

Tigertalk



**Valedictorian Sophie Greco
Salutatorian Nathaniel Martinez**



**Prom Royalty
Francisco Tovar
& Emilia Vega**



**Tiger Dolls Spring Show
Captain Geni Rubio**

What's Inside

Stories

& Photos

State Track.....	Page 2
Teacher of the Year.....	Pages 3, 10
Employee of the Year.....	Pages 3, 5
Valedictorian.....	Page 4
Salutatorian.....	Page 5
Top 10 Percent.....	Pages 6-10
Magna Cum Laude.....	Page 10
Brissia Alvarez.....	Page 11
Osmar Galindo.....	Page 11
Senior Plans.....	Pages 12-14
FBLA.....	Pages 15, 17
Academic Blankets.....	Pages 16-17
Prom.....	Pages 18-19
Spring Show.....	Pages 20-21
Senior Columns.....	Page 22
Baseball, Softball.....	Page 23
Health Science.....	Pages 24-25
Military.....	Page 25
Health Science.....	Page 24
20 Questions.....	Page 26
Tiger Roar.....	Page 28

Bennett wins silver at state track



Senior Dylan Bennett, won a UIL State silver medal in the 5A 100M competition on May 3 with a time of 10.52. Bennett was barely edged out by William Mitchell of Marshall with a time of 10.43. Blake Holland of Magnolia won the bronze at 10.54. Bennett will continue his track career at the University of Texas at Tyler. At left is Head Track coach, Jeff Litke, and Bennett with his state silver medal.

Tigertalk

NEWS STAFF

Editor: Nathalie Rojas

Practicum and Newspaper 2: Idania Castanonm, Ana Ceballos, Ali Fair Cheek, Noemy Dorantes, Isaiah Rodarte, Jovani Garcia, Juan Sierra-Rosales and Zachary Smallwood.

Newspaper 1: Alfred Anderson, Ivan Banda, McKenzie Barnes, Jasmine Briones, Jennifer Castro, Jonathan Chamorro Bonilla, Aniya Crump, Daniele Culvinar, Isaac Flores, Yahir Gonzalez, Angel Hernandez, Jassiel Hernandez, AJ Jeff, Emily Ortiz, Anjelique Sanchez, Raymond Sanchez, Kristina Tidwell and Jorge Zuniga.

Advisor: John Whitten

Special Contributor: Kelly Cowan,
MPISD Director of Communications

The Tigertalk is published five-six times a year by the newspaper and journalism classes of MPHS. Address is P.O. Box 1117, Mount Pleasant, Texas 75455. Letters to the editor are encouraged but must be signed and the staff reserved the right to edit because of space. Submit all letters to Mr. Whitten in Room 402 of the CTE Building.

Rivera named Teacher of the Year

By **NOEMY DORANTES**
Tigertalk Staff Writer

Every year, MPHS selects a teacher of the year. For 2024, the campus Teacher of the Year is Aleshia Rivera.

Rivera is the Cosmetology instructor at MPHS. Her favorite part about working at MPHS is getting to work in a supportive environment where she can be a part in shaping the futures of her students.

“One of the most fulfilling aspects of my job is building genuine connections and fostering relationships with my students,” Rivera said. “It’s incredibly rewarding to see those connections develop and flourish long after graduation.”

Rivera attended Northeast Texas Community College where she obtained her Cosmetology and Cosmetology Instructor License. She also attended the University of Tyler where she earned a Trade and Industrial Certification.

She is currently married and has



Rivera

three daughters and a son who lives in Austin. Rivera also has four grandchildren a cat and two birds.

Rivera says that the best thing about her job this year is being able to empower and love her students.

However, with good things come challenges as well, and Rivera has

See Rivera, Pg. 10

Goolsby is Employee of the Year

By **JARELY ESGUERRA**
Tigertalk Staff Writer

Senior counselor and swim coach Jerilyn Goolsby has been titled the 2024 employee of the year

Goolsby attended Northeast Texas Community College, Texas State University, East Texas State University and Texas A&M Commerce. She earned a Bachelor Science in Interdisciplinary Studies and Master of Education in School Counseling.

She said the best part of her job is “being able to watch the students grow up.”

She is married to Greg Russell and together they have two children -- son



Goolsby

See Goolsby, Pg. 5

Greco is 2024 valedictorian

By IDANIA CASTANON
Tigertalk Staff Writer

It is an honor to be named valedictorian; it shows others all the hard work you put into your life since freshman year.

Sophie Greco has earned the honor of being named the valedictorian for the senior class of 2024. Sophie is the daughter of Anthony and Ana Greco.

To her receiving this honor is “Recognizing all of the hard work I’ve put into my education from the second I stepped into a classroom.”

Greco plans on attending UT-Austin and majoring in business at McCombs. Her role model is her sister Isabella, who was also the 2021 valedictorian.

“She is academically resilient and the most supportive person I know,” Greco said.

Throughout her high school career, Sophie has accomplished much. For example, she was heavily involved in FBLA as she served as MPHS chapter co-president and Texas Area 6 State Vice President.

She was also NHS vice president, captain of the spelling team, varsity member of the swim and golf teams, STUCO member, academic blanket recipient all four years of high school, All-School girl, Heisman recipient, academic all-state swim, AP scholar.

“My parents definitely played a large role as they have constantly supported and pushed me to be the best student I could be,” Sophie said. “It’s also always been important to me that I be a positive role model for my brother.”

Greco’s hobbies include playing piano, golfing, watching movies, spending time outdoors, and playing the NYT games. Her favorite memories of high school come from her time in FBLA, UIL, and the athletic field trips.

Pg. 4 Tigertalk



Greco plans to attend UT-Austin.

The hardest class she had in high school was physics, “because it mentally challenged me in ways that were not familiar to me.”

Her favorite class was any math class that she’s ever taken, calculus, statistics, algebra and others.

“I really enjoy doing math and the tests are fun,”

Something that she wishes she could have done over would be to not stress so much and enjoy all of the little things.

Her final advice to the underclassman is “always give your 100% in any aspect of your life because at the end, it will all be worth it.”

Martinez is 2024 salutatorian

By NOEMY DORANTES

Tigertalk Staff Writer

The class of 2024 is about to begin a new chapter in their lives, and will depart and go their separate ways.

