

MUSTANG JOURNAL

MEDINA CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWSLETTER



Summer 2017

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Vision Statement

Exemplify excellence in education.

Mission Statement

Educate to inspire all to reach beyond the expected and positively impact their communities



Medina Class of 2017 Top 10



Nicole Waild
Valedictorian



Madison Holland
Salutatorian



3. Abigail Griffin



4. Aeddon Cayea



5. Nicholas Bogan



6. Jadiel Flores-Medina



7. Kristian Snyder



8. Kathryn Bilicki



9. Martha Gardner



10. Morgan Roach



Medina Students Make an Impact on Community

More than 100 Medina High School students and 55 staff members recently spent an afternoon working on dozens of community service projects in Medina and around the High School campus. It was all part of the school's third annual Make an Impact Day.

The students chose whether they wanted to work on a project around the school or go out into the community to give a hand. "I think it's a great way to teach people to volunteer," says IMPACT (Influencing Many People As Concerned Teens) President Hannah Duhow. "I absolutely love volunteering because it teaches people to care about their community and reach out to those in need."

"This is the most students we have ever had sign up," says teacher Kim Zakes. Asked what they get out of it, she replies, "A t-shirt, pizza and ice cream. But honestly we are hoping by getting involved in these projects they'll have a little more pride in their community and their school. They will be less likely to paint graffiti or anything else that some of our students will be covering up today."

Ms. Zakes says it is thanks to the community that the students can even work on these projects. "The day is funded through support of sponsors that donate money, materials, supplies and expertise. We are very grateful for their support."



(LtoR) DaJohn Brown, Nadia Osby, Jene Brown, teacher Eric Valley and Nathan Serman making Mustang signs.

A Message from the Superintendent

Dear Parents, Students and Community Members,

Graduation is a district wide celebration. We celebrate the success of the Class of 2017. I am proud of everything our students have achieved. The accomplishments of this class include admission into the following schools:

- Middlebury College (VT)
- Marlboro College (VT)
- Colgate University
- Allegheny College (PA)
- Robert Morris University (PA)
- East Tennessee State
- University of Hartford (CT)
- University at Buffalo
- Canisius College
- University of Rochester
- St. John Fisher College
- SUNY Brockport
- Buffalo State College
- Niagara University
- SUNY Fredonia
- Genesee Community College
- Niagara County Community College

The Class of 2017 has 71 graduates who will attend either 2-year or 4-year college. Three graduates are entering the military and 35 are entering the work force. 15 students are graduating with Advanced Regents with Honors diplomas, which require a 90 average on all Regents Exams.

As a school district, we are proud that our students are focused on college and careers as they plan for the next exciting part of their lives. We wish all of our graduating seniors the very best in everything that they are doing, and hope that they come back to visit us in the future. Please remember, that once you are a MUSTANG, you will ALWAYS be a MUSTANG, and you are always welcome back to visit us in the future.

Mark B. Kruzynski
Superintendent



Mark B. Kruzynski
Superintendent

Medina High School Ranked One of the Best by U.S. News and World Report

Medina High School was ranked one of the best public high schools in the United States for student opportunity and achievement by U.S. News and World Report.

Over 22,000 public schools in 50 states and the District of Columbia are reviewed and are awarded gold, silver or bronze medals to indicate how well the students are prepared for college and their performance on state assessments. Medina High School was ranked 2,468 in the national rankings and earned a silver medal.

The U.S. News' Best High Schools List is compiled by first analyzing how well students performed on qualifying high school state assessments such as Regents Exams in Algebra 1 and ELA. The high schools identified as over performing were then ranked nationally in terms of college readiness, using participation and success in the Advanced Placement program. U.S. News then awarded more than 6,040 gold, silver, and bronze medals to the top-performing schools.

"This is great validation at how well our staff does in preparing our students for post-secondary education and careers," says Superintendent Mark Kruzynski. "We are very proud to once again receive this honor and be able to recognize the dedication of our students, staff and the community to make Medina High School one of the best high schools in the country. This award is truly an achievement that the entire district can celebrate, as the success we have in the high school builds upon the foundations our students have received at Oak Orchard and Clifford Wise Intermediate Middle School. Congratulations to the entire Medina Central School District."



Medina Teacher and Students Recognized at Orleans County Youth Awards

The Orleans County Youth Board honored Clifford H. Wise Intermediate/Middle School Physical Education teacher Eric Gross and Clifford Wise students Serenity Baumgrat and Robert Vidovich and High School students Sarah Granchelli, Zachary Petry and Vincent Viterna for their service to the community during the 35th annual Youth Recognition Banquet on Thursday at Hickory Ridge Golf and Country Club.

