



# REPORT CARD

of the New Hartford Central School District  
*A School Publication for District Residents*

May 2013 Issue

\* Highlights \*

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## New Hartford Earns Gold in America's Best High Schools

*U.S. News & World Report* has recognized New Hartford High School as one of America's Best High Schools. From more than 21,000 public high schools, New Hartford was awarded a Gold Medal, the highest recognition, based on state proficiency standards and college preparation. The Gold Medal ranking places the school in the top 2 percent academically and one of the top 10 schools in upstate New York.

To produce the rankings, *U.S. News & World Report* based the methodology on the key principles that a great high school must serve all of its students well and that it must produce measurable academic outcomes to show the school is successfully educating its student body across a range of performance indicators. To achieve recognition, a school's students first must perform better than average on state reading and math tests. The formula then calculates the academic performance

of the school's least-advantaged students. Finally, the school's college readiness is factored.

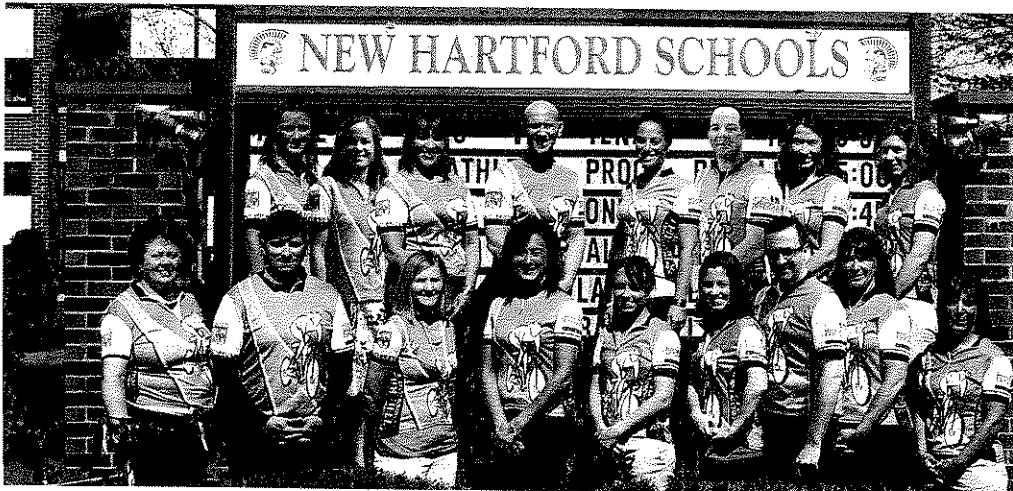
Principal Jennifer Spring reacted to the news. "These rankings are a direct reflection of the very dedicated staff, our motivated and conscientious students, and the supportive community that we have here in New Hartford. What is most exciting about the *U.S. News & World Report* ranking is that it is based on the achievement of all students. It is an honor that *U.S. News & World Report* has recognized our efforts."

"As both a teacher and parent, I'm proud of the high standards of education at New Hartford. This achievement confirms what I already know to be true: that our teachers challenge students to grow and learn and that our students rise to the occasion," said high school English teacher Jennifer Clive. She continues, "teachers and students are



working hard to adjust to higher standards and a changing world. This is the nature of education. It is nice to be recognized for our efforts! As we continue to set our goals higher and higher, it is good to take some time to look back to see how far we've already come. Our students deserve this honor."

The high school was previously recognized as a Silver Medal winner in 2011.



## New Hartford Employees Raise \$15k

Employees who will participate in the Ride For Missing Children on May 17, 2013 pictured to the left. Their contribution totaled \$15,000. Great job!

Photo by Katie Sullivan.

## Music Department Recognition

"After silence, that which comes nearest to expressing the inexpressible is music." (Aldous Huxley.) For the sixth time,

New Hartford Central School District once again was named one of the Best Communities for Music Education for 2013 by the National Association of Music Merchants.

