

Where are they going . . .

Where have they been?

MHS students who have lived or travelled outside of the United States

Lacey Jenkins
PREVIOUSLY LIVED IN
Travis Air Force Base, Germany

Molly Nguyen
PARENTS ARE FROM
Saigon, Vietnam

Karina Santos
EXCHANGE STUDENT FROM
Sao Paulo, Brazil

Emilee Hopson & Austin Reid
PREVIOUSLY LIVED IN
Kampala, Uganda

Jenny Reid
TRAVELLED TO
Sydney, Australia



French Teacher Sarah Burke

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO STUDY OR TRAVEL ABROAD?

“Students who live in another country or travel to another country are much kinder to people that might be a little different. It makes kids aware of differences, not just culturally but socioeconomically. Everybody’s different, whether from Mattoon or France. It gives them a different outlook. It’s not us versus them. It’s worldwide; all of us.”

Speaking different

Gaby Garza--MHS sophomore

By Trey Skocy,
Sports Editor

Try saying “goodbye” to your best friend then walking in your front door saying “hola” to your family. It’s a completely different daily schedule and lifestyle than most students at Mattoon High School live, but for MHS sophomore Gaby Garza, this is how she interacts with her family every day.

Gaby is a young American with a strong Hispanic heritage who lives with her family of four in Mattoon. Gaby’s parents, Gabriela and Julio Garza came to the United States in 1994. Gaby was born in 1997.

Gaby got her name from her mother Gabriella, and her brother, a freshman at MHS, got his name from his father, Julio.

Gaby and her brother were born and raised in the U.S but learned English through school. However, her parents did not know English like their children. Gaby and Julio have to teach their parents the basics of English for everyday use, while their parents still try to keep their family heritage of speaking their native Spanish language at home.

“I am still helping them, even to this day,” said Garza.

Along with speaking Spanish to her parents daily, Gaby also talks to all of her friends in Spanish on Facebook, even though some of her friends still live in Mexico.

¡Hola me llamo
Gaby!

Hello my name
is Gaby!

