Congratulations Class of 2021

GRADUATING IN THE TOP SIX FROM EACH MARIES COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL FOR 2021 Maries R-1 Vienna, standing from left: Marsie Messersmith, Hannah Shanks, Luke Conner, Casey Evan, Alexi Struemph and Karissa Feeler. Maries R-2 Belle, sitting, from left: Cheyenne Struemph, Olivia Sanders, Caitlin Crutsinger, Kenzi Cetroute, Gracie Schultz and Susan Moman.

MARIES Advocate

A Keepsake Edition of the Maries County Advocate • May 19, 2021 • Page 1B-32B

Advocate



GEORGE WASHINGTON Carver Awarded to the top ten percent of the graduating class was awarded to Gracie Schultz, Oliva Sanders, Caitlin Crutsinger, Kenzi Cetroute and Cheyenne Struemph.

Senior class defines themselves as close, motivated, future-oriented

The Maries R-2 2020-21 class officers discussed what defines their group prior to receiving scholarship awards. "Compared to other classes, we are closer and we all know each other,"

says Brayden Tipton, class president. "We are all generally high achieving

compared to other classes too," said Kenzi Cetroutine. "Over half of the seniors are involved in sports."

Since COVID-19 interrupted the group's junior year and changed the scope of their senior year, their determination to keep up with each other and their studies is admirable.

"Most of us have honors," Olivia Sanders, secretary, adds.

"We are one big happy family," Caitlin Crutinger, treasurer, finishes her statement as her classmates nod her way and proclaim fondly that she is a hippie.

The group acknowledged that there are things they and their classmates won't get back because of the pandemic — including everything from special senior events, the "laid back" aspects of senior year, to not being able to hand out class flowers at graduation due to the pandemic shortage.

We didn't get all the extra perks they

did, but we got to go to Florida for our senior trip," Cetroutine said positively.

They could choose to simply be upset about these set-backs, but instead they chose to live their lives by the motto of the class song: "Good Old Days" by Macklemore.

"When we were planning, we wanted it to be not quite sentimental or celebratory," Tipton said, suggesting they wanted a song that was in between the two. "People know the song and sing along."

See Senior Class on Page 5B

Belle Class of 2021 awarded scholarships

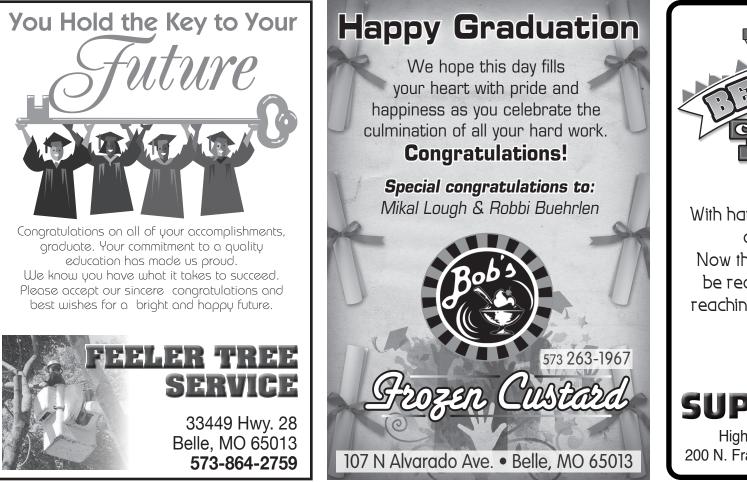
Rose Baxter

Will be attending Missouri State University Missouri State University Academic Excellence Scholarship \$2,000 Party-Butler Family Scholarship - \$3,000 Koch-Lange Family Scholarship - \$600 Kolten Brown Will be attending State Technical College of Mo. Robbi Buehrlen Will be attending Merrell University of Beauty Arts & Science Merrell University of Beauty & Arts Scholarship - \$1,000 Belle Fair Scholarship - \$500 Shelter Insurance Scholarship (Funded by Tonya Jacquin) - \$2000 Bland Alumni Scholarship - \$750 Nancy Janes Memorial Scholarship - \$500 Mid-America Bank Scholarship - \$1,000 Belle High School NHS Scholarship - \$500 American Red Cross Scholarship - \$250

Kenzi Cetroute

Will be attending Southeast Missouri State Southeast Mo. State Copper Dome Scholarship \$5,000 Southeast Mo. State Residential Life Leadership Award \$1,000

See Belle scholarships page 5B





With hard work and dedication, you can achieve anything. Now that you've graduated, you'll be ready to soar to new heights, reaching your goals and ambitions.



WEDNESDAY, MAY 19, 2021 PAGE 3 MARIES Advocate



THE MARIES COUNTY R-II FOUNDATION gave out 18 scholarships to 15 different students of the 2021 Belle graduating class equaling more than \$30,000. Lane Feeler was awarded the Belle Lions Club Memorial Scholarship in Memory of David R. Sassmann. The Ruth and Gene Ridenhour MD Scholarship was awarded to Gentry Dunn and Mikal Lough. The Kaeding-Winter Scholarships where awarded to Brayden Tipton and Gracie Schultz. The Theodore E. and Edna R. Leffler Scholarship was awarded to Olivia Sanders, Kenzi Cetroute and Keleigh Guinn. Gracie Schultz and Dillon Rice accepted the Schierloh Family Scholarship. The Party-Butler Family Scholarship was awarded to Madilynn Long, Rose Baster and Kenzi Cetroute. The Alan D. and Yvone L. Skouby Scholarship was accepted by Hallie Smith. Brandon Ostertag accepted the Mae, Grace and George Bacon Scholarship. The Maries County R-2 Foundation Scholarship was awarded to Lane Feeler and Olivia Sanders. The Maries County R-II PTO scholarship was accepted by Kaleb Miller.





CONGRATULATIONS, GRADS!

After years of hard work, countless late nights, and collecting a closet full of school colors—you did it! We are proud to support students pursuing and achieving their dreams, on campus and beyond.

Hollie Dean, Agent

206 S Alvarado Ave Ste A

holliedeanagency.com

Bus: (573) 859-3878

Belle, MO 65013





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WEDNESDAY, MAY 19, 2021 PAGE 4 MARIES Advocate



TO BE awarded the A+ scholarship, students must attend a designated A+ school for three years, have a GPA 2.5 or higher, a 95 percent attendance all four years of high school, 50 hours of tutoring, job shadowing and maintain good citizenship. Students must enroll and attend full-time at a participating public community college or vocational/technical school or private two-year vocational/technical school. Graduating seniors of the Maries County R-2 School District with the A+ program scholarships include; Rose Baxter, Kolten Brown, Arianna Brizendine, Robbi Buehrlen, Bailey Butler, Kenzi Cetroute, Aryssa Chambers, Aiden Craigmiles, Caitlin Crutsinger, Gentry Dunn, Lane Feeler, Travis Gesellschap, Jace Gieck, Keleigh Guinn, Levi Hinz, Chloe Krause, Chase Kottwitz, Faith Langdon, Madilynn Long, Mikal Lough, Kaleb Miller, Susan Moman, Brandon Ostertag, Dillon Rice, Olivia Sanders, Gracie Schultz, Jessi Schweer, Jebidiah Seaver, Hallie Smith, Braydon Tipton and Drew Walters.

Congratulations & Good Luck

We know you'll go far and we wish you all the best on Graduation Day and always!



711 Hwy 28 West • Belle • 573-859-3651 1769 Hwy 50 East • Linn • 573-897-2020

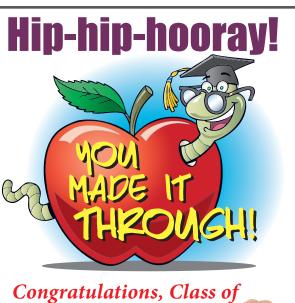


Here's to a happy graduation and a bright future!

Special Congratulations to Halle Smith



ERICA SMITH BROKER/OWNER 573.308.7636 • Erica@EricaSmithRealEstate.com



You've worked hard to get here, and we wish you continued success as you pursue exciting new goals and challenges. Congratulations and good luck, graduates!