The Best Communities designation recognizes collaborative efforts of teachers, administrators, students and parents who continually work to keep comprehensive music education as an integral part of the core curriculum.

"We are very proud to have been selected once again as one of the "2013 Best Communities for Music Education in the United States, says TJ McAvaney, music department chair person."

The selection is based on student achievement, community and administrative support and overall course offerings in music.

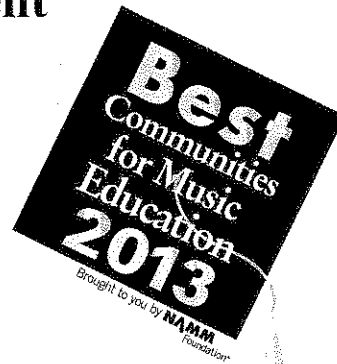
Mr. McAvaney continues "On behalf of the entire music staff, we would like to thank the community, administration, and most importantly, our parents and students for their continuing support and keeping music as a vital part of their lives."

## Women's Suffrage Movement

Fifth grade students at Myles Elementary spent a busy, fun-filled week with Mr. Chris Holder. Mr. Holder is a very talented singer, storyteller, and songwriter who this year assisted the students in putting together a program that focused on the Women's Suffrage Movement.



Photo by Kathy Donovan



## Congratulations to Our Retirees:

Ms. Sherry Coleman – Perry Jr. High

Mrs. Cynthia Dunn – Perry Jr. High

Mrs. Diane Hadfield – High School

Mrs. Barbara Hammond – High School

Mrs. Mary Ann Pangburn – Perry Jr. High

Mrs. Teri Putter – District

Mrs. Jean Matuszewski – Hughes

Mrs. Wendy Levitt – District

Mrs. Eleanor Jones – Business Office

Mrs. Rosann Coupe – High School

Mr. Gerry Burdick – Custodial Staff

## Students Win Medals at Science Olympiad

Students participating in this year's Science Olympiad won more individual medals than any other year. This year's regional meet was held January 26 at LeMoyne College with more than 35 teams from central New York. The competitions are like academic track meets, consisting of a series of individual events combining topics in biology, earth science, chemistry, physics, computers, astronomy, engineering and technology. Teamwork is a required skill in most scientific careers today, and the Science Olympiad encourages group learning by designing events that forge alliances. Medals were won in Chemistry Lab, Circuit Lab, Anatomy, Disease Detective, Designer Genes, Fermi, Water Quality, and Write it Do it. Pictured below: Zain El-amir, Stephanie Cappelli, George El-amir, George Levi, Xinyuan Chen and Mario Carrillo.



Photo by Kathryn Silvestri

## New Hartford School Report Card for the 2011-12 School Year

The New York State Education Department publishes report cards annually on each district and each school to inform the public about school performance. New Hartford students continue to perform well in all areas and across all grade levels, often ranking among the state performance leaders.

### Table 1. ELA, Math, and Science: Grades 3-8

The percentage of students meeting the state learning standards in English language arts, mathematics, and science in grades 3-8.

	New Hartford	New York State	Oneida County
<b>English Language Arts</b>			
Grade 3	75%	56%	52%
Grade 4	72%	59%	53%
Grade 5	79%	58%	53%
Grade 6	76%	56%	55%
Grade 7	69%	52%	49%
Grade 8	75%	50%	49%

	New Hartford	New York State	Oneida County
<b>Mathematics</b>			
Grade 3	72%	61%	57%
Grade 4	82%	69%	63%
Grade 5	85%	67%	59%
Grade 6	70%	65%	61%
Grade 7	77%	65%	61%
Grade 8	77%	61%	58%

### Table 2. New York State Regents Examination Results

The percentage of students passing Regents examinations in 2012.

