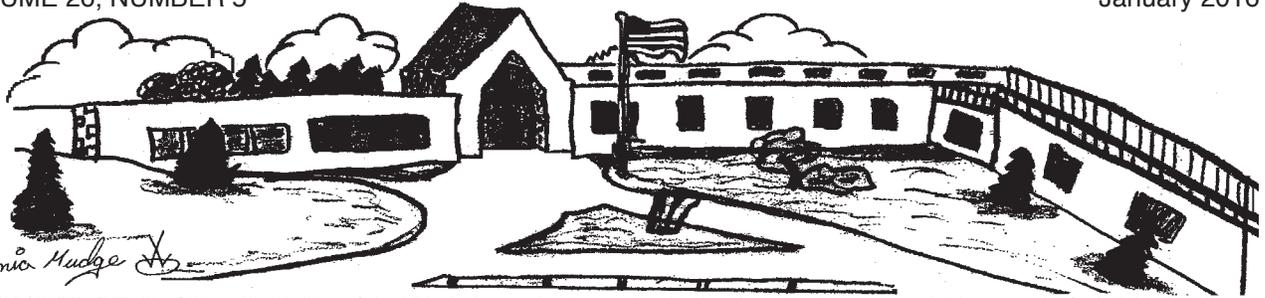


# GILBERTSVILLE-MOUNT UPTON CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

VOLUME 26, NUMBER 5

January 2016



MISSION STATEMENT: The Gilbertsville-Mt. Upton School District is committed to an educational environment that assures equitable opportunity for individuals to become College and Career Ready and ultimately, responsible, productive members of society. We will encourage individual excellence in students of all ages that they may gain a lifetime enthusiasm for work and learning.

## Superintendent's Message



Hoping that 2016 is a rewarding year for all! Our new Principal Ms. Wickham has almost been here a month. She has met several students and parents and is working hard to get to know our GMU school community and all that is important to us. If you have not met Ms. Wickham, please take the opportunity to introduce yourself to her when you are in the school. Thank you to all who came out to meet Ms. Wickham at our meet and greet on December 1. You certainly made her feel welcome to our school and community.

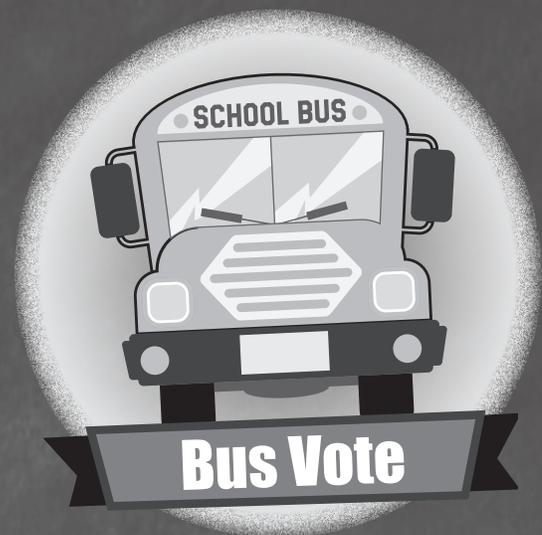
One great way to start off this year is to join us for the Junior Musical production of *Captain Bree and Her Lady Pirates*. It will be held here in our Auditorium on January 29 at 7:00 p.m., and January 30 at 2:00 p.m. You can also join us this basketball season which is in full-swing. Please check our website for a link to the sports schedule.

We had 148 community members who came out to vote for our Capital Project on Tuesday, December 1. The changes designated in this project will allow us to create a more secure environment for all students and staff. Support of this project demonstrates that we are a community that values students and their safety and I am very proud to be your superintendent. Thank you!

We are in the process of developing a budget for next school year. We hope to receive the governor's executive proposal this month, which will give us some direction on funds allocated to schools. The district continues to be committed to providing an outstanding educational program for our students balanced with a reasonable tax levy for our district taxpayers. I will offer budget updates for you in our upcoming newsletters.

—Annette D. Hammond,  
Superintendent and CSE Director

## No Impact on Tax Levy



**Tuesday, February 2, 2016**

**Noon- 8:00 PM**

**Gilbertsville-Mt. Upton Front Lobby**

### Proposition One: School Bus Purchases

Shall the following resolution be adopted, to-wit: RESOLVED, shall the Gilbertsville-Mount Upton Central School District, Otsego County, New York, be authorized to purchase two 66-passenger school busses at \$117,000.00 each, and to expend therefore a maximum estimated cost not to exceed two hundred and thirty four thousand dollars (\$234,000.00), including incidental expenses in connection therewith, and that \$234,000 Capital Reserve Fund monies shall be used to pay the cost thereof.

