



Cat's Corner

A Publication of 21st Century Journalism at MHS

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Congratulations, MHS Seniors!



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This newsletter is a production of the 21st Century Journalism Class of 2019-2020. Advisor is Ms. Melanie Krehbiel. Questions or comments may be directed to: krehbielm@usd423.org.

We're Proud of You!

Diepenbrock Makes Retirement Plans

After 32 years of teaching Mr. Larry Diepenbrock has decided to retire.

Diepenbrock started his teaching career in 1982 but came to Moundridge in 1998.

"It was especially neat to be able to teach to a second generation of students" said Diepenbrock.

He has taught both MS and HS math, MS Geography, and HS Psychology, along with coaching football, basketball, track, and weights at both the HS and MS levels.

Diepenbrock was involved in Fellowship of Christian Athletes, and said a memorable experience was seeing some of the students decide to become Christians.

"I am retiring now because it feels like the right time to step aside and let someone else take over" said Diepenbrock.

This was a tough decision for him but he is at peace with it now.

He will miss working with colleagues, students, and families.

Diepenbrock is hoping to stay involved with FCA during retirement.

During his retirement he is looking forward to building a home on 80 acres in



Photo provided by Julie Diepenbrock

In addition to teaching, Mr. Larry Diepenbrock coached multiple sports over the years at Moundridge.

Wisconsin, and hoping to host Christian groups there.

"I have had many retirees tell me how busy they are in retirement, and I am

thinking that building a house, developing the property, and hosting visitors will keep me pretty busy, too" Diepenbrock said.

Cambry Stucky

Kaufman Will Miss Elementary Students

Ms. Ellen Kaufman has taught 3rd grade for 16 years and Title I Reading for 4 years at Moundridge Elementary School.

After 20 years at USD 423, Kaufman is retiring this May, because she hopes to pursue other opportunities to possibly help others in a hospital/medical setting.

Kaufman said that she will miss "interactions with the students day-to-day" and also the "friendships made with colleagues over the years."

Prior to working at USD 423, Kaufman taught 3rd grade at Inman for 12 years.

A funny teaching memory was from teaching at Inman. One day she accidentally wore different shoes to school and didn't notice until a Kindergarten teacher pointed it out to her at the end of the day. The next day all of the teachers wore two different shoes to school to make fun of her!

A piece of advice that Kaufman wants



Photo provided by Kristen Koller

Ms. Ellen Kaufman (right) and MES Principal Rebecca Khosravipour rode together during the teacher parade in March.

to leave the Moundridge school district with is this: "Make the most of every day and always be kind to each other on the inside and out."

Kaufman says that she will "greatly

miss seeing and interacting with children every day" but she does hope to stay connected to and support the students of USD 423 during her retirement.

Submitted by Daniel Kaufman

Graber Will Be Missed for Music, XC

Mr. Matthew Graber has taught elementary, middle, and high school music at Moundridge for three years. He plans to leave the district after finishing the semester.

Graber has done many wonderful things for our district, such as starting a 7-12 cross country team, creating beautiful music with choir students, directing many vocal music concerts, and he even helped direct the high school musical, "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat."

He said that the "Joseph" musical was his favorite choir memory.

The thing he will miss the most is all the smiling faces and the students he has gotten to know over the past few years.

Graber said the reason he wanted to start a cross country team was because "It was one of the best things I experienced in high school, and it started my lifetime passion for running and exercising". Graber helped start the program in fall of 2019.

While coaching cross country, the boys team placed second at the Marion meet, which was the first placing ever received for Moundridge cross country.

One piece of advice that Graber wants to leave the Moundridge school district



Photo provided by Facebook

Choir members (left to right) Maddy Ward, Macie Woltje, Avery Schrag, and Paityn Kaminkow take a break with Mr. Graber during a music festival.

with is "whatever you do, be kind; kindness is contagious."

Graber says that he will continue to hold his teaching license but for now he

would like to start a new career.

Good luck to Mr. Graber as he leaves Moundridge!

Myiah Logue

Adventures with Buck: the Final Scenes

When Buck and crew headed back to the island, they split up in groups to find the rest of the glowing stones. Buck, Jack, and Gregor all went together to look where they went on the island, but they didn't find any more stones.

All of the crew met back up at the beach and each of the groups had found at least one stone. The closer they looked, the brighter the stones appeared.

"Does anyone else's rocks feel like they are getting hotter?" a crewmate asked. They all agreed, throwing the rocks on the sand.

"By themselves there seems to be an engraving on them, but you can't see it when they are all so close" Buck said.

"Well how many rocks do we have right now?" Gregor asked.

"Seven. No wait... eight. Yeah, we have eight" Jack said.