307 W. 28th • Bland, MO • 573-646-3400

WEDNESDAY, MAY 19, 2021 PAGE 5

COUNTY Advocate



OLIVIA SANDERS (photo top left) was awarded the Donald 'Eno' W. Zumwalt Memorial Agricultural Scholarship. The Maries Co. R-2 Archery Club awarded two scholarships to Alyssa Kegin (photo top middle) and Madilynn Long (photo top right). Chloe Krause (photo above right) accepted the Agricultural Experience Scholarship. Gracie Schultz (above left) accepted the FBLA Amanda Bradford Thompson Memorial Scholarship.

Belle scholarships • from page 2B

Southeast Mo. State Presidential Scholarship \$1.500 Theodore E. and Edna Leffler Scholarship -\$2,000 Party-Butler Family Scholarship - \$3,000 Maries County R-II Belle/ Bland Booster Club Scholarship - \$1,000 Bland Alumni Scholarship - \$750 **Aiden Craigmiles** Will be attending State Technical College of Mo. Aiden Craigmiles -Mo-Sci Foundation Scholarship - \$2,000 **Caitlin Crutsinger** Will be attending Southeast Missouri State Southeast Mo. State Copper Dome Scholarship \$2,,000 Southeast Mo. State Residence Life Scholarship \$1,000 Maries Co. Bank

> See **Belle scholarships** page 6B

Scholarship - \$1,000 renewable for four years

Senior class • from page 2

Cetroutine added, "It's kind of sentimental, but we didn't have to worry about pleasing everyone's genres since they all liked the song."

The class that made it through the hard times and came through together is ready to go on to have a normal college experience.

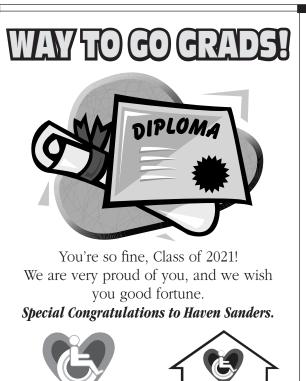
"I am pretty sure everyone in our class has a plan after graduation to attend a four year program, tech school, or military," Tipton said.

"I am ready to go to college," Cetroutine added. "I've been with the same amazing people for 13 years. They are great, but I want a new set."

Agreeing, Crutsinger added, "I am ready to see the world! We are gonna miss our people."

Tipton will be working towards a business administration degree to go into banking and financing. Cetroutine will be working towards a social worker degree. Sanders will be attending animal science classes to be a veterinarian. Crutsinger wants to major in psychology and be an advocate for sexual assault victims.

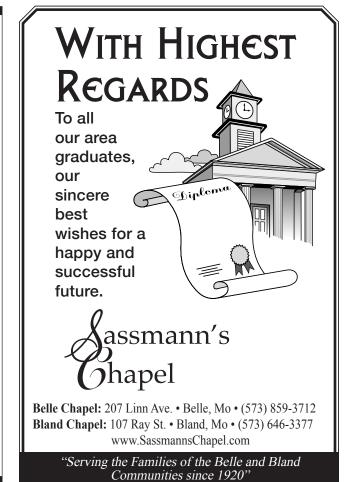








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WEDNESDAY, MAY 19, 2021 ■ PAGE 6

COUNTY Advocate



Belle scholarships • from page 5B

Gentry Dunn

Will be attending State Technical College of Mo. The Ruth and Gene Ridenhour MD Scholarship -\$500

Lane Feeler

Will be attending Columbia College Columbia College Cougar Achievement Award \$1,000 Columbia College Distinction Scholarship \$10,000 Columbia College Baseball Scholarship \$7,000 Columbia College A+ Scholarship \$1,500 Missouri High School Coaches Association Scholarship \$1,000 Belle Lions Club Memorial Scholarship in Memory of David R. Sassmann - \$600 TCYA Scholarship -\$250 Back to Life Taxidermy - \$500 Continuing Athletic Scholarship - \$250 Maries County R-2 Foundation Scholarship - \$2,000 **Travis Gessellschap** Will be attending State Technical College of Mo. Jace Gieck Enlisted in the United States Army **Keleigh Guinn** WIII be attending East Central College CTA Scholarship - \$750 Bernetta J. Williams Memorial Scholarship - \$500 Theodore E. and Edna Leffler Scholarship - \$2,000 Maries County R-II Belle/Bland Booster Club Scholarship - \$1,000 VFW Post 3410 Scholarship - \$500 Hawkeye 4-H Scholarship - \$250 Winston and Mary Brunjes Scholarship - \$500

Way to Go! Dream big, graduates, and enjoy your special day. The best is yet to come!

Congratulations



JARED NOWACK PO Box 357 205 North Main Bland, MO 65014 Office: 573.646.3131 Cell: 573.280.4633





THE HAWKEYE 4-H club awarded three scholarships to Olivia Sanders, Keleigh Guinn and Drew Walters.

Levi Hinz

Will be attending University of Mo. – Columbia University of Mo. - Columbia Excellence Scholarship -\$3,000 **Alyssa Kegin**

Maries Co. R-II Archery Club Scholarship - \$250 Wyatt Kirkland

Enlisted in the United States Army National Guard Chase Kottwitz

Will be attending State Technical College of Mo. CMEC Scholarship \$250

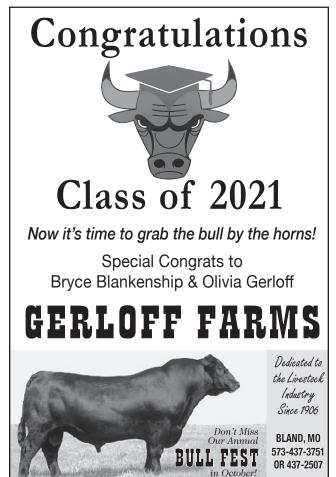
Maries Co. Bank Vocational Scholarship - \$500 Chloe Krause

Will be attending State Technical College of Mo. Missouri Scholarship & Foundation Access Scholarship - \$2,000 Carolyn Holt Educational Scholarship - \$1,000

Maries County R-II Belle/Bland Booster Club Scholarship - \$500

The Agricultural Experience Scholarship - \$1,000 Faith Langdon

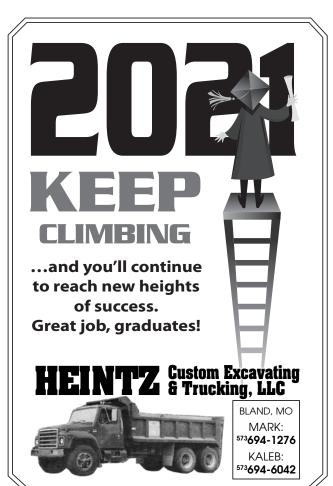
Enlisted in the United States Coast Guard RTI/RTC Outstanding Student Scholarship - \$100



Madilynn Long

Will be attending Merrell University of Beauty Arts & Science Merrell University of Beauty & Arts Scholarship -\$1,000 Party-Butler Family Scholarship - \$3,000 Maries County R-II Belle/Bland Booster Club Scholarship - \$500 TCYA Scholarship -\$250 Maries Co. R-II Archery Club Scholarship - \$250 Mikal Lough Will be attending Merrell University of Beauty Arts & Science MFA Scholarship - \$2,000 Merrell University of Beauty & Arts Scholarship -\$1,000 The Ruth and Gene Ridenhour MD Scholarship II -\$1,000 **Kaleb Miller** Will be attending State Technical College of Mo.

