

# SCHOOLS

## Youth summer jobs program kicks off in Anaconda

American Jobs for America's Youth kicks off its Summer Jobs Program in June, with high school students starting paid positions to build skills, explore careers, and strengthen the local workforce. The Summer Jobs Program or SJP has grown from its roots in Helena to serve 75 students, with new regional programs in Anaconda, Billings, Bozeman, Whitehall and the Flathead Valley.

Bridger Johnston of Anaconda participated in the SJP last year, working for Crummer Construction LLC.

"We did framing work, built additions and decks, and put siding on houses," Johnston said. "If I ever need to build something, I could. It taught me a lot. It also taught me a good work ethic."

American Jobs for America's Youth in Montana created SJP in 2019. By 2022 enrollment doubled, with the program expanding to six areas.

"Our partners make it happen," said Executive Director Gabrielle Eklund Rowley, who actively engages students, volunteers, and agencies to grow the program. "It's a very collaborative effort."

The SJP matches high school students and recent grads with paid work experience, providing work skills training and connecting students with adult mentors. "The work skills training and opportunities to grow



Bridger Johnston of Anaconda is pictured working for Crummer Construction LLC under the American Jobs for America's Youth Summer Jobs Program in 2022. Courtesy photo.

employability skills are unmatched. This program is essential in moving the dial in the workforce arena and shows a huge benefit to our community and area businesses," said McKinley Winkle, vice president of the Helena Area Chamber of Commerce.

Local program partners include Discover Anaconda, Anaconda Community Intervention, businesses, Anaconda High School, and Reach Higher Montana. Funding for the program comes from the Gianforte

Family Foundation and other private foundations, community foundations, sponsors, and individual donors.

The program helps communities as well as the young employees, Eklund Rowley said.

"The program is designed to sustainably improve the lives of young workers. The job skills students learn serve them well after the program ends, benefiting them as individuals and strengthening their communities."

Businesses also benefit. "Opportunity Bank of

Montana sees tremendous value in the Summer Jobs Program and the additional workforce pipelines it creates," said Tom Burkhart, recruitment and retention officer. "We've matched with several fantastic students, one of whom has blossomed into a wonderful, long-term team member."

Eklund Rowley says it's gratifying to see the youth grow over the summer.

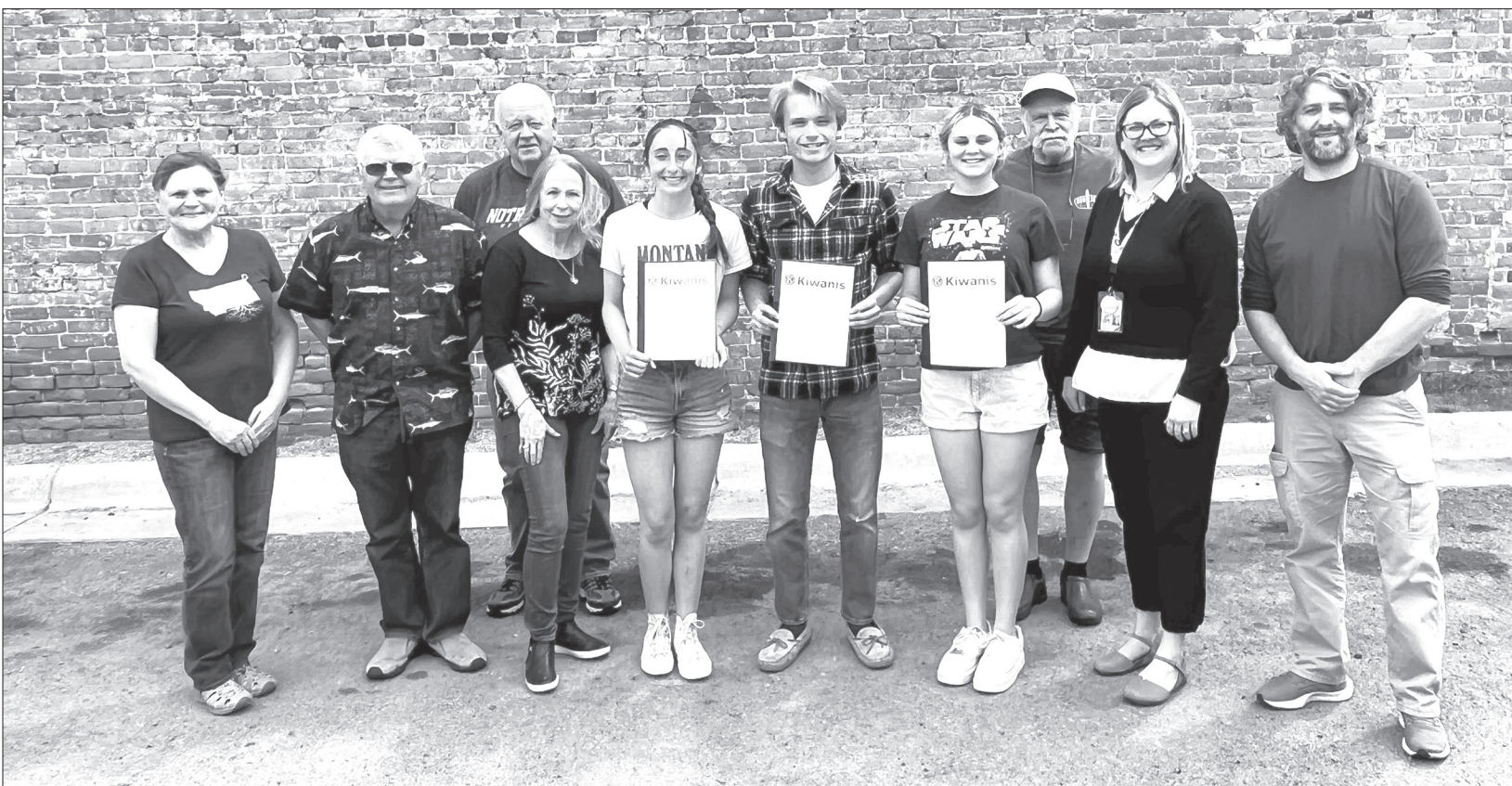
"They learn so much about themselves. They really learn about what brings them satisfaction in a work

