instructions, and rubric—please visit <https://goo.gl/QPEmeH>. If you have difficulty accessing the link, please email Eric Swenson at [eswenson@mt.gov](mailto:eswenson@mt.gov).

Register today for the [APBP: Accounting Program for Building the Profession Montana Training](#) in Helena at Helena College, June 24-26, 2019.

The AICPA is working to secure discounted lodging for attendees. Costs associated with participating in the [APBP: Accounting Program for Building the Profession](#) training can be covered via Perkins and/or State CTE/VoEd funding.

### **Refer a Friend/Colleague to Attend the June APBP Accounting Training at Get a \$20 Amazon Gift Card from AICPA**

Do you know a teacher who could benefit from the [APBP: Advanced Accounting program](#)? AICPA would love to have them at a training during summer 2019, so they are making it easy—and rewarding—for you to spread the word.

From now\* until [trainings](#) start, you will earn a **\$20 Amazon gift card** for each qualified educator who registers, attends and completes a training per your referral.

All they will need is your name and email to submit with their registration. Once their training concludes, AICPA will verify their attendance and send your gift card via email within thirty days.

Visit [www.startheregoplaces.com/teacher/apbp-advanced-accounting/apbp-referral-program](http://www.startheregoplaces.com/teacher/apbp-advanced-accounting/apbp-referral-program) for complete details and eligibility.

### **Accepting Applications for Montana Content Standards Revisions—Applications to be Involved Due May 3**

The Content Standards and Instruction Division is accepting applications for revision teams to work on revising the following standards:

- Technology
- Library Media - Information Literacy
- Computer Science
- Social Studies
- Career and Technical Education

Visit the [Montana Content Standards Revision website](#) to learn more or [enter an application today](#).

### **National High School Mock Trial Program Coming to Montana in 2019/2020**

The National High School Mock Trial program is going to start a program next year in Montana. We are trying to locate schools public or private who would be interested in adding a Mock Trial program to their club offerings.

Currently Helena High School is the only team in the state and the National High School Mock Trial program requires that there be two schools in the state as a minimum to qualify a team for Nationals in Evansville, Indiana.

For more information contact Kacey Askin, Helena High School, at [kaskin@helenaschools.org](mailto:kaskin@helenaschools.org) or 406-438-0042.

For more information you can view the following link: <https://ktvh.com/news/2019/03/08/helena-area-students-prepare-for-court-in-mock-trial-team/>.

### **Registration Now Open for TekNoXpo at MSU Northern, April 18**

Northern is excited to be providing the 11th Annual TekNoXpo (Technology-Knowledge-Exposition) event April 18, 2019. Participants will be exposed to the many programs offered here in the College of Technical Sciences and careers available through their degrees.

The programs highlighted are Agriculture, Agriculture Mechanics, Automotive, Business, Civil Engineering, Criminal Justice, Drafting, Diesel, Electrical, Health Promotions, Nursing, Plumbing, Sciences & Welding.

Complete details can be found at <http://msunteknoxpo.weebly.com>.

**TekNoXpo registration is limited to 280 registrants.** This is on a first come first serve basis; register now so you do not miss out on this great opportunity.

Questions regarding TekNoXpo can be sent to Holly Haas at [holly.haas@msun.edu](mailto:holly.haas@msun.edu).

### **New Grants from NGPF for Collaborating with Teachers on an NGPF Virtual Professional Development**

Next Gen Personal Finance ([ngpf.org](http://ngpf.org)) announces a new program to award \$500 classroom grants to teachers who participate in NGPF's Virtual Professional Development program.

Here's what teachers say they love most about the NEW offering, NGPF Virtual PD:

- "I love collaborating with other teachers using the same curriculum!"
- "...hearing how others utilize this resource. Great reflective moments for me!"
- "I love that these sessions can be used immediately in the classroom."

Find out what teachers are raving about by joining one of the 14 virtual PDs NGPF has planned for April.