*Please note: Residents must present identification in order to vote.*

## Elementary News

Happy New Year! With January comes very cold weather! Students do go out for recess if the temperature and wind chill is above 20°F. Please be sure your child is appropriately dressed for the outdoor weather with boots, hat, mittens, snow pants and a winter coat. Unless your child has a doctor's note, they will be required to go outdoors for fresh air. Also, please recognize that the temperatures of the classrooms vary so your child should dress in layers or keep a sweater/sweatshirt in school (labeled with their name). Please do not send your child to school wearing tank tops, capris, shorts or clothing not appropriate for winter weather. The lost and found is also accumulating winter garments, so remind your child to check the nurse's office for any lost items.

As you are aware, we have been using the automated call system for information, including early dismissals due to the weather. For this to be successful we need to be sure your phone numbers are updated with us at all times. Early dismissals and delays are also still available on the website and on any of the following radio stations: WCDO, WDOS, WKXZ, WZOZ, WSKG or watch WBNG-TV Channel 12. When having to dismiss early, children will be sent to the address you gave us on your Student Information Sheet. If this person/location changes, please let us know immediately or if you know in the morning that there will be a change in your child's drop off point that day, please send in a note to Mrs. Cabrinety at the front desk. As a reminder, we cannot take last minute phone calls of changes—for your child's safety.

### January Reminders

- 18 NO SCHOOL—Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.
- 29 Junior Musical, Auditorium, 7:00 p.m.
- 30 Junior Musical, Auditorium, 2:00 p.m.

### Pre-K Registration Info

If you have a child that will be 4-years-old by December 1, 2015 and are considering applying for the Pre-K program for next school year, please contact Mrs. Clapp in the Guidance Office to be sure we have your name and address for mailing out information and applications. She can be reached at 783-2207, ext. 141. I encourage you to please continue working with your child(ren) on learning their phone number and address, too many of the students do not know this information.

—Ms. Denise Wickham, Principal

## MS/HS News

Happy New Year! All students need to attend school during Regents Week because we will be having regularly scheduled classes. There are only a few students who will be pulled from classes to take exams.

### Regents week is January 26-29.

There will be **no school on Monday, January 18** in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. The second marking period ends on January 29. The end of this marking period marks the half-way point for the school year!

As you know, the weather this time of year is unpredictable and can be dangerous to travel in. Students who typically drive to school are always welcome to take the bus on a day that they or their parents are concerned about the weather. Students just need to be out at the bus stop prior to the bus arriving so that the driver sees the student. It is important that students listen to the radio on questionable days so they can be alerted to a delay or possible school closing. Radio stations that broadcast our school information are: WCDO, WDOS, WKXZ, WZOZ, WSKG or watch WBNG-TV Channel 12. See below for a full list of stations. You can also access this information on the district website [www.gmucsd.org](http://www.gmucsd.org). You will also receive a School Messenger call at the phone number, which you provided to the District this year. Please make sure your phone number is up to date with the school. You can call Mrs. Ostrander in the Main Office. As always, please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions or concerns.

—Ms. Denise Wickham, Principal

## Emergency Closings

A call will be made to all parent/guardians of students who attend GMU by our Automated Phone Messaging System notifying them of any delays or cancellations.

Notifications of delays or a school closing will also be made on the following broadcast stations:

### Radio Stations:

WCHN (AM 97)  
WKXZ (FM 94)  
WDOS (AM 730)  
WSRK (FM 103.9)  
WZOZ (FM 103.1)  
WDLA (AM 1270, FM 92.1)  
WDHI (FM 100.3)  
WIYN (FM 94.7)  
WTBD (FM 97.5)  
WBKT (FM 95.3)  
WCDO (FM 101, AM 1490)  
WHWK (FM 98.1)  
WAAL (FM 99.1)  
WWYL (FM 104.1)  
WLTB (FM 101.7)

### Television:

WBNG-TV (Binghamton)  
Time Warner Cable News  
WUTR/WFXV  
News Channel 34  
YNN TV

### GMU Website:

[www.gmucsd.org](http://www.gmucsd.org)

### GMU Facebook Page

## HS Guidance Office

### Senior Interviews Completed

The fall semester is in full swing, and believe it or not, graduation is only six months away! Mrs. Wilcox has met with each senior to discuss future plans after graduation. A packet of information was also provided containing resources for college searches, financial aid, and scholarship information. Please refer to the Senior Checklist for a general list that seniors should be working on.

### It is FAFSA Time!

January is the time to file the Free Application for Federal Student Aid! Do not wait, do not procrastinate! Seniors need to complete the FAFSA to be eligible for federal, state and college sponsored financial aid. The FAFSA can be completed online at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov). The FAFSA needs to be submitted as early as possible to be sure you meet your college's aid deadline and allow time for corrections if needed. A mistake on your FAFSA can delay the processing of your application by up to three weeks. If you have questions about this process, please do not stress.