The people recognized do numerous acts of service; volunteering at animal shelters, their local fire department, nursing homes and other community organizations.

Eric Gross received the Helen R. Brinsmaid Professional Award, given to a paid professional whose work exceeds normal expectations.

Mr. Gross is a physical education teacher and coach at Medina's Clifford H. Wise Intermediate/Middle School. A co-worker, Kristy Young, said Mr. Gross is a humble person with a contagious positive attitude. He gives his own money and time to help student athletes at Medina, taking them to appointments and making sure they have the proper equipment.

He grew up in Medina and has worked as a teacher for 16 years, coaching cross country, track and wrestling. He says he is fortunate in his job to have strong support from Medina families, his co-workers and the staff at the school, as well as his own family. "It was very nice to be nominated by my colleagues and being recognized for what I do and enjoy doing every single day working with youth and trying to help them."



Serenity Baumgart who is 12 years old, volunteers at PAWS Animal Shelter and has helped with community clean-ups and can often be found picking up garbage or cleaning debris off the side of the road after inclement weather. She often babysits and pet sits for friends and family and known for being very hard working and polite. She was nominated by school counselors, Lindsay Fassel and Tina

DeSimone. Serenity said that she felt proud of herself for winning the award. "It was exciting for me knowing that I was recognized and that all my hard work paid off."

Robert Vidovich III who is 13 years old, is known for being a kind and caring young man and is often seen picking up debris and

garbage, especially after windstorms. He has also been known to shovel snow for others. When his family home caught on fire he managed to get his whole family out and their two dogs. Thanks to quick action, the house was able to be saved. Robert said, "I just did what I was supposed to and I try to help out in the community as much as I can." He was nominated by his Technology teacher Giovannella Pelligra.



Sarah Granchelli is 18 years old and has logged countless hours of community service. In the last year alone, she has volunteered 120 hours helping the residents at the Orchard Manor Nursing Home. She is very active in her church and has been a Sunday school assistant teacher since 2010. Last year she spent a week as a leadership intern for Camp Intervention, which is a STEM learning camp working with

students in grades 3-4. She also assisted in the Red Cross Blood Drive and has volunteered to work with the students at Oak Orchard Elementary School. "I was pretty surprised I won. My teacher didn't tell me I had been nominated until I learned that I won. It was a big thrill for me." She was nominated by teacher Scott Benson.



Zachary Petry is 18 years old and has been a member of the Shelby Volunteer Fire Company for over two years. Before that he was a junior firefighter. He is very active in the company and has trained very hard since joining. He has also helped out at many fundraising events at the fire hall and has learned to run and drive firetrucks and off-road vehicles. He was nominated by Howard Watts, the Assistant Chief of Shelby

Volunteer Fire Company.

Vincent Viterna is 17 years old and also active in the Shelby Volunteer Fire Company. He has completed his firefighter training during the 2016-17 year and has put in 104 hours of hard work. He has accomplished smokehouse training, air pack training and other exercises. He also helps out with raffles and fundraisers. "I love working with the Shelby Fire Department," he says. He was nominated by Howard Watts, the Assistant Chief of Shelby Volunteer Fire Company.



FFA Members Recognized

On June 7th FFA members, along with Agriculture Education teacher and FFA Advisor, Todd Eick, recognized all the fantastic things the students had done throughout the year.

Students celebrated with their families with an ice cream social in the High School's cafeteria.



Alyssa Root handing Rhett Wagner the STAR Chapter Award. In the back are: officers Carly Woodworth, Kali Scharader, Jack Hill and Jacob Bensley.

Medina's Melanie Green Is Best Female High School Golfer in WNY



Medina's own Melanie Green has captured the Section VI Girls golf title!

A freshman at the High School, she made birdie on two of the final four holes to put her ahead of Alexis Kim of Clarence, who was the defending champion at the Tan Tara Golf Club. The tournament was the qualifier for the NYS Public High Schools Athletic Association Championship.

Melanie fired a four over par 76 and was one of just two golfers to break 80. "It's an honor to do this for my school, coaches and my team," says Melanie. She will be traveling to Bethpage State Park in Long Island to compete in the state tournament. We are wishing her the best of luck with bringing home the state title!

Medina High School Immerses Students In French and Spanish Culture

The Medina High School Library was recently transformed into the countries of France and Spain.

Spanish teacher Alexandra Peracciny and French teacher Samantha Szeluga created cultural experiences for their students to take part in as they practiced their conversational language skills. Their "trips" began with getting their passport stamped and exchanging currency. The students then decided where they would spend their time and visited a cinema, café and participated in several activities. There were language police who walked around to make sure that no one was using English. The events were hosted on two separate days.