See Belle scholarships page 7B



WEDNESDAY, MAY 19, 2021 PAGE 7 COUNTY Advocate

Belle scholarships • from page 6B

CMEC Scholarship \$250 Maries Co. R-II PTO Scholarship -\$700

Susan Moman Will be attending William Woods University William Woods Track and Field Athletic Scholarship - \$2000 LEAD Scholarship - \$5,000 William Woods Academic Scholarship - \$27,000 Brandon Ostertag Will be attending State Technical College of Mo. Mae, Grace, & George Bacon Scholarship - \$500 **Dillon Rice** Will be attending Missouri University of Science and Technology Missouri University of Science and Technology Groundbreakers Scholarship - \$6,000 Missouri University of Science and Technology Honors Academy Scholarship - \$1,000 Schierloh Family Scholarship -\$3,000 **Olivia Sanders**

Will be attending University of Mo. – Columbia CTA Scholarship - \$750 Belle Livestock Scholarship - \$250 Belle Fair Scholarship - \$500 MFA Foundation Scholarship \$2,000 Theodore E. and Edna Leffler Scholarship - \$3,000 Maries County R-2 Foundation Scholarship - \$1,500 Maries County R-II Belle/Bland Booster Club Scholarship - \$500 Hawkeye 4-H Scholarship - \$250 Donald "Eno" W. Zumwalt Memorial Agricultural Scholarship - \$1,000

The Last Chance Scholarship -\$300

Gracie Schultz Will be attending Columbia College Columbia College Excellence

Scholarship \$12,000 Columbia College Track and Field Scholarship \$6,000 Columbia College Outstanding Leadership and Excellence Award

\$2,000 Columbia College A+ Scholarship \$1,500

Kaeding-Winter Scholarship -\$1,000 The FBLA Amanda Bradford

Thompson Memorial Scholarship - \$1,000

St Johns United Church Scholarship - \$1,000 Schierloh Family Scholarship -

\$3,000 Jessi Schweer Currently attending Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College Halle Smith Will be attending Southeast Missouri State Southeast Mo. State Full Ride Basketball Scholarship

Southeast Mo. State Copper Dome Scholarship \$2,000 Southeast Mo. State Residence Life Scholarship \$1,000 Alan D. and Yvonne L. Skouby Scholarship - \$400 **Cheyenne Struemph** Will be attending Hannibal-LaGrange University Hannibal LaGrange University Softball Athletic Scholarship \$6.000 Hannibal LaGrange University Academic Scholarship \$9,500 Sheriff Rov Bassett Memorial Scholarship - \$250 KC Farms Scholarship - \$10,000 **Brayden Tipton** Will be attending Columbia College Columbia College Excellence Scholarship \$12,000 Kaeding-Winter Scholarship -\$3,000 Hailie Tobias Will be attending Truman State University Truman State President's Honorary Scholarship \$1,500 Truman State Merit Scholarship

\$3,000 Missouri Scholarship & Foundation Access Scholarship - \$2,000 Mo-Sci Foundation Scholarship -

\$2,000 **Drew Walters** Hawkeye 4-H Scholarship - \$250





LANEFEELER (top photo) accepts the Continuing Athletic Scholarship and Olivia Sanders (above) accepts the Last Chance Scholarship.

Flooray for Our Graduates!

Reach for the stars, Class of 2021. It's a brand new exciting century and anything is possible! We're proud of you, and we wish you all a bright and shining future with much happiness.

WADE HICKS, OWNER

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www.HicksAutoSales.com

Looks Like You Made It!

Your hard work has paid off, and now you are really on your way. We wish you all the best as you embark on exciting new challenges and adventures. The best is yet to come!

Congratulations, graduates.





You've passed the test with flying colors! Congratulations to the entire graduating class of 2021 on a stellar achievement. *Thanks for making us proud!*



573-646-3028 • KMCountryStore@gmail.com 203 E. Colorado Street, Bland, MO 65014

WEDNESDAY, MAY 19, 2021 ■ PAGE 8

COUNTY Advocate



Rose Baxter



Aryssa Chambers



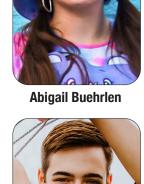
Nicholas Compton













Aiden Cragmiles



Robbi Buehrlen





Kenzi Cetroute



Lane Feeler



Jesse Gehlert



Travis Gessellschap



Jace Gieck



Braeden Green



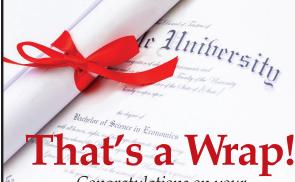
Keleigh Guinn



Trinity Hiatt

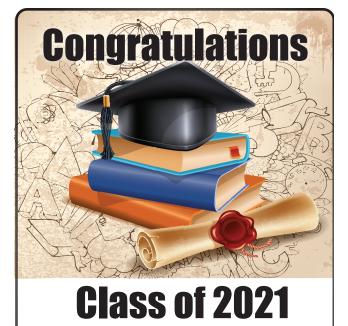


Levi Hinz



Congratulations on your commencement! We know you'll go far in life, and we wish you all the best on your graduation day and always.







Meta Plant: 573-229-4886 Vichy Plant: 573-299-4222



Graduation will undoubtedly create a life style change for both graduates and parents. Now is the perfect time to review your insurance and make sure your coverages are adequate for these changes. Give me a call so we can help you review your policies.

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WEDNESDAY, MAY 19, 2021 ■ PAGE 9

COUNTY Advocate



Nathaniel Hudson



Mikai Lough



Kaleb Miller



Wyatt Kirkland



Lucas Miller





Susan Moman



Chase Kottwitz



Chloe Krause



Brandon Ostertag







Madilynn Long



Dillon Rice



Kolten Roberds



Oliva Sanders



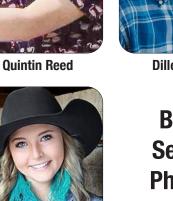
Aspyn Schroeder



Gracie Schultz

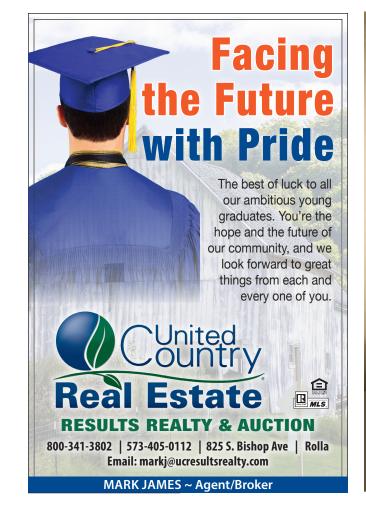


Branden Schuman



Belle Senior **Photos** continue on page 14.

Jessi Schweer

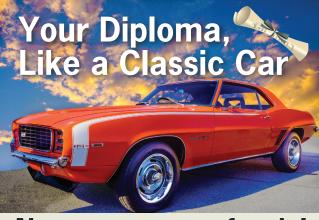


CONGRATULATIONS As you turn the page to the next chapter, the future is yours to write. Fill it with new experiences, good people and rewarding choices that help make the world a better place.

Best wishes to all of the dedicated seniors who are celebrating their graduation today!

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Never goes out of style!

Congratulations to all our graduates. As you celebrate this milestone, please be smart about your safety and the safety of others. Drinking and driving can take away all of your future dreams in an instant.



WEDNESDAY, MAY 19, 2021 PAGE 10 MARIES Advocate











ROBBI BUEHRLEN (photo above left) accepted the Shelter Insurance Scholarship from Tonya Price, as well as the Nancy Janes Memorial Scholarship (photo above). Caitlin Cutslinger (photo lower left) accepts the Maries County Bank Scholarship from Sara Stratman, Chase Kottwitz (lower middle) accepted the Maries County Bank Vocational Scholarship. Mikal Lough (photo bottom left) was awarded the MFA Scholarship. Vicki Nelson (photo middle left) awarded the Mid-America Bank scholarship to Robbi Ruehrlen.





Plan well, Work hard, Achieve your dreams.

Congratulations to the Graduating Class of 2021 from:

J and J's Café Family Dining 300 Johnson Avenue • Belle, Mo 573-859-3023



Three Cheers for the Class of 2021

You did it! Years of hard work have led you to this day, and now is your moment to enjoy the accolades. Good luck, graduates.



Auctioneer: Eddie Arnold 1761 E. Forest Lane Owensville, MO 65066

573-437-2433 • 573-205-0209

WEDNESDAY, MAY 19, 2021 PAGE 11 MARIES Advocate









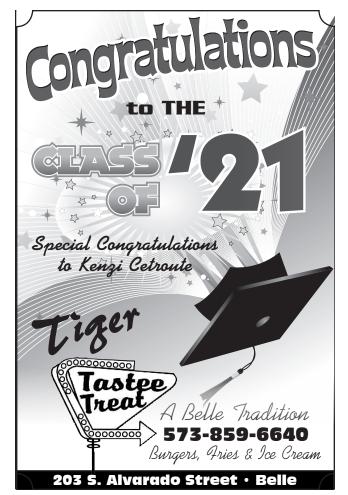
THE BELLE/BLAND Booster Club gave out five scholarships to Madilynn Long (top left), Chloe Krause (top middle), Keleigh Guinn (top right), Olivia Sanders (above right) and Kenzi Cetroute (above right). Keleigh Guinn (above) accepted the VFW Post 3410 Scholarship.