#### Avoid the most common FAFSA mistakes:

- **Leaving blank fields**—enter a '0' or 'not applicable' instead of leaving a blank. Too many blanks may cause miscalculations and an application rejection.
- **Using commas or decimal points in numeric fields**—always round to the nearest dollar.
- **Listing incorrect social security number or driver's license number**—check these entries and have someone else check them too. Triple check to be sure.
- **Entering the wrong federal income tax paid amount**—obtain your federal income paid amount from your income tax return forms, not your W-2 form(s).
- **Listing Adjusted Gross Income as equal to total income**—these are not the same figure. In most cases, the AGI is larger than the total income. This mistake is particularly common.
- **Listing marital status incorrectly**—only write yes if you're currently married. They want to know what you're marital status is on the day you sign the FAFSA, or Renewal FAFSA.
- **Listing parent marital status incorrectly**—the custodial parent's marital status is needed; if they've remarried, you'll need the stepparent's information too.
- **Leaving the question about drug-related offenses blank**—If you're unsure about something, find out before you submit your FAFSA instead of leaving it blank. A conviction doesn't necessarily disqualify you from getting aid.
- **Forgetting to list the college**—obtain the Federal School Code for the college you plan on attending and list it—along with any other schools to which you've applied.

- **Entering the wrong address**—your permanent address is not your campus or summer address.
- **Sending in a copy of your income tax returns**—you will be contacted if your information needs verification; you don't need to send a copy of your tax returns in with your application. If selected for verification we would need verification documents along with tax return transcripts (copies of tax returns are not sufficient).
- **Create a Federal Student Aid ID** - An FSA ID gives you access to Federal Student Aid's online systems and can serve as your legal signature. Only create an FSA ID using your own personal information and for your own exclusive use.

If you have any questions while completing your FAFSA, please call to make an appointment to meet with Mrs. Wilcox in the Guidance Office, (607) 783-2207, ext. 118.

### PSAT 10

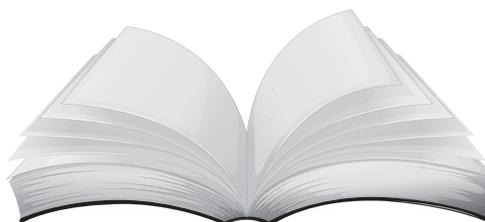
The PSAT 10 is a practice SAT exam that will debut in the Spring. It is designed specifically for sophomores in high school and familiarizes them with the testing format. There are three sections to the PSAT 10, including reading, writing and math. Students who take the exam on February 24, will be given a score report that provides them with information about their strengths and weakness. Sign-up sheets are available for students in the Guidance Office.

### SAT & ACT Registration

Juniors, now is the time to start registering for the Spring 2016 college entrance exams! The next two exam dates are listed below, to register and for all exam dates please visit the specific testing websites.

SAT		
Test Date	Register By	Website
March 5	February 5	<a href="http://www.collegeboard.com">www.collegeboard.com</a>
May 7	April 8	<a href="http://www.collegeboard.com">www.collegeboard.com</a>
ACT		
Test Date	Register By	Website
April 9	March 4	<a href="http://www.actstudent.org">www.actstudent.org</a>
June 11	May 6	<a href="http://www.actstudent.org">www.actstudent.org</a>

—Heather Wilcox, 5-12 School Counselor



## HOBY

The Hugh O'Brian Youth (HOBY) Leadership delegate selected to represent GMU at the 2016 HOBY seminar is **Lucas Piedmonte**. He was selected because he has demonstrated the potential to lead others. The HOBY mission is "to inspire and develop our global community of youth and volunteers to a life dedicated to leadership, service and innovation." The HOBY Leadership seminar encourages students to improve critical thinking skills, enhances leadership skills, reviews the democratic process, develops goal setting skills and challenges students to complete 100-hours of volunteer service. The 2016 seminar will be held at SUNY Oneonta in the spring. Congratulations, Lucas!

—Heather Wilcox, 5-12 School Counselor



## Info from the Health Office

The following are most of the reasons for a child being sent home from school:

- Fever
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Chills
- Sore throat
- Possible strep throat
- Bad cold, with a very runny nose or bad cough
- Stomach ache not relieved with rest
- Headache not relieved with prescribed medication
- Conjunctivitis (pink eye)

It is very important, for the health of his/her fellow classmates and staff (as well as your own child), that he/she remain home until symptom-free for 24-hours. When a doctor makes a diagnosis of strep throat or pink eye, your child must be on antibiotic treatment for at least 24-hours before his/her return to school.

Thank you for understanding these guidelines. They are meant to serve the best interests of all students and staff.

