Learning Together For A Better Tomorrow

Union Star R-II School, Union Star, MO

The Shooting Star

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Jacob Stonebarger

Jacob Henry Stonebarger is the son of Catherine Fulton Sybert. He has one older sister, Breanna Sybert, and a friendly and faithful dog, Stitch. Jacob has been very involved in his studies and hands-on experiences at Hillyard Technical School, where he studies Automotive Service Technology. He hopes to use his newfound knowledge and skills following graduation from high school. His proudest achievements include being on the honor roll and earning high score recognition in math on the MAP and EOC assessments. Jacob's favorite teacher is Mrs. Nauman. He will miss the consistency of knowing what each day will bring. He will also miss his teachers and the friends he has made. Jacob's advice to his underclassmen would be, "Work hard, avoid procrastination, and take care of tasks as soon as you have time." Upon graduation, Jacob plans to enter the workforce, where he intends to obtain a job in auto mechanics.



Wyatt Thiemann

Wyatt Thiemann is the son of Dennis Thiemann and Jenna Dakon. He has two brothers, Jarrett and Jentrie. Wyatt has been involved in FFA 4 years, Basketball 1 year, Cheer 1 year, FBLA 3 years, NHS 3 years, Hillyard Technical School 2 years, Scholar Bowl 3 years, A+ program 3 years, and Baseball 1 year. His favorite memory of high school is being pied in the face for FFA. Wyatt's favorite teacher is Mr. Martin. Mr. Martin taught him many things throughout his years in school. The achievement Wyatt is most proud of from his high school years is earning Top Technical Student. His advice he would like to give to underclassmen is "pay attention and do your work." The biggest influence in Wyatt's high school career has been his dad and Jarrett. If Wyatt could relive one day of high school, it would be from Junior year, Homecoming float building day. He is going to miss his peers the most. Wyatt plans on continuing his employment at Rolling Hills Toyota and becoming a Toyota Master Tech. His next goal is to purchase a house.

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Zyonna Wade

Zyonna is the daughter of Gloria and Chris Cessna. She has one brother, Sebastian and a dog, named Snooki. Her favorite high school memory is when she went to the Truman Library with Mr. Rector. Zyonna's favorite teacher is Ms. Steele, because they both share a passion for art and Ms. Steele also helped her with her job shadow last year. Zyonna is most proud of being a published author. She had a poem published in the Young Writer's Poem Book. Her advice to the underclassmen is, "be yourself. Don't worry about what other people think." Zyonna's mom has been her biggest influence during high school. If she could relive one day of high school, it would be last year's MAP Celebration Field Trip--bowling. She is going to miss her friends the most. Zyonna plans to go to Art School in Kansas City. One goal she hopes to achieve in the next chapter of her life to become a successful artist and follow all of her dreams.



Grace Whorton

Grace Whorton is the daughter of Jennifer Gatti and Corey Whorton. Grace has been involved in FFA, FBLA, STUCO, STARRS Ambassador, Softball, Football and Basketball Cheer, Basketball, and Scholar Bowl. Her favorite high school memory is FFA National Convention. Grace's favorite teacher is Ms. Gatti, because she has taught her a lot of vaulable lessons. Grace is most proud of being selected for the All-District Softball team. Her advice to the underclassmen is "have fun, but still take school serious." Grace's biggest influence has been her papa, marmar, and her great-grandma Georgia. If she could relive one day of high school, it would be 2026 Courtwarming night. She is going to miss her friends the most. Grace plans to attend Northwest Missouri State University to earn her Early Childhood Education Degree. One goal Grace hopes to achieve in her next chapter is graduating college and being successful on her own.

Pearls Principles

Matthew Pearl, Middle/High School Principal
mpearl@usr2.com

When I saw the notice to set my clock forward an hour, it dawned on me just how far we are into this school year!

It's always exciting to get to the springtime here at Union Star R-II, but it's also a busy time for our staff, students and their families.

Spring sports practices began on March 2, and we have students participating in our Trojan track program, as well as our co-op Wild-Kat baseball and boys golf teams. After our athletes and coaches make it through the first few weeks of cooler weather, spring sports always prove to be an important part of Fourth Quarter life at USHS.