May you reach all of your dreams and goals, graduates! We're proud of you.











WEDNESDAY, MAY 19, 2021 PAGE 12 MARIES Advocate

Careford Areas Brances







It's your day to let loose and celebrate. We know it took a lot of hard work to get where you are today, and we are proud of your accomplishments. We hope you enjoy every minute of your graduation day, and please remember to be smart and celebrate responsibly. Congratulations!





Friends, Family, Joy, Laughter and Success!

May your graduation day and your future be filled with many wonderful blessings. **Congratulations and Best Wishes to the**

Graduating Class of 2021.



COUNTRY BELLE CAFE THAT **CREEK** PLACE 305 Alvarado Belle • Mo ~ 573-85903688

ROBBI BUEHRIEN (far left) and Olivia Sanders (left) accepted scholarships from the Belle Fair. The Bland Alumni awarded two scholarships to Robbi Buehrien (lower left) and Kenzi Cetroute lower far left photo).



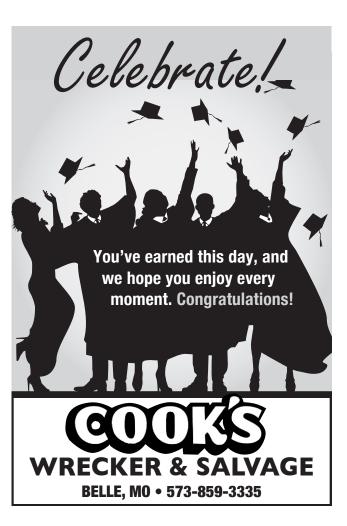
CELEBRATE

Your hard work has paid off. We hope your graduation day is special in every way, and we wish you much luck as you take the next step.

Congratulations!

Belle Dental Clinic Rodger Janes DDS

573-859-6901 203 W. Third Street Belle



COUNTY Advocate WEDNESDAY, MAY 19, 2021 ■ PAGE 13

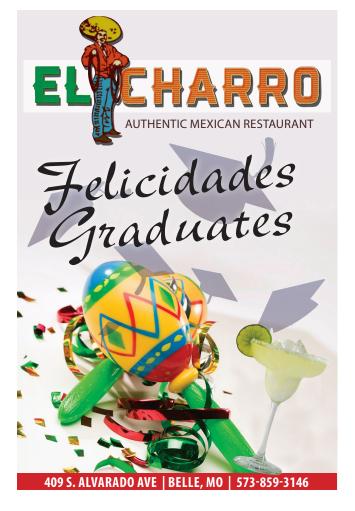


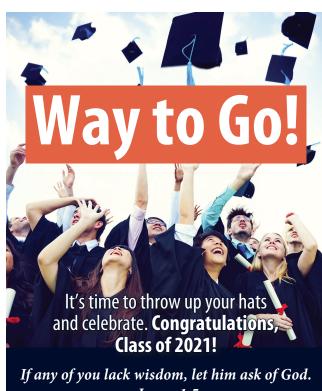




CMEC AWARDED two scholarships to graduates Chase Kottwitz (top left, photo) and Kaleb Miller (top right, photo) who are pursuing a career in heavy equipment operations. Tri County Youth Association awarded two scholarships to Lane Feeler (right) and Madilynn Long (above).







~ James 1:5a

BLAND CHRISTIAN CHURCH

710 W. Hwy 28 • Bland, Mo. 573-646-3245 / 573-646-3827





We are all so very



It's your day in the sun, Class of 2021. We knew you could do it! Congratulations and best of luck to all the graduates.

Special Congratulations to

BELLE GRADUATES: Abigail Buehrlen • Quintin Reed Hailie Tobias



Highway 29 East, Owensville, MO 573-437-4156

WEDNESDAY, MAY 19, 2021 ■ PAGE 14

COUNTY Advocate



Jebadiah Seaver



Halle Smith



Cheyenne Struemph



Bandon Tackett



Brayden Tipton



Hailie Tobias



Jacob Turner



Drew Walters





Nathan Wells



Alexis White



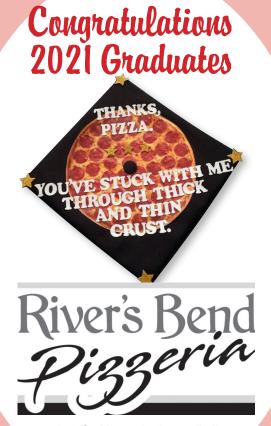


Your years of hard work in the classroom have paid off, graduates. Now it's time to take what you've learned and put it to work in the real world. We know you'll go far and we wish you all the best!

Thanks for making us proud.

CONGRATULATIONS





300 S. Alvarado Ave. · Belle 573-859-3744

Congratulations



Graduation will undoubtedly create a life style change for both graduates and parents. Now is the perfect time to review your insurance and make sure your coverages are adequate for these changes. Give me a call so we can help you review your policies.



ShelterInsurance.com

WEDNESDAY, MAY 19, 2021 PAGE 15 MARIES Advocate





ROBBI BUEHRIEN accepted both the American Red Cross Scholarship (above left) and the NHS Scholarship (above middle). Lane Feeler (above right) accepted the Back to Life Taxidermy Scholarship. CTA issues two scholarships to Keleigh Guinn (middle right) and Olivia Sanders (bottom right) Cheyenne Struemph (bottom left) was awarded the KC Farms Scholarship. Olivia Sanders also accepted the Belle Livestock Committee Scholarship.





Congratulations Class of 2021

Graduation is not the end of a tough journey. It is the beginning of a new and challenging one! Best of luck on your future endeavors!



206-D Alvarado Belle **573-859-3100**





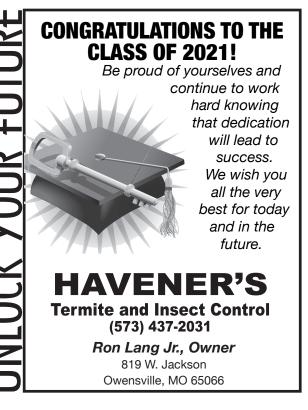


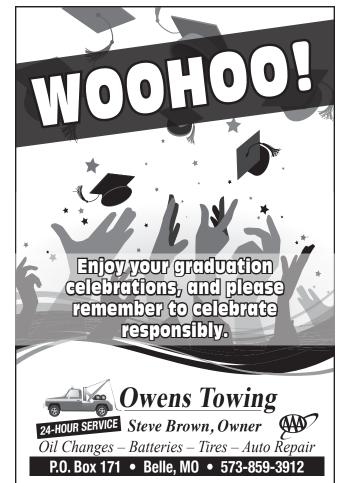
To the graduates of 2021, go our very best wishes for health, happiness and success both today and in the future.

Green Cabinet LLC

Manufacturer of Quality Cabinets *Kitchen* ~ *Bath* ~ *Specialty* 610 12th Street • Belle, M0 • 573-859-6459







WEDNESDAY, MAY 19, 2021 PAGE 16 COUNTY Advocate





The future belongs to you, graduate. Remember the important values and lessons you've learned here at home, and carry them with you on your path to success.

JOEY AND CAROL BUTLER J. Butler & Sons Hauling Inc.

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Looking Forward to a Bright Future

Congratulations to all our 2021 Graduates!

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In business for

over 60 years

WEDNESDAY, MAY 19, 2021 ■ PAGE 17

COUNTY Advocate









You made it to the ΓOP

We're so glad to see you succeed. Congratulations Class of 2021

MARIES COUNTY Advocate Belle • 573-859-3323 Vienna • 573-422-6323 www.MariesCountyAdvocate.com



Congratulations to æ 6jeck!

I am so proud of you! From your hard work at all those sports you played and your commitment to your academics, you have shown us your drive to be successful. I am proud you have chosen to serve your country in the U.S. Army. You have made me proud every day.

Be bold,

be courageous, be your best!

~ Love, Mom



Congratulations. Class of 2021



Graduating in the top 6 from the Belle High School Class of 2021 are: (from left): Cheyenne Struemph, Olivia Sanders, Caitlin Crutsinger, Kenzi Cetroute, Gracie Schultz and Susan Moman.

