



Class of
2021
Congratulations



SECTION A
MENDOTA • OHIO

The Mendota Reporter
Wednesday, May 26, 2021



MENDOTA HIGH SCHOOL

Dear Class of 2021,

As your class representatives, we would like to congratulate each and every one of you for all of the accomplishments you have made over the past four years. Many of us went many nights with getting little to no sleep in order to have our work completed for the next day. Many of us spent hours at the high school practicing or rehearsing. One thing that we all did as a whole was get through these past few months with a pandemic. At first, we were excited and happy because we were getting a small break from school. In order to keep us safe, we were sent home for two weeks. Unfortunately, those few weeks turned into months and because of that we couldn't see our friends or teachers. Looking back, it was a really hard time for all of us but luckily,

we got through it. We were able to return to school and get somewhat of a "normal" senior year. We know it wasn't what we expected but the few things we got and were able to do are memories that will follow each and everyone of us forever.

As we get ready to say our final goodbyes, we want to thank you guys because of how patient and understanding you've been through this all. There is so much in store for all you and we are so excited to see what the future will bring you all. Congratulations class of 2021, you did it.

Best of luck to everyone,

Leilani Landeros, Senior Class President
Perri Stachlewitz, Student Council President
Mendota High School Class of 2021

MHS senior class officers

Senior class officers, left to right, are Marlie Boelk, co-vice president; Perris Stachlewitz, co-vice president; Samuel Lawrence, secretary/treasurer; and Leilani Landeros, president.



MHS TOP STUDENTS

The top 12 students of the Mendota High School Class of 2021 are Amanda Barrett, Amellia Bromenschenkel, Mary Elizabeth DeFore, Samuel Lawrence, Grace Leifheit, Lily Linden, Twila Martinson, Ella Massey, Madi Mikolasek, Jenna O'Donnell, Madison Pappas, and Rosevelia Rocha.

Barrett is the daughter of Jeff Barrett of Mendota.

She is a member of the National Honor Society, Spanish National Honor Society, Academic Challenge, Math Team, Scholastic Bowl (Second Team All Conference), Spanish Club and Volleyball. She is an Illinois State Scholar, has been on the honor roll seven semesters, is a Principal's Office worker and volunteers at Special Olympics.

She plans to attend the University of Wisconsin-Madison as a biology major with a goal of becoming an obstetrician/gynecologist.

Bromenschenkel is the daughter of Chad and Debi Bromenschenkel of Mendota.

She is an Illinois State Scholar, a member of the National Honor Society, Spanish National Hon-

or Society, MHS Honor Banquet, and Academic Challenge Team and has a 4.0 cumulative grade point average. She has participated in volleyball, BNC All Conference Volleyball Team 2019, basketball, BNC All Conference Basketball Team 2018, 2019, 2020, News Tribune Basketball Player of the Year 2019 and 2020, IBCA All State Basketball Team 2019 and 2020, AP All State Basketball Team 2019 and 2020, News Gazette All State Basketball Team 2019 and 2020, Illinois Valley Warriors AAU Basketball Team and Illinois Elite AAU Basketball Team. She also participated in soccer.

She graduated from MHS a semester early and currently attends Purdue Fort Wayne University in Fort Wayne, Ind. where she is studying mechanical engineering with a business minor. She is also a member of the Mastodon Women's Basketball Team.

DeFore is the daughter of Shaun and Julie DeFore of Mendota.

She has participated in volleyball, tennis, basketball, softball (team captain) and travel softball, is an office worker and media center worker. She is a member of

See MHS, Page A10

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Graduation Day

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MENDOTA HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES



Alexis Arteaga



Daisy Arteaga



Felicia Arteaga



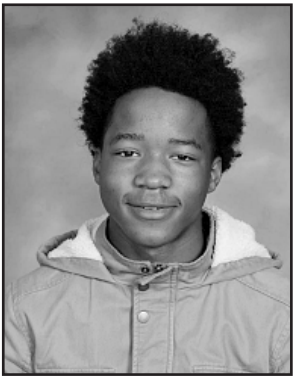
Keina Arteaga



Piper Artman



Jesenya Avila



Jesus Bakr



Amanda Barrett



Kody Becket



Jack Beetz



Lauren Beetz



Sabrina Belmonte



Marlie Boelk



**Amellia
Bromenschenkel**



Hope Brown



Joshua Buchanan



Amando Bustos



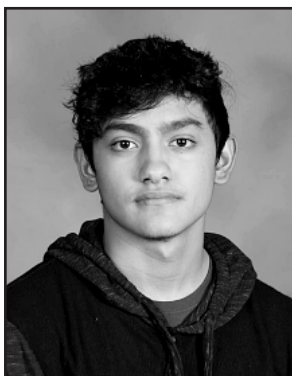
Ashley Calamaco



Isabella Caruso



Andres Castaneda



Brian Castaneda



Ty Connelly



Daisy Contreras



Abigayle Daugaard

After such fine academic performances, we know you're destined for great things. Thanks for making us proud, and good luck!

