

# NYMILLS

July  
2014

## UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

### CLASS OF 2014

#### *Honor Graduates*



**Jack Lin**  
Valedictorian



**George Albert**  
Salutatorian



**Michael Bennett**



**Alexa Boucher**



**Nicholas  
Comenale**



**Nathan  
Edwards**



**Jonathan Fiore**



**Tayler Galusha**



**Nathan  
Hartman**



**Ali Hassan**



**Matthew  
Inkawhich**



**Austin Majka**



**Meara Mosny**



**Elaina Pacini**



**Carlie Perretta**



**Tevin Pham**

### *Class of 2014*

George Albert  
Michael Bennett  
Alexa Boucher  
Kyle Brittell  
Erica Chaparro  
Nicholas Comenale  
Alicia DeAngelo  
Nathan Edwards  
Jonathan Fiore

Tayler Galusha  
Tyler Garcia  
Zachary Griffith  
Nathan Hartman  
Ali Hassan  
Ronald Humpf II  
Matthew Inkawhich  
Allison Kistner  
Jack Lin

Antonia Ludden  
Amanda Maciol  
Austin Majka  
Daniel Mitchell  
Meara Mosny  
Justin Nelson-Achen  
Elaina Pacini  
Carlie Perretta  
Tevin Pham

Nicole Robinson  
Tyler Sadallah  
Jeremy Schaaf  
Alyssa Sinker  
Abby Sprague  
Domenique Talerico  
DyAnna Thomas  
Joseph Topa Jr.  
Zachary Vennaro

# Superintendent's Message

Dear School Community Member,

We are proud to present the 2014 issue of our annual "Awards Winning Newsletter." We hope that you will enjoy reading about the wonderful academic and extra-curricular success of our Elementary and Jr.-Sr. High School students.



As you know, our District Newsletters have been published in full color on our school district website at [www.newyorkmills.org](http://www.newyorkmills.org) for the last two years. We have also made available to the public black and white copies at the following locations: New York Mills Public Library, Hapanowicz Brothers Meat Market, Pizza Boys, and the School District Office. We made the decision to produce this publication electronically in order to reduce the overall cost of the newsletter. However, a number of people have communicated to us through our District Survey and at Board meetings that they would prefer to receive a mailed hard copy.

Later this summer, all residents will receive a postcard asking for a response if you prefer we mail a hard copy of the newsletter to your home. We will then create a District Newsletter Mailing List of those who "opt in." The newsletter will still be available in color on our website. As always, it is our intent to "spread the good news" about our school district through our District Newsletter. Therefore we will return to mailing the newsletter to any resident that responds to our postcard inquiry.

Thank you for your continued support and involvement in the education of our K-12 students. Have a wonderful summer!

Sincerely,

*Kathy Houghton*  
Superintendent of Schools

## Capital Project

The Board of Education continues to work with Hunt Engineers-Architects-Surveyors to plan the scope of work for our proposed building project. At their June 25 meeting, the Board, administration, and members of the Facilities Health & Safety Committee met with our architects to discuss the possible components of the project; including a new bus loop and parking, cafeteria improvements, refurbishment of the track, Beekman roof, security items such as cameras, lighting, doors, locks, access control systems, window film, and technology infrastructure to support the security upgrades. Our goal is to maintain our present facilities, as well as to improve conditions for our students and staff regarding the safety and security of our buildings and grounds. Thank you to Facilities Health & Safety Committee Chairperson Dick Ross, as well as Gary Markowicz and Rick Surprenant, Board representatives. We will continue to discuss and refine the project scope of work during future Board and Committee meetings. The Board is planning to place a project before our voters in the late fall. We are striving to finalize a project that will have minimal to no impact on the taxpayers.

## District Survey

We have recently learned that some district residents believe the District Survey administered at our Budget Vote & Board Member Election was an expensive exercise that "wasted" taxpayer dollars. I want to assure you that the survey was developed, administered, and is currently being tabulated by a subcommittee of our Board of Education, chaired by Dr. Gary Porcelli, Board Vice President. The District did not hire a survey firm or a consultant to assist us with this project. A special thank you to Dr. Porcelli, Dick Ross, and Rick Surprenant for serving on the Survey Committee and donating their time and talents to this effort.

