

18 UNDER 18



FOCUSES ON THE OUTSTANDING QUALITIES OF 18 EXEMPLARY STUDENTS IN ULYSSES, KS NOMINATED BY THEIR SCHOOL IN THE AREAS OF FINE ARTS, SPORTS, COMMUNITY SERVICE, ACADEMICS, LEADERSHIP & PERSEVERANCE. CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2022 NOMINEES!

Hickok School

Noel Leon
Luke Garcia
Maci Kincaid
Madyson Gorman

Sullivan School

Julian Garcia
Miranda Medina
Wayne Alford
Iris Cortez

Kepley School

Treyson Wallace
Dove Miller
Dominic Orosco
Natalie Gillespie
Marshall Wise

Ulysses High School

Bryan Peña
Justin Howard
McCrae Becker
Kyle Lavigne
Ben Scott

FUN FACTS

AGE: 12

GRADE: 6th

PARENTS: Jeremiah &
Samantha Wise

FAVORITE SUBJECT:
Math

FAVORITE MOVIE:
Spongebob



Marshall Wise

Marshall Wise loves basketball. He loves to play basketball, watch basketball and talk basketball.

When he grows up, he would like to be an NBA player for the Charlotte Hornets.

Marshall is the son of Samantha and Jeremiah Wise. He has one brother - Nickolas and one dog - Duke, a boxer. Marshall attends Kepley Middle School where he is a sixth grader.

In school, he is involved in StuCo. Outside of school, Marshall plays football, soccer, baseball and of course, basketball! He also belongs to a cornhole league that plays every Wednesday in Ulysses.

Marshall's favorite school subject is math because you'll always have to count money. His favorite books are the "Diary of a Wimpy Kid" books and his favorite movie is "Spongebob". Marshall likes old school rap and his favorite artist is Eminem.

When asked if he had a prized possession, he said his little brother. His role model is his dad and the person he admires the most is Ryan Nightengale because of his skills on the basketball court.

Marshall's favorite quote is "BE KIND"!

THE


U LYSSES N EWS

Grant County's Oldest Existing Business

Ben Scott

Ben Scott is the 17 year old son of J and Jillian Scott. He is a senior at Ulysses High School and has one sister, Samee who is a freshman this year.

While he is your typical teenage boy, he is also a very thoughtful and genuine young man. He loves his family and values his friends. He says that his grandpa is his role model because he has always set a great example for Ben in his life and in sports. He named his dad as the person he admires the most because he has always supported Ben's choices.

His favorite subject is History and he is excited to be starting a new history course with Mr. Rietchek this semester. Sports is an important part of Ben's life. He started playing when he was four years old and loves watching and participating in several different sports. Ben was the quarterback for the Tigers football team and is currently on the varsity basketball squad. Last year, he qualified for State Track in both the 110 and 300 hurdles.

Outside of school, Ben likes to hang out with his friends and hunt with family. He describes himself as "laid back". His favorite TV show is "The Office" and he enjoys country music. When asked if he had a prized possession, he said not really - he just likes when something triggers a good memory. One of his favorite memories from high school is the football game his junior year when Ulysses played Wellington at Dodge City.

Ben plans to attend college to earn an Ag business degree. He and his cousin would like to help his grandpa and uncle with the family's hog farm near Norton.



FUN FACTS

AGE: 17

GRADE: 12th

PARENTS: J and Jill Scott

PRIZED POSSESSION: Memories

FAVORITE BOOK: The Hunger Games

FAVORITE SUBJECT: History

Proud to support Ben Scott, Justin Howard, and Wayne Alford!

MARVIN'S
FARM EQUIPMENT REPAIR

Marvin and Pam Meile | 620.356.3873

940 S Colorado St | Ulysses, KS | 67880



FUN FACTS

AGE: 9

GRADE: 3rd

PARENTS:

Slade & Marci Alford

FAVORITE BOOK:

The Magic
Treehouse series

FAVORITE SPORT:

Football



Wayne Alford

When you meet Wayne, it doesn't take long to realize this nine year old third grader loves football! He plays football in his spare time, watches football games on television and wants to play in the National Football League when he grows up.

Wayne's parents are Marci and Slade Alford. He has two sisters - Elizabeth and Madelynn and two nephews - Elijah and Oliver. He has a horse named Prissy and a dog named Janey. Wayne says that Janey is his prized possession and that he would be lost without her.