And speaking of the Fourth Quarter, we'll start the final term of the school year on March 16. Awards for Third Quarter and MAP/EOC from 2025 will be held Wednesday morning, March 18. Parent-Teacher Conferences for the spring are that same afternoon and evening, 1:00-7:30 p.m. on March 18.

The high school scholar bowl team, which will be competing all this month as well, has a meet on Thursday, March 19, which would have been our traditional evening for conferences. Remember, there will still be no school on that Friday, March 20.

A word on absences is probably in order, and I want our families to read this and hopefully have some understanding of how the attendance policy applies. We have had considerable sickness in the district, and that has prompted several questions, the answers for which I hope to address here:

· If my child's absences are excused for sickness, why did I get an attendance letter from his/her principal? This is one of the more frequent ones, and I'll try to answer it the best I can. When we report attendance to the state and federal government, the view is pretty simple: was a child at school, or was that child gone. We excuse absences locally for a number of things, sickness being one of the major ones. That said, our policy (which pretty much mirrors all the schools around ours) allowed a total of eight (8) absences for any given semester. If your child is approaching or has reached that total, then it's likely you have received a letter from me.

· If I receive an attendance letter because of my child's absences, what happens next? For any absence above eight (8) in any given class, the student is subject to losing the semester credit for that class unless: 1) your student asks for an appeal, and the panel of teachers determines that the absences do not warrant failing the class; or 2) your student completes credit recovery hours for the missed time. Credit recovery will typically happen, depending upon the situation, either in the form of after-school make-up time or during the two weeks following the end of the school year.

· I have some questions specifically about my child and his/her situation. What should I do? If you have questions about the

Pearls Principles - Continued -

attendance policy, make sure to call my office (816-593-2294) or email me (mpearl@usr2.com), and I'll do what I can to clarify things and find the right solution for your student.

Qualifying middle and high school students will be attending a special MAP/EOC Celebration on Wednesday, March 25. We will be leaving behind the bowling and movie agenda we've kept for a few years, and we will be taking students to SkyZone trampoline park in Shawnee, KS. Students who meet three out of four of the following criteria will be invited to attend:

1. No F's and fewer than 3 D's on semester grades
2. 90% Attendance or higher
3. No more than two major office referrals
4. Previous Year Proficient or Advanced MAP/EOC Score

Parents will need to fill out waivers for students attending the trip. We will very soon be sending the link to fill out the necessary form. If you have more than one child attending the 6-12 trip, there is room on the form to add all attending children, so you only need to submit the form once.

Ok, so as we inch closer to the end of the school year, I hope you and your student(s) are excited to finish the year strong. And, as always, please contact me with any questions or concerns you may have: Just call (816) 593-2294 or email me mpearl@usr2.com.

Mr. Pearl

Calloway's Comments

rcalloway@usr2.com

Dear Families,

I always enjoy getting to the end of March each year. We are beginning the fourth and final quarter of the school year, spring sports are getting underway, and many end-of-year activities are starting to take place. The weather is warming up, flowers are blooming, and the grass is turning green. It is truly an exciting and refreshing time of year.

I would like to acknowledge several students for their outstanding accomplishments over the past few weeks. Congratulations to Danica Schnitker, Reid Smith, and Wyatt Thiemann for earning their State FFA Degree through National FFA Organization. Congratulations to Kinzie Pettyjohn for earning 275 All-Conference 1st Team honors and to MaKenna Grace for receiving Honorable Mention for the 275 All-Conference Girls' Basketball Team. In addition, Brock Angus (Introduction to Business Concepts) and Jarrett Thiemann (Business Law) will be competing at the State competition through Future Business Leaders of America. We are proud of all these students and their hard work.

