

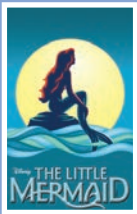
NYMILLS

February
2019

UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

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Month**

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Color Run Information

Visit us on the web
www.newyorkmills.org.
For the complete District
calendar, schedule of
upcoming events and more
District news



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on Twitter
[@NYMillsSupt](https://twitter.com/NYMillsSupt)

MISSION: "Through combined efforts of students, staff, parents, and community members, our mission is to foster the confidence, knowledge, cognition, and character necessary to instill a strong work ethic, to create an environment of tolerance and respect, and to ignite an attitude of inquiry and enthusiasm for learning that will enable students to become productive, responsible citizens."

Message from the Superintendent

Dear Residents,

It is truly hard to believe that February is upon us. I am hopeful that half of winter is behind us and soon temperatures will warm up and our students will be out on fields and the track.

Recently the state released accountability information regarding every school and district in the state under federal guidelines. With the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) comes a new designation for New York Mills. Originally the District was identified as a Focus District due to the performance of our students with disabilities. A lot of work, by everyone, has occurred to address concerns that came with that designation. We now have students of all ability levels in co-teaching learning environments. We have made some curriculum adjustments, and will continue with that work as New York state adopts the Next Generation Learning Standards. We are formalizing a system of benchmarks and data review that informs our instruction and allows us to use that data to personalize the learning for our students.

Districts that were designated Focus for the 2017-18 school year were to be identified as Target Districts with the ESSA rollout. We were hopeful that with the increased participation in the state assessments that translated into clear success especially in grades 4 and 5, the district would no longer be identified. District and building wide-our Students with Disabilities (SWD) are all in good standing, which was a primary area of concern with the Focus designation. In fact, many of our students, when looking at groups by demographics, are in good standing.

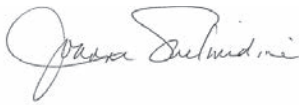
Given that schools are institutions that are constantly in a state of continuous improvement, there remains one area that has the secondary program identified as a Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) school and that would be for our middle level mathematics growth scores. *(Continued on page 2)*

Message from the Superintendent (Continued from Cover)

So, what does this all mean? In short, our curriculum work and data review work, especially in math instruction grades K-8 needs to be a priority with grade level and across grade level conversations that address gaps in our students' understanding of key concepts. Those priorities are also areas we are addressing regardless of content or grade level.

On February 28, 2019, at 7:00 p.m. in the cafeteria there will be a parent presentation on ESSA and on our designations as a CSI school and a Target district. I hope to see you there.

Respectfully,



Joanne Shelmidine, Ed.D.

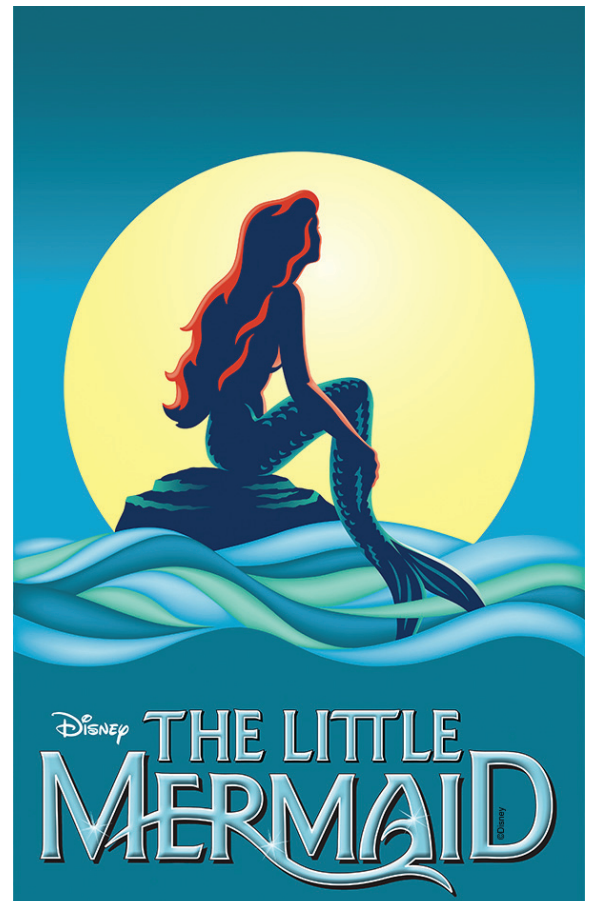
Drama Club Presents: *The Little Mermaid*

