

Community Member Spotlight – Sharon Wilson

Interview conducted by Gavin, 5th Grade

Sharon Wilson worked as a team leader in Embark. She worked with them for eight years before she retired. Sharon told me that she loved working with them. She also loved watching the kids learn and grow. Embark had a week when the parents got to come, and she found them interesting to talk to. She learned that working with the kids meant she had to have a lot of patience.

Sharon loves taking care of her chickens and having lunch with friends. She also loves knitting and riding in their UTV.

Her favorite subject in school was history. She wished she learned patience earlier in life. She went to a one room school house near Thompson Falls and she went to the Pleasant Valley School out here in Pleasant Valley. She told me that she had to learn to not get distracted by her peers. Her first school had twenty kids and in Pleasant Valley there was fourteen. Sometimes the older children would help the younger children. Her favorite memory from school was her high school graduation. She said her school was different back when she was a kid because she didn't have the internet.

In 1957, Sharon's parents bought the ranch where Tony and Eve Demarco currently live. They moved there because her parents wanted a ranch with more space. She told me that she loves the beauty, peacefulness, and country living. Her family homesteaded out here and when I asked her about what it is like, she told me that you have to be able to protect yourself, fix things, and be strong.

Sharon has four birth children and two step children. One of her sons cleans up trainwrecks and other disasters. A daughter is a lab supervisor for hospitals in Portland, Oregon. Another one of her sons does landscaping and logging. Another son hauls cattle. Her other daughter works for a hospital in Alaska. Her last son works for a lodge in Washington State.

She told me that when her kids were in school it was a lot of driving but it was worth it. She loves riding horses and going to the valley get-togethers. She told me to tell the valley to learn our country's history and how to do things for yourself. She loves how we look out for each other and help each other. She told me one more thing to tell you guys: to always remember how important it is to be part of a school and community.



Pretty johnny-jump-ups.



Gorgeous blooming tulips in the classroom.

How To Grow A Garden

By Ben, Casey, and Ridger, 1st Grade

We would like to share some ideas on how to grow a garden.

The first thing you need to do is pick a spot for your garden. It should have 6-8 hours of sunlight and a close water source.

Next, you will want to plan your layout and prepare the soil. Adding good, rich compost to your soil will give your plants the nutrients they need.

Then you need to find out what hardiness zone you live in. You can find this out at: planthardiness.ars.usda.gov.

Now the fun part. You get to plant the flowers, vegetables or fruits you have chosen. We like to grow tomatoes, strawberries, and potatoes. Follow the planting directions on the seed packages or seedling tags.

Good Luck Gardening!