The salutatorian for this year's graduating class is Nathaniel Martinez. Nathaniel is the son of Sergio Hernandez and Sonia Bryan.

He believes the root of his success was the support he got from his parents, friends and teachers.

"Motivation from my parents, friends, and people doubting my ability to succeed," Martinez said.

Nathaniel was very active and successful throughout his high school career. He was the captain of the UIL Math team and a member of NHS and FBLA. He is a National Rural and Small-Town Scholar, National Hispanic Scholar, and a three-time Academic Blanket recipient for highest grade point average in Health Science Theory, Pre-Calculus, and Physics.

Nathaniel plans on majoring in computer science at the University of Texas at Austin. Although he's leaving for Austin this fall, he will cherish the memories he made in high school in UIL competitions, FBLA state, and the fun moments he had with his friends.

With the choices that led up to Nathaniel's success, came decisions that he wishes he could have done over. One being putting more effort in his classes' freshman year. However, he still en-



Martinez will be going to UT-Austin. joyed taking classes at MPHS, with his favorite being Calculus.

When asked what it meant to him to get this honor he said, "It's a confirmation of everything I've worked for these past couple of years."

Goolsby from Page 3

Rustyn, 23, and daughter, Grelyn, 20.

Goolsby has worked 14 years in the district. She worked five years at the junior high as an English teacher, girls coach and PE teacher. She also spent two years as a counselor at Frances Corprew and

spent the past seven at the high school.

Goolsby said she is very grateful to be recognized as the Employee of the Year.

One of the biggest challenges that Goolsby faces is "trying to be available for all her students with all their

senior year responsibilities."

Despite these challenges, the best thing about her job is being able to watch her students grow up from freshman year to their senior year and "seeing the seniors get excited about the next phase of their lives."

Pg. 5 Tigertalk

Class of 2024

Top 10 Percent Graduates



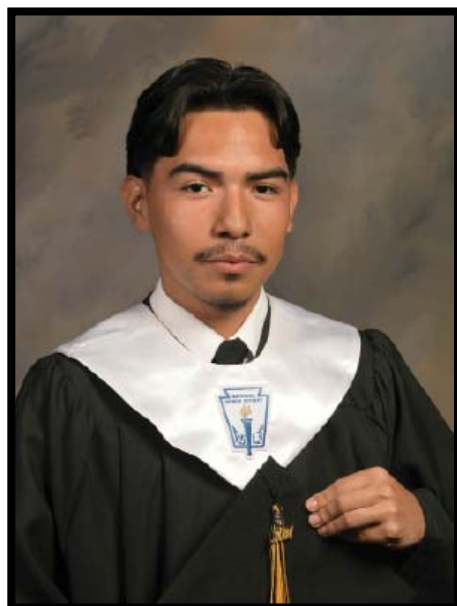
Sophie Greco
Valedictorian



Nathaniel Martinez
Salutatorian



Hannah Anderson



Oscar Castellanos



Nicholas Cates



Ella Cross



Caroline Currey



Brianne Davis



Clinton Debord



Drew Dyke



Jose Escobar



John Freeman



Jose Fuentes



Estefani Garcia



Yahir Garcia



Ana Garrett



Owen Green



Abigail Gutierrez



Angelina Hernandez



Stephanie Hernandez



Jillian Jetton



Erik Liera



Rebecca Martinez



Annie Munoz



Jeisy Salazar Munoz



Zoe Newman



Mckinsee Oviedo



Joel Palacios



Andrew Perez



Cecilia Phan



Kiara Rundles



Allie Sloan



Makayla Spigner



Harrison Wall



Conlee Zachry



Shpat Zeqaj

Rivera from Page 3

face many challenges throughout her career as a teacher.

“Each year comes with its own set of challenges however despite challenges, I always strive to focus on the positive aspects of teaching and find ways to overcome obstacles to provide the best learning environment for my students,” Rivera said.

When asked how she felt about receiving this honor from her peers, Rivera responded, “receiving the Teacher of the Year honor from my peers is incredibly humbling and rewarding. I am grateful for the recognition and proud to represent such a talented and supportive community of educators.”

Pg. 10 Tigertalk

Other 2024 Magna Cum Laude grads announced

**By ANA CEBALLOS
Tigertalk Staff Writer**

In addition to the Top 10 percent, a select number of students were recognized as Magna Cum Laude honorees for Mount Pleasant High School.

Apart from the Top 10 percent, a grand total of 47 students earned Magna Cum Laude recognition signifying they achieved a grade point average of 5.62.

These students are Diana Vargas, Nathaniel Cates, Kaylee Connally, Kennady Mayben, Araceli Landaverde, Jarely Esguerra, Noemy Dorantes, Yalit Mata, Angel Munoz, Shirlyn Cardona, Mea Banda, Jocelyn Marroquin, Ana Ceballos, Orion Senence, Ismael Galicia, Hudson Hampton, Amariya Miller, Silvia Lopez, Fernando Robles, Jason Barrientos, Estven Perez, Madison Cooper, Marlyn Estrada, Cheyenne King, Joseph Tolentino, Eddie Williams III, Sidney Beles, Diego Flores, Bianca Quistian, Clayton Miller, Jake Noble, Joseline Almazan, Genesis Aguilar, Briana Gonzales, Rocio Herrera, Christopher Moreno, Isabel Aguirre, Alicia Velasquez-Molina, Charis Ramirez, Dylan Bennett, Ethan Sanchez, Jordan West, Daniel Sunderland, Michelle Del Carmen Zelaya, Brayden Basaldua, Mason McMinn and Diana Foster.