Wayne is a student in Ms. Mejia's class. His favorite subject is Math and he also enjoys P. E. Outside of school, he loves to play football and he has a huge farm set with animals, equipment and buildings that he plays with in the basement.

Besides playing football, Wayne takes part in basketball, soccer and baseball. His favorite team is the Nebraska Huskers.

Wayne's role model is his dad because he does lots of things for their family.

Proud to see all
Grant County students
accomplishing
great things!



Miranda Medina

Whether she's cooking something special for her family or participating in cheerleading with her friends, Miranda Medina is in her element. She enjoys a wide variety of activities from basketball and soccer to reading and doing nails.

Miranda is a fourth grade student in Mrs. Rodriguez' class. Her favorite subjects and activities in school are math, reading, science, p.e. and music.

Miranda's parents are Tarin Domenica and Camilo Medina. She has one brother - Camilo. The family has two pets - a dog named Sebastian and a hamster named Tostada. She says that Sebastian is her "prized possession".

Outside of school, Miranda plays soccer, basketball and softball. She also likes cheer and cooking. Her favorite TV show is Nicky, Ricky, Dicky & Dawn. The books she enjoys reading are Dork Diaries, Diary of a Wimpy Kid and Dogman.

Miranda admires her mom because she teaches her lots of stuff and helps her all the time. When Miranda grows up, she would like to be a cosmetologist and do hair and nails.



FUN FACTS

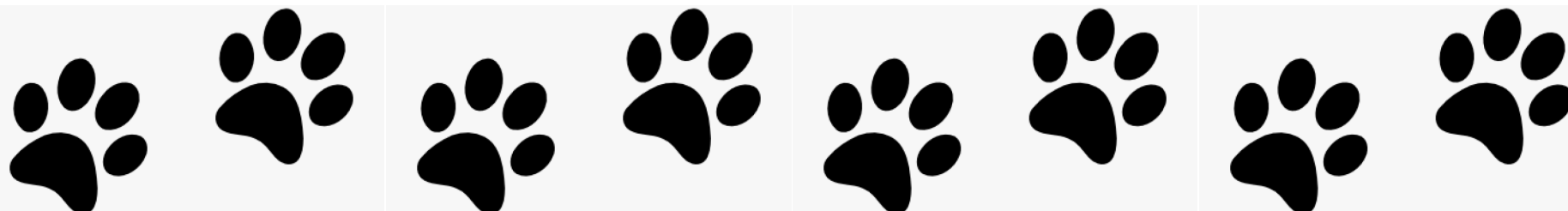
AGE: 10

GRADE: 4th

PARENTS:
Tarin Domenica &
Camilo Medina

FAVORITE BOOKS:
Dork Diaries, Diary
of a Wimpy Kid,
Dogman

**CONGRATULATIONS, MIRANDA!
WHAT A GREAT ACCOMPLISHMENT!**



FUN FACTS

AGE: 8

GRADE: 2nd

PARENTS: Nikki & EJ
Garcia

FAVORITE TEAMS:
49ers and Yankees

FAVORITE BOOK:
Who Would Win?

ROLE MODEL:
Dad



Luke Garcia

Luke is in second grade at Hickok School in Mrs. Schonlau's class. His parents are EJ and Nikki Garcia and he has three siblings - Keedrin, Nick and Emery. The family has two dogs - Zeus and Zola.

Luke is a typical eight year old. He likes to play football and video games, especially Madden Football. He also enjoys swimming, the I-pad and riding his bike. Luke's favorite book is "Who Would Win?" In school, his favorite subjects are PE, science and recess!

Luke watches YouTube TV and his favorite movie is Black Widow. He also enjoys watching football and Major League Baseball. His favorite teams are the 49ers and the Yankees.

Luke's role model is his dad who always is there for him. When he grows up, Luke wants to be a scientist because he is really smart and intelligent!

Way to go, Luke Garcia!
We are so proud of you
for being outstanding!



FRANK'S 
SERVICE CENTER

56 Sunset St. | Ulysses, KS | 67880
(620) 356-2265

944 N Colorado St | Ulysses, KS | 67880
(620) 424-4056

Treyson Wallace

Treyson Wallace is an eighth grader at Kepley Middle School. His mother is Tamara Carter and he has seven siblings - four sisters and three brothers. They are Lindsey, Mercedes, Mahogany, Whitney, Perry, Steven and Stanley.

in school, Treyson is involved in band where he plays the trumpet and is a member of the KMS basketball team. His favorite subjects are band, PE and social studies.