—Carol Angelone, RN, School Nurse

## Memo from the Health Office

Our school, once again, has been selected to report to the Department of Health the BMI (Body Mass Index) and percentiles of selected grades. This will be submitted in January. The submission is by numbers only, not by individual student names. A memo regarding this submission has been mailed out to parents/guardians with the option of not having your child's information reported. These numbers are gathered from the student's physical done by their Health Care Providers; they are required to note these numbers on the student's physical form which is then transferred to the school record.

BMI percentile is pretty accurate, says childhood obesity researcher David Kaelber, MD, a pediatrician at MetroHealth in Cleveland. "BMI percentile isn't perfect, but it's extremely rare that someone would fall into the obese category simply because he's muscular," says Dr. Kaelber. But with many Americans now overweight or obese, most of us have lost sight of what a healthy weight looks like. So be sure to discuss your child's BMI percentile with his pediatrician, and take the information seriously. "Parents often assume, 'My child will hit a growth spurt and puberty and that will solve the problem.' That's absolutely not true," says Dr. Kaelber. In fact, his research shows that children who are overweight or obese before puberty are about 20 times more likely to be overweight or obese after puberty.

Conditions like high cholesterol, high blood pressure, diabetes and fatty liver disease (when fat deposits accumulate in the liver) are more common in overweight and obese kids, so if your child is heavy, make sure his doctor screens him for them annually (as per Barbara Brody in an article written for *Woman's Day* magazine). She also suggests helping kids slim down. Instead of putting kids on a *diet*, which implies deprivation, help them adopt healthy habits that will last.

### Let Them Help with Prep

"Kids are more likely to eat what they've been involved in making."

### Encourage Volunteering

Boredom often goes hand-in-hand with overeating; volunteering keeps them busy and boosts self-esteem (which can help protect against disordered eating), says American Dietetic Assoc. spokeswoman Melinda Johnson, RD.

### Limit Eating to the Kitchen Table

Munching while distracted (by a TV show, video game, etc.) leads to eating hundreds of extra calories, says Karen Ansel, RD, coauthor of the *Baby & Toddler Cookbook*.

### Let Them Eat Dessert

"Indulging a little every day means kids won't feel deprived and will be less likely to overeat," says Elisa Zied, RD, author of *Feed Your Family Right!* Just remember to keep portions small.

### Keep Track of What is Eaten

If your child is struggling with his or her weight, suggest that s/he writes down on paper or text himself every time s/he eats.

## Cold Weather Precautions

At this time of year, it is a good idea to talk to your children about cold weather safety. Extra care is needed, especially in younger children, to be sure that frostbite does not occur.

It is important to check your children's, even teens', outerwear everyday during extreme weather conditions. Warm jackets, hats, scarves, boots, and an extra pair of dry gloves in their pockets will protect them during extremely cold temperatures.

Develop an emergency plan and teach your children your emergency plan in case you are not home before the bus comes to pick them up. If a bus is delayed, they need to know where, when, and how to get help if they think they are waiting outside for a bus longer than they should or if they sense danger. Tell your child that if you are not home while they are waiting outside for the bus, how long they may wait outside, where to go in the event the bus is delayed, and what the dangers and risks of extreme weather are.

### Explain danger signs and risks of when to seek help:

- the child gets cold or wet, especially boots or gloves
- the child feels pain or numbness anywhere especially hands, feet, ears, nose
- the child senses s/he has waited longer than five minutes when you have alerted him/her that temperatures have dipped into the teens, especially on a windy day
- the child thinks s/he may have frostbite, which behaves like a burn and requires medical attention.

Teach your child about your cold weather plan even if you are not there to help him/her. Be sure your child knows when to ask for help, where to find safe shelter in an emergency, and how to protect him/herself with proper winter clothing and an understanding of danger signs.

Stay warm and safe. Happy winter!  
—Carol Angelone, RN, School Nurse

## Veteran's Day Presentation

It is with great pride that students and staff honored our local veterans. We recognized thirty-eight veterans. The entire student body, along with staff, community members and families of the veterans witnessed a POW presentation and personal acknowledgement of each veteran's service. When tallying their years of service together, these local veterans have served our nation for over 225 years. As a thank you for their service to our nation, the CFES club served breakfast to the veterans, their families and student sponsors. We will continue to offer this tremendous event each year and hope that more veterans can join us next year!



  
*Thank You*  
VETERANS'



## STEAM in the Elementary

During the last two months, the third and fourth grade has been working on numerous STEAM activities having to do with events that occur in the Fall. STEAM is Science and Technology, interpreted through Engineering and the Arts, all based in Mathematical elements. The A in STEAM includes Language Arts, Social Studies, Physical Arts, Fine Arts and Music. Students had a great time exploring the states of matter, building structures, designing animated computer graphics, learning about chemical reactions and participating in a virtual field trip upon the Mayflower and to Plymouth, MA, just to name a few activities. It was a very exciting couple of months in third and fourth grade!