Congratulations and may you succeed in your future endeávors.

204 S. Alvarado Ave, Belle • 573-859-3311 www.legendsbk.com



WEDNESDAY, MAY 19, 2021 ■ PAGE 18

We have BIG plans...

COUNTY Advocate

Image: Section of the sec

LIEUTENANT COLONEL David Ward, U.S. Army was in Vienna on Friday to present the National Army ROTC Scholarship to Jehoshua Casey. Casey was approximately one of 750 people across the nation to receive this 4 year scholarship.

VHS Senior Class celebrates its final step in high school at graduation

It was the happy occasion of graduation Sunday afternoon in Allen Gymnasium when the 38-member Vienna High School Class of 2021 took a final bow and said farewell.

Last year the graduation was held in the summer at the ballpark. On Sunday it was such as a victory to be back in the gymnasium to celebrate graduation in the traditional way in the traditional place.

Dressed in their gowns and caps the seniors were smiling as they walked two-by-two into the gym, which was full of well-wishing family, friends, and Maries R-1 staff. The Maries R-1 Band, directed by Ray Spiller, sounded perfect in playing "Pomp and Circumstance" and two other musical selections during the graduation ceremony.

Senior Sadie Novak gave the in-See VHS Class on Page 23 **Michael Andrews** plans to travel internationally and enter into the workforce.

Evan Casey plans to attend Missouri University of Science and Technology, Rolla, to pursue a degree in Mechanical Engineering.

Jehoshua Casey plans to attend Truman State University, Kirksville, to pursue a degree in Psychology and International Business; Jehoshua will also participate in the Reserve Officers' Training Corps.

- **Luke Conner** plans to attend Ozark Technical College, Springfield, to pursue a degree in Drafting and Design.
- Wyatt Coons plans to attend Missouri University of Science and Technology, Rolla, to pursue a degree in Information Science and Technology.
- Audrey Culver plans to attend Missouri State

University, West Plains, to pursue a degree in Nursing.

Sarah Darr plans to attend Merrell University to pursue a degree in Barbering, Cosmetology and Esthetics.

Samuel Douglas plans to enter into the workforce.

Karissa Feeler plans to attend Maryville University, St. Louis, to pursue a degree in Nursing.

Trevor Fiedler plans to attend State Technical College of Missouri, Linn, to pursue a degree in Heating, Ventilation, and Air

Conditioning Technology.

Tyler Gerstacker has joined The United States Army.

Benjamin Hale plans to enter into the workforce. **Maggie Helton** plans to attend East Central Col-

lege, Rolla, to complete

See VHS Plans on Page 22

<section-header>

Proclamation

WHEREAS: The Vienna High School will graduate 40 seniors at the school's annual commencement exercises Sunday, May 16, 2021.

WHEREAS: These 40 graduating seniors represent the future of this community, the state, and the nation; and

WHEREAS: Among these 40 graduating seniors of the Vienna High School Class of 2021 will be tomorrow's civic and business leaders, political figures and educators, and will contribute unselfishly to the continued growth and well being of the Vienna community, the state and the nation,

THEREFORE,

The City of Vienna extends sincere congratulations to each and every one of the 40 members of the Class of '21, their parents and their teachers, and honors them for the success they have achieved and recognizes the potential for their future success.

The City of Vienna, Missouri ~ May 16, 2021

Tyler James MAYOR



WEDNESDAY, MAY 19, 2021 ■ PAGE 19

COUNTY Advocate



THE VIENNA Chamber of Commerce presented checks for \$175 to 18 members of the Vienna class of 2021. Pictured are Evan Casey, Jehoshua Casey, Luke Conner, Wyatt Coons, Karissa Feeler, Rhea Helton, Caleb Horman, Jada Kleffner, Owen Kloeppel, Alicia Long, Marsie Messersmith, Sadie Novak, Mollo Otto, Bethany Russell, Hannah Shanks, Alexi Struemph, Emily Thompson, Gabrielle Wilkinson and Vienna Chamber of Commerce members Lisa Garro and Cole Higbie.

Community Scholarships awarded to Class of 2021

Richard and Shirley James Family Scholarship Karissa Feeler and Alicia Long Roy Bassett Memorial **Scholarship** Alexi Struemph MFA Scholarship and Vienna Tax Service Book Scholarship Hannah Shanks Leo Thompson Memorial Scholarship Hannah Shanks and Emily Thompson Argyle V.F.W. POST 8045 **Scholarship** Ashton Stratman **Shelter Insurance Scholarship**

Karissa Feeler and Marsie Messersmith Thomas Coffey Scholarship Karissa Feeler, Jada Kleffner, Hannah Shanks, Bethany Russell Maries County Bank Vocational Scholarship Alexi Struemph Maries County Bank Employees/ Board of Directors Scholarship Molly Otto Maries County Bank Four Year Scholarship

Scholarship Marsie Messersmith Vienna-Bassett Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie #4340 Molly Otto and Emily Thompson Gascosage Electric Cooperative -Luther A. Riddle Scholarship

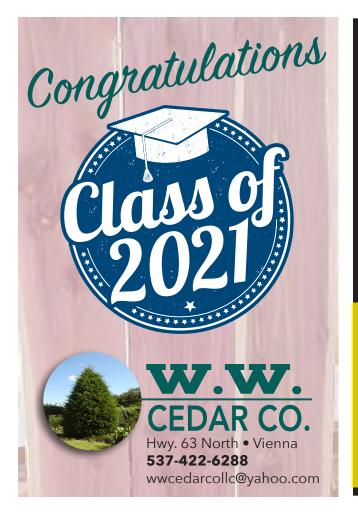
Marsie Messersmith, Sadie Novak and Molly Otto

Vienna Chamber of Commerce Show-Me Scholars Scholarship Evan Casey, Jehoshua Casey, Luke Conner, Wyatt Coons, Karissa Feeler, Rhea Helton, Caleb Horman, Jada Kleffner, Owen Kloeppel, Alicia Long, Marsie Messersmith, Sadie Novak, Mollo Otto, Bethany Russell Hannah

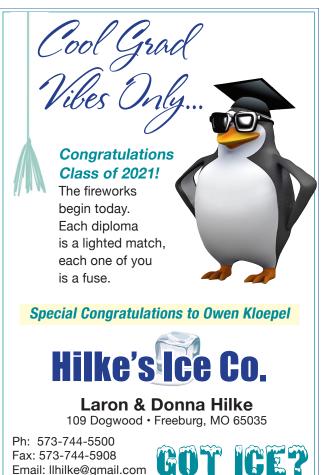
Shanks. Alexi Struemph, Emily Thompson and Gabrielle Wilkinson **Missouri Chamber Foundation Show-Me Scholars Scholarship** Hannah Shanks The Schwartze Family Scholarship Delaney Thompson National Army ROTC Scholarship Jehoshua Casey Dr. David Marc Segall Family Scholarship Gabrielle Wilkinson Vienna Lions Club Scholarship Karen Logan, Molly Otto and Alexi

Struemph Karlee Hallahan Memorial Scholarship

See Scholarships on Page 26







WEDNESDAY, MAY 19, 2021 PAGE 20

COUNTY Advocate





Congratulations to the Class of 2021!

KEITH & ANGIE THOMPSON AND FAMILY 201 Highway 63 South • Vienna • 573-422-3131

Special Congratulations to Emily Thompson!

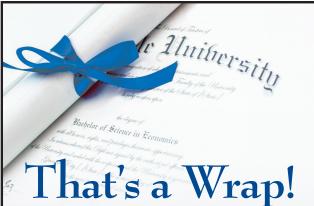


HATS OFF, GRADUATESI



May your graduation be the first of many great achievements to come. Congratulations!





Congratulations on your commencement! We know you'll go far in life, and we wish you all the best on your graduation day and always.

Congratulations graduates



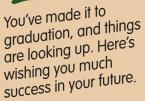
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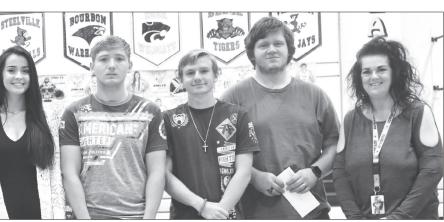




WEDNESDAY, MAY 19, 2021 PAGE 21 MARIES Advocate









Looks Like You Made It!

