



March Events

- Mar. 2.....HS art trip
- Mar. 3.....HS Forensics @ Home
- Mar. 5.....FFA Selection Day
- Mar. 6.....MS HOA Band and Choir
- Mar. 7-10.....HS State Basketball
- Mar. 12.....Picture Day
- Mar. 15.....FFA Work Auction
- Mar. 15-18..HS Band and Choir Trip
- Mar. 16-23.....Spring Break
- Mar. 26.....HS Boys BB Banquet
- Mar. 28.....FFA Poultry Judging
- Mar. 29.....SB/BsB w/ Ell-Saline

Poor Little Piggy!



Photo by Ashleigh Accardi

Mr. Lange and Mr. Unrau were tied with 65 quarters each and they are pictured above smooching a swine in front of the whole high school on Thursday, Mar. 1.

National FFA Week at MHS

National FFA week was from Feb. 18-24.

National FFA week has been celebrated in Moundridge High School for several years.

This year the Moundridge FFA chapter participated in various activities such as, a donut break for all of the high school students and faculty, and they also hosted a teacher appreciation breakfast.

"I am thankful that the FFA has done this every year, usually it's a lunch meal but breakfast was also very good," Mr. Adam Robb said.

The FFA started the week out by hosting a donut break on Monday Feb.19.

With a new advisor comes new traditions along with the old ones.

"The FFA chapter has started a new tradition of leaving a hand prints on a

ceiling tile with their name and their degree in FFA on the hand prints," Advisor Ali Torr said.

The activity that most people participated in was the Quarter War. The teacher/staff member with the most quarters in their piggy jar had to kiss a real pig!

The teachers who had to kiss the pig (provided by Ethan Frantz) were Mr. Lange and Mr. Unrau on Thurs., Mar.1 during seminar.

"The things going through my mind when it was announced that I had to kiss the pig were, 'get it over with' and 'I was way too close to Mr. Unrau,'" Mr. Bret Lange said.

Moundridge High School has been participating in National FFA Week for over 30 years.

Ashleigh Accardi



Photo by Hilarie Hecox

Teachers and staff eat breakfast foods provided by the FFA chapter.

Contents

Elementary School

- Wildcat Day.....2

Middle School

- Wildcat Day.....2
- Basketball.....4
- Scavenger Hunt.....5-6
- FCCLA.....8

High School

- Wildcat Day.....2
- Scholars Bowl.....2
- Youth Symphony.....3
- Comic.....3
- Homecoming.....4
- Scavenger Hunt.....5-6
- Hall of Fame.....7
- FCCLA.....8
- Alumni.....9
- FFA.....10

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Photo by Tammy Unruh

The students who competed at Sterling (from left to right): seniors Jessica Ullom-Minnich, Allie Sparks, Viviane Guenole, and Christian Walls.

Forensics Qualified for State

This semester debate is being substituted by forensics.

The coach is Tammy Unruh.

Two students, seniors Jessica Ullom-Minnich and Christian Walls, have already qualified for the State Competition in May. Ullom-Minnich qualified with three events: extemporaneous speaking, informative speaking, and impromptu speaking.

"We don't have impromptu speaking at 2A State, some of the bigger schools do. Jessica qualified even if she can't really compete but she is going there to show that we also can do it," coach Tammy Unruh said.

Christian Walls has qualified with humorous interpretation.

Some students who participate in

forensics are not in the class. Anyone can participate if they want to. In fact, anyone and everyone is encouraged to sign up. There are four students who take the class: seniors Christian Walls, Jessica Ullom-Minnich, Viviane Guenole and sophomore Seth Holloway. Allie Sparks is not in the class, but she works outside of school.

Each tournament is an hour and half and everyone can perform three events. There are different events, such as oration, informative, extemp, prose, poetry, etc.

"You can talk about news articles, so being an extemp like me, or you can write your own speech and memorize that, or you can act out parts",

continued on p 9...

Wildcat Day Holds Activities for K-12



Photo by Hilarie Hecox

All of high school, middle school, and elementary came together and enjoy games and watching the special guest show us cool tricks.

Wildcat Day was started 5 years ago in 2014 by Mr. Clark Wedel.

According to Mrs. Tammy Fast, Mr. Wedel would say he started it to celebrate being a Moundridge Wildcat.

"And to emphasize the fact that big or small, old or young - that's what we are," Fast said. "It also allows these students and staff to interact and just enjoy a day

together being Wildcat Proud. I think the elementary kiddos look forward to just being with the bigger kiddos. They also enjoy the fill my shoes activity. And, I think the seniors enjoy being the representative of some of the activities and academic areas they participate in" Fast added.

We start in the gym. Then we eat lunch

all together. After lunch we move to the autotrim and do "Fill My Shoes". "Fill My Shoes" is where the principal pick seniors for the activities they do. The seniors go up on the stage and introduce themselves and say the name of the elementary schooler to go up and fill their shoes.