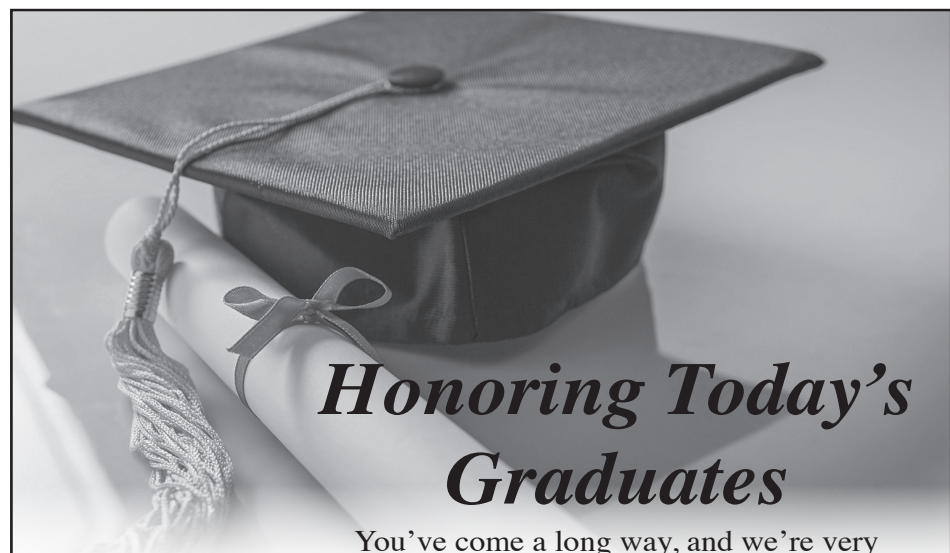
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Leo Hochstatter & Vicki Johnson

05262021



Honoring Today's Graduates

You've come a long way, and we're very proud of your achievements. Keep up the great work, and we know you'll go far. Best wishes today and always!

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Thomas J. McCormack Scholars are, left to right, Gabrielle Englehaupt of Ladd, Jake Zeman of Peru, Jenna Grabowski of Streator, Owen Wolfe of Tonica, Devin Borchsenius of Sheridan, Skylar Arwood of Utica, Riley Boehler of Ottawa, Cole Kestner of Streator, Victoria Page of Standard, Nathaniel Townsell of Marseilles and Isabel Lueck of Oglesby. Unavailable for the photo were Mary Kupperschmid of Peru, Grace Lowe of Ottawa and Hunter Witzman of Lostant. To earn the prestigious designation, McCormack Scholars maintain a minimum 3.75 GPA in at least 14 hours over three consecutive semesters.

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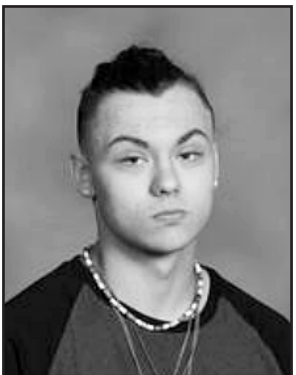
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Summer C June 16-July 28

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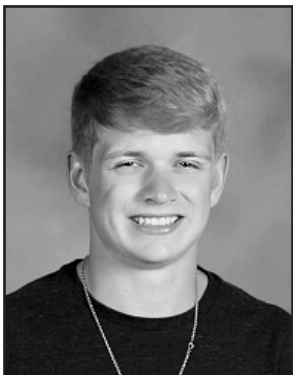


ILLINOIS VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

MENDOTA HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES



Dylan Davidson



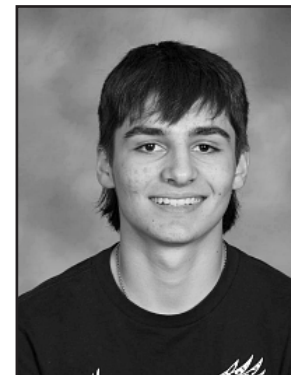
Christian Dean



Mary DeFore



Lilianna Delgado



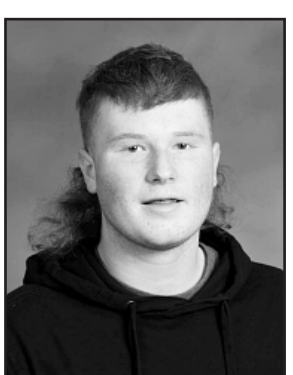
Dylan Denault



Ashton Dewey



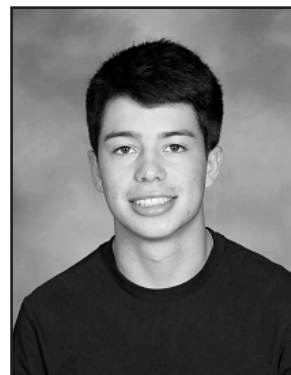
Taylor Diaz



Shea Doughty



Olivia Eddy



Mateo Escatel



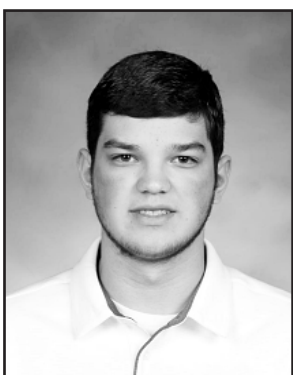
Andrew Fittanto



Jaelyn Fitzgerald



Rheanna Fitzgerald



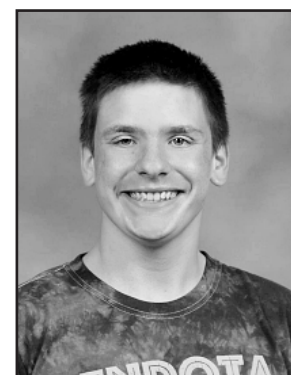
Brandon Franklin



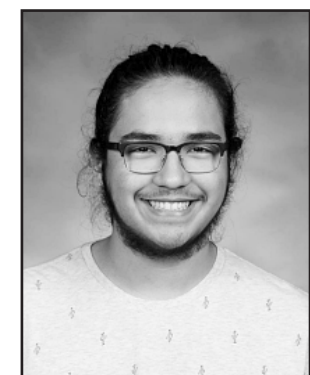
Kelle Frey



Samantha Furar



Dugann Gatlin



Julian Godina



Morgan Gonda



Janice Gonzalez



Mireya Gonzalez



Salma Gonzalez



Matthew Grenter



Abel Guerra



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MENDOTA HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES



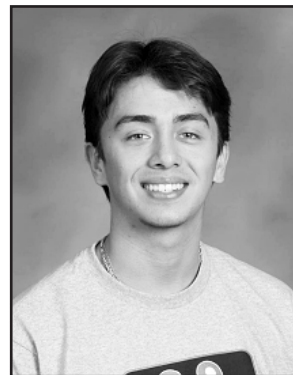
Bonnie Hall



Lindsay Harper



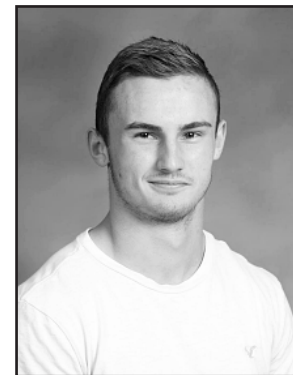
Janeth Hermosillo



Rigoberto Hermosillo



Zeke Hessenberger



Cody Jenner



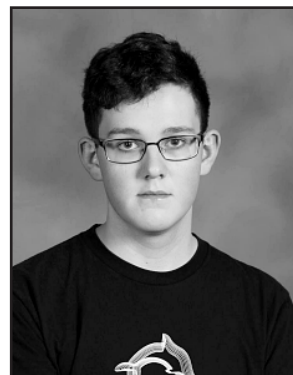
Camille Jones



Kennedy Kaiser



Charles Kaufman



Matthew Kurdenok



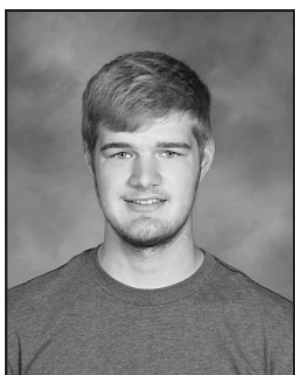
Gaige Lampson



Leilani Landeros



Samuel Lawrence



Noah Lee



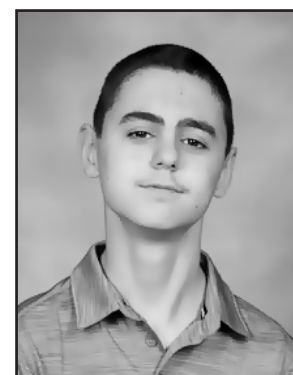
Grace Leifheit



Lily Linden



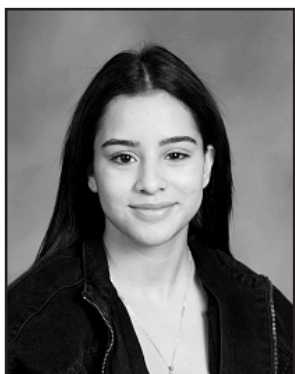
Alexis Majka



Bradley Martin



Kelsie Martin



Crystal Martinez



Twila Martinson



Ella Massey



Jasmine Matheson



Eve McDowell



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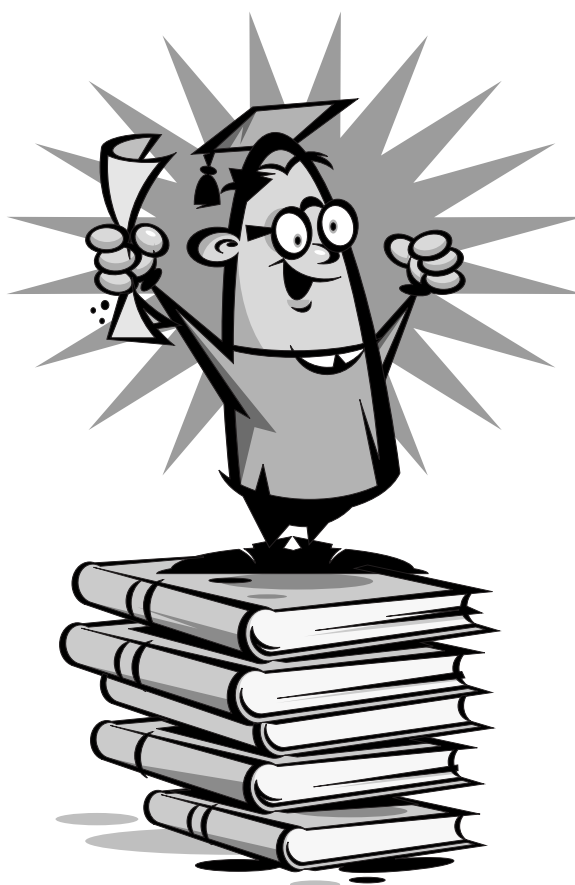
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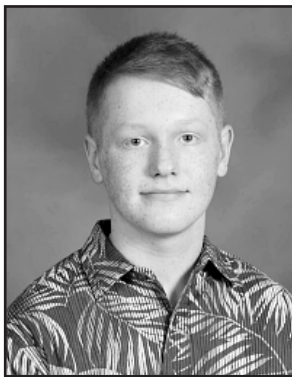
MENDOTA HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES



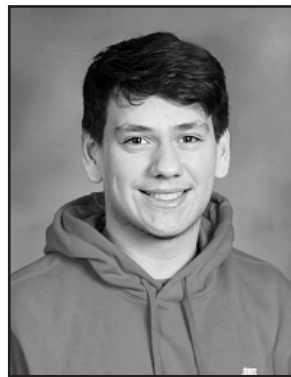
Madison Mikolasek



Angel Montalvo



William Munson



Derek Nanez



Izabella Nanez



Kasen Novak



Jenna O'Donnell



Amaya Olivas



Natalie Orozco



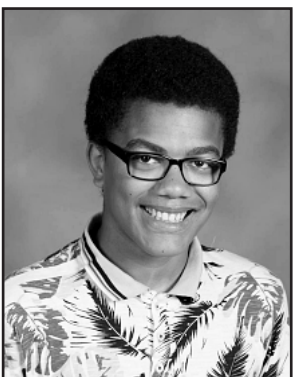
Madison Pappas



Javier Perez



Kylie Plock



Malik Preston



Lizbeth Quintana



Silver Quiroga



Emilio Raya



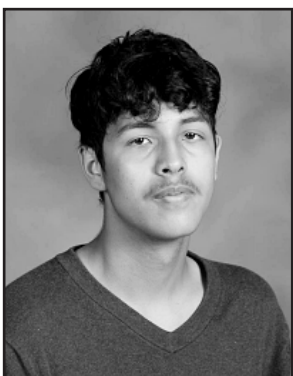
Sara Reasor



Tara Reasor



Rosevelia Rocha



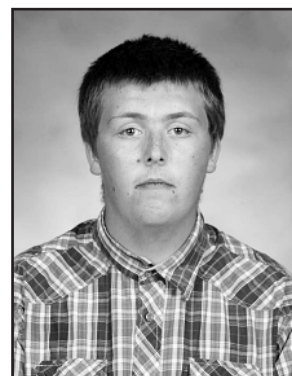
Angel Roman Jr.



Nicolas Rosales



Tanya Rosas



Alexander Rummery



Helena Rupp

MENDOTA HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

**Ramiro Salinas****Karla Sandoval****Faith Schafer****Joshua Schmidt****Jocelyn Serrano****Hunter Siebert****Malyka Siebert****Madison Smith****Perris Stachlewitz****Trent Stamberger****Julissa Terrazas****Morgan Thompson****Delaney Tooley****Joseph Turner****Mariela Valdez****Kaysee Villegas****Cole Zimmerman**

**Graduate
not pictured:
Alayah Bass**

MHS

Continued from Page A2

Spanish Club and National Honor Society and is an Illinois State Scholar. She is on honor roll, has a 4.0 grade point average, Lion's Club Banquet, and was the VFW Voice of Democracy Audio Essay winner. She also volunteers at St. Vincent de Paul, MHS Softball Camp and Mendota Sweet Corn Festival.

She plans to attend Mount Mary University in Milwaukee, Wis. to study pre-dentistry. In the future, she hopes to become a dentist.

Lawrence is the son of Samuel Lawrence of Sea-

tonville and Fanny Rivera of Mendota.

He has participated in soccer (two years), cross country (two years), wrestling (three years), bowling (one year), track (one year), National Honor Society and Spanish National Honor Society. He is an Illinois State Scholar, received the Regional Board of Education Student Excellence Award January 2021 and BNC Conference 19-20 Scholar

Athlete. He also worked at the Mendota Lutheran Home and Heritage Health.

He plans to attend Bradley University in Peoria to study mechanical engineering.

Leifheit is the daughter of Jason and Juli Leifheit of Mendota.

She has participated in volleyball, softball, Student Council, Prom Committee, MHS Honors Banquet, National Honor Society,

Spanish National Honor Society and is an Illinois State Scholar. She volunteered at Special Olympics (2018), Mendota Day of the Dead Celebration, Mendota Sweet Corn Festival, Lion's Club corndog sales, and Lincoln Elementary School. She participated in the Spanish Cultural Contest and helped create the 2019 Veterans Day program at MHS.

She plans to attend the University of Tennessee

where she will major in biology with plans to continue into pediatric dentistry.

Linden is the daughter of Maureen Linden of Mendota.

She has participated in concert band, marching band, jazz band, choir, show choir, woodwind choir, Drama Club Trojanettes, cross country, GSA, Interact Club, The Little Mermaid musical and Little Shop of Horrors and ILMEA band and choir.

She is a member of the 2020 All State Chorus and National Honor Society and is an Illinois State Scholar.

She plans to attend Illinois State University, where she will major in elementary education.

Martinson is the daughter of Todd and Lisa Martinson of Mendota.

She is a member of

See MHS, Page A11

MHS

Continued from Page A10

Spanish Club, National Honor Society (co-president), Spanish National Honor Society, Homecoming Committee, Math Team, Scholastic Bowl, basketball, tennis track and field, and Interact. She received the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) Award, John Ourth Illinois Principals Association Award, seven semesters on honor roll and is an Illinois State Scholar. She volunteered as a bell ringer for Salvation Army, served meals for PADS homeless shelter, was a food packager for Feed My Starving Children and for Kids Against Hunger, sold sweet corn for the Rotary Club and American Red Cross blood donor.

She plans to attend Michigan Technological University to study material engineering.

Massey is the daughter of Chad and Melinda Massey of Mendota.

She is a member and officer of National Honor Society, a member of Student Council, varsity volleyball (four years, captain two years), Spanish Club, Homecoming and Prom committees, Math Team, and Academic Challenge Team. She is an Illinois State Scholar, BNC Academic All Conference, received Lions Club 4.0 Award all four years, was a multi-year All Conference Volleyball Award winner, multi-year All Illinois Valley Volleyball Award winner, and MHS Academic Honors every semester. She was a Homecoming Attendant freshman, sophomore and senior years. Her volunteer work includes Shine Youth Ministry, Special Olympics, TEC, and Mendota Sweet Corn Festival and she was a lifeguard.

She plans to attend the University of Wisconsin Madison to major in business law.

Mikolasek is the daughter of Ray and Terri Mikolasek

of Mendota.

She is a member of National Honor Society, Spanish National Honor

See MHS, Page A12



We applaud your hard work and dedication!

Congratulations!



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Best Wishes To All Our Area Graduates



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MHS

Continued from Page A11

Society, Math Team, Academic Challenge Team, Student Council, volleyball (four years) and MHS Honor Banquet (four years). She maintained a 4.0 grade point average, earned the Spanish Seal of Biliteracy, was invited to the Lions Club Honor Banquet (four years), and is an Illinois State Scholar.