Several school organizations will be very active over the next few months. The District Music Festival will be held on March 20 for qualifying students. FFA members will continue to participate in numerous activities and CDE/LDE competitions throughout March. Career Leadership Events Districts will take place at Northwest Missouri State University on March 31 and April 2, and the FFA State Convention will begin April 15. Our high school Scholar Bowl team will compete in conference matches throughout March. Their conference tournament will be held April 1 in Craig, Missouri, and Scholar Bowl Districts will take place April 18 in Norborne, Missouri.

Spring sports are also gearing up. The high school track team will open its season March 26 at Worth County, Missouri, with the conference meet scheduled for May 5 and districts on May 9. The junior high track team begins March 31, also at Worth County, and will conclude its season at the conference meet on May 5. Spring sports pictures for track athletes will be March 24. Baseball season begins March 17 with a jamboree in Hamilton, Missouri, and district play starts May 15. Boys' golf will open April 1 in Savannah, Missouri, with districts beginning May 7. We wish all student athletes the very best this season.

On April 7, the district will hold a School Board Election. Five candidates are running for three open positions: Eric Fisher, Jessi Baker, Melvin Simerly, Danny Young, and Nathan Fox. We appreciate each of these candidates for wanting to volunteer their time to help our school.

Please also note the following important dates:

· March 18: Parent/Teacher Conferences (1:00–7:30 p.m.)

· March 19: Monthly Board Meeting (6:30 p.m.)

· March 25: Annual MAP Celebration trip to Sky Zone

· April 3–8: Spring Break

· April 10: Three- and four-year-old screenings, PK registration, new kindergarten screenings, and Bump-Up Day for K–5 students

· April 11: High School Prom

· April 21 – May 8: MAP Testing

· April 29: Athletic Sports Banquet (6:00 p.m., gymnasium)

Public school funding is on shaky ground with many bills in the legislatures that could drastically eliminate a large amount of school district funding. There are several property tax bills in the House that could reduce school funding and reduce any potential increases due to new construction and improvements. The Governor

Calloway's Comments - Continued -

would like to eliminate income tax and increase sales tax. Such a move would cause a great deal of uncertainty of potential revenues. Currently, the state budget is out of balance of $1-2 billion, and cuts will need to be made. Senate Bill 971 is eligible for floor debate, and it could create issues with school funding tied to ADA and require increased resources to account for changes in student populations. Other major concerns that could affect public school funding are increased funding for charter schools and private school vouchers along with foundation formula changes that could drastically change public school funding. With all these potential changes to public school funding, it is important to communicate with our legislators to let our voices be heard.

Spring is a wonderful time to regroup and refocus as we head into the home stretch of the school year. Thank you for your continued support of our students and school community.

Sincerely, Rick Calloway

PRESCHOOL

& NEW TO DISTRICT KINDERGARTEN SCREENING



Where: Union Star School **Date:** April 10, 2026
Time: Begins at 8:30 a.m. - **By Appointment Only**
Length: Approx. 1.5 hours
Who: Children who are age **3 by March 31, 2026.**
Preschool students who are age **4 by Aug. 1st.**
New to District Kindergarten students who are **5 by Aug. 1st.**

Please bring following documentation for **entering preschoolers** and **new kindergarteners.** (We will make copies and give directly back.)

- Social Security Card
- Birth Certificate
- Proof of Residency (i.e. copy of a utility bill, rental agreement, etc., documentation must have physical address no PO Box)
- Updated Immunizations

Call 816-593-2294, ext. 232, to schedule a screening/registration appointment by April 3, 2026.

Screening Date is April 10, 2026

Miller's Main Idea

Sherri Miller, Elementary Principle
smiller@usr2.com

As we enter the fourth quarter, we are approaching the final stretch of the school year, with May just around the corner. Our students are preparing for MAP testing, which will take place from April 20 through May 8. It is important to remember that this test is only a snapshot of a student's abilities. It does not measure their determination, effort, or potential for success in life. I have great faith in our students and teachers, and I am confident they will shine during this time.

This time of year can be stressful for both students and teachers, and my goal is to minimize that stress as much as possible. One of the best ways we can help is by encouraging our students to simply do their best. At home, parents can support their children by making sure they get plenty of sleep and eat a balanced breakfast on testing days. Teachers will also be communicating with families about testing dates and sharing strategies to help students feel prepared and confident.

