

### May Events

- May 3.....HS BsB/SB @ Home
- May 5.....HS Band/Choir Concert
- May 5.....HS Track @ Pretty Prairie
- May 5.....HS JV BsB @ Home
- May 6.....HS BsB @ Home
- May 10.....MS League Track
- May 11.....FFA Fresh. Ag @ Newton
- May 12.....Community Work Day
- May 13.....No School
- May 16-19.....BsB/SB Regionals
- May 20.....HS Regional Track
- May 21.....HS Graduation
- May 26.....Last Day of School



Photo provided by Mrs. Hecox

From Left to right: junior Kayla Frazer, freshman Cassidy Finley, Mrs. Kaufman, junior Brooke January, and freshman Mylana Bell-Martinez attended the Emma Creek Run on April 23.

## FCCLA Participates in 27th Annual Emma Creek Run Class of '16, cont.

This month, FCCLA participated in the 27th annual Emma Creek Classic 5K walk, run, jog. This annual event is held to promote and encourage women to be physically active and healthy. The race was held on April 23 at Hesston High School.

"I like to attend this event because it is a social event that encourages physical activity and I feel that is very important," FCCLA sponsor Connie Kaufman said.

FCCLA has attended this event for the past four years.

This year four MHS students attended along with Kaufman.

Kaufman has attended this event many times and thought it would be a good activity for FCCLA to participate in annually.

"Even though it was very crowded, it was very fun and the food afterwards was

really good," freshman Cassidy Finley said.

The club also helped with the FFA banquet at the high school on April 14. They served drinks and cleared tables for the FFA chapter and their families. FCCLA has helped at the banquet for several years.

"The girls that helped were very nice and I am very appreciative that they were so helpful in taking that load off of my shoulders," FFA sponsor Shad Marston said.

Three FCCLA members, juniors Allison Jasso, Kayla Frazer, and Cassidy Sparks, helped wash windows for a Moundridge resident, Mary Graber, on Fri., February 15 along with Kaufman. The club helped Graber last year, and she asked them if they would be willing to help again.

Sierra Diehl

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Some graduates plan to pursue a career after high school instead of going to college. Bronson Piechocki plans to apply at the Hutchinson Correctional Facility as a guard. He thinks it will be a cool job and a good opportunity for him. He is uncertain about his college plans.

"The funniest thing that I have done in high school is put my friend Jarius in trash can and roll him around in it while in Ag," Piechocki said.

The graduation ceremony will be held Sat., May 21 at 2:00 p.m. in the high school gym.

Sierra Diehl



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# Cat's Corner

A Publication of 21st Century Journalism at MHS

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(Back row left to right): Bronson Piechocki, Trenton Olson, Kyle Stucky, Colton Stucky, Kaden Diedrich, Cedric Blomberg, and Principal Hecox (Third row): Faith Barton, Whitney Fiedler, Ashley Holler, Brynne Wedel, Courtney Huff, Rylie Dyck, and Linnea Henriksen (Second row): Sky Creed, Weronika Smulska, Mykaela Ptacek, Peri Lange, Jasmine O'Quinn, and Helen Ullom-Minnich (Front row): Abby Harders, Nick Leddy, Allie Brunk, Shantel Schmidt, and Joel Holloway. Not pictured: Jan Nasiadka, Connor Enyart, Taylor Kilborn, and early graduates Mercedes Walls, Dusty Gallope, and Maria Vivanco.

## Congratulations, Class of 2016!

This year 31 seniors will end their high school careers at MHS. Three of the seniors are exchange students.

The following students are class officers: President- Abby Harders, Vice President- Sky Creed, Treasurer- Mykaela Ptacek, Secretary- Kaden Diedrich, and Student Council Representatives- Joel Holloway and Brynne Wedel.

After graduation, students are headed to a variety of different locations. Some will study at out-of-state colleges like Central Missouri, Dordt College in Iowa, and Manchester University in Indiana. In Kansas, graduates will attend Bethel College, Benedictine College, McPherson College, Tabor College, Newman University, Fort Hays State University, Barton County Community College, Hutchinson Community College, and Kansas State University.