The New York Mills Drama Club will be presenting the musical *The Little Mermaid* on March 22 and 23, 2019 at 7 p.m. in the high school auditorium. The cast has been working hard since December to transform the auditorium into a magical underwater kingdom full of jellyfish, mermaids and princesses.

The musical will showcase the talents of the students here at New York Mills. Some of the students that will be sharing their musical talents include: Ariellah Bova as Ariel, Ethan Hurst as Prince Eric, Michael Robles as King Triton, Amanda Costello as Ursula, Gretchen Biel as Flounder, Kaitlyn Kulawy as Scuttle, Alyssa Malinowski as Sebastian and many other talented musicians and dancers.

The show is directed by Teresa Zielinski-Lovecchio, choreographed by Juliana Muirhead with orchestral direction by Keller Shelton.

Tickets will be on sale beginning March 11 at the cost of \$8 per person and can be purchased at the school's attendance office, through any cast member, and at the door the nights of the performances. A senior performance will take place on March 21 at 4 p.m.



Optimist Student of the Month --- --- November

MaryGrace Kehrli has been named the New York Mills Optimist Youth of the Month for November. MaryGrace is the daughter of Paul and Joyce Kehrli of New York Mills and a member of the New York Mills Class of 2019.

MaryGrace is an honor roll student who has been named Student of the Month every year in high school. She was inducted into the National Junior Honor Society in 8th grade and National Honor Society in 11th grade, and now serves as vice president of the organization. As a junior, MaryGrace received an award from Keuka College.

MaryGrace has been an active part of the New York Mills High School community. MaryGrace has played flute and sung in our chorus since elementary school and has performed both as part of the group and as a soloist with our concert band, jazz band and chorus for many years. In addition, she has earned many large roles in our school musicals and is a current officer for Drama Club. She also participates in the Debate Club.



MaryGrace Kehrli

MaryGrace is a talented athlete who played basketball earlier in her school career and now plays volleyball and runs for our cross country, outdoor track and indoor track teams. Her accomplishments in the sports include being named a CSC All-Star for multiple years as well as Most Improved Runner in 2017. In addition, MaryGrace has volunteered her time for a number of organizations and functions including the NYM PTSO annual craft fair, the Utica Boilermaker Kids Run and at her church. She has also held a part-time job.

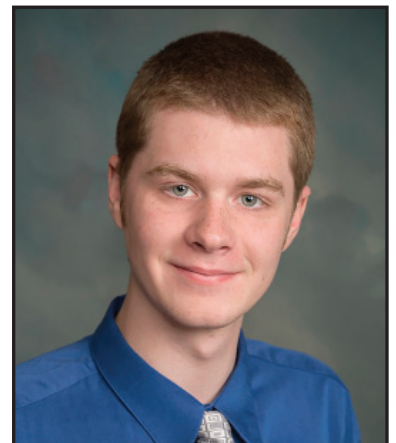
MaryGrace wishes to pursue a career in Occupational Therapy and is interested in Utica College, Keuka College and MVCC.

Optimist Student of the Month --- --- December

The Optimist Club of New York Mills has named Matthew Cornish as Youth of the Month for December. Matthew is the son of Timothy and Candace of New York Mills and is a member of the New York Mills Jr./Sr. High School Class of 2019.

