

Please see flyer(s) below that might be of interest:

[Hudson Valley KidVenture](#)

[Cereal Counts Drive](#)



*What's Right with
Spackenkill!*

April 13, 2018

*A tradition of excellence
with a vision for
tomorrow*

Dear Spackenkill Community,

This week I received a letter asking whether there is any "redress" to holding school on May 25th. The short answer is no and here is why. All NYS schools must hold 176 attendance days plus superintendent's conference days. We are currently at the legal minimum. If we were to cancel school on May 25th we would lose state aid for one day and that would not be appropriate.

Ticket sales for *Les Miserables* have been going strong. For those of you who attend the musical this weekend, you are in for a dynamic and entertaining performance. Thank you in advance to the student actors and production crew, the director, community sponsors, teachers, and parent volunteers who have worked so hard and for so long to bring a performance that I believe will be remembered as among the best productions in Spackenkill history.

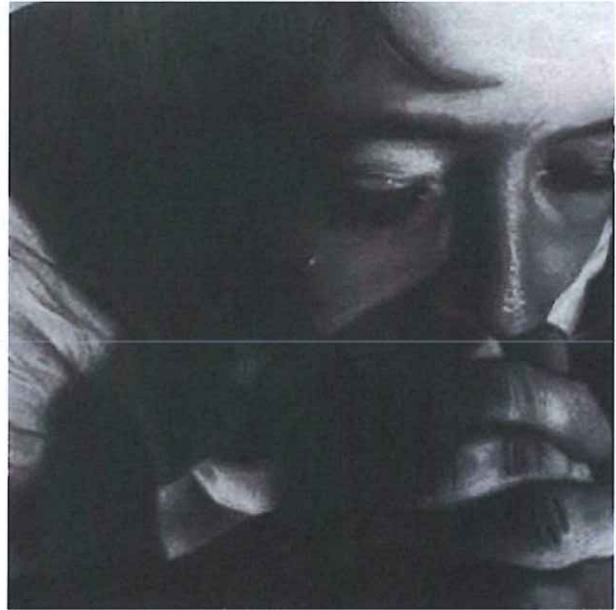
Thank you and congrats to all of the students and teachers chronicled in this issue!

My best,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Villanti".

Mark Villanti, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

High School Student Is National Art Medalist



We are pleased to announce that Kerri Ravas has earned three National Medals in the 2018 Scholastic Art & Writing Awards, presented by the Alliance for Young Artists & Writers. Nearly 350,000 works of art and writing were submitted and only 1% have been recognized at the national level. Kerri has been invited to attend a ceremony at Carnegie Hall on June 7th and to participate in showcase events at Parsons School for Design at The New School and Pratt Institute's Pratt Manhattan Gallery in NYC. Congratulations on a job well done! Kerri's award-winning art, all charcoal drawings of amazing intricacy skill and centered on the theme of family, are shown above.

Kudos to art teacher Roberto Romani for presenting students with opportunities to participate in this and other worthy programs.

District Excels at Regional Science Fair

Students from Hagan Elementary School and Spackenkill High School had a great day at the 59th Annual Dutchess County Regional Science Fair, held last Saturday, April 7th. It is one of the longest running science fairs in the country and is the first regional science fair in New York state.

At the high school level, Jessica Cohen earned 1st place overall and will be going to the International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF) in Pittsburgh in May! This was the fourth year in a row that Spackenkill had a first place overall winner.

Isabel Hammond earned 3rd place overall!

The other students, also in the science research class, earned Honorable Mentions and Special Awards. They are Vasvi Bhutani, Jeana Chun, Sharon Devlin, Anya Justin, Nyi-Rein Kyaw, Adele Long, Ian Nevers, and Alex Ristic.

At Hagan, Thit-Sar Kyaw came in second overall, and other proud science fair winners were Clara Chapin, Brody Heraghty, Lev Hayman, Daniel Campbell, Nicholas Jordan, Maryclare Parker-Stark, Max Krakowski, Daniel Johnson, Jacqueline Gill, and Katie Park.

[Please visit this link to read more about the science fair.](#)

[Please visit this link for the High School awards.](#)

[Please visit this link for Hagan Elementary awards.](#)



Pictured from left to right are high school science stars Vasvi Bhutani, Sharon Devlin, Alex Ristic, Jeana Chun, Nyi-rein Kyaw, Jessica Cohen, Ian Nevers, Anya Justin, Isabel Hammond, and Adele Long.



At Hagan, proud science fair participants pictured from left to right are as follows:

Back row: *Clara Chapin, Brody Heraghty, Lev Hayman, Daniel Campbell, Nicholas Jordan, and Mary Clare Parker-Stark.*

Front row: *Max Krakowski, Daniel Johnson, Jacqueline Gill, Thit-Sar Kyaw, and Katie Park.*

Don't Miss Les Mis!