She plans to attend the University of Iowa in Iowa City to major in biology. She is currently interested in pursuing a career in dentistry.

O'Donnell is the daughter of Michael and Nicole O'Donnell.

She participated in travel softball (11 years), tumbling team (five years), travel basketball (one year), and travel volleyball (two years). At MHS, she participated in volleyball, basketball and softball every year and received awards in all three

sports. In basketball, she received honorable mention in the BNC (junior year) and in volleyball, she received honorable mention in the BNC (junior and senior years). In softball, she received 2nd Team BNC (freshman year) and 1st Team BNC and News Tribune All Area (sophomore year) while winning a regional championship both years in softball. She is a member of National Honor Society (junior and senior), BNC All Academic (junior year), the BNC Leadership Workshop (junior year), has been on honor roll seven semesters and is an Illinois State Scholar.

She plans to attend Milwaukee School of Engineering and major in biomedical engineering.

Pappas is the daughter of Jennifer and Sean Pappas.

She participated in cheerleading (co-captain), Prom

See MHS, Page B5

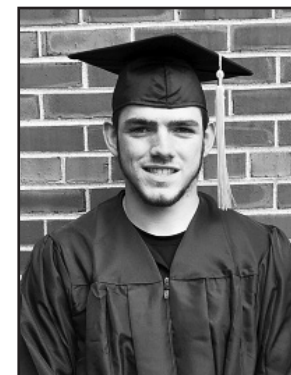
OHIO HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES



Aiden Ballard



Meghan Davis



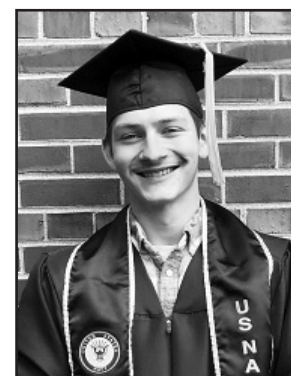
Sean Fitzpatrick



Savannah Hansen



Benjamin Henrikson



Michael Zaller



Haylee Zembrzusi

HAPPY GRADUATION!

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Class of
2021
Congratulations



SECTION B
AMBOY • EARLVILLE • LAMOILLE

The Mendota Reporter
Wednesday, May 26, 2021

EARLVILLE HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES



Makayla Allison



Joshua Bailey-Mascal



Kayla Brouhle



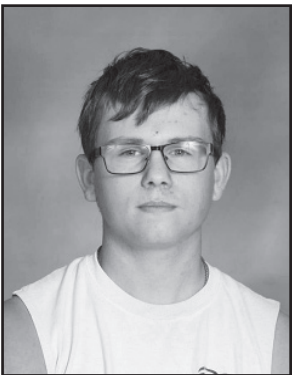
Antonia Cockream



Connor Cook



Aislin Donahoe



Scott Farley



Catherine Fasking



Jeremy Gomez Sanabria



Rebecca Hadley



Jennifer Hall



Alexia Hellman



Ajay Jess



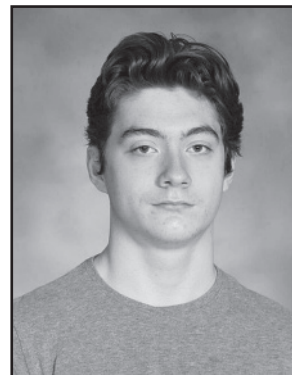
Rachel Kamoss



Devyn Kennedy



Noah Lemke



Robert McCoy



Jacob Pickert

Congratulations Class of 2021!

*"Go confidently in the direction of your dreams.
Live the life you have imagined."* - Henry David Thoreau



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EARLVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

As the class of 2021 is getting ready to graduate, I would like to thank everyone who tried to make this year as memorable as possible. The challenges and setbacks the class of 2021 went through could have discouraged a lot of students to give up. Yet, with the encouragement and inspiration of each other, the teachers, the staff, and the Earlville community, we were able to overcome adversity.

COVID-19 has prevented our class from participating in a lot of different events. None of us thought that we would have to wear masks all day, have shorter or no sports seasons, be unable to invite significant others to dances, and have a limited senior trip. With all of these changes the class of 2021 faced, we persevered. We came together and decided that instead of feeling sorry for ourselves and making excuses, we made the best out of what we had.

Now, I am not going to be generic and talk about how close we were as a class or that we have this unbreakable bond because that is not true. The best way I can describe my class is like a married couple 20 years down the road. We would often keep our distance from each other and there would be conflicts with each other over silly things. Yet, at the end of the day, we got over it. We came to school the next day with the intention of forgiveness. We have had a lot of those “forgiving days,” but those days are going to be missed when we say our goodbyes.

Most of us have been with each other for 12 years, others 4 years, and some even 1 year. We remember a lot of FIRST times. It seems that it was just last week that

we were transferring from the middle school building into the high school building, getting ready for our first homecoming dance, our first high school sporting event, and our first time joining a club. But now realize that senior year is our last time with all of those experiences. As this strange, abnormal year is coming to an end it is bittersweet that everyone is going their separate ways.

Now we all have to say our “See you on the flip side” to each other. Some are happy for this departure and are ready for the next chapter life brings them but others are sad. Sad that the experiences are only memories and that laughing at the lunch table, seeing your classmates playing in sporting events, and asking for extra credit even though you didn’t do a single assignment all year is now just a memory. Now I know most of my peers are not going to say this but we will miss everyone. We will miss the ups and downs we had with each other. We will miss the constant arguing in class, the scolding at the lunch table because your friend didn’t grab you a napkin when they went up to grab a spork (the napkins are right next to the sporks), and the rivalry we had during the pickup games in basketball. After we get our diplomas, this is where our journey together ends. Our childhood has finally come to pass. We are going to walk through the door of adulthood and sadly, the childish adventures won’t be seen on the other side. Although we are going in different directions in our lives, we will never forget the memories we made together at EHS.