Register at <https://www.ngpf.org/virtual-pd/> and choose from a line-up that includes sessions on

- Activities to develop those all important "soft skills" that employers are looking for
- Investing resources that bring index funds to life for your students and show them how to get started
- Implementing popular NGPF games including Spent, PAYBACK and Cat Insanity

How about that \$500 grant? Every Virtual PD that you participate in (and complete a short survey) provides you with ONE entry in the month-end drawing. The more Virtual PDs you participate in during the month of April, the more opportunities you have to win one of the \$500 grants. Winners of the two grants will be announced on May 1.

### **CTE Perkins Intent to Apply & State VoEd Application for 2019-2020 Funding Now Open—Check the Boxes for \$\$\$\$\$**

The Office of Public Instruction has again this year combined both the Federal Carl D. Perkins 'Intent to Apply' AND the State CTE/VoEd Funding application for school districts' convenience. You can apply for one or both funding programs using this one electronic form.

The online link to access and complete the combined Federal and State Funding application is now available and listed below. It is also available on the CTE web page of the OPI website inside the *Funding* tab under *Carl D. Perkins*.

Authorized Representatives of Local Education Agencies (LEAs) will use the online link to access and complete the brief electronic form for the 2019-2020 E-Grants cycle. All public high schools and K-12 districts with qualifying Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs are eligible to apply for funding. Elementary districts are not eligible for Perkins or State CTE/VoEd monies.

**Districts will NOT receive a 2019-2020 Perkins allocation unless this electronic form is completed and submitted online** at the OPI on or before the deadline. These designations are binding and cannot be changed once allocations have been downloaded into the E-Grants system.

The online link is located at <https://app.keysurvey.com/f/1394537/1d92/>.

The deadline for submission of the combined application is **Tuesday, April 30, 2019**.

If you have questions, please contact Christy Hendricks, CTE/Perkins Data Control Specialist, at [chendricks@mt.gov](mailto:chendricks@mt.gov) or by phone at 406.444.9019.

### **Registration is Now Open for the 2019 Free Economics Teacher Seminar from MCEE**

The [Montana Council on Economic Education](#) (MCEE) is excited to announce the opening of registration for the free Economics Seminar for Teachers to be held on the Montana State University campus in Bozeman, August 8-9, 2019.

The Economics Seminar for Teachers is a FREE great opportunity for teachers to improve their skills teaching economics at the high school level. With the support of sponsors, MCEE ([econedmontana.org](http://econedmontana.org)) is pleased to be able to cover all expenses as MCEE meets its mission to improve economics literacy for Montana's youth. MCEE and sponsors will cover expenses for lodging, mileage, meals, parking, and class materials.

Classes will be offered in Linfield Hall and teacher's lodging will be on campus.

In addition to the Economics Fundamentals Course, MCEE will offer three optional classroom programs to begin the summer—The Stock Market Game, Montana High School Business Challenge, and Youth Entrepreneurs—and teachers may opt for any variation of the sessions offered; however, the Economics Fundamentals course is offered as a two-day block.

Registration can be completed at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/mcee-teacher-training-registration-58455845006>. Early registration ends May 15, 2019. Be sure to save your seat.

OPI teacher renewal unit credits will be provided for hours completed.

For more details, please visit the MCEE website at [econedmontana.org](http://econedmontana.org) or email [mcee@montana.edu](mailto:mcee@montana.edu) if you have any questions.

### **Top-Scoring Submissions Announced for Montana Teenpreneur Roundup**

Montana Teenpreneur Roundup is an annual competition for high school students hosted by the Bozeman-based nonprofit One Montana. The Roundup provides an opportunity for Montana's next generation of innovators and business leaders to showcase their entrepreneurial spirit and creativity. Students compete in two categories: existing businesses and ideas for innovative new products and services.