"It is a great and fun way for the students to be able to use their language skills," says Mrs. Peracciny.



Federico Rosario (Spain).



(LtoR) Toby Kiebala, Katie Bielicki, Abby Griffin and Kyla Leno (Spain).



Shaniqua Roberts, MacKenzie Bropst, Sam Metz and Lexi Maron.



Noah Pencille and Dylan Sturtevant.



Medina Art Students Make the Cut for Albright-Knox Future Curators Exhibition



Medina High School Art teacher, Jen Scott, is excited that two of her students, Hannah Sones and CJ Cruickshank made the cut for the Albright-Knox Future Curators Exhibition. "This is the first time any Medina students have made the cut. Hannah and CJ are both in their junior year and I could not be prouder of both of them! The student work in the show is immensely impressive and it is a thrill to be included in the exhibition."

The AK Teens: Future Curators is an annual program designed to expose high school students to the museum field. Students in grades 11 and 12

may apply for the opportunity to participate in the program as curators. Throughout the course of the program, students learn about the different components of creating an exhibition, meet with various Albright-Knox staff members, and organize an exhibition of artwork by local high school students. Students are involved in all areas of planning, including selecting the artwork; designing the exhibition's layout; writing the wall text, in-gallery labels, and press release; and planning and exhibition opening celebration.

Hannah and CJ entered three pieces and both of the students had a project from Studio 2 class make it into the show. The project was a Xerox Photomontage inspired by David Hockney's photo cubism. "The students find, cut out and compose numerous magazine images around a central theme," explains Ms. Scott. "Students play with the placement, order, and orientation of their images while making sure to incorporate a focal point. When they are happy with their composition, the work gets Xeroxed and then color is added. Students then cut out the photomontage, mount it to a piece of paper and title their work."

Hannah's piece was inspired by the story of "Alice in Wonderland" and she included visual clues like the pocket watches and rabbit. She titled it "Dreamer" because it tells the story of Alice's falling asleep. Her piece will be on display at Albright-Knox.

CJ says his piece represents the media and how we like to capture things that we consider to be beautiful according to our standards. "The glasses skewed on the subject represent how fast technology is changing." His piece will be on display at the Buffalo Center for Arts and Technology. "Having taught art since 2000 and never making it into this exhibition, I didn't expect to make it this year," says Ms. Scott. "When my students made the cut, I was thrilled beyond belief because they were at the Albright-Knox! It is such an honor to be included in this exhibition. I am grateful for the opportunity from the gallery, grateful to teach such outstanding students, and grateful for such a rewarding job. It is often a tightrope act in the classroom to engage students in working on projects they can be successful at while coaxing them to be original and creative."



2017 MHS Scholarship Winners

Dollars 4-year (1@\$2000, and 1@\$1500)

Kalen Wilson-Drewery (\$2000),
Mallory Colton (\$1500)

Dollars 2-year (\$1000) each

Alaina Boyce, Madison Holland

Dollars Mruczek-Basior (\$500)

Coby Albone

Dollars/MHS Staff/Presidential Freedom (\$1000)

Coby Albone

Rotary Club (\$500)

Paige Wagner

Bogue (\$1600)

Kristian Snyder

Botsford (\$1000)

Kristian Snyder

Butts (\$400)

Kalen Wilson-Drewery

Butler (\$500)

Nicole Walid

Brown (SAT/ACT)

1st: Aeddon Cayea

2nd: Sarah Granchelli

Coca-Cola (\$500)

Morgan Roach

Cotillion Club (\$500)

Madison Holland

Oliver Trust (top 10) (\$1588.50)

Abigail Griffin, Madison Holland, Kristian Snyder, Nicole Walid

Carolyn Connor

(\$130)

Kyla Leno



Congratulations Medina Class of 2017

2017 MHS Scholarship Winners

Oliver Citizenship (\$850) (replacing Deland this year only)
Nicholas Bogan and Kathryn Bilicki

Dick (\$500)
Kyla Leno

Hagerman (\$150)
Taylor Hurrell

Hinckley (\$400)
Taylor Frasier

Husung (\$500)
Mikayla Soha

Klotzbach (\$400)
Carley Schultz

Kwiatkowski (\$varies)
\$500- Heather Bramer, \$400 Lindsay Fulwell, \$300 Trevon Robinson