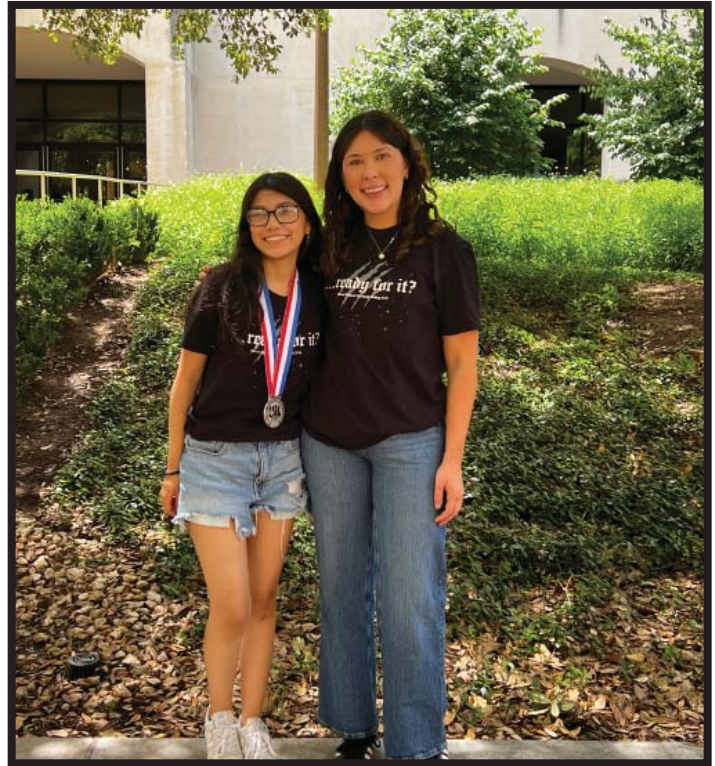
Alvarez gets second at state in UIL Ready Writing contest

Sophomore Brissia Alvarez placed 2nd in Ready Writing at the UIL State Academic Meet on May 15, earning her a UIL State silver medal.

In Ready Writing, competitors are given a choice between two quotes and have two hours to write a 4–7-page essay based on their interpretation of their chosen quote. At the State level, each quote is about a page long and students are tasked to use historical examples, current events, and literature in their essay without the use of the internet or reference materials. Not only do their examples have to be factual, but students are scored on writing stylistically.

Alvarez wrote about the importance of acknowledging the history of our past that can be overridden and read in between the lines to uncover hidden truths. She compared history to a palimpsest and wrote about the novel, *A Thousand Splendid Suns* by Khaled Hosseini, the Ottoman Empire, and T. S. Eliot's poem, "The Waste Land".

Alvarez will be a junior in the fall and has already begun preparing for 2025. She is coached by Gabrielle Robbins.



Alvarez is pictured with Robbins.

Electrical student gets OSHA 30 certification

MPHS Electrical Technology senior Osmar Galindo recently completed his OSHA 30 certification, a difficult milestone for many adults. Galindo took the 30-hour course on his own in the summer.

Offered by the U.S. Department of Labor, the OSHA 30-hour card demonstrates to employers that an applicant has received safety training needed in the workplace and understands their rights as workers including employer responsibilities, making them more employable with a competitive advantage in the job market. The course covers more than 90 topics and is divided into segments with exams at the end of each segment.

A participant can attempt each exam three times, but if they do not pass it on the third try, they must start the entire program from the beginning, a situation Galindo faced. Galindo ultimately made it through each segment and passed the final exam with an 89 to earn his OSHA 30 certification.

"Osmar took the initiative to work through the 30-hour course on his own this past summer," said MPHS Electrical Technology instructor, Tim Davis. "Not many students would take time out of their summer break to complete this course on their own time."

Galindo plans to attend Texas State Technical



Davis congratulates Osmar Galindo on earning his OSHA 30-hour card.

College in Marshall after graduation. His goal is to become a Master Electrician and own his own electrical company.

Seniors announce future plans

By NATHALI ROJAS
Tigertalk Editor
ZACHARY SMALLWOOD
and ISAIAH RODARTE
Tigertalk Staff Writers

As the 2023-2024 school year comes to a close, seniors are looking toward their future plans for further education or going into the workforce.

A few members of the senior class share what their plans are for the future.

Emilia Vega: Attend NTCC, then transfer to UTD to major in government and hopefully go into law.

Michelle Zelaya: Attend NTCC for two years then transfer to UT Tyler to pursue my biology bachelor degree.

Marisol Rosales: Go to college and become a flight attendant so I can travel with my bestie who will be a travel nurse.

Daniela Zuniga: Work and become a dental hygienist after getting my associates degree

Rocio Herrera: Attend NTCC in the summer and continue in the fall.

Leilani Hardwick: Do my prerequisites at NTCC, and transfer to TJC to continue studying for radiology.

Andrew Perez: I want to go to college!

Alicia Molina: Attend NTCC and transfer to a college in New York.

Jacqueline Varela: Go to college and get a job.

Zachary Smallwood: I am going to college/

Dylan Bennett: I plan on attending college to major in Business and run track.

Michael Remlinger: I'm moving to Mexico to live with my grandpa for a few years. I'm going to start streaming and move to California.



Dylan Bennett



Jacqueline Varela



Ali Fair Cheek

Ali Fair Cheek: Online school for a year to work towards going to DBU.

Tisha Patel: I plan on getting my basics done at NTCC and transfer to UTA, majoring in psychology to pursue a career in psychiatry.

Cesar Gonzalez: I want to become a master electrician and once that's done, I want to go to vet school and eventually have my own clinic.

Beverly Zuniga: Attend NTCC to complete my ba-



Zachary Smallwood

sics and transfer to TJC for nursing.

Lee Davis: I want to go to college for four whole years!

Jinnely Padilla: Being in NTCC finishing my basics and maybe doing clinicals meanwhile and after a while transfer to TJC to study the ultrasound program they have.

Yvonne Huerta: Go to college so I can become a nurse.

Analee Escalante: My plan is to go to college and ma-
See Seniors, Page 13

Seniors from Page 12

job in science to hopefully get accepted into the nursing program.

Alyssa Narvaez: I want to go to college!

Joseline Almazan: Go to college, major in business and have a lot of money.

Ana Ceballos: My plans after high school is to get a degree in mechanical engineering and become very rich.

Cynthia Flores: Assist to the dental assistant school here in Mount Pleasant.

Fatima Clavel: Have a successful business

Elva Garcia: Attend NTCC and become an elementary teacher

Cecilla Villeda: To work for the summer then go to NTCC for the fall and winter later transfer

Ashley Almeida: Work and going to college for DMS Degree with my friend Chris.

Erika Mickens: Continue my learning to pursue a career in Pathology

Evelyn Sandoval: go to college and study for Ultrasound Tech or Lab Tech.