Governor Bullock will host the awards ceremony at the Capitol on April 10. In addition, all students participating in the Roundup have an opportunity to hone their business skills during an all-expenses-paid four-day entrepreneurship workshop hosted by One Montana, MSU's Jake Jabs College of Business & Entrepreneurship and MSU's Blackstone LaunchPad in June.

Below are the hyperlinked video pitches of the top-scoring submissions. The video component represented 50% of the total score. This year's submissions represented a variety of CTE disciplines including Agriculture, Business, Family & Consumer Sciences.

Existing Businesses...

**1st Place:** [406 LIPS](#)... submitted by Kate Brower, Skyview High School-Billings (teacher: Cynthia Bergum)

**2nd Place:** [MEGA FAB](#)... submitted by Cord Schneider, Chinook High School (teacher: Robin Allen)

**3rd Place:** [BRAVES INK](#)... submitted by St. Labre Indian School (teacher: Robyn Lei). Students include Wendy Jo Spang, Skylar Moloney, Kami Jo WhiteClay, Ezra Stanger, Kelsey Chandler, Garlon Williamson, Sweets Bearcomesout, Evyn Grinsell, Priscilla Flatmouth, Gerrit Punt, Ethan Frasier, Bryan Fisher, Taye Dodd, Marissa LaFranier, Isabella Redgrave, Michael Stewart

Ideas for New Businesses...

**1st Place:** [SNACK PRO](#)... submitted by Treyton Anderson, Beaverhead County High School-Dillon (sponsor: Jeremy Anderson)

**2nd Place (shared):** [THE COMFORT CRITTER](#)... submitted by Mhanon Sullivan, Twin Bridges High School (teacher: Jody Sandru)

**2nd Place (shared):** [BUDDY'S STABLES](#)... submitted by Olivia Bratton & Aspen Dean, Capital High School-Helena (teacher: Elizabeth Belcourt)

**3rd Place (shared):** [CHAMILLES](#)... submitted by Carlee Blodgett & Lily Knoll, Rapelje High School (teacher: Jacki Keating)

**3rd Place (shared):** [PEER2PEER](#)... submitted by Cosette Burrese & Brandon Pannell, Sentinel High School-Missoula (teacher: Mark Hartman)

### **CashCrunch Gamifies Financial Education**

[CashCrunch Games](#) ([cashcrunchgames.com](http://cashcrunchgames.com)) is an educational company (founded by a former educator) that focuses on teaching financial literacy to ages 5 to 21 through gamification. We believe that by creating personal experiences, students are more likely to engage in discussions and apply their knowledge from those experiences.

[CashCrunch 101](#) is an online financial literacy game that focuses on money skills for ages 13 to 21. The premise of the game is based on a student heading off to college and needing to look after their money. Throughout the game, the player receives income, pays expenses, chooses whether to use a debit card or credit card, pays bills, nurses their credit score, and answers multiple choice questions—while saving to earn medals. The aim is to turn this into a statewide and national competitions.

CashCrunch 101 can be private labeled for schools and organizations, and competitions can be created for individual classes, departments, schools or districts. It also allows a teacher or facilitator to check on student progress, write their own multiple-choice questions, situation cards and set the wage and tax rates along with all expenses.

[CashCrunch Junior](#) is a physical board game for ages 5 to 12. The game can be played within an hour and includes free downloadable curriculum. Concepts covered in the game include needs and wants, opportunity cost, counting money, making change, budgeting, cash flow, the value of saving, making money decisions and being able to talk about money with confidence.

[CashCrunch BiteSize](#) includes 21 personal Finance lessons in bite-size chunks. Written for the teacher and volunteer in mind, where each lesson can be taught in 30 minutes or less and includes a basic lesson plan, terminology, reading material and activities that are differentiated by outcome.

[CashCrunch Careers](#) is a career platform for high school and older students based on inherent traits. The platform includes a 15-minute survey and accompanying report, which is based on Department of Labor data and our algorithm. The survey identifies careers that are the best fit in terms of the environment, personal motivators and workstyle. By taking a best fit approach, the student will be able to find a career that he or she will not only enjoy but will thrive and excel.

