School Events & Happenings

OLIVER: Lionel Bart’s classic musical based on the Charles Dickens’ novel, “Oliver Twist.” The production will include students from all three Manitou Springs schools. MSSD14 District Auditorium, 110 Pawnee Ave. Tickets available at the door: Adults – $5, Students – $2.

Friday, April 20 at 7 p.m.
Saturday, April 21 at 7 p.m.

April 25: Night of the Arts, 6–8 p.m. at the SILC building, 405 El Monte Pl. Experience the diverse and exciting arts taught at MSMS.

Artists of the Week

Manitou Springs Elementary, 5th Grade
One-point Perspectives

Artist: Lily Mascarenhas
Artist: Chloe Rolla
Artist: Nici Sharon

Senior Spotlight: John Ives, Naiyabingi Budler, Jackson Warren and Maebella Alexopoulos

Next year, John Ives will be attending the University of Alabama, double-majoring in aerospace engineering and business. “I really am looking forward to the experience as it’s something new and unique; another adventure for me to go on. The most important lesson I’ve learned from my time in Manitou Springs school district is that I need to challenge myself to really succeed and feel accomplished. Essentially, I learned that nobody is going to make opportunities for me, I have to strive for them myself.”

In the fall, Jackson Warren will be attending Colorado Mesa University in Grand Junction. There is a program that allows Jackson get a CU degree through CMU.

“Although I will be located at CMU, I will actually be getting my education from CU. Manitou has given me an eagerness to learn. Every year, I loved what I was learning and the teachers that taught me. I have learned so much in the math and sciences because my teachers are patient and actually want students to learn. The small class sizes combined with this makes it easy for me to ask questions, learn and actually gain something from my education here. The addition of AP courses has challenged my academic abilities and prepared me for my education ahead.”

Naiyabingi Budler plans to attend Western State Colorado University to study exercise science and compete on the trail running team. “I never would have gone down this path if it weren’t for my schooling in Manitou Springs school district. Manitou has taught me many valuable lessons, both academic and life related. However, the most important would be that life is what you make of it. This includes education. My schooling at MSHS was everything I hoped for because teachers were willing to give me a chance at trying new things. The entire staff was nothing but kind to me, helping me with academic, athletic and personal dilemmas. When I had taken both athletic training classes and wanted to know more, I was able to form an independent study that went more in depth.

This opportunity solidified my passion for sports medicine and shaped my future plans. Manitou was the perfect balance of fun and seriousness. The teachers, administrators and coaches showed genuine kindness and support in my dreams and I would not be where I am without them.”

After graduation, Maebella Alexopoulos plans to continue her education through the 18-21 transition program offered by the Ute Pass BOCES.

Additionally, she will continue to work at Adam’s Mountain Café as well as the Townhouse Sports Grill in downtown Manitou Springs. Maebella reports that she loves being a senior. She is excited to celebrate her achievements at her graduation party, and is looking forward to being an adult.

She said, “I love Mrs. Leonhardt and Mrs. McCracken,” and they love her too! When asked what she likes best about school, she said she likes the dances, and cooking in life skills class. She said she also loves serving coffee through the Mustang Coffee Corral. Her favorite person to serve coffee to is Mr. McGee. She said she will miss him a lot, too.