

Please see the flyers below that might be of interest:

[Poughkeepsie Library Summer Reading Program](#)

[Health Crusaders Summer Camp](#)



*What's Right with  
Spackenkill!*

*June 16, 2017*

*A tradition of  
excellence with a  
vision for  
tomorrow*

Dear Spackenkill Community,

I attended the District Art Show for the first time this past week and was thrilled with the talent of our students, enthusiasm of our teachers, and great support from our families. The halls were packed during the whole time I was there.

The formal school year is winding down, however the District Office remains open throughout the summer. Our next Board Meeting is on Tuesday, June 20th. I am recommending a number of new teacher hires to replace some of our veteran, highly competent staff. In fact, most of our hiring is completed. We have a part-time art position left to fill.

As you look through the remainder of the newsletter, you'll see a lot of happy faces. School is supposed to be a happy place! Continue working hard, finish up on a positive note, and I look forward to the Todd Moving Up Ceremony on June 22nd at 9 am and the High School Graduation at the Mid-Hudson Civic Center on June 24th at 5:30 pm.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Villanti". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Mark Villanti, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools



## District Art Show Celebrates Creativity



On Thursday, June 8th, the halls, classrooms, and even the gymnasium of Hagan Elementary School were filled with artwork from students from all four district schools. For the third year, the District Art Show showcased work personally chosen by students and includes paintings, graphics, and sculpture. The interactive event enabled viewers to connect with each artist through their phones or tablets using a QR code. Students also followed

clues for a scavenger hunt. The event was well attended and a big success!

Congratulations to the students and to art educators Sharon Ciccone, Roberto Romani, Michele Gorey, Janet Stong, and MaryBeth Romani.



### HIGH SCHOOL ART



works from Studio in Art



model of Mid-Hudson Bridge by architecture students

### TODD MIDDLE SCHOOL ART





selection of works



images of ceramics

### HAGAN ELEMENTARY ART



"Space Diving"



4th grade weaving

### NASSAU ELEMENTARY ART



"Bears Are Playing"



"Day at the Beach"



## BOCES CTI GRADUATION



On June 8th, the 2017 Recognition Night took place at BOCES Career and Technical Institute. Congratulations to the following BOCES CTI graduates from the Spackenkill district:

**Lori Brown**

**Jillian Caccia**

**Tyson Charles**

**Ruben Colon**

**Skyler McBride** (salutatorian and National Technical Honor Society inductee)

The link to the complete program is below:

[\*\*BOCES CTI GRADUATION PROGRAM\*\*](#)

## *Student Commended by Senator*

Junior **Isabel Hammond** has been awarded a Youth Leadership Recognition Award by Senator Sue Serino (both are pictured at left). The award program is designed to highlight and celebrate well-rounded students who excel academically and have exhibited leadership through extracurricular or volunteer activities. Students must be nominated by a teacher, administrator, counselor, or other school faculty member. School Counselor Kathleen





DeFreest nominated Isabel for this honor, citing her love of learning; personal high standards; social awareness, including community involvement with LEO Club; Honors, AP, and college-level

classes; membership in the National Honor Society; participation in the Science Research program; and leadership skills. Congratulations to Isabel on this well-deserved honor!

### ***Seniors Enjoy End-of-Year Festivities***



Spackenkill seniors have been enjoying their last few weeks in the district. The Prom was held on May 19 at Dutchess Manor. It was a night to remember, with beautiful weather and Hudson River views. Prom king and queen were Quinn McGinnis and Jacqueline Hannan. Students all received party favor decorations for their cellphones that read "Spackenkill Seniors 2017."

SADD hosted a post-prom party at DC Sports in Wappingers. Students played mini golf, simulated golf, and SKEE=Ball in a safe, substance-free environment. Great snacks were provided and every student who attended won a prize. The PTSA was a generous co-sponsor of this event.



On June 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>, 76 seniors (*below*) hopped on buses to Six Flags New England in Agawam, Massachusetts, accompanied by Kathleen DeFreest of the Guidance Department and School Psychologist Peggy Pisano. The entire amusement park was closed down for Grad Nite to allow seniors from all over to celebrate with peers throughout the region.





## *8th Grade Dinner Dance Fun for All*



Last Friday night, 8th graders dressed their best for a dinner dance. Here are a few photos of the students enjoying the beautiful weather before the dance and taking part in the festivities. In just one week's time, these students will have moved up and be ready to enter the high school.



## *Todd Students Enjoy a Picnic*

On June 16, Todd students had a blast at a picnic that included games, a hamster roll run, a slide, DIY tie-dye t-shirts, and even a dunking tank.





Principal Doherty was the first victim!



## *Elementary Students Collaborate on Mural*

On June 12, the Hagan Elementary Art Club, under the guidance of club advisor and art educator Sharon Ciccone, created an animal-themed nature mural in the Nassau Elementary Lobby. The fifth grade students have been drawing and planning this mural project for weeks. Students proposed drawings and plans to Principal Ferrarone at Nassau for feedback and approval. They worked with all the Nassau students, from kindergarten to grade 2, in painting the details. Come see the spectacular results! Images of the mural in the making and club members assisting the youngest elementary students are below.