Exam	New Hartford	New York State
Comprehensive English	97%	85%
Integrated Algebra	97%	73%
Geometry	98%	75%
Algebra II and Trig	97%	64%
Global History	97%	70%
United States History and Government	99%	80%
Earth Science	95%	72%
Living Environment	100%	81%
Chemistry	88%	78%
Physics	88%	79%

### Buffalo Business First Ranks New Hartford Academic Departments Among the Best in Upstate New York

English

★★★★★

Social Studies

★★★★★

Mathematics

★★★★★

Science

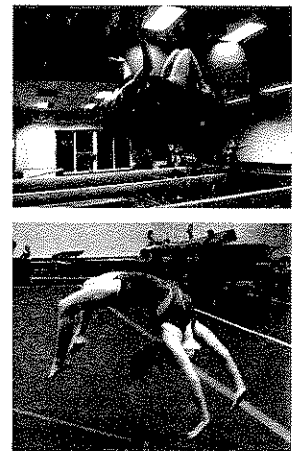
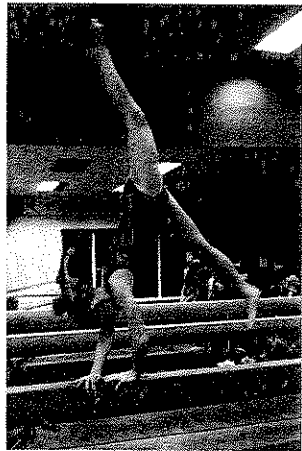
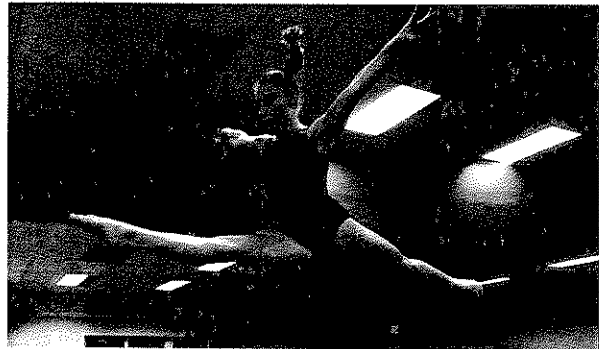
★★★★★

★★★★★ = Top 5 percent in New York State

Source: Buffalo Business First

For more information on the district's performance, go to <http://reportcards.nysed.gov>

## Congratulations to the New Hartford Girls Gymnastics Team for their Section III Championship!



Photos by: JF Walters

## MVP/MIP RECIPIENTS WINTER 2012-13

SPORT	MVP	MIP
BOYS SWIM	Tyler Newman	Christian Cognetto
ICE HOCKEY	Tom Mandel	Mike Cuchiarale
BOYS BASKETBALL	Jordan Henderson	James Franco
WRESTLING	Sean McKenna	Jim Laurenzo
BOYS INDOOR TRACK	Sam Cittadino	Tim Becker Chris Lauzon
BOYS BOWLING	Jared Allen	Ryan Newman
GIRLS BASKETBALL	Amy Evans	Alexandria Hay
GIRLS BOWLING	Adrianna Ryan	Abby Derminio
VOLLEYBALL	Samantha Holbert	Kelsey North
GIRLS INDOOR TRACK	Stephanie Boucher Kim Wrate	Maya Hammonds
CHEERLEADING	Taylor Campbell	Giavanna Luce

Fall/Winter 2012-2013 Scholar/Athlete Team Awards			
GIRLS TEAMS		BOYS TEAMS	
Indoor Track	95.115	Ice Hockey	92.806
Volleyball	93.924	Basketball	92.553
Basketball	93.720	Swim	92.165
Bowling	93.420	Indoor Track	90.834