Matthew has been named to honor roll and was inducted in the National Junior Honor Society in 8th grade. Last spring, Matthew was presented with the Walter Miga Memorial Award at the National Honor Society banquet for the countless hours that he has dedicated to assisting a classmate and "because he is a daily reminder of what it means to be courteous and he is a rare pleasure to teach," among other qualities that he exemplifies.

Matt has been a member of our Varsity Golf Team for the past two years and plans to participate again this spring. Matt's main sport has been hockey and he is a member of the Mohawk Valley Raiders High School Hockey team. He has volunteered for our Olympic Day and Craft Fair as well as the Children's Heart Run.



Matthew Cornish

Matt is considering a number of career options, including computers and electronics, and plans to attend MVCC.



School News

Grades 7-11 Students of the Month

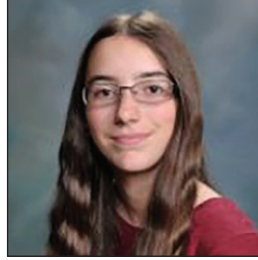
Students are chosen using the following criteria:

1. Academic effort
2. Positive attitude
3. Respectful behavior
4. School involvement
5. Community involvement

September 2018



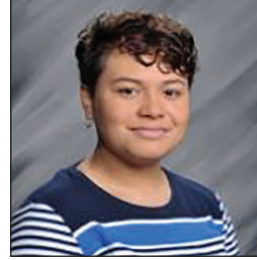
Kylie Lyons
Grade 11



Heather Roberts
Grade 10



Noah Diskin
Grade 9



Audra Brannum
Grade 8



Abigail Evans
Grade 7

October 2018



David Mroz
Grade 11



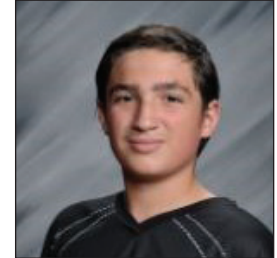
Donnell Anderson
Grade 10



Jemma Jordan
Grade 9

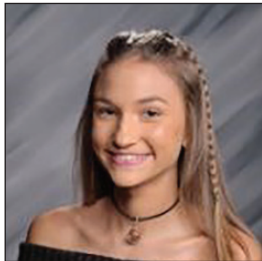


Isaiah Sobolewski
Grade 8



Vincent Martell
Grade 7

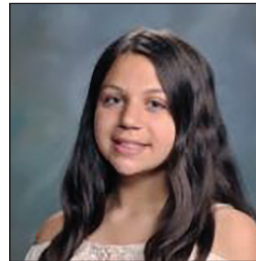
November 2018



Holly Simon
Grade 11



Lesya Voloshchuk
Grade 10



Ariellah Bova
Grade 9



Noah Moore
Grade 8



Lauren Kulpa
Grade 7

December 2018



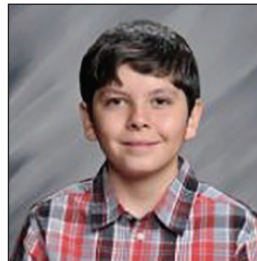
Alexis Gyore
Grade 11



Sydney Maciol
Grade 10



Isabella Cornish
Grade 9



Jadin Staring
Grade 8



Victoria Odarchuk
Grade 7



School News

Kids of Character Awards

The following grades 3-6 students were selected as September Kids of Character at New York Mills Elementary School. This award is given for following The Marauder Way on a regular basis.



