

It's the *Quality* of the Journey that Counts!



THE JOURNEY

Newsletter of the Gilbertsville-Mount Upton Central School District

May/June 2019

Volume 29, Number 5



SPIRIT WEEK 2019

The GMU High School Student Council held their second spirit week in April, and the overall winner from the class battles in the gym was the junior class. Winners of the Faculty Spirit King and Queen (sponsored by the GMU Booster Club) were Mr. Johnson and Ms. Izzo.



From the desk of Superintendent Annette Hammond

May begins with one of my favorite weeks of the year, Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week!

Our faculty and staff at GMU play a huge role in the personal journey of each student. Our employees work with and connect with students not as a job requirement, but as their passion of wanting to make a difference in the lives of students. This week served as a great opportunity for students, parents, and the District to thank our loyal employees for all that they do each and every day to connect with students and to make GMU such a great place!

We had our annual Teacher and Support Staff of the Year Ceremony on Tuesday, May 7. The Gilbertsville-Mount Upton Central School District Employee and Teacher of the year were announced at this ceremony.

I also recognized staff for multiple years of dedicated service here at GMU. You can read all about it on pages 4 and 5 of this newsletter.

I invite all of you to participate in our Baccalaureate service at the Mount Upton Methodist Church on Friday, June, 21 at 7 p.m., and our Graduation Ceremony honoring the class of 2019 on Saturday, June 22 at 10:30 a.m. Tickets are not required

I invite all of you to participate in our Baccalaureate service at the Mount Upton Methodist Church on Friday, June, 21 at 7 p.m., and our Graduation Ceremony honoring the class of 2019 on Saturday, June 22 at 10:30 a.m.



for admission into these ceremonies, so please join us; all are invited and welcome to come.

We are very proud of our seniors and enjoy using the graduation ceremony to highlight their Journey here at GMU and to wish them well on their continued Journeys after graduation. We'll see you there!



Community Cleanup Day 2019

GMU middle-school and high school students spent May 21 as volunteers at 17 sites off school grounds as well as the school's own garden, clearing brush and leaves and doing some painting and other spring cleaning as part of their annual Community Cleanup Day.

Pistor is second in Bar Association award competition

Class of 2019 valedictorian Natalie Pistor (right in photo) attended the Law Day Ceremony held on May 1 at the Otsego County Courthouse in Cooperstown with Kathryn Parsons, MS-HS counselor (left in photo). This event is held annually and sponsored by the Otsego County Bar Association.

Natalie was one of several students nominated from school districts across the county for the Liberty Bell Award, and we congratulate her for placing second in the competition.

She was given certificates from NYS Attorney General Eric Schneiderman's office and the Otsego County Bar Association. She also received a monetary award, after having taken an essay exam and been interviewed by a panel of attorneys in April.

The ceremony was organized by Bar Association member and Law Day Coordinator Eric Jervis. The theme this year was "Free Speech, Free Press, Free Society."

Several distinguished judges and attorneys from the area were present, including guest speaker Retired Supreme Court Judge Patrick D. Monserrate. He spoke on the importance of free speech and love and compassion among citizens of our country.

A special remembrance was dedicated to late Dolores Fogarty, Patricia Pantaleoni, Gregory Kottmeier, Leland Smith and Peter Brykailo.

Natalie and Ms. Parsons attended a luncheon at the Otesaga Hotel. We are all very proud of Natalie and all her accomplishments and contributions to our school! We wish her much happiness and continued success after graduation from GMU!



It has been a long-honored tradition for the fifth grade students to write an essay for the contest sponsored by the local chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. This year thirty-two students wrote "What the American Flag Means to Me" in essays of 200 to 500 words.

The students worked very hard and were presented with participation awards from Mrs. Lilley, who is our DAR representative, at the award ceremony that was held on April 24, 2019.

In June during our end-of-the-year awards, the first-, second- and third-place winners for the essay contest will be announced. Stay tuned!

-Mr. Cimineri, 5th Grade Social Studies Teacher

Wilber, Hughes receive staff & teacher of the year

GMU hosted its annual Teacher & Support Staff of the Year ceremony on May 7, honoring the following individuals for their outstanding service during this academic year.

- CSEA Support Staff of the Year award - Terry Wilber.

CSEA Chapter President Deb Ostrander described Maintenance Department employee **TERRY WILBER** as “hard-working and dependable, a team player who works well with students and is good with them.” Wilber has been with GMU since 1994.

- GMU Teacher of the year - Ashley Hughes.

GMU Teachers’ Association President Alicia Cummings described this year’s Teacher of the Year as a “model for others who inspires the best in others.” She noted that Art Teacher **ASHLEY HUGHES** led several efforts outside her class duties, including organizing the Plastic Film Recycling Project in which GMU students collected more plastic power student than any of the other surrounding districts involved. Ms. Hughes (second from right in photo) is advisor for the Gay-Straight Alliance and is a leader for the Girls on the Run club that promotes healthy lifestyle choices for female students.

