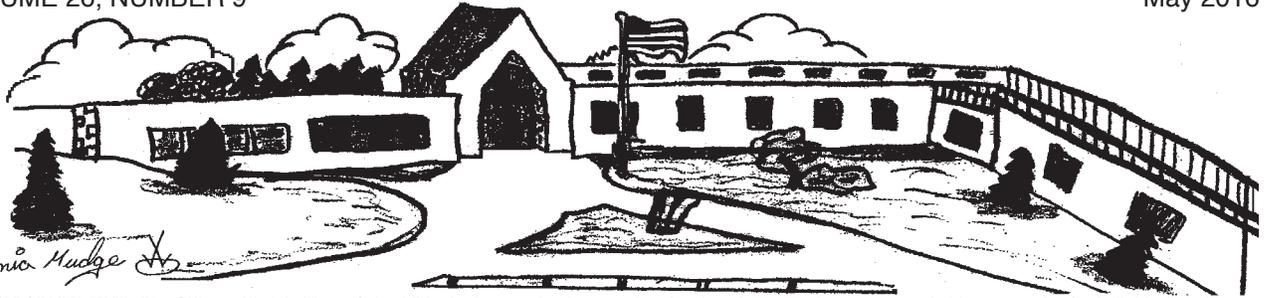


# GILBERTSVILLE-MOUNT UPTON CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

VOLUME 26, NUMBER 9

May 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.

## Class of 2016 Top 5 Students Announced!

*Gilbertsville-Mt. Upton is proud to present the top five students of the class of 2016.*

*Congratulations students—we wish you all the best!*



### **Elaina Palada, Valedictorian**

Elaina Palada, our Valedictorian, is the daughter of Reverend Randy and Mrs. Laura Palada. She has an infinite amount of strengths, talents, abilities, and exhibits these qualities on a daily basis.

Elaina is a talented musician and mystifying actress who has performed at All-County, All-State, and Susquehanna Honors Band festival. She is an active participant in the Binghamton Youth Symphony Orchestra and has held multiple leading roles in drama productions. Elaina is enrolled in numerous AP and college level courses and has represented GMU at leadership conferences. She is a member of the following organizations and clubs: scholar athlete, National Honor Society, 4-H, Double Down Academic Team, Mock Trail, Leadership Club, SADD, Band, Student Council, Language Club, and Poetry Out Loud. Elaina serves as an elected officer for many of these organizations. Elaina is planning to attend college studying Music or Accounting. She has been accepted at Syracuse, Ithaca College and is waiting on acceptance at Brown University before making her final decision.



### **Jillian Butts, Salutatorian**

Jillian Butts, our Salutatorian, is the daughter of Daniel and Theresa Butts. She is a kind, talented, intelligent, and hard-working young lady. Jillian is a member of the following clubs and organizations: scholar athlete, National Honor Society, 4-H, Mock

Trail, Leadership Club, SADD, Student Council, Band and Ski Club. Jillian is conscientious about everything she does. She sets high goals for herself and works hard to achieve them. Education is important to her and she strives to be the best person she can be. Academically, she has challenged herself throughout high school by taking many accelerated, Advanced Placement, and college courses. She has maintained one of the top averages in her class and continues to work hard to be successful and prepare herself for the rigors of college.

Jillian is planning to attend college to become a Physician's Assistant.

*Continued on the next page →*



## Save the Date!

### **Budget Hearing**

May 3, 2016  
7:00 p.m. in D104

### **Budget Vote and Board of Education Election**

May 17, 2016  
12:00 Noon-8:00 p.m. in GMU Front Lobby

## TOP 5 STUDENTS *(continued from page 1)*



### **Katherine Schultes**

**Katherine Schultes** is the daughter of Gary Schultes and Leslie Ford. Katie is ranked 3rd in her class. She is a member of the soccer, basketball and softball teams and is one of our scholar athletes. Katie's work ethic allows her to successfully complete her academic, athletics, and work tasks each day and does so with pride. She has maintained a 90+ average in her classes and continues to work hard to be

successful. Katie is particularly strong in math and science, which has created a solid foundation for pursuing a major in Animal Sciences at SUNY Cobleskill.



### **Michelle Primrose**

**Michelle Primrose** is the daughter of Gary and Dawn Primrose. Michelle is ranked 4th in her class. She is well-respected among her peers and staff because of her organization, responsibility, dependability, advocacy, and consistency. She is a member of the National Honor Society, SADD, Student Council and CFES. She volunteers her time scorekeeping for athletic events and enhancing the school

environment with her creative touch. Michelle has been accepted at Cazenovia College, Hartwick College and SUNY Broome to study Interior Design.