View a sneak preview of scenes below

Spack Onstage presents

Les Misérables
SCHOOL EDITION



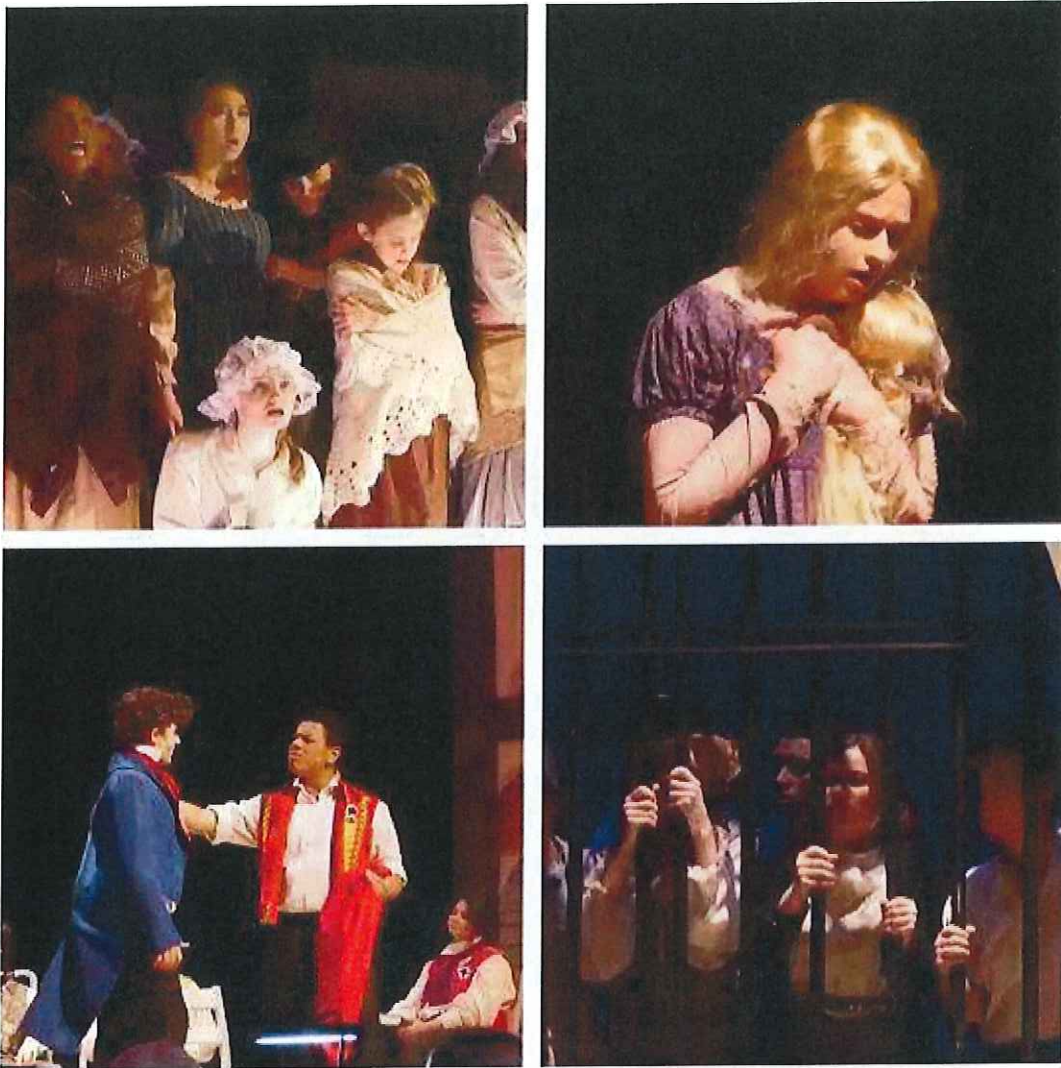
April 13- 7:30 pm
April 14- 7:30 pm
April 15- 2:00 pm

Students/Seniors: \$5 • Adults:\$12

Spackenkill High School
Richard D. Woolley Auditorium

A musical by Alain Boublil and Claude-Michel Schönberg
School Edition specially adapted and licensed by Music Theatre International and Cameron Mackintosh





Science Finalists Honored

On April 20, Superintendent Mark Villanti and High School Principal Steve Malkischer attended the WESEF Finalists Celebration Dinner in Tarrytown with high school junior Rachel Li. As readers know, Rachel recently competed with her team of two other students at the Regeneron Westchester Science & Engineering Fair (WESEF). The team won 1st Place in the Engineering Category and was also chosen as Regeneron Finalists to advance to the International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF), held in Pittsburgh in May.



Rachel Li is pictured above at the WESEF finalists dinner with teammate Jainil Sutaria from Ardsley High School and Professor Miriam Rafailovich, their mentor from Stony Brook University.

Spackenkill Ranks High in NYML

**Spackenkill scored 14th highest in the state on the New York Mathematics League (NYML) Contest for 2017-2018!
Congratulations!!!!**

The questions were much harder this year, so it is a great achievement. Younger students are encouraged to enter the competitions. Speak to Ms. Pupko for details.