## Winter 2012-13 Athletic Awards

<b>Michael Kielar Memorial Award</b> Presented to a senior boy swimmer who displays team spirit, drive, selflessness and leadership.	<b>Tory King</b>
<b>Warren Palmer Memorial Award</b> Presented to an outstanding varsity basketball player in the upper half of the senior class.	<b>Joe Donovan</b>
<b>Paul Swancott Award</b> Presented to a senior hockey player who best demonstrates sportsmanship, high academic achievement, citizenship and team play.	<b>Derek Bard</b>
<b>Ed Meyer Memorial Award</b> Presented to a junior hockey player demonstrating strong skills, good citizenship and is highly committed to the sport.	<b>Annika Zalewski</b>
<b>Dr. Edward J. Root Memorial Award</b> Presented to a hockey player demonstrating strong defensive skills, good citizenship, above average grades and team dedication.	<b>Michael Cuchiarale</b>

## 2013 Senior High Scholastic Art Show Award Winners

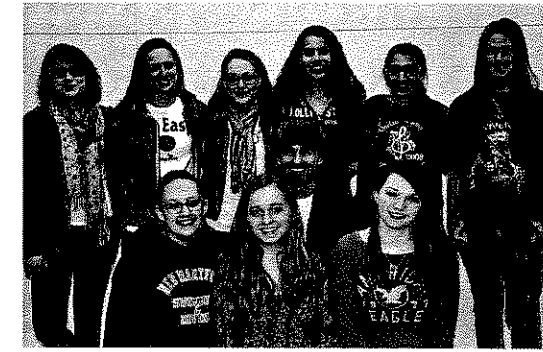


Photo by Diane Hadfield

Eleven entries from New Hartford Senior High were on display at the Scholastic Art Show in Syracuse at Onondaga Community College. Luke Towne and Anna Tsibina received Gold Keys in Ceramics. Lydia Bolton, Emilio Lopata, and Sarah Morehouse received Silver Keys in Drawing. Jessica Goddard received a Silver Key in Photography. Luke Towne and Khaleela Zaman were awarded Honorable Mention in Jewelry. Honorine Klinkner received an Honorable Mention in Drawing and Melissa Paravati received an Honorable Mention in Photography.

## Welcome New High School Counselor



Mr. Jay Baldo comes to us from the Cooperstown School District where he has been a school counselor for 13 1/2 years. Mr. Baldo earned his B.S. in Business & Economics from SUNY Oneonta and his Masters in School Counseling from the University of Scranton. He resides in Fly Creek with his wife and two daughters.

## THIS NOTICE IS MANDATED BY NEW YORK STATE New Hartford Central School District Budget Notice

Overall Budget Proposal	Budget Adopted for the 2012-13 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2013-14 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2013-14 School Year*
Total budgeted amount, not including separate propositions	\$46,964,443	\$47,736,747	\$47,717,102
Increase/decrease for 2013-2014 school year		\$772,304	\$752,659
Percentage increase/decrease in proposed budget		1.6 %	1.6%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		2.1%	
Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, including Levy, to Support Library Debt, if applicable or Levy	\$30,989,249	\$31,901,710	\$30,989,249
Total Permissible Exclusions	\$1,459,302	\$1,546,357	
A. Proposed School Year Tax Levy, <u>Not</u> including Levy for Permissible Exclusions or Levy to Support Library Debt	\$29,529,947	\$30,355,353	
B. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Not</u> including Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$29,609,908	\$30,813,928	
Difference: A-B (Positive Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval - See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions)	\$ -79,961	\$ -458,575	
Administrative component	\$4,105,492	\$4,198,002	\$4,189,002
Program component	\$33,583,928	\$34,703,895	\$34,693,250
Capital component	\$9,275,023	\$8,834,850	\$8,834,850

	Budget Proposed for the 2013-2014 School Year
Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings <sup>1</sup>	\$663.00

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2013-2014 by the qualified voters of the New Hartford Central School District, Oneida County, New York, will be held at the Senior High School in said district on Tuesday, May 21, 2013, between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m., prevailing time in the Senior High School, at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting ballot or machine.

<sup>1</sup> The basic school tax relief (STAR) exemption is authorized by section 425 of the Real Property Tax Law.