### **Madison Banks**

**Madison Banks** is the daughter of Michael and Becky Banks. Maddie is ranked 5th in class. She has proven to be a diligent student by enrolling in AP and college level courses. When presented with an obstacle, she works hard to overcome it and usually far exceeds her own expectations. Madison is a member of the following clubs and organizations: National Honor Society, Drama Club,

SADD, Student Council, Class President, Band and Chorus (All-County participant), Marching and Jazz Band. Athletically, she participates in basketball where she has been honored as a scholar athlete. Madison will be attending SUNY Oneonta for Business Economics.

## Superintendent's Message



This month begins with one of my favorite weeks of the year, Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week! Society has created calendar recognitions throughout the year for various groups of school

employees, but I like to use this week, May 2-6, as the recognition for all employees of our school district. There are so many individuals at GMU who play a huge role in the personal journey of each student. Our employees do this, not as a job requirement, but as their passion of wanting to make a difference in the lives of students. This week serves 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 make GMU such a great place! Hopefully you can join us this year for our annual Teacher and Support Staff of the Year ceremony, where I have added a recognition of staff for multiple years of dedicated service to our students and the district. This ceremony will be held in our auditorium at 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 5.

The budget newsletter for the 2016-17 school year should have arrived in the mail. I hope it serves as an informative outline of what is included in our budget. If you are looking for more information, please join us for the annual budget hearing which will be held in the board room/D104 on Tuesday, May 3, at 7:00 p.m. The budget vote and board of education elections will be held from 12:00-8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 17 in the school lobby. The staff, students, and I appreciate the support this community gives to all that we do here at GMU!

Speaking of your support, I would like to take this opportunity to publicly announce and offer congratulations to our Valedictorian, **Elaina Palada**, and our Salutatorian, **Jillian Butts**. These young ladies are outstanding, well-rounded individuals. It has been such a pleasure to work with these students, and I congratulate their parents and all others who have and will continue to support them on each of their life's journey.

—Annette Hammond, Superintendent

.....★.....★.....★.....★.....★.....  
*Congratulations!*

## Middle/High School News

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.

Kudos to the cast and crew of this year's Drama Club production, *Up the Down Staircase*, directed by Mrs. Sortman!

As you read through this month's newsletter, you will note that 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.

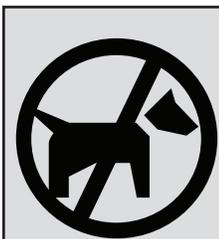
May 2 begins National Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week! This is our opportunity to reflect on the many ways in which teachers and support staff touch the lives of our students. At GMU we are fortunate to have a team of dedicated faculty and staff who exemplify our mission and vision through their daily work with our students. Please join me in extending thanks and appreciation to our teachers and staff for all they do!

### Important May Dates

- 7-10 6th Grade Safety Patrol Trip to Washington, D.C.
- 13-14 NYSSMA Solo Festival
- 17 Budget Vote, Lobby, Noon-8:00 p.m.
- 21 Junior Prom, Majors Inn
- 24 Grades 4-12 Choral Concert, auditorium, 6:30 p.m.
- 25 8th Grade Science Performance Test
- 30 No School—Memorial Day & Parade**

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. Thank you!

—Denise Wickham, District Principal



### Reminder

**No pets allowed at events  
on school property.**

## Elementary News

With May approaching and the nice weather returning, we are busy keeping the students focused on the last few weeks of instruction. As you can see, there is so much going on in May! Please continue checking your child's homework folder and be attentive to communications that are sent home by teachers and in the Friday folders.

### Important May Dates

- 7-10 6th Grade Safety Patrol Trip to Washington, D.C.
- 13-14 NYSSMA Solo Festival
- 17 Budget Vote, Lobby, Noon-8:00 p.m.
- 24 Grades 4-12 Choral Concert, auditorium, 6:30 p.m.
- 25 4th Grade Science Performance Test
- 30 No School—Memorial Day & Parade**