April and May are filled with many exciting events at school. One important event I encourage the community to participate in is our Preschool Screenings for children ages 3 and 4. This is a great opportunity for parents to introduce their children to the school and have them screened for any potential educational, motor, or language delays.

To stay up to date on all school activities, be sure to keep an eye on the school website for the latest information and updates.

As I reflect on my third year as principal, I can confidently say it has been an incredible journey. Union Star is home to amazing students, dedicated staff, supportive parents, and a vibrant community. I am truly grateful to be part of it and look forward to all that next year will bring for Union Star!

MAP And EOC Testing

MAP and EOC testing are getting ready to start in April for most students. Third, fourth, fifth, and eighth grade will all test for English April 21st-23rd. Starting April 28th-30th, the third, fourth, fifth, and eighth graders will all test for Math. The fifth grade will also test for Science May 5th-6th. The sixth grade will test in Math on April 21st-23rd and English May 5th-7th. The seventh grade will test April 28th-30th for English and May 5th-7th on Math. Eighth grade students will also take Science May 6th-7th. Biology and Government will have their EOC on May 5th. English II and Algebra I will both have their EOC's on May 6th-7th. Algebra B will test on April 29th-30th. We recommend these students get a good amount of rest and have a good, healthy breakfast. We ask parents to encourage their child to do their best.



Jessi Baker

One of the school board candidates is Jessi Baker. Jessi has been a resident of Union Star for 10 years. Her current occupation is a Registered Dental Hygienist, and she is a proud parent and a community volunteer. When I asked Jessi a series of questions about running for school board, these were some of her responses. The first question that was asked was why she is running for the school board, she said, "Because I care about our students, our teachers, and our community. We have a great school –a true hidden gem- and I want to help it grow, improve, and shine even brighter." What experiences or qualifications do you bring? "My healthcare background has built strong communication, accountability, and problem-solving skills. As a mom and community volunteer, I understand how board decisions affect families and students." What are the district's greatest strengths? "Our people and our sense of community. We already have something special here, and I want to protect it while helping it grow." What challenges is the district facing? "Funding, staffing, and balancing resources. I also believe we can strengthen our athletics program by supporting youth sports and activities that build pride, leadership, and connection from middle school through high school." How should teachers and staff be supported? "By listening to them, treating them fairly, and creating a positive work environment. When educators feel supported, students succeed." How will you ensure transparency and communication? "By being accessible, honest, and clear sharing not only what decisions are made, but why." One goal if elected? "To help our school grow and shine by strengthening communication, community involvement, and student opportunities, especially in athletics and activities." Lastly, how should student voices be included? "By listening to their feedback and experiences. When students are heard, they become more engaged and invested in their school."