Besides basketball, Treyson also plays football and he likes to watch both sports. His favorite NFL team is the Dallas Cowboys. His prized possession is his "expensive" shoes!

According to Treyson's mom, he is funny, super smart and unique. He is definitely his own person and he's amazing! According to Treyson, his mom is his role model because she loves him and does amazing things!

Treyson's favorite book is *The Giver* and his favorite movie is *Rocky IV*. His favorite musical group is *The Temptations* and song is "My Girl".

When he grows up, Treyson would like to be a mechanical engineer.



FUN FACTS

AGE: 13

GRADE: 8th

PARENT(S):
Tamara Carter

FAVORITE SUBJECTS:
Band, PE,
Social Studies

FAVORITE MOVIE:
Rocky IV



Well done, Treyson!
Good luck on your
next achievements!
We believe in you!

FUN FACTS

AGE: 18

GRADE: 12th

PARENTS:

James Peña and
Filomena Peña

FAVORITE BOOK:

Lemony Snicket's A
Series of Unfortunate
Events

FAVORITE SUBJECT:

History & English



Bryan Peña

Bryan is an outgoing and likeable young man who is ready to face the future! He likes doing a variety of things and is always trying something new!

Bryan is a senior at UHS where he is involved in cross country and tennis. He also has participated in track and Scholar's Bowl. His favorite subjects are history and English. He says Mrs. Pflingsten is an amazing teacher.

Outside of school, Bryan is a gamer and his favorite game is Super Smash. He also loves to run, spend time with his friends and ice skate, which he just started doing and really likes! Bryan also likes to bowl. His favorite sport to watch is ice cross country.

Bryan is the son of James Peña and Filomena Peña. He has one sister, Salma and one half-brother, James Jr. His prized possession is his marble collection and his role model is Elon Musk because he is innovative. The person he admires the most is his sister.

Bryan's favorite TV show is Sailor Moon. He likes the music of Adele, Queen and Frank Ocean. His favorite book is Lemony Snicket's A Series of Unfortunate Events.

Although his plans aren't firm, he has been considering a few courses of study. He is interested in social work, economics and marketing.

The Strength of our Shield!



At Shelter Insurance®, we're proud to have one of the soundest financial statements in the business.

So if you like the idea of working with a company with rock solid financial footing, you've come to the right place.

Ask me how our shield can help protect you!



AUTO • HOME • LIFE

We're your Shield. We're your Shelter.

Jeri Lynn Wells

111 S. Glenn St.
Ulysses, KS 67880
620-356-3300 (Call or Text)
JWells@ShelterInsurance.com



Madyson Gorman

In some ways, Madyson Gorman is your typical second grade girl. She also has some not-so-typical interests that make her unique! Mady is a student in Mrs. Kenny's class at Hickok Elementary. She has one brother, Greyson; a cat named Billy; two dogs - Spencer and Layla; and a horse named Starburst. Her parents are Jay Gorman and Rae Gorman.

In school, Madyson's favorite subject is Westward Expansion and she loves to write in her journal. Her favorite activities outside of school are hopscotch, tag and riding her horse. She plays t-ball but will move up to coach pitch this summer. Mady likes to watch volleyball, is a big K-State fan so, of course, her favorite color is purple!

Her prized possession is a stuffed puppy dog named "Pup." Her favorite book is If You Give a Mouse a Brownie and her favorite TV show is Tom & Jerry. Mady likes the music of Morgan Wallen and her favorite movie is Ice Age.

When she grows up, Madyson wants to be a doctor. Her role model is her cousin, Maci who has a baby named Kinley.



FUN FACTS

AGE: 7

GRADE: 2nd

PARENTS:
Rae Gorman and
Jay Gorman

FAVORITE BOOK:
If You Give a Mouse
a Brownie

FAVORITE MOVIE:
Ice Age



CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR ACHIEVEMENTS!

THE FUTURE IS BRIGHT
WITH YOU IN IT!



FUN FACTS

AGE: 14

GRADE: 7th

PARENT(S):
Tania & Rodrick
Orosco

FAVORITE MUSIC
GROUP: AC/DC

FAVORITE BOOK:
Shadow of the Sun



Dominic Orosco

Dominic Orosco is a busy seventh grader who enjoys a wide variety of activities and interests. His favorite subjects at Kepley School include STEAM and P.E. He also takes part in several sports including wrestling, baseball and cross country. He also likes to watch football and the Buccaneers are his favorite NFL team.