Both recipients received standing ovations from the students, faculty, staff and community members who filled the auditorium.

GMU Superintendent Annette Hammond hosted the event with the help of GMUCS Board of Edu-



honors at annual GMU appreciation ceremony

cation President Jeremy Pain.

Mrs. Hammond, whom Mr. Pain noted completes her 10th year in the district this June, also recognized the following staff tenures:

Fifteen Years:

Mrs. Karen Hill

Mr. Darin Trass

Twenty Years:

Mrs. Yvette Cabrinety

Ms. Lori Heggenstaller

Mrs. Raquel Norton

Mr. Eric Voorhees

Last, Mrs. Hammond thanked retiring employees Gerrit Bakhui-zen and Vernon Williams for their years of service to the district.

COUNTER-CLOCKWISE FROM UPPER LEFT:

Terry Wilber (left) receives the staff award from GMUCS Board President Jeremy Pain and CSEA President Deb Ostrander; Art teacher Ashley Hughes (center) receives teacher of the year award from Pres. Pain and GMU Teachers' Association President Alicia Cummings; Wilber, Ostrander, Hughes and Cummings on stage; Lori Heggenstaller (second from left) and Raquel Norton (second from right) receive their 20-year service awards from GMU Superintendent Annette Hammond and Pres. Pain; Gerrit Bakhui-zen holds his retirement citation; Karen Hill (second from right) and Darin Trass (second from left) are honored for 15 years of service.



~ News From the Main Office ~

With May's arrival, two things are certain: warmer temperatures and busy school calendars! Another promising sign that spring and summer are on their way is seeing and hearing the Marching Band rehearsing in preparation for upcoming parades.

As you read through this month's newsletter, please be sure to check important dates and calendar changes. We have many activities and recognition ceremonies scheduled. I invite you to attend as many as possible so that you can join us in celebrating the accomplishments of our students. We are busy keeping the students focused on the last few weeks of instruction. There are individual grade level field trips being planned, as well as classroom events.

Please be sure to continue checking your child's backpack and elementary Friday Folders for communications that are sent home by teachers.

Kudos & congratulations to the cast and crew of this year's Drama Club production of *The Treasure of Shiver River* directed by Mr. Bakhuizen!

May 6 began National Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week! This gave us opportunity to reflect on the many ways in which teachers and support staff touch the lives of our students. At GMU we are fortunate to have a team of dedicated faculty and staff who exemplify our mission and vision through their daily work with our students. Please join me in extending thanks and appreciation to our teachers and staff for all they do!

It is hard to believe that the year is almost over. The 4th & 8th graders will be taking NYS Science Performance Test on May 23 and the Science Written Test on June 3.

June 18-25 are Regents Exams. **Middle School and High School students only attend school on the dates that they are scheduled to take an exam.**

The last day of regular classes for 7th-12th grade students is June 17.

The Regents Exam schedule is enclosed in this newsletter, so please note dates and times of exams. **All students who are planning to eat breakfast and/or lunch on the days a test is scheduled must sign up with the teacher of the exam they are taking. Students who need mid-day transportation to school for an afternoon exam or transportation home from a morning exam also need to sign up with the teacher of the exam they are taking.**

All seniors are required to attend a **mandatory graduation rehearsal on June 21, at 8 a.m.** at the school. Graduation is scheduled for **June 22 at 10:30 a.m.** Congratulations to the class of 2019!

Kindergarten Registration is now open for the 2019-2020 school year. The parents of any child who will be five before December 1st, who have not registered, please call Mrs. Carey at 783-2207, ext. 103 to set up an appointment to enroll your child.

The Summer Bridging Program for Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten will be Tuesday, August 13. We are asking all Kindergarteners who did not attend our Pre-Kindergarten program to attend Monday, August 12 for Kindergarten Screening. Please call (607)-783-2207 to set up a time to attend on that day.

Final report cards for this school year will be mailed home the week of June 25th for Middle/High School students. Elementary report cards will go home with students the last day of school. I will be here through the summer preparing for the start of the 2019-20 school year. Student schedules will be mailed home in early August.

Parents, if you are planning to take your child home after the Moving-Up Ceremony on June 25, please send in a note and be sure to sign them out prior to the ceremony.

I would like to thank our school community for supporting our students in so many ways this year. I know that economic times continue to be difficult and that many of you have given over and over again to support our student fundraising programs and extra-curricular events. It is rewarding for the students to have so many of you attend their events and support all that they do. I hope everyone has a safe and restful summer! Thank you!

