

Class 2023

Wheatland • Hermitage Special Graduation Commemorative Section May 10, 2023

The Index

P.O. BOX 127 • Hermitage, Missouri 65668 • (417) 745-6404 • (417) 745-2222
theindex1885@gmail.com • hermitageindex.com



Hermitage class of 2023- The Hermitage Class of 2023 graduated Friday, May 5, at 7 p.m. in the high school gymnasium. There were 17 graduates, pictured in no particular order are Jaxin Wheeler, Savannah Bourcier, Jamal Chambers, Bryce Franse, Emily Hamilton, Justin Horn, Grace Newman, Meagan Nickerson, Garrett Peterson, Weston Piper, Lexus Rife, Evan Scott, Andrew Smith, Haley Stephens, Kori Wilkes, Noah Williams, and Kavon Wright. There were also two night school graduates: Makayla Dillon and Tiffany Happe.



Wheatland Class of 2023- The Wheatland Class of 2023 graduated Saturday, May 6, at 11 a.m. in the high school gymnasium. The graduating class of 18 included: Avery Adcock, Hailey Daniels, Delaney Dickenson, Ty Howerton, Owen Kenig, Caden Kron, Justyce Mobley, Justine Park, and John Payne (front); and Tyler Pederson, Michael Piper, Nicholas Prieto, Davin Sawyer, Samuel Stewart, Katherine Taylor, Jesse Tinsley, Lynze Walker, and Miranda West (back).

*Vernon Publishing Inc. extends congratulations
and best wishes to all our local seniors.*

Hermitage Seniors



Jaxin Blue Akins



Savannah Harley Rose Bourcier



Jamal LeShawn Chambers



Bryce Logan Franse



Emily Marie Hamilton



Justin Lee Horn



Grace Marjorie Newman



Meagan Marie Nickerson



Garrett Scott Peterson



Weston Lane Piper



Lexus Cedee Lynn Rife



Evan Michael Scott



Andrew Thomas Smith



Haleyanne Marie Stephens



Kori Ann Wilkes



Noah Cameron Williams



Kavon Michael Wright

Hermitage Class of 2023 Information

The Hermitage Class of 2023 Graduated Friday, May 5, 2023, with 17 students.

These students are:

Jaxin Akins
Savannah Bourcier- Class President
Jamal Chambers
Emily Hamilton
Justin Horn
Grace Newman

Meagan Nickerson- Class Vice President
Garrett Peterson
Weston Piper
Lexus Rife

Evan Scott- Class Treasurer
Andrew Smith

Haleyanne Stephens- Class Secretary
Kori Wilkes
Noah Williams
Kavon Wright

Night School Graduates: Makayla Dillon and Tiffany Happe

Superintendent: Dr. Justin Yates
High School Principal: Krissy Friedman
Guidance Counselor: Rachel Carter
Class Sponsors: Christy Dablemont and Leif Griffin
Class Motto: "Every new beginning comes from some other beginning's end."
-Seneca
Class Flower: White Rose
Class Colors: Black and White
Class Song: I'll Always Remember You" by Hannah Montana
Board of Education:
President Richard Turner,
Vice President Dylan Bollig,
Secretary Brook Jones,
Treasurer Tony Long,
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Real friends wear matching socks- Evan Scott and Andrew Smith wore special matching socks for their Hermitage Graduation socks Friday, May 5. They paused for a photo while getting ready.



Helping- Hermitage graduate Weston Piper, left, lets his girlfriend Bailey Kennedy fix the tassel on his graduation cap Friday, May 5, before the start of the 2023 graduation ceremony at 7 p.m. Graduates gathered in the cafeteria to get ready and take one last class photo.



Straighten your collar- Hermitage graduates Kori Wilkes adjusts the collar of her classmate Jaxin Akins, before the start of the 2023 graduation ceremony Friday, May 5, in the school's cafeteria.



Turning of the tassel- Hermitage graduates Kavon Wright and Haley Stephens are pictured turning their tassels at their graduation ceremony Friday, May 5. Graduates turned their tassels after receiving their diplomas as a symbol of passing from childhood into adulthood.



Helping hand- Meagan Nickerson helps Savannah Bourcier by buckling her heeled shoes in the Hermitage High School Cafeteria just before their walk across the stage at graduation Friday, May 5. The two graduates received Summa Cum Laude honors.

Congratulations Graduate!
Now is the perfect time to review your insurance and make sure your coverages are adequate for these changes.
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Hermitage Scholarship Recipients

Below is the list of graduating Hermitage seniors and the scholarships they have earned. Congratulations to these students on their academic success, and we at The Index Newspaper wish them all the best on their new journeys.

Megan Nickerson
Hagan Scholarship up to \$7,500 per semester
OCHC scholarship \$1,000
Hickory County Farmers Mutual \$500
Total: \$9,000

Jaxin Akins
Ozark Board of Realtors
Englehardt Scholarship \$1,000
Pomme de Terre Rendezvous \$1,000
Booster Club Scholarship \$400
FBLA Chapter Scholarship \$250
Total: \$2,650

Grace Newman
Clinton Scholarship \$1,000
JACE Scholarship \$500
Booster Club Scholarship \$400
Total: \$1,900

Weston Piper
Missouri Cattlemen's Association \$1,500
State Tech Scholarship Skills Competition \$1,500
Total: \$3,000

Garrett Peterson
Workforce Scholarship \$1,000
MWI Welding Competition Scholarship \$1,000
Total: \$2,000

Justin Horn
State Fair Athletic Scholarship \$1,500
CTA Scholarship \$200
Finish Line Scholarship \$500
Total: \$2,200

Savannah Bourcier
State FBLA scholarship \$400
MSU Provost Scholarship \$1,500
MSU Provost Housing \$500
Access Xtra Scholarship \$2,000
NHS CBCO Scholarship \$300
Total: \$4,700

Kavon Wright
Graceland Athletic Scholarship for Cross Country Finish Line Scholarship \$500
Total: \$500

Bryce Franse
\$1,000 MWI Welding Competition scholarship
Total: \$1,000

Haley Stephens
Oakstar Bank Good Citizenship \$1,500
Morgan Anderson Scholarship \$100
Total: \$1,600

Evan Scott
Alumni Scholarship \$1,000
Total: \$1,000

Total earned scholarship amount: \$29,800



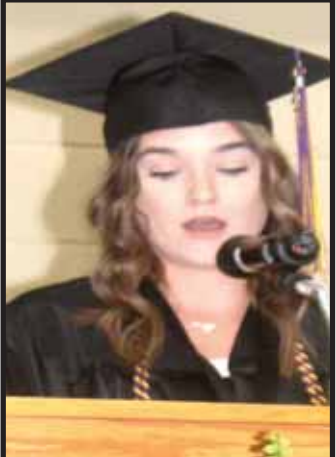
Meagan Nickerson



Grace Newman



Savannah Bourcier



Haley Stephens

Summa Cum Laude Speakers- Four of the five Summa Cum Laude graduates at Hermitage R-IV delivered short addresses during the graduation ceremony Friday, May 5. Those speakers were Meagan Nickerson, Grace Newman, Savannah Bourcier, and Haley Stephens. The other Summa Cum Laude recipient was Jaxin Akins.

Summa Cum Laude Address Savannah Bourcier

Thank you all for being here. I am honored to be standing here, speaking to you tonight.

Call me ambitious, but I started writing this speech August 21st, 2019, the day before I started high school. Now obviously, looking back, that speech was awful. I was 14, and had no real idea how to write, but the idea was there then, just as it is now. I was so nervous, but so insanely excited for what high school could be. While the past four years have been hard, and full of more ups and downs than I could possibly count, I can now safely say that the excitement my younger self held was certainly well founded. I am incredibly thankful to everyone and everything that made these years what they have been.

Thank you to this town, this

school, this place that raised me. I wish that I could thank everybody here who shaped the person that I am today, but none of us have the time for that. To all of you who have made an impact on my life, I am incredibly thankful for all that you have done for me, and I will forever be in your debt for that.

I have grown up in this school since I was three years old, I can hardly remember a time before it, and now I have to figure out what I'm supposed to do now that these years are my before. I have been excited for a break from school at the end of every year, but I always held some comfort that in three short months, I would be back here, in this place that I love. This year, I don't have that, I don't get to come back.

To all the people who have told me that these years would fly by, you were right. To all the people here who will be coming back in the fall, cherish the time that you have left, no matter how long that is.

And to my class, thank you for the memories, as I have times with each and every one of you that I pray I will never forget, due to all the years we have spent together.

Jaxin, Grace, Garrett, Weston, Evan, Andrew, and myself have been here since Kindergarten or before. Meagan joined us at the very end of first grade, Justin two years later in third grade. Bryce joined the following year in fourth grade. Jamal joined us in sixth grade, though it took a few years to meet him. Emily and Haley joined us in the

sixth grade as well, and while Kori is a bit of a grey area, as far as I'm concerned she joined us then too. Kavon joined us in seventh grade, Noah joined our Freshman year, and last but not least, Lexi joined us last year. Regardless of when you joined this class, you have all had an effect on me. While I'm sure I'll see some of you tomorrow, there are some of you that I wonder if I will ever see again. But either category you fall into, I am grateful to have known you. We don't know what the future may hold for us, but I am certain that this next chapter is bright. For this class, that over the past 15 years has become my family: Here's to us.

Grace Newman

Wow, all these years and here it is. I've been anxiously waiting for this day since the 10th grade. But as the days drew closer, the decisions got harder to make, and the goodbyes got harder to say. I thought about what I would stand up here and say to everyone. Little did I know this would be the hardest assignment yet. Hermitage has been by my second home, I've spent my whole life here. So thank you to the teachers who watched me grow from a sassy little girl to the reason I am today. Miss. Yowell, thank you for always giving me the advice I needed even if I didn't

want to hear it.

Mrs. Krissy, I will miss our talks, laughs, and crys. I always knew I could cry to you for anything. To Mrs. Salmon, you became my school mom. Whether I needed to rant or cry, you were always there to encourage and inspire me.

To my family: Mom, thank you for always being my safe space. When I came home yelling or upset you always did your best to let me know it would be okay no matter what happened and that you would always be there to love and support me. Dad, thank you for pushing me to be my

best, You never failed to show up when I needed you. You taught me respect and to have my own voice. To my sisters, I watched you both walk across this same stage. You guys were always there to give me advice, make me laugh, and gave me two shoulders I knew I could always cry on. Thank you.