"It feels pretty cool. I would like to have other people try it it's really fun." Vo Tech rep Jonah Spore said.

"It's cool to be a leader. I would like to see younger kids try out something new," scholars bowl rep Chris Leddy said.

"Cool to be a role model for our school," overcome obstacles rep Alyssa Vaughn said.

"It is very exciting to be a remodel for our school," stuco rep Taylon Potts said.

"It's fun to be a leader," football rep Damian Calderon said.

"It feels good to know that little kids look up at me and it can impact their lives," softball rep Jasmine Walls said.

Jessica McKay

MHS Scholars Bowl Takes 3rd Place

The MHS Scholars bowl team placed 3rd in the State tournament Bowl at home on Feb. 10. The team consisted of six students and coach Adam Robb. There were 12-15 more students who helped in the meet as workers.

"We went 6-4. 3-2 in our pool, finishing in first, and 3-2 in the championship pool, finishing 3rd," Robb said.

Robb was proud to have the tournament at Moundridge and to have the community support them. Robb thinks that it was really good competition this year, with a lot of local teams that make the tournament more competitive and fun.

"It was good all year. Lots of good local teams (like Hesston, who won 3A state) challenged us all year, and helped us get better. It was fun to coach this group; I

will definitely miss them going forward!" Robb said.

Senior Chris Leddy, one of the students that participated in the tournament, liked math and science questions.

"We did [the tournament] okay but we were a little slow on the buzzers. We took third position," Leddy said.

"We were smart. We all helped them the team even though when isn't too much we didn't win, we still off, we knew the questions, we just make a few mistakes. Other competition was definitely beautiful," Leddy said.

Senior Luke Ratzlaff it was one of the students participating on the team.

"Third place wasn't exactly what we wanted, but it was still a pretty good accomplishment for our team. We were close to winning it all for the second year

in a row, so that would have been cool, but third place is good too," Ratzlaff said.

Ratzlaff thinks that Mr. Robb did a good job preparing them with some memorizing skills.

"Mr. Robb definitely coaches us pretty well. He gives us things to memorize and he gives us a lot of strategy and tips for how to answer questions better," Ratzlaff said.

Ratzlaff is sure that Scholars bowl makes him be more competitive.

"Scholars Bowl gives you help with thinking under pressure and just a lot of things that I never would have known, that I now know because of Scholars Bowl," Ratzlaff said.

Pedro Domecq V.

Alumni Share Memories of Time at MHS

The Moundridge High School graduates have taken many different paths after their time at MHS was complete. Some have gone to college, some to technical schools, and some straight into the workforce.

Pat Stucky graduated from Moundridge High School in 1970. She attended MHS for all 4 years of her high school career and she enjoyed going to school here very much. Her favorite class was debate and her best memories came from debate trips. Her favorite teacher was the debate teacher who was also her dad, Ed Stucky. Stucky taught at Hoisington, Newton, and the last 26 years of her teaching career at Moundridge. Stucky taught 3rd grade, 5th grade, 7th and 8th grade, and language arts. She is now retired.

Stucky did undergraduate work at Bethel College, then completed her masters program at Fort Hays State University, and finished her library degree at Wichita State University.

"After 16 years of living out of Mound-

ridge, I moved back to Moundridge with my husband and two sons," Stucky said.

Kolene Sugars graduated from MHS in 1980. Sugars' favorite class was Home Ec with Mrs. Galle. Sugars enjoyed all of the teachers and said that Ruth Galle would let them cook in Home Ec even when they were supposed to be sewing. Sugars' favorite memory from MHS was winning the 1978 State Football Championship.

"I think my favorite memory was looking in the stands (I was a cheerleader) during one of our games and sitting next to our pep club was an entire row of Inman football players with their letter jackets on cheering for our guys," said Sugars.

After college in Omaha, Nebraska. She is a licensed cosmetologist and a licensed cosmetology instructor.

Rebecka Stucky went to MHS for all 4 years of high school and graduated in 1971. Stucky's favorite class was architectural drawing. Her favorite teacher was Mrs. Lynette Krehbiel.

"Lynette Krehbiel was such an awesome teacher for several reasons. First, she helped develop my love of literature because her enthusiasm was contagious. She had a great sense of humor and never got too excited over the antics of her students," Stucky said.

Stucky's favorite memory from high school was going to the basketball games.

"I remember many times when we never sat down during the game because we were on our feet, yelling for the team," Stucky added.

After high school she went to college for 4 years. Once she finished college she moved to Hutch and taught at Nickerson High School for 17 years. She now teaches at Westlake High School in Austin, Texas. Stucky has taught at Westlake for 25 years and teaches AP Junior English. She is also a national consultant for the college board, which means she teaches other teachers across the nation on how to teach AP classes.