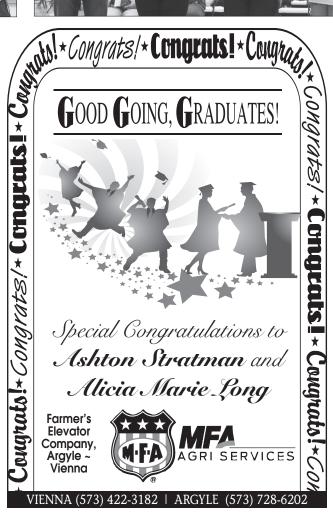
Your hard work has paid off, and now you are really on your way. We wish you all the best as you embark on exciting new challenges and adventures. The best is yet to come! **Congratulations, graduates.**

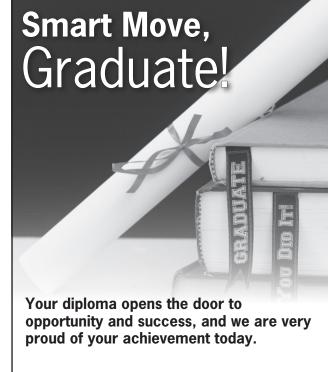


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VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE awards were earned by Ben Hale (top photo, from left) Nathan Kleffner, Emily Thompson, Ashton Stratman, Hannah Shanks, Landon Parmeley, Molly Otto, Alicia Long, Caleb Horman, Layne Hogshooter, Jada Kleffner, Owen Kloeppel, Gabby Wilkinson and Maries County Farm Bureau President Chris Rowden was present to present the awards. Business education awards (middle right photo) were earned by Wyatt Coons (from left), Michael Andrews, Sarah Darr, Rhea Helton, Tyler Gerstacker, Caleb Horman, Gavin Rivera and Mrs. Angie Combs, teacher. Family and Consumer Science awards (bottom left photo) where presented to Alexi Struemph, Audrey Culver, Miranda Murray amd Trevor Fiedler. Career and Technical Education Certificates where awarded to Layne Weeks, DelaneyThompson,KadenMoreland, Chloe Hutson and Ben Hale.







Three Rivers Electric Cooperative

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WEDNESDAY, MAY 19, 2021 ■ PAGE 22

COUNTY Advocate

VHS Plans from page 18

her general education requirements, then transfer to University of Missouri, Columbia, to pursue a degree in Business

- Rhea Helton plans to attend State Technical College of Missouri, Linn, to pursue a degree in Dental Assistance.
- Layne Hogshooter plans to attend State Technical College of Missouri, Linn, to pursue a degree inHeating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning Technology. Caleb Horman plans to attend Missouri University of Science and Technology, Rolla, to pursue a degree in Computer
- Engineering. Chloe Hutson plans to enter into the workforce. Jada Kleffner plans to attend
- State Technical College of Missouri, Linn, to pursue a degree in Nursing.
- Nathan Kleffner plans to attend State Technical College of Missouri, Linn, to pursue a degree in Heavy Equipment Operation.
- Owen Kloeppel plans to



THE VIENNA FFA Chapter awarded scholarships to Jada Kleffner (above, from left), Owen Kloeppel, Ashton Stratman, Emily Thompson, Molly Otto and Hannah Shanks.

- attend State Technical College of Missouri, Linn, to pursue a degree in Civil Engineering.
- Morgan Lake has joined The United States Marine Corps.
- Alicia Long plans to attend State Technical College of Missouri, Linn, to pursue a degree in Physical Therapy Assistance.
- Marsie Messersmith plans to attend Lincoln University, Jefferson City, to pursue a degree in Nursing. Kaden Moreland plans to attend Rolla Technical
- Institute, Rolla, to pursue a degree in Collision Repair. Miranda Murray plans to attend Maryville University, St. Louis, to pursue a degree in Forensics.
- Sadie Novak plans to attend University of Minnesota - Twin Cities, Minneapolis, to pursue a degree in Psychology.
- Molly Otto plans to attend State Technical College of Missouri, Linn, to pursue a degree in Radiologic Technology.

Landon Parmeley plans to enter into the workforce. Gavin Rivera plans to enter into the workforce.

Bethany Russell plans to attend East Central College, Union, to complete her general education requirements, then transfer to University of Missouri, Columbia, to pursue a degree in Animal Science and Environmental Science; Bethany will perform for the ECC College Band.

- Hannah Shanksplans to attend University of Missouri, Columbia, to pursue a degree in Agribusiness Management and Animal Science
- Ashton Stratman plans to attend Missouri University of Science and Technology, Rolla, to pursue a degree in Civil Engineering.
- Alexi Struemph plans to attend State Technical College of Missouri, Linn, to pursue a degree in Nursing.
- **Delaney Thompson** plans to attend College of the Ozarks, Point Lookout, to pursue a degree in Nursing.
- Emily Thompson plans to attend Ozark Technical College, Waynesville, to

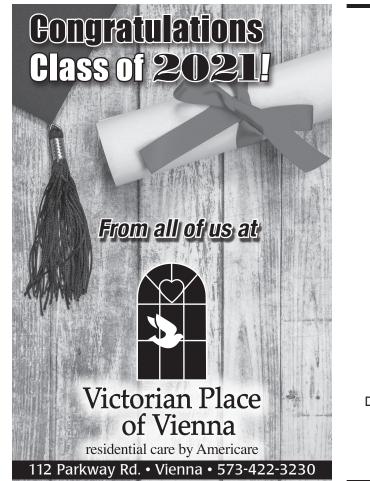
complete her general education requirements, then transfer to Missouri State University, Springfield, to pursue a degree in Physician Assistant Studies.

- Hannah Vineyard plans to enter into the workforce.
- Layne Weeks plans to enter into the workforce. Gabrielle Wilkinson plans
 - to attend University of Central Missouri, Warrensburg, to pursue a degree in Marketing and Finance.

Congratulations! You're a wise one, graduate. Keep up the great work!

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WEDNESDAY, MAY 19, 2021 ■ PAGE 23 d

COUNTY Advocate



THREE VHS seniors received the Gascosage Electric Cooperative Luther A. Riddle Scholarships, receiving the scholarships were Sadie Novak (photo above left, from left), Marsie Messersmith and Molly Otto. Gabrielle Wilkinson, (photo above right, from left) Alexi Struemph and Jehoshua Casey received the Jerrilyn (Feeler) Snodgrass Memorial Scholarship.

VHS Class • from page 18

vocation, asking the Creator to lend a hand and help guide them through the obstacles that may be in their paths as they move into their futures.

Maries R-1 Superintendent Mark Parker welcomed all present to the 2021 graduation ceremonies. He said the seniors had made great accomplishments and now they are being sent off to the next part of their lives. There were many who helped them along the way. These seniors made it through some life-changing experiences and they did well. Nothing can stand in their way.

High School Principal Ian Murray introduced all of the speakers and emceed the graduation.

The special speaker was Mrs. Deborah Starkey, an English teacher chosen by the class members to speak at their graduation. Starkey had positive comments about every member of the senior class, and the students loved it, laughing and smiling as she spoke. She said, "You are all amazing." She thanked them for sharing their lives with her as they made her life "much richer and more meaningful for knowing all of you." She said they ended up being the ones who inspired her.

The class salutatorian is Ms. Hannah Shanks. With poise and determination she walked to the stage and began her speech, speaking clearly. She began by remembering things they did as kids, saying they couldn't wait to grow up. "Well, guys, that day is finally here." Shanks said she feels blessed to have grown up in a small town like Vienna. It's nice to graduate with the people she went to kindergarten with. So many memories were made. Now they embark on one of the most important journeys of their lives and many will leave the life and friends they are used to. "We should not fear though. Our class is set up for success." She commended the class on their ability to adapt during the Covid year. As they move on she encouraged them to take the leap of faith and that success is about consistency and hard work. "Its time to fly the nest, Eagles! Its time to soar!'

