

# MHS graduates 151 seniors

By Victor Parkins

On a perfect night for an outdoor graduation service in Milan's new Johnnie Hale Stadium, 151 Bulldog seniors received diplomas.

Class President Kate Allen Johnson welcomed a standing room crowd to the joyous occasion.

"The Class of 2021 thanks you all for being here," Johnson said. "I am honored to welcome you all to this celebration. We've come a long way but it seems like yesterday was the first day of our freshman year. We've overcome a lot of obstacles thanks to COVID but we've set the bar high and I think we're the best class to ever come through Milan High School. Each of us has the power to change the world if we just push through the tough times. Nothing can stop us! One of us could find the cure of cancer or become the president of the United States. Even though we're about to spread out across country and some of us will never see each other again, we will always be Milan Bulldogs."

Class Valedictorian Vic Wang credited God for guiding his way to the top of his class and offered special thanks to a handful of teachers for being positive influences on his life.

"To the class of 2021, Congratulations," exclaimed Wang. "Tonight is the night that our high school career officially ends. It is a night to celebrate your achievements, gather up your memories and prepare for the next step in your life. At the end of every journey marks the beginning of another journey. I believe each and every student in the Class of 2021 has the tools to succeed, and it is completely up to you how you apply yourself to reach your definition of success. My final point to everyone graduating tonight is to work hard, believe in yourself, even when nobody

else does, and don't be a paste eater. Shed your tears of joy, sadness, and nostalgia tonight, and wake up tomorrow, refreshed, ready to achieve something great with your life. Thank you," he added.

Class Salutatorian Jamison Lifsey thanked his parents, teachers, friends, and school administrators for all playing a part in helping the class to graduation night.

"At the beginning of our high school career, coming in as freshmen, the next four years seemed like they would take an eternity," Jamison noted. "Now that it's over, it feels like it was gone in a flash, almost like it was blown away by a fire hydrant. Although it feels like such a short time, we all made memories that will last us a lifetime. The last two school years have been unusual for the class of 2021. It started at the end of last year, when we thought we were just getting sent home for a few weeks. Next thing we know, we're not sure when we'll get to be back in school. Even though it has been difficult to adjust to, I think I speak for the entire class when I say I'm glad we were able to return to school in person, and I'm especially glad we're able to have this graduation tonight."

Jamison encouraged his classmates to take advantage of the opportunities before them.

"Whether you plan to stay in Milan or move to a big city, enter the workforce or go to college, whatever you do, follow your dreams. This is the only time in our lives when we'll be young, and it would be a waste to not take advantage of it. Thank you all again for being here tonight, and thank you for supporting us," Jamison said.

MHS Principal Greg Scott and Director of Schools Jonathan Criswell handed out diplomas and recognized students for special

honors and awards.

Winners of the Tennessee Lottery General Assembly Merit Scholarships for \$1,000 included Vic Wang, Jamison Lifsey, Addison Caldwell, Michael Brewer, Jackson Nelson, Blaine Sitton, Kate Allen Johnson, Lexie Blevins, Sam Young, Xavier James, Evan Soltys, and Siriah Milan.

The Student/Teacher Achievement & Recognition Award (STAR) was sponsored by The Victory 93.7 FM. A \$500 scholarship was awarded to the

winning senior with another \$500 award going to the teacher he or she nominated. This year's winner was Haley Marcle and she chose Ms. Marsha Lantz.

The MacLean Power Systems' MacLean-Fogge Scholarship worth \$6000 over four years was awarded to Ruth Martinez.

The Milan Education Association Scholarship was won by Addison Caldwell and the Leaders Credit Union Outstanding Senior Award went to Ingram Lickliter.



**LEADING THE WAY** - Milan honor students Bonnie Scarbrough and Vic Wang led the MHS Class of 2021 onto Bob Parkins Field for graduation services last Friday night. The class of 2021 is the first group of seniors to graduate in the new Johnnie Hale Stadium.



**MEA SCHOLARSHIP** - MHS Principal Greg Scott presented the annual Milan Education Association Award to senior honor student Addison Caldwell.



**STAR AWARD** - The Student/Teacher Achievement & Recognition Award (STAR) was sponsored by The Victory 93.7 FM. A \$500 scholarship was awarded to the winning senior with another \$500 award going to the teacher he or she nominated. This year's winner was Haley Marcle and she chose Ms. Marsha Lantz.



**BIG MONEY** - The annual MacLean Power Systems' MacLean-Fogge Scholarship worth \$6000 over four years was awarded to Ruth Martinez. MHS Principal Greg Scott presented the special award.

**YOU DID IT!**

You worked hard.  
You persevered. You graduated!  
Congratulations on this wonderful achievement.

We hope your big day is special in every way, and we wish you happiness and success as you follow your dreams into the future.

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**Hats off to the grad 2021**

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**Congratulations to our Upstanding Graduates**

Whether you're continuing your education or embarking on a new career, we wish you much luck and success.

**Dr. Joe Widner, DDS**  
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**Congratulations GRADUATING CLASS**

To all the graduates go our very best wishes. We hope you enjoy a safe and fun summer celebrating your achievement!

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**Class of 2021**

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*Congratulations & Good Luck!*

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**Congratulations!**

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

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