Devyn Kennedy
Senior Class President
Earlville High School Class of 2021



EHS Senior Class Officers
 Earlville High School senior class officer are, seated left to right, **Isabella Valdez**, treasurer; **Catherine Fasking**, secretary; standing, **Connor Cook**, vice president; and **Devyn Kennedy**, president.



EHS Top Students
 Earlville High School valedictorian is **Devyn Kennedy**, left, and salutatorian is **Davis Sweeney**.

EHS TOP STUDENTS

The top students of the Earlville High School Class of 2021 are valedictorian Devyn Kennedy and salutatorian Davis Sweeney.

Kennedy is the son of Erin McIntyre of Earlville.

He is a member of National Honor Society (two years), Student Council (president, four years), Academic Bowl (three years), Math Team (won regionals three consecutive years), Varsity Soccer

(captain, two years), Class President (10, 11, 12), and Mr. EHS contestant (two years). He has been on the high honor roll (four years, 4.0 grade point average), was selected for the Rural Health Careers Camp and Illinois Boys State, received the John Ourth Award and May Excellence Award, was All Conference Team for Soccer (three consecutive years), All Area Team for Soccer (three consecutive years), Player of the Year in Soccer, and

plays club soccer (Campton United Soccer Club). He participated in Senior Saturdays (helped serve meals to senior citizens), volunteered for the blood drive, the PTA Halloween Reading Night, the Stepping Stones program, and Delnor Hospital, was a coach at the Raiders Soccer Camp, helped set up flags for the fire department and American Legion, and is a Special Olympics Certified Coach. He also shoveled snow, cleaned gutters was a

soccer referee and babysitter.

Sweeney is the son of Patrick and Kirsten Sweeney of Earlville.

He is a member of Student Council (four years), National Honor Society (two years), basketball (four years), baseball (four years) and soccer (three years). He has been a class officer for two years and is an Illinois State Scholar.

He plans to attend North Central College in Naperville to study accounting.



MHS

Continued from Page A12

Committee, Drama Club, fall plays, spring play and musicals, ILMEA Jazz Choir and Concert Choir, Augustana Honor Band, Treble Choir, Concert Choir, Pep Band, Jazz Band, Vocal Jazz Show Choir (dance captain), Madrigals, Math Team, Academic Challenge for math and English (state qualified), Spanish Honor Society, National Honor Society, girls tennis, boys tennis manager, and MHS Honors Banquet. She earned the Seal of Bilitery for Spanish, was on honor roll seven semesters and is an Illinois State Scholar. She volunteered for Special Olympics, city trash cleanup, Abigail Women's Clinic, church nursery worker, church worship leader, piano teacher, and was an election judge for the 2021 election. She was a lifeguard at Woodhaven Lakes and an employee at HyVee. She also took part in the MEF summer musicals and the MCT summer musicals.

She plans to attend the University of Iowa to major in biology on the pre-med track and hopes to become a pediatric neurologist.

Rocha is the daughter of Anzurio and Rosario Rocha of Mendota.

She is a member of Spanish National Honor Society (co-president), National Honor Society, Spanish Club (9, 10, 11), girls track (10), earned the State Seal of Bilitery, is an Illinois State Scholar and has been on honor roll seven semesters. She participated in the spring musical (chorus, 9), Concert Choir (9-12), Madrigal wench (10, 11), IHSA Solo and Ensemble Festival 2018, 2019 and 2020 (one 1st place rating and one 2nd place rating each year), IHSA Solo and Ensemble Festival 2021 (one 1st place rating), and Spanish Cultural Contest 2019 (1st place winner). She was a volunteer dancer at the Sterling Cinco de Mayo 2019, concession worker (9-11), Woodhaven Haunted House volunteer (2019), worker at ILMEA District 2 Festival hosted by Mendota High School in 2017, volunteer office worker at CCD (2017-20) and employed at El Zarape (2019-20).

She plans to attend Illinois Valley Community College in Oglesby and is still undecided on a future career.

LAMOILLE HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES



Chloe Carroll



Calvin Deering



Alaina Keighin



John Kent



Dylan Lovgren



Jason Martin



Rachel Rieker



Aiden Sondgeroth

Graduate not pictured:
Ashlynn Souba



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in the Future!**

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(Mendota)

Bonnie Hall
(Mendota)

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LAMOILLE HIGH SCHOOL

The top students of the LaMoille High School Class of 2021 are valedictorian Calvin Deering and salutatorian Dylan Lovgren.

Deering is the son of Dan Deering and Piper Deering of LaMoille.

He has participated in cross country, track, Scholastic Bowl, National Honor Society, Student Council (one year) and was class vice president (two years). He has been a member of FFA, served as historian/parliamentarian and sentinel, and was ranked superior in the FFA State Livestock Judging. He received 2nd place in a regional WYSE competition in math and as a sophomore earned Class Scholar and the Class Service Award.

He received a "Most Improved" plaque for cross country and two "Most Improved" plaques for track. He briefly tutored in geometry and also worked more than 2,300 hours on the family farm.

He plans to attend the University of Illinois, where he will double major in computer science and animal science.

Lovgren is the son of Eric and Robin Lovgren of Princeton.

He is a member of National Honor Society, basketball (four years), concert and marching band (four years), Steam Conference planner (four years), school theatre sound coordinator (9, 10), and had intern-

ships with LaMoille High School and Technology Made Easy (TME) doing IT work. He has been class president four years, received the John Ourth Student Recognition Award (May 2017, March 2021), the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) Good Citizen Scholarship Award (school and district), and attended the Hugh O'Brien Youth Leadership Conference (2019)

He plans to attend Illinois Valley Community College for two years, then transfer to a four-year school to major either in computer engineering or information technology. In the future, he hopes to find a job in the field of study he has chosen.



