

A Message from the Spackenkill Superintendent



One District, Multiple Paths to Excellence

March 21, 2025

Dear Spackenkill Community,

At last Friday's Superintendent's Conference Day, we celebrated the history of the District. All staff gathered in the high school auditorium to hear about how Spackenkill grew from a one-room schoolhouse to the district we are today. The Spackenkill Union Free School District was chartered in 1865, a year filled with many significant events. In 1865, the Civil War ended and President Abraham Lincoln was assassinated. His funeral train stopped in Poughkeepsie. Also, the 13th amendment was ratified, abolishing slavery, and the Secret Service was established.

After a brief history lesson, staff also enjoyed a vintage video with snippets of Nassau Elementary School's Silver Anniversary in 1987. Next, Jazz Combo performed and Spack Onstage presented a preview of *The Little Mermaid*, followed by a rendition of the Spackenkill Alma Mater, "Our Flying Colors." You can read more about it in this story from [Mid Hudson News](#).



Above: Superintendent Paul Fanuele with Senator Rob Rolison and Colleen Pillus, communications director for County Executive Sue Serino, both presenting proclamations recognizing the District's 160th anniversary.



Above: Caroline Sottile, Sasha Turk, and Becca Nichols did a beautiful job singing, with Holden Maiorana accompanying on piano. Jazz Combo kicked off the musical portion of the program. Congrats to the members of the combo: Rose Blachman, Leo Blachman, Danny Campbell, John Lindsey, Kwasi Micah, and Marcos Rogers.

We are grateful to these students for volunteering their time!



Above: Staff hold a banner celebrating the anniversary.



Click [here](#) or on the video above to watch a seven-minute recording of Nassau's Silver Anniversary. in 1987. The principal in the video is Sanford Howard. The students perform a variety of skits, including a spelling bee at the one-room schoolhouse and