—Denise Wickham, District Principal

## Artist of the Month

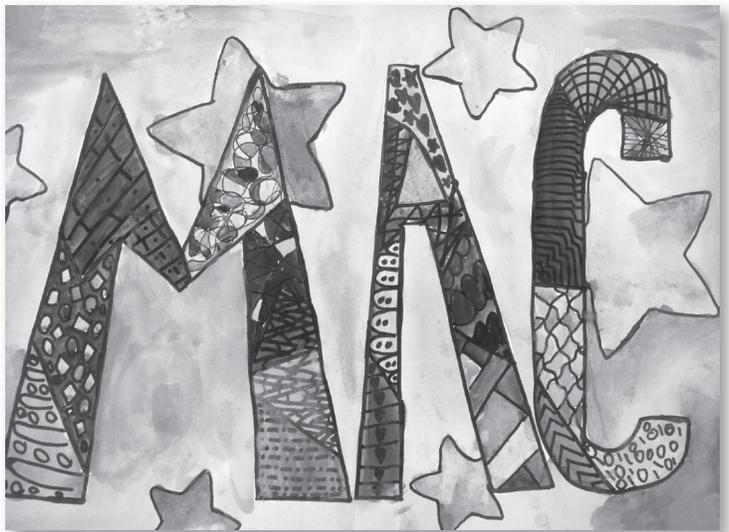


April's Artist of the Month is **Mackenzie Cherry**, a fifth grader in Mrs. Cumming's class. We learned about Zentangle, a fancy name for line design and patterns. We also learned about warm and cool colors, and put all of those things together to do a pen and ink and watercolor piece based on their names. Mackenzie did a great job on the design

inside her letters, and also used the watercolors very well. Her favorite part about the project was doing the designs in the letters, and the most difficult part for her was doing the painting in some of the smaller areas of the design.

Mackenzie likes to paint, and her favorite colors are all the cool colors. She also likes making artwork that includes animals. Although this particular piece didn't include her favorite subjects, she still did an awesome job. Keep it up, Mackenzie!

—Cheri Theis, Art teacher



## HS Guidance Office News



### Scholar Recognition

Gilbertsville-Mt. Upton is proud to present **Elaina Palada** as our Student Scholar. Elaina has an infinite amount of strengths, talents, and abilities, and exhibits these qualities on a daily basis equally during the school day, after hours in the community, and on her own

personal time.

Elaina is conscientious about everything she does. She sets high standards for herself and works diligently to achieve her personal goals. Elaina certainly should be proud of her accomplishments as she is the Valedictorian of the Class of 2016, a three-sport scholar athlete, a superb musician, a mystifying actress, has been a representative at numerous leadership conferences, and a member of almost every organization that our school and community offers, while also being elected as an officer for many of these organizations.

Elaina is a true description of a well-rounded student. She has been a comprehensive asset to her school and community, and we know that she will continue to be an exemplar model for others in all things she chooses to pursue. Continue to shine, Elaina, like that star that you are!



Elaina writes, "I chose Matthew Oram as one of the teachers who has been most influential on my life. Mr. Oram has been more than just a teacher to me—he has been a sounding board, confidante, cheerleader, a counselor, and a mentor. I have the deepest respect for him because he really listens to what I

have to say, and he also is not afraid to tell me the absolute truth, even if he knows it is not what I wish to hear. I will always remember and be grateful for the positive influence that he has been on my life."

*Congratulations to both Elaina and Mr. Oram!*



### HOBY

**Lucas Piedmonte**, son of Pastor Mark and Mrs. Aimee Piedmonte, has been chosen to represent GMU at the 2016 Hugh O'Brien Youth Leadership Conference. He will be attending the HOBY weekend seminar at SUNY Oneonta this June. The mission of the HOBY

organization is to provide lifelong leadership development opportunities that empower individuals to achieve their

highest potential. The HOBY Leadership program encourages students to use critical thinking skills, begin to identify their own particular leadership strengths and become positive catalysts for change in their home, school, workplace and community. We congratulate Lucas on being chosen as GMU's representative.



### RYLA

Two student delegates were chosen to represent GMU at the 2016 Rotary Youth Leadership Award Conference. **Molly D'Amato** and **Kayla Grabo** will attend this year's 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 Molly and Kayla on being nominated to represent GMU.



### Girls and Boys State

Congratulations students! **Jocelyn Duncan** was chosen to represent GMU at the 2016 Girls State Leadership Conference. Respectively, **Andy Baker** has been nominated to attend the 2016 Boys State Leadership Conference. All of these students will spend an intensive week of study, working as self-governing citizens, and learning how to participate in the functioning of their state's government in preparation for their future roles as responsible adult citizens. All expenses associated with attending this program are paid by Gilbertsville's American Legion



and Auxiliary Post. Congratulations, Jocelyn and Andy!

## 2016-2017 Scheduling

It is that time of the year when your student will select courses for next year. Letters will be sent home so that parents and students can make informed decisions about next year's schedule. If you would like to schedule a meeting with Mrs. Wilcox to further discuss your student's schedule, please call the Guidance Office for an appointment, 783-2207, ext. 118.