## Class of 2014 Honor Graduates

### High Honor Graduates (95% - 100%)

*Valedictorian* - Jack Lin  
*Salutatorian* - George Albert  
Michael Bennett  
Nicholas Comenale  
Nathan Hartman  
Meara Mosny  
Tevin Pham

### Honor Graduates (90% - 94%)

Alexa Boucher	Matthew Inkawich
Nathan Edwards	Austin Majka
Jonathan Fiore	Elaina Pacini
Taylor Galusha	Charlie Perretta
Ali Hassan	

### Advanced Regents Diploma

George Albert*	Ali Hassan
Michael Bennett*	Jack Lin*
Alexa Boucher*	Amanda Maciol
Nicholas Comenale*	Austin Majka*
Nathan Edwards*	Meara Mosny*
Jonathan Fiore*	Tevin Pham*
Nathan Hartman*	

### Regents With Honors

Kyle Brittell*	Matthew Inkawich*
Taylor Galusha*	Charlie Perretta*
Tyler Garcia*	Joe Topa*
Ronald Humpf*	

### Regents Diploma With Advanced Designation

George Albert*	Ali Hassan
Michael Bennett*	Jack Lin*
Alexa Boucher*	Amanda Maciol
Nicholas Comenale*	Austin Majka*
Nathan Edwards*	Meara Mosny*
Jonathan Fiore*	Tevin Pham*
Nathan Hartman*	

*\*with honors*



# Student Awards



## Senior Class Awards



*These members of the senior class received the following awards.*

### **George Albert**

State of NY Comptroller Achievement Award  
New York Mills Stage & Theatre Award  
Nicholas T. Radomski Memorial Scholarship  
New York Mills Marauder Athletic Boosters  
September Optimist Youth of the Month

### **Michael Bennett**

Alfred University Presidential Scholarship  
Etude Music Club Award  
New York Mills Fire Department Scholarship  
New York Mills PTSO Scholarship  
New York Mills Student Council Scholarship  
DAR Good Citizen Award  
U.S. Marine Corps Distinguished Athlete Award  
October Optimist Youth of the Month

### **Alexa Boucher**

Big Moose/Casper Chiropractic Scholarship  
Utica College Fieldwork program scholarship  
May Optimist Youth of the Month

### **Erica Chaparro**

Utica College Fieldwork Program Scholarship

### **Nicholas Comenale**

Family of Matt Larkin Memorial Scholarship

### **Nathan Edwards**

Thread of Lift Thrift Store Scholarship  
New York Mills Stage & Theatre Award  
New York Mills Student Council Scholarship  
New York Mills MAD Boosters Award  
Margaret M. Connors Memorial Scholarship for Performing Arts  
New York Mills PTSO  
March Optimist Youth of the Month

### **Jonathan Fiore**

Utica College Fieldwork Program Scholarship  
Utica College Virgil Crisafulli Award

### **Zachary Griffith**

Pop Warner Football Award

### **Nathan Hartman**

New York Mills Optimist Senior Scholarship  
Anonymous Athletic Scholarship  
New York Mills PTSO  
U.S. Marine Corp Semper Fidelis Award for Musical Excellence  
June Optimist Youth of the Month

### **Ali Hassan**

Friends of Matt Larkin Memorial Scholarship

### **Ronald Humpf**

State of New York Comptroller Achievement Award  
Mayor John Pietryka Memorial Award

*New York Mills Graduating Class of 2014*



# Student Awards

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## Senior Class Awards



*These members of the senior class received the following awards.*

### Jack Lin

New York State Academic for Excellence Award  
Walter Miga Memorial Award  
Big Moose/Casper Chiropractic Scholarship  
U.S. Marine Corps Scholastic Excellence Award  
April Optimist Youth of the Month

### Antonia Ludden

John Emmett Memorial Scholarship  
Thelma Russ Memorial Scholarship

### Amanda Maciol

Sheriff Robert Maciol Award  
Mohawk Valley Board of Realtors Award  
New York Mills Fire Department Scholarship  
Nicholas T. Radomski Memorial Scholarship  
Harry J. Snyder Memorial Scholarship  
Renegade Pigs Motor Cycle Club of New York Award  
New York Mills Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary Award  
CSEA Local 1000  
November Optimist Youth of the Month

### Austin Majka

North Utica/Whitestown Rotary Scholarship

### Meara Mosny

New York State Academic for Excellence Award  
New York Mills Miga Tutor Mentoring Award  
New York Mills Stage & Theatre Award  
Myrna Black Memorial Scholarship  
Margaret M. Connors Memorial Scholarship for Performing Arts  
January Optimist Youth of the Month

### Elaina Pacini

Utica College Doris Miga Award  
Catherine & Claudia Wolanin Memorial Scholarship