Senior class president Abby Harders will be attending Bethel and plans to major in Chemistry and Physics. She is unsure where her degree will lead her in life, but becoming either an Engineer or a Chemist is her goal.

"My most embarrassing moment in high school was this year's winter Homecoming week. I was dressed up because I was a candidate and I was walking to Physics and fell on the ground in front of all the freshmen," Harders said. One of Helen Ullom-Minnich's favorite memories from high school is when she and Maria Vivanco laughed so hard that they always had to be separated.

"Having a friend to laugh and have fun with is great to have during high school" Ullom-Minnich said.

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Photo by Skyler Price

8th grader Josalyn O'Quinn works in art class.

## 8th Grade Memories

"My favorite 8th grade memory was going to the WSU volleyball game with the volleyball team at the end of the season."

-Jenika Allenbach

"My favorite part of 8th grade was basketball with Mr. Robb."

-Collin Kohl

"I am going to miss Mrs. Kohl next year."

-Katie Stucky

"I am excited to be able to play softball next year in high school!"

-Zizi Sebrant

"I am excited for new teachers and new interactions in high school."

-Kyler Dalke

"I am going to miss not having much homework."

-Aaron Green

## Students End Time at MHS

During the 2015-2016 school year MHS had five exchange students from many different places in the world. In their time at Moundridge they visited many places and made a lot of fun memories.

Sophomore Pablo Lopez's favorite memory was when "(My host family and I) went to Oklahoma to visit my host grandparents and it was really fun. I got to go see Oklahoma City and it was really cool."

He also went to the K-State football and basketball games.

Lopez was the youngest exchange student, and he played sports, such as football and baseball.

Senior Cedric Blomberg did debate and forensics "which was a lot of fun. I enjoyed going to all the different tournaments and actually being able to rank 3rd in my first debate tournament."

Blomberg is from Gütersloh, Germany, "(which is) a town of about 100,000 people close to Münster and Cologne."

For Blomberg, small town life was different than his home town.

Senior Linnea Henriksen played sports at MHS including volleyball, basketball, and currently softball. She also went on a recent trip to New York City.

"I went to New York City and Washington, D.C. and went and spoke with representatives from Kansas and it was pretty inspiring" Henriksen said. Also on the trip were Weronika Smulska and Blomberg. They heard Kansas senators Pat Roberts and Jerry Moran speak about incarceration.

Senior Jan Nasiadka was part of the 2015 - 2016 Moundridge High School football team.

"Sports were awesome and I made a lot of friends" Nasiadka said.

One thing that Nasiadka enjoyed was his trip to New York City which he says was his favorite memory.

Smulska went on a few trips to see different places in America.

"I think it's been pretty amazing and I traveled a lot and I saw a lot of states and met a lot of amazing people: Smulska said.

Smulska also enjoyed school dances, as she went to three of them.

"I went to homecoming and prom as well as the back to school dance. It was fun but people dance differently than what I'm used to but I still like it."

The exchange students made a lot of memories during the school year. Some of them traveled, some went to school dances, but all of them seem to have had made great memories. They also seem to have made some lasting impressions on the students at Moundridge High School.

Skyler Price

## Sixth Grade D.A.R.E.

This year the sixth-grade students from Moundridge Middle School participated in the D.A.R.E. program. All of the sixth-grade students made pledges so that they would remember to never do drugs.

Luke Walls said he would always remember his pledge.

"I will never do drugs or smoke or any of that stuff" Walls said.

"I learned that smoking is very bad for you and can contain very bad chemicals for your body," Walls said he learned during D.A.R.E..

Another D.A.R.E. graduate, Jenna Hochstetter, said she will always remember "to not do drugs or bully anybody."

D.A.R.E. encourages students to not bully or consume any harmful



Photo by Skyler Price

Detective Doug and Chief Kessler before the D.A.R.E. Ceremony.

substances. While in D.A.R.E., she learned that "drugs and alcohol are bad for your body and not to do them" Hochstetter said.

Skyler Price

## Frye Represents MHS On KSHSAA Team

Caleb Frye is a junior at Moundridge High School. Frye is a member of the Kansas State High School Activities Association (KSHSAA) Student Advisory Team.