—Mrs. McMullen and Mrs. Bennett

## Do You Have a STEAM Career? Are you a STEAM Star?

STEAM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math. The STEAM team at GMU is looking for you. In order to encourage our students to explore STEAM-based careers, we are creating a Steam Star Wall of Fame featuring people associated with GMU and their occupations. Please send us a photo of you doing your job, along with a bio describing your work, your place of employment, and anything else you think would be of interest, and we will post it on our wall where our students can see it and become inspired. You can send your picture and bio to [jcostello@gmucsd.org](mailto:jcostello@gmucsd.org), [mseigers@gmucsd.org](mailto:mseigers@gmucsd.org) or [ltalbot@gmucsd.org](mailto:ltalbot@gmucsd.org). Thanks for helping our students to explore exciting and rewarding STEAM career opportunities.

## GMU Academic Team on “Double Down”



The High School Academic Team competed against 36 Syracuse area high schools to be one of the 16 schools to participate in WCNY’s award-winning high school academic quiz show, Double Down. The show airs on Sundays, at 6:00 p.m. on WCNY/PBS—Syracuse with host Bill Baker. Answering the tough questions at the PBS Studio were Seniors: **Madison Banks, Elaina Palada, Colin Wind** and Juniors: **Molly D’Amato, Kayla Grabo, Nicole Grabo**.

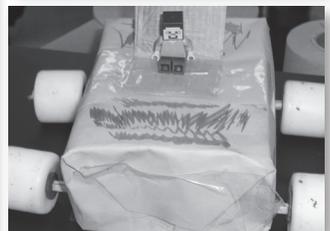
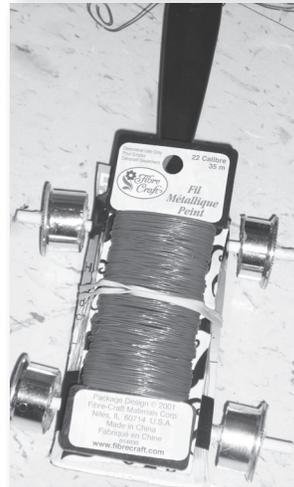
The GMU Academic Team will participate in the Upstate Academic Competition sponsored by the Catskill Area School Study Council in January at SUNY-Oneonta.



## 6th Grade Build-a-Vehicle Challenge

While the sixth-grade continues their exploration of the universe—as well as Earth’s place within it—we have also recently taken a creative detour to utilize the Engineering Design Process in our Build a Vehicle Challenge! During this event, students were challenged to create a vehicle using only household materials. Their goal was to create a vehicle that would coast down a 3-meter inclined plane at the fastest speed possible. Students designed, planned and created their model prototypes, tested them, improved them (as often as necessary), and finally competed for the best time. This was a fantastic learning experience for the students, and we look forward to our next Engineering Design Challenge!

—Mrs. Banks and Mr. Trass



## Spanish Class Trip

On November 4, Spanish classes from GMU and the Foreign Language Club traveled to Syracuse to see a presentation by the Ballet Folklórico Mexicano Ollimpaxqui. Ollimpaxqui means joyful movement in Náhuatl, the language of the Aztecs. The company of dancers, singers, and musicians that performed was beautifully costumed and captivated everyone with an authentic and vibrant show that was joyful and included much audience participation.



## 5th Grade Meteorology Unit

In science this quarter fifth graders have been learning about the many aspects of weather. Students learned about temperature, humidity, air pressure, the water cycle, fronts and climate. They conducted experiments to investigate what happens when air masses meet and how temperature on Earth is affected by factors such as angle and color. Students researched an extreme weather topic and taught a lesson on that topic, which included a demonstration and a quiz.

To conclude our weather unit we welcomed meteorologist Jill Reale from WKTV News Channel 2 who spoke about weather and her career as a meteorologist. Students even made their own weather centers to observe, record and predict the weather each day. We LOVE weather and think meteorologists are awesome!

—Mr. Cimineri, Mrs. Cummings



## Captain Bree and Her Lady Pirates

The Junior Musical production is well under way! Our performance of *Captain Bree and Her Lady Pirates* will be on Friday, January 29 at 7:00 p.m. and Saturday, January 30 at 2:00 p.m. in the Gilbertsville-Mount Upton CS Auditorium.

This story combines three sets of characters. The musical starts out aboard the ship, the Kayla May. Here we meet such characters as: Fergus—**Nathan Barrows**, Captain Jennings—**Theodore Sharkey**, Madam Prescott—**Emily Hammond**, Samuel Prescott—**Tyler Joslyn**, Julia Prescott—**Alivia Retz**, the Cook—**Dalton Proskine**, Thomas the Cabin Boy—**Dante Manwarren**, and many Prisoners: John—**Kendra Hammond**, Jack—**Brennan Finch**, George—**Cinnamon Williams**, Brianna—**Hannah Bonczkowski**, Cameron—**Carly Davis**, Vanessa—**Cynthia Davis**, TJ—**Tyler Furgison**, Ally—**Aubree Palmer**, Kevin—**Brianna See**, Elizabeth—**Ella Stockdale**, and Brittany—**Nevaeh Wright**.

