UNION FREE SCHOOL
DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

Class of 2018

High Honor & Honor Graduates

Katrina Briody
Valedictorian

Chloe Cattadoris
Salutatorian

Nicholas Briggs-Ellenberger

Kailey Brown

Shaun Crist

Grace Reilly

Kaliana Sobolewski

Shane M. Alford
Rayanna K. Barber-Lester
Rachel E. Beaulieu
Nicholas R. Briggs-Ellenberger
Katrina M. Briody
Kailey V. Brown

Chloe R. Cattadoris
Jackson C. Collins
Shaun M. Crist
Makenna D. Donahue
Justin R. Ellsworth
Alyssa R. Fuccillo
Jordan R. Kostera

John L. Miller
Christopher J. Peckham, Jr.
Zachary M. Radziewicz
Grace K. Reilly
Vedar Rios
Devin J. Sanchez
Kaliana L. Sobolewski

Kaily R. Talerico
Makenna Taylor-Warren
Tyler J. Trask
Nicholas J. Viscosi
Christine D. Zampa
Dear Parents & School Community Members,

The summer newsletter is by far my favorite one. The entire newsletter is devoted to the achievements of our students, and while we celebrate their achievements in the moment, having them collected in one place spanning our entire school, becomes an opportunity to pause and view our collective points of pride. As you can see from the photos and articles in our newsletter, we have much to be proud of at New York Mills.

Our graduating senior class, while small in numbers, showcased the best of who we are. They excelled in classes, both here at Mills and at the OHM Career Tech Center, they were leaders on the field and in their classrooms. These students are heading off to a variety of areas and career paths and we wish them well as they enter this next phase of their lives.

As you will note, our soon to be senior class continues the tradition of everything that is wonderful about a small district, allowing opportunities for academic scholarship for all students. We look forward to this year ahead and their continued leadership in all aspects of our school community.

The leadership amongst our students is evident down to our youngest grades. Marauder pride is a tangible element and on display throughout our school community. We look forward to seeing our incoming seventh graders as they navigate through a full schedule getting use to different teachers and transitions.

I would be remiss if I didn’t also acknowledge the retirements of staff members who have made our school so successful, both in front of a class and behind the scenes. Every member of this staff is necessary for the successful education of our students. We have been fortunate that Bill Lachut and Gene Wegrzyn have made this district their home. Their pride in our school, our community, and our students has come through in every aspect throughout their years of service. Paula May has also spent countless hours supporting the work of this district and the service of our board of education. Her work allows all of us to be successful in the work that we do. LouAnn Lachut has been a steady presence for our students and a staunch supporter of each of them. Our library will not be the same without her watchful eye and the kindness that she shows to everyone. And lastly, Peter Elacqua. Mr. Elacqua has educated generations of students and taught them that the entire world and endless possibilities are available to all. Even more than the content knowledge he has imparted to students is his warmth and caring that has touched each one of us.

I am blessed to be the superintendent of a district that treasures traditions and puts student success as the cornerstone of every decision and every action.

Sincerely,

Superintendent of Schools

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Best Wishes for a Happy Retirement!

Peter Elacqua  Louann Lachut  William Lachut  Paula Ann May  Gene Wegrzyn
Student Awards

Gillian Biel has been awarded Keuka College's George H. Ball Community Achievement Award. This award is given to students in the junior class who demonstrate a strong academic record and exhibit leadership qualities through school and community activities. The award grants qualifying students a $10,000 award or a $40,000 scholarship over four years of study at Keuka College.

Gretchen Biel has been awarded the Student Sage Recognition Award. This award goes to a student who embodies the motto, “To Be, To Know, To Do.” The award was created to recognize the characteristics of academic excellence, student leadership and community involvement. She is eligible for a scholarship ranging from $10,000 for each year of study or a total of $40,000 for four years should she attend Sage Colleges.

Kaitlyn Carman has been awarded the Wells College 21st Century Leadership Award, which is given in recognition of academics and contributions made as a student and leader through school and community activities. She is guaranteed a scholarship of $40,000 for four years of study at Wells College.

Angela Chen has been awarded the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute Medal. The award recognizes the achievements of an outstanding science and mathematics students in the junior class. She is eligible for minimum $25,000 scholarship should she pursue study in architecture, engineering, management, science or the arts at RPI. She has also been awarded the University of Rochester’s Bausch and Long Honorary Science Award for excellence in science, as well as the Innovation and Creativity Award and Scholarship from RIT.