Harley Martin: Go to college to get my BSN and work as either a Pediatric or labor and delivery nurse.

Yalit Mata: Go to NTCC to study nursing

Noemy Dorantes: I plan to go to college and major in social work and then law school where i will become a lawyer.

Jarely Esguerra: To become an astronaut

Diana Foster: Get a teaching degree at NTCC

Jacqueline Reyes: Attend NTCC, get my basics transfer to TJC and continue as an x-ray technician while working

Maria Suarez: Being a cosmetologist

Odalys Leyva: Becoming a



Joseline Almazan



Ana Ceballos



Cynthia Flores

nail technician

Keila Martinez: Being a nail technician

Arianna Jones: To go to law school and get a degree in law to become a lawyer.

Leslie Garcia: I want to be a travel nurse with my best friend Marisol as the Flight Attendant

Jahn Leija: To play professional soccer at NTCC, after I want to go to Forth Worth for university and play soccer for Forth Worth, Dallas

Ismael Galicia: I plan on working after high school

Cecilia Phan: I plan on ma-



Noemy Dorantes



Jahn Leija

Seniors from Page 13

joring in Biomedical Science in order to pursue a career as a pharmacist.

Nathali Rojas: My plan is to do my basics at NTCC and then go to university to major in journalism.

Christopher Molina: Going to college to get a DMS Degree with my best friend Ash.

Shirlyn Cardona: Attend Texas A&M University at Texarkana and get a bachelor's in business administration.

Roman Portillo: I plan to work after graduation

Eric Pena: I plan to go to college for automotive

Javier Garcia: I plan for start working and go to college

Andrianna Price: Go to NTCC to study Healthcare management then transfer to UNT at Denton, Texas to study Health Services Administration

Ahilin Hernandez: Attend NTCC for nursing and continue playing soccer

Jesus Hernandez: Become a paramedic or a soccer player

Jocelyn Marroquin: I plan on going to college and studying in Nursing

Ca'Paris Smith: My plan is to travel ad to go NTCC to do my basics and transfer to TCU and major in IT.

Yadira Martinez: To attend NTCC for the Summer & fall then transfer to a Law school to get my Immigration Lawyer degree

Carson Williams: Going to college to major in technology

Isaiah Rodarte: Go to college so i can study Astronomy and Astrophysics to study space

Laiklyn Epps: After high school I'm planning to immerse myself in hands on my experiences and ongoing



Nathali Rojas



Shirlyn Cardona



Jocelyn Marroquin



Noemy Dorantes

education in cosmology's to focusing on specializing

Lorena Ponce: Go to the Army National Guard, continue to study culinary retire from ANG at 40 and open my own restaurant or bakery

Bianca Quistian: Go to NTCC then attend Tyler Junior College and join their sonography program

Dulce Uzcanga: Becoming a Lash Tech

Mckinsee Oviedo: Attend the University of Texas at Tyler to major in Business

Charis Ramirez: My plan after high school is to attend NTCC and study nursing

Maria Suarez: Being a



Carson Williams
cosmetologist

Odalis Leyva: Becoming a nail technician

Keila Martinez: Being a nail technician



MPHS FBLA National Qualifiers from left are Luke Thurman, Jillian Jetton, McKinsee Oviedo, Jocelyn Marroquin, Advisor John Whitten, Kiara Rundles, Sophie Greco, Gopi Amin, Kaylee Connally, Hope Powell and Aloani Laboy (alternate). Not pictured are national competitors Mea Banda and Natalia Aspeitia.

FBLA students advance to national competition

By IDANIA CASTANON
Tigertalk Staff Writer

MPHS FBLA had 72 students advance and compete at the State Leadership Conference in Galveston on April 10-12 with nearly a dozen earning trips to Nationals this summer.

Eleven students advanced to Nationals and will be competing at the FBLA National Leadership Conference in Orlando, Florida on June 27-July 2.

The event and their places at state are: **American Enterprise Project:** Gopi Amin, Sophie Greco, and Kiara Rundles 3rd; **Future Business Leader:**

Hope Powell 3rd; **Business Calculations:** Luke Thurman 3rd; **Healthcare Administration:** Kaylee Connally 4th; **Graphic Design:** Jillian Jetton, Jocelyn Marroquin, and McKinsee Oviedo 4th, and **Mobile Application Development:** Aloani Laboy 5th and National alternate.

Two other MPHS students Mea Banda and Natalia Aspeitia will compete at Nationals after others were unable to compete. Aspeitia was in Organizational Leadership and Banda in Client Service. Last year, Banda placed
See FBLA, Pg. 17



John Whitten was named State Advisor of the Year. He is pictured with Area 6 State VP Sophie Greco.



2024 Academic Blanket recipients

Academic Blankets awarded

By ANA CEBALLOS
Tigertalk Staff Writer

MPHS awarded 64 students with Academic Blanket Awards, for achieving the highest overall average in his or her corresponding subject. The ceremony was held in the MPHS auditorium on Thursday May 9.

A representative from various businesses who are Chamber of Commerce members awarded the blankets to students.

The students awarded with an academic blanket were Ana Garrett-Accounting (Pilgrim Bank); Madison Cooper-Advanced Quantitative Reasoning (Titus Regional Medical Center); Jonathan Dalby-Ag Mechanics (Priefert Manufacturing); Genevieve Rubio-Agriscience (Higginbotham Insurance); Rose Ponce-Algebra I (Guaranty Bank); Julian Chancellor-Algebra II (Emma Flores Insurance); Tisha Patel-Anatomy & Physiology (The Pediatric Clinic PA & Northeast Texas Pediatrics); Lakyn Fortenberry-Animal Science (Titus County Fair Association); Stephanie Hernandez-Art (MP Rentals); Shpat Zeqaj-Band (Luigi's); Mackenzie Jaime-Biology (American National Bank); Clinton DeBord-AP Biology (First Federal Community Bank); Katherine Thompson-Business Information Management (East Texas Children's Dentistry); Yahir Garcia-Calculus (Vera Bank); Addison Amerson-Career Preparation (Lion's Club); Audrey Fisher-Chemistry (Mayben Realty); Hope Powell-Choir (Brookshire's); Alejandro Castro-Communications (MP Pack N' Mail); Luis Emilio Reyes Jr.-Construction Technology (Stansell Construction); McKinsee Oviedo-Cosmetology (Glossy