Clark Wedel, former Moundridge High School principal, nominated Frye for this position last year. After receiving the nomination, Frye filled out an application and wrote an essay to be accepted.

"We are so proud to have Caleb on the KSHSAA Student Advisory Team, because he gets to be a voice for student activities from a rural 2A perspective. He gets to support, challenge, and understand state initiatives and how they impact us," MHS principal Hilarie Hecox said.

Frye travels to Topeka once a semester to meet with the other members of the KSHSAA Student Advisory Team. Twelve other students, two from each class division in the state of Kansas, are also on the team. At these meetings, the Student Advisory Team discusses the agenda for upcoming KSHSAA meetings. They then give an input to the KSHSAA board



Photo provided by Hilarie Hecox

Junior Caleb Frye attends KSHSAA SAT meetings in Topeka.

based on their student opinion.

"At our last meeting, we recorded a Public Service Announcement for the radio," Frye said.

Frye will continue to be a member of the Student Advisory team during his

junior and senior years of high school.

"I enjoy getting to meet new people, and learning about how bigger schools do things differently in sports," Frye said.

Bryn Lintecum

## Class of 1956 Hosts 60th Reunion

The Moundridge High School class of 1956 will be hosting its 60th class reunion on June 4 at the Black Kettle Festival.

Around 20 of the 36 graduates are expected to attend the reunion.

"At least three of the four that live in California have spoken their intention to come to the reunion," Raymond Dyck, class president said.

Dyck has been an active member in planning the reunion.

The class will meet at the Moundridge Senior Center at 9 a.m. to eat a continental breakfast of donuts and coffee. Then they will ride on a float during the Black Kettle Parade.

The group will enjoy lunch and presentations at the Moundridge Senior Center. The presentations will consist of

stories from the classmates about what has been going in their lives for the past five years.

The class has asked any of those who cannot attend to send a page describing their recent life activities.

25 of the 36 students are still living. The members of the class who have passed away will also be remembered at a table with pictures and candles.

"I am most looking forward to reconnecting with classmates, some of whom I have not seen since H.S. graduation," Dorothy Galle Claassen said.

In 1956, MHS excelled in debate and forensics, vocal and instrumental music, and F.F.A. judging.

"We did not have as many activities as the school does now," Claassen added.

MHS offered no bus transportation to

and from school, no competitive sports for females, no foreign language or art classes offered. The school only offered General Math, Algebra I, and Geometry for math courses. There was no senior English course offered for students.

The girls were required to take home economics for three years, and the boys took ag or industrial art classes for three years.

Of the 36 students in the graduating class, one-third of the class went on to college.

Members of the class of 1956 who still reside in Moundridge include Anna (Oltmanns) Storer, Kathryn (Schrag) Vogts, Kenneth Stucky, Nina (Durst) Stucky, David Rupp, Juanita (Bahre) Otte, Jerry Becker, and James Gaeddert.

Bryn Lintecum

# Ferralez Will Be Missed



Math teacher Mr. Diepenbrock with Lt. Nathan Siemens.

High School principal Mrs. Hecox and math teacher Mr. Diepenbrock invited Lt. Nathan Siemens to come speak to the MHS students on April 7. Siemens talked to MHS students in seminar about what he has been through in life and how he ended up where he is today. Siemens graduated from Moundridge High in 2002. He has been in the military a little over 7 years. When he was a student at MHS, Siemens participated in FFA and was in all of the agricultural classes. Siemens wanted to go into farming after high school. He also had the desire to build and repair tractors. His dad used to own the shop where Cole Street Auto sits today. After high school he had a good job working on a farm all the way through his second year in college. One day his dad told him that he was going to lose the shop and told him here is your chance to be a farmer, so Siemens took out a loan to pay for all his equipment so he could get started. Siemens got good jobs right off the bat and thought he was doing good until all of a sudden things got bad for him; he started to lose clients. "In the end the phones stopped ringing," Siemens said. Siemens needed a fresh start after he lost everything and had to sell his equipment, so he started flight school. Now he is Lt. Nathan Siemens. The airplane he flies now is the biggest he has ever flown. "I fly a KC 135 which is a RT model and I think the first flight was in 1956. It was a response to the cold war era," Siemens said.