Mr. Evan Casey is the Class of 2021 Valedictorian. Casey was all smiles and thanks to everyone. He noted the many accomplishments at school over the past year, such as a State FFA Officer, athletic and academic team successes, winning conferences, districts and even a state softball title. Casey spoke of "gems of knowledge" he has pickup up. These include that parents are smarter than they appear. They everyone is a work in progress. Procrastination is not your friend. Graduating from high school is like earning your kindergarten diploma as it's only a step along the way. And, no one is holding you back, you are the only one who can limit yourself so don't do it. Casey wished all of them success and happiness in whatever they choose to do in life. He encouraged them to live for their dreams, beliefs, passions, and most importantly, for themselves. "You control your own future. Go and make it an amazing one."

In addition to the Maries R-1 Band, senior Owen Kloeppel also provided some musical entertainment with his voice and his guitar. He played and sang a George Strait song, "The Cowboy Rides Away." He received a standing ovation.

See VHS Class on Page 29



WEDNESDAY, MAY 19, 2021 PAGE 24

COUNTY Advocate



Michael Andrews



Sarah Darr



Evan Casey



Jehoshua Casey





Luke Conner

Trevor Fiedler



Wyatt Coons



Audrey Culver



Mekenzie Dabbs





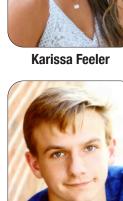


Rhea Helton



Layne Hogshooter

Hwy. 63 • Vienna, MO





Caleb Horman



Chloe Hutson



Jada Kleffner



Nathan Kleffner





Owen Kloeppel

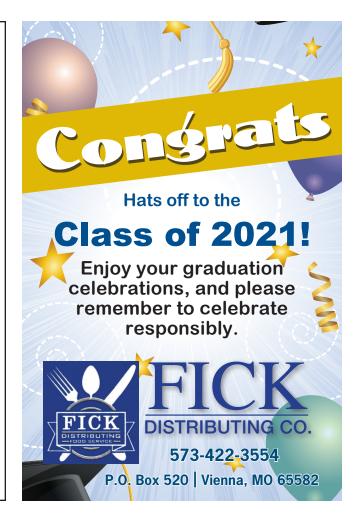


Congratulations to the graduat of 2021! Wear that big smile with pride, you've earned

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WEDNESDAY, MAY 19, 2021 ■ PAGE 25

COUNTY Advocate



Morgan Lake



Landon Parmeley



Alicia Long

Dalton Ramsey



Marsie Messersmith







Miranda Murray





Molly Otto







Delaney Thompson



Emily Thompson





Layne Weeks



Gabby Wilkinson





Best Wishes, Class of 2021 **BUD'S AUTO** BRAKES **♦** EXHAUST **♦** TIRES **♦** LUBE **♦** LIGHT MECHANICAL WORK 505 Hwy. 63 South ♦ Vienna, MO 65582

573-422-3414

UP, UP & AWAY! Wherever the road takes you after graduation, we wish you much happiness and success. May your education and experience lay the foundation for a bright future as you continue on your way.



We know you'll go far in life, and we wish you all the best.

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Hannah Vineyard

WEDNESDAY, MAY 19, 2021 PAGE 26

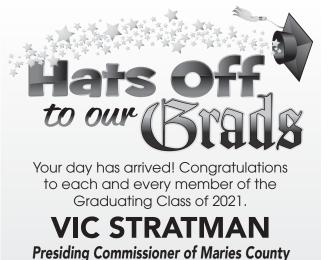
COUNTY Advocate



NATIONAL HONOR Society and American Red Cross Leaders Save Lives Scholarship was awarded to Gabrielle Wilkinson, Alexi Struemph, Alicia Long, Sadie Novak and Jada Kleffner. Alexi Struemph and Molly Otto received the Vienna Lions Club Scholarship.



HARD WORK paid off for these graduates who were the top ten students academically in the VHS Class of 2021. Pictured are Marsie Messersmith (front, left), Alexi Struemph, Sadie Novak, Luke Conner, Karissa Feeler. Evan Casey (back, left), Molly Otto, Hannah Shanks, Ashton Stratman and Alicia Long.



Presiding Commissioner of Maries County Paid for by Vic and Joan Stratman



Scholarships • from page 19 -

Karissa Feeler Jerrilyn (Feeler) Snodgrass Memorial Scholarship Jehoshua Casey, Alexi Struemph and Gabrielle Wilkinson Maries R - I Certified Teachers Association **Scholarship** Chloe Hutson Maries R - I Jean Scholarship Hannah Shanks, Alexi Struemph and Gabrielle Wilkinson **FFA - Vienna Chapter** Hannah Shanks, Jada Kleffner, Owen Kloeppel, Molly Otto, Ashton Stratman and Emily Thompson **National Honor Society and American Red Cross Leaders Save Lives Scholarship** Gabrielle Wilkinson, Alexi Struemph, Alicia Long, Jada Kleffner and Sadie Novak



To the graduates of 2021, go our very best wishes for health, happiness and success both today and in the future.

Vienna	SERVICE
	INATP MEMBER

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WEDNESDAY, MAY 19, 2021 PAGE 27

COUNTY Advocate



RAYMOND THOMPSON and Brenda Davis (above) presented Emily Thompson and Hannah Shanks with the Leo Thompson Memorial Scholarship. Evan Casey and Jehoshua Casey (photo above right) pictured with Counselor Natalie Martin, received the Missouri Higher Education Academic Bright Flight Scholarships. Luke Connor(not pictured) also was awarded a Bright Flight Scholarship. The Richard and Shirley James Family Scholarship (lower right) was presented to Alicia Long and Karissa Feeler by Richard and Diana James. Marsie Messersmith and Caleb Horman (photo bottom left) where awarded the United States Marine Corps Distinguished Athlete Award which is presented to student athletes who are recognized displaying courage, poise, self-confidence, and leadership as a high school athlete. Hannah Shanks and Evan Casey (lower left) received the United States Marine Corps Scholastic Excellence Award for academic achievement and leadership as a high school scholar.





Congratulations Class of 2021!



Wishing all our local graduates a wonderful day and a future filled with success.

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A Proud Moment

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As you celebrate the culmination of your academic efforts, we'd like to extend our warm congratulations. May your diploma open all the right doors.

Good Luck, Class of 2021!

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Albert Crump, Jr. • James T. Crump Ralph Haslag • Bev Clark • Tammy Martin 206 S. MAIN • VIENNA • **573-422-6191**

Congratulations

Great Job Graduates

We're proud of you, graduates. May your future be as bright and wonderful as you are. We will always be here to support and encourage you as you pursue your dreams.

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WEDNESDAY, MAY 19, 2021 ■ PAGE 28

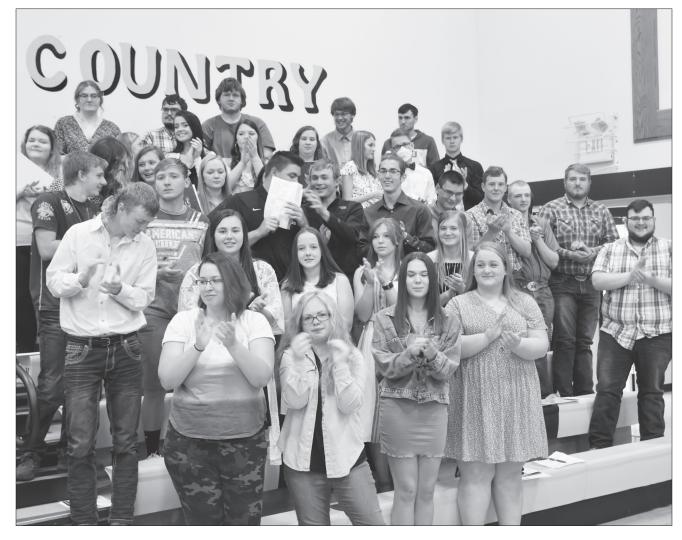
COUNTY Advocate







HANNAH SHANKS received the \$2,000 Farmer's Elevator/MFA Scholarship as presented by Carl Henderson last Friday during the assembly. She also received Henderson's \$300 Vienna Tax Service Book Scholarship (photo left). Gabrielle Wilkinson (center photo) received the \$500 David Marc Segall Family Scholarship presented by Counselor Natalie Martin. Ashton Stratman received the Argyle V.F.W. Post 8045 Scholarship presented by Larry Kampeter and Kip Hughes (photo right).