Nathan Fox

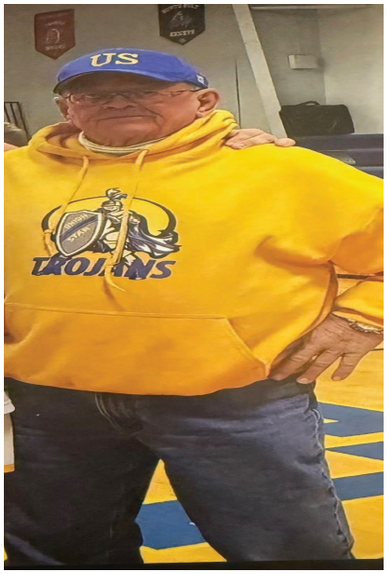
School board candidate Nathan Fox has been a resident in the district for his entire life. His current occupation is a production supervisor at Van-Am Tool and Engineering. He oversees the Press Room and Laser/Press Brake departments. He has also been employed for over 18 years. When I asked Nathan a series of questions about running for school board, these were some of his responses. The first question that was asked was why he is running for the school board. He said, "As my children get older and are more involved with school activities, it makes me more interested in being more involved with their education and helping them and others succeed. I really want to help make this the best school possible." What experience or qualifications do you bring that would benefit our school district? "I have been a current member of the Union Star Fire Protection District for 13 years. I hold the role of Training Officer. I have been in a leadership/management role at my job for about 17 years now. I have had to make difficult decisions regarding equipment, personnel, schedules, and upholding policies and procedures. At my job over a 6-month long project, I organized the purchase of a million-dollar Laser machine from start to finish. That included organizing contractors to remove old equipment, cut out and replace new concrete subfloor, and restructure our electricity. I organized the shipment from China to our building and assisted in complete assembly of the machine. Followed by training for myself and a few other employees." What do you believe are the district's greatest strengths? "The smaller class sizes allow the teachers to focus on teaching and developing the students much more than in a very large school district. I am interested in helping to provide the right tools for staff to do their best at educating the students." What challenges do you think the district is facing? "Challenges could come up with lower enrollment, changing the school schedule to 4-day weeks as some other schools are already doing. The school board should address these issues as what best fits and works for the district and the students as well as the families that are affected by big topics like these." What are your views on supporting teachers and school staff? "Like any job, the teacher/staff member should be held accountable for their actions, both good and bad. Recognized for achievements and goals as well as proper training or encouragement for improvement for falling short." How do you plan to ensure transparency and communication with students, families, and community members? "Transparency and communication should be matter of fact and to the point for those involved or necessary to know. Some people want to know every detail; some don't want to know anything. Getting the right information out there when needed is important to help prevent further communication issues or misunderstandings." What is one specific goal you would like to accomplish if elected? "To help improve the inner workings of the school and make decisions that are in the best interest of the students and staff. Work toward getting to that with the cooperation of other board members and administration." Lastly, how do you believe student voices should be included in district decisions? "The administration and the board should listen to student voices within reason. It's not feasible for them to listen to every individual voice and concern but should take into consideration if there is a majority or unanimous concern/request among the students."





Eric Fisher

School board candidate Eric Fisher has been a resident of the district for 26 years and is currently a small business owner. When I asked Eric a series of questions about running for school board, these were some of his responses. The first question that was asked was why he is running for the school board. He said, "To help make school a better place for our kids." What experiences or qualifications do you bring that would benefit our school district? "I own and operate a small business and have managed companies in the past." What do you believe are the district's greatest strengths? "I believe are greatest strengths are our funding and being a preschool through twelfth grade school." What challenges is the district facing? "The challenge I believe the district is facing is maintaining qualified teachers." What are your views on supporting teachers and school staff? "My view is that teachers and staff are what shapes and molds our kids for the future." How do you plan to ensure transparency and communication with students, families, and community members? "I plan to ensure transparency and communication with students, families, and community members by doing more surveys with parents and community members to get their opinion." What is one specific goal you would like to accomplish if elected? "One specific goal I would like to accomplish if elected is to have the best school, staff and benefits for our students." Lastly, how do you believe student voices should be included in district decisions? "By installing suggestion boxes for student's opinions."



Melvin Simerly

School board candidate Melvin Simerly has been a resident of the district for 71 years and is currently retired. When I asked Melvin a series of questions about running for school board, these were some of his responses. The first question that was asked was why he is running for the school board. He said "To continue to serve the district. I have served a number of years on the school board until this point. I have raised my own kids in this district since approximately 1980. I am a 1972 graduate also." What experiences or qualifications do you bring? "I was born here and have been in this district ever since." What are the district's greatest strengths? "I believe our greatest strengths are our teachers and staff." What challenges is the district facing? "Our biggest challenge is the lack of housing to lure future students and families." How should teachers and staff be supported? "We do a great job of retaining our teachers. We keep our salaries towards the top of the area." How will you ensure transparency and communication? "We continue to have open ears to the student body." One goal if elected? "One goal I would like to accomplish is to retain our staff." Lastly, how should student voices be included? "We always listen to the student ideas."