### Carlie Perretta

Class of 1940 Scholarship  
Anonymous Athletic Scholarship  
New York Mills Teachers Award  
Phi Beta Kappa future teacher Award  
U.S. Marine Corps Distinguished Athlete Award  
February Optimist Youth of the Month

### Tevin Pham

Class of 1940 Scholarship  
Air Force ROTC Scholarship  
December Optimist Youth of the Month

### Tyler Sadallah

New York Mills Optimist Joseph Schmitt Memorial Award

### Jeremy Schaaf

Vital Net Technology Award in Memory of Matt Larkin

### Abby Sprague

American Red Cross Scholarship  
New York Mills PTSO Scholarship

### Domenique Talerico

Family of Matt Larkin Memorial Scholarship  
New York Mills Fire Department Scholarship

### Joseph Topa

Gary M. Hadfield Principal Awards.

*New York Mills Graduating Class of 2014*





# Student Awards

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## *Junior Class Awards*



**Jason Browne** — Son of Jason Browne and Laura Pendolf, has received the **University of Rochester Xerox Award for Innovation and Information Technology**. This award recognizes students who pursue innovation and demonstrate appreciation for technology. Jason will be considered for this scholarship, which is worth a minimum of \$7,500, if he applies for admission to the University of Rochester.

**Nicholas Vanderwood** — Son of Mr. & Mrs. Bernard Vanderwood, has received the **Rochester Institute of Technology Innovation & Creativity Award**, which makes him eligible for \$28,000 in scholarships should he enroll at RIT.

**Luke Sunderlin** — Son of Mr. & Mrs. Michael Sunderlin, has earned the **University of Rochester George Eastman Young Leaders Award**. If Luke applies and is accepted to the University of Rochester, he will be considered for a scholarship worth at least \$7,500 per year (totaling at least \$30,000 over four years). He was also the recipient of the **RPI Rensselaer Medal**, which is awarded to a junior who has distinguished him/herself in mathematics and science.

**Samantha Rochon** — Daughter of Lois Rochon and Pierre Rochon has received the **Sage Colleges Student Sage Award**. Sam is guaranteed a minimum merit scholarship of \$5,000 for each year of study toward tuition at Russell Sage College or Sage College of Albany. This scholarship is available for up to four years of study.

**Sara Zarnoch** — Daughter of Mrs. Jennien Zarnoch, has been awarded the **Elmira College Key Award**. This scholarship, should Sara apply and is accepted, would award her with \$60,000 over a four-year period. In addition, Sara has also been awarded with the **University of Rochester Bausch & Lomb Honorary Science Award**, given in recognition of the achievements of an outstanding science and math student. Sara will be considered for the scholarship, which is worth a minimum of \$7,500 per year if she applies for admission to the University of Rochester.

**Mikah Inkawhich** — Daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Terrence Inkawhich has received the **Clarkson University Achievement Award**, which awards a scholarship of \$48,000 over four years upon acceptance to Clarkson University. Mikah has also earned the **Wells College 21st Century Leadership Award** for outstanding contributions she has made as a student and a leader. As a recipient, she is awarded a \$40,000 Scholarship for Leaders (\$10,000 per year) for four years of study at Wells College.

**Sarah McAndrew** — Daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Christopher McAndrew, has been awarded with the **Sage Colleges Student Sage Award**, which guarantees a minimum merit scholarship of \$5,000 toward tuition should she enroll at the Sage College. This scholarship is available for up to four years of study.

**Courtney Spost** — Daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Michael Spost is the recipient of the **University of Rochester Frederick Douglass and Susan B. Anthony Award**. This award was named in honor of two of Rochester's most significant pioneers of social justice. Upon application, Courtney will be automatically considered for this scholarship, which is worth at least \$7,500 per year (totaling at least \$30,000 over four years). Courtney has also been awarded the **Clarkson University Leadership Award**, for which the recipient earns a scholarship of \$60,000 over four years.

**Allison Swider** — Daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Swider has been awarded with the **LeMoyne College Heights Award**. LeMoyne College offers the opportunity to receive a \$12,500 annual scholarship, which is renewable for up to four years. Allison has also received the **RIT Computing Medal**. Allison is eligible for a \$28,000 scholarship should she enroll at RIT.



## Optimist Youth of the Month

April

Jack Lin has been named the New York Mills Optimist Club Youth of the Month for April. Jack is the son of Ren Fa Lin and Xiu Fa Chen of New York Mills. He is a member of the New York Mills Jr./Sr. High School Class of 2014.