OCTOBER Kids of Character Awards

Grade 3 – Alexander Duymaz & Brady Cornish

Grade 4 – Kaylyn Dreidel & Caleb Miner

Grade 5 – Asah Bova & Skylar DesMarais

Grade 6 – Heidi Cilbrith & Siena Lorraine

DECEMBER Kids of Character Awards

Grade 3 – Bryce Grande & Lena Galime

Grade 4 – Aubrey Salmon & Ethan Lubey

Grade 5 – Abbey Calhoun & Liam Mahardy

Grade 6 – Rose Jeff & Abigail Pavlus

NOVEMBER Kids of Character Awards

Grade 3 – Liliya Armitage-Leuthauser & Joseph Koch

Grade 4 – Ethan Stratman & Haelee Phillips

Grade 5 – Maggie Copperwheat & Austin Exton

Grade 6 – Sean Clifford & Ethan Garay



Junior High All-County News

In January, five students from the 7-9 grade music department auditioned for placement in the Junior High All-County festival. We would like to congratulate all of them for their successful auditions and acceptance into the festival. They will be performing on March 16 at the Junior High All-County festival at Westmoreland Middle School where they will be members of the select students who excel at their instruments. Congratulations to Hailey Mahardy for her acceptance on flute in the Symphonic Band, Ariellah Bova, Torie Bullen, Julie Roberts and Ethan Hurst for their acceptance into the Concert Choir. Congratulations!



Student Council members will be scheduling to help local senior citizens with their yard clean-up this spring. Council members are working in conjunction with the Oneida County Youth Bureau to help clear leaves and other debris from yards after the winter season. If you are interested in having students come and help with your yard work in late April, please contact the Oneida County Youth Bureau at (315) 798-5027. A specific date will be given in the coming months.



Winter Ball 2019

Student Council hosted the Winter Ball on January 12, 2019, for students in grades 9-12. This year's color scheme was black, gold and white. Students decorated the lobby, hallway, and cafeteria. DJ Scott Carman played the tunes. In addition to the decorations and music, photos were taken on the stage in the auditorium with a professional photo booth by Big Shot Photo Booths. Food and beverages were provided for students as part of the admission fee to the dance and included: tomato pie, cupcakes, brownies and various types of soda and water.



STUDENTS RECEIVE ART CERTIFICATES

The following students who received Art Certificates for being creative: Lamanh Nguyen, Elizabeth Ford, Dominique Galante, Olivia Achen-Tebsherany, Brianna Broccoli, Emily Hutchings and Izabella Morse. Great work!



Announcements

Thank You, Mr. Santomassino!

Thank you to our Director of Facilities, Mark Santomassino, for his work with National Grid to replace our street lights on Marauder Boulevard!



National Grid had offered to replace our 13 light poles with LED fixtures for a cost of \$501.17. Once complete, we will submit proof of completion to New York state who will then reimburse the district \$875 for the work done to reduce energy costs. Due to Mr. Santomassino's work with National Grid, we will recoup revenue for the District as well as reduce our energy costs long term.

Truly a "win/win" for New York Mills.

New York Mills Music Department and Student Council Present:



Saturday,
April 27

April 27, the second annual community-wide Color Run will commence with a 1-mile fun run beginning at 8:30 a.m. and a 5K untimed run at 9 a.m. Both runs will take place here at New York Mills School. The run is geared for all ages and fitness abilities. "Rather than sell goods, we want to engage the entire student body in a fitness initiative that aims to encourage a life-long healthy way of living."

Pre-registration (before 4/12/19) \$20

Sign up for the run by visiting

https://secure.getactivefundraising.com/event/2019-New-York-Mills_New-York-Mills_NY

and look for New York Mills, or by visiting the New York Mills website for a link directly to the sign-up page.

Participants who register by 4/12/19 will receive a t-shirt, race bib, and individual color packet.

Questions about the event can be directed to Teresa Lovecchio at tlovecchio@newyorkmills.org or Aileen Viel at aviel@newyorkmills.org.

FIRE INSPECTION NOTICE

"Notice is hereby given that the annual inspection for ... (2019) of the New York Mills Union Free School District for fire hazards which might endanger the lives of students, teachers, employees therein, has been completed and the report thereof is available at the office of the Superintendent at New York Mills UFSD for inspection by all interested persons."



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Mary Facci, K-12 Executive Principal
Brent Dodge, K-12 Principal

Visit us on the Web

<http://www.newyorkmills.org>



**TUESDAY
FEB. 26**

8:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.
HS AUDITORIUM

Public walk-ins are welcome!