Jonah Spore

Mrs. Heather Ferralez has worked for Moundridge Middle School for three years, impacting students and staff along the way. However, she has accepted a job offer in Hesston for the 2016-2017 school year. "Hesston is where I started [teaching]," Ferralez said. This is Mr. Andrew Scheef's fourth year being a Social Studies teacher at Moundridge Middle School and is sad to see one of his best co-workers and friends go. "The thing I will miss most about Mrs. Ferralez is just that: her. She is someone I consider to be a fantastic educator but also a special friend," Scheef said. "I will miss being able to walk into her room and talk to her about anything and know that I am going to leave her room a better person." Ferralez started at Moundridge as a middle school Language Arts teacher, coaching the middle school volleyball team for two years, and this year she now has her own fifth grade class in which she teaches. Some of Ferralez's favorite memories

from working at Moundridge include: a trip to Nebraska in 2014, being a part of Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA), and working with the middle and high school students and staff. On the Nebraska trip, about thirty-five seventh and eighth graders volunteered to travel to Nebraska to help pack food for third world countries. "My favorite thing about [Ferralez] is her ability to make me laugh. She has a gift to find the humor in a frustrating day or moment. She really puts things into a great perspective," Scheef added. Ferralez is going to miss all of the people she has gotten to know throughout the years but she also looks forward to the change of teaching fifth grade math, and hopefully as time goes on, to becoming a coach for the middle school. "[Ferralez] is a strong, caring person who really loves working with the kids in our school," said Mr. Aaron McDaniel. "The staff and students both have the upmost respect for her. The relationships she has built here will carry on and continue to grow. She will be greatly missed in our district."

Jasmine Walls



Photos provided by MHS Yearbook

Ferralez roots on Mr. Lynn Eichelberger as he smashes an egg on sophomore Peyton Fast's forehead on Wildcat Day.



Photo provided by Mrs. Hecox

Left to right: Ethan Miller, Alyssa Goering, Cassidy Finley, Nick Malone, Paige Finley, Ben Schrag, Dylan Juhnke, Baylie Peterson (not from MHS), and Mr. Shad Marston

# FFA Banquet Held on April 14

On Thurs., April 14, the Moundridge FFA chapter held its annual banquet. Every year at the banquet new officers are elected. The FFA officers for the 2016-2017 school year are as follows: Sophomore Ben Schrag-President, junior Paige Finley-Vice President, freshman Nick Malone-Secretary, freshman Alyssa Goering-Reporter, Nick Malone-Sentinel, and freshman Cassidy Finley-Treasurer "I am very honored to be president," President Ben Schrag said. "I am very happy with our new officers. I feel we have a good group of hardworking kids," Advisor Mr. Marston said. Both Schrag and Marston mentioned that interest in agriculture among young people is important, because they are the future of farming.

"I would like to see us get more involved in the community, to get our message out, and hopefully get young people interested in agriculture," Schrag added. The officers are picked by FFA alumni who have graduated and are not from MHS. The candidates must set up a time to do officer interviews. The alumni interview them and slate them for an office. Each year the FFA hands out proficiency awards and SAE awards. SAE stands for Supervised Agricultural Experience. To win an SAE award, the student must fill out an SAE application and write a one to three page essay on their supervised agriculture experience. The 1st place winners are as follows: Ag Mechanics Design and Fab.-Collin Gray,

Ag Sales- Kaden Diederich, Dairy Production-Ethan Miller, Home and Community development-Paige Finley, Turf Grass Management-Dylan Juhnke, and Wildlife Production and Management-Tanner Curtis. On Wed., April 20, the Moundridge FFA chapter attended a Veterinary science contest. Freshman Gage Diedrich placed 8th and sophomore Ben Schrag placed 10th. There were fifteen different schools that attended this event with over 50 students. "Identifying veterinary tools is just common sense. We had to identify breeds, which isn't difficult if you know what they are," G. Diederich added.

Dylan Juhnke