LHS Honor Students

LaMoille High School valedictorian is Calvin Deering, left, and salutatorian is Dylan Lovgren.

LaMoille High School 2021 Senior Class officers

Dylan Lovgren, President - Chloe Carroll- Vice President

Aiden Sondgeroth- Treasurer - Alaina Keighin- Secretary



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AMBOY HIGH SCHOOL

To the Class of 2021,

I invite you to look back and celebrate the hard work and dedication that has brought you to this day. Our high school experience, especially our junior and senior years, has been anything but conventional. Between shifting to remote learning, constantly rescheduling events, and adapting to new rules and regulations, we have continually been challenged. Through it all, we have made the most of the situation and undoubtedly emerged much stronger. Our resilience has been tested, but as we set out into the world in these unordinary times, I know with certainty that there is nothing we can not overcome.

Since the start of kindergarten, we have been working our way towards graduation, test after test, grade after grade, it has all been in pursuit of the prize - our diploma. And now, as we come to the last few days of our time at Amboy High School, we look ahead to what the future has to offer. Some of us will start a career or attend a trade school, while others will attend college or enlist in the military. Wherever your road leads, and however many times it may change course, we will always have each other, our memories, and the countless valuable lessons that we have learned over the years.

One of the greatest lessons that I have learned is gratitude, specifically as it relates to the value of the present. As an infamous captain once said, "It's not the destination, so much as the journey." These next few months will be a time of transition, and I challenge you all to aim high, work hard, embrace the unfamiliar, and live in the moment. In a couple of short weeks, we will sail out of the harbor one last time, not at the end of our horizon but at the very beginning of a new one.

Nick Tarr

Senior Class President

Amboy High School Class of 2021



AHS Senior Class Officers

Senior class officers are, left to right, Trevor Vaessen, treasurer; Brianna Blaine, secretary; Nicholas Tarr, president; and Ethan Larson, vice president.



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AHS TOP STUDENTS

The top 13 students of the Amboy High School Class of 2021 are Brianna Blaine, Preston Henkel, Brady Jones, Erin Latta, Madelyn McLaughlin, Brian Murphy, Abigail Payne, Mallory Powers, Matthew Raymond, Calvin Seier, Carter Seier, Nicholas Tarr and Trevor Vaessen.

Blaine is the daughter of Brian and Amanda Blaine of Ohio, Ill.

She is a member of the National Honor Society (vice president), Spanish Honor Society (treasurer), Leo's Club and is Class of 2021 secretary. She participated in basketball and volleyball. She received NUIC Academic All-Conference (sophomore & junior), October Student of the Month, 2021 Illinois State Scholar,

Illinois Principal's Association Student Leadership Award, Volleyball Serving Award (junior), and Most Improved Basketball Player (junior).

She plans to attend the University of Iowa in the fall and major in Human Physiology. In the future, she plans to become a physician or physician's assistant.

Preston Henkel is the son of Eric and Amanda Henkel of Amboy.

He is a four-year member of the football and baseball teams. He received Academic All-Conference and Triple Crown.

Jones is the son of Andy and Karen Jones of Amboy.

He participated in basketball and baseball all four years and in football for three years.

His future plans include getting into a trade of some sort. He is most interested



AHS Top Students

Amboy High School's top 13 students are, front row left to right, Erin Latta, Madelyn McLaughlin, Brianna Blaine, Mallory powers, Abigail Payne; back row, Brian Murphy, Brady Jones, Preston Henkel, Trevor Vaessen, Nicholas Tarr, and Ethan Larson. Not pictured are Matthew Raymond, Carter Seier, and Calvin Seier.

in becoming an electrician.

Latta is the daughter of Brad and Sue Latta of Amboy.

She participated in plays and musicals the last four years and won awards for her performance including Best Actress. She placed on the Academic Team for four years and was drum major of the band the last three years. She is a member of Spanish Honor Society (president) and National Honor Society (treasurer).

She will attend Sauk Valley Community College for two years and then hopes to transfer to University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign to finish her degree in Psychology.

McLaughlin is the daughter of Jim and Stephanie

McLaughlin of Amboy.

She is a four-year member of the volleyball and softball teams and a three-year member of the basketball team. She was Academic All-Conference (sophomore), is a member of National Honor Society (secretary) and Spanish Honor Society, Class of 2021 Prom Chair, Leo's Club member, Whiteside Area Career Center September Student of the Month, and Amboy High School March Student of the Month.

She plans to attend the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign to major in Elementary Education.

Murphy is the son of Jim and Michelle Murphy.