During his four years of high school, Jack has participated in a variety of activities. He has been on the High Honor Roll throughout high school and has been selected as Student of the Month each year since 7th grade. His hard work has been recognized many times over. In his junior year he was the recipient of the University of Rochester Bausch and Lomb Honorary Science Award. Jack was inducted into the National Junior Honor Society in 8th grade and his junior year was inducted into the National Honor Society, for which he serves as Secretary. Last year, he was recognized with the Oneida-Madison-Herkimer School Boards Institute Outstanding Student Achievement Award and has been declared an AP Scholar With Honors. He is also a member of the National Society of High School Scholars and earned the Highest GPA student-athlete award. Jack served as class secretary in 9th grade. Jack was recently recognized as a *Utica Observer-Dispatch* Teen All-Star and was the recipient of the Walter Miga Memorial Award during our National Honor Society induction in April.

Jack has been a member of many athletic teams. He played Varsity Football in 10th grade and was declared a NYSPHSAA Scholar Athlete and was a Varsity Basketball Manager for the past three years. A member of the Varsity Track and Field team since 9th grade,

he placed 1st in the 400 Meter Relay and 5th in Discus at the CSC Division III Conference. In addition, when some of the younger team members needed coaching for shotput and discus, Jack stepped in and helped. Jack also ran on the Cross Country team last fall and is a member of the Varsity Club.

Jack has also participated in a number of academic-related activities. He was a member of the Medical Olympiad during 10th and 11th grades and was appointed by our school board to the Order of the Orange and Blue. In 10th grade, he was a member of the Model United Nations and attended Colgate Seminar and in 2012 competed in the MVCC High School Math competition. In addition, Jack has been a reliable member of our peer tutoring program, for which he works with underclassmen who needed academic assistance.

This year, Jack is interning with Dr. Fayez Chahfe through the Regional Program for Excellence. At this time, Jack plans to attend Colgate University to major in biology and minor in computer science. He wishes to pursue a career in medicine. Jack has been a great asset to our school and community and we look with excitement at the bright future that lies ahead of him.



Jack Lin

## Optimist Youth of the Month

May

The Optimist Club of New York Mills has named Alexa Boucher Youth of the Month for May. Alexa is the daughter of John and Michelle Boucher of New Hartford and is a member of the New York Mills Class of 2014.

Alexa has been named to Honor Roll throughout high school. She was inducted into the National Junior Honor Society as well as the National Honor Society and has been named Student of the Month every year since 9th grade. Alexa is the National Honor Society President, Yearbook Committee Secretary, of which she has been a member since her freshman year, Varsity Club Vice President and was elected Class Vice President in both 10th and 12th grades. Alexa has taken in active role in running our National Honor Society peer tutoring program and was a three-year member of our chorus.

Alexa has been a member of many athletic teams and squads. She was a Varsity Cheerleader from grades 9-11 and was named MIP

in grades 9 and 10 and served as captain during her junior year. She has played Varsity Softball since 10th grade and was recognized as a Scholar Athlete. This winter she played on our Varsity Volleyball team, as a freshman played JV Basketball and ran for Varsity Cross Country as a sophomore.

Alexa has volunteered her time at the Utica Zoo and for Junior High All-County auditions and has held a part-time job at a local ice cream stand for the past two years. Alexa plans to attend Utica College in the fall. At this point, her major is undeclared. We will truly miss Alexa and all that she has brought to our school but are excited about all that lies ahead of her.



Alexa Boucher



Nathan Hartman has been named the New York Mills Optimist Club Youth of the Month for June. Nathan is the son of Ruth Schulze and John Hartman, both of New York Mills. He is a member of the New York Mills Jr./Sr. High School Class of 2014.

During his four years of high school, Nathan has participated in a variety of activities. He has been on the Honor Roll and High Honor Roll throughout high school and has been selected as Student of the Month each year since 7th grade. He was inducted into the National Junior Honor Society in 8th grade and the National Honor Society in 11th grade. He currently serves as vice president of the organization, as well as president of the tutoring program. Nathan has been a member of our concert and jazz bands in which he plays the baritone saxophone. At the conclusion of his senior year, Nathan was awarded the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute medal for his excellence in mathematics and science and the Clarkson University Achievement Award.

Nathan has been a member of many athletic teams. He played Varsity Football since 10th grade and was recognized with the scholar-athlete team award in 10th grade and the sportsmanship

team award as a senior. Since his sophomore year, he has played on the Varsity Baseball team, which won both the CSC and Section III Championship. In addition, since 9th grade Nathan has been a manager of the Varsity Basketball team, which enjoyed four CSC and Section III Championships and two State Championships. In addition, he is a three-year member of varsity club.