Lions Club (\$1000)
Madeline Winters

Mark (\$500)
Kyla Leno

MAAC (\$500)
Trinity Castrechino

Medina Staff (2@\$400)
Molley Gross and Federico Rosario

Medina Savings and Loan (\$500)
Nicholas Bogan

MHS Alum (\$300)
Coby Albone

MTA (\$1700)
Kyla Leno

Passarell Memorial (\$250)
Aeddon Cayea

Rosenkrans (\$200)
Carley Schultz



Hannah Adams



Quentin Adkins



Coby Albone



Kyle Allport



Joshua Armstrong



Tyrellis Atkins



Xion Baes



Tamara Banks



Austin Bellan



MiKayla Bellan



William Bellan



Kathryn Bilicki



Vassilios Bitsas



Nicholas Bogan



Danesha Bonk



Alaina Boyce



Aryanna Boyce



Heather Bramer



Dalohn Brown



Kevin Capstick



Joseph Caraballo



Michael Cardone



Teanna Cardone



Makayla Castillo



Aeddon Cayea



Edgar Chavez



Michael Cherry



Bianca Chutko



Devin Cleveland



Jordan Cody



Mallory Colton



Nicole Cooper



Jakob Cotter



Kayla Cuadra



Chelsea Donley



Christine Duffield



Lillian Duffield



Joelle Fiannaca



Michael Fidanza-Carson



Jadiel Flores-Medina



Ryan Fox



Taylor Frasier



Grace Fuller



Lindsay Fulwell



Martha Gardner



Paul Grabowski



Sarah Granchelli



Emily Green

Congratulations Medina Class of 2017



Abigail Griffin



Molley Gross



Thomas Hackenberg



Austin Hamilton



Matthew Hann



Brandon Harris



Tecla Hernandez



Allison Hibbard



Emily Hofmeister



Erin Hofmeister



Madison Holland



Tyler Howard



Taylor Hurrell



Sebastian Jackson



Kali James



Chase Jenkinson



Emily Kams



Jessica Lawrence



Trevor Lemke



Kyla Leno



Angel LeVan



Brandon Luthart



Chase McAdoo



Caitlyn McNeil



Austin Meacham



Danielle Metz



Kali Montgomery



Dakotah Moyer



Alexis Neuman



Hailee Ogden



Brent Oliver



Abbyleigh Osborne-Jones



Marissa Pecorella



Zachary Petry



Keara Pitts



Ariana Pluskwa



Morgan Roach



Trevon Robinson



Tyler Root



Federico Rosario



Alexandria Sargent



Heaven Saternus



Victoria Schicker



LeAnn Schneider



Carley Schultz



Bryahna Sikorski



Kristian Snyder



Mikayla Soha

2017 MHS Scholarship Winners

Schrader (\$500)
Alaina Boyce

Robert Connor (choir) (\$500)
William Bellan

Snyder (\$500)
Kyla Leno

Sacred Heart (2 @ \$500)
Coby Albone, Bryahna Sikorski

Sylvester (\$1000)
Martha Gardner

Walker (minority) (\$500)
Jadiel Flores-Medina
(Alternate Federico Rosario)

Christopher White (PTSA) \$300 Sarah Granchelli
Dr. White (\$250)
Carley Schultz

Sandstone Society-John Ryan (\$500)
waiting

Ryan Stack (jr or sr-music interest)
Kathryn Bilicki

Webster (\$400)
Coby Albone

Robert Waters (\$500)
Nicholas Bogan

Spirit of 1976 (\$176)
Brandon Harris

Corwin Excellence in Economics (\$500)
Martha Gardner

Rho (\$175)
Kathryn Young

Medina Class of 2017

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Emmanuel Sones



William Stephens



Shianne Sullinger



Chance Tanski



Elexa Taylor



Paige Wagner



Nicole Waid



Bryce Wickham



Kalen Wilson-Drewery



Madeline Winters



Kathryn Young



Abel Zavitz

Camera Shy



Tyler Fanning
Gavin Flatt
Kayleigh Shaffer
Richard Wolfe



Medina Students Reach Goal and Then Some for Bald for Bucks

Clifford H. Wise Intermediate/Middle School student Ayden Amrhein set a goal of \$800 for cancer research in Roswell's Goin' Bald for Bucks campaign.

After sharing his story about how his aunt's battle with thyroid cancer inspired him, he reached out to his classmates and the community to help him reach his goal. He was thrilled when not only did he reach his goal, but ended up raising \$2,180 for the charity.

On May 27th Ayden headed to Shear Elegance in Medina to meet his end of the bargain and got his head shaved.

"We are very proud of him," says Principal Elaine Wendt. Way to go Ayden!



MEDINA CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
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Mr. Mark B. Kruzynski, Superintendent

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