See AHS, Page B12

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05/26/2021

AMBOY HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES



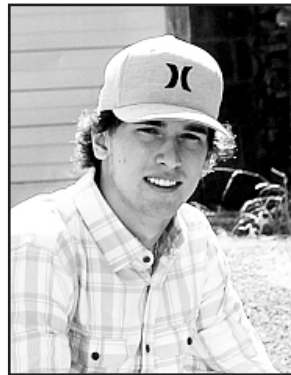
Joseph Ackert



Darla Appleman



Brianna Blaine



Lane Boehle



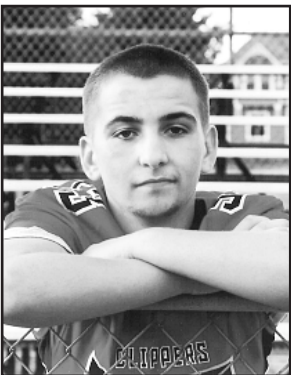
Christopher Costner



Tori Daniels



Joshua DeWaele



Bradley Gazza



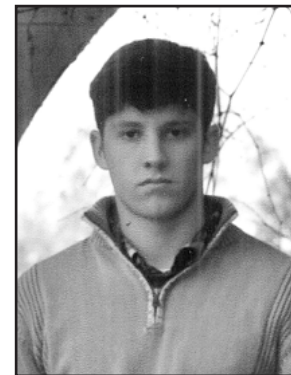
Makenzie Gerdes



Dashad Greene



Ian Hansel



Preston Henkel



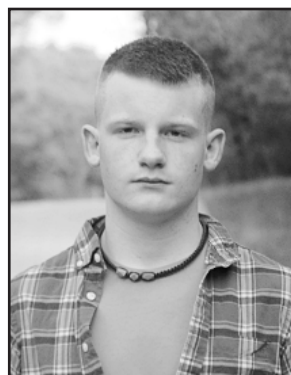
Madelyn Henry



Mariah Hoffman



Drake Hutson



Jordan Jacobs



Brady Jones



Gabrielle Jones



Gabrielle Ketchum



Makai King



Ethan Larson



Caden Latta



Erin Latta



Shelby Laws

AMBOY HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES



Emma Lewis



Eden Lindenmeyer



Margaret Lowery



Alexis McLain



Madelyn McLaughlin



Macy Mershon



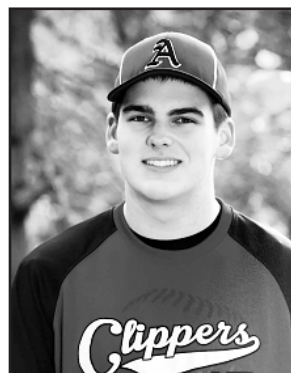
Ryleigha Miller



Florian Mimini



Frank Montantes



Brian Murphy



Eric Newberry



Abigayle Payne



Nicolas Pellens



Mallory Powers



Matthew Raymond



Calvin Seier



Carter Seier



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AMBOY HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES



Zachary Winters



Logan Wood



Darin Yocum



Trinity Zimmerly



AHS

Continued from Page B9

He participated in football, baseball, basketball, choir, and musicals. He was on the Honor Roll and received Most Improved in football.

He plans to attend Illinois State University in Bloomington and major in Computer Science.

Payne is the daughter of Chris and Kim Payne of Amboy.

She is a four-year member of the basketball team and in that sport, she was a three-time recipient of Unanimous 1st Team All-Conference, three-time recipient of 1st Team All-Area, two-time recipient of 2nd Team All-State, two-time IBCA 1st Team All-State, 2021 Sauk Valley Co Player of the Year, and 2020-2021 # ranked

team in the state. She was also a member of Leo's Club, National Honor Society and Spanish Honor Society, was on the Honor Roll four years and was Academic All-Conference.

She plans to attend Ripon College in Ripon, Wis. to continue her basketball and academic career majoring in Exercise Science. In the future, she hopes to become a physical education teacher.

Powers is the daughter of Dean and Mandy Powers of Amboy.

She is a four-year member of the basketball, volleyball and softball teams. She was named WREX Rockford Player of the Week in Basketball, Unanimous 1st Team All-Conference in Basketball and in Volleyball, AP 1st Team All-State in Basketball, and IBCA 1st

Team in Basketball. She was also a member of National Honor Society, Spanish Honor Society, and Leo's Club. She was November Student of the Month, Academic All-Conference and Sauk Valley Co-Player of the Year in Basketball.

She plans to attend Illinois Wesleyan University in Bloomington to continue her passion for playing basketball and major in Kinesiology.

Carter Seier is the son of Jeff and Staci Seier of Amboy.

He participated in FFA, baseball, and Spanish Honor Society. He was on Honor Roll four years and earned a Greenhand Degree in FFA.

He plans to attend Kishwaukee Community College to earn a degree or certificate and start working.

Tarr is the son of Andrew and Rachel Tarr of Amboy.

His extracurricular activities include Class President (9th-12th), Scholastic Bowl (9th-12th, captain 12th), Student Council (9th-12th, vice president 11th, President 12th) Spanish Honor Society (10th-12th, president 12th), FFA Parliamentary Procedure (secretary 11th), Leos Club (10th-12th, president 11th & 12th), daily announcement reader (11th), baseball (9th and 10th), announcer at volleyball games (10th), and golf (9th).

His awards include Illinois State Scholar (top 10 percent of students in Illinois), Illinois Principals Association Leadership Award, AHS Highest Honors (9th-12th), AHS September Student of the Month, FFA

Parliamentary Procedure Best Floor Member Overall at Regional competition, fall 2020 SVCC Dean's List, and College Board National Recognition Program.

His community activities include Salvation Army bell-ringer (2012-present), Amboy Fire Department Canned Food Drive (2013-present), St. Patrick's Catholic Church altar server (2011-Covid shut-down), American Red Cross Blood Drive donor (2019) and volunteer (2019-2021), Junior High Scholastic Bowl moderator (2020), Sublette Toy Show clean-up volunteer (2019) and Jack Mabley Center Pancake Breakfast volunteer (2018-2019).

His long-term goal is to earn the Certified Financial Planner (CFP) designation and work as a personal finan-

cial planner. He will attend Illinois State University to pursue a Bachelor's degree in Finance with a minor in Financial Planning.

Vaessen is the son of Nick and Susan Vaessen of West Brooklyn.

He is a four-year member of the basketball team and received Honorable Mention All-Conference/All-Area this season and various team awards the past four years. He is also a four-year member of the baseball team and a three-year member of the football team. He is a co-op student at Vaessen Brothers Chevrolet, Class of 2021 treasurer and NUIC Academic All-Conference.

He plans to get into the trades and is most interested in becoming a lineman or working for the wind turbines.

**Congratulations to the
Class of 2021 Graduates!**