Dear Spackenkill Community,

Welcome, Mrs. Halladeen! Throughout my career I have supported and mentored future administrators and guidance counselors. In well-run districts, we have a professional responsibility to assist other educators, including student teachers. Spackenkill is a great place to learn on many levels.

The Capital Project is under way. Currently, our Hagan and Nassau roofs are being reviewed in Albany at Facilities Planning. In addition, we just met with the Town of Poughkeepsie engineers to discuss our field plans and the handling of storm water. The design phase will continue in coming months and I plan to update you on our progress.

Sincerely,

Mark Villanti, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools
Above, left to right: Todd Middle School Dean of Students Anchala Sobrin, Administrative Intern Pauline Halladeen, and Principal Dan Doherty. Mrs. Halladeen will complete her internship at the middle school in May.

There's a new face at Todd Middle School: Pauline Halladeen is completing an administrative internship through the Educational Leadership Program at Niagara University. Superintendent Mark Villanti will serve as her mentor, while Principal Dan Doherty will provide daily guidance and supervision. Mrs. Halladeen is on a leave of absence from the Poughkeepsie City School District, where she is a Paraprofessional. "I chose to complete my internship with the Spackenkill School District because I wanted to expose myself to a different demographic population," she said. "Todd Middle School offered me this chance due to its uniqueness, geographic location, student population, and faculty." She will complete her internship in May of this year.
Olympic Medalist to Visit

This coming Monday, January 29th, at 1:45 pm, the Spackenkill Rowing Team will bring world-class athlete Meghan Musnicki (pictured at left) to Todd Middle School to address students. A two-time Olympic Gold Medalist (in the summers of 2012 and 2016), five-time World Champion winner for the Women's Eight rowing category, and a member of the US National Rowing team, Ms. Musnicki will speak about her Olympic experiences, setting goals, overcoming adversity, and working hard to achieve your dream.

"Her message is one that will resonate with all students and athletes," says Claudia Ackerman, parent volunteer for the Spackenkill Rowing Team. "Over the last 21 years, our athletes have garnered hundreds of thousands of dollars in college scholarships, yet most Spackenkill students have never seen a single crew race." Team coaches will be at the Middle School on Tuesday, January 30th to meet with students.
interested in learning more about the Rowing Team.

"The athletics department would like to thank the crew club for organizing and sponsoring this special event," said Marco Lanzoni, Director of Director of Health, Physical Education and Athletics: "Olympic gold medalist Meghan Musnicki is a shining example of the value of hard work, persistence, and commitment to the success of a team. These are all values we try to instill in our students."

The team would like to thank Dr. Richard Whalen for his financialunderwriting of this event!

To learn more about the Spackenkill Rowing Team visit:

www.spackenkillrowingclub.org
www.facebook.com/SpackenkillRowingClub

Girls Basketball Team Plays for a Cause

Coach Neise and the Spackenkill Varsity Girls Basketball Team organized another successful Girls Basketball Holiday Classic
over the winter break. Highland, Millbrook, and Pine Plains also participated in the two-day event. The teams collected donations at the games and were able to contribute $500 to the Miles of Hope Breast Cancer Foundation. This donation was made through the efforts of all the schools and community members associated with the annual Girls Basketball Holiday Classic.

CLICK HERE to read a letter from Coach Neise about the donation.

Online Sports Registration Available

The Spackenkill Athletics Department is now offering the convenience of online registration through FamilyID (www.familyid.com). FamilyID is a secure registration platform that provides you with an easy, user-friendly way to register for sports, and helps us to be more administratively efficient and environmentally responsible. When you register through FamilyID, the system keeps track of your information in your FamilyID profile and you only have to enter your information once. You can upload sports physicals and check your profile to see if your son/daughter is cleared for participation.

Spring Sports registration opens February 5, 2018 for all high school sports (JV and Varsity) and February 12, 2018 for all middle school (modified) sports.

Click on the link below to register:

http://www.familyid.com/spackenkill-ufsd-athletics
Todd Geo Bee Quizzes Students

Congratulations to the following Todd Middle School students for their participation in the National Geographic Bee (aka Geography Bee). They completed the challenge on Monday, January 22. Anne Riehl administered the test:

Champion: William Mortell
First Runner-up: Connor Schnackenberg
Second Runner-up: Cynthia Fainguersch

We wish William, the building champion, the best of luck when he takes the test to qualify for Nationals!

Todd Geography Bee contestants listen intently to questions. Depicted from left to right: Cynthia Fainguersch, Connor Schnackenberg, and William Mortell.

Todd Drama Club Presents...

Todd Drama Club students have been busy rehearsing for A Kidsummer Night's Dream, their winter production. Directed by Mr.
Shanks and Mr. Kirschenheiter, the show is a musical adaptation of Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Expect plenty of energetic singing and acting! Show info and some scenes from rehearsal are below:

**WHEN**: Friday, February 2 and Saturday, February 3 @ 7 pm

Doors open at 6:30 pm

**WHERE**: Todd Dining Hall

**TICKETS**: $6 presale during Todd lunch periods; $8 at the door; $6 seniors

[Click here for the ticket order form.](#)
Nassau AIS teacher Mrs. Van Etten held a dessert baking demonstration Wednesday after school for staff. Eleven participants made their own Fruit and Cream Cheese Tarts in this hands-on learning experience.
Mrs. Van Etten (center) demonstrates making a pie crust for Ms. Spiegel (left) and Principal Ferrarone.

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

Issues of the newsletter are available on the Spackenkill website: www.spackenkillschools.org/district_newsletter_archive