# NEWS AND NOTES REGARDING SAFETY IN THE NEW HARTFORD CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Given the recent incidents of school shootings and violence throughout the country, we feel that it is important to provide an update on our practices and policies pertaining to the safety of our children, staff, faculty and administration.

The district has several teams. The District Safety Team meets bi-annually, or more often, depending on issues and concerns. The District Crisis Team meets in response to a crisis that affects the district. Additionally, each building has its own Building Safety Team and Crisis Team.

## SAFETY PLANS

Building safety plans are updated on an annual basis. Throughout the year, each school practices safety drills. These include various types of lockdown scenarios, which include evacuating the building and moving all students, staff and faculty to a safe location. This ensures that everyone knows what to do in a real emergency.

Each school uses a single point of entry. This limited access into the buildings provides accountability and prevents unauthorized entry. These areas are supervised and one can only gain access with a security buzzer system. There has also been a recent change at the high school. During lunch, students can only re-enter the building through the main entrance.

Our school district collaborates with the BOCES Safety Office for specific training. Last spring, the BOCES Safety Office trained all front door personnel on techniques, protocols and operating procedures for allowing visitors into the building. Even if personally known by front door personnel, we require all visitors to adhere to the sign-in, sign-out, and name tag procedures. Signs directing visitors to the main office have been prominently displayed to assist visitors with the check-in procedure.

Building principals periodically review with faculty and staff the importance of maintaining heightened awareness for

suspicious activity and reporting it to the main office. This includes suspicious vehicles, persons, and/or packages in or around the school buildings and grounds.

## SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER

Board of Education Policy 1015 addresses our School Resource Officer (SRO) Referral Policy, which states that building staff may request a referral to the SRO through the building principal. The SRO is present weekly at the Oxford Road Complex and Perry Junior High School. Our SRO is a member of the New Hartford Police Department (NHPD) and a member of our District Safety Team and Crisis Team. The SROs are actively involved with our students. We have an excellent working partnership with the NHPD and have open lines of communication.

## RECENT ADDITIONAL SECURITY MEASURES

As of January 2013, several additional security measures have been implemented throughout our district.

- A security camera with recording devices was installed at the entrance of Bradley Elementary School.
- Security cameras with recording devices were installed in the new science wing of the high school.
- The front door personnel at Perry Junior High now have an intercom so that visitors can state the purpose of their visit.
- Security blinds were installed in the high school interior science wing classrooms and offices to limit sight from hallway into classrooms. In the event of a lockdown, these blinds must be down for safety.
- Police presence have increased before, during and after school hours, including the high school lunch break.
- Overnight security and morning custodians have been trained to conduct nightly and daily checks

to detect any suspicious items and ensure that exterior doors and windows are secure.

- Annual building inspections are conducted collaboratively with the NHPD.
- All building safety plans have been reviewed by the NHPD.
- The NHPD and the Oneida County Sheriff's Department have all building floor plans.

## LOOKING FORWARD

The Board of Education has established the Facilities Advisory Committee, which is responsible for facilities review and assessing safety. This committee is requesting recommendations from the Building Safety Teams. The following additional security measures have been recommended.

- Eliminate outside entrance "hard" keys and replace with swipe-card entrances for all district buildings.
- Require identification badges for all district employees.
- Provide additional exterior lighting on school grounds and in parking lots.
- Install additional exterior and interior cameras with recording devices throughout the district.
- Create building plans which are accessible through NHPD squad car computers.
- Establish direct radio contact to NHPD station and squad cars to ensure a faster response time.

Incidents of community violence are not easy for anyone to comprehend or accept. As parents, teachers, and administrators, our children's safety is extremely important to all of us. The safety of everyone in the district is our top priority.

For additional information contact Peter Alvanos, District Safety Coordinator, at 624-1283.