Buck rolled his eyes.

"Now I'm guessing that the rocks will make a square if they all have symbols on them. That means we are missing one rock. Are all the groups back with no trouble?" Buck asked.

"Well, they are all back in one piece, but getting some of those rocks was no easy task. The only member missing is Martin... nobody has seen him" the Captain said.

"Where have we not looked on the island?" Buck asked, as he drew a map of the island in the sand.

"Well, I don't believe we have looked around the top of the island around the mountain or in the cave" Gregor said.

"Gregor and I can go up there while you figure out what all these rocks mean" Jack said.

"Okay I can handle that. You two get

going and be careful" Buck said.

Jack and Gregor headed up the mountain while Buck worked with the stones. It was still dark out but the weird landscape glowed in the night so they had no problem finding their way through the forest. Suddenly they heard a loud sound of tree branches breaking.

"What was that?" Gregor asked with a shaky voice.

"I don't really know, Gregor. But it sounded big" Jack said.

They had come to a stop and were in a very small clearing. It got so quiet all you could hear was the heavy breathing.

Continued on p. 9

Ashleigh Accardi



Ashleigh plans to attend Hutchinson Community College. Her favorite memory from MHS was attending National Convention sophomore year, because "We got to learn more about FFA." Two teachers who impacted her are Ms. Ali Herbel and Mr. Al Neufeld.

Sarah Brunk



Sarah plans to attend Tabor College and major in studio art and business. Her favorite memory from MHS was being part of the Stage Crew. Sarah notes that a person who impacted her is Coach Bryan Otte.



Elyzabeth Broemmer Maldonado



Elyzabeth plans to attend Hutchinson Community College to study theology. Her favorite memory from MHS was English IV. Elyzabeth notes that teachers who impacted her are Mr. Larry Diepenbrock and Ms. Melanie Krehbiel.



Jenika Allenbach



Jenika plans to attend Fort Hays State University and major in nursing. Her favorite memory from MHS was cheering with her best friends. Jenika notes that teachers who impacted her are Ms. Daagya Dick and Ms. Melanie Krehbiel.

Alayna Colwell



Alayna plans to attend Hutchinson Community College and Newman University and major in respiratory therapy. Her favorite memory from MHS was going to FFA National Convention her sophomore year. Alayna notes that a teacher who impacted her is Mr. Greg Fast.

Kyler Dalke



Kyler plans to attend Bethany College and major in music. His favorite memory from MHS was "enjoying the chaos of English IV at the end of the day." Kyler notes that a staff member who impacted him is Ms. Melanie Krehbiel.

Brady Helms



Brady plans to attend Kansas State Polytechnic to become a professional pilot. His favorite memory from MHS was Football's Friday Night Lights. Brady notes that a person who impacted him is Mr. Adam Robb.



Aaron Green



Aaron plans to attend Kansas State University and major in architecture. His favorite memory from MHS was going to basketball games with the Dridge Squad. Aaron notes that a teacher who impacted him is Mr. Aaron Begnoche.



Skye Fletcher



Skye plans to attend Hutchinson Community College and major in social work. Her favorite memory from MHS was prom her junior year. Skye notes that Ms. Daagya Dick and Ms. Melanie Krehbiel impacted her.

Vickie Hess



Vickie's plans are to get a job working with people with disabilities. Her favorite memory from MHS was Wildcat Day. Vickie notes that Ms. Deb Dreier, Mr. Courtney Modellmog, and Ms. Hilarie Hecox all impacted her.

Seth Holloway



Seth's college plans are undecided but he hopes to study journalism or photography. His favorite memory from MHS was talking with friends. Seth notes that a person who impacted him is Mr. Courtney Modellmog.

Collin Kohl



Collin plans to attend Fort Hays State University and major in business marketing. His favorite memory from MHS was rushing for four touchdowns and winning homecoming on the same night, with two torn labrums! Collin notes that Principal Hilarie Hecox impacted him.



Daniel Kaufman



Daniel plans to attend Bethel College and major in math or business. His favorite memory from MHS was competing at 3 state track meets in the following relays: 4x800 (freshman), 4x400 (sophomore), and 4x100 (junior). Dan notes that a person who impacted him is Mr. Aaron Begnoche because "he didn't give up on me when I deliberately smashed the school's french horn in 5th grade."



Ian Jenkins



Ian plans to attend Bethany College and major in film directing. His favorite memory from MHS was working backstage on the musical sets. Ian notes that a teacher who impacted him is Mr. Al Neufeld.

Cross Lintecum



Cross plans to attend Kansas State University and his major is undecided. His favorite memory from MHS was winning runner-up at State Scholars Bowl his junior year. Cross notes that a coach who impacted him is Jared Kaufman.