setting. They learn to manage time, problem solve, talk with employers and coworkers, and build skills that will transfer across their careers," she said.

Kickoff events for students and mentors in the six regions take place in the next couple weeks, with students starting their work positions in June. More information is available at <https://www.americanjobs4youth.org/sjp> or by contacting Gabrielle Eklund Rowley: [gerowley@americanjobs4youth.org](mailto:gerowley@americanjobs4youth.org) or 406-490-4954.

## Kiwanis scholars

The Kiwanis Club of Anaconda had their annual luncheon earlier this month to award the club's three winners who all received a scholarship of \$2,000. The three seniors who were recognized have been an incredible asset to the Anaconda Junior High School Key Club for the past four years. The winners are Alyssa Patterson, front row fourth from left, Timothy "Raine" Lofing and Kaylee Tuss. Also pictured are Anaconda Kiwanis members Sandy Bowen, front row left, Jim Greene, Jeanne Greene, Key Club advisor and Kiwanis member Kari Hoscheid and AJSHS Counselor Joe Casey; and Kiwanis members Mike McNamara, back row left, and Bob Andreozzi, back row right. Photo courtesy of Kari Hoscheid.



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Larkin Galle competed in both the 400m and 800m races. She would take home 11th place in the 400m with a time of 1:03.31 and eighth place in the 800m with a 2:26.06 time.

In the 4x400 relay, the girls' team consisting of Ady Hoiland, Rachael Rogers, Cali Pesanti and Larkin Galle finished 16th with a time of 4:29.48.

Kendra Redd finished 20th in the shot put with a distance of 27'6" and Cali Pesanti landed in ninth place in the pole vault with her height of 9'0".

And the Copperheads weren't done with medaling just yet, as on the boys' side of the competition, Gabe

Galle claimed two medals as he took sixth place in the 100m dash with a time of 11.63 seconds. He would back up his performance by finishing in fifth in the 200m race where he posted a time of 22.93 seconds. Galle also participated in the long jump, in which he finished 18th with a distance 17'10.5".

Tytan Cook competed in both 110m and 300m hurdles events. He finished the 110m in seventh place with a 16.64-second time and 10th in the 300m with a time of 43.07 seconds.

Overall, the girls posted 10 team points and finished in a tie for 16th place with Forsyth, while the boys finished in 20th with 3 points.

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## College Notes

### Montana Tech announces Spring 2023 honor rolls

The following Montana Technological University students who listed Anaconda as their hometown have been placed on either the Honor Roll, Dean's List or Chancellor's List for the spring semester 2023 at Montana Technological University in Butte.

A student who earns a 4.0 grade-point average (GPA) is placed on the Chancellor's List. Those earning a 3.5 GPA will receive recognition for being listed on the Dean's List. A full-time undergraduate student (enrolling in and completing a minimum of 12 credits) who earns a 3.25 GPA during the semester is listed on the semester Honor Roll.

Honor Roll: Jack R. Erickson, Audrey A. Forsberg and Kennedy G. Johnson.

Dean's List: Parker C. Bisch, Megan M. Bownes, Carley C. Fink, Johannah R. Forsberg, Patrick J. Galle, Leah M. Hamilton, Malia G. Harris, Daniel O. Kelly, Chelsea D. Lish, Addison E. Marx, Jason Maynard, Claire J. Miller, Kyra E. Moreni, Sequoia R. Pflug, Mariah E. Moreno, Joshua A. Ralph and Dylan M. Skocilich.

Chancellor's List: Mariah C. Chenoweth, Ramzi K. Demachki and Alyssa J. Peterson.

For more information, including the complete list of 2023 Spring honor roll students, visit <https://mtech.edu/news/2023/05/montana-tech-announces-spring-2023-honor-roll.html>.

### Outstanding Student Awards

And we're not quite done with these students, as Joshua Ralph also received

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