

Memories at Marian

Transfer student from Spain marks new “firsts” at Marian CCHS

This year, students of Marian Central Catholic High School have the opportunity to learn about geography and culture — not from their textbooks, but from their newest classmate: Carla Moliterni Rubio.

Take the town of Valdepenas, for example. Set in the center of Spain, the town is commonly known for its old-world charm, architecture and vineyards. It’s also Rubio’s home town.

While living in Spain, Rubio dreamed of experiencing America. Last July her family found a way to make her dream a reality.

With the help of her uncle’s family members living in Woodstock, Rubio enrolled at Marian Central as a junior transfer student.



(Photo provided/ Laurie DiSilvio)
Carla Moliterni Rubio

She immersed herself in American pastimes immediately by joining the cheerleading team. Alongside her new classmates, she cheered on her school and

learned about American football. Although Rubio plans to stay just one year in America, she is making the most of it. One of her highlights has been a trip to Chicago for a Sebastian Yatra concert and a Chicago Fire game.

She has also experienced a “first” in her Catholic faith that was not available to her in Valdepenas.

“In Spain I attended Catholic school, but they do not offer retreats like Marian does. My experience going on retreat was life-changing,” she says.

This semester, Rubio looks forward to competing in track and field and seeing what other “firsts” are in store for her in sports, friends and faith.

—Provided by Laurie DiSilvio.



(Photo provided/ Jennifer Eschenbacher)

Montini Students Take on Climate Changes in City Design

MCHENRY—Seventh- and eighth-grade students from Montini Middle School participated in the Chicago Regional Future City Competition on Jan. 21. For the competition, they designed a city, “Hovering Haven,” which featured adaptations and mitigations for rising sea levels. The city builders won Most Innovative Climate Mitigation Strategy, given by the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE); Best Geotechnical and Foundation Analysis (ASCE); and Excellence in Mobility Technology, given by the Society of Automotive Engineers. Pictured are Lorelei Egert (left), Mac DeLozier, Lucia Schneck, Amanda Garrelts, Will Hamill, Reeve Seymour, and Natalee Henkel.

In Gaming

Hogwarts Legacy

(Warner Bros.) This addition to the expansive “Harry Potter” franchise proves unexpectedly problematic due to anti-Semitism. Players become students at a Victorian-era version of the Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry. They possess an ancient form of magic that potentially puts them at odds with a goblin who aspires to

obtain and use similar mystical abilities for his own evil ends — though allying themselves with him is also an option. This character represents disturbingly anti-Semitic tropes. He and his ilk are depicted as small, greedy, hook-nosed creatures who use the blood of kidnapped children in their wicked rituals. Anyone familiar with the grim history of anti-Jewish

prejudice, dating back to the Middle Ages, will immediately recognize the link with that blighted inheritance. Because of this bigotry, the game cannot be recommended for players of any age. The OSV News classification is O (morally offensive). The Entertainment Software Rating Board rating is T (Teens). —OSV News.



(Photo provided/ Terri Rios)
The Marmion Academy Flannigan Rifles Drill Team earned four first-place trophies, including Armed Division Champions, at the 7th annual West Aurora Blackhawks’ Drill Meet.

Marmion Academy Drill Team Excels in Competition

AURORA—Marmion Academy’s Flannigan Rifles Drill Team cadets won first place at the seventh annual West Aurora High School Blackhawks’ Drill Team Competition, held in Aurora on Jan. 28. Approximately 400 cadets from 13 area high schools competed in the event.

The 30-cadet unit won the Armed Division championship and also placed first in Armed Exhibition, Armed Inspection, and Armed Color Guard.

The Marmion Academy drill team is under the direction of LTC Daniel Williams, USA. Jacob Kubitz ’23 is the Team Commander and Joseph Gordon ’23 is the team’s Executive Officer.

The Flannigan Rifles Drill Team members are :

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| ■ Brandon Baker ’24 | ■ Ethan McLochlin ’25 |
| ■ Giosue Bertolozzi ’25 | ■ Henry Medernach ’26 |
| ■ John Bielat ’24 | ■ George Murad ’26 |
| ■ Beckham Cournaya ’24 | ■ Alec Poss ’25 |
| ■ Clay Ellis-Escobar ’24 | ■ Anthony Quail ’25 |
| ■ Patrick Etheridge ’23 | ■ Aidan Reynolds ’24 |
| ■ Michael Frias-Martinez ’23 | ■ Ian Roskuszka ’24 |
| ■ Joseph Gordon ’23 | ■ Jacob Rubo ’26 |
| ■ Michael Gotlund ’23 | ■ Matthew Sabotta ’24 |
| ■ Seth Graul ’26 | ■ Matthew Standish ’23 |
| ■ William Grauel ’24 | ■ Colin Tazelaar-Kruger ’24 |
| ■ James Jochum ’24 | ■ Ethan Terrel ’26 |
| ■ Ezekiel Johnsos ’26 | ■ Michael Trimarco ’23 |
| ■ Jacob Kubitz ’23 | ■ Jacob Zonta ’26. |
| ■ Samuel Leurck ’24 | |

—Provided by Terri Rios.

Dixon Spelling Bee Names Champion

DIXON—Students in fifth through eighth grades at St. Mary Elementary and Junior High School participated in the school’s yearly spelling bee during Catholic Schools Week. Madison Storey, spelling bee champion, poses with junior high school teacher Sarah Campbell.



(Photo provided/ Sarah Campbell)