Dominic has one brother, Charlie and one sister, Roseline. The family has five dogs, four cats and lots of chickens! When he is not in school, Dominic likes to do leather work and bike ride. He is a Boy Scout and enjoys camping.

Dominic's favorite movie is Cry Macho and his favorite book is Shadow of the Sun. He likes the music of AC/DC.

When Dominic finishes school, he would like to be a farmer. He says that they kind of live on a farm right now and he really likes it.

Congratulations! Keep working hard and believing in yourself, and success shall follow you everywhere you go.

Kyle Lavigne

When Kyle Lavigne graduates from Ulysses High School, he has plans to attend Fort Hays State University and study to become a computer programmer.

This high school senior enjoys lots of different activities, including PC games, Dungeons & Dragons and cars. In school, Kyle's favorite subjects are fine arts, math and science.

Kyle has a twin brother, Jace and a half-sister, Khloee. He also has seven step siblings - Kriss, Nick, Jalen, Dakota, Lily, Preston and Aiyla. Bruiser - a schnauzer - rounds out the family!

In high school, Kyle has played on the tennis team. He also likes to watch football and his favorite NFL team is the Chiefs. His favorite book is A Series of Unfortunate Events and he likes the song "Paralyzed" by Sueco.

According to Kyle, his role model and person he looks up to is his Mom because she has persevered through so much. His prized possession is his Chrysler 300C.



FUN FACTS

AGE: 17

GRADE: 12th

PARENTS:
Melissa Hurd and
Jason Lavigne

FAVORITE BOOK:
A Series of
Unfortunate Events

PRIZED POSSESSION:
His Chrysler 300C

Congratulations
all USD 214 youth
on your school
achievements!



Healthy Minds. Healthy Lives. Healthy Communities.

404 N Baughman St | Ulysses, KS | 67880
Open Monday - Friday: 8:00 am - 5:00 pm
620.356.3198

Julian Garcia

As you can see by the picture, Julian Garcia is an active boy with lots of interests. He is the son of Eric and Yazmin Garcia and is a fifth grader in Mrs. Long's class at Sullivan School.

Julian's favorite movies are Spiderman: No Way Home; The Avengers; and Star Wars. He enjoys the Diary of a Wimpy Kid book series. Football is his favorite sport to play and watch. The Chiefs are his favorite NFL team.

Julian has one sister, Aulanii, and one dog, Macii. In his spare time, he likes video games and his favorite is Call of Duty: War Zone. Julian also enjoys drawing, making stop motion animations, playing outside and movie nights with the family. He also really loves Freddy's food.

His favorite school subjects are math, art and P. E. Julian's prized possession is his cool Spiderman shoes. He hasn't decided yet what he wants to do when he grows up, but he still has some time!

Julian looks up to his dad and wants to be like him because he knows that his dad really loves him.



FUN FACTS

AGE: 11

GRADE: 5th

PARENTS:
Eric and Yazmin
Garcia

FAVORITE SUBJECT:
P.E., Art, Math

ROLE MODEL: Dad

**Congratulations
to the 2022
18 under 18 Students!**



201 South Main • Ulysses, Kansas
(620) 356-4142 • 1-800-536-4142 • www.gc4bank.com
Equal Opportunity Lender • Equal Housing Lender

FUN FACTS

AGE: 13

GRADE: 8th

PARENTS: Kimberly
Underwood;
Matthew & Kristina
Miller

ROLE MODEL:
Peter Larson

FAVORITE TV SHOW:
Heartland



Dove Miller

Dove is a very unique and focused young lady. This 13-year old eighth grader at Kepley School has a full life and lots of interests, but knows exactly what she wants to do and how she'll do it.

Dove's parents are Kimberly Underwood and Matthew & Kristina Miller. She has five siblings - Opal Underwood, Addison, Garrett, Ballee and Ellie Mathes. She has three dogs - Buddy, Purdy and Pearl; a donkey named Ballee; Rosy Red, a cow; and her horse, Star.

Her prized possession is a Peter Larson autograph. He is the man who found the most complete T-Rex skeleton, known as "Sue." Dove wants to follow in his footsteps by becoming a paleontologist and teaching others about the subject. Her journey will begin when she attends the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology in Rapid City.

For now, Dove is a typical eighth grade girl. She likes history, math and English and is involved in Scholar's Bowl. She enjoys volleyball. Outside of school, Dove participates in 4-H where she does geology, dog show, quilting and ceramics. She also likes to read and ride horses.