Ellis, Shirley & Craig Crum



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VIENNA SHELTER Insurance Agent, Courtney Jeremy, presented a \$2,000 Shelter Foundation Scholarship to VHS seniors Marsie Messersmith and Karissa Feeler (photo above). Maries R-1 teach John Kinkead presented Chloe Hutson with this year's Certified Teacher Association Scholarship for students interested in becoming teachers (bottom).





An Achievement to Celebrate

We salute the hard work and dedication that got you here today, graduates. As you receive your diplomas, please know you have made us proud, and we wish all of you all the best. Congratulations!

Bruce Sassmann

State Representative • 62nd District **Missouri House of Representatives** State Capitol • 201 W. Capitol Ave. • Rm 203-C

Office: (573) 751-1344 Cell: (573) 368-8393 Email: Bruce.Sasssmann@house.mo.gov



WEDNESDAY, MAY 19, 2021 ■ PAGE 29



VHS Class • from page 23

There was a video slide presentation set to music and families applauded and hollered when their senior's photos were shown.

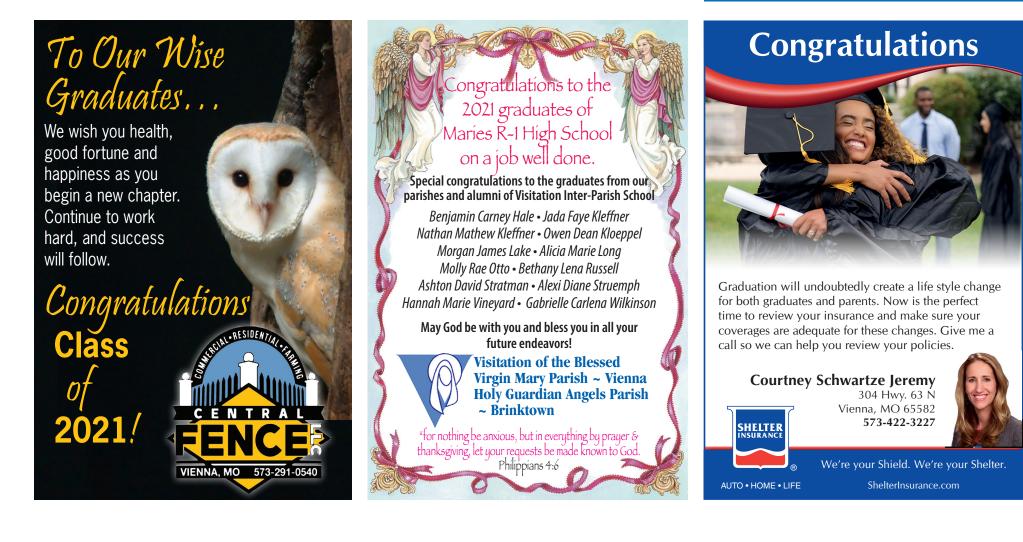
Murray spoke briefly about the class of 2021 as they were kindergartners during his first year at Maries R-1 as a PE teacher and coach. He talked about asking them to stand in a line and they asked what a line was. Murray said the class has worked hard, they have earned their diplomas and recognition, and will succeed in whatever they want. Then each of them had their name spoken by Counselor Natalie Martin and they came to the stage and were presented with their high school diplomas to the cheers and hoots and hollers of the graduation guests.

The last traditional action was being led by class president Marsie Messersmith as they moved the tassels on their caps from the right side to the left. Then the caps were tossed into the air amid more fun and laughter. And, then, the class of 2021 left the building. **THE TOM** Coffey scholarships of \$500 were given to Bethany Russell, Hannah Shanks, Karissa Feeler and Jada Kleffner. Marsie Messermsith (lower right) received the bank's four-year \$500 per semester scholarship, and Alexi Struemph (lower middle) received the vocational two-year \$500 per semester scholarship and Molly Otto received the MCBemployee and board of directors scholarship of \$1,000.

COUNTY Advocate

Graduation isn't the end of a tough journey, It's the beginning Of a beautiful one... and we hope the future holds many wonderful things for you! **Rosebud Tractor** & Equipment Company 241 Hwy. 50 ROSEBUI Rosebud, MO 63091 573-764-3393

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WEDNESDAY, MAY 19, 2021 PAGE 30

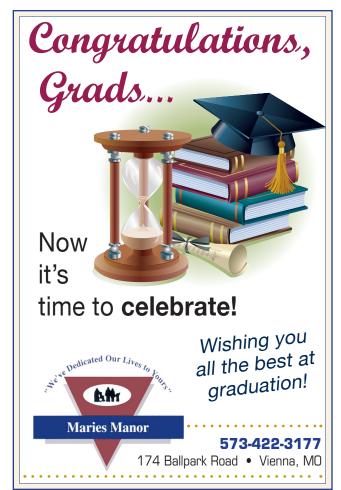


THE MARIES R1 Jean Scholarship was awarded to (photo right) Alexi Struemph, Gabrielle Wilkinson and Hannah Shanks.



Wishing all of our graduates a happy day and a bright future!





THE A+ Scholarship program helps students who otherwise may not get to attend college as the state pays for a two-year associate's degree program. The students have to mentor other students and be good role models. They volunteer many hours at the school each year. VHS seniors who qualified for the A+ Scholarship include (photo left): Michael Andrews, Evan Casey, Jehoshua Casey, Luke Conner, Wyatt Coons, Sarah Darr, Karissa Feeler, Trevor Fiedler, Tyler Gerstacker, Ben Hale, Maggie Helton, Rhea Helton, Layne Hogshooter, Caleb Horman, Chloe Hutson, Jada Kleffner, Nathan Kleffner, Owen Kloeppel, Morgan Lake, Alicia Long, Marsie Messersmith, Kaden Moreland, Sadie Novak, Molly Otto, Landon Parmeley, Bethany Russell, Hannah Shanks, Ashton Stratman, Alexi Struemph, Delaney Thompson, Emily Thompson, Hannah Vineyard and Gabrielle Wilkinson.

COUNTY Advocate



Celebrate, and enjoy yourselves. You've earned it!

Congratulations and best wishes to all the graduates.



WEDNESDAY, MAY 19, 2021 ■ PAGE 31

COUNTY Advocate

congratulations

We've watched you come

this far, and now the sky is the limit. Hold fast to your dreams, and don't

be afraid to reach for the

stars. We know you

can do it!

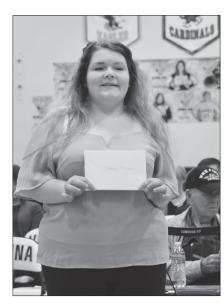
Best Witherson Glass of 2021

Margie's Cafe

Congratulations, Class of 2020!

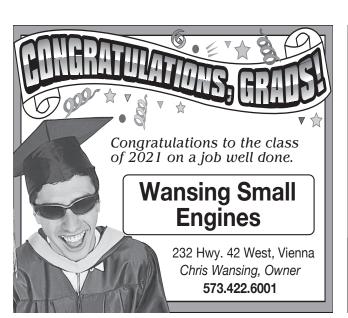
And best wishes for continued

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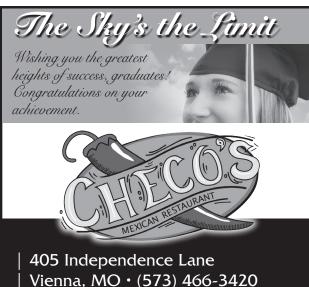






DELANEYTHOMPSON (photo above on left), accepted the \$1,000 Schwartze Family Scholarship for excellence in high school. Tom Eads (above) presented the Vienna-Bassett Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie #4340 scholarship to Emily Thompson and Molly Otto. Lisa Garro from the Vienna Chamber of Commerce presented the Missouri Chamber Foundation Show-Me Scholars Scholarship to Hannah Shanks. Karissa Feeler (lower left) accepted the Karlee Hallahan Memorial Scholarship Nyla Bassett (photo left) presented the Sheriff Roy Bassett Memorial Scholarship to Alexi Struemph.





success in the future! Loyal & Stephanie Henderson Congratulations Class of 2021

Graduation is not the end of a tough journey. It is the beginning of a new and challenging one! Best of luck on your future endeavors!



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WEDNESDAY, MAY 19, 2021 PAGE 32

COUNTY Advocate

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