Zizi Sebrant



Photos by ZIZI Sebrant



Forensics, Continued...

... Continued from p.1

Ullom-Minnich said. "We are self-driven. If you want to do a topic, you choose it and you have total freedom," Ullom-Minnich added.

On Feb. 3 the team had a tournament at Sterling.

"I qualified for the finals with my D.I. (D.I. is when you interpret a text by heart) and I did fifth place out of six," Guenole said. "I learned to be more confident and I learned how to speak in front of people"

On Mar. 3, Moundridge will host a forensics tournament, but they will not compete. The next weekend, March 10, the team has another tournament, but they are not sure where it will be.

Unruh was involved in speech in high school and college. Since she graduated, she has coached for many years at the high school and college level. She has been involved in speech for almost 30 years.

"I like working with the students, of course. I think speech, communication, are such an important thing to be able to do, to speak and speak well. Organizing and managing the thoughts in the right way is important. I love teaching that to students, and it is fun to see them learn how to do it," Unruh said.

Greta Frosio



Photo submitted by Alyssa Goering

FCCLA guest speaker Joe White poses for a photo with juniors Alyssa Goering, Adrian Neufeld, and Hannah Strausz.

FCCLA Week Kicks Off

FCCLA stands for Family, Career and Community Leaders of America. February 12-17 was national FCCLA week.

"I'm in FCCLA because I love doing community service and working with others. I think that FCCLA is a good club to be involved in, because it helps promote a healthy and happy lifestyle, and we get a lot of cool opportunities," junior Cassidy Finley said. Finley is the club's secretary this year.

One of the main things that took place during FCCLA week was that Mrs. Connie Kaufman and the FCCLA club invited a speaker to share with the student body.

This year's speaker was Joe White. Joe White spoke to the high school student body and the seventh and eighth graders on Mon., Feb. 5. White spoke about how he made a mistake

after he consumed alcohol and how it changed his life for forever.

"I thought it was very brave of him to share his story with us and just openly talk about what happened," 8th grader Sidney Schrag said about White.

Kate Eichelberger also had the opportunity to hear White speak at the assembly. She thought that it was a very eye opening experience, and she really enjoyed hearing about his life story.

One of the main focuses of FCCLA is to prepare its members for the future. Even though the Moundridge FCCLA chapter is predominantly girls right now, boys are welcome to join also.

One of the activities that the FCCLA club put on for the high school student body was a fruit break on Mon., Feb. 12. The students had the

option of getting an apple, an orange, or a banana. The fruit break was a way for FCCLA to encourage a healthy lifestyle throughout the school.

"I hope that through FCCLA week our members get closer together through our secret pals and learn something new about each other, and I hope that the rest of the student body will be able to see how rewarding FCCLA can be," junior Mylaya Bell-Martinez said. Bell-Martinez is President of the FCCLA chapter this year.

"Last year I ran for a district office and was elected district secretary. Our officer team helps to plan the Fall Leadership conference and our District Star Events competitions every year. FCCLA week is important because it helps people to learn more about our club and also it is a great opportunity to bring our members and our school together," Bell-Martinez added.

Mackenzie Porter

Juicy Lumberjack



Wichita Youth Symphony

The Wichita state youth symphony is a program where younger musicians like junior Kevin Vivanco, can show off their skills in a big musical playing event.

"Ms Dick told me about it because her son is in it, and she asked if I wanted to be in it and I said yeah. So I went down to WSU and asked to audition and that's how I got in. After the audition they sent me an email that I got in and then a schedule of the practices," Vivanco said.

"I think that the youth symphony is an exceptional opportunity for students to develop their technical and musical performance skills and to expose themselves to musical styles and repertoire that they might otherwise never become familiar with. It is a unique context in which to be challenged, to grow, and to be part of something so much larger than yourself," Dick said.

Kevin Vivanco is a member of the youth symphony and plays percussion instruments. He practices every Saturday or Sunday. He played his first concert on Feb 23 in Wichita.

The symphony judges had contacted Vivanco by sending him an email telling him that they wanted him to join due to



Photo by Cayman Weins

Junior Kevin Vivanco plays in the Wichita Youth Symohony

his outstanding talent.

"It was very exciting to have Kevin Vivanco in such a big thing. It's an opportunity for me and for Moundridge as a whole," Hilarie Hecox exclaimed

Younger musicians like Vivanco choose to join so that they have something neat to write on their resume and also so they

can make their musical playing abilities sharper, most likely with the goal of becoming a professional.

"I chose to join because it will help with my percussion skill and it is something I want to do in college so it will help me prepare for music," Vivanco said.

Katlyn Streight



The 2018 Moundridge winter homecoming candidates stand with the crown and ball-bearer.