Jalynn Montford



Jalynn plans to attend Hutchinson Community College and major in engineering or nursing. Her favorite memory from MHS was making all new friends. Jalynn notes that a staff member who impacted her is Ms. Holli Carter.

Carson Orpin



Carson plans to attend Hesston College and major in agricultural science. His favorite memory from MHS was Community Work Day each year. Carson notes that a person who impacted him is Mr. Aaron Begnoche.



ZiZi Sebrant



ZiZi's college plans are undecided but she wants to major in nursing. Her favorite memories from MHS were going to state softball her freshman year and state volleyball her junior year. ZiZi notes that Coach Bryan Otte and Ms. Melanie Krehbiel impacted her.

Katie Stucky



Katie plans to attend Sterling College and major in human biology. Her favorite memory from MHS was swimming with the McPherson High School team. Katie notes that a teacher who impacted her is Mr. Lynn Eichelberger.

Katlyn Streight



Katlyn plans to work and get used to adulting before going to college. She hopes to study digital art. Her favorite memory from MHS was going on the league art trip for the first time. Katlyn notes that a teacher who impacted her is Ms. Kelsi Chisholm.



Paul Theis



Hailey Unruh



Congratulations!

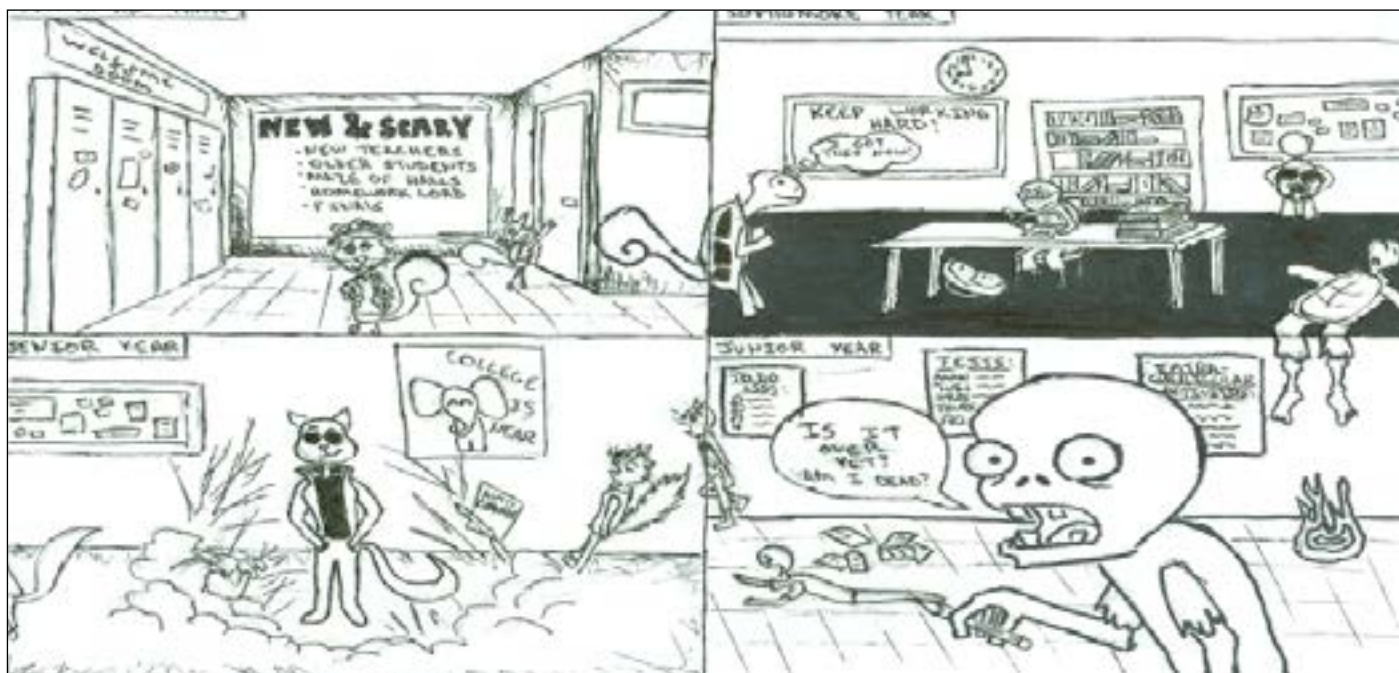
—CLASS OF—
2020

Paul has returned to Germany and will finish school next year. He plans to study architecture. His favorite memory from MHS was that "everybody accepted me the way I am." Paul says he is grateful to everyone at MHS and especially his host family.



