

YOUNG OBSERVER

Apple awardee

JUAN CAMPOS
Marmion Academy, Class of 2025



Swift Student Challenge Winner



(Photo provided/ Marmion Academy)

Marmion student's coding receives award, uplifts those struggling with mental health

Juan Campos, Jr., a sophomore at Marmion Academy in Aurora, had waited for the opportunity to enter Apple's Swift Student Challenge since he was in 7th grade.

With the start of high school came his chance to finally participate — and his patience and preparation paid off.

At just 14 years old, and with his first application, Campos was named a winner in the 2022 Swift Student Challenge.

The Swift Student Challenge,

sponsored by Apple, encourages students to show their passion for coding by creating an app on the topic of their choosing. Students from all around the world submit their app ideas according to the Swift Student Challenge terms. Submissions are judged on technical accomplishment, creativity of ideas, and content of written responses.

At a young age, Campos recognized the importance of being attentive to mental

health issues in children, teens and adults. His interest in this topic is what drove him to create "Uplift," an app which provides resources for people who struggle with anxiety and suicidal thoughts.

"In the app there is a map which shows different locations around the United States where people can go see counselors," Campos said.

Uplift can also provide people with medication reminders.

"The third thing my app does

is provide phone numbers you can call for help, like the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, the Crisis Text Line, and 911," Campos said.

He hopes that his app will help reduce the amount of deaths by suicide as well as help people improve their lives.

As an award winner, Campos will receive a free year's membership to the Apple Developer Program, plus WWDC22 (Worldwide Developers Conference)

outerwear, a customized enamel pin set and a free pair of Apple AirPods Pro. He is also eligible to participate in conference activities for developer program members, which includes requests for one-on-one lab appointments with Apple experts.

Campos plans to continue coding through a career in software engineering, preferably at Apple.

—Nancy Konrath, Director of Community Outreach at Marmion Academy

Daring daughters, daring dads

Newman CCHS cheerleaders share stunts with fathers

STERLING—On June 23, Newman Central Catholic High School cheerleaders gathered with their dads for a father/daughter cookout. The group then tried out both small and high-flying stunts.

What followed was an evening of teamwork, trust, and a lot of fun.

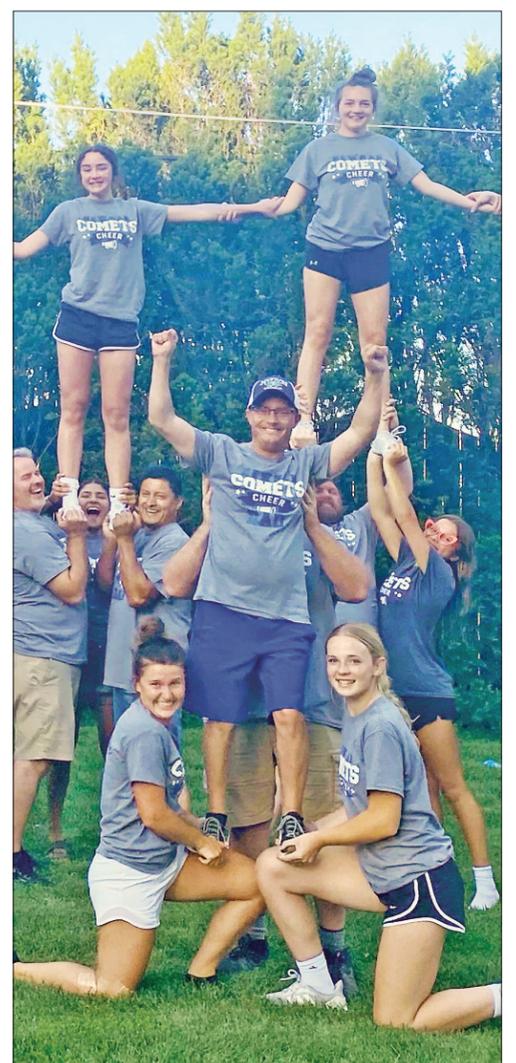


(Photos/ Katy Selmi)

Two spotters, one in front and one in back, help a fellow cheerleader up into an "elevator" stunt. The stunt, supported in this case by the dads on the left and right, involves lifting the "flyer" up to about chest level.



In this group of stunts at varying heights, the dads got involved at all levels — literally.



By the end of the night, this dad was ready to star in a stunt of his own.