### June 2016 Regents Exam Schedule

The June Regents exam schedule is posted on the New York State Education Department Website. Regents' exams are scheduled for June 1-22. Please check the schedule for specific exam dates before making vacation plans for the end of June.

### Attention Seniors

For those students looking to attend college next fall, please continue to be diligent about visiting colleges if necessary, researching colleges and completing and submitting applications. Also, be sure to update and complete your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) as soon as possible after your family has completed their 2015 taxes. For assistance with any of these processes, or if you have questions, please stop by the Guidance Office.

## Scholarships

Scholarships continue to come into the Guidance Office. Seniors should check the bulletin board outside the Guidance Office for newly added scholarship information. Please make sure you are following the directions on the scholarship applications and be careful of the deadlines. See Mrs. Clapp or Mrs. Wilcox in the Guidance Office if you have questions.

### College Entrance Exams

The SAT and the ACT are both used a college entrance exams by many schools when screening applicants. It is recommended that college bound students take these exams in the spring of their junior year. Students may apply online at [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com) (SAT) and [www.actstudents.org](http://www.actstudents.org) (ACT).

Juniors who receive free or reduced lunch may be eligible for fee waivers to help pay for the cost of taking the SAT and/or ACT exam. Students should speak to Mrs. Wilcox for further information.

#### SAT Dates

May 7, 2016

June 4, 2016

*\*This is also Sherburne Pageant of Bands*

#### ACT Dates

June 11, 2016

#### Registration Deadline

April 8, 2016

May 6, 2016\*

#### Registration Deadline

May 6, 2016

## June 2016 Examination Schedule

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

June 1 Wed.	June 14 Tuesday	June 15 Wed.	June 16 Thursday	June 17 Friday	June 20 Monday	June 21 Tuesday	June 22 Wed.	June 23 Thursday
<b>8:15 a.m.</b>								<b>RATING DAY</b>
Algebra II (Common Core)	RE Global History & Geography	Living Environ- ment	Algebra I (Common Core)	Physical Setting/ Earth Science  Algebra 2/ Trig.	RCT Math	Physical Setting/ Chemistry  RCT Global Studies	RCT Writing	
<b>12:15 p.m.</b>								<b>Uniform Admission Deadlines</b>  <i>Morning Exams 10:00 a.m.  Afternoon Exams 2:00 p.m.</i>
Special Admin. Integrated Algebra	RE in ELA (Common Core)	RE U.S. History & Gov't.	Comp. English	Geometry (Common Core)	RCT U.S. History & Gov't.	Physical Setting/ Physics  RCT Reading	RCT Science	

## Senior of the Month



Congratulations to **Matthew Lyons**, May's Senior of the Month! Matt has been an active part of GMU's extracurricular scene throughout his high school years. He has been a member of Ski Club, Basketball, Soccer, Track, Volleyball and loves to bicycle. Matt was selected to

be a part of CFES/Clark Foundation Outward Bound Program this past summer, boating, hiking, surviving, and *sharing limited space* in beautiful Maine. While back here at GMU, Matt has taken part in SADD, Drama Club, and Mock Trial. Currently Matt is enrolled in English 12, Participation in Government, TC3 Intro to College, Physics, Pre-Calculus, Senior Theme Portfolio Art, and Exploring Human Design (STEAM). Matt was unfortunately side-lined by injury, which has impacted sports and plans to go in the service during college; however, never being a man who gives up on his dreams, himself, or others, he has been accepted to college at RIT and Norwich University in Vermont. He is pursuing an education in the science, engineering, and physics area. We wish Matt well and thank him for being a supportive team mate and classmate throughout his time at GMU!

— HS Student Council

## Girls On The Run & Heart and Sole



The GOTR and Heart and Sole season is in full swing. We are preparing for the annual 5K at the Clark's Sports Center in Cooperstown. This 5K run walk is open to the public. Feel free to join in the fun and support the community and the girls! The run will be held on **Sunday, June 5 at 12:00 Noon**. This is a non-competitive event. It will be a wonderful opportunity to show off your running skills and have fun with your family in this community event! For more details, as well as registration information, check out the website: <http://www.girlsontheruncny.org/>. If your daughter is a member of the GOTR / Heart and Sole team, she is already registered. Online registration will open Monday, May 2, and close Wednesday, June 1. There will also be registration the day of the race. Come and join in on this wonderful cause and support our girls!

If you have any questions on this event you can contact me at [shartley@gmucsd.org](mailto:shartley@gmucsd.org) or at 783-2207.