Hailey plans to attend Kansas State University and major in Human Development and Family Science to become a Child Life Specialist. Her favorite memory from MHS was the summer before senior year when she traveled to Kansas City for one last Cheer/Dance camp. Hailey notes that a person who impacted her was Coach Bryan Otte.

The Cycle of High School in Four Stages



Comic by Katlyn Streight, Oct. 2016

Adventures with Buck, cont. from p. 3

Then all of a sudden something burst out of the trees! Both men jumped back. What they saw in front of them was a large creature about the size of an elephant but it had six legs and no trunk. It also had small ears and it looked fuzzy. The coat of the strange beast was a dark maroon. The strange part was that there was a person riding on its back. The rider looked like a stereotypical native and was looking down on them with anger.

"Um, hello, can you help us?" Jack asked. Gregor elbowed him.

"What makes you think he speaks English? Let alone want to help us. He looks mad... we need to get out of here" Gregor said with annoyance.

"Yeah you're probably right" Jack said. They started to slowly back away but then the man spoke.

"What is it you want?" he said.

Gregor and Jack looked at each other very impressed.

"We need a rock. Not like a regular rock, like a color-changing one. Have you seen one?" Gregor asked.

The man stared for a short moment.

"Follow me" he said. They followed very slowly.

Meanwhile, back at the beach Buck had been very busy. He had gathered some tools and materials from the ship. Among the items he gathered he grabbed some stained glass, a big bag and a pair of metal tongs from the ship. He held up the dark glass to one eye and held the tongs in the other hand. He started to arrange the rock so the engravings matched up. After a bit he finally understood what the engraving was. More details showed up when two rocks were placed right.

It looked like a golden feather. He didn't know what it meant but he had a good guess that it was their way off the island.

Gregor and Jack had been following the native for a while now and were getting tired. They had almost reached the top of the mountain when they stopped.

"The stone you seek is down there. I believe a friend of yours is down there too" the man said.

Gregor and Jack didn't have time to second guess so they stepped inside.

"Wow. It's really dark. I do see a light though. Why is it coming from below?" Jack asked, his voice sounding like a bombing echo.

"You must jump" the man said from behind them.

"What? It is completely dark and we will fall!" Gregor said.

"You will not fall. You will slide and then you will fall a short bit. There is an exit down there. It is a big cave but the only way to the stone is to jump" the man said.

With that he turned his ride around and headed back down the mountain.

"Well, I guess we jump" Jack said as he got ready to leap forward.

"Wait, are you sure?" Gregor asked.

"It's the only chance we have to get off this island, and I would love to know if you have a better idea" Jack said.

For once Gregor was silent, and with that they jumped. They landed on a smooth surface and slid in a large spiral for a long way down. The light grew brighter and then the slide ended and fell about eight feet to the floor with a thud. They seemed to be in a large treasure room with tons and tons of gold. They stood in shock for a second before they remembered what they came for.

"Where is the stone?" Gregor asked.

"Over there!" Jack said with excitement. They walked over to a small table. The stone was on it along with a bag.

"Is that Martin's bag?" Jack asked.

"I think so... but where is Martin?" Gregor asked.

Gregor grabbed the stone and put it in his bag. They continued to walk down the small path where there was gold and jewels everywhere. Gregor stopped and reached for a large emerald.

"Gregor, wait! Remember the riddle

said don't follow the gold. I don't think we should touch it" Jack said.

"You're probably right." Gregor said. He left the emerald and they kept walking. Soon they heard a clicking sound. They peaked around the corner of a large pile of gold and saw Martin. He had another bag with him and he was stuffing it with gold.

"Martin? What are you doing here?" Gregor asked in astonishment.

Martin jumped with surprise.

"Oh.. Umm... hi, guys. I was just umm..." Martin muttered, shocked.

"Well, the truth is I'm here for the gold. My father told me long ago about the old tales of the lost treasure. I have been obsessed with finding it and now I have!" Martin said.

"You can't take this gold," Jack said.

They explained everything to Martin. He was very disappointed that he didn't get to keep the gold, but he wanted to get off the island more. Martin had found the path out and back to the beach, so they all headed back together. They had about twenty minutes left until sunrise when the stones would stop glowing and they would be trapped another day.

Gregor gave Buck the last stone and he put it in place. Instantly, the pile of rocks turned into a pile of gold dust. Buck reached out, grabbed a pinch and tossed it on a small pebble. It started to rise into the air and was floating.

"Have you ever read about the mythical fairy dust called pixie dust?" Buck asked with a grin.

They put all the dust on their ship and pulled the anchor in. The ship began to rise and it floated right over where the sea monster was. Then it gently descended and they sailed off into the sea.

Sarah Brunk