And to the Class of 2023, starting preschool with some of you to now closing this chapter of our life that seemed so far away is crazy. We learned to lean on each other, through the good days and bad. I always knew I could count on you guys no matter what hap-

pened. As our time together got shorter our bonds grew stronger. All the memories, secrets, and inside jokes we have with each other will always be special. Every one of you are capable of doing beautiful and great things. Thank you for all being a part in my life, without all these people I would not be who I am today. Each person I mentioned and the ones who I didn't all played a part in getting me here and walking across this stage. The time I spent here will always be with me, and I wouldn't want it any other way. Thank you!

Haleyanne Stephens

As we graduate today, it took the power of hard work, determination, and everyone that's helped us along the way. We have all worked so hard to get here, and I know that you'll

continue to do great things in the future. Remember to always stay true to yourself and your passions.

Life is full of ups and downs, but with perseverance and

a positive attitude, you can achieve anything. This is a huge milestone!

Remember to always follow your dreams and never give up. The future is full of wonderful

possibilities and opportunities, so go out there and make the most of it.

Congratulations to everyone, and good luck on your next adventure!

Meagan Nickerson

Good evening everyone. I would like to start by thanking every person here for joining us in this celebration of the class of 2023, where I am honored to be speaking tonight. Graduation is something I thought would never come, but man it came fast.

Mrs. Salmon said all year don't blink, but I did and here we are. Something that we have been waiting for since freshman year came way too fast, and I'm not even sure if the thought of never walking these halls again has really settled in yet. Many of us have been here since elementary or even head start, so needless to say we have

been raised together, and with that comes so many memories. Whether it be the time we had to have a "talk" about dating in the second grade, the time we all got detention for talking too much in middle school, or the countless memories we have made as seniors this year, we have so many memories under this roof.

Despite saying how ready we are to leave, we are going to miss this.

It is time to start a new chapter in our lives as we go into adulthood and split ways. Whether it be going to college or starting in the workforce I wish every single one of you

the best, and hope to see you all once in a while after we leave.

To my teachers, staff and coaches I have had through the years, thank you for putting up with me, for putting up with all of us. I know we weren't always the easiest to get along with, but we made it through, and we couldn't have done it without you. To my mom and dad, thank you guys for being there for me through everything. Thank you for the undivided love and support, the late night talks and all the advice you have given me. You have truly guided me through these years of my life, and I know

this will never stop. I love you guys with all my heart.

And to us, the Class of 2023, we have all grown into the amazing people we are today, and have overcome all of the obstacles we have faced. If you told me a few years ago that I would be standing on this stage talking to you all tonight. I wouldn't have ever begun to believe you. We have all come so far, but never forget where we came from. Let's go out there and live the lives we have always wanted to, follow that dream, take that chance, because in this life "The only impossible journey is the one you never begin." - Tony Robbins.



Singing- Kori Wilkes sang the National Anthem Friday, May 5, during the start of the Hermitage Graduation Ceremony. Wilkes was one of 17 graduates who was part of the class of 2023.



Yates- Hermitage Superintendent Justin Yates spoke during the graduation ceremony Friday, May 5, where he described the class with the word "Authentic" and spoke about their qualities.



Carter- Hermitage Guidance Counselor Rachel Carter spoke at the Hermitage graduation Friday, May 5, where she presented the scholarships to several graduating seniors.



Friedman- Hermitage High School Principal Krisy Friedman spoke briefly during the graduation ceremony Friday, May 5, addressing the graduates and reminiscing over the years.

“Every New Beginning Comes From Some Other Beginning’s End”- Seneca

Hermitage class of 2023 Class Motto

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Hermitage graduates 17

Hermitage R-IV graduated 17 students Friday, May 5, at 7 p.m. The Class of 2023 walked through the gymnasium in a procession set to the tradition of “Pomp and Circumstance” by Edward Elgar, surrounded by family and friends. Once each was seated in their assigned location, Kori Wilkes led the crowd in singing the National Anthem. Following Grace Newman gave the invocation.

Superintendent Justin Yates took to the podium to welcome everyone and thank them for coming, as well as share a few words about the senior class. As has become tradition, Yates selected a word he felt best described the class. This year that word was “Authenticity.”

“This is a group that knows they can make the right decisions—big and small—because they stay grounded in who they are and who they can become. Their sense of ownership and inner power gives them the courage to accept themselves fully—the good, the bad, and everything in between. Through many trial and struggled you developed this authenticity to say I am me and I am going to become a person that will make this world a better place,” Yates stated.

“Learning together, achieving together, our mission, is a philosophy for building a circle of life-long friends and it is through many of these relationships you will find support, friendship, loyalty, and purpose in your lives. As you sit here, ready to walk across this stage in front of all these people who have supported you along your journey, just remember that you journey and their support does not end here and this is only one step in your path to success. Together. Success. What does that really mean? How do you measure it? Whose definition do you use?” Yates continued. “As I look at this class, I have no fear that each of you will define success in a very personalized and highly authentic way. I hope you also stop at some point and reflect on the importance that education, friendship, and love has had during your journey and think of your time here as a hornet, fondly. But remember you are always welcome to return to this place where you learned to walk the Hornet Way with a Hornet family that loves you as part a Hornet Nation that supports you and is forever proud to call you a Hornet Alumni.”

High School Principal Krisy Friedman spoke next also offering a few words on the class. She recalled the addition of each new student to the class.

“It didn’t really matter when they joined the class once they were a part of the group they were part of the Hornet family. Because of that, I have so many memories with them that it is hard to pick just a few. Or that some make me feel old like the fact that Andrew was one of my first PAT visits. Some make me laugh when I remember that Weston looked Ms. Deanna in the toy shed on the playground in PreK. Throughout elementary and on into middle school they continued to stack up many memories with each other as well as the staff. Recently Meagan reminded me that most of them earned detention in middle school as a whole class. But as they headed into high school Savannah, Meagan, and Grace definitely spent many hours in my office schooling me on all the things principal needed to know and going to bat for their classmates from time to time. However, my favorite memories are always the ones we make on senior trip. This year was no different. Some of my favorites were when you spent your rainy day watching cartoons and having a nerf gun

war. I also enjoyed watching you dance and sign when we went to dinner at the Hangout and listening to Jamal tell us all his jokes. But, lastly, it was our trip back when you all got hangry because it took us three tries to find a restaurant to seat such a large group.”

She continued, “Being their principal has been an honor. I have enjoyed watching them grow academically, athletically and mature into the amazing young adults that are before you today. All of these students have shown me that no matter what obstacles have been placed in their path with encouragement from teachers, family members and friends that they can overcome all of these things and reach their goals. These traits will take you far in your future endeavors and I hope you always passionately strive for all your goals and remember all those that helped you get to where you are. Many times you’ve shown us how to dedicated you can be and as you move into the next chapter of your life, remember to work hard for the things you want, but also make sure you do what you love and what makes your happy because I know you will all do great things in all your future endeavors.”

Following the comments from the school administration, they recognized their honors graduates. Graduating Cum Laude with GPAs of 3.5-3.74 were Garrett Peterson, Andrew Smith, and Justin Horn. Graduating Magna Cum Laude with GPAs of 3.75-3.99 were Weston Piper and Evan Scott. Graduating Summa Cum Laude with GPAs of 4.0 and above were Savannah Bourcier, Meagan Nickerson, Grace Newman, Jaxin Akins, and Haleyanne Stephens. Receiving Honors diplomas was Bourcier, Nickerson, Newman, and Akins. Graduating as members of the National Honor Society were Bourcier, Nickerson, Newman, and Akins. And graduating with A+ Scholarship are Newman, Akins, Stephens, Piper, Scott, Horn, and Wilkes.

Summa Cum Laude graduates Stephens, Newman, Nickerson, and Bourcier each delivered short Summa Cum Laude addresses, which can be read elsewhere in their graduation sections.

Following was the traditional senior class video, which was introduced by class treasurer Evan Scott. It was set to three songs: “Long Live” by Taylor Swift, “The Climb” by Miley Cyrus, and “Count On Me,” by Bruno Mars. The video depicted individual photos of each senior as they grew up and their time together as a class.

After the end of the video they had the presentation of special awards, which included giving away all the scholarship that had been earned by the students. The awards were given out by Guidance Counselor Rachel Carter and Friedman. The Presentation of Flowers ceremony followed where the graduates presented their class flowers, a white rose, to their friends and families as thank you gifts. As they walked through the crowd looking for their loved ones, the graduates listed to the class song “I’ll Always Remember You,” by Hannah Montana.

Wrapping up the ceremony Board of Education President Richard Turner presented diplomas to each of the graduates. Once the former students had received the special document they’d spent their whole lives working towards, the stepped off to the side to turn their tassels, symbolizing their passage from childhood into adulthood, and paused for pictures. Friedman then presented the Class of 2023 who tossed their hats high into the air. The class then left to “Pomp and Circumstances.”



Honor graduates- Hermitage R-IV hosted its 2023 graduation Friday, May 5. Five students graduated with Summa Cum Laude honors (4.0 and above GPA): Savannah Bourcier, Meagan Nickerson, Grace Newman, Jaxin Akins. Two graduated with Magna Cum Laude honors (3.75-3.99 GPA): Weston Piper and Evan Scott. Three graduated Cum Laude (3.5-3.74 GPA): Garrett Peterson, Andrew Smith, and Justin Horn. Presenting the honor was high school principal Krisy Friedman.



Friend's saying goodbye- Hermitage graduate Lexi Rife talks with her friends Hailey Weathers, Madi Harris, and Amparo Payne after graduating Friday, May 5.



Hey brother- Justin Horn hugs his older brother, Matt, Friday, May 5, during the Hermitage graduation ceremony while passing out flowers.



A+ Graduates- Jaxin Akins, Justin Horn, Grace Newman, Weston Piper, Kori Wilkes, Evan Scott, and Haley Stephens graduated with A+ Scholarships Friday, May 5.



Congrats man!- Hermitage graduate Evan Scott hugs his friend, 2022 Alumna Bradley Forrest, after graduating Friday, May 5.