Danny Young

Danny Young has been a resident in the district for 10 years and currently serves as Vice president of IHP Industrial Inc., A mechanical contracting company based in St. Joseph, Missouri, with projects ranging from local to national and international work. He grew up on a farm just outside of Laredo, Missouri, and graduated from Meadville R-IV High School in 2004. When asking Danny why he's running for school board he said that his motivation for continuing to serve is rooted in giving back to the community and using his professional background in business and construction to be a resource for the district. Danny was appointed to the board in 2022 to fill a temporary vacancy, elected to a full three year term in 2023, and he is currently the school board Vice President. Three of his four children attend school in the district, and his wife is also a teacher here, so he has both a personal and professional stake in seeing our school succeed. Additionally, both his father and grandfather served on school boards, and he views this role as an honor and responsibility to represent taxpayers, support students and staff, and help ensure the long-term stability and success of our district.When I asked Danny what experiences or qualifications does he bring to benefit the school district he said that throughout his career, he has served on several boards and committees, including the Industrial Advisory Board for Missouri Western State University, the DeKalb County 4-H Council, the Plumbers & Pipefitters Local 45 Pension Board, the Pipefitters Local 45 Health & Welfare Board, and the Plumbers & Pipefitters Local 45 Joint Apprenticeship training Committee. Danny also holds both Journeyman and Master Plumber licences in the City of St.Joseph. Danny grew up and attended school in a small, rural district similar to Union Star R-II, Danny says he understands both the challenges and the unique strengths of rural schools. That perspective guides his approach to district decisions, with an emphasis on practicality, fiscal responsibility, and long-term sustainability.

When asking Danny what he believes the district's greatest strengths are, he said one of the school board's greatest strengths is its strong financial position, along with a favorable student-to-teacher ratio. Smaller class sizes allow for more individualized attention and stronger relationships between students and educators. While class size is not something the board directly controls, Danny believes the board plays an important role in protecting the district's financial health. By carefully reviewing budgets,bids,and capital improvement projects, the board can help ensure resources are used efficiently and that the district remains well-positioned for the future.When asked what challenges he thinks the district is facing he said that one of the challenges facing the district, and many rural districts across Missouri, is proposed state legislation related to open enrollment, including House Bill 711. This legislation would allow students to attend public schools outside of their home district, with state funding generally following the student. While the intent is to expand choice, there is concern that open enrollment could result in enrollment and funding losses for smaller rural districts.

Another challenge is ongoing uncertainty around state funding for public education. In recent budget proposals, K-12 education has not been fully funded at the level outlined in Missouri's statutory foundation formula , which can make it difficult for districts to keep pace with rising operational and personnel costs.

While the school board does not control state policy, it plays a critical role in preparing the district to navigate these challenges. This includes maintaining strong financial planning, building reserves when possible and making thoughtful, long-term decisions that protect the district's stability. By continuing to support a high-quality educational environment, the board can also help ensure the district remains a strong option for families and a sustainable part of the community.
When asking Danny his views on supporting teachers and the school staff he said supporting teachers and staff is a priority for him, both as a board member and as someone whose spouse teaches in the district. He sees firsthand the dedication and care our educators bring to their work every day. Danny also takes his responsibility seriously to serve the entire district fairly and thoughtfully. The board's role is to balance fiscal responsibility with creating a supportive environment that allows educators to succeed. This includes competitive compensation when possible, maintaining safe and functional facilities, and listening to feedback from staff. Strong support for educators ultimately leads to better outcomes for students and a stronger community.Danny was asked how he plans to ensure transparency and communication. He said that he's been approached by students, parents, and community members with questions, concerns, and ideas. I strongly believe that open and respectful communication is essential to competent oversight. He encourages community members to reach out by phone, email, or in person, and he is always willing to bring appropriate topics forward for discussion at board meetings. Transparency, approachability, and follow-through are key components of effective communication.
When asked what is one specific goal that Danny would like to accomplish he said, rather than focusing on a single short-term initiative. One of his primary goals is to continue strengthening the district's cash reserves while working toward rolling back the tax rate when fiscally responsible. In addition, he would like to work collaboratively with the superintendent and administration to take a proactive, long-term look at the district's facilities and core infrastructure systems. The goal would be to plan ahead for maintenance and phased improvements so issues can be addressed before they become costly emergency repairs. Any such efforts would follow established procurement policies and ethical standards, with appropriate use of third-party evaluations and competitive bidding, to ensure transparency and decisions made in the best interest of the district and its taxpayers. Careful budgeting, conservative financial planning, and thoughtful long-term decision making are essential to protecting both taxpayers and the district while maintaining a strong educational environment.