—Heather Wilcox
Acting Principal

~ News From the Main Office ~

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

May 27th	No School – Memorial Day Memorial Day Parades Gilbertsville – 9 a.m. Mount Upton – 11 a.m.	June 18th – 25th	Regents Exams
May 31st	Sherburne Pageant of Bands	June 21st	•Mandatory Graduation Rehearsal - 8:00 a.m. •Baccalaureate service Mount Upton Methodist Church 7 p.m.
June 1st	Sherburne Pageant of Bands - Parade Day	June 22nd	Graduation - 10:30 a.m.
June 3	•NYS Science Written Test Grades 4 & 8 •NYS Regents Exams 10 th •Grade Global History & Geography II	June 24th	Elementary Fun Day
June 5th	9-12 Year-End Awards Ceremony 6 p.m. – Auditorium	June 25th	Last day of school - PK-6 Half Day Dismissal @ 11 a.m.
June 7th	Last Morning Raiders 8:25 a.m. PK-2 Soaring Eagle Awards		•PK-2 Moving Up Ceremony Auditorium - 8:30-9:30 a.m. •Grades 3-6 Moving Up Ceremony – Auditorium - 10:00-11:00 a.m.
June 17th	7-8 Year End Awards 1:30 p.m. – Auditorium Grades 7-12-Last Day of School		

Visit Us Online and Stay up-to-date!

Website:

www.gmucsd.org

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/gmucsd/>

Instagram:

<https://www.instagram.com/gmucsd/>

~ News From the Main Office ~

Soaring Eagles Awards

March Theme – Dependability

- Being on time for school & ready to learn.
- Being trustworthy & reliable.
- Do what you say you will do/doing the right thing.

Mason Turnbull - PK
 Eli Fuller - PK
 Autumn Ostrander K
 Malorie Longcor - K
 Evie Lane - K
 Bryce Gundlach - K
 Melena Hall - 1
 Hogan Green - 1
 Sullivan DiGiorgi - 2
 Kristin Gee - 2
 Estella Maiurano - 3
 Taylor French - 4
 Bailey Howard - 5
 Mackenzi Marron - 5
 Emma Peck - 6
 Andrew Stone - 7
 Ella Thatford - 7
 Kross Lund - 8
 Rene Posner - 8

April Theme – Empathy

- Ability to understand how someone is feeling/thinking.
- Respects differences & opinions of others.

Victoria Craver - PreK
 Alexander Breslau - K
 Indigo Cole - K
 Donald Krebbeks - K
 Heaven Sturdevant - K
 Logan Lange - K
 Phylis Jaycox - 1st
 Joshua Whitehill - 1st
 Jagger Young - 1st
 Damien Sturdevant - 1st
 Lillian Tompkins - 2nd
 Julius Smith - 2nd
 Delaney Dunnigan - 3rd
 Devin DeGroat - 4th
 Maya Eberly - 5th
 Natalie Gross - 5th
 Alyssa Sorochinsky - 6th
 Mackenzie Barnes - 7th
 Alexis Clement - 7th
 Mackenzie Cherry - 8th
 Waylon Raymond - 8th

Work Ethic Awards

- Completes all assignments • Takes responsibility for absences & work to be made up upon return
- Is grade-conscious & seeks help when needed • Is persistent in their work regardless of the level of difficulty & their class grade • Completes all assignments to their greatest potential

Gabriella Barnes - 3rd	Madeline Astalos - 4th	Bailey Howard - 5th	Quinn Covington - 6th
Daisy Crisell - 3rd	Remington Barkman - 4th	Kyle Keuhn - 5th	Skylar Lindroth - 6th
Carrie Doyle - 3rd	Payton Behnke - 4th	Jade Lindroth - 5th	Kyra Demmon - 6th
Delaney Dunnigan - 3rd	Hailey Brannick - 4th	Kira Nolan - 5th	Kyle MacNeill - 7th
Taylor Kline - 3rd	Shane Carney - 4th	Mackenzi Marron - 5th	Corbin Page - 7th
Estella Maiurano - 3rd	Morgan Cuzzo - 4th	Lillian Perrine - 5th	Morgan Williams - 7th
Robert Lindroth - 3rd	Devin DeGroat - 4th	Latham Retz - 5th	Kendra Dunham - 8th
Kylianna Oliver - 3rd	Taylor French - 4th	Alivia Vitek - 5th	Dante Manwarren - 8th
Sophia Parslow - 3rd	Mia Mantellassi - 4th	Adam Yasser - 5th	Aubree Palmer - 8th
Koda Stockdale - 3rd	Peyton Norton - 4th	Anthony Shinol - 6th	Bianca Plows - 8th
Gavin Underwood - 3rd	Alice Dibble - 5th	Noah Pain - 6th	Waylon Raymond - 8th
Scott Yost - 3rd	Alexia Furgison - 5th	Emma Peck - 6th	Ivy Stensland - 8th

~ News From the Main Office ~

Honor Roll and High Honor Roll - 3rd Quarter

Honor Roll Criteria:

Quarterly average of 87 – 92
with no grade below a 70 and
no incompletes

High Honor Roll Criteria:

Quarterly average of 93 – 100
with no grade below a 70 and
no incompletes

5th Grade – Honor Roll

Jeffrey Barnes
Ryan Davis
Ioannis Drapaniotis
Maya Eberly
Alexia Furgison
Cecelia Katalinas
Jaden Kuhn
Jade Lindroth
Kira Nolan
Kylee O'Connell
Trenton Odell
Lillian Perrine
Alivia Plows
Blake SanSoucie
Paige Smith
Alivia Vitek
Kaylin Williams
Adam Yasser