MHS spirit week participants take a twin/triplet picture.

LEGENDS



Seniors Greta Frosio, Noah Eichelberger, and Viviane Gue-nole pose for photo on fashion disaster day.

Kaufman and Stucky are King and Queen

This year the 2018 winter homecoming King and Queen were seniors Jerod Kaufman and Bethany Stucky. The ceremony took place at home Friday, Feb. 16 against Canton-Galva.

"I was a little surprised just because I thought we all had equal chances of getting it. We all have different talents that we use to the best of our abilities so I felt very honored to be the Queen," Stucky said.

The other boy candidates were seniors, Jaeden Dalke and Peyton Fast. The other girl candidates were seniors Greta Frosio and Jessica Ullom-Minnich.

"It certainly is an honor to be given that award by the student body," Kaufman said. "The other two candidates were

definitely qualified. I was as surprised as anyone that I won it."

Homecoming is a high school tradition that has been taking place for many years and has been taken on by many high schools.

"My favorite part about homecoming is planning activities that try to get students involved and excited about being at school and celebrating, not just our basketball game on Friday, but also all the activities that we do at MHS," STUCO sponsor Melanie Krehbiel said.

During homecoming week the MHS students also got to participate in spirit week. The themes for the days were: Monday- fashion disaster, Tuesday- twin/triplet day, Wednesday- wear red, black,

and white, Thursday- career day, Friday- formal day.

"It's also fun to see students and staff not take themselves so seriously by dressing up for the different spirit days," Krehbiel said.

After the game some MHS students went to the dance in honor of homecoming. The dance is where the royalty get to have their royal dance together for one song.

This year STUCO hosted a dodgeball tournament during the dance. Many students put together dodgeball teams to compete against each other for a few rounds during the dance.

Cayman Wiens

USD 423 Honors Longtime Staff

Vicky Kessler and Marcy Schrag received teaching awards for the "Wall of Fame" on Feb 2. The ceremony took place in the gym between the Varsity Girls and Boys basketball games.

"I think this is a really nice way that our school district honors people who are willing to spend a long time in a district and their commitment to education. This is a tiny, tiny thing that we can do to say 'thank you,'" Ms. Tammy Fast said.

MHS has had the Wall of Fame since January of 2014. It is an award where longtime employees are recognized for their work and their service to students in Moundridge. The recognition display with all the names has been created and placed in the MS Commons. To be on the Wall of Fame teachers have to be employed by the district for 25 or more years.

Ms. Kessler taught 1st, and 3rd to 6th grades. She also coached at both the middle school and high school levels in volleyball, basketball, and track. She spent 32 years teaching and taught her first two years in Halstead, Kansas.

"There are so many things that I love about teaching that it is hard to choose a favorite. While in the classroom, I always loved it when a student would finally grasp a concept. I called that an "aha" moment and it made my day. Over the years my greatest reward from teaching or coaching was the relationships that I built with students and players. Continuing to hear from my kids is such a joy and I cherish those moments," Kessler said.

When she was growing up, Kessler always wanted to be a teacher.

"I feel that God chose this profession for me and I am grateful that I could serve Him and my students throughout my teaching tenure," Kessler said.

Kessler retired 5 years ago but she still loved teaching. It was a difficult decision for her to retire, but she wanted to spend more time with her grandsons.

"I am grateful that I was able to teach in a school district and community that is dedicated to our children and willing to make them a priority. I had the luxury of working with professionals that always



Vicky Kessler, Marcy Schrag received their "Wall of Fame" award.

strived to make Moundridge Schools excellent," Kessler said.

Kessler said receiving this award was such "an honor". She thinks that wonderful students, supportive parents, and a fantastic staff make our school a great place. She will forever be "Moundridge Proud".

Ms. Schrag began her teaching career at Hesston Elementary, where she taught 1st grade. After that she went to Moundridge, where she taught a total of 27 years.

"In Moundridge I was librarian at the Elementary School for 3 years and then moved to the classroom and taught second grade, except for a few years when I taught a combination 1st/2nd grade class," Schrag said.

Schrag's favorite times were when students grasped a new concept or felt excited about reaching a learning goal.

She said nothing made her happier than hearing a student say, "I love to read!"

"I always liked school when I was young and I enjoy working with children. When I decided to pursue a teaching career it just felt 'right'. I have never been sorry and was very fortunate that I was able to do what I enjoyed," Schrag said.

Other teachers in the district appreciate the hard work of Kessler and Schrag.

"They were very dedicated teachers who led by example in the classroom who loved the kids who were willing to do whatever it took to get that student to a better level," Fast said.

"We have a lot of staff who will not make it into the hall of fame but it is because they have not given most of their professional career to the district," Ms. Hilarie Hecox said.

Nina Steinmetz