Thank you- Hermitage graduate Grace Newman hugs principal Krisy Friedman during the flower ceremony of the Hermitage graduation Friday, May 5. The Hermitage class of 2023 presented their class flower, a white rose, to family, friends, teachers, and loved ones while their class song, “I Will Remember You,” by Hannah Montana played.



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John
Payne



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Park



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Wheatland graduates attend Baccalaureate

Eleven of eighteen Wheatland R-II Class of 2023 graduates attended Baccalaureate at Galmey Community Bible Church Wednesday, May 3. The sermon was provided by Pastor Greg Judy.

The senior class started the procession to the sanctuary at 6:30 p.m. Pastor Greg Judy welcomed the seniors, and their families.

Larry Wilson followed with a prayer of protection, and well wishes for the seniors. He prayed, "We pray that You will guide them, and direct them, and touch them with Your saving grace." He prayed for the comfort of the graduates' parents, and that the graduates would always live a Christian life.

Frank Groshong shared scripture from 1 Timothy 4:12, Jeremiah 29:11, and Isaiah 40:31. The scriptures provide promises from God to comfort, and guide the seniors as they take the next steps in life, and Bob Phillips led everyone in a hymn, "God will take care of you."

Pastor Greg Judy began his sermon by asking the seniors a question, "Where are your emotions right now?" He reminded them that, "Up until this moment others have plotted your course." He challenged them to, "Chase the kind of success that God gives, and not what the world provides." He talked about the sinful nature of the world, and how as Christians their most important goal should be to follow God, their Father.

Pastor Judy told a story from his young adult life. He referenced a time when he made a decision on his own, without seeking the thoughts and opinions of his father. He said that it was one of the worst decisions he ever made. If only he had sought counsel from his father, he might have avoided the problems that he later faced as a result.

He urged the seniors to seek God's advice in any decision they make. Judy shared scripture as his most valuable advice to the graduates. He said, "I chose these verses over 50 years ago to be my life verses, and I have never changed them." He shared Proverbs 3:5-6, and broke the verses down into the three directions and one promise that are given.

The directions were to, "Trust in the Lord, lean not on your own understanding, and in all of your ways acknowledge him." The promise is, "He shall direct your path."

Pastor Judy closed the service with a prayer. He thanked God for them, and prayed that God would give them favor and blessings, and that God would speak to their hearts.



Class of 2023- Eleven members of the Wheatland High School Class of 2023 attended the annual Baccalaureate service at Galmey Community Bible Church Wednesday, May 3. Participating graduates included: Justine Park, Delaney Dickenson, Miranda West, and Avery Adcock (front); and Lynze Walker, Jesse Tinsley, Katherine Taylor, Samuel Stewart, Davin Sawyer, Michael Piper, and Owen Kenig (back).



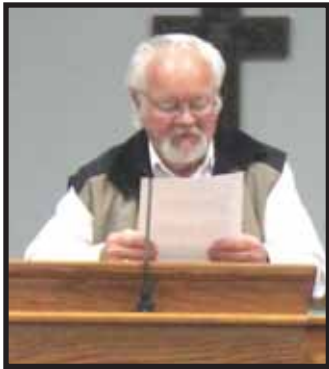
Taking it all in- Wheatland High School graduates sat together taking in the message from Pastor Greg Judy during Baccalaureate services at Galmey Community Bible Church Wednesday, May 3.



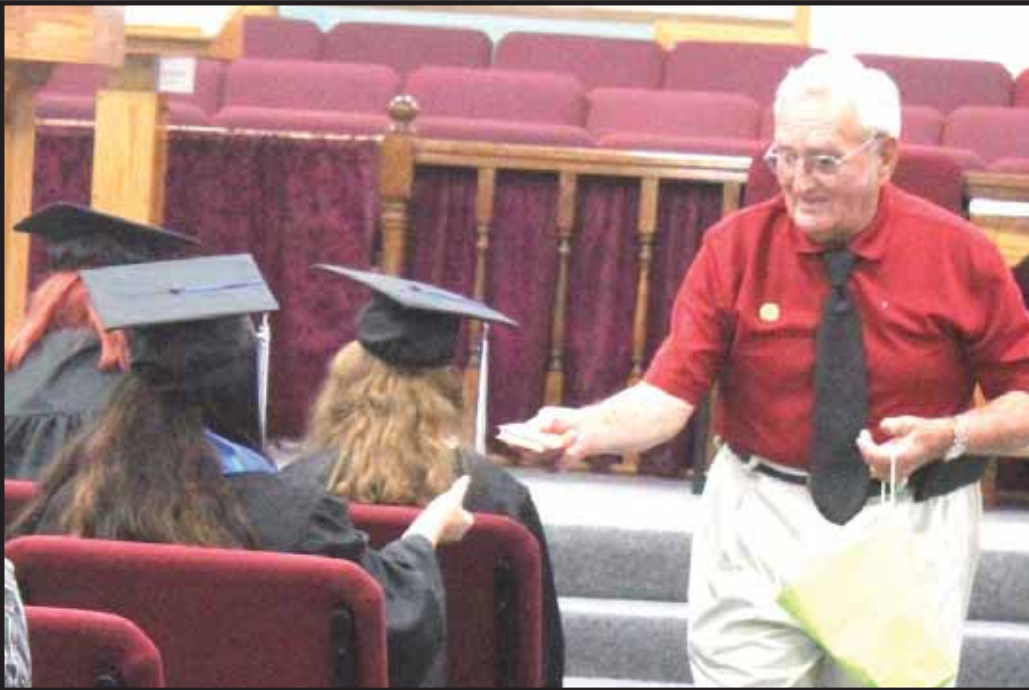
We walk together- Wheatland graduates walked single file for one of the last times to begin Baccalaureate at Galmey Community Bible Church Wednesday, May 3. Pictured are Miranda West, Jesse Tinsley, and Lynze Walker.



Sharing the message- Pastor Greg Judy provided a message on the importance of seeking God's direction in every decision made during the Wheatland Baccalaureate services at Galmey Community Bible Church Wednesday, May 3.



Scripture- Frank Groshong read three passages of scripture to the Wheatland graduates including 1 Timothy 4:12, Isaiah 43:19, and Isaiah 40:31 during Baccalaureate at Galmey Community Bible Church Wednesday, May 3.



Precious Gifts- Billy Pearson gifted each Wheatland senior a Bible to take with them and keep close by as they take their next steps in life during the Baccalaureate services at Galmey Community Bible Church Wednesday, May 3. Pearson shared, "Mothers, you should come find me after because I have Bibles for you too. You're going to need them."



Prayers of protection- Larry Wilson provided the prayer during the Wheatland High School Baccalaureate celebrating the Class of 2023 at Galmey Community Bible Church Wednesday, May 3. Wilson prayed, "We ask that you will place your protective hand over each of these



God will take care of you- Bob Phillips led guests and Wheatland High School seniors in the hymn "God will take care of you" during Wheatland's Baccalaureate at Galmey Community Bible Church Wednesday, May 3.

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Wheatland graduates Class of 2023

Wheatland R-II School district held its 2023 Commencement Ceremony graduating 18 seniors Saturday, May 6. The graduating class included: Avery Adcock, Hailey Daniels, Delaney Dickenson, Ty howerton, Owen Kenig, Caden Kron, Justyce Mobley, Justine Park, John Payne, Tyler Pederson, Michael Piper, Nicholas Prieto, Davin Sawyer, Samuel Stewart, Katherine Taylor, Jesse Tinsley, Lynze Walker, and Miranda West.

The ceremony began with the procession of the Wheatland High School Class of 2023 to the traditional tune of Pomp and Circumstance. Wheatland School Board President TJ Sawyer provided the invocation. His prayer for the seniors centering around their protection and God's provision over their lives.

Superintendent Jared Wallace welcomed guests to the graduation ceremony. Wallace addressed the seniors, reminding them to be kind to themselves, and in turn to treat people with kindness as they step out into the world. He implored them to embrace the journey of their lives to come. He said, "Enjoy today, and know that we are so thankful for you."

Principal Matt Gunter and Counselor Jacy Lewis presented the 2023 honor graduates. Summa Cum Laude honor

graduates included Salutatorian Katherine Taylor and Valedictorian Miranda West. Magna Cum Laude honor graduates included Justine Park, Michael Piper, Davin Sawyer, Jesse Tinsley, and Lynze Walker. Cum Laude graduates included Avery Adcock, Delaney Dickenson, and Caden Kron.

Valedictorian Miranda West and Salutatorian Katie Taylor provided their farewell addresses to the Class of 2023. Taylor urged her classmates to be uniquely themselves and to flaunt their individuality. West shared memories from her time in the halls of Wheatland High School, and encouraged her classmates to never to forget where they began. Both addresses may be found at the bottom of this page.

Mrs. Jacy Lewis presented scholarships and awards. Eight students were granted A+ Scholarships including Avery Adcock, Owen Kenig, Justine Park, Michael Piper, Davin Sawyer, Katie Taylor, Lynze Walker, and Miranda West.

Davin Sawyer also received the Booster Club, Shelter Insurance, OakStar Good Citizenship, and College of the Ozarks Tuition Assurance Scholarships. Hailey Daniels received the Duke Transportation LLC Scholarship. Michael Piper received the Duke Transportation LLC as well as

the \$500 Ruby Griffin Memorial Scholarship. Avery Adcock received a Booster Club scholarship as well. Jesse Tinsley received a last minute \$18,000 per year Provost Scholarship from Drury University.

KJ Griffin, Ruby's sister, presented the Ruby Griffin Memorial Scholarship, and Sara Box from OakStar Bank presented their Good Citizen Scholarship.

A slideshow was presented of the graduates through the years. The presentation featured the songs, "My Wish" by Rascal Flatts, "You're Gonna Miss This" by Trace Adkins, and "See You Again" by Wiz Khalifa featuring Charlie Puth.

The presentation of flowers was done to the songs, "Humble and Kind" by Tim McGraw, and "Five More Minutes" by Scotty McCreery.

Mr. Matt Gunter presented the Class of 2023 that had met the requirements of the District and the State of Missouri. The class completed the traditional turning of tassels before Mr. TJ Sawyer and Mr. Matt Gunter completed the presentation of diplomas.

The Class of 2023 again completed a standing tradition by tossing their caps, and exited the gym together for the last time to the song, "Unwritten" by Natasha Bedingfield.