5th Grade – High Honor Roll

Alice Dibble
Olivia Fletcher
Bailey Howard
Kyle Keuhn
Mackenzi Marron
Dannaka Rasmussen
Latham Retz

6th Grade – Honor Roll

Avriel Correll
Kaleigh Gee
Matthew Manwarren
Noah Pain
Natalie Raymond
Chase Simonds
Hailee Walrod

6th Grade – High Honor Roll

Ariana Cornell
Quinn Covington
Kyra Demmon
Skylar Lindroth
Emma Alexis Peck
Anthony Shinol
Alyssa Sorochinsky

7th Grade – Honor Roll

Kadence Canfield
Kyle MacNeill
Morgan Williams

7th Grade – High Honor Roll

Mackenzie Barnes
Tait Christensen
Alexis Clement
Leah Cotton
Taylor Gager
Devon Hartwell
Andrew Stone
Ella Thatford

8th Grade – Honor Roll

Brackon Banks
Carly Davis
Corbin Demmon
Brennan Finch
Ethan Joslyn

8th Grade – High Honor Roll

Hannah Bonczkowski
Mackenzie Cherry
Connor Eberly
Kendra Hammond
Fiona Held
Kross Lund
Megan Perrine
Rene Posner
Ella Stockdale
Kacie Turnbull
Kali Wilcox

9th Grade – Honor Roll

Tammy Barnes
Kailah Davis
Lane Dibble
Bree MacNeill
Payton Talbot

9th Grade – High Honor Roll

Anika Christensen
Angelina Correll
Maya Farwell
Ashlyn Marron
Morgan Keuhn
Ryan McCall
Dylan McVey
Nicole Meyers
Madeline Pain
Dalton Proskine
Lauren Radwan
Alivia Retz
Samantha Shinol
Skye Wilson

10th Grade – Honor Roll

Shayne Christian
Skyler Norton
Aiden Ryan

10th Grade – High Honor Roll

Gavin Bonczkowski
Apolonia Drapaniotis
Olivia Held
Kyle Meyers
Zan SanSoucie
Theodore Sharkey

11th Grade – Honor Roll

Dominick Carey
Kalvyn Cole
Brandon Harris
Kienna Martin
Chelsea Pope

11th Grade – High Honor Roll

Savannah Bresee
Ethan Charron
Kaitlyn Fuller
Rebecca Fuller
Zachary Grabo
Sawyer Hinman
Vanessa Nelson
Ethan Newman
Kyli Odell
Samuel Piedmonte
Tavian Raymond
Sadra Smith

12th Grade – Honor Roll

Katherine Backman
Jazmine Brooks
Kathryn Hawkins
Mara Nolan
Kelsey Pope
Sydney Swift
Corey Wilson

12th Grade – High Honor Roll

Hailey Cappiello
Bruno Portes
Isabella Ramos
Shalleigh Taranto



APRIL SENIOR OF THE MONTH: SHALLEIGH TARANTO



Shalleigh is known for her integrity—she is a champion for the underdog. Her bold approach to life and her tenacity sets her apart from her peers.

Currently, she keeps a rigorous academic schedule: TC3 College

Success Seminar, TC3 Spanish, TC3 Psychology, TC3 Biology, TC3 Economics and TC3 American National History, and Genocide.

Shalleigh is very active outside of GMU with various interests. She volunteers for Tyler Lindsley's company Active Entertainment, assists at the Cullman Child Development Center, works seasonally at Tastee Treat, works at Guilford Lake as a life guard and swim instructor for ages 2-8, and volunteers for The Majors Inn Gala, as well as Tri County Ballet's production of the Nutcracker.

Shalleigh was chosen as last year's American Legion Empire Girls' State representative for GMU.

She is a valuable, experienced member of STUCO as class representative, Acting Secretary for GSA,

Treasurer for Language Club, Mock Trial, a member of NHS, Marching Band and Symphonic Band. In the past, she has also participated in SADD, Varsity Track and Soccer, Jazz Band, Ladies Ensemble and Chorus.

Shalleigh is attending Hartwick in the fall to study physical therapy. She wants to make a positive difference in the lives of others.

We agree with actress and comedian Amy Poehler, who said, "I just love bossy women. I could be around them all day. To me, bossy is not a pejorative term at all. It means somebody's passionate and engaged and ambitious and doesn't mind leading."

So lead on, Shalleigh! We wish you all the best!

~HS Student Council

May Senior of the Month: Andrew Meyers



Andrew joined the GMU family last year as a junior. He appears as a quiet young man at first, but once you get to know him, you learn to appreciate his humor and sarcastic wit.

Andrew is a hard-working student. He chose to enroll in several college-credit classes this year as a senior. This is a testimony to his drive to succeed. These include: TC3 Accounting, TC3 Biology, TC3 Participation in Government/ Economics and TC3 Pre-Calculus.

He has appreciated the opportunity to pursue his love of science at the college level while still in high school.