### ***Math Carnival Teaches through Games***

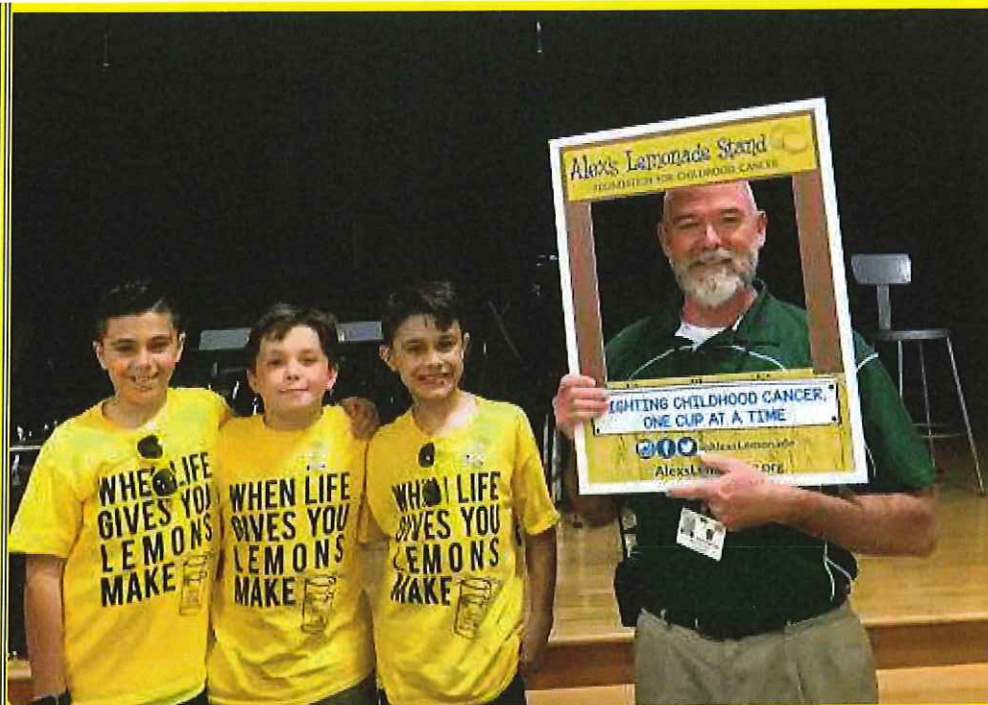
The fourth and fifth grade enrichment students treated all Hagan students to a Math Carnival outdoors on June 9th. All of the games were designed and created by the students and involved math skills in order to play.



### ***Alex's Lemonade Stand Raises Hundreds at Hagan***







Fifth graders **Stephen Mulcahy, Joey DeForno, and Giancarlo Paonessa** are known these days as the “Hagan Lemon-Aiders.”

That’s because the trio (*pictured above with Principal Farrell*) recently spearheaded a drive to raise \$627.91 for the Alex’s Lemonade Stand Foundation through a combination of selling lemonade during all lunch periods on June 7 and receiving online donations. The organization’s mission is twofold: to raise money and awareness of childhood cancer causes, especially in support of research for new treatments and cures, and to encourage and empower others, especially children, to get involved and make a difference for children with cancer.

Founder and creator Alexandra “Alex” Scott was diagnosed with cancer at the age of one. When she was four she wanted to have a lemonade stand to raise money to help doctors find a cure. Her first stand earned \$2,000 in just one day! News spread and everyone was inspired to have their own stand to help her cause. It is now a national foundation. The Hagan Lemon-Aiders would like to thank everyone who donated to and supported Alex’s Lemonade Stand!

### ***Elementary Field Days Feature Imaginative Themes***

Both elementary schools recently held field days, which would not have



been possible without the help of parent volunteers and months of planning on the part of the PE department. Hagan's Field Day on June 13 had a New York State theme incorporating a ton of water fun and teamwork activities, including a Statue of Liberty relay and a "pizza delivery" course in which students balanced boxes while moving as quickly as possible.

Nassau's Field Day took place the previous week on June 7. This year the theme was Spartan Races and included two activities designed with the assistance of Mrs. O'Sullivan's high school physics students and chosen by Ms. Ferrarone, Mr. Molon, and Ms. Spiegel. The Beast, an activity that involved pulling sleds, and the Spartan Sprint, which incorporated soccer balls, were the winners, and the kids enjoyed navigating the activities tremendously.

Below are some highlights from both field days.

### HAGAN FIELD DAY 2017







NASSAU FIELD DAY 2017



***Nassau Students Get Excited About Summer Library Program***

The Youth Services staff at the Poughkeepsie Public Library District visited Nassau School on June 5 to spread the word about the 2017





Summer Reading Program, titled "Build a Better World." Staff entertained the kids with stories and got them excited about the different kinds of books and materials – fiction, nonfiction, graphic novels, biography, CDs, videos, and

more! – available at the Adriance and Boardman Road branches.

[Please click here for more details.](#)

15 Croft Road, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603; 845.463.7800

**Mission:** Inspired by a tradition of excellence and a spirit of continuous improvement, the Spackenkill School District will provide all of our students with the academic and social skills necessary to pursue their goals and become responsible citizens in an interdependent global community.

**Vision:** All Spackenkill graduates will be lifelong learners who are inspired to pursue their dreams and contribute to the global society.

[Please submit story ideas to mary.forsell@sufsdny.org](mailto:mary.forsell@sufsdny.org)

Issues of the newsletter are available on the [Spackenkill website:](http://www.spackenkillschools.org/district_newsletter_archive)  
[www.spackenkillschools.org/district\\_newsletter\\_archive](http://www.spackenkillschools.org/district_newsletter_archive)