College Acceptance Update

We have even more college updates! Students, please continue to let your guidance counselors know if you have college acceptances.

Albany College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences
Albertus Magnus College
Alfred University
Amherst College
Arcadia University
Babson College
Binghamton University
Binghamton University (Watson School of Engineering & Applied Science)
Boston College
Bowdoin College
Brandeis University
Bryant University
Bucknell University
Carnegie Mellon University
Champlain College
City College of New York CUNY
Clark University
Clarkson University
College of the Holy Cross
Columbia University
Cornell University (College of Engineering)
Drew University
Drexel University
Dutchess Community College
D'Youville College
Elmira College
Elon University
Fairfield University
Fairfield University (University College)
Florida Atlantic University
Florida Gulf Coast University

Fordham University
Fordham University (Fordham College at Rose Hill)
George Mason University
Georgia Institute of Technology
Goucher College
Hartwick College
High Point University
Hofstra University
Hofstra University (School of Engineering and Applied Science)
Iona College
Ithaca College
James Madison University
Johns Hopkins University
Johnson & Wales University (Charlotte)
Johnson & Wales University (North Miami)
Johnson & Wales University (Providence)
Johnson State College (Northern Vermont University)
Le Moyne College
Lebanon Valley College
Lehigh University
Liberty University
Loyola University Maryland
Macalester College
Manhattan College
Manhattanville College
Marist College
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Mercy College
Moravian College
Mount Saint Mary College
Muhlenberg College
New England College
New Jersey Institute of Technology
New York Institute of Technology
New York University (Tandon School of Engineering)
Newbury College
Northeastern University
Northeastern University (College of Engineering)
Nova Southeastern University

Pace University, New York City (Lubin School of Business)
Pennsylvania State University
Pennsylvania State University (College of Engineering)
Pepperdine University
Pratt Institute
Providence College
Queens College of the CUNY
Quinnipiac University
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Rider University
Ringling College of Art and Design
Rochester Institute of Technology
Rochester Institute of Technology (Computing and College of Information Sciences)
Roger Williams University
Rollins College
Sacred Heart University
Saint Leo University
Saint Michael's College
Salisbury University
Salve Regina University
Savannah College of Art and Design
School of Visual Arts
Siena College
Smith College
St. Bonaventure University
St. John Fisher College
St. John's University - Queens Campus
St. Thomas Aquinas College
State University of New York at Albany
State University of New York at New Paltz
Stevens Institute of Technology
Stony Brook University
Stony Brook University (Women in Science and Engineering (WISE))
Suffolk University
SUNY Alfred State College
SUNY Buffalo State College
SUNY College at Brockport

SUNY College at Cortland
SUNY College at Oneonta
SUNY Delhi
SUNY Fredonia
SUNY Oswego
SUNY Plattsburgh
Syracuse University
Temple University
The College of Saint Rose
The New School - All Divisions
The University of Texas, San Antonio
Trinity College
University at Buffalo The State University of New York
University of Connecticut
University of Delaware
University of Hartford
University of Mary Washington
University of Maryland, College Park
University of Massachusetts Dartmouth
University of Massachusetts, Amherst
University of Miami (School of Business Administration)
University of Minnesota, Twin Cities
University of New Haven
University of North Carolina at Asheville
University of Rhode Island
University of Rochester
University of Wisconsin, Madison
Utica College
Vassar College
Villanova University
Warren Wilson College
Washington College
Wellesley College
Wesleyan University
West Virginia University
Western Connecticut State University
Western New England University
Wingate University
Worcester Polytechnic Institute

**Yale University
York College of Pennsylvania**

Geo Bee Buzz



Eighth grader Will Mortell went all the way to the States in the National Geographic Bee competition, a first for Spackenkill. Impressively, he finished in the top 100. Great job, Will!

Grant In Action: Students Explore Todd's Own Ecosystem



As a result of a grant won by Todd Middle School teacher Elyse Joy, Education Program Specialist Shelly Forster from the Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies recently visited with seventh grade students to study the science of the grounds around Todd Middle School. They searched for clues that wildlife had been there, looking at tracks, counting how many acorns were missing from a bait pile, watching footage from a wildlife camera, and examining the wooded area adjacent to the golf course for more activity. They were able to conclude that raccoons, fox, opossum, cats, deer, and red and gray squirrels are all active in the area. They also learned about the important role of mammal diversity in controlling Lyme disease.

Nassau Celebrates Music in Our Schools



A Music in Our Schools assembly on April 6 truly involved all of Nassau school. Every grade sang a song and even the teachers participated as musicians. Teacher Kody Andreas led students through such songs as “Hot Cross Buns” and “This Little Light of Mine” and later showed a culminating video that documented all the fun learning activities the students had participated in throughout the year. Video interviews with students and staff about the importance of music in their lives was a high point. “Music makes me feel good and gets me motivated!” said one staff member in the video. A big thank you to Mr. Andreas for presenting this event!

15 Croft Road, Poughkeepsie, NY

(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