Andrew was our delegate to Boys' State last year. He has been a member of Ski Club since 9th grade. This year, he is enjoying playing Varsity Baseball. He was awarded Rookie of the Year for Varsity Soccer in the fall.

He is very active in his church community, volunteering his time whenever it is needed. He volunteers weekly at the soup kitchen in Norwich.

He is employed at Get the Scoop in Morris.

He plans to attend Alfred University to study mechanical engineering. His goal in life is to work with Boeing.

In the words of Claude Levi-Strauss, "The scientific mind does not so much provide the right answers as ask the right questions." May asking the right questions put you on the path to success, Andrew! Best of luck!

~HS Student Council

Seven GMU students join National Honor Society

Seven students joined the GMU chapter of the National Honor Society during the annual induction ceremony on Thursday, May 2.

Gavin Bonczkowski, Emily Hammond, Olivia Held, Samuel Piedmonte, Tavian Raymond, Theodore Sharkey and Corey Wilson are

the newest members of the honors organization, which recognizes academic excellence and demonstration of the members' high levels of scholarship, service, leadership and character.

Current members also include President Natalie Pistor, Vice-Pres-

ident Hunter Christian, Secretary Vanessa Nelson, Treasurer Ethan Charron, Nina D'Amato, Ethan Newman, Kyli Odell, Sadra Smith and Shalleigh Taranto.

The chapter is advised by Cierra Stafford.



TOP LEFT: The 2019 NHS inductees: (l to r) Tavian Raymond, Samuel Piedmonte, Olivia Held, Corey Wilson, Emily Hammond, Gavin Bonczkowski, and Theodore Sharkey.

BOTTOM LEFT: The inductees take the NHS oath with chapter Vice-President Hunter Christian.

BELOW: The Class of 2019 received their NHS sashes to wear at their June 22 graduation: (l to r) Corey Wilson, Shalleigh Taranto, Natalie Pistor, Nina D'Amato, and Hunter Christian.



Counselors' Corner

JUNE 2019 REGENTS EXAM SCHEDULE

The June Regents exam schedule is posted on the New York State Education Department Website. Please check the schedule for specific exam dates before making vacation plans for the end of June.

The University of the State of New York
THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
Office of State Assessment
Albany, New York 12234

EXAMINATION SCHEDULE: JUNE 2019

Students must verify with their schools the exact times that they are to report for their State examinations.

June 3 MONDAY	June 18 TUESDAY	June 19 WEDNESDAY	June 20 THURSDAY	June 21 FRIDAY	June 24 MONDAY*	June 25 TUESDAY	June 26 WEDNESDAY
8:00 a.m.	8:00 a.m.	8:00 a.m.	8:00 a.m.	8:00 a.m.	8:00 a.m.	8:00 a.m.	RATING DAY
Global History & Geography II (New Framework)*	U.S. History & Government	English Language Arts GMU Global 1 Final Exam	Transition Exam in Global History & Geography GMU Pre-Calc Final	Geometry	⁴ World Language Assessment suggested date/time: Locally developed Checkpoint A Exam	Physical Setting/ Chemistry	
	12:00 p.m.	12:00 p.m.	12:00 p.m.	12:00 p.m.	12:00 p.m.	12:00 p.m.	2 Uniform Admission Deadlines Morning Examinations: 10:00 a.m. Afternoon Examinations: 2:00 p.m.
	Living Environment	Algebra I	Physical Setting/ Earth Science	Algebra II	⁴ World Language Assessment suggested date/time: Locally developed Checkpoint B Exam	Physical Setting/ Physics	

* The Conversion Chart for this exam will be available no later than June 26, 2019.

Scholarships

Scholarships continue to come into the Guidance Office. Seniors should stop in the Guidance Office daily & search through the new scholarships. Please make sure you are following the directions on the scholarship applications and be careful of the deadlines. See Mrs. Clapp or Ms. Parsons in the Guidance office if you have questions.

2019 Summer School

GMU students who need to attend summer school to make up failed courses or retake Regents exams will be attending the DCMO BOCES campus in Masonville. To qualify for summer school to make up course credit, students must have at least a 55% final average in the course they failed. The grade earned during the school year (25%) will be combined with the summer school grade (75%) to achieve the final grade for the course. Recommendations for summer school will be mailed home this month.

Summer school classes will be held in early July to mid-August. Transportation for Summer School will be provided from GMU to BOCES and from BOCES to GMU. Transportation to and from home will be the responsibility of the student/family. Please call Ms. Parsons in the Guidance Office at 783-2207 if you have questions regarding the summer school program.

RYLA

GMU is happy to announce delegate Airyana Wright and alternate Tavian Raymond to represent Gilbertsville-Mt. Upton at the 2018 Rotary Youth Leadership Award Conference. RYLA encourages servant leadership in youth by recognizing and rewarding deserving 11th grade students who are chosen to attend RYLA as an "award" for their past and present leadership and service activities.