— Stephanie Hartley, Girls On The Run Coach

## GMU Academic Team



Congratulations **Daniel Backman, Madison Banks, Molly D'Amato, Kayla Grabo, Nicole Grabo, Will Schwartz** and **Colin Wind**! On March 8, the GMU Academic Team traveled to SUNY Oneonta to participate in the Upstate Academic Competition sponsored by the Catskill Area School Study Council. GMU competed with 15 academic teams from Andes, Cherry Valley-Springfield, Cooperstown, Laurens, Jefferson, Oneonta, Schenevus, South Kortright, Unadilla Valley and Whitney Point. Our Academic Team placed 7th, answering some really tough questions. Cooperstown's A-team won the academic competition over Cooperstown's B-team.

## How to Improve Test-Taking Skills

Imagine being a student with a mid-term test coming up. The test score will determine what your final grade will be. You have studied diligently for weeks, and on the big day, you find that you studied all the wrong material. This can be devastating; yet your next test-taking experience can be completely different if you know *how* to study. Here are a few tips for you to share with your children:

- ▶ Do any assigned reading or homework before the test even if you do not get credit because of lateness.
- ▶ Review any notes or homework before the test.
- ▶ Have pen and paper ready during lectures.
- ▶ Watch the instructor as he or she talks. Often main ideas and supporting information can be detected by the way the instructor talks.
- ▶ Do not let your mind wander. Daydreaming can make you miss main points of a lecture.
- ▶ Guess what your teacher will say next. How important are certain points in what the instructor might have on the test?
- ▶ Review, review, review.

## Food and Fitness in Fifth Grade

The fifth grade wrapped up their Human Body Unit with Food, Nutrition and Fitness. Students have worked hard during science and P.E. to learn about the food groups, balanced meals and how they can be physically fit.

On Monday, March 14 we were joined by an astonishing number of parents who participated in rigorous student created fitness plans. Everyone had fun, working up a sweat doing cardiovascular, core, upper and lower body workouts.

Afterwards, we all enjoyed a covered dish lunch that parents and students brought in. We put our balanced meal planning to the test, eating something from each of the five food groups.

We would like to send a special thank you out to the parents who joined us that day and provided a dish to pass. It meant a lot to students to spend the day with their parents and to have a nice lunch together. We really hope that the lesson on fitness becomes a lifestyle.

— Ms. Zehr and Mrs. Cummings



**Connor Eberly and Mom work with the Ab roller!**



**← Mackenzie Cherry and Kali Wilcox— partner sit ups!  
Ethan Joslyn and Dad enjoy lunch after working out together! ↓**



**← Nevaeh Wright clears the hurdles!**

**Brennan Finch & Waylon Raymond prepare for their Personal Fitness Plan. →**



## Up the Down Staircase

The GMU Drama Club presented *Up the Down Staircase* on April 1 and 2. Both evenings were well attended by a responsive and enthusiastic audience. This full-length play, dramatized by Christopher Sergel, was adapted from the 1969 book by Bel Kaufman. Students enjoyed preparing this adaptation noting the similarities in education in the past and present.

Thank you, congratulations, brava, and bravo to the cast for an entertaining and memorable weekend.



## Carolee's 5K Run/Walk 2016

It's that time of the year again . . . the snow is melting and we hope you have been tying on your running or walking shoes! The Carolee 5K Run/Walk will be held Sunday, May 22, 2016 at Centennial Park in Gilbertsville. Registration will begin at 9:00 a.m. and the race will kick off at 10:00 a.m. We will have refreshments, and prizes will be given to top finishers. The Chinese Auction starts at 9:00 a.m., with prizes drawn at 11:00 a.m. Please send in registration forms by May 1 to be guaranteed a t-shirt.

GMU Seniors: Remember that you must participate in the race either as a runner or walker to be eligible to receive the scholarship. Send in your registration forms ASAP! If you have any questions please contact Phylcia Dunham (*phylcia.dunham@gmail.com*). Mail completed registration forms and fees to: Carolee's Run, PO Box 191, Gilbertsville, NY 13776. Thank you, and we hope to see you on race day!

### Registration Form

**Registration Fee: \$15 by May 1st and \$20 Day of Race**  
**We accept cash, check or money order.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Age as of day of the race \_\_\_\_\_

Shirt Size (circle one):    S        M        L        XL

Gender (circle one):        Male        Female

Runner

Walker

Volunteer

I would like to become a Friends Forever and sponsor .1 of a mile of the race. My **\$10** donation is added to my registration fee. This is a **one-time fee**.

My voluntary donation is enclosed.