Chaos is created by our second set of characters! The *Lady Pirates of Captain Bree* take over the Kayla May in a vicious sword fight. This cast of characters include: Captain Bree—**Maya Farwell**, Jane—**Anika Christensen**, Josephine—**Angelina Correll**, Gabriella—**Skye Wilson**, Shawna—**Fiona Held**, Patty—**Madison Lewis**, Maggie—**Bianca Plows**, Georgia—**Madeline Pain**, Kate—**Tammy Barnes**, Liv—**Kiley Chase**, Amy—**Kailah Davis**, Erica—**Autumn Demarais**, Noelle—**Kaitlyn Finch**, and Quinn—**Bree MacNeill**.

Chaos continues when the pirates find out the Kayla May only has passengers as their cargo instead of treasure. Thomas, the cabin boy, is sent in a small boat off the Kayla May to deliver a ransom note. Instead of delivering the note where the pirates ask, he contacts Admiral Moore—**Gavin Bonczkowski** of the British Fleet and his officers for help. The officers include: Major McKennan—**Kendra Dunham**, Major Dunham—**Kiernan Dunham**, Major Potter—**Bradley Green**, Major Thomas—**Mya Gross**, Major Stewart—**Dawson Heath**, Major daSilva—**Olivia Held**, Major Hodge—**Denise Hodge**, Major James—**Connor Lenhardt**, Major McNamara—**Rylan McNamara**, Major Nottingham—**Rene Posner**, Major Posner—**Roman Taranto**, Major Fresno—**Cameron Teale**, Major Eagle—**Daniel Tompkins**, Major Wilcox—**Kali Wilcox**, and Major Kahn—**Brian Wilson**. The Admiral and his officers sail toward the Kayla May where, after arrival, we witness a second sword fight.

You will have to watch and see if the crew and passengers of the Kayla May get rescued or do the pirates escape the British Fleet? Come find out on Friday, January 29 at 7:00 p.m., or Saturday, January 30, at 2:00 p.m.

Under the direction of Gerrit Bakhuizen is the crew of *Captain Bree and Her Lady Pirates*. They include: **Courtney Baker**, **Molly D'Amato**, **Catherine Giammateo**, **Charlene Heisler**, **Tyler Lindsley**, **Felicia Musson**, **Mathew Oram**, **Elaina Palada**, and Winnie Sortman. Our artwork was provided by **Madeline Pain**. Cheri Theis provided our program, posters, and props. Thank you parents and friends for all your help! We could not have done this without all of you!

—Anne Monaco, Music Teacher

## Artist of the Month



Our final Artist of the Month for 2015 is **Dannaka Rasmussen**, who is a first grade student in Ms. Privitera's class. We were making giant chameleons, and first we looked at all the beautiful colors and patterns chameleons have on their skin. The students then traced the stencil I had for them, and we made a large curly tail so it could hold on to a tree. Dannaka's design was so original and colorful! Her favorite part of the project was coming up with the design and colors. She said she really liked working with the markers to make the designs on the body.

Dannaka's favorite medium to work with is clay. But she also likes to make landscapes, and do flowers and trees. Her favorite colors to work with are pink, purple and orange. Great work, Dannaka!

—Mrs. Theis



## Poetry Contest

The Elementary Student Council hosted a Fall Poetry contest during the month of November. Students in grades Pre-K through sixth grade entered unique poems that were judged by council members. Each student was recognized with a certificate and pencil and those who placed received a journal and pen to keep up the great writing.

### Pre-K-3 Grade Winners:

- 1st Place—**Emma Peck**
- 2nd Place—**Dillon Eichler**
- 3rd Place—**Gavin Underwood**

### 4-6 Grade Winners:

- 1st Place—**Alivia Retz**
- 2nd Place—**Kaitlyn Finch**
- 3rd Place—**Payton Talbot**



## LEGOS WANTED!



Do you have Legos sitting around the house?

Raiders Elementary Lego Club is starting soon, but we are in need of Legos!