### **2018-2019 CTE Spring Data Collection—Time to Identify CTE Concentrators for Perkins Funding**

The Career and Technical Education (CTE) Spring Data Collection begins March 1, 2019 and ends April 30, 2019. This AIM collection asks schools to identify all 12th grade high school students who were enrolled at any point during the current 2018-2019 school year who meet the definition of a CTE Concentrator.

CTE Concentrators are 12th graders who have earned three (3) or more credits in any CTE program in any combination during their years of high school. Currently, enrolled CTE courses count towards credits earned. CTE Concentrators must have the 'CTE Concentrator' box checked and an 'Area of Concentration' entered into the AIM/Infinite Campus data system.

If the student has a child or shares the parenting of a child, the 'Single Parent' box should also be marked. High schools who receive funding from the Carl D. Perkins federal grant program must complete this CTE Spring Data Collection.

Instructions for completing the CTE Spring Data Collection can be found on the AIM webpage as well as inside the 'Data Collections' tab on the CTE webpage located at [CTE Spring Data Collection: Quick Reference Guide](#).

Questions regarding this data collection should be directed to the AIM Helpdesk at 1-877-424-6681 or send an email to: [opiainhelp@mt.gov](mailto:opiainhelp@mt.gov). Questions regarding CTE programs and/or the Carl D. Perkins federal grant program should be directed to Christy Hendricks at 406-444-9019 or email her at: [chendricks@mt.gov](mailto:chendricks@mt.gov).

Thank you so much for all you do from everyone at the Career and Technical Education Division of The Office of Public Instruction.

### **Perkins V/Career and Technical Education Stakeholder Survey for New Montana Perkins State Plan**

The Montana Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education and the Office of Public Instruction are seeking feedback and input from Montana's Perkins and Career & Technical Education stakeholders as the process for developing the new Montana State Plan for Career and Technical Education begins

On July 31, 2018, the President signed the *Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act* into law. This bill reauthorizes the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 (Perkins) and is referred to as Perkins V. This bipartisan measure reauthorizes the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act, which provides roughly \$1.3 billion annually in Federal funding, administered by the U.S. Department of Education, for career and technical education (CTE) for our nation's youth and adults.

With the passage of Perkins V, all states, including Montana, must now develop a multi-year plan to guide and implement Perkins V. The Perkins V/Career and Technical Education Stakeholder Survey seeks to gather feedback, ideas, and input from Montana's Perkins and Career & Technical Education stakeholders—including CTE teachers, students, school/district administrators, counselors, and parents.

The survey can be completed at [www.surveymonkey.com/r/MontanaCTE](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MontanaCTE). You can share the link with students, school/district administrators, counselors, and parents in your school/district. The survey will be open through June 15, 2019. The survey can be completed in about 5-10 minutes.

If you have questions regarding the survey, please contact Jacque Treaster, State Director of Dual Enrollment and Career & Technical Education at OCHE, at [jtreaster@montana.edu](mailto:jtreaster@montana.edu) or T.J. Eyer, Division Administrator for Career, Technical, & Adult Education at OPI, at [teyer@mt.gov](mailto:teyer@mt.gov).

### **Computer Science Professional Development Opportunity at MSU-Bozeman – Funding Available for Teachers**

Montana State University (MSU) will offer a Master of Science in Science Education (MSSE) course for Montana teachers, "Computer Science in the Classroom: Joy and Beauty of Data," July 21-26, 2019 on MSU's campus in Bozeman.

The 2-credit course is intended for 7-12th grade teachers who want to learn how to incorporate computational ideas in the classroom. In addition, teachers who take the course will be introduced to the broad area of data science and will extend their knowledge of the Python programming language. High school teachers who complete the course can potentially teach CSCI 127, The Joy and Beauty of Data, as a dual enrollment course.