*This is an important legal document. Read carefully before submitting:*

I realize that the event is physically strenuous, that there may be some adverse weather and that there may be some vehicles on the course. I, nevertheless, wish to compete and assume the risk of any injury at the start or on the course. I do hereby release and discharge the State of New York, the race committee, volunteers, all sponsors, and anyone involved in the race from any and all liability arising from illness, injury, and damages I may suffer as a result of my participation in the event. I hereby attest that I am physically fit and sufficiently trained for competition in this event.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## For Asthma/Allergies Sufferers

Written by Dr. Douglas Johnston, a Board Certified Allergist/Immunologist. (Taken from "Fresh AAIR" from the Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America.)

### Q. Can peanuts and/or tree nuts cause inflammation?

**A.** *In patients with peanut and/or tree nut allergy, allergic inflammation can occur. This is due to the development of specific IgE antibodies against peanuts, which leads to histamine release which can cause several different symptoms immediately after ingestion, including hives, swelling, wheezing, cough, shortness of breath, nausea, vomiting and at times low blood pressure. The treatment for food allergy is avoidance, and epinephrine if symptoms occur after ingestion.*

### Q. I have pollen, dust and animal allergies. Would double pane windows help or hurt?

**A.** *If the windows are shut, there would likely be little difference between single and double pane windows. Double pane windows may provide better insulation; however, I often recommend that patients keep windows shut during pollen season in an effort to reduce the amount of pollen that gets into the bedroom. Other recommendations, such as removing animals from the bedroom, zipper encasements of mattress and pillows, reducing humidity in the bedroom to under 50%, and frequent vacuuming are helpful for animal and dust mite allergies.*

### Q. My 4 year old son has a persistent cough in the winter that keeps him up at night. OTC medications for cough suppressant don't seem to help. Can you have asthma even if you don't wheeze? He has seasonal allergies, but the cough seems worse than just allergies.

**A.** *Yes, you can have asthma even if you do not wheeze. This is called "cough variant asthma" and is treated the same as traditional asthma. I would discuss his symptoms with your doctor. If the cough responds to albuterol, it would strongly support a diagnosis of asthma.*

### Q. My children were just diagnosed with peanut and tree nut allergies. I have now started reading labels and found that some labels say that the product was made in a facility that produces peanuts and tree nuts. Is that food safe for my kids to eat?

**A.** *Most allergists would recommend avoidance of foods that "may contain allergen" or were "made in a facility that produces allergen."*

— Carol Angelone, RN, School Nurse

## From the Health Office

(Taken from the "Nutrition Nuggets" flyer.)

### Feeling good about sports

Participating in sports can build your child up . . . or drag him/her down. Make athletics a positive experience for your youngster with these strategies:

- Keep games in perspective. At this age (younger students), sports should be about having fun and developing skills. Ask about his/her favorite part of practice or the most interesting play in the game, rather than focusing on his/her performance or the score.
- Encourage him/her to set goals, but make sure the goals are realistic. S/he might aim to touch the ball three times during a game or to try a move that he's/she's been working on.
- Avoid comments about your youngster's size or body. Concentrate on the friends s/he is making, the places he/she is playing, and the effort s/he is putting forth ("I love how you tried to get the rebound.").

— Carol Angelone, RN, School Nurse



GMU Night at the Movies

*The Good Dinosaur*



Friday, May 20, 7:00 p.m.

GMU Auditorium

Free Admission • Concessions available

Sponsored by the Raiders Safety Patrol—Washington D.C./Philadelphia Trip—May 2017