These select young people attend an all-expenses-paid camp where they are inspired by a diverse group of exceptional speakers, make life-long friends through fellowship activities, and discuss the ethical and social issues of today. These activities are conducted in an atmosphere of trust and respect. The result is that these students return to their schools and communities motivated to take on additional leadership roles and to find additional ways to serve. We congratulate Airyana and Tavian on being nominated to represent GMU.

Scholar Recognition

Hunter Christian

Gilbertsville-Mount Upton is honored to announce Hunter Christian as our 2019 Student Scholar.

Hunter pursues a goal with hard-work and dedication. She's a positive member of her class and a respected member

Counselors' Corner

of her community. She is an intelligent, dependable, and self-motivated young woman who is always willing to help and has a genuine interest in learning about different topics.

Hunter is currently enrolled in the DCMO BOCES New Visions Health Program and is Salutatorian of the Class of 2019. She is Vice President of National Honor Society and the Class of 2019, and the Treasurer of SADD, STUCO and Language Cub.

She is a member of various clubs and activities throughout our school and community and is always willing to offer a helping hand. After graduation, Hunter will attend Hartwick College and study Nursing. We are very proud of Hunter and all of her accomplishments and wish her the very best.

Hunter's favorite teacher: Larisa Waghorn

"My favorite teacher is Mrs. Waghorn because she's one of the most loving and caring teachers I know. She is devoted to helping every student achieve their personal goals, and does not hesitate to help someone in need even if she doesn't know exactly what she's doing! I truly do not think I would be where I am today if it weren't for Mrs. Waghorn's dedication to helping me strive to do my best!"

"If there's one thing Mrs. Waghorn has taught me throughout my high school career here at GMU is that it's okay not to be perfect, and it's ok to not get a 100 on every assignment because as long as I'm doing my absolute best, that's all anyone could ever ask for."

- Hunter Christian

Congratulations to both Hunter and Mrs. Waghorn!

SAT & ACT Registration

Juniors, now is the time to start registering for the Spring 2017 college entrance exams! The July/August exam dates are listed below, to register and for all exam dates please visit the specific testing websites!

SAT

Test Date	Registration Deadline	
August 24	July 26	www.collegeboard.com

ACT

Test Date	Registration Deadline	
July 13	June 14	www.actstudent.org

- Ms. Parsons

K-6 Counselor News from Mrs. Hall

What a busy year it has been here at GMU, with Great Kindness Challenges, NYS testing, Lunch Bunches, Self-Control Surfers, and a year full of memories and friendships!

During the months of May and June I completed my personal safety lessons in grades K-6. I cannot stress how important it is that parents speak with their children about personal safety. Personal safety means taking care of your body and protecting it. We all wear seatbelts and bicycle helmets, but personal safety is more than that. Children need to understand that they have the right to refuse any unwanted touch, even if it's from a trusted family member or close friend.

Children must understand that they can say no and get away, and that they should talk to a grownup about a touch that bothers them. Parents should choose opportunities or 'teachable moments' to reinforce safety skills. If an incident occurs in your community and your child asks you about it, speak frankly but with reassurance. Explain to your children that you want to discuss the safety rules with them so that they will know what to do if they ever face a difficult situation. Make sure your child knows there is always someone who can help. I strongly encourage you to discuss personal safety with your children.

Here are some key points to go over with your child:

1. Always check first with a parent, guardian, or trusted adult before going anywhere, accepting anything, or getting into a car with anyone.
2. Do not go out alone. Always take a friend with when going places or playing outside.

3. Say no if someone tries to touch you, or treats you in a way that makes you feel scared, uncomfortable, or confused. Get out of the situation as quickly as possible.
4. Tell a parent, guardian, or trusted adult if you feel scared, uncomfortable, or confused.

What should a parent know when talking to a child about safety?

1. Don't forget your older children. Children aged 11 to 17 are equally at risk to victimization. At the same time you are giving your older children more freedom, make sure they understand important safety rules as well.
2. Speak to your children in manner that is calm and non-threatening. Children do not need to be frightened to get the point across. In fact, fear can thwart the safety message, because fear can be paralyzing to a child.
3. Speak openly. Children will be less likely to come to you about issues shrouded in secrecy. If they feel you are comfortable discussing the subject at hand, they may be more forthcoming.
4. Teach your children that safety is more important than manners. In other words, it is more important for children to get themselves out of a threatening situation than it is to be polite. They also need to know that it is okay to tell you what happened, and they won't be tattletales.

All of my counseling groups and individual counseling sessions have come to a close. I have had so much fun working with all of my students this year and watching them grow. Have a safe and fun summer. Get outside and play!

YEARBOOK ORDERS

The Vallerian

Yearbooks for Sale! Yearbooks for Sale! Get Your Yearbooks!