## New Hartford Wins CAD Competition at SUNYIT Tech Showcase

On March 15, Collin Davis, Arda Pekis, Braylin Sheppard, & Nadim Quazi, four students from New Hartford Perry Junior High's Design Drawing & Production classes participated in a Computer Aided Design competition at the 12th Annual Mohawk Valley Technology Education Showcase held at SUNYIT. The students were to design a table made from discarded materials. Congratulations to Nadim Quazi for placing 2nd and Braylin Sheppard for taking 3rd place.

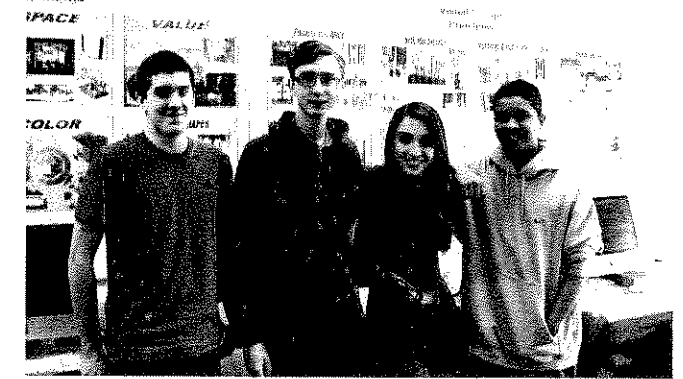


Photo by Margaret Weber



Photo by Margaret Weber

## New Hartford Wins Medallion Design Contest for SUNYIT Tech Showcase

New Hartford Perry Junior High's Design Drawing & Production students recently participated in a Medallion Design Challenge for the 12th Annual Mohawk Valley Technology Education Showcase held at SUNYIT. The students were to design a medallion that was awarded to the contest winners at the event. New Hartford had a clean sweep for their efforts with Gábríalla Ficano taking 1st place honors, Brad Pietryka taking 2nd place and Dominique Edwards earning 3rd place. Congratulations to all three!

## New Hartford Foundation Kicks Off Brick Campaign



The New Hartford Central School District Foundation kicked off its annual Brick Garden Campaign on May 1. Commemorative

bricks may be purchased for placement at any of the three elementary schools as well as the Junior and Senior High Schools.

A tax-deductible donation of \$100 per brick will serve to honor an individual or group, mark a special occasion or recognize a school organization or graduating class.

The campaign, an annual fundraiser for the Foundation, helps provide funding that will enhance the district's educational programs. The Foundation, established in 1993, is an independent, non-profit organization that provides support for all schools in the district.

To find out more information go to [www.newhartfordschools.org/foundation](http://www.newhartfordschools.org/foundation) or call the Superintendent's office at 624-1218. Orders must be received by July 15.

## Prince Charming Ball

Mothers and their sons dressed up for the third annual Prince Charming Ball on April 20, 2013, at Daniele's Banquet Specialists in New Hartford.

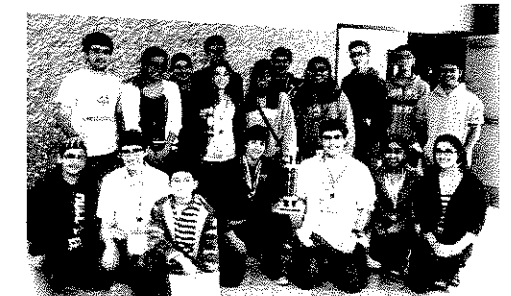
Photo Courtesy of Observer Dispatch



## Mathletics

Congratulations to the New Hartford Mathletics Team! The New Hartford Mathletic Team continued its streak of perfection on Saturday, April 20, as it captured first place

ending what was its second consecutive undefeated season!! There were 7 teams that competed in our division. The competition involved an individual round, a team question, and a team relay. This is the 8th consecutive year that New Hartford has won 1st place for the season and has taken home the trophy! Kudos to all participants!





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# Legally Blonde



The New Hartford Masque put on a spectacular show of *Legally Blonde* from March 14-17. Photos by Nancy Long.