Nail Lounge); Michelle Zelaya-Culinary Arts (Hampton Inn & Suites); Caroline Currey-Dance (Texas A&M-Texarkana); Sidney Beles-Education & Training (AA's Treehouse Learning Center); Ethan Sanchez-Electrical Technology (Marmon Industrial Energy & Infrastructure); Joel Palacios-Engineering (CadVibe); Mary Beth Snyder-English I (Pilot Club); Brissia Alvarez-English II (Rotary Club); Samuel Chappell-English III NETX Blinds and More); Sophie Greco-English IV (Dermatology Center of Northeast Texas); John David Freeman-Environmental Science (Denney Land Surveying); Jennifer Meeks-Environmental Systems (Republic Services); Jillian Jetton-Fashion Design (Mid America Pet Foods); Yalit Mata-Forensic Science (Tumey Mortuary); Stephanie Barrientos-Geometry (Baker & Johnson CPA); Diana Vargas-Government & Economics (H&R Block); Esther Gonzalez-Health Science Theory (Mount Pleasant Dental Assistant School); Jasmine Landaverde-Instructional Practice in Education (NTCC); Idania Castanon-Newspaper (Phil & Jennifer Scudder); Joseline Almazan-Yearbook (Texas Best Real Estate - Amy Hinton); Kiara Rundles-Law Enforcement (Greater Hope Church of God in Christ); Valerie Pina-Marketing Education (Cypress Bank); Alfred Anderson-Math Models (East Texas Professional Credit Union); Zoë Newman-AP Music Theory (Elliott Auto Group); Jocelyn Marroquin-Patient Care Tech (Cypress Basin Hospice); Jose Gonzalez-Physics (Stephenson Dirt Contracting); Na

See Blankets, Pg. 17

FBLA from Page 15

in the top 15 in the Nation in Client Service.

A number of other FBLA students made it to the top 10 in their events. **Business Calculations:** Tanner Marshall 10th; **Business Ethics:** Dalia Balderas, Rose-lynn Ramirez, Sabrina Otero-Svirska 10th; **Cyber Security:** Jazlynn Juarez 7th; **Financial Statement Analysis:** John Freeman, Nathan Martinez, Shpat Zeqaj 8th; **Healthcare Administration:** Brissia Alvarez 7th; **Insurance and Risk Management:** Addison Heeren 7th and **Journalism:** Joseline Almazan 10th,

Other awards were given throughout the state conference. Gopi Amin was recognized as the Who's Who award recipient for the MPHS chapter. The FBLA Goosechase scavenger hunt went to the MPHS team of Amin, Rundles, Banda, and Connally. The 3rd place team was also from MPHS which included Jetton, Marroquin, Bri Davis, and Oviedo. A very special honor was given to Chapter Advisor, John Whitten from MPHS. He was awarded the Joan E. Boruk FBLA Texas Advisor of the Year award and will be recognized at the National Leadership Conference in Orlando.

As the State Leadership Conference came to a close, senior Sophie Greco was recognized as the outgoing Area 6 State Vice President. Junior Diya Desai was recognized as the 2024-2025 Area 6 State Vice President along with fellow officers from other areas.



Diya Desai will take over as Area 6 State VP for the 2024-2025 school year.



Gopi Amin was named Who's Who Award recipient for MPHS.

Blankets from Page 16

thaniel Martinez—AP Physics C (JB Elite Contracting); Zachary Smallwood—Piano (Patrick Redfearn Realty); Amir Martinez—Practicum in Health Science I (Robert C Sikes DDS); Cecilia Phan—Practicum in Health Science II (Pleasant Smiles Dental) Luke Thurman—Pre-Calculus (Thurman's Pro-Med Pharmacy); Katelyn Tejedas—Scientific Research & Design (Next Level Pet Foods); Miguel Angel Guzman Julio—Spanish I (Castillo Real Estate); Yaimari Gutierrez—Spanish I (Shumate Flooring); Arielys Denise Brito—Spanish II (Mount Pleasant Pet Resort); Jannely Aguilar—

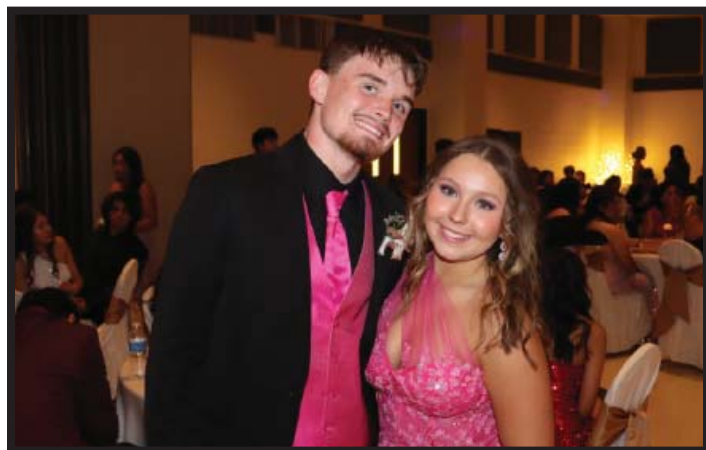
Spanish II (Cowan Inspection); Alondra Santos—Spanish III (Elliott Auto Group); Sandy Farias—Spanish IV (Diamond C Trailers); Jose Fuentes—AP Spanish Literature (Mount Pleasant Chamber of Commerce); Kurt Alipao—Sports Medicine (Bates Cooper Sloan Funeral Home); Ella Cross—Statistics (Super 1 Foods); Emma Sanders—Theatre (Mount Pleasant Chamber of Commerce); Gopi Amin—U.S. History (Manish Enterprises); Gisel Ramirez—World Geography (McGuire Dyke CPA's) and Alessandro Greco—World History (Dermatology Center of Northeast Texas).