**GMU STEAM**

(Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts & Math)

## Family Night at the Movies

THE ONLY THING SCARIER THAN BEING A MONSTER IS BABYSITTING ONE

# HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA 2



## 2nd Place—Math Raiders Competition

From October 30-November 5, 77 students from first grade through sixth grade competed in the Delaware-Chenango-Madison-Otsego BOCES District Mathematician Competition. This was an online math competition students did at home and after school. Students competed at their grade level against each other and with students and schools in the DCMO BOCES District: Downsville Central School, Franklin Central School, Greene Intermediate School, Greenlawn Elementary School, Hancock Central School, Otselic Valley Central School, Oxford Academy and Central School and Perry Brown Intermediate. The GMU Math Raiders Team was awarded Second Place in the competition. Five of our students placed in the top 10 for the region: 10th place: **Tait Christensen**—4th Grade; 8th place: **Devon Hartwell**—4th Grade; 4th place: **Alivia Retz**—6th Grade; 3rd place: **Kyra Demmon**—3rd Grade; and in 1st place: **Morgan Keuhn**—6th Grade. Morgan scored 992 points with an average speed of 8.9 seconds a question. The students answered 236,623 math questions.



### The GMU Math Raiders Team

1st Grade—**Madeline Astalos Payton Behnke, Connor Gross, James Bidy, Lucas Gross, Cyrus Hall, Brandon Kendall, Austin Kilmer, Allison Lefkowitz, Peyton Norton & Sam Pena-Forestier**

2nd Grade—**Jeffrey Barnes, Ethan Bertrand, Jenna Carpenter, Ryan Davis, Alice Dibble, Maya Eberly, Olivia Fletcher, Alexia Furgison, Natalie Gross, Wanetta Kenyon, Kyle Keuhn, Jaden Kuhn, Jade Lindroth, Madison Lockwood, Alivia Plows, Dannaka Rasmussen, Latham Retz, Paige Smith and Alivia Vitek**

3rd Grade—**Avriel Correll, Quinn Covington, Kyra Demmon, Barbara Fletcher, Skylar Lindroth, Matthew Manwarren, Paige Nichols, Noah Pain, Emma Peck, Natalie Raymond, Alyssa Soroichinsky and Dominick Wright**

4th Grade—**Kadence Canfield, Tait Christensen, Taylor Gager, Matthew Grow, Devon Hartwell, Kyle MacNeill, Alaina Maxson, Corbin Page, Mason Prentice and Andrew Stone**

5th Grade—**Brackon Banks, Hannah Bonczkowski, Carly Davis, Corbin Demmon, Connor Eberly, Brennan Finch, Mya Gross, Isaac Maxson, Aubree Palmer, Bianca Plows, Rene Posner, Waylon Raymond, Ivy Stensland, Ella Stockdale, Kali Wilcox, Brian Wilson and Nevaeh Wright**

6th Grade—**Nathan Barrows, Anika Christensen, Angelina Correll, Kailah Davis, Lane Dibble, Tyler Furgison, Morgan Keuhn, Dante Manwarren, Dalton Proskine, Alivia Retz and Roman Taranto**

The Mathematician Competition Team will be participating in the Holiday National Math Competition in December and GMU Class and Regional competition in June.

Our purpose is to help students improve and understand the concepts of and become proficient with the skills of mathematics, communicate and reason mathematically and become problem solvers by using appropriate mathematical tools and strategies. The GMU Math Raiders Competition is an academic contest for students in 1st through 6th Grade.

## Senior of the Month



Congratulations to January's Senior of the Month, **Matt Delaney!** As a member of his class, Matt has been involved in all activities, including donut sales, Junior Carnivals, Prom-anything that needs to be done-behind the scenes and without wanting to be noticed. He has been a member of soccer, basketball, and baseball throughout his years at GMU, supporting his teammates and his coaches and giving 110%. He is an avid lover of virtually all sports, the statistics involved and the rules, strategy, and history surrounding them. He has a wide array of interests along with school and professional sports that include hunting, fishing, snowmobiling, editorial writing, and interactive technology. Most know Matt for his sarcastic sense of humor and his *social experiments* that involve getting popular phrases and sayings to catch on amongst his peers. He has been involved in symphonic, marching, and jazz band as a percussionist, particularly on the drum set. Presently he is enrolled in TC Intro. to College Experience, SUNY Cobleskill Computer Applications, English 12, Economics and Participation in Government, and WWII elective. We wish Matt well as he pursues a career in Sports Broadcast Journalism, Communications, and Media. Maybe someday we will witness his work on ESPN, NBA, or MLB Network! Thank you Matt for helping us to remember the humor in life and to enjoy each day as it comes!

—HS Student Council

Great Job!  
Keep up the  
Good Work!

## Girls on the Run

The Girls on the Run registration is just around the corner! Mrs. Monaco and I will be coaching the Girls on the Run 3-5 team again this year and we are looking forward to another great season! Please visit the Girls on the Run website [www.girlsontheruncny.org](http://www.girlsontheruncny.org) for further details concerning the upcoming season. On the website you will find information regarding scholarship opportunities, and the 5K next spring! All registration will be done online through Raceplanner. We will be hosting an open registration at the school on Tuesday, February 2, from 4:00-6:00 p.m. where we can help you register and answer any questions you may have about the season. Registration will be available online February 1-14. We can not wait to see what the new season will bring!



—Miss Hartley

**The GMU Drama Club  
Proudly Presents:**

# 100 Years of Broadway

**Thursday, January 14, 2016  
6:00 p.m. in the Gym**

**Dinner and Music!**

**Dinner Tickets are \$15;  
Balcony seats are \$5.**

**All benefit the  
Board of Education Scholarship Fund**

Please call Aimee Piedmonte in the District Office at 783-2207, ext. 140 to reserve tickets. Tickets will be sold on a first come, first served basis.

## Advertising in the School Yearbook:

Please take this opportunity to show your support for the Class of 2016 at Gilbertsville-Mt. Upton by taking out an advertisement in this year's edition of The Vallerian. These ads can be business or personal.

If you have never taken out an ad in the yearbook and would like to take advantage of this opportunity, please follow these simple steps:

- Draw a sketch of your ad (don't forget to include pictures, logos, etc.—anything that is labeled will be returned to you)
- Write a check, made payable to GMU Yearbook, for the chosen amount
- Send the ad along with your payment by 4/1/16 to:

GMU Central School  
Attn: Yearbook Ads Staff  
693 State Highway 51  
Gilbertsville NY 13776

### Our pricing is as follows:

Full Page Ad—\$200  
1/2 Page Ad—\$130  
1/4 Page Ad—\$80  
1/8 Page Ad—\$40

Patron Ad—\$10 (one line—usually with graduate's name)

If you would like to meet with one of our staff members regarding your ad, or would like more information before you decide to take out an ad, please feel free to contact Mr. John Grenier at [jgrenier@gmucsd.org](mailto:jgrenier@gmucsd.org), or by calling (607) 783-2207.

## Alternative Veterans' Exemption

At its meeting on November 30, the Gilbertsville-Mount Upton Board of Education approved the Alternative Veterans' Exemption. Website links to the application and instructions are noted below. If you feel you qualify, please complete the application and submit it to the town assessor's office. If you already receive the alternative veterans' exemption from the town, you will automatically receive the alternative veterans' exemption. If you have no access to a computer, please contact your local assessor for instructions.

### Instructions for Application for Alternative Veterans' Exemption from Real Property Taxation:

[http://www.tax.ny.gov/pdf/current\\_forms/orpts/rp458ains.pdf](http://www.tax.ny.gov/pdf/current_forms/orpts/rp458ains.pdf)

### Application for Alternative Veterans Exemption from Real Property Taxation:

[http://www.tax.ny.gov/pdf/current\\_forms/orpts/rp458a\\_fill\\_in.pdf](http://www.tax.ny.gov/pdf/current_forms/orpts/rp458a_fill_in.pdf)

### Veterans' Exemption Questions and Answers:

<https://www.tax.ny.gov/pit/property/exemption/vetexempt.htm>

# 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 2016 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, 2016	\$30.00
After May 1, 2016	\$35.00

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  
693 State Highway 51  
Gilbertsville NY 13776

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. John Grenier at [jgrenier@gmucsd.org](mailto:jgrenier@gmucsd.org) or at (607) 783-2207.

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade/Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

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**January**

- 1 New Year's Day—No School, Offices Closed**
- 5 BJVVB @ Edmeston
- 6 GJVVB vs. Edmeston
- 8 Morning Raiders, 8:25 a.m.  
BJVVB vs. RS  
GJVVB @ RS
- 9 BMB @ Franklin  
GMB vs. Franklin
- 11 BMB vs. Morris
- 12 GJVVB vs. Laurens  
Board of Education Meeting, D104, 7:00 p.m.
- 13 BJVVB @ Laurens
- 14 GMB @ Morris  
BOE Dinner Theater, Gym, 6:00 p.m.
- 15 Morning Raiders, 8:25 a.m.  
BJVVB vs. Franklin  
GJVVB @ Franklin
- 16 BMB @ Worcester  
GMB vs. Worcester  
BJVVB @ Laurens  
GMU Movie Night, 7:00 p.m.
- 18 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day—No School**
- 19 BJVVB @ Worcester  
GJVVB vs. Worcester

- 22 Morning Raiders, 8:25 a.m.  
BJVVB vs. Schenevus  
GJVVB @ Schenevus
- 23 SAT  
BMB vs. Laurens  
GMB @ Laurens
- 26-29 Regents Exams
- 26 Board of Education Meeting, D104, 7:00 p.m.
- 29 Second Quarter Ends  
Junior Musical, 7:00 p.m.
- 30 BMB @ CVS  
GMB vs. CVS  
Junior Musical, 2:00 p.m.