**Nathan Hartman**

Nathan has been a loyal PTSO Craft Fair volunteer for many years and holds a part-time job at a local pizzeria. This year, Nathan is interning with Andrew Opperman, an engineer with the Oneida Herkimer Solid Waste Authority, through the Regional Program for Excellence. In the fall, Nathan will attend Clarkson University and major in Civil Engineering. Nathan has been an inspiring student and while we will miss him, we wish him well in his future endeavors.

## OHM BOCES CTE Honor Society

Junior Michael Hubbard was inducted into the Oneida-Herkimer-Madison BOCES Career and Technical Education Honor Society on May 21, 2014. Michael is the son of Mark and Kimberly Hubbard of New York Mills. Congratulations, Michael, on a job well done!

## Scholar Athlete Award



George Albert received a Scholar Athlete Award from the National Football Foundation and College Hall of Fame.

## Class of 2014 Sixth Grade Graduates

### Mr. Kuhn's Class

Olivia Achen-Tebsherany	Taylor Holdridge	Aryanna Roberts
Alesya Avrusevich	Kylie Lenahan	Anthony Robles
Tyler Briggs	Madison Majka	Camron Scharbach
Cameron Czepiel	Logan Murphy	Michael Sigal
Rachel Downs	Robert Murray	Connor Simmons
Melody Fox	Alyssa Newman	Holly Simon
Jayden Frank	Jeffrey Pacini	Alexandria Thomas
Marcantonio Gahan	Sophia Perrone	Taylor Yaghy
	Chantal Piacenti	

### Mrs. Sacco's Class

Bryleigh Beauchat	Alexis Gyore	Michael Robles
Jared Bernard	Alexander Hubley	Jordyn Stevens
Alexandra Boehlert	Tyler Kurgan	Brianna Taylor
Delainey Brown	Alexis Lamb	Noah Timian
Amira Busuladzic	Joseph Laribee	Anthony Tomaselli-Lubey
Amanda Costello	Kiley Lyons	
Jaden Etherton	Mackenzie Majka	
Nicholas Fellone	Alyssa Malinowski	
Nina Fellone	Ethan Pavlus	

## Building Leaders of Tomorrow

Five 7th graders and five 8th graders were selected as Building Leaders of Tomorrow for the 2013-2014 school year. Building Leaders of Tomorrow was developed by our school Building Leadership Team to recognize students for academics, attendance, citizenship and effort. The winners, who were selected by their teachers, were treated to a lunch sponsored by Moose River Restaurant. Parents and guests were also invited to attend. Congratulations to the following students:

### 7th Grade

Matthew Cornish  
Nicholas Despina  
Drake Galante  
Robert Maciol  
Karilynn Tramacera

### 8th Grade

Nicholas Briggs-Ellenberger  
Chloe Cattadoris  
Jackson Collins  
Grace Reilly  
Shayla Schmelcher





# School News

## Time Capsule

It is a rare occasion in high school when you have the opportunity to make history. On May 30, the junior class had the chance to do just that. To celebrate and recognize the centennial anniversary of New York Mills, the Class of 2015 displayed their vigorous efforts to properly honor their Alma Mater by burying a treasure chest full of significant items to be re-dug and re-lived 50 years from now. The ultimate goal was to not only suitably identify their love and appreciation for their school district, but also to find a way to connect the present to the future.

In the weeks and months leading up to New York Mills' centennial celebration, the junior class established a "Time Capsule Committee," who developed the idea to create a treasure hunt, bury a treasure chest, and form a range of clues to find the hidden treasure. The three clues are not intended to be followed consecutively, but rather simultaneously, so that three groups of students will work with the clues concurrently.

Clue #1 is a "Location Limerick," or a poem that leads to another place in the school building where there will be a second poetry passage. The second poem will lead to a third location and a third poem that will guide the hunters to the treasure chest.

Additionally, since clues may be lost or moved decades from now, the juniors decided to make supplemental clues, and the difficulty level of each clue decreases chronologically. Clue #2 is a list of math

equations created by Sara Zarnoch that will give treasure hunters the latitude and longitude of the location of the treasure chest. Clue #3 is a 41-piece puzzle, cut by Onnayza Henry, that, when assembled, will display a satellite image of the school and the location of the treasure chest. Clue #4 is an answer key: it includes an exact replica of Clue #3, but as one complete photograph, copies of all of the poems from Clue #1, and the answer key to Clue #2. Treasure hunters will open Clue #4 only after they have been unsuccessful with Clues 1, 2, and 3.