Summa Cum Laude- Principal Matt Gunter presented Miranda West and Katherine Taylor with their Summa Cum Laude medals at the Wheatland Class of 2023 Commencement Ceremony in the high school gymnasium Saturday, May 8.



Welcome-Superintendent Jared Wallace welcomed students and guests at the Wheatland Class of 2023 Commencement Ceremony in the high school gymnasium Saturday, May 8.



Procession- Wheatland seniors Delaney Dickenson and Jesse Tinsley entered the gym together at the Wheatland Class of 2023 Commencement Ceremony Saturday, May 8. The young ladies shared a smile as they walked together.



Friendships that last a lifetime- Seniors Miranda West and Avery Adcock shared a moment of celebration with their signature handshake coming back down the aisle at the Wheatland Class of 2023 Commencement Ceremony in the high school gymnasium Saturday, May 8.



Cum Laude- Wheatland seniors Avery Adcock, Delaney Dickenson, and Caden Kron received their Cum Laude medals during the Wheatland Class of 2023 Commencement Ceremony in the high school gymnasium Saturday,



Salutatorian- Wheatland Salutatorian Katherine Taylor shared a speech during the Wheatland Class of 2023 Commencement Ceremony in the high school gymnasium Saturday, May 8. Taylor's speech centered around the student's individuality, and how important their unique character



Valedictorian- Wheatland Valedictorian Miranda West addressed her fellow classmates at the Wheatland Class of 2023 Commencement Ceremony in the high school gymnasium Saturday, May 8. She gave thanks in her address to the many people who helped her become the young

2023 Valedictorian Farewell Address

By Miranda West

Good morning friends, family, faculty, and most importantly the class of 2023.

I am Miranda West, and I am proud to speak on behalf of the senior class as valedictorian. First, I would like to take a moment to thank the teachers who pushed us to succeed, the parents and guardians that raised us, the counselor who has stuck by us, and all of the friends we have made along the way. I especially want to give a huge thanks to the strongest, most kind hearted woman in my life, my Mom, and my biggest supporter from heaven, my Dad. I could not be more thankful for them, and my amazing siblings who have non-stop nagged at me, and constantly pushed me out of my comfort zone. Without you guys I wouldn't be half the person I am today. Last but not least, I want to give a big thanks to each of my fellow classmates for playing such an important, and special role in my life.

Now to my fellow graduates, we made it! We are officially done with high school. The past four years here have been some of the best, and worst times in our lives. In the past four years we have learned so much about ourselves, and each other. We have all shared many laughs, tears, and inside jokes throughout the walls of this school.

As we have all seen, a lot can change in such a short amount of time. High school has truly been what you make of it. It's not everyday that you'll find a dead mouse in your locker by a bunch of boys, or see the furniture of one classroom dispersed into different rooms in the school. It's the little moments that have the biggest impact.

If I have learned one thing from high school it would be that life is way too short to be crying over a failed test, or your failed high school relationship. The future has so much in store for each of us. Life is going to bring disappointment, and difficulties, but when one door closes there is sure to be another one that opens filled with opportunity and success. Endings are inevitable, and high school was never meant to last forever. As we go into this next chapter in our lives, may we never forget where we began. I wish each of you the best, and hope your futures are filled with greatness. I have faith that this class will go far.

I would like to say one last thing, a quote that has stuck by me throughout my time in high school. As Elle Woods said, "You must always have faith in people, and most importantly, you must always have faith in yourself."

Congratulations class of 2023!

We made it!

2023 Salutatorian Address

By Katie Taylor

Welcome again everyone. I am Katie Taylor, President and Salutatorian of Wheatland High School's class of 2023.

Before I begin, I have some well deserved thank yous: I would like to thank my parents, my dad for having my back, and always being my ranting buddy; and my mom for being my biggest fan, and pushing me to become the best version of myself through the extreme changes, challenges, and triumphs of high school. I am proud to be your daughter. Also, my sister, for giving me guidance, stability, and someone to surpass in my accomplishments. (For the record, I win.) Thank you to our awesome Sponsors for making our dreams come true for our Senior Year: Mrs. Egan, Mr. Meeks, Mrs. Newman, and Mrs. Henderson. My gratitude is forever extended to the beloved teachers, and staff who have been major role models in our journey. And a very, very special thank you to my classmates, I wouldn't be here without you all.

Now, I would like to ask a small favor of everyone in the room. Everyone have a look to the person on your left and say: "You did great." And now to your right say, "I'm proud of you." I hope this turns your attention to the fact that this ceremony not only celebrates us graduates, but also celebrates everyone attending today. Parents, grandparents, teachers and staff, friends, and other family. We celebrate you too. We celebrate the hard work, the dedication, the tears, and the laughter, the ups and the downs that pushed us to our goal: Graduation Day.

Don't ask me how I still remember this, but when I was in Kindergarten (I think), I have a vivid memory of asking my teacher, who was Mrs. McGrady at the time, "what year will I graduate?" After a moment of thinking, she replied, "2023." Back then this seemed like centuries before I would walk across the stage. But here I am. All those centuries in the future, wearing the ever-so-famous cap and gown. This was my biggest dream. I used to watch other seniors walk down Wheatland's hallway to the sound of Pomp and Circumstance, and it somehow always sent a chill down my spine.

In my opinion, the high school graduation is the most memorable, and the most valuable. We celebrate our growth into who we are at 17 and 18 years old. We celebrate the experiences of driver's tests, first loves, and heart breaks, the rush of pep rallies, intense homecoming games, and the

hard-hitting reality of senior nights.

Nothing could have prepared us for the unpredictable events Wheatland's walls held. We experienced the path of righteousness that are the wonderful teenage years! Things like the constant battle to make your mark against the impending fear of failure. But nevertheless we pushed along, and persevered.

Though we had our struggles, nothing compares to the feeling of accomplishment this moment holds. I love that I can feel the presence of fulfillment, and glory radiating in this room.

To my senior class, I hope you step out of this gymnasium with a strong sense of pride in where you come from, and what you're capable of. Remember that you're so much stronger than you could ever know.

Because within each one of you I see a plethora of uniquely human traits. To name a few, I see how forgiving Avery's soul is, how honest and understanding Owen is, how loyal and brave Jesse is, how unpredictable and crazy Ty can get, and how loving yet equally threatening Delaney is. It's so unreal to me how I ended up with such amazing classmates.

But most of all, I want you to walk out of here flaunting your individuality. Show this world that you're ready for anything, and take the bull by the horns.

I'll share with you these words of advice: take your life, and make it yours. You are in control, and you write your story. Follow through, show up, and take every opportunity. Because that's us, this is who we are.

We are the future. We're future firefighters, physical therapists, beauticians, baseball stars, designers, mechanics, travelers, and even the freaking national guard.

Lastly, I have a one final quote for the seniors, from one of the most creative poets of our time, Mr. Worldwide himself: "Every day above ground is a great day, remember that."

I'm so proud to be standing here with all of you today. Thank you. Thank you so much for being yourselves, and growing alongside me all of these years. You are all the strongest, weirdest, and some of the best people I know. I wish nothing but the absolute best for you, and your future endeavors. I love you guys so much. And with that I sign off— Congratulations class of 2023, we did it!



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Prayers for the future- Hermitage R-IV seniors bowed their head in prayer led by their classmate, Grace Newman, during the 2023 graduation ceremony Friday, May 5. Before Newman gave the invocation, Kori Wilkes led the crowd in singing the National Anthem. Seventeen students graduated this year from Hermitage.



Honors diplomas- Jaxin Akins, Savannah Bourcier, and Meagan Nickerson were presented with honors diplomas during the Hermitage R-IV 2023 graduation ceremony Friday, May 5. Presenting them with their diplomas was High School Principal Krissy Friedman. The three students were also Summa Cum Laude graduates with 4.0 or above GPAs.



A gift for you- Jenny Elam is pictured presenting Hermitage graduate Jamal Chambers with a gift on the day of his graduation Friday, May 5. It was a hand crafted American flag plaque designed by Elam and her husband, Larry. Chambers volunteers for Central Hickory Fire and Rescue, of which both Elams also volunteer, and several of the firefighters came to show Chambers support during this milestone moment. The gift was given in the cafeteria after the conclusion of the ceremony.



Congratulation Garrett- Hermitage Senior Garrett Peterson graduated with 16 of his classmates Friday, May 5. Presenting Peterson his diploma is Hermitage R-IV Board of Education President Richard Turner. The ceremony began at 7 p.m. and ended around 8:15 p.m. Peterson also earned \$2,000 in scholarships.



A token of appreciation- Hermitage graduates spread out among the crowd to present their class flowers, a white rose, to their loved ones during the graduation ceremony Friday, May 5. As they passed out flowers their class song, Hannah Montana's "I'll Always Remember You," played.



Presenting the Hermitage class of 2023- Seventeen students graduated from Hermitage R-IV Friday, May 5, at 7 p.m. in the high school gymnasium. As High School Principal Krissy Friedman presented the class following the ceremony the graduates threw their caps high into the air while the crowd erupted into applause and cheers. They later gathered in the cafeteria to individually congratulate each student.



A+ Scholarship - Wheatland R-II graduated eight A+ students in the Class of 2023. Those students include Avery Adcock, Owen Kenig, Michael Piper, Davin Sawyer, Katie Taylor, Lynze Walker, and Miranda West. Also not pictured Justine Park. The students were recognized at the Wheatland Class of 2023 Commencement Ceremony in the high school gymnasium Saturday, May 8.



Hold on tight- Wheatland graduate Davin Sawyer took a few moments to hug a loved one during the flower ceremony at the Wheatland Class of 2023 Commencement Ceremony in the high school gymnasium Saturday, May 8.



Scholarly- Scholarship recipient senior Miranda West shook hands with Principal Matt Gunter and collected her scholarships during the Wheatland Class of 2023 Commencement Ceremony in the high school gymnasium Saturday, May 8.



They did it- Wheatland graduates Lynze Walker and Hailey Daniels shared in the joy of the official end of high school as they walked back down the aisle at the Wheatland Class of 2023 Commencement Ceremony in the high school gymnasium Saturday, May 8.