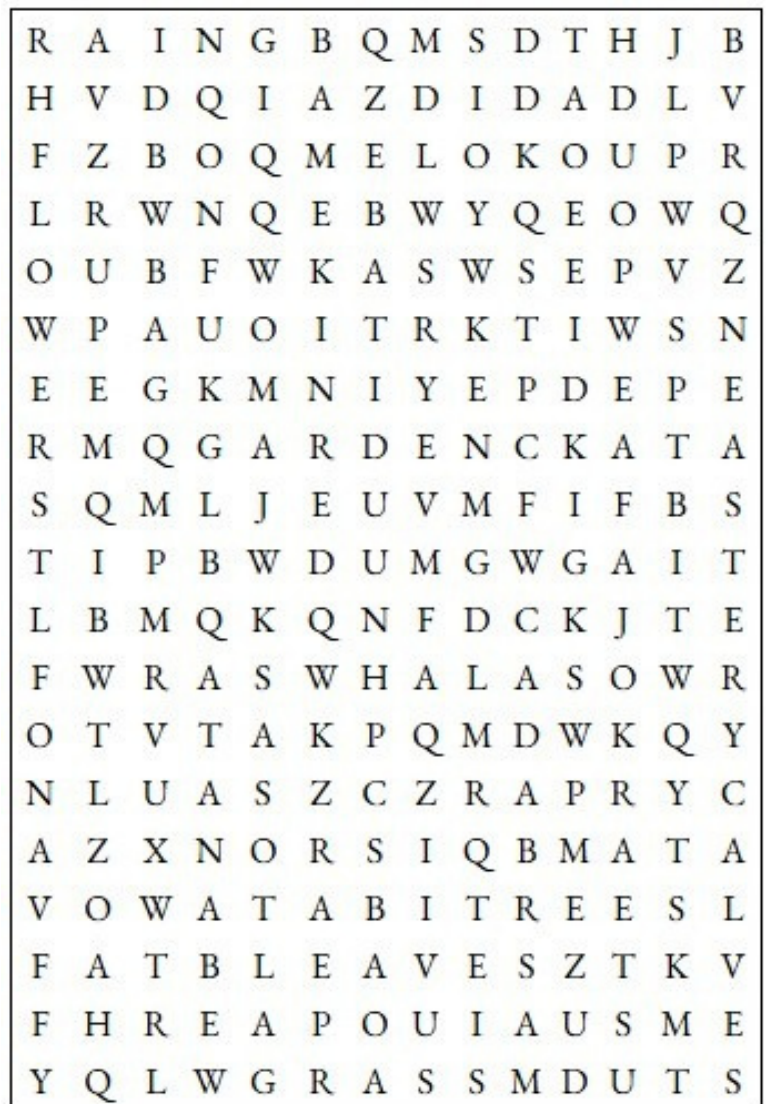
These taste like onions, but they're not, they are chives.



Strawberry Plant

Spring Word Search

Birds Blue sky Calves Easter Fawns
Flower Garden Grass Leaves Mud
Plants Rain Ticks Trees Weeds



Word Search created by Kai, 3rd Grade

Butte Pasty Recipe from The Taste Of Montana

Shared by Kaleb, 8th Grade



By the mid 19th Century, the copper mining industry in Cornwall, England was falling apart, and in some parts the mines ran dry of copper. This was bad news for the Cornish people because mining made up the majority of the Cornish jobs. Then, a glimmer of hope: large deposits of minerals were discovered in America, in places like Michigan and New Mexico. So that's where some Cornish people moved - to the new mines in the New World.

Down in the dirty Cornish mines, the miners needed a way to bring lunch with them that were easy to carry around. Enter the Cornish pasty. This portable meal was made for the miners for this reason. It was an edible lunchbox that was easy to transport around the mines. The crimped edge served almost as a carry handle. These pasties had a tendency to get lost in the hands of other miners, so the solution was that the wives of the miners often - in any way possible - put their initials onto both sides of the pastry, just in case the miner ate one half.

The Cousin Jacks, which was a common nickname for the Cornish miners - similar to "average Joes" in America - moved to the copper mines of Butte. But it wasn't just the Cornish people. The Irish miners, who also played an important role in Butte, accompanied them, and when they came to Montana, they brought their edible lunchboxes with them. Today, Cornish pasties are still eaten in Butte and other places in Montana, like Anaconda. Not only that, they are still served in restaurants throughout Montana, Oregon, Washington, and Idaho.

Each pasty is a hearty meal. As mentioned before, enclosed in a sturdy, flaky pastry is meat (usually beef skirt), potato, onion, and swede (also known as yellow turnip or rutabaga). These raw ingredients are then baked slowly, which allows the flavors to combine into one natural gravy.