Abby Copperwheat has been awarded the LeMoyne College Heights Award. This award goes to a student who reaches for heights in the classroom and in various school and community activities. She will receive an annual scholarship award of $12,500 per year to LeMoyne College. She is also the recipient of the George Eastman Young Leaders Award, an award given to a junior with strong leadership, high grades, challenging courses, and extensive extracurricular activities.

Matthew Cornish has been awarded the Xerox Innovation and Information Technology Award. This award is given to a junior with strong interest in innovation or innovation and technology and a high level of achievement in this area.

Nicholas Despins is the recipient of the Clarkson School Scholars Award. He is eligible to receive $60,000 over four years. He was also awarded the Elmira College Key Award, an award that goes to a junior who has demonstrated outstanding school and community leadership. He is eligible for a $20,000 scholarship over a four-year period upon enrolling in Elmira College and meeting additional requirements.

McKenzie Keator has been awarded the Student Sage Recognition Award. This award goes to a student who embodies the motto, “To Be, To Know, To Do.” The award was created to recognize the characteristics of academic excellence, student leadership and community involvement. She is eligible for a scholarship ranging from $10,000 for each year of study or a total of $40,000 for four years should she attend Sage Colleges.

Mary Grace Kherli has been awarded Keuka College's George H. Ball Community Achievement Award. This award is given to students in the junior class who demonstrated a strong academic record and exhibit leadership qualities through school and community activities. The Ball Community Achievement Award grants qualifying students a $10,000 award or a $40,000 scholarship over four years of study at Keuka College.

Kaitlyn Kulawy has been awarded the Rochester Institute of Technology Award. This award is given to a student who is involved as a leader in their school or community, demonstrates an interest and ability in computing and meets certain academic requirements. Recipients who are admitted to full-time undergraduate study at RIT are guaranteed to receive an RIT Computing Scholarship worth $7,000 per year or $28,000 over four years. She has also been awarded the Frederick Douglass and Susan B. Anthony Award, for demonstrating leadership, commitment to understanding social issues, and has strong grades and rigorous courses taken in the humanities and social sciences.

Gabriel McCallister has been awarded Keuka College's George H. Ball Community Achievement Award. This award is given to students in the junior class who demonstrated a strong academic record and exhibit leadership qualities through school and community activities. The Ball Community Achievement Award grants qualifying students a $10,000 award or a $40,000 scholarship over four years of study at Keuka College.

Morgan McGauley has been awarded Keuka College's George H. Ball Community Achievement Award. This award is given to students in the junior class who demonstrated a strong academic record and exhibit leadership qualities through school and community activities. The Ball Community Achievement Award grants qualifying students a $10,000 award or a $40,000 scholarship over four years of study at Keuka College.

Sarah Sharpe has been awarded the Clarkson University Leadership Award. This award is offered to juniors who have demonstrated outstanding leadership and positively contributed to school and community, have an academic interest in engineering business, science or liberal arts and meet certain academic requirements. She has earned a scholarship of $60,000 over four years upon acceptance to Clarkson University. This is the highest honor at the University.

Karilynn Tramacera has received the Elmira College Key Award. This award goes to a junior who has demonstrated outstanding school and community leadership. She is eligible for a $20,000 scholarship over a four-year period upon enrolling in Elmira College and meeting additional requirements. Karilynn has also been awarded the George H. Ball Community Achievement Award for demonstrating a strong academic record, exhibiting leadership qualities through school and community activities. The award grants qualifying students a $10,000 award or a $40,000 scholarship over four years of study at Keuka College.
Student Awards

Senior Class Awards

These members of the senior class received the following awards:

Rachel E. Beaulieu
Sheriff Robert Maciol Scholarship Award
Harry J. Snyder Memorial Scholarship

Nicholas R. Briggs-Ellenberger
September Optimist Youth of the Month
Miga Mentoring Award Tutor of Year
Nicholas T. Radomski Memorial Award
Joseph Swider Award
Mr. Congeniality 2018

Katrina M. Briody
October Optimist Youth of the Month
Delta Kappa Gamma Society Award
New York Mills Stage & Theatre Award
Margaret Joslin Memorial Award
CTE Honor Society Special Recognition Award
MVCC Presidential Scholarship

Kailey V. Brown
February Optimist Youth of the Month
NY Mills Teacher’s Association Award
Optimist Joseph Schmidt Memorial
Athletic Booster Club Scholarship
Gary M. Hadfield Principal’s Award
Burrstone Basset Memorial Award 1st Place
NY Mills Volunteer Fire Dept. Scholarship