Good Citizen- Sara Box from OakStar Bank presented the OakStar Bank Good Citizen Scholarship to Davin Sawyer at the Wheatland Class of 2023 Commencement Ceremony in the high school gymnasium Saturday, May 8.



Ruby Griffin Memorial Scholarship- KJ Griffin (left) awarded Michael Piper (right) the Ruby Griffin Memorial Scholarship during the Wheatland Class of 2023 Commencement Ceremony in the high school gymnasium Saturday, May 8.



Soaking it all in- Wheatland senior John Payne took it all in as he walked down the graduation aisle after the Wheatland Class of 2023 Commencement Ceremony in the high school gymnasium Saturday, May 8.

2023 class

Skyline • Weaubleau Special Graduation Commemorative Section May 17, 2023

The Index

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Skyline Class of 2023- The Skyline Class of 2023 graduated Friday, May 12, at 7 p.m. in the high school gymnasium. The class was made up of 52 students. The Salutatorian was Kaia Trujillo, and the Valedictorian was Aaliyah Walls. The students also participated in a flower presentation during the ceremony where they presented red roses to their family, friends, teachers, and other supporters as a token of thanks. This was done to the songs "The Climb" by Miley Cyrus and "I Lived" by OneRepublic. **Photo provided by Kim Logan.**



Weaubleau Class of 2023- The Weaubleau Class of 2023 graduated Friday, May 12, at 7 p.m. in the high school gymnasium. The graduating class of 20 included: Madalynn Hackleman, Meraiah Fowler, Raven Weyant, Belinda Navarro, and Lily Lambeth (front); Benjamin Srch, Miller Hoelscher, Madison Hensley, Julia Weaver, Sydney Paxman, and Madison Delmont (middle); and Christopher Srch, Richard Wendleton, Cole Trussell, Branden Sexton, Hannah Melvin, Miachael Argueta, and Haedyn Chism (back). Not pictured are Anna Barger and Thomas Barger.

Vernon Publishing Inc. extends congratulations and best wishes to all our local seniors.

Skyline Seniors



Ashlynn Agee



Reagan Allen



Sydney Bailey



TayLynn Benedix



Octaeveas Brown



Tara Cobb



Caden Crawford



Alexa Curtis



Blake Darby



Grace Edge



Emily Edwards



Kalli Eidson



Jacob Flansburg



Katelyn Fox



Kaigen Glor



Maddison Glor



Sahara Goodman



Faith Hall



Abigail Hammer



Olivia Harrison



Lilliann
Hartmann



Danielle Henry



Trey Herring



Elexis Heslip



Shelby Jerrett



Faith Johnson



Brooke Keith



Malissa King



Adee Larsen



Jordan Long



Trinity Lovelady



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Thomas Sinkhorn



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Kaia Trujillo



Sierra Wallace



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Skyline Baccalaureate cautions students to be aware of their media consumption

Hickory County R-I Skyline Baccalaureate services were held Wednesday, May 10, with the majority of Skyline's graduating 52 seniors in attendance. Students were led in the procession by Joyce Glanville. Branch Assembly of God Pastor Isaiah Benedict then welcomed everyone and gave the opening prayer once everyone was seated.

The Olive Point Praise Team then led the congregation in singing two back to back songs. The first was "Victory In Jesus," followed by "How Great Is Our God."

The service then turned to Urbana First Baptist Church Pastor Dan Sample who presented the Ministerial Alliance Scholarship to senior Abigail Hammer.

Preston Bible Baptist Church Pastor Don Kelderhouse then conducted a Scripture Reading. He read 1 Corinthians 15:50, and verse 20. Cross Timbers Southern Baptist Church Pastor Bill Rose then led the congregation in prayer before turning the podium over to Prairie Chapel Church Pastor Jeff Cole to deliver the main message.

Cole's message centered around media consumption and how individuals are shaped by the people around them and types of media they choose to

consume. Media refers to not just news, but the type of television shows and movies they watch, the music they listen to, and the books they read.

"We are shaped by what we consume and what we bring into our lives, the media we consume and the conversations we have," Cole stated. "You determine what you consume, and what you consume determines who you are. Who you are affects everyone around you."

Cole then shared his personal experience of growing up in a church and rebelling as a teenager before realizing that God's word were there to help him. He pulled scripture from Deuteronomy 18:18-21, "I will raise them up a Prophet from among their brethren, like unto thee, and will put my words in his mouth; and he shall speak unto them all that I shall command him. And it shall come to pass, that whosoever will not hearken unto my words which he shall speak in my name, I will require it of him. But the prophet, which shall presume to speak a word in my name, which I have not commanded him to speak, or that shall speak in the name of other gods, even that prophet shall die. And if thou say in thine heart, how shall we know the

word which the Lord hath not spoken?"

He also used Romans 12:2, "Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—His good, pleasing, and perfect will."

He finished by telling the graduates, "We transform our minds by consuming God's word. It's a gift."

The Baccalaureate then moved into the presentation of gifts and Bibles. Presenting Bibles to each of the students was Olive Point Southern Baptist Church Pastor Terry Gentry Jr., Prairie Chapel Church Youth Pastor Zac Vader, Cross Timbers Southern Baptist Church Youth Leader Terri Gillette, Olive Point Southern Baptist Church Youth Leader Whitney Gentry, and Branch Assembly of God Youth Leader Miranda Lynch.

Presenting New Testaments from Dallas County Camp of the Gideons was Ed Pyatt and Paxton Weaver. The Praise Team then led everyone in singing "Shout To The Lord." Tunas Christian Church Pastor Ken Morris gave the benediction, and the service came to a close.

Valedictorian Speech

By Aaliyah Walls

Family, friends, teachers, principals, students, and, most importantly, the Class of 2023, welcome. Standing in front of you all today, I see how much we have all matured and grown over these last four years. It seems like yesterday when we were out on the playground fighting over the best spot in four-square.

On behalf of the entire class I would like to thank the faculty as a whole for taking time and extra effort to help mold us into who we are today. From Mr. Cheek giving more than he had to while I was interested in basketball, Mrs. Cheek who pushed me to not wait till last minute on my dual credit assignments while I was her cadet teacher, Mrs. Logan for not only all the wonderful classes (yearbook especially) but the great field trips where I always managed to catch a bullfrog or two, and Mrs. Dampier for the early morning talks. You'll never know how much those memories and conversations mean to me.

To this community, thank you. I have experienced first hand the love and compassion you as a whole show to each other and witnessed it for others as well. This community is special, and we as the class of

2023 are better for being a part of it.

But most importantly, Mom. You have always worked so hard for us, not only at your job but also at home. If there is anything you have taught me, it is to work hard and love harder. Mom, you have pushed me to do things I wouldn't normally do on my own, like make my own doctor's appointments. You have inspired me to be the person I am today, and I cannot thank you enough.

I never expected this moment to come so quickly. We are all here to celebrate, not just as a school but as individuals. We each had our own struggles and we have all probably thought about giving up at one point. The most important thing is that we made it, but we can't stop here. Graduating high school is just one accomplishment that shows us we can do anything we set our minds to. Some of us will start college in the fall, and some of us will go straight to work. A challenge for all of us, do what inspires you to reach your full potential. A quote that I found in a book I read in fourth grade has always stuck with me I think relates to this time pretty well. Christopher Paolini wrote, "Live in the present, Remember the past, and fear not the future, for



Aaliyah Walls

it doesn't exist and never shall, there is only now." That quote has always stuck with me for many reasons. We can't live in the past because we can't change what has happened. What we can do is cherish each and every moment, remember the good and bad times, and not worry about what will happen in the future.

Thank you everyone who came out here today to celebrate the class of 2023. I wish you all the best for whatever you choose to do in life from this moment forward. Congratulations class of 2023!

Salutatorian Speech

By Kaia Trujillo

Congratulations, Class of 2023.

We've spent 14 years coming to school, 13 if you didn't have to go through the crayon eating chaos that is preschool. Whether all fourteen years were spent at Skyline, like myself, or you joined us throughout the years, I am so glad each of us is here, making up the graduating class of 2023. These 14 years have seemed to pass by, and despite being warned that they would, they still did.

We have been looking forward to this moment, thinking it would end like some incredible yet sappy movie ending. Four years left before graduation, became one. One semester left, became one month. One day left became one minute. One minute until we were no longer going to walk these halls everyday. And if this were a movie, I'd like to push pause and let us all go back and appreciate those moments and have just one more of everything.

One more recess, filled with laughter and rocks in our shoes. One more trip below the dam, pushing each other on the merry go round until we felt sick. One more game of dodgeball,

one more hour of our favorite class... (Although we'd all be happy to skip all the one mores of waking up early to make it before the tardy bell)

Just one more moment to enjoy just simply being in high school before it all cascades to an end, and the ending credits roll.

Speaking of credit, I'd like to take one more moment to give credit and thank each of the people who got us here. Thank you to all of the faculty and community who have gotten us to this moment, we wouldn't be here without you.

Personally, I'd like to thank Mrs. Gentry for instilling a confidence in myself that will carry me in my future. Thank you for not only being an incredible mentor but an inspiring friend, I hold each of the moments I've had with you throughout my three years in JAG very close to my heart.

Thank you to Mrs. Logan for helping me find my love for digital media and giving me a creative outlet that has inspired my career, even if it often ended in both of us wanting to scream at the computer.

Thank you to Mrs. Pratt and my entire theater family, I cannot thank you enough for giving me a place to be so gen-



Kaia Trujillo

uinely myself. You each mean the world to me, especially Mrs. Pratt, I will miss popping into your classroom on random occasions to talk to you, and I formally apologize for being late to almost every practice, and thank you for loving me anyways. I will forever hear theater's preshow brown squirrel chant to calm my nerves through any future hardships. And finally thank you to my parents, to my dad for teaching me the stubbornness to succeed and always pushing me to be my best, and to my mom for being my best friend and greatest inspiration. If I become even half as much of a beautiful and strong woman as you, I will be happy in life.

To my classmates in front of me, I wish you all success and happiness in your future. If there is anything I hope we all take away from watching time slip by, it is to be mindful of always looking for the next stage in life, and to stop and take in each moment as it happens, because you never know which ones will be the ones you want to go back and have one more of.

Once again, congrats to the Skyline Class of 2023. Thank you.



A Bible for you- Sterling Salley is pictured accepting his Bible from Youth Pastor Zac Vader Wednesday, May 10, during the Skyline Baccalaureate service.