To encapsulate their "treasure," Jason Cattadoris and his father created a 14-square-inch stainless steel box at Metal Solutions in Utica. Jason and his dad digitally drew the flat layout of the box, and sent the dimensions to a laser cutter, which cut it out of a piece of sheet metal. At that point, the pieces were bent and welded together to create a box. The box also has a rubber seal that, when compressed, should keep it air and water tight. Additionally, to personalize it a little more, the top of the box was laser-engraved with the words "April 25, 2014: Here lies the Class of 2015's Buried Treasure." Kudos to the Cattadoris family;

your work is certainly a beautiful vessel in which to enclose our treasures, and, moreover, it is the perfect inspiration from which our 'flower' grew.

Decades from now, when future New York Mills students find the chest, we hope that they enjoy the items placed inside. The treasure includes an assortment of objects that represent not only the Class of 2015, but also our entire school as a whole. Here are some things we included inside: an iPod, a Twinkie, a t-shirt from the Marauder Match-Up, a school calendar, a school lunch menu, school newspapers, a copy of the current PSAT, a copy of our vocabulary and grammar books, two special-edition *Time* magazines, a picture of Derek Jeter, a play program and tickets from "Bye Bye Birdie," the 2011 school yearbook, a gym uniform, a Varsity letter, a copy of the junior class's





# School News

## Time Capsule (cont.)

favorite book, *Night*, by Elie Wiesel, pictures of the juniors from kindergarten through 11th grade, and a basketball ticket from Glens Falls on the day of the championship game, signed by all of the players.

In addition, the class entombed two DVDs filmed and edited by Katie Morrissey and her father. The first is a series of students and school officials being interviewed to commemorate the centennial. The second is a video of the entire school singing, dancing, and clapping to the hit song “Happy,” by Pharrell Williams. Katie shot the one-take video with only one brief practice round, and was wheeled around the school on a dolly by classmates Dylan Fennell and Jordan Romano. The finished product was a four-and-a-half minute perfectly-timed production. Thank you, Katie and Mr. Morrissey, on such a fantastic idea and contribution.

Special recognition also goes out to all of the juniors who worked on the Time Capsule Committee to ensure the success of their contribution: Jason Cattadoris, Katie Morrissey, Mike Hubbard, Maggie Melnikow, Morgan Mitchell, Jared Hartman, Billy Rybka, Sara Zarnoch, Andrew Surprenant, Cameron Lyons, Shawn Essafi, and Mrs. Hartmann.

The Class of 2015 whole-heartedly hopes that New York Mills’ future students will be surprised, entertained, and educated by the contents of the treasure chest as well as appreciative of our hard work and desire to amuse and interest them in one of the best times of our lives. We can only hope that, at the moment when these students find their buried treasure, their faces contain as much excitement and happiness as we had in this process.



Rene Wilson as Mickey for PARP with our retiring teacher Pamela Hamarowicz (grade 5.)

## United Way Book Drive

The local United Way kicked off its second annual “Summer Reading Book Drive” in mid-May, and for the second year, the junior class participated by donating new and gently used books appropriate for ages pre-kindergarten through 12th grades. This year, the junior class also invited the freshmen English classes to participate, and, together, both classes contributed 849 books, more than four times the goal they set out to achieve! The juniors additionally donated 138 school supplies to help jumpstart the United Way’s “Back to School Supply Drive,” which runs from mid-July to mid-August.

To increase access to books and encourage summer reading, The Literacy Coalition of Herkimer & Oneida Counties are partnering with highly trafficked businesses in Herkimer and Oneida counties to host EZ READ bookshelves, which are used as physical locations to borrow, take and donate books for a community’s use. The donated books are sorted and placed on “community bookshelves” by the United Way of the Valley and Greater Utica area where students can access them at hosting sites freely throughout the summer. Last year, the United Way began its book drive with the goal of collecting 1,000 books, but were thoroughly impressed when that number ballooned to over 14,000. This year, the representatives from the United Way were astounded when they discovered that our students donated eight times more books than they did last year. Certainly, they extended their heartfelt graciousness and joined us in a ‘photo op’ to commemorate our gift.

On behalf of Mrs. Hartmann and Ms. Viel, acclamation and thanks to all students and parents who participated in this philanthropic effort, and we look forward to continuing this charitable tradition again next year!