Butte Pasty Recipe

Ingredients (makes 4 pasties):

Crust:

1. 2 ½ cups all-purpose flour
2. 8 oz. unsalted butter - cold, cut in ½ inch pieces
3. 1 tsp kosher salt
4. 7-8 tbsp ice water

Filling:

1. 10 oz. beef chunk - cut into 1-inch cubes
2. 10 small potatoes - cubed
3. 1 small onion - finely diced
4. 1 egg - beaten
5. Kosher salt
6. Ground black pepper

Instructions:

Crust:

1. Sift together the flour and salt into a large bowl
2. Add the cold butter and work it with your hands until lumps are the size of peas
3. Add the ice water teaspoon at a time until the dough holds together
4. Divide dough into four equal parts and roll each into thin dinner plate size disks

Filling:

1. Pile beef, potato, and onion on one side of the dough
2. Fold the dough over and seal by pinching the edges. Repeat these steps to make 3 more pasties
3. Place the pasties on a baking sheet spaced about an inch apart. Brush the tops lightly with the beaten egg
4. Bake the pasties at 350° F for about one hour
5. Serve and enjoy

 The Taste of
Montana



Elk on the morning drive to school!



Who is glad when spring mud season finally ends?

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Comic by Sawyer, 5th Grade



Weird Moss



Tree bud ready to bloom.

Why you should read the book, *Hero*

Book Author: Jennifer Li Shotz

I think you should read the book *Hero*. You should read it because it's about a retired search and rescue dog. Also, the dog's kid gets a puppy, and it gets stolen. They have to crack a case that hasn't been solved by the police for a long time.

I rated this book 5 stars because it is heartwarming as well as adventurous. Jennifer Li Shotz normally writes adventurous stories about dogs.

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The Bear

Written by Will, 5th Grade

One bright day on the mountain, two deer walked up a narrow path. The elder one was looking left and right.

"You know, I think old One-Horn would go to the old pine," he said.

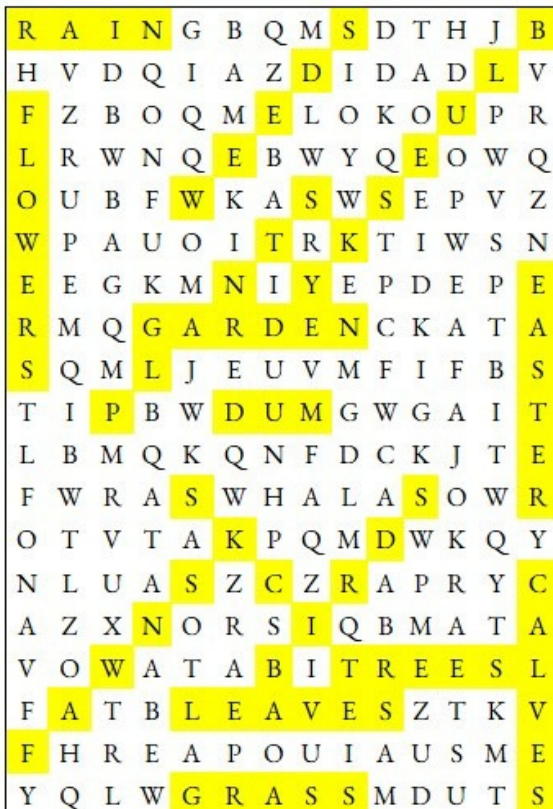
"No, you just don't want to go to the caves!" the younger one protested.

The elder sighed, mist rising from his nose. He remembered when Old Ripper, the grizzly bear, was awake, wreaking havoc across the land. He was so engrossed in memories he did not notice his partner slipping away toward the bear caves. The second he noticed, though, he galloped after his shoulder-partner (best friend). He caught the young deer staring in horror at the towering bear standing over him. He leapt at the humongous bear, yelling at his friend.

"Get away from here!" he yelled at the young buck. "It's not safe here!" But the young deer attacked the bear, pounding him with his hooves.

Old Ripper was stunned. The two ran and told the rest of the herd. The fiercest warriors went and found Old One-Horn, the herd's mystic. Then the news came that Old Ripper had moved north permanently. Everyone has happy, until a cougar came to the valley. One of the warriors lured Old Ripper back. No more mountain lion! They made a treaty with the bears for peace. Everyone was happy.... and then the humans came.

Answer key for Spring Word Search



Snow is disappearing from the mountain.