Prom 2024

Nighttime in Greece

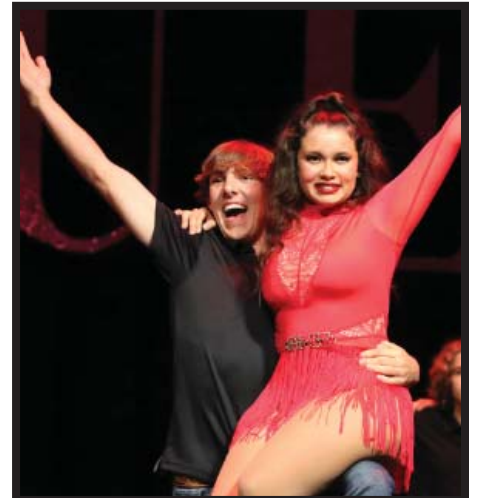
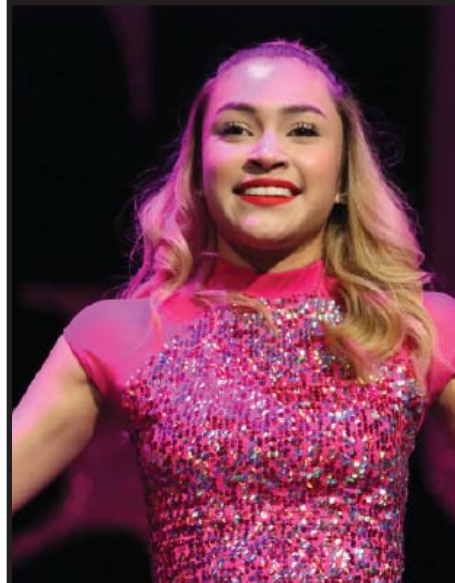
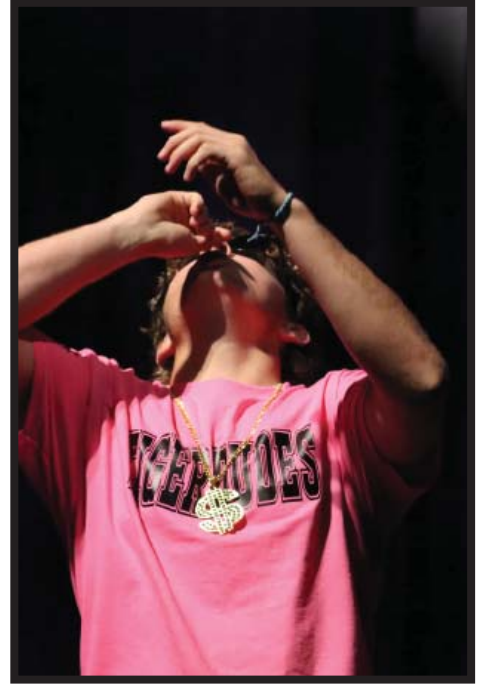


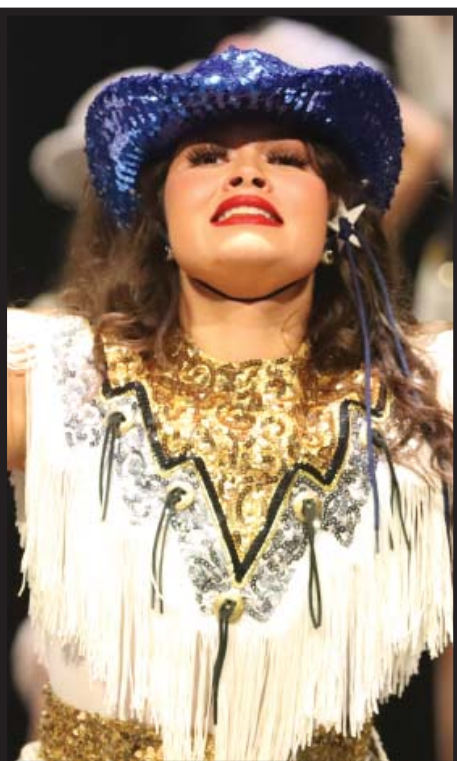
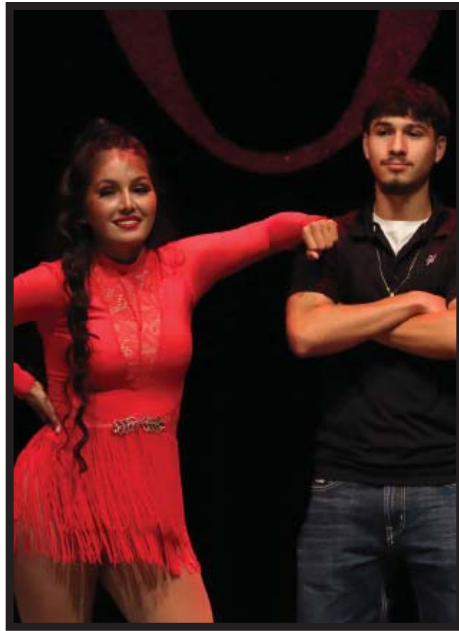
**Prom King Francisco Tover
and Prom Queen Emilia Vega**





Tiger Dolls Spring Show





Senior Columns

New chapter set to begin

By **NATHALI ROJAS**
Tigertalk Editor

Starting high school, you might have been told to enjoy it while it lasts, because it goes by fast. At first, you might not have believed it, thinking four years was a long time. The only thought on your mind was to graduate high school and move on with your life.

But once your last year of school comes around, something feels different. You might be thinking “How has time passed so quickly?” You are no longer a little kid waiting to go to recess every day. You have a job, relationships, responsibilities, and college waiting ahead. As the graduation date approaches, you start talking to your friends “Wow, this is really it we’re gradating.” barely being able to believe this is really it. Your last year. It feels so surreal. It is like it was just yesterday that you started kindergarten, nervous for your first of many passing school days. Everything went by in the blink of an eye. You are reminiscing with your friends, talking about all the dumb things you guys did as kids.

As the days pass by, you may begin wishing it would slow down. The feelings of excitement, readiness, anxiousness, and anticipation, knocking at your door. Reminding you that you don’t have much longer until you’re out of the one thing that you have known your entire life.



Rojas

Pretty soon there will be no more schedules. No more hanging out with your friends every day. No more waking up for school every day. No more school.

You are opening a new chapter of your life.

Memories will never be forgotten

By **IDANIA CASTANON**
Tigertalk Staff Writer

The years I have been an MPHS student will forever stay with me. All of the friends and core memories that I have made will never be forgotten. Moving schools and not being a freshman at MP was much harder than I thought it would be.