Chloe R. Cattadoris
November Optimist Youth of the Month
NYSED Academic Excellence Scholarship
Nicholas T. Radomski Memorial Award
Burrstone Basset Memorial Award
Athletic Booster Club Scholarship
NYSPHSAA Section III Scholarship
Linda Jordan Trzepac Award
New York Mills PTSO Scholarship

Shaun Michael Crist
December Optimist Youth of the Month
Mayor John Pietryka Memorial Award
Athletic Booster Club Scholarship
NYSCOPBA Scholarship

Jackie Lawler Healthcare Scholarship
Big Moose Open Scholarship
NYSPHSAA Section III Scholarship

Justin Ryan Ellsworth
New York Mills Pop Warner Award

Alyssa Renee Fuccillo
March Optimist Youth of the Month
Thread of Life Community Service Award
Etude Music Club Scholarship
Athletic Booster Club Scholarship
New York Mills PTSO Scholarship

Jordan Richard Kostera
NYSED Academic Excellence Scholarship
St. John Fisher College Founders’ Scholarship

John Ira Miller
NYSED Academic Excellence Scholarship

Christopher Jack Peckham, Jr.
Burrstone Basset Memorial Award

Grace K. Reilly
NYM Optimist Club Essay Contest 2nd Place
Elmira College Key and Grant Award
Maude Foley Scholarship
January Optimist Youth of the Month
Optimist Senior Award
Athletic Booster Club Scholarship
OHM BOCES Superior Academic Achievement Award
Burrstone Basset Memorial Award
NY Mills Volunteer Fire Dept. Scholarship
Margaret Joslin Memorial Award
New York Mills PTSO Scholarship

Devon J. Sanchez
Unsung Hero Sports Participation Award
American Red Cross Scholarship
Anthony “Red” Ricco Memorial Award
Mr. Marauder 2018

New York Mills Graduating Class of 2018
Student Awards

Senior Class Awards

These members of the senior class received the following awards:

Kaliana Lynn Sobolewski
- May Optimist Youth of the Month
- NYSPHSAA Section III Merit Scholarship
- Myrna Black Memorial Scholarship
- Unsung Hero Sports Participation Award
- New York Mills Stage & Theatre Award
- Nicholas T. Radomski Memorial Award
- Athletic Booster Club Scholarship

Kaily Rene Talerico
- April Optimist Youth of the Month
- John P. Emmett Scholarship
- Big Moose Open Scholarship

Makenna Nicole Taylor-Warren
- June Optimist Youth of the Month

Christine Zampa
- Thelma E. Russ Achievement Award
- OHM BOCES Outstanding Lab Performance-CNA

Honor Graduates

High Honor Graduates (95% - 100%)
- Valedictorian - Katrina Briody

Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation
- Nicholas Briggs-Ellenberger
- Kailey Brown
- Chloe Cattadoris
- Shaun Crist
- Jordan Kostera
- John Miller *
- Zachary Radziewicz

* with Honors

Honor Graduates (90% - 94%)
- Salutatorian - Chloe Cattadoris
- Nicholas Briggs-Ellenberger
- Kailey Brown
- Shaun Crist
- Grace Reilly
- Kaliana Sobolewski

Regents Diploma with Honors
- Katrina Briody

New York Mills Graduating Class of 2018

CTE Awards

Oneida-Herkimer-Madison BOCES held their Career and Technical Education Awards ceremony on June 7. The following students received awards at the ceremony:

Katrina Briody
- Margaret Joslin Cosmetology Award for Superior Academic Achievement
- CTE Honor Society Award

Grace Reilly
- Margaret Joslin Cosmetology Award for Superior Academic Achievement

Christine Zampa
- Outstanding Lab Performance – Certified Nurse Assisting

Optimist Essay Winner

Morgan McGauley, a Junior at New York Mills Union Free School, recently won the New York-New England District Optimist Essay Contest based on a theme of "Can Society Function Without Respect?" McGauley was representing the New York Mills Optimist Club in the District Contest after having won the local contest at her school.

McGauley was awarded a $2,500 scholarship for the honor. In addition, the essay will be featured in Optimist International's The Optimist magazine.
GRADUATION
CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2018
The Optimist Club of New York Mills has named Kaily Talerico as Youth of the Month for April. Kaily is the daughter of Edward and Robin Talerico of Yorkville and is a member of the New York Mills Class of 2018.