The course builds upon the pre-requisite course, "Joy and Beauty of Computing," previously offered at MSU (2014-2017), the University of Montana (2017) and Montana Tech (2018). The course will be offered this summer at Salish Kootenai College in Pablo, Montana, June 24-28, 2019.

The [Joy and Beauty of Data](#), CSCI 582, will be taught by Dr. John Paxton, Director, Gianforte School of Computing, Montana State University.

For information about the Joy and Beauty of Computing or Mobile CSP courses at Salish Kootenai College, please go to the [NSF CS10k Project link](#).

Support for Montana teachers is available. For more information and how to apply, please contact Diana Paterson, MSSE Associate Director, (406) 994-5679, [msse@montana.edu](mailto:msse@montana.edu).

### **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.

## Fun Facts and Trivia

Belfast is the capital, and largest city, of Northern Ireland as well as the second-largest city on the island of Ireland.

Belfast is located on the River Lagan where it drains into the Irish Sea.

Belfast comes from the Irish *Béal Feirste* meaning “rivermouth of the sandbanks.”

Belfast became the capital of Northern Ireland following the Partition of Ireland in 1922

Via the Government of Ireland Act 1920, the island of Ireland was divided into two distinct jurisdictions—Northern Ireland and Southern Ireland.

The Act of 1920 was intended to create two self-governing territories within Ireland, with both remaining within the United Kingdom; it also contained provisions for co-operation between the two territories and for the eventual reunification of Ireland.

However, in 1922, following the War of Independence and the Anglo-Irish Treaty, the southern part became the Irish Free State (Republic of Ireland), while Northern Ireland exercised its option to remain in the United Kingdom.

One third of the population of Northern Ireland lives in Belfast.

During the Industrial Revolution, Belfast became the biggest linen-producer in the world, earning it the nickname "Linenopolis".

Shipbuilding is also a key industry as Belfast's Harland and Wolff shipyard is one of the world's biggest shipyards.

The TMS *Titanic* was built in Belfast's Harland and Wolff shipyard.

Titanic Belfast is a museum inaugurated in 2012 to commemorate the centenary of the sinking RMS *Titanic*.

The large cranes at Belfast's Harland and Wolff shipyard are named after the Biblical figures Samson and Goliath.

The Belfast Zoo is home to the only group of purple-faced langurs in Europe.

John Wood Dunlop invented the pneumatic, or air-filled, tire in Belfast.

James Murray invented Milk of Magnesia in Belfast.

The Albert Memorial Clock in Belfast's Queen's Square is Ireland's leaning tower of Pisa as it leans by four feet.

The Albert Memorial Clock, also known as the Albert Clock, was built as a memorial to Prince Albert, husband of Queen Elizabeth.

The Albert Clock, completed in 1869, was designed by W. J. Barre who also designed Ulster Hall.

Led Zeppelin's 'Stairway to Heaven' was first played live in Belfast's Ulster Hall.

Lord Kelvin came up with the Second Law of Thermodynamics in Belfast.

There are 3000 acres of park in Belfast.

Following three decades of riots and violence between the Pro-British and the Pro-Ireland Nationalists, the Good Friday Agreement of 1988, also known as the Belfast Agreement, brought an end to the fighting.

Completed in 2011, Obel Tower is the tallest building in Belfast and the island of Ireland.

In 1800, before the introduction of gas, an act was passed that included street lamps in the town with a penalty of six months imprisonment without bail for breaking or extinguishing a street lamp; if anyone was caught stealing any part of a street lamp and found guilty, they could be transported for seven years or publicly whipped.

C.S Lewis was born in Belfast and the nearby countryside helped inspire The Chronicles of Narnia.

Singer Van Morrison is from the east part of Belfast.

Cavehill, overlooking Belfast, is believed to have inspired author Jonathan Swift's sleeping giant in his *Gulliver's Travels* novel.

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*