It took me a while to adjust. But once I did, I felt right at home. One of the things that I will forever be grateful for is being a part of Mr. Whitten’s classes. Taking photography was the best decision that I ever made. I can’t imagine what my high school life would look like without that class. He has been an incredible mentor and inspiration to me.

He taught me to push myself to believe in myself when I was close to giving up. Not to mention that I would never have made the friends and memories that I have now if it were not for his class. I am so sad to be leaving all the new friends that I have made and all the friends that have stuck with me since junior year.

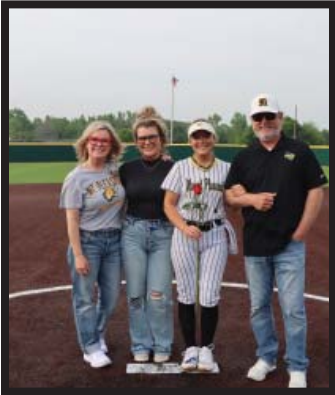
Mimi and Ana thank you for all the fun that we had, and all the little therapy talks that we had in our little corner. My senior year was fun because of you guys, and I will forever be grateful. To all my friends, I hope that if God forbid, we all



Castanon

go our separate ways that we remember the moments that we have shared. All the laughs and fun that we had. I can’t wait to start writing this new chapter in my life and I hope you guys all have fun writing your own chapters too. I will miss you all so much and I love you guys.

Softball, baseball seniors honored



Conlee Zachry



Jordan Batchelor



Ella Cross



Lakyn Fortenberry



Morgan Hill



Casey Jones



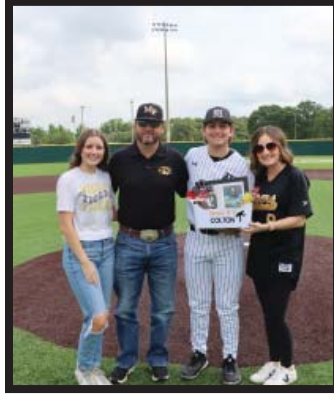
Amariya Miller



Kaylee Silman



Drew Dyke



Colton Jaggers



Mason McMinn



Harrison Wall



Jake Noble



2024 Baseball Seniors with coaching staff

Health Science holds pinning ceremony

MPHS held its second annual pinning ceremony for Health Science program students who have completed certifications in Phlebotomy, Patient Care, EKG, and/or Medical Assisting. The ceremony was conducted in the MPHS auditorium on May 1.

Senior Charis Ramirez offered the opening prayer followed by MPHS Career and Technology Director Karl Whitehurst and Health Science instructor Amanda Hutchings with opening remarks. And senior Sophie Greco served as the announcer for the evening.

Health Science teacher Sarah Carrell pinned those who have tested and are credentialed Certified EKG Technicians.

EKG Technicians work with patients to monitor and interpret their cardiac health using EKG tests that measure the electrical activity in the patient's heart.

Those students were Elise Alcibar, Melanie Barraza, Danika Beckham, Elizabeth Buck, Zoey Cato, Alessandra Cervantes, Emely Chavelas, Evan Cota, Diya Desai, Patricia Gonzalez, Sidney Harbour, Karen Hernandez, Eli Hernandez, Hayden Hester, Kelsey Howard, Christian Johnson, Jamesia Lamb, Autumn Leroy, Amir Martinez, Kevin Mendoza, Jesus Moreno, Dylan Ramirez, Misely Ramirez, Kaylee Ramos, David Reyes, Emily Robles, Francisco Rodriguez, Araceli Solis, Christopher Sorto, Diego Ugalde, and Daniel Villareal.

Health Science teacher, Kristi Houchin, awarded completion cords and pinned the Certified Phlebotomy Techs and the Certified Patient Care Tech As-



Certified Clinical Medical Assistants



Phlebotomy and Certified Patient Care Tech Assistants



Certified EKG Technicians

sistants. Phlebotomy Techs perform the following tasks to aid in patient care - venipunctures, explaining procedures and making patients feel comfortable during lab draws, performing Point of Care (POC) testing, preparing specimens for testing, and maintaining medical lab equipment.

Certified Patient Care Technician-Assistants assist with activities of daily living (ADLs), routinely check on patients to maintain safety and wellness, and perform EKGs.

Receiving those cords and

pins were Ashley Almeida, Gema Amaro, Jordan Bachelor, Analee Escalante, Javier Garcia, Ahilin Hernandez, Breanda Hernandez, Jesus Hernandez, Morgan Hill, Yvonne Huerta, Casey Jones, Jocelyn Marroquin, Harley Martin, Yalit Mata, Mariana Mendez, Amariya Miller, Saniya Milton, Alyssa Narvaez, Genesis Organista, Jinnely Padilla, Tisha Patel, Charis Ramirez, Jacqueline Reyes, Naomi Rivera, Joseph Tolentino, Jacqueline Varela, Perla Vazquez, and Beverly Zuniga.

Health Science teacher
See Pinning, Pg. 25



MPHS seniors earning military cords for graduation are pictured. From left are Counselor for the MPHS Class of 2024, Jerilyn Goolsby, Private Jett Stockinger, Sergeant Ramiro Herrera, Robert Grant, Jose Escobar, Christian Coleman, Azariah Rudd, Azariah Rudd, Brahlyn Lloyd, Lorena Ponce, Tawunny Swanson, Mariana Mendez, Sergeant Mark Schriner, Sergeant Michael Pyle, and MPHS Principal Craig Bailey. Not pictured is Jacolby Turner.

MPHS honors seniors entering military

MPHS held a ceremony on April 30 in the MPHS Auditorium honoring 10 seniors who have committed to entering the armed forces after graduation.

In front of the American flag and with their families in the audience, each senior was introduced by Mount Pleasant High School Principal, Craig Bailey, and presented a red, white and blue cord to wear at graduation.

Also in attendance to help present cords were MPHS Class of 2024 Counselor Jerilyn Goolsby, Air Force Sergeant Mark Schriner, Army Sergeant Ramiro Herrera, Army Private Jett Stockinger, and Marine Sergeant-Michael Pyle.