The New Testament- Ed Pyatt and Paxton Weaver with the Dallas County Camp of the Gideons attended Skyline's Baccalaureate Service Wednesday, May 10, to present New Testament to the students. Shown accepting her copy is Faith Johnson.



Cole- Prairie Chapel Church Pastor Jeff Cole was the main speaker at the Skyline Baccalaureate Church Service Wednesday, May 10, in the high school gymnasium. His message was about being careful about the things people allow into their lives as that it was shapes them as a person. Assistanting with the Baccalaureate services were Pastors Isaiah Benedict, Dan Sample, Don Kelderhouse, Bill Rose, Terry Gentry Jr., and Ken Morris; youth pastors Zac Vader, Terri Gillette, Whitney Gentry, and Miranda Lynch. Leading the procession and recession was Joyce Glanville. Ed Pyatt and Paxton Weaver presented the seniors with new testaments. Olive Point's Praise Team led the music.



Bow your head and pray- Several Skyline seniors with the Class of 2023 attend a special Baccalaureate Church Service held in their honor Wednesday, May 10, in the high school gymnasium. They were led in an opening prayer by Branch Assembly of God Pastor Isaiah Benedict.

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Skyline Graduates 52 as part of Class of 2023

Hickory County R-I Skyline High School graduated 52 student Friday, May 12, at 7 p.m. in the high school gymnasium as part of the Class of 2023. Doors opened and guests filed in collecting programs with the evening's schedule listed inside and a specially designed front cover with artwork by senior Elexis Heslip.

The procession was set to the traditional "Pomp and Circumstance." Once everyone was seated, seniors Ethan Weitz and Thomas Sinkhorn led the crowd in singing the National Anthem. Superintendent Randy Dougherty then welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending. He then shared a few words for the graduates.

"Graduates, as we celebrate your accomplishment, let me offer you some advice. Slow down and enjoy the time with your family and friends. Cherish the hugs with your loved ones. Tell your parents you love them. Tell your teachers and mentors thank you. There is no better time to do those things than right now," Dougherty stated.

Following was the Salutatorian address given by Kaia Trujillo and the Valedictorian address given by Aaliyah Walls. Both of these are recorded elsewhere in this special edition of The Index. High School Principal Jason Koele then took to the podium to recognize Graduation Honors. He started with the seven Cum Laude graduates, or those with 3.5-3.699 GPAs: TayLynn Benedix, Azlen Metscher, Weston Owen, Kalli Eidson, Adee Larsen, Olivia Harrison, and Grace Edge.

He then recognized the 10 Magna Cum Laude graduates, or those with 3.7-3.849 GPAs. These students were: Samuel Miller, Abigail Hammer, Malissa King, Shayla Lynn, Faith Johnson, Reagan Allen, Kyndall Wilson, Emily Edwards, Elexis Heslip, and Richard Woodhouse.

Summa Cum Laude students have GPAs of 3.85 or higher. Skyline recognized nine students: Aaliyah Walls, Kaia Trujillo, Trent Pinon, Katelyn Fox, Sierra Wallace, Katelynn Wheeler, Danielle Henry, Kyler Owsley, and Alexa Curtis.

High School Counselor Kelli Cheek was the next speaker. She announced students who had received an A+ Scholarship, and other scholarships. Those receiving an A+ Scholarship included: Raegan Allen, Blake Darby, Grace

Edge, Emily Edwards, Kalli Eidson, Abigail Hammer, Olivia Harrison, Danielle Henry, Elexis Heslip, Faith Johnson, Brooke Keith, Malissa King, Adee Larsen, Shayla Lynn, Azlen Metscher, Kyler Owsley, Trent Pinon, Kaia Trujillo, Aaliyah Walls, Kyndall Wilson, and Richard Woodhouse. Each of these students was asked to stand and be recognized.

Scholarship Recipients
Raegan Allen: Honors Diploma, Missouri Scholarship and Loan Foundation Access Extra Scholarship, Ozarks Community Health Community Scholarship, Claude and Ada Low Foundation Scholarship.

Blake Darby: Missouri Scholarship and Loan Foundations Access Extra Scholarship.
Grace Edge: Skyline Athletic and Academic Achievement Scholarship, Bible Baptist College Athletic Scholarship, Ozarks Technical College, A+ Advantage Scholarship.

Emily Edwards: OakStar Bank, Skyline CTA Scholarship, Future Educators True/Tull Scholarship.

Kalli Eidson: Missouri Scholarship and Loan Foundations Access Extra Scholarship.

Katelyn Fox: George Washington Carver Award.

Kaigen Glor: Ozarks Technical College A+ Advantage Scholarship.

Abigail Hammer: Honors Diploma, Skyline Ministerial Alliance Scholarship.

Elexis Heslip: Missouri Scholarship and Loan Foundations Access Extra Scholarship.

Faith Johnson: Shelter Insurance, Chris Malley Memorial Scholarship, Skyline Alumni Association Scholarship.

Malissa King: Honors Diploma, Missouri Scholarship and Loan Foundations Access Extra Scholarship.

Adee Larsen: Missouri Scholarship and Loan Foundations Access Extra Scholarship.

Shayla Lynn: MFA Scholarship, Skyline FFA Booster Club, Hoyt and Margaret Owsley Memorial Scholarship.

Azlen Metscher: Evangel Athletic Scholarship.

Samuel Miller: Missouri Scholarship and Loan Foundation Access Extra Scholarship.

Kyler Owsley: Honors Diploma, Missouri Scholarship and Loan Foundation Access Extra Scholarship, Pomme de Terre Rendezvous Scholarship, Missouri State Provost Scholarship, Missouri S&T Groundbreaker Award.

Trent Pinon: George Washington Carver Award, Honors Diploma, Henry Kugler Jr.

Award.

Kaia Trujillo: George Washington Carver Award, Honors Diploma, Missouri Scholarship and Loan Foundation Access Extra Scholarship, Hickory County Farmers Mutual Scholarship, Journey to College Scholarship, JAG Ken-Smith Scholarship, Missouri Access Scholarship, UCM Red and Black Scholarship, Hagan Scholarship.

Sierra Wallace: George Washington Carver Award, Honors Diploma, Missouri Scholarship and Loan Foundation Access Extra Scholarship, Southwest Baptist University Provost Scholarship Award, Southwest Baptist University Dutile Scholars Award.

Aaliyah Walls: George Washington Carver Award, Honors Diploma, Missouri Scholarship and Loan Foundation Access Extra Scholarship, Chris Malley Memorial Scholarship, Skyline Alumni Association Scholarship.

Ethan Weitz: State Fair Community College Music Scholarship.

Richard Woodhouse: Missouri Scholarship and Loan Foundation Access Extra Scholarship, Skyline Athletic and Academic Achievement Scholarship, Southwest Baptist Athletic Scholarship.

As they finished with scholarship, they moved into the traditional flower ceremony where students presented flowers to their family and friends as a token of gratitude. As they did this the songs "The Climb" by Miley Cyrus, and "I Lived" by One Republic played.

Students settled back into their seats, and Koele stood up to at the podium again to conduct a special recognition asking the students family, teachers and staff, military and first responders stand up and be recognized. He also recognized students for their accomplishments and having competed in school activities on both the local, district, state, and national level.

They moved the ceremony into the presentation of the Class of 2023. Koele read off the names of each graduate while Skyline Board of Education President Brian Wright presented students with their diplomas. The new Skyline Alumni then turned their tassels to signify passing from childhood into adulthood and then toss their caps high up into the air. They then left the gymnasium to Guns N' Roses, "Welcome to The Jungle."



Neftzger earns her diploma- Kelsey Neftger accepts her diploma from Skyline Board of Education President Brian Wright during the Skyline Graduation Ceremony Friday, May 12.



Pinon Proud- Trent Pinon accepts his diploma from his mother, Tish Pinon, during the Skyline Graduation Ceremony Friday, May 12.



Getting ready- Sahara Goodman stands still while her friend adjusts her sashes just before the Skyline Graduation Ceremony began Friday, May 12.



Last walk as students- Caden Crawford and Richard Woodhouse are shown in the procession of Skyline graduates during the Skyline Graduation Ceremony Friday, May 12.



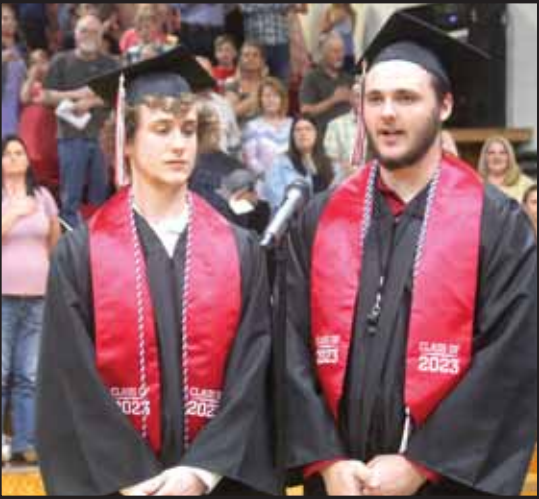
Cord fight!- Trinity Lovelady, Brooke Keith, and Lilliann Hartman are pictured having a cord fight with their graduation cords just before the start of the Skyline Graduation Ceremony Friday, May 12.



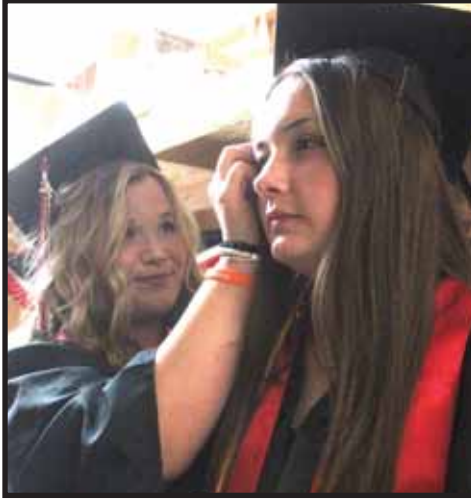
Bonds- Katelynn Wheeler hugs her teacher Kim Logan during Skyline's Graduation Ceremony flowers ceremony Friday, May 12.