## AP Literature Flies Kites in Honor of Reading *The Kite Runner*



# School News

## Marauder Match-up



The Class of 2015's fundraiser, the first annual "Marauder Match-up," was held on April 5. The juniors organized a four-sport double elimination tournament for middle and high school students. The day was full of over fifty epic battles before champions were crowned in badminton, Kan-Jam, dodgeball, and tug-of-war (see winning team members below). The culminating event and highlight of the day came when winning teams competed against fac-

ulty teams. Congratulations faculty team members, who earned victories in three of the four sports! Players and spectators were also able to enjoy a fully stocked concession stand while being thoroughly entertained by the athletic competitions. The juniors wish to thank the administrators, teachers,

students, and parents who helped ensure our success. Certainly a lot of time and effort were donated to this activity, which earned the juniors over \$2,000 in profits. Our special thanks also extends to the Sports Boosters Club, PTSO, and over a dozen area businesses for their generosity. We couldn't have done it without the overwhelming support we received from everyone!

### Winning Teams:

**High School Badminton:** Andrew Surprenant and Jordan Romano  
**High School Dodgeball:** Nick Comenale, Alexa Boucher, Zach Griffith, Zach Vennaro, Meara Mosny, Matt Inkawich  
**Tug-of-War:** Tevin Pham, Mike Bennett, Amanda Maciol, Shawn Kula, Ryon Lupia  
**Kan-Jam:** Luke Sunderlin and Ms. Foote  
**Middle School Dodgeball:** AJ Mitchell, Kenny Egan, Jake Vennaro, Joe Marchese, Aubrey Geigel, Juliet Pinkos  
**Middle School Badminton:** Nick Briggs-Ellenberger and Justin Ellsworth  
**Faculty Team Members:** Mr. Keating, Mr. Spost, Ms. Viel, Mrs. Hartmann, Mr. Finnerty, Ms. Foote, Mr. Nicotera, Mr. Higgins

## Students Visit Syracuse Stage



Ms. Viel's Advanced Placement Literature class and Mr. Elacqua's level three Spanish class attended a day performance of Tennessee William's *The Glass Menagerie*. With the financial generosity of MAD Boosters, 34 students were able to see this classic literary drama performed by the professionals of Syracuse Stage. The students had front row seats for the show and were able to watch a play that is considered to be a masterwork of American theater.



## Student Council's Community-Wide Scavenger Hunt

On April 26, Student Council hosted a community-wide scavenger hunt. Students in grades seven through 12 were welcome to play, and there was no cost or fee. Students were divided into teams of five and given a list of 55 different items/photos/videos to capture. The hunt began at 9:00 a.m. and commenced at noon. The winners were Team Swaggin' Water Buffalos, which consisted of seniors Nate Edwards, Abby Sprague, Dan Mitchell, and freshmen Ken Egan and AJ Mitchell. Each member of the team received a \$10 gift card to Taco Bell.



*The winning team: Dan, Nathan, AJ, Ken, and Abby.*

## Money Well Spent

Student Council utilized its funds from March's milkshake sale to purchase a new marauder eagle costume. The mascot garb will be worn by various student council members in order to promote school spirit!

You can see the marauder eagle in action in junior student Katie Morrissey's time capsule video. Pictured in the costume is sophomore student Jordyn Keck-Beach.





# School News

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## MARCH Kids of Character Awards

*The following K-6 students were selected as March Kids of Character at New York Mills Elementary School. This award is given for following The Marauder Way on a regular basis.*

**Kindergarten** – Emily Horning, Aiden Kervin, Darren Lin, and Stefanie Siriano

**Grade 1** – Jasmene Duymaz, Rose Jeff, Aiden Miller, and Valentino Rizzo

**Grade 2** – David Avrusevich, Lenna Comenale, Abigail Evans, and Emily Pavlus

**Grade 3** – Mason Palmer, Emily Pollock, and Tabitha Sanders

**Grade 4** – Logan Copperwheat, John Davis, Nicholas Mitchell, and Samantha Paparella

**Grade 5** – Brianna Broccoli, Derek Cieplenski, and Isabella Fancher

**Grade 6** – Amanda Costello, Alyssa Malinowski, Camron Scharbach, and Taylor Yaghy

## MAY Kids of Character Awards

*The following K-6 students were selected as May Kids of Character at New York Mills Elementary School. This award is given for following The Marauder Way on a regular basis.*

