

Savannah Spaulding Troy Parents: Jamie and Mary Spaulding



Bradley Strain Jr. Troy Parents: Matthew and Christyna Wilson and the late Brad Strain



**Maddie Sydnor** Troy Parents: Clay and Meredith Sydnor



**Cassidy Taylor** Troy Parents: Jim and Cande Taylor



**Brittany Shyann Turner** Tiptonville Parents: Richard and Montana Turner



Samantha Veltri Troy Parents: Brenda Veltri and late Lou Veltri



**Kaitlyn Waites** Union City Parents: Matt and Antoinette Waites

Commencement season

There is excitement at

is an important time in a

the prospect of new oppor-

tunities on the horizon as

well as a feeling of accom-

plishment for successfully

making it through years of

schooling. Receiving a top

honor such as valedictorian can be the icing on the cake

Academics can be very competitive. The highest

academic honor a student can receive in high school

is to be named valedictori-

an of his or her class. Typi-

cally, valedictory honors

are determined by grade

point average; however,

some schools may measure

rankings differently. For example, certain schools may have weighted GPAs, which means students in higher level classes can earn weighted GPAs. If a student takes an advancedplacement course, he or she can garner a 5.0 score for that class by earning an A grade. Standard courses may top out at a 4.0 for a course for an A grade, ac-

cording to PrepScholar, a

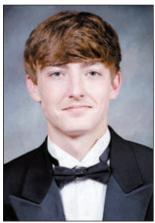
school-testing guide and

Even though top grades

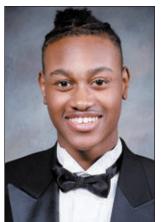
tips resource.

of a job well done.

graduate's life.



**Connor Reid Whaley** Union City Parents: Regina Whaley and the late Danny Whaley



Key'shawn Williams Troy Parents: John and Rosella Williams



**Olivia Yates** Union City Parents: Jonathan Yates and Serena Harrison

es, including AP classes

• Study and do well on

when available.

## Miss Cook...

(Continued from Page 1) raphy during her freshman year.

She was a member of HOSA for four years, for which she served as secretary during her junior and senior years. She will be competing in the national HOSA competition this June. She was a four-year member of the Beta Člub and the Pep Club and a twoyear member of the National Honor Society. A member of the Rotary Interact Club for three years, she served the organization as head of the financial committee during her senior year. Through this club, she had many community service opportunities, including ringing bells for the Salvation Army, volunteering at Union City Rotary Relays and decorating cards for residents at the Etheridge House.

Miss Cook served as Student Government secretary all four years, as well as student council secretary her senior year. She was selected as a Union City Kiwanis Club Student of the Month, an OC Ambassador, a Girls State alternate, a participant in the Gibson Electric Membership Cooperative Washington Youth Tour after winning an essay contest and as a member of the OC Clinical Internship program during her senior year.

She played tennis all four years of high school and was a member of the soccer team during her senior year. She is a member of Crosswind Church in Union City and has been employed at Lake Road Elementary School as a teacher's assistant in the ESP program since December 2017.

Miss Cook plans to pursue a bachelor's degree in nursing at the University of Tennessee at Martin, then a doctorate degree at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville to become a nurse anesthetist.



EARNING VALEDICTORIAN — Even though top grades are part of the equation, it may take more than grades alone to be named valedictorian. Some schools may



earn more about valedictorian honors

weigh other achievements as well.

are part of the equation, it as well. It is important for may take more than grades students to speak with a alone to be named valedicguidance counselor about torian. Some schools may their school's requirements weigh other achievements to be named valedictorian.

Once these qualifications are determined, students eager to compete for the top prize can do the following.

Take a variety of cours-