Owsley- Kyler Owsley presents a rose during Skyline's Graduation Ceremony Friday, May 12. The flower ceremony is an opportunity for students to thank their family, friends, and teachers for their support.



Singing Loud and Proud-Thomas Sinkhorn and Ethan Weitz performed the National Anthem Friday, May 12, during the Skyline Graduation Ceremony. These two young men were part of the Class of 2023.



Where's my bobby pins?- Abigail Hammer helps Danielle Henry pin back her hair as they get ready for the Skyline Graduation Friday, May 12.



Miller- Sam Miller hugs a family member Friday, May 12, during the Skyline Graduation Ceremony after presenting them with a flower as a token of appreciation.



Edwards- Emily Edwards laughs as she readjusts her graduation cap after nearly having it knocked off while hugging family during the flower ceremony of Skyline's graduation Ceremony Friday, May 12.



Eidson- Kalli Eidson hugs a friend Friday, May 12, during the Skyline Graduation Ceremony after giving her a rose as a token of appreciation.







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Thomas
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Haedyn
Chism



Madison
Delmont



Meraiah
Fowler



Madalynn
Hackleman



Madison
Hensley



Miller
Hoelscher



Lily
Lambeth



Hannah
Melvin



Belinda
Navarro



Sydney
Paxman



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Weaubleau graduates attend Baccalaureate

Twelve of twenty-three Weaubleau Class of 2023 graduates attended Baccalaureate in the high school gymnasium Sunday, May 7. The message “What I Wish I had known as a graduate” was provided by former Weaubleau graduate Paden Harryman.

Superintendent Rodney Delmont, welcomed guests, and introduced Pastor Zach Durnell.

Durnell gave the invocation, praying for the seniors, and their families as they take this new journey.

Senior Hannah Melvin provided a reading of scripture. She shared Joshua 1:9 “Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.”

Senior Meraiah Fowler sang “Amazing Grace” with Mr. Andrew McKnight accompanying on piano before senior Madison Hensley introduced the chosen speaker for the evening, Weaubleau graduate Paden Harryman.

Harryman encouraged the seniors to keep the right attitude. He said, “The attitude you take into this new chapter will control your pen,” referencing writing the story of their lives. He also encouraged that they not expect life to go perfectly, “Don’t be afraid of the struggle. Life is better when you don’t try to control it.” He referenced Matthew 25:40, and asked the seniors to continue to nurture their friendships with one another.

Senior Madison Delmont sang “It is Well With My Soul” accompanied by McKnight on the piano, and Class President Belinda Navarro gave a closing address to the class. Pastor Jeremy Hostettler closed with a prayer of thanks and protection for the seniors and their families. As he prayed families and friends of the seniors gathered around each of them to pray together.

Families were encouraged to stay for refreshments, and to take photos. Each senior left with a gift bag after the event.



Welcome- Dr. Rodney Delmont welcomed guests to the Class of 2023 Weaubleau Baccalaureate in the high school gymnasium Sunday, May 7.



Prayers- Pastor Zach Durnell provided the invocation at the Class of 2023 Weaubleau Baccalaureate in the high school gymnasium Sunday, May 7.



Scripture reading- Weaubleau senior Hannah Melvin shared Joshua 1:9 at the Class of 2023 Weaubleau Baccalaureate in the high school gymnasium Sunday, May 7.



Graduates- Weaubleau seniors Belinda Navarro, Madison Delmont, Meraiah Fowler (front); and Hannah Melvin, Madison Hensley, Miller Hoelscher, Christopher Srch, Haedyn Chism, Michael Argueta, Benjamin Srch, and Julia Weaver (back) stood for a group photo at the Class of 2023 Weaubleau Baccalaureate in the high school gymnasium Sunday, May 7.



Sitting in solidarity- The Weaubleau senior boys, Christopher Srch, Michael Argueta, Haedyn Chism, and Miller Hoelscher sat together during the Class of 2023 Baccalaureate in the high school gymnasium Sunday, May 7.



Families who pray- Weaubleau senior Madalynn Hackleman prayed with her parents Mindy and Brian Hackleman during the Class of 2023 Baccalaureate in the high school gymnasium Sunday, May 7.



Laying of hands- Weaubleau senior Julia Weaver had family gathered around placing their hands on her as they prayed during the Class of 2023 Baccalaureate in the high school gymnasium Sunday, May 7.



Lord protect them- Renee and Leonard Srch prayed over their son Christopher Srch during the Class of 2023 Baccalaureate in the high school gymnasium Sunday, May 7.



All of the ladies- Weaubleau senior ladies Madalynn Hackleman, Julia Weaver, Hannah Melvin, Madison Hensley, Belinda Navarro, Meraiah Fowler, Madison Delmont and Lily Lambeth sat together on the front row at the Class of 2023 Baccalaureate in the high school gymnasium Sunday, May 7.



Amazing Grace- Senior Meraiah Fowler sang “Amazing Grace” during the Class of 2023 Weaubleau Baccalaureate in the high school gymnasium Sunday, May 7.



Alumni- Weaubleau alumni Paden Harryman delivered a message to the graduating seniors at the Class of 2023 Baccalaureate in the high school gymnasium Sunday, May 7.



It is well- Weaubleau senior Madison Delmont sang “It is Well With My Soul” during the Class of 2023 Baccalaureate in the high school gymnasium Sunday, May 7.



Introductions- Senior Madison Hensley introduced Weaubleau Alumni speaker Paden Harryman during the Weaubleau Class of 2023 Baccalaureate in the high school gymnasium Sunday, May 7.



Praying as one- Pastor Jeremy Hostettler encouraged families to gather around the seniors to pray during the Weaubleau Class of 2023 Baccalaureate in the high school gymnasium Sunday, May 7.



Closing- Weaubleau senior class president gave a closing address to her fellow classmates during the Class of 2023 Weaubleau Baccalaureate in the high school gymnasium Sunday, May 7.

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Weaubleau graduates Class of 2023

Weaubleau High School held its 2023 Commencement Ceremony graduating 20 seniors Friday, May 12. The graduating class included: Michael Argueta, Anna Barger, Thomas Barger, Haedyn Chism, Madison Delmont, Meraiah Fowler, Madalynn Hackleman, Madison Hensley, Miller Hoelscher, Lily Lambeth, Hannah Melvin, Belinda Navarro, Sydney Paxman, Branden Sexton, Benjamin Srch, Christopher Srch, Cole Trussell, Julia Weaver, Richard Wendleton, and Raven Weyant.

The ceremony began with the procession of the Weaubleau High School Class of 2023 to the traditional Pomp and Circumstance.

Weaubleau Principal Matt Johnson welcomed the graduates and their families before introducing Weaubleau senior Madison Hensley to deliver the invocation.

Hensley prayed over her class and their families as they take these next steps in life.

Principal Matt Johnson introduced Class of 2023 Salutatorian Madalynn Hackleman to deliver her farewell address. Hackleman spoke about taking chances and trying new things. She said, "I leave you with one last request: don't ever give up on doing the right thing for both humanity and yourself."

Johnson then welcomed Valedictorian Madison Delmont to deliver a final address to her class. She shared thoughts about the value of education, and shared well wishes for her fellow classmates, "I hope you embrace the future with courage, curiosity, and compassion. Don't be afraid to take risks, make mistakes, and learn from failures. Strive for excellence and change."

Superintendent, Dr. Rodney Delmont presented the

Master Teacher Award. The award was created by Dr. Dennis Cooper in 2002. The 2023 recipient was Special Education Teacher Karmin London-Herring.

The class presented flowers to their loved ones while the songs "You're Gonna Miss This" by Trace Adkins and "Slipping Through My Fingers" by Ava played.

Counselor Jessi Kilgore presented awards to the following students. Madison Delmont and Madalynn Hackleman received Summa Cum Laude. Lily Lambeth received Magna Cum Laude, and Hannah Melvin, Sydney Paxman, and Julia Weaver received Cum Laude.

Post-Secondary Advisor Kristen Johnson presented scholarships to the following students. Michael Argueta received the Strive for Success, Hickory County Farmers Mutual scholarships, and the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Grant. Madison Delmont received the Bob Stokes/Bob Krasser Scholarship, Weaubleau Student Council Scholarship, OakStar Bank Good Citizen Scholarship, Franklin and Ferrell John Memorial Scholarship, Missouri Association of Rural Education (MARE)/Ed Counsel Scholarship, Access Extra Scholarship - Missouri Scholarship and Loan Foundation, Scholar's Day Scholarship, SBU Dean's Scholar Award, Missouri A+ Scholarship, ACT Incentive Award, George Washington Carver Award, Educational Opportunity Grant, and the FAFSA by February Grant. Meraiah Fowler received the FFA Alumni Scholarship. Madalynn Hackleman received the Wheeler Family Scholarship, Blackwell Business Scholarship, Booster Club Scholarship, Missouri State Advantage Scholarship, Missouri A+ Scholarship, A+ Recogni-

tion Scholarship, MSU Provost Scholarship, ACT Incentive Award, and George Washington Carver Award. Madison Hensley received the FFA Alumni Scholarship. Lily Lambeth received the CMH Medical Excellence Scholarship, OCHC Scholarship, Alan Poe Memorial Scholarship, Catalina Richards Memorial Scholarship, Weaubleau Student Council Scholarship, Missouri A+ Scholarship, Weaubleau Alumni Scholarship, George Washington Carver Award, and the ACT Incentive Award. Hannah Melvin received the Donnie Vaughn Memorial Scholarship, FFA Alumni Scholarship, Missouri A+ Scholarship, and the Weaubleau Booster Club Scholarship. Belinda Navarro received the Whitby Scholarship, Weaubleau Alumni Scholarship, and the Missouri A+ Scholarship. Branden Sexton received the ACT Incentive Award. Julia Weaver received the Marion & Mae John Memorial Scholarship, Missouri A+ Scholarship, and the George Washington Carver Award.

Principal Matt Johnson, Superintendent Dr. Rodney Delmont, and School Board President Mr. Zane Durnell presented diplomas to the graduating seniors, and completed the tradition of the turning of tassels.

The long standing Weaubleau tradition of the slideshow presentation, and candle ceremony followed with the students lining the gymnasium with lit candles as the slideshow and music played. This year's music included "Good Old Days" by Macklemore, "The Climb" by Miley Cyrus, and "Five More Minutes" by Scotty McCreery. As the music and slideshow ended, the lights were turned on in the gymnasium, and the Class of 2023 blew out their candles and threw their caps.