**Kindergarten** – Noah Beckwith, Jaden Clifford, and Joseph Lopata

**Grade 1** – Christopher Edwards, Ethan Garay, and Zachary Matyjas

**Grade 2** – Lilly Harriman, Alya Rios, and Conner Scharbach

**Grade 3** – Timothy Lavier, Noah Moore, and Cindy Wu

**Grade 4** – Dylan Saunders, Isaiah Thomas, and Bryan Tramacera

**Grade 5** – Hannah Mahardy and Sydney Maciol

**Grade 6** – Bryleigh Beauchat and Alyssa Newman

## APRIL Kids of Character Awards

*The following K-6 students were selected as April Kids of Character at New York Mills Elementary School. This award is given for following The Marauder Way on a regular basis.*

**Kindergarten** – Madelyn Bates, Asah Bova, Brooke Coffin, and Benjamin Panama

**Grade 1** – Sara Bailey, Gabrielle Crawford, Brody Foster, Allison Meagher, and Emelia Ulrich

**Grade 2** – Leia Christian, Talan Marchese and Xander McCoy

**Grade 3** – Joseph Cirusuolo, Joshua Cook, and Sakura Miller

**Grade 4** – William Bower, Brian Crandall, Michaela Downs, and Marc Fellows

**Grade 5** – Dustyn Henry, Sophia Lin, Christian Mitchell, and Aryana Thomas

**Grade 6** – Alexis Gyore, Tyler Kurgan, Robert Murray, and Chantal Piacenti

## JUNE Kids of Character Awards

*The following K-6 students were selected as June Kids of Character at New York Mills Elementary School. This award is given for following The Marauder Way on a regular basis.*

**Kindergarten** – Eliana Convertino, Victoria Kern, Liam Mahardy, and Kylie Vincent

**Grade 1** – Gavin Bower, Mackenzie Dwyer, Matthew Frank, and Brandon Poirier

**Grade 2** – Siddalee Daniels, Ryan Komnick, Ryan Lamb, Joshua Mosher, and Emily Pavlus

**Grade 3** – Emily Angell, Hailey Cornish, and Dylan Kimball

**Grade 4** – Emma Clements, Autumn, Shorey, Antonio Talerico, and Jesse Van Etten

**Grade 5** – Alyssa Alpaugh, Patrick Peckham, Steven Siriano, and Nevaeh Zayas

**Grade 6** – Joseph Larabee and Alexandria Thomas







### Board of Education

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<http://www.newyorkmills.org>

## Sixth Grade Special Recognitions

### Top Five High Academic Achievers

Alesya Avrusevich  
Rachel Downs  
Kiley Lyons  
Mackenzie Majka  
Alyssa Malinowski

### National Physical Fitness Award

Alexandra Boehlert  
Nicholas Fellone  
Nina Fellone  
Alexis Gyore  
Mackenzie Majka  
Sophia Perrone  
Camron Scharbach  
Taylor Yaghy

### Presidential Physical Fitness Award

Alesya Avrusevich  
Jeffrey Pacini  
Holly Simon

### PTSO Citizenship Award

Robert Murray  
Ethan Pavlus

### State of New York Office of the State Comptroller

Nina Fellone  
Taylor Yaghy

### New York State Triple "C" Award

Alesya Avrusevich  
Amanda Costello

### MAD Boosters Scholarship

Amanda Costello  
Alyssa Malinowski  
Sophia Perrone

### 6th Grade Arts Scholarship

Alyssa Malinowski  
Sophia Perrone

### Maya Angelou Award

Amanda Costello



## Family Life Art Essay Contest Winner

The Yahnundasis Bodies of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry are pleased to announce that Kathleen McCabe, Class of 2015, is the 2014 winner of their annual Family Life Art Essay contest for grades K-12. In under 300 words, students



were asked to describe what charitable cause they would donate a year of their time to, and Kathleen discussed the benefits of allowing children to feel safe and secure at the local YMCA. Her essay was awarded top honors out of 225 art and essay entries received from 151 schools, and she, alongside her English teacher, Mrs. Hartmann, was rewarded with a lovely reception at the Roselawn Banquet House and gift cards to Barnes and Noble. Congratulations, Kathleen on an outstanding and honorable feat!

## Blood Drive Results

Student Council hosted its second blood drive following April vacation. This event is the first time the Marauder student body held a blood drive in the Spring! Students and faculty members donated 15 pints of blood. This drive, combined with the event held in the fall, accumulated 31 units of blood donated from our school. Since student council hosted a second drive and increased its donating capacity, The Red Cross will be offering a \$250 scholarship to a worthy senior before the end of the school year.

## Class of 2014