Kaily has been an inspiration to all of us. She has been named Student of the Month and has appeared on honor roll. Kaily played modified field hockey in 7th and 8th grade. A serious accident in the fall of 2013 resulted in her no longer being able to participate in sports. Wishing to remain involved in the program, Kaily became the manager of the junior varsity and varsity field hockey teams. In addition, Kaily has been a part of our school musical cast for the seven years and a member of our chorus since middle school.

Kaily plans to pursue a career in the medical field and will attend MVCC in the fall. Kaily is truly a fighter; her strength and compassion will most surely lead to her achieving success in her chosen career.

Kaliana Sobolewski, a member of the New York Mills Junior/Senior High School Class of 2018, was named the New York Mills Optimist Youth of the Month for May. Kaliana is the daughter of Steven and Heather Sobolewski of New York Mills.

Kaliana has appeared in high honor roll multiple times and was inducted into our chapters of the National Junior Honor Society in 8th grade and the National Honor Society in 11th grade.

In addition to her dedication to the classroom, Kaliana has also dedicated her time to various activities in the school and local communities. She has been a Varsity Cheerleader since 9th grade and earned Most Improved in 9th grade and Most Spirited in 10th grade. She has also played on our Basketball and Softball teams since her freshman year and has been named a scholar-athlete each year. Kaliana has been a member of our drama club since 4th grade and has both performed on stage as well as worked behind the scenes on the stage crew. As a high school student she volunteered to help with the elementary musical. She is an active member of our chorus, including the acapella group. In addition, Kaliana is a Junior Fire Fighter with the New York Mills Fire Department. Other activities include yearbook club, student council, tutoring and volunteering at various fundraisers and activities to improve the community.

Kaliana’s goal is to become a midwife or pediatric nurse and will attend MVCC in the fall. Kaliana has proven that she has what it takes to reach success and we look forward to seeing what she achieves after high school.

The Optimist Club of New York Mills has named Makenna Taylor-Warren as Youth of the Month for June. Makenna is the daughter of Justin Warren of New York Mills and Christine Taylor of Oneida and is a member of the New York Mills Jr. & Sr. High School Class of 2018.

Makenna transferred into our school at the start of her junior year. Activities in which she participated in her previous school included soccer, basketball, softball and chorus. Since arriving in our school, Makenna has continued to be involved in numerous activities. She has been a member of our cheerleading squad and varsity softball and cross country teams. This year she serves as her class secretary. As a member of Student Council she attended the NYSCLSA Leadership Conference in Albany this past fall and participated in various service activities, including spring clean-up and March for Life. Makenna sings in our chorus and select choir and performed in this year’s school musical. Makenna volunteers time in school to read the daily announcements as well as assisting in the main office. She was named Student of the Month as a junior and has received awards for athletics and academics. Makenna also holds a part-time job.

Makenna intends to pursue a career in the radiology or radiography field and will attend MVCC in the fall. Our best wishes go to Makenna as she follows her dreams.
Students of the Month

The students selected as "Students of the Month" will continue to be recognized this year. A vote will take place each month and there will be one winner for each grade level (7-11). Students will be judged on the following:

June 2018

Gretchen Biel
Grade 11

Kobe Mroz
Grade 10

Victor Lee
Grade 9

Logan Copperwheat
Grade 8

Cindy Wu
Grade 7

Kids of Character Awards

The following 3-6 students were selected as Kids of Character. This award is given for following The Marauder Way on a regular basis.

APRIL Kids of Character Awards

Grade 3 – Jonathan Sroka and Ahmed Benli
Grade 4 – Mason St. James and Nathaneal Dzwonkowski
Grade 5 – Kaylee Frank, Matthew Fairbrother and Jaden Roback
Grade 6 – Nicholas Chaffee and Ryan Lamb

MAY Kids of Character Awards

Grade 3 – Nathan Siegfried and AriAnna Lilley
Grade 4 – Stefanie Siriano, Maggie Copperwheat and Abrial Lubey
Grade 5 – Aiden Miller and Gabriella Dietz
Grade 6 – Katherine Wilson

JUNE Kids of Character Awards

Grade 3 – Rose Martell
Grade 4 – Matthew Denicola, Jaden Clifford and Madison Dobson
Grade 5 – Kiara Banks
Grade 6 – Emily Pavlus
Juniors to Juniors Book Swap

On May 22, Mrs. Hartmann and the Class of 2019 ran the third annual “Juniors to Juniors” book swap in the elementary library. The book swap is a summer reading book drive run by donations from the junior class and local businesses to the kindergarten, first, and second grade classes.