Union Star FFA

Thank you to all Alumni/Ag Supporters for your appearance at our meeting on January 7th. This meeting was held at First Baptist Church of Union Star Fellowship Hall at 7:00 p.m.
Fifteen Union Star FFA Members attended the Greenhand Motivational Conference that was held at the Agriculture Learning Center on the Northwest Missouri State University Campus in Maryville, Missouri on January 9, 2026. The focus of the conference was for members to learn about being positive role models, learning to get involved, making sound choices, becoming active team members, and making a positive difference in their lives, school and community. The conference was presented by the members of the State FFA Officer team and sponsored by the Missouri FFA Foundation. Through interactive workshops and skits, the State FFA Officers encouraged first-year FFA members to explore their talents and reach outside their comfort zone for the opportunities provided through FFA membership. They helped the new agriculture students set goals for their education, careers, and FFA experience. The members were also able to meet new friends while attending the conference.
Thank you to those who came to support our NEW Union Star FFA Alumni and Agriculture Supporters Group, and the Union Star Basketball Teams. If you are interested in joining this new group, feel free to reach out to a Supporters Officer, Mr. Martin, or check out their Facebook page.
The Union Star FFA Chapter celebrated National FFA Week February 9th through 13th. Check out the flyer with all of the awesome things we have planned to happen during the week.
We would like to invite the community and supporters to the Union Star FFA Pancake Supper this year. Check out the flyer for details.
We had five members fill out seven Area 1 Proficiency Award Applications to submit to Area 1 Proficiency Selection Night on Thursday, February 12th, in Savannah. Area 1 Agriculture Instructors met and judged the applications against other members of the Area 1 Association. These applications are on average 16 pages long when printed out. They take some time to do, and for some of them to have multiples, it is quite an accomplishment. Members are only allowed to submit one application to the State Proficiency Award Selection each year, per state rules.
Congratulations to Eliza and Wyatt. Wishing you both the best of luck as your applications move on to the State Level. They both will get to go to the State Convention in April to see how they did on the Missouri State FFA Convention Stage.
The FFA hosted their annual FFA Pancake Supper on Monday, February 16th from 5:30p.m. to 7:00p.m. in the High School Commons. This year, we served pancakes, hash browns, bacon, sausage links, milk, orange Juice, and coffee. The supper was done as a free-will donation to show the chapter's thanks to the community for their support over the past year. We offered two options for ordering this year at the event community and supporters could come dine in or have take-out options for individuals to come in and order. Thank you to everyone who came out and joined us for this event.

Members of the chapter attended Oak Christian Church on Sunday, February 15th, to kick off their FFA Week with FFA Sunday.
On Thursday, February 19th, National FFA Week members of the FFA and Discovery FFA Chapter handed a lemonade of their choosing to the Union Star Staff. Thank you to Citrus Splash Refreshers, LLC. for providing those drinks for the staff appreciation gift as part of the Staff Appreciation Day.
The Union Star FFA held their annual Barnyard Day on Friday, February 20th. During this time, the participants went through a scheduled rotation of events. These events included a petting zoo where students got to learn about the uses of common farm animals, a toy farm display where students learned about the different areas of a farm and what happens on a farm, Goats Milk Makes What? Presentation where students learned about making goats milk products, and a Technology in Agriculture Presentation where they learned how agricultural uses technology today and the use of drones. This was an excellent opportunity for the chapter to get involved with the younger generation of Future FFA Members. Thank you to Bob Law for helping the chapter out again this year by bringing the Petting Zoo portion of our Barnyard Day. Thank you to Sarah Schuman with Gospel Road Goats and Brad Veale with Veale Ag Solutions who put on our presentations. Thank you to everyone who helped with this event and attended the event.
Congratulations to Danica, Reid, and Wyatt for earning their Missouri State FFA Degree. These students filled out the application that went through two area screenings, a district screening, and came out of the state level screening this last Friday, free from issues. They will receive their degree at the State FFA Convention in April.