Her favorite book is The Hay Meadow by Gary Paulsen and her favorite TV show is Heartland while her favorite movie is Beauty and the Beast. Dove loves country music and her favorite is Miranda Lambert and the song "If I Was a Cowboy".

Who does Dove admire? Peter Larson, of course! She wants to be like him. One last thing -- she wants to travel to Chicago and visit the Natural History Museum -- the home of "Sue".



Congratulations on your incredible success!



McCrae Becker

To say that McCrae Becker is driven would definitely be an understatement. This 18 year old UHS senior is involved in a lot of activities and it's evident that she loves every minute of it!

McCrae is the daughter of Jon and Misti Becker and sister to Jantz, Jaxon and Maddie. She has a dog named Kai. She enjoys baking (especially brownies), singing and being involved in her youth group at church. She also works parttime as a teller at Grant County Bank and shadows Mrs. Coffey at Hickok School for a couple of hours a day.

McCrae's favorite subjects at UHS are English and the Applied Business & Development class (t-shirt class). Her activities at school include wrestling manager, president of StuCo, musical, FCCLA, FCA, Interact, NHS and Odyssey of the Mind.

Her favorite music artist is Anson Seabra, book is A Wrinkle in Time, movie is anything Disney and TV show is Criminal Minds. Her prized possession is a necklace that she wears all the time.

After graduation from high school, McCrae plans to attend either Emporia State or Fort Hays State and become an elementary teacher.

McCrae's role model is her mom. She aspires to be loving and caring like her. According to her mom, McCrae is one of the hardest working, self-motivated people she knows and she and McCrae's dad are very proud of her!



FUN FACTS

AGE: 18

GRADE: 12th

PARENTS:
Jon and Misti Becker

FAVORITE TV SHOW:
Criminal Minds

FAVORITE MOVIE:
Anything Disney

*May this success lead to a
greater achievement in the
years to come!
Keep up the hard work!*



FUN FACTS

GRADE: 2nd

PARENT(S):
Stephanie Valdez

FAVORITE SUBJECT:
P.E.

FAVORITE MOVIES:
Spiderman and
Avengers

FAVORITE SPORT:
Soccer



Noel Leon

Noel Leon is in the second grade in Mrs. Schonlau's class at Hickok School. He has six brothers and four sisters. Six of them live with Noel and Mom while the other four live on their own. His favorite sister is Alexia, because she helps him when he needs something.

At school, Noel's favorite class is P. E. and his favorite activity is indoor recess. His favorite sport is soccer and he is looking forward to playing basketball.

Noel likes the movies Spiderman and The Avengers and his favorite song is Sunflower, the Spiderman song. His favorite book is Dogman.

As you can tell, Noel likes to play video games and also likes to play outside. He loves his family and likes it when they have family nights. He enjoys hanging out with his three older brothers - Abe, Isac and Miguel, and his favorite cousin is Javion, because he likes to play games with him.

Noel says his prized possession is his mom. She loves him a lot and takes good care of him. He wants to be with his mom as long as he can. His role model is his older brother, Abe Perez Jr., because he is following the right path and doing the right thing. He's a good dad and brother.

When he grows up, Noel wants to be a cop because he likes catching bad guys!

According to his mom, Noel is a strong and loving little boy. He has been through a lot with his vision and now an eye surgery. He keeps going no matter what.

Congratulations Noel Leon
and all the other youth!
Keep doing great things!

Natalie Gillespie

Natalie Gillespie is a seventh grade student at Kepley Middle School. Her mother is Krista Gillispie. Natalie has one brother, Kason and a variety of pets, including: a cat, a dog, two turtles and a fish.

In school, Natalie enjoys spending time with her friends and managing both the volleyball and basketball teams. Her favorite subjects are history and art.

Outside of school, she enjoys playing Roblox on her phone and going to Salina to visit family members.

Natalie's prized possession is her fish "Buddy the Fish." Her favorite books to read are history books and books about animals.

She is still thinking about what she would like to do when she grows up. Her role model is her grandma.



FUN FACTS

GRADE: 7th

PARENT(S):
Krista Gillespie and
Nate Gillespie

FAVORITE SUBJECTS:
History and Art

PRIZED POSSESSION:
"Buddy the Fish"

ROLE MODEL:
Grandma

Hard work pays off and all
US 214 students have proved that.
Keep going and we wish you all the best!