Praying for the future- Weaubleau 2023 graduates stood together for the opening prayer by fellow senior Madison Hensley at the Commencement Ceremony held in the high school gymnasium Friday, May 12.



Master Teacher- Weaubleau Special Education teacher Karmin London-Herring was awarded Master Teacher of the year by Superintendent Dr. Rodney Delmont at the Commencement Ceremony held in the high school gymnasium Friday, May 12.



Welcome- Principal Matt Johnson welcomed guests to the Weaubleau Commencement Ceremony held in the high school gymnasium Friday, May 12.



Awards- Counselor Jessi Kilgore presented awards during the Weaubleau Commencement Ceremony held in the high school gymnasium Friday, May 12.



Scholarships- Post-Secondary Advisor Kristen Johnson announced the graduates' scholarships during the Weaubleau Commencement Ceremony held in the high school gymnasium Friday, May 12.

2023 Salutatorian Address

By Madalyn Hackleman

Thank you all for coming tonight. I feel that this is truly an honor to be here graduating. While I may have a lot to say, I would like to give my thanks tonight to those who have helped make my dream a reality. First, I need to thank my family. No matter how hard life got for me or them, they never gave up on helping me get ahead in life in every way possible. My parents provided a comfortable life in a home with food on the table every night. My sisters were my built-in best friends, never leaving my side when times were tough. In my new life, I start from here on out, I will never forget my family and what they have done for me and taught me. I love you guys.

Next, I must thank the teachers and staff here at Weaubleau. They have worked so hard to give my class a better education and future. All of my teachers have influenced me in one way or another, and I could never be thankful enough for their support and help. I would also like to thank my scholar bowl team and coach. Even though I spent most of my Saturdays traveling to faraway towns to compete against schools I had never even heard of, I could never ask for better teammates. I have watched many people come and go from

my team, but I am thankful for each and every one of them.

Next, I have some advice for future graduates of Weaubleau. First, never pass up the opportunity to be a part of different kinds of organizations. You never know what kind of passion can arise from being a part of something new and exciting. Had I never joined Scholar Bowl in middle school, I don't think I would ever have been as passionate about music and art as I am. If I never tried to draw that drawing when I was 12, I would never have explored the world of art.

If I had never changed my mind about the major I wanted, who knows what I would be doing right now? You never know what could happen with any choice you make. It's up to you to take that risk and see where it takes you. The choices you make don't have to be good ones for you to learn something. Another piece of advice I have is to never give up on what you want in life. With hard work, determination, and a lot of discipline, success is always possible. In some situations, things may not turn out the way that you had dreamed they would happen. Don't take this at surface value. Just because something isn't going your way now does not mean something good will

come out of it. You have to have the patience and determination to keep with it, and I believe that every person is capable of having said patience and determination.

Over these four years, I have learned a lot about both myself and my class. We all have our differences and similarities. We have all gone through many highs and many, many lows. We are all our own people with our own dreams and goals to bring to this earth. To the class of 2023,

I leave you with one last request: don't ever give up on doing the right thing for both humanity and yourself. You are more than your high school experiences. You all have something to bring to the table. When the time comes, I hope to hear from each one of you about all the good things you have accomplished. Thank you.



Big hugs- Weaubleau senior Julia Weaver shared a big hug with her little brother Hunter Weaver during the Weaubleau Commencement Ceremony held in the high school gymnasium Friday, May 12.



Salutatorian- Madalynn Hackleman delivered her Salutatorian address during the Weaubleau Commencement Ceremony held in the high school gymnasium Friday, May 12.



Turning of tassels- Weaubleau seniors practiced the long-standing tradition of the turning of tassels during the Commencement Ceremony held in the high school gymnasium Friday, May 12. The turning of tassels represents the seniors ending their current journey through high school and starting a new journey.

2023 Valedictorian Farewell Address

By Madison Delmont

Hello everyone! I am so honored to be standing before you as the valedictorian of our small but mighty graduating class. I want to begin by thanking our incredible teachers and staff who have dedicated themselves to our education and well-being. And of course, I want to express my gratitude to our families and friends, who have supported us through thick and thin, and helped shape us into the people we are today. Thank you all for coming.

As we prepare to leave, we may feel a mix of emotions. On the one hand, we are excited to venture out into the world and pursue our dreams. On the other hand, we may feel a sense of nostalgia for the simplicity and familiarity of our small school. But let me assure you, my friends, that the lessons we have learned here will stay with us wherever we go.

We have also overcome our fair share of challenges. We have faced the COVID-19 pandemic, remote learning, social distancing, and other disruptions. We have coped with personal setbacks, losses, and doubts.

We have navigated the uncertainty of the future, and the pressures of expectations. But we have not given up, we have not lost hope, and we have not stopped learning.

I believe that the true value of our education lies not in the grades, tests, or diplomas, but in the skills, values, and

attitudes that we have developed along the way. We have learned how to communicate effectively, how to collaborate respectfully, and how to think critically. We have discovered our passions, strengths, and weaknesses. We have grown as individuals, as members of this community, and as young adults. We have learned the importance of hard work, resilience, and creativity.

We have learned that success is not just about achieving a goal, but about the journey and the people who accompany us along the way. We have learned that even in a small school, we can make a big impact if we put our minds and hearts into it.

Remember, that no matter where you go, you will always be a part of this community.

And now, as we embark on the next chapter of our lives, we carry with us the lessons and memories. We carry the relationships and reminders of what we have built here. We carry with us the hope and vision that we have for ourselves and our communities. We carry with us the responsibility and opportunity to make a positive difference in the world.

So, my fellow graduates, I hope you embrace the future with courage, curiosity, and compassion. Don't be afraid to take risks, make mistakes, and learn from failures. Strive for excellence and change.

Thank you and congratulations, Class of 2023!

Let the good times roll.

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Good luck to all
2022 Graduates!!

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Summa Cum Laude- Honor graduates Aaliyah Walls, Kaia Trujillo, Trent Pinon, Katelyn Fox, Sierra Wallace, Katelynn Wheeler, Danielle Henry, Tyler Owsley, and Alexa Curtis were recognized as Summa Cum Laude Graduates Friday, May 12, during Skyline's Graduation. They all had GPAs of 3.85 or higher.



Cum Laude- Honors Graduates TayLynn Benedix, Azlen Metscher, Weston Owen, Kalli Eidson, Adeel Larsen, Olivia Harrison, and Grace Edge graduated with Cum Laude Honors Friday, May 12, at the Skyline Graduation. They each had GPAs of 3.5-3.699.



Superintendent- Skyline Superintendent Randy Dougherty participated in the Skyline Graduation Ceremony Friday, May 12, and gave his last piece of advice to the Class of 2023.



Magna Cum Laude- Skyline Graduates Samuel Miller, Abigail Hammer, Malissa King, Shayla Lynn, Faith Johnson, Reagan Allen, Kyndall Wilson, Emily Edwards, Elexis Heslip and Richard Woodhouse were all recognized Friday, May 12, during the Graduation Ceremony for earning Magna Cum Laude Honors with GPAs of 3.7-3.849.



Still be friends forever- Sydney Bailey and Elexis Heslip stood together as they waited to line up for Skyline's Graduation Ceremony Friday, May 12, and posed for a photo to commemorate the moment.



Just a few minutes left- Octaveas Brown is shown getting ready to walk down the aisle at the Skyline Graduation Ceremony Friday, May 12. Helping him straighten his graduation cap is Misty Brown.



New Skyline Alumni- After turning their tassels the Skyline Class of 2023 tossed their graduation caps high into the air concluding their Graduation Ceremony Friday, May 12. These 52 individuals are no longer Skyline High School students but are now proud members of the Skyline Alumni. The graduation ceremony was held at 7 p.m. in the high school gymnasium.



King gets scholarships- Skyline Senior Malissa King, right, is shown collecting her Honors Diploma and Missouri Scholarship and Loan Foundations Access Extra Scholarship from High School Principal Jason Koele while High School Counselor Kelli Cheek reads off her list of accomplishments during the Skyline Graduation Ceremony Friday, May 12.



Proud graduates, Proud Americans- The Skyline Class of 2023 stands with their hands over their hearts while classmates Ethan Weitz and Thomas Sinkhorn sing the National Anthem Friday, May 12, during the graduation ceremony.



Better late than never- Skyline senior Shayla Lynn raced up onto the stage to present High School Counselor Kelli Cheek with a red rose Friday, May 12, during the Skyline Graduation Ceremony. To the amusement of the crowd Lynn sneaked onto the stage to make the presentation, though the flower ceremony had concluded, behind the back of High School Principal Jason Koele, who noticed the disruption and laughed it off with the crowd.



Hat toss- Weaubleau seniors lined the gym during the slideshow presentation at the Commencement Ceremony Friday, May 12. When the lights came on they did the traditional cap toss to celebrate the end of their high school journey.



Recognition- Weaubleau senior Madalynn Hackleman stood to be recognized for the scholarships she earned to further her education at the Class of 2023 Commencement Ceremony held in the high school gymnasium Friday, May 12.



Proud dad- Weaubleau senior Madalynn Hackleman was surprised by her father, Dr. Brian Hackleman being the one to present her diploma to her at the Commencement Ceremony held in the high school gymnasium Friday, May 12.



Special moments- Weaubleau senior Lily Lambeth shared a sweet moment with a family member during the flower ceremony at the Weaubleau Class of 2023 Commencement Ceremony in the high school gymnasium Friday, May 12.



Candle lighting- Weaubleau seniors each were given a lit candle to line the gym during the slideshow presentation at Weaubleau School Friday, May 12. Candle lighting is a special tradition of Weaubleau Commencement Ceremonies. The way it is done has changed through the years, but still the tradition has remained for several generations.



Father and daughter- Weaubleau senior Madison Delmont was also proudly given her diploma by her father Dr. Rodney Delmont at the Commencement Ceremony held in the high school gymnasium Friday, May 12. Dr. Delmont is the Weaubleau Superintendent.



Evening things out- Post-Secondary Advisor, Kristen Johnson assisted graduates getting ready before the Commencement Ceremony held in the high school gymnasium Friday, May 12.