It's that time of year again when yearbooks go on sale! Have you ordered your copy? If not, the 2018-19 Yearbook Staff is now taking orders for this year's *Vallerian*. Yearbook prices are as follows:

<u>Order between these dates</u>	<u>cost per yearbook</u>
Now – May 1, 2019	\$20.00
After May 1, 2019	\$25.00

To order your copy of *The Vallerian*, please follow these simple steps:

- Complete and cut out the form below
- Write a check for the appropriate amount, made payable to GMU Yearbook
- Send the form along with your payment to:

GMU Central School
ATTN: Yearbook Order Staff
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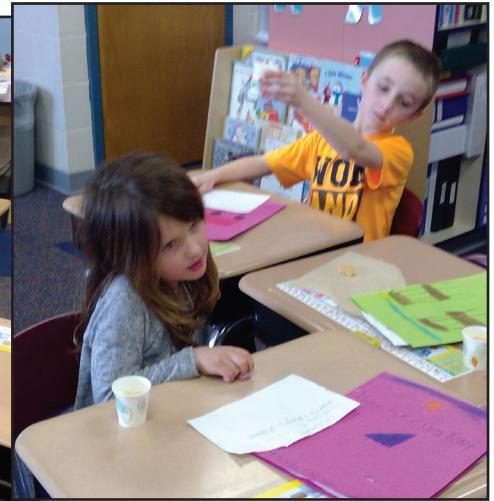
If you have any questions, please contact the Yearbook Class at yearbook@gmucsd.org.

Name: _____

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HERE'S TO THE WORDS -- When students in Mr. Trass' class wrapped up their unit on informational books, they ended with a toast (sparkling grape juice) to their favorite line or a particular text feature they found to be especially useful for a potential reader of their books.

GMU led the way in Plastic Film Recycling Project

GMU Elementary and Middle/High School have BOTH been named the winners of Otsego County Conservation Association's Plastic Film Recycling CVontest! Each group had the highest weight collected per capita--6.78 lbs and 1.88 lbs, respectively. Other schools in the competition were Morris, Cherry Valley-Springfield, Cooperstown, Oneonta, Richfield Springs, Unatego, and Worcester. In total, GMU collected 1,821 pounds of the 4,000 pounds collected by all schools.

The results were announced April 13 at the Earth Festival in Milford. Our prize for winning the contest will be a visit from the Zoomobile in June!

For those interested in continuing to recycle their plastic film, see the graphic to the right.

Total Pounds of plastic collected per grade level:

Pre-K: 144.1 lbs

Kindergarten: 226.5 lbs

1st: (Elementary winner!) 323.1 lbs

2nd: 254 lbs

3rd: 97.3 lbs

4th: 94.4 lbs

5th: 178.9 lbs

6th: 33.3 lbs

Mrs. Acunto's class: 9.9 lbs

Ms. Titus' class: 13.95 lbs

7th: 89.3 lbs

8th: 9.9 lbs

9th: 154.2 lbs

10th: 25.5 lbs

11th: 87.1 lbs

12th: 19.8 lbs

Thank you all!

- Miss Hughes



Recycle your Clean, Dry, Empty Plastic Bags and Film Packaging!

Plastics to Collect:

- LDPE / HDPE Films
- Newspaper Sleeves
- Bread Bags
- Product Wrap
- Cereal Liners
- Food Storage Bags
- Ice Bags
- Pellet Bags
- Produce Bags
- Dry Cleaning Bags
- Grocery Bags
- Case Overwrap
- Packaging Air Pillows
- Salt Bags



PLASTIC FILM RECYCLING

KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK!

Now that you have started collecting your film plastic, keep on recycling!

FILM RECYCLING LOCATIONS NEAR YOU

Hannaford

Price Chopper

Tops

Walmart

New Raiders Robotics Enters RoboRAVE Competition

GMU now has a robotics team. Thirteen elementary and middle school students met through February and March to enter the RoboRAVE competition in Oxford on April 5th and 6th. This was the first year GMU entered the new competition hosted by Oxford and organized by local resident Mr. Mark Mueller. Dozens of schools entered the competition, including schools from other countries.

Acting members of the GMU robotics team and future technologists included: Brenden Eastman, Skyler Lindroth, Ryan Davis, Madelyne Astolos, Taylor French, Alexia Ferguson, Ryan Beismer, Remington Barkman, Cyrus Hall, Alexis Davis, Brandon Kendall, and manager Abigail Davis. Lindroth, Astolos, French, and Barkman should be noted as being excellent programmers during the competition. Cyrus Hall attempted to program and run his own personal robot.

The Raiders learned how to assemble the robots and spent many hours in the programming department, developing code to enable the robot to meander through a difficult course.

Club advisor Mr. Held said, "The programming was difficult for all of us to learn. There were many hours of trial and error. We were somewhat discouraged on the Friday of the event, having only completed a small section of the course. Then Saturday morning of the event came and our robot stopped working."

The Raiders had to use a spare robot and combine parts of the original after the loss of the initial robot and the additional loss of all of the completed programming. Local parent and programmer by



trade, Tom Hall, stepped in to help the Raiders start from scratch on Saturday morning. Students spent much of the morning typing in new code and testing the new robot. The Raiders were finally ready to have their robot judged almost nearing the deadline of the competition.