FUN FACTS

GRADE: 12th

PARENTS: Bruce and
Kelly Rae Howard

FAVORITE SUBJECTS:
Welding and
Government

FAVORITE BOOK:
The Hunger Games

PRIZED POSSESSION:
Denver Broncos
Jerseys



Justin Howard

One way to describe Justin Howard is that he is his own person. He has a kind heart which shows in his love for his animals and his family. Justin is the son of Bruce and Kelly Rae Howard and he turned 19 years old right before this article went to print. He is a senior this year at Ulysses High School.

Justin has one sister, Jordan Dawson, who is married to Hunter. The family has three dogs - Rocket, Ringo and Rudy. His favorite things to do outside of school are hang out with friends, watch movies and work on the farm. Justin is also involved in church choir, SMCC youth group and 4-H.

His favorite school activities are golf and playing trombone in the band. Justin's favorite subjects are welding and government. His prized possession is his collection of sports jerseys, especially his Denver Bronco jerseys. He loves to watch football and basketball.

Justin's favorite singer is George Strait. His favorite TV show is Impractical Jokers and his favorite movies are Cars (the first one) and Rudy. His favorite book is the Hunger Games.

Justin is looking forward to working with his dad on the farm following graduation from high school. He has always wanted to be a farmer.

When asked who he admired most, Justin said his mom, because she has always been here when I need her.

Congratulations Justin Howard
for being selected as one of the
18 under 18 nominees!

LEIGHTY AG

APPRAISAL SERVICE LLC

534 S. Main St | Ulysses, KS | 67880

620.356.5190

Maci Kincaid



Maci Kincaid is a little girl with big dreams! She is also a busy girl who is involved in a lot of activities.

Maci is the daughter of Dalton and Andrea Kincaid. She has two sisters, Mykaylah and Arya. The family has three dogs - Shay, Jax and Thea; two cats - Cici and Stella; a hamster named Pixie; three fish and lots of chickens and ducks.

Some of Maci's favorite hobbies are cooking, dancing and playing video games. In fact, when she grows up, she wants to be a Chef and open her own restaurant!

Maci is in the second grade at Hickok Elementary. Her teacher is Mrs. Partin. She enjoys math, art and reading. She isn't really into sports, but she does watch her sister play.

Maci's favorite movie is Encanto. She loves the magic in the movie. Her favorite singer is Olivia Rodrigo. She loves reading the Dogman books because she thinks they are cool.

Her prized possession is her collection of Pokemon cards, especially because her dad gave her some of his cards from when he was younger. Maci says her dad is her role model because she knows she can always count on him.

FUN FACTS

AGE: 7

GRADE: 2nd

PARENTS:
Dalton and Andrea
Kincaid

FAVORITE BOOK:
Dogman

PRIZED POSSESSION:
Her Pokemon card
collection

THE **UN** ULYSSES NEWS

Grant County's Oldest Existing Business

FUN FACTS

AGE: 9

GRADE: 3rd

PARENTS:
Martha and Jose
Cortez

FAVORITE SINGER:
Selena

FAVORITE TV SHOW:
Rebecca Zamolo



Iris Cortez

When Iris Cortez walked in for her interview, we were immediately drawn to her bright smile and bubbly personality. This nine year old bundle of energy lit up the room. She performed a cartwheel, then sat down to answer the questions.

Iris is a third grader in Mrs. Garey's class at Sullivan School. She likes math and science and outdoor recess. Outside of school, she enjoys playing Roblox, on the tablet, doing cartwheels and other gymnastic moves and playing outside.

Iris has two brothers - Arturo and Jose, Jr., and two sisters - Brisa and America. Her parents are Martha and Jose Cortez. The family has seven dogs -- Willy, Sofia, Blue, Jr., Princess, Candy and Luna.

Iris' favorite singer is Selena and she likes all of her songs. She likes to watch Rebecca Zamolo on YouTube. Iris also watches football and her favorite NFL team is the Broncos.

When she grows up, Iris wants to be a teacher. Her dad is the person she admires the most.

Proud to Support

**UHS
TIGERS**



PIONEER
COMMUNICATIONS

www.pioncomm.net

Congratulations

Dave Miller

Your perseverance and hard work have paid off! We are so proud of you!

**PRAIRIE VISTA
DENTAL**

**YOUR HOMETOWN
DENTIST**

SERVING THE COMMUNITY
FOR 12 YEARS