

## 6<sup>th</sup> Annual American Legion Armistice Day Race

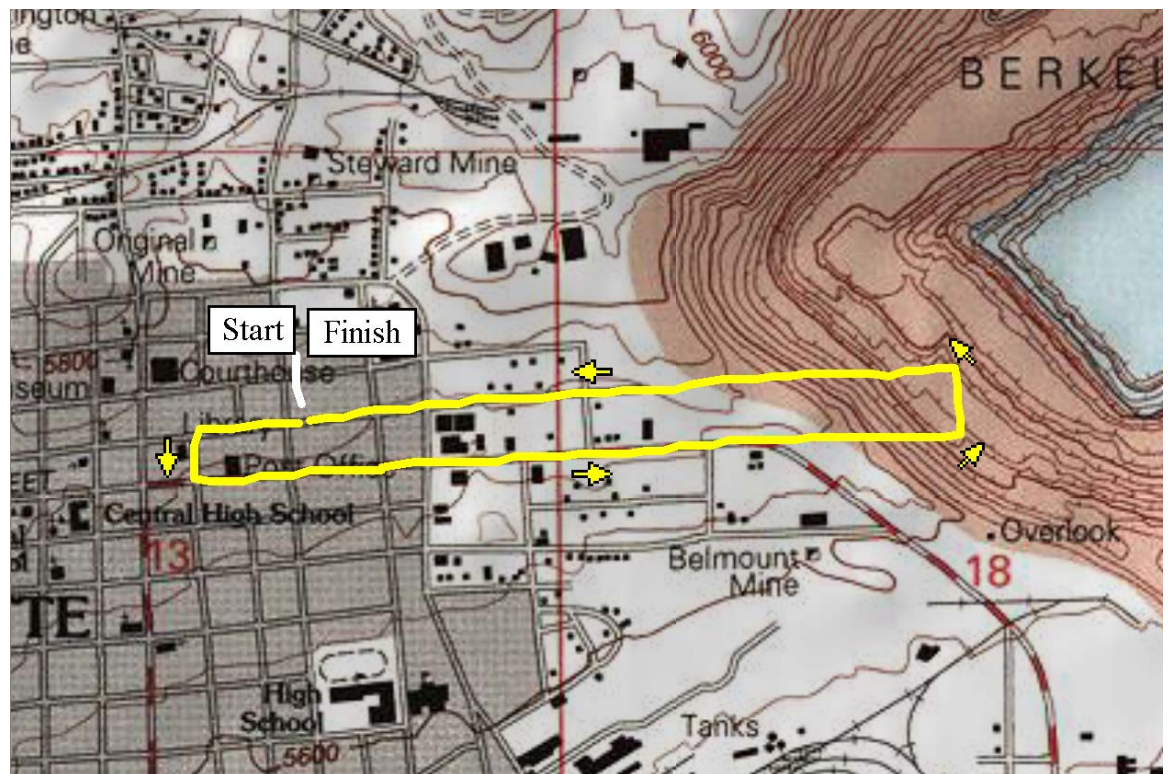
**Saturday, 11 Nov 1939 at Legion Hall in Uptown Butte**

“Butte - mindful of the white crosses marking the graves of American soldiers on Flanders Field and determined that this nation shall not become embroiled in another destructive war - celebrated the armistice of that terrible conflict which sent more than 8,500,000 men of all nations to their deaths,” observed the Montana Standard.

There was a memorial service with a musical program at the Moose Hall, followed by a day of city-wide celebrations included aerial bomb-works, foot race, open houses, parade, and finishing with dances in the Legion, VFW, and Moose Halls from 9 p.m. to midnight.

At 11 a.m. the customary firing of bombs in various parts of the city took place, with some mortar rounds fired near Legion hall carrying the American flag. The flags were collected by children in a “mad skirmish” as the flags drifted, supported by tiny parachutes, back to ground. The Legion then took the flags back in exchange for rewards.

Shortly after the explosive salute, the Legion’s 2-mile race started and finished in front of Legion Hall on East Broadway. The course then completed a rectangle, going south on Dakota, east on Park, north on Warren, and back on Broadway.



Five runners participated, and Walter Taylor of Butte High “nosed out” Christian Brothers student Marty Kearney at the finish to win in a time of 12:40.

**2 mile:** 1, Walter Taylor, BH, 12:40; 2, Martin Kearney, BC; 3, Frank Veale; 4 Dan McDonald; 5, Ray Campana. No affiliations were listed for the final three runners.