Similar to previous years, this service project is meant as a way for the juniors to give back to their own community by fostering a love of reading in someone else. To prepare for the project, the junior class compiles age-appropriate, new or gently-used literature and categorizes it by reading level. Then, they invite the younger students, “juniors,” to choose a book to take home in an effort to keep them engaged in the love of reading and learning over the summer months.

The juniors also include additional collaborative activities on the day of the event, including coloring bookmarks, applying temporary tattoos, and enjoying a snack with the elementary students, who read aloud to the juniors. This year, the book tables were filled with over four hundred choices of new and gently-used literature for our elementary students to keep, learn from, and love. It was heartwarming to see the smiles that radiated from students’ faces, young and old alike, all morning.

Special thanks extend to all of the students and teachers who made the day an enormous success. Gratitude also extends to local businesses, Hannaford, Target, Walmart, Chanatry’s, and Price Chopper, for helping to make the morning truly special.
School News

Class Of 2024
Sixth Grade Graduates

Mrs. Babula's Class

David Avrusevich       Samantha Jordan
Karamia Basi            Mckenzie Kinville
Alexzander Boll         Ryan Komnick
Britney Brood           Rocco LaBella
Nicholas Chaffee        Nixie Lorraine
Ryan Connor             Vincent Martell
Dominic Cordero         Dominick Moore
Landon Davidson         Hunter Ryan
Brynn Gerhardt          Madison Smith
Samuel Greene-Spradley  Catherine Testa
Jayla Jordan            Jamir Willis

Mr. Kuhn's Class

Frank Calhoun           Ryan Lamb
Christopher Chafee      Hailey Mahardy
Cardin Chau             Talan Marchese
Lenna Comenale          Xander McCoy
Siddalee Daniels        Ayden Murphy
Katherine Eliason       Victoria Odarchuk
Abigail Evans           Emily Pavlus
Dareck Fransman-Stevens Maddison Pollock
Samson Greene-Spradley  Alivia Rizzo
Timothy Kirilko         Seth Ryan
Lucas Komnick           Conner Scharbach
Lauren Kulpa            Coby Thompson

Sixth Grade
Special Recognitions

National Physical Fitness Award
Britney Brood           Talan Marchese
Landon Davidson         Hailey Mahardy
Katherine Eliason       Victoria Odarchuk
Samantha Jordan         Maddison Pollock
Timothy Kirilko         Alivia Rizzo
Lauren Kulpa            Conner Scharbach

Presidential Fitness Award
Jayla Jordan

Top Five High
Academic Achievers
Victoria Odarchuk
Alivia Rizzo
Katherine Eliason
Jayla Jordan
Hailey Mahardy

PTSO Good Citizenship Award
Frank Calhoun
Samuel Greene-Spradley

New York State Comptrollers Achievement Award
Jayla Jordan
Hailey Mahardy

New York State Triple “C” Award
Landon Davidson
Victoria Odarchuk

Perfect attendance
Dominic Cordero
Madison Smith
Mr. Getman Selected as Outstanding Educator

Mr. Kevin Getman was presented the Rotary Club of Utica’s Outstanding Educator Award at an awards ceremony on May 4 at the Yahnundasis Golf and Country Club. Selection of the educator is the culmination of the Rotary’s Youth Services Committee program. This award is presented annually to educators from several local school districts to recognize educators who exemplify the characteristics of the Rotary’s credo: Is it the Truth? Is it Fair to all concerned? Will it build Goodwill and Better Friendships? Will it be Beneficial to all concerned? and by doing so provide students with opportunities to learn and grow. The students said of Mr. Getman, who teaches Pre-Calculus, AP Calculus, Algebra II, Statistics and Math Lab 7-9, “He has the largest capacity for patience, as he will calmly help you understand a problem, regardless of your level of confusion. Most, importantly, he is always open to listen to our thoughts and concerns as students.” Congratulations to Mr. Getman!

On June 11, New York Mills students participated in an instrument petting zoo. The students were able to play a variety of wind, string, and percussion instruments and learn about how those instruments work. It was a very exciting event for everyone involved!
4th Annual Marauder Golf Open

New York Mills Athletic Booster Club is hosting their 4th Annual Marauder Golf Open on Saturday, August 4, beginning at 9 a.m. at Twin Ponds. Cost is $80 per golfer, teams of 4. The day includes lunch on the turn, steak dinner, and prizes.

To sign up your team, email: athleticboosters@newyorkmills.com, or call Brenda Mitchell at (315)-527-5113.