## March 15, 2016 BOE Highlights

- Elementary Band and Elementary Chorus participating in the March All-County Festival.
- Tardy Brothers Jugglers performed for GMU students.
- Read Across America Day and Dr. Seuss' birthday! Elementary had a short assembly and presented each student with a book to honor that day.
- Dental Hygienist was here for Grades 2, 3, & 7th.
- Movie Night: *The Peanuts Movie*, 7:00 p.m.
- The 5th grade and Ms. Zehr teamed up and had parents join in for Fitness Plans. 20 or so parents attended and brought dishes to pass and joined us for a lunch where students were able to practice eating a balanced meal.
- GMU's Got Talent Show on February 12—Great job Matt Oram and contestants.
- Sophomore Summit was held at SUNY Oneonta.
- GMU Academic Team—Upstate Academic Competition at SUNY Oneonta.
- FCS Career Presentations were great.
- Pops Concert was enjoyable. Thank you, Mr. Oram, Mrs. Sortman & Mrs. Monaco.
- Parent/Teacher Conferences went well.
- Chorus sang, *God Bless America* and the National Anthem at Binghamton Senators Hockey Game.
- Band held a successful Quarter Auction.
- Susquehanna University Band Festival was great.
- Will Schwartz won 1st place in the state and 2nd place nationally for a video that he made to combat texting while driving. (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g0Wrlvcsm0>)
- Mock Trial is going very well.
- “The members of the English Department wish to extend their most heartfelt thanks to the Gilbertsville-Mount Upton Board of Education, the Administration, and the Transportation Department for making the Poetry Out-loud field trip, a unique cultural experience, available to our students. With much thanks—Mark Luetzger, Jan Costello, and John Grenier.” **Zara Zeidman**, a regional finalist, participated in the state finals in Syracuse at the Everson Museum of Art.
- Math and Literacy Committees working on Links Plan.
- Athletic Director Greg Bonczkowski attended Tri-Valley Association Meeting. It was an opportunity to meet all Tri-Valley Athletic Directors.
- NYSPHSAA Scholar Athlete Team Award Program: Minimum Team Grade Average is 90%. (Basketball must include seven members of the team.) Girls' Varsity Basketball qualified for the award with an average of 93.2%. Scholar Athlete Team Members include: **Madison Banks, Jillian Butts, Jocelyn Duncan, Meredith Hammond, Madolin Lull, Elaina Palada** and **Kelsey Ross**.
- Spring Sports Season has begun.
- The entire GMU staff was invited to participate in a Poverty Simulator on Superintendent's Conference Day on March 11. It was an interactive event that brought awareness of poverty issues that can impact families of our students, also impacting their education.

### Reports

- Safety Patrol Trip Proposal, Gerrit Bakhuizen: the board was in consent with them attending the May 7-10 trip.
- Clark Foundation/College for Every Student, Heather Wilcox.
- Budget Presentation, Annette Hammond.

### Business

- Accept the financial reports for January 2016 and February 2016.
- Appoint Director of Physical Education, Full time Tenure-Track Health and FACS Teacher, Long-Term Substitute, Maternity Leave, Substitutes, Substitute Bus Driver
- Accept audit of NYS Comptroller on Gilbertsville-Mt. Upton Central School District's *Cafeteria Operations*, and to approve Corrective Action Plan response by GMUCSD.
- Approve as surplus and place it on Ebay: Bus #44 and Bus #45.
- Approve Resolution for Special Meeting/Election Legal Notice/ Annual Meeting Advertisement for Tuesday, May 17, 2016, in the school lobby between the hours of 12:00 Noon and 8:00 p.m.

### Discussion

- Board Policy Review Options from Hogan & Sarzynski
- Curriculum Audit in the Spring 2016
- BOE Scholarships
- BOE Meetings: proposal to meet once a month
- Incumbent Intentions: Barbara Hill and Jeremy Pain, both will seek election

Executive session to discuss Superintendent evaluation.  
Adjourned at 9:11 p.m.



## Music News

The Solo/Small Ensemble Concert is **Tuesday, May 17, at 7:00 p.m.** in the HS Cafeteria, which will include the Ladies Ensemble and the Jazz Band. There will also be featured soloists who will perform their NYSSMA Solos. Please come out and vote and enjoy the concert!

—Music Department

## Poetry Out Loud



On Monday, March 14, the GMU English Department hosted a field trip to the Everson Museum of Art in Syracuse, NY to participate in the 2016 Poetry Out Loud New York State Finals. Mr. Grenier accompanied **Zara Zeidman**, a regional finalist, and five other interested GMU students, **Richard Knapp, Jessica Conklin, Samantha Sullivan, Hunter Christian** and **Sydney Swift**. Twenty-four students from 12 regions and 24 schools participated in the state-level competition. Despite most competitors being upperclassmen, first-year **Zara Zeidman** distinguished herself admirably. GMU has participated in the national recitation contest for the past nine years, and per Mr. Grenier's observation, this was the strongest collection of state-level competitors yet. **Zara Zev**, as she prefers to be known when performing, recited, *Dream Song 14* by John Berryman and *The Listeners* by *Walter de la Mare*. In addition to watching the competition, GMU's students were able to enjoy a relaxing pre-poetry lunch at a quaint Syracuse restaurant and had time to stroll through Everson's gallery and appreciate the myriad artwork.

The members of the English Department wish to extend their most heartfelt thanks to the Gilbertsville-Mount Upton Board of Education, the Administration, and the Transportation Department for making this field trip and unique cultural experience available to our students. With much thanks—Mark Luetzger, Jan Costello, and John Grenier.

## Choral Music News!

Our Spring Choral Concert will be on **Tuesday, May 24, at 6:30 p.m. in the auditorium.** The groups performing in the concert are: Fourth Grade, Elementary Chorus, Middle School Chorus, Ladies Ensemble, and High School Chorus.