Those seniors and their military branches include Christian Coleman (Texas Army National Guard), Jose Escobar (Texas Army National Guard), Robert Grant (Texas Army National Guard),

Brahlyn Lloyd (Texas Army National Guard), Mariana Mendez (Air Force), Lorena Ponce (Texas Army National Guard), Azariah

Rudd (Army), Azariah Rudd (Army), Tawunny Swanson (Texas Army National Guard), and Jacolby Turner (Navy).

Pinning from Page 24

Mandy Hutchings awarded completion cords and pinned the Certified Clinical Medical Assistants. A Certified Clinical Medical Assistant works in a physician's office.

They schedule appointments, verify insurance, take patient history and chief complaint, vitals, assist the physician with exams and in office surgeries, administer injections, perform phlebotomy skills, and perform an in-office EKG and identify abnormal readings. CCMA's work directly with physicians, nurse practitioners, and physician assistants.

Being a CCMA allows you to work anywhere in the United States as it is a national certification. Cord and pin recipients included Genesis Aguilar, Kaylee Connally, Ella Cross, Jarely Esguerra, Estefani Garcia, Isabel Gara, Abigail Gutierrez, Kaira Leija, Arely Lopez, Silvia Lopez, Nathan Martinez, Erika Mickens, Emilee Miles, Angel Munoz, Johana Perales, Estven Perez, Cecilia Phan, Katherine Plata, Hope Powell, Andrianna Price, Bianca Quistian, Evelyn Sandoval, Diana Vargas, Conlee Zachry, and Shpat Zeqaj.

In all, 84 MPHS students received recognition for at least one certification that will follow them after high school and allow them to work in the medical field immediately after graduation.

20 Questions with Mrs. Scoggins

By ZACHARY SMALLWOOD
Tigertalk Staff Writer

In every issue, Tigertalk features a story on a staff member here at MPISD as they too have something interesting to offer about themselves outside of school.

This issue highlights Mrs. Jackie Scoggins, who teaches CAP, Career Prep, Marketing and Sports & Entertainment Marketing

1. What is your favorite part of the spring? Why?

My favorite part of spring is the newness of life, the trees and flowers blooming.

2. What is your favorite season?

Spring

3. What did you think of the Solar Eclipse?

It was amazing and a once in a lifetime event!!!

4. What are your plans for the summer?

Probably take a short vacation, but mostly keep the grandkids and just enjoy being out of school.

5. What is your favorite part of teaching?

Teaching the students a skill that they will use throughout their lives.

6. What do you look for in students?

The willingness to learn and dedication to be at school every day.

7. What do you provide to the students?

I feel that I provide real-world skills

8. What's your favorite class to teach?

I probably don't have a favorite, I enjoy each class.

9. What are you looking forward to next year?

Hopefully it will be my last, it will be my 31st year of teaching.

10. What made you want to be a teacher?

I have always enjoyed being around younger people

11. What were your dreams when you were younger?

Don't really remember, but I think I have a pretty good dream life now!!! I have a beautiful family and feel I have been blessed in every aspect of my life.

12. What are some hobbies you partake in?

I love any outside activities, working in my yard, gardening, fishing, just hanging



Scoggins

out with my family.

13. What helps you get up and ready for the school day?

I am a self-motivated person and I don't need help getting ready for the day.

14. What got you into teaching CAP?

This is an important class for seniors to get ready for the next step in their lives.

15. What is your favorite food? Why?

I really don't have a favorite, but will choose Mexican when going out to eat.

16. What is your favorite type of music to listen to?

Country (the real country, not the music of today)

17. What is your least favorite part of spring?

Pollen

18. Where is one place you would like to visit that you never been and why?

Australia, I think it would be an adventure of a lifetime.

19. What advice would you give to your younger self?

Don't take life so seriously, enjoy every minute!!

20. Who are your family members?

My husband, Billy, and I will be married 50 years this October. We have two sons:

Will, Laurin, Claire, Tess, Witt

Cole, Ashley, Cheyenne, Jaxon

Where our grandkids are, you will find us!!!!

WHAT WILL YOU BE AT NTCC?

You've got big goals for your future and NTCC is here to help you achieve them! Whether you want to launch a career or prepare for your dream university - you can start here and go anywhere!

NTCC is a proud partner of Mt. Pleasant High School!



N **NORTHEAST TEXAS**
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

NTCC is an AA, ADA, Equal Opportunity Institution

903-434-8100
www.ntcc.edu



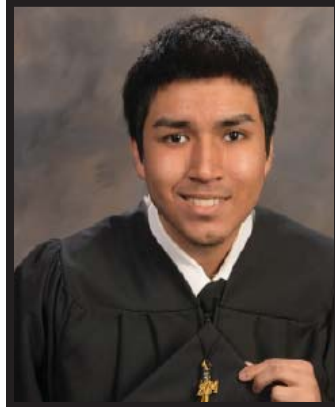
Tiger Roar

What are your career plans after high school?

Page by Tigertalk Co-Editor Nathali Rojas, Zachary Smallwood and Isaiah Rodarte



“Hospital Administration.”
-- Andrianna Price, 12



“Mechanic.”
-- Christian Aguilar, 12



“Cinematographer.”
-- Alejandro Castro, 12



“Dental hygienist”
-- Alyssa Narvaez, 12



“Electrician”
-- Jessie Cassio, 12



“Esports and military”
-- Brahlyn Lloyd, 12



“Photographer”
-- Hunter McGee, 12



“Art teacher”
-- Kami Labutis, 12



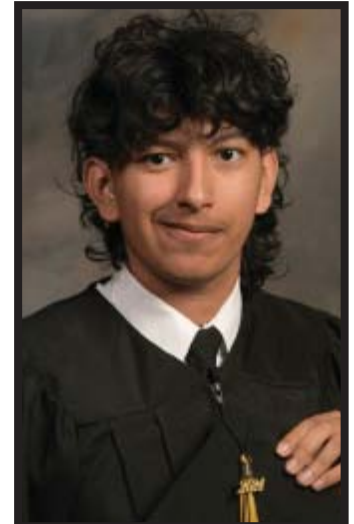
“Electrician and veterinarian”
-- Cesar Gonzalez, 12



“Motorcycle technician”
-- Ayden Osterdock, 12



“Industrial organizational
psychologist”
-- Hope Powell, 12



“Chef”
-- Salvador Moreno, 12