The initial scorings and timings put the GMU robot into first place out of twenty four teams. However, the Raiders were at a disadvantage. They were unable to attempt more judged timings due to the delay in having to rebuild the robot. The Raiders finished in twelfth place with a very close point differential to the leading robots.

Twelfth place was a high enough placement to put the Raiders into the playoff rounds. However, the robot had acquired a few slight

malfunctions and was unable to advance to the final rounds of the playoffs.

"The students worked so hard at the competition and really rose to the occasion. Finishing in twelfth place out of twenty three teams and making the playoffs was a feat in itself," Mr. Held said.

In addition to robotics, students met students from other countries and traded wristbands with the other team members as well. On the Friday of the event, students were offered a buffet of food and danced to music provided by a DJ after the preliminary tests of the robot.

Raiders Robotics hopes to enter the competition again next year and would like to thank Mr. Mueller, Mrs. Waghorn, and Mr. Hall for their help and efforts.

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through Preschool

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Enrolling Year-Round



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GMU Clay Target Club marks its first year with 11 members

This is the first season of the GMU Clay Target Club! The club works in tandem with volunteers from the Gilbertsville Rod and Gun Club and the school. Members of the Rod and Gun Club presented to the Board of Education in the fall about the possibility of GMU being part of the USA/New York State Clay Target League. The Clay Target League's motto is "Safety, fun, Marksmanship."

The USA Clay Target League has been introducing students to Olympic shooting sports since 2001 and is accessible to individuals of all abilities. Students who participate in the club must complete an online SAFE Certification course and register for the Clay Target League. Students compete once a week taking the same number of shots regardless of experience. Scores are then uploaded and compared to other opponents in the conference.

When the season ends, athletes are invited to attend the state tournament in Cicero, NY. T

The team currently has eleven members and is off to a great start. The team shoots have been held on



Members (left to right) back row: Owen Mangiamiele, Garrett Proskine, Shayne Christian, Lane Dibble, James Raymond. Front row: Airyana Wright, Kaylie Dunham, Payton Talbot and Daniel Tompkins. Missing: Lauren Radwan and Eron Button.

Wednesday nights at the Gilbertsville Rod and Gun Club since April 24th. Stop by and support your team! For

more information about joining next year, contact Ms. Waghorn, Mr. Jim Butler or Marlene Brooks.

Jenn Mason, GMU '13, wins Court Competition at BC Law

Congratulations to Jenn Mason, GMU '13 (third from right in photo), who joined her second-year law school classmate Anton Tikhomirov (second from right) to win the 59th Annual Wendell F. Grimes Moot Court Competition at Boston College Law School.

The pair survived two months and several elimination rounds to take the prize. They were the respondents in the drug case of a 23-year-old woman implicated in an investigation involving several physicians' prescription drug records.

The competition was judged by a justice of the Supreme Court of New Hampshire; the District Attorney for



Middlesex County, Massachusetts; and a retired justice of the Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts.

Jenn will earn her Juris Doctor degree from Boston College Law School next year.



Sensory Path is a permanent installation

GMU Occupational Therapist Jaime Sherwood (right) and Special Education teacher Melissa VanVorce recently installed the permanent Sensory Path behind the balcony seating above the gymnasium. The path replaces a temporary one that was installed and tested last fall.

Sherwood said the path includes sensory-based movements such as crossing midline, jumping and pushing for proprioception (perception or awareness of the position and movement of the body), and a weighted ball for heavy work. The walkway ends with deep breathing.

"These items all encourage the brain and body to work together to better function in the classroom. Students will be brought to this area by a trained staff member who can help them maneuver the areas and focus on readying their bodies to learn," Sherwood said. "I thank the special education teachers from K-8 for helping me develop this walkway."

"We are all so excited for our students to have a place where they can get movement in during their school day!"



Thanks for your support!

The 2019-20 GMU School District budget was approved on May 21 by a vote of 130 to 23, and the following individuals were elected to three-year terms on the GMUCS School Board: Larry Smith, Jeremy Pain, Cole Covington and Brian Underwood.

Thanks to all those who came out to vote!

**Gilbertsville-Mount Upton
Central School District**
693 State Highway 51
Gilbertsville, New York 13776-1104
607-783-2207

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Alumni Hoops Game boosts GMU Board Scholarship Fund

When alumni from GMU classes ranging from 1999 to 2018 came together for a basketball game on March 30, it was a win/win for the athletes, the fans, and the GMU Board of Education Scholarship Fund.

Event organizer Sheila Nolan, who is secretary in the District Office, said the game raised more than \$1,000 for scholarships. She thanked Pizza Hut, Gavin's Pizzeria, Roma Ristorante & Pizzeria & Great American, all from Sidney, for donating to the event. The GMU Booster Club also donated, and hundreds of spectators turned out and bought tickets as well.

Athletic Director Greg Bonczkowski was announcer, Acting Principal Heather Wilcox was scorekeeper, and GMU board members ran concessions. Nolan thanked them and the other faculty and staff who volunteered to make the afternoon fun for all.



*Scenes from
Around GMU*