The Elementary Chorus students have been working very hard on their choral music. Among the pieces the chorus will be performing at our concert is *Lightning!* by Greg Gilpin. We have also incorporated a rhythmic rainstorm into our concert which the students definitely enjoy!

The Junior High School, Senior High School Choruses, and Ladies Ensemble students have been diligently working on several pieces for their concert. One high note of the Junior High Chorus is *American Folk Rhapsody* arranged by Linda Spevacek, which highlights popular American folk songs such as: *Cindy*, *Simple Gifts*, and *Pick a Bale of Cotton*. The Senior High Chorus will feature the seniors in *The Echo Song*, which will segue to two additional a cappella selections. A chorus favorite from the musical *Ragtime*, *Make Them Hear You*, along with Billy Joel's ballad made famous by the King Singers, *And So It Goes*, completes the high school portion of the program. Likewise, the Ladies Ensemble is preparing an eclectic program of a cappella, ballad, and folk songs for your enjoyment.

The evening will culminate with a joint performance of all the choruses singing, *I Sing Out*, by Mark Hayes. The GMU Spring Choral Concert promises to be both an exciting and entertaining evening.

—Music Department

## Chicken BBQ, Bake Sale and Bottle Drive

The class of 2020 will be hosting a chicken BBQ, bake sale, and bottle drive on Saturday, May 21, at the Mt. Upton Park. Come enjoy halves or dinners and an assortment of baked goods. Let us take your unwanted cans and bottles off your hands!

Chicken pre-sale only, contact a class of 2020 8th grade student for tickets, or Kristy Carey at [kcarey@gmucsd.org](mailto:kcarey@gmucsd.org). Thank you for supporting the Class of 2020!



**GILBERTSVILLE-MOUNT UPTON  
CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
693 State Highway 51  
Gilbertsville, New York 13776-1104

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
Norwich,  
NY 13815  
PERMIT NO. 18

DCMO BOCES Printing Service • Norwich, NY

**BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Gerald Theis, President  
Larry Smith, Vice-President  
Ethan Eberly  
Carriann Heath  
Barbara Hill  
Jeremy Pain  
Zachary Proskine

Annette D. Hammond, Superintendent  
Aimee Piedmonte, District Clerk

**CURRENT RESIDENT OR**

**ECRWSS  
BOXHOLDER**

**May Calendar of Events**

- 2 MBb/Sb @ Worcester  
CV-S Relays
- 3 VBb/Sb vs. Milford  
Board of Education Meeting and Budget Hearing,  
D104, 7:00 p.m.
- 4 Track @ CV-S
- 5 MBb/Sb vs. Franklin
- 6 Morning Raiders, 8:25 a.m.  
VBb/Sb @ Franklin  
MBb/MSb @Downsville, 4:30 p.m.
- 7-10 Safety Patrol Trip
- 7 SAT  
Track @ Cooperstown
- 9 MBb/Sb @ RS
- 10 VBb/Sb vs. Sharon Springs
- 11 Track @ Delhi
- 12 MBb/Sb vs. CV-S
- 13 Morning Raiders, 8:25 a.m.  
VBb/Sb vs. Morris  
Track, TBA  
NYSSMA Solo Festival
- 14 NYSSMA Solo Festival
- 16 MBb/Sb @ Morris  
Tri-Valley League Steeplechase
- 17 Tri-Valley League Playoff  
**Budget Vote, Front Lobby, Noon-8:00 p.m.**  
Solo and Ensemble Concert, Cafeteria, 7:00 p.m.
- 18 Tri-Valley League Track Championships  
Board of Education Meeting, D104, 7:00 p.m.

- 19 Tri-Valley League Playoff  
MBb/Sb vs. Schenevus
- 20 Morning Raiders, 8:25 a.m.  
Tri-Valley League Playoff  
Tri-Valley League Championships  
GMU Night at the Movies, 7:00 p.m.
- 21 Prom
- 23 MBb/Sb @ Laurens
- 24 4-12 Choral Concert, 6:30 p.m.
- 25 4th & 8th Grade Science Performance Test**  
Class D Track Meet @ Marathon
- 26 MBb/Sb vs. Edmeston
- 27 Morning Raiders, 8:25 a.m.
- 30 Memorial Day, No School—Offices Closed**  
Memorial Day Parade

*Enjoy Our Music  
and Vote!*

For your listening pleasure, stop by the cafeteria as you vote on May 17, for our Solo and Ensemble Concert! Our Jazz Band, Ladies Ensemble, soloists and duets perform at 7:00 p.m.