Upcoming Events

March

19th-3rd Qtr Awards Assembly
HS Scholar Bowl @ Union Star
20th-King City Spring Season Baseball Home Game vs. West Nodaway (V, JV)
23-King City Spring Season Baseball Home Game vs. Northeast Nodaway (V, JV)
24th-HS Scholar Bowl @ North Nodaway
King City Spring Season Baseball Away Game at West Platte (V, JV)
25th-book mobile
30th-King City Spring Season Baseball Home Game vs. Faith Christian Acad HS (V)
31st-District Career Development Events Day 1

April

1st-District Career Development Events Day 2
King City Boys Golf Away Match at Savannah (V)
2nd-King City Spring Season Baseball Home Game vs. Newtown-Harris (V, JV)
3rd-no school
6th-no school
King City Varsity Boys Golf Tournament: Lafayette Invitational
7th-King City Spring Season Baseball Away Game at Plattsburg (V, JV)
8th-book mobile
King City Varsity Boys Golf Tournament: Stanberry/King City/Worth County
9th- spring writing prompt
King City Varsity Boys Golf Tournament: Gallatin Quad
King City Spring Season Baseball Home Game vs. North Harrison (V, JV)
10th-Bump Up Day/ Job Shadows
Senior Graduation Flower Orders & Money Due
11th-prom
13th-King City Varsity Boys Golf Tournament: Albany Best Shot Tournament
King City Spring Season Baseball Away Game at North Andrew (V, JV)
14th-spring concert
15th-King City Boys Golf Away Match at Savannah (JV)
16th-King City Spring Season Baseball Away Game at Pattonsburg (V, JV)
17th-King City Spring Season Baseball Away Game at Tarkio (V, JV)
18th-super bowl state
20th-King City Spring Season Baseball Home Game vs. St. Joseph Christian (V, JV)
21st-King City Spring Season Baseball Away Game at East Buchanan (V, JV)
22nd-book mobile
23th-King City Spring Season Baseball Away Game at Princeton (V, JV)
Madatory Senior Trip Senior/ Parent Meeting
27th-
King City Varsity Boys Golf Tournament: Albany- King City, Mercer & Worth County
King City Spring Season Baseball Home Game vs. Albany (V, JV)
28th-King City Spring Season Baseball Home Game vs. North Nodaway (V, JV)
29th-athletic banquet
30th-Green House Opening Day
King City Spring Season Baseball Away Game at Stanberry (V, JV)

May

1st-State Solo/Small Ensemble Music Festival
2nd-Music State
4th-King City Varsity Boys Golf Tournament: GRC Tournament
King City Spring Season Baseball Home Game vs. South Harrison (V, JV)
6th-book mobile
7th- senior even & odd finals
King City Spring Season Baseball Away Game at DeKalb (V, JV)
Spring Concert
Senior's Last Day
9th-Senior Alumni Banquet
11th- safety day
Field day
Start of senior trip
12th-King City Spring Season Baseball Home Game vs. Osborn (V, JV
13th-King City Spring Season Baseball Away Game at South Holt (V, JV)
15th-Senior graduation practice
Preschool graduation
17th-Commencement

YOU CAN STILL BUY A YEAR-BOOK FROM PREVIOUS YEARS!

Call (816) 593-2294

or

email rlance@usr2.com

LET'S TALK ABOUT BULLYING

What is bullying?

- Bullying is an aggressive behavior that must include:
- An imbalance of power including physical strength, access to embarrassing information, or popularity. This power is used to harm others.
- Repetition: Bullying behaviors happen more than once or twice.
- Deliberate: Bullying behavior is on purpose.

How can you help?

- Help your kids understand what bullying is.
- Keep open lines of communication – check in with your children often.
- Model how to treat others with kindness and respect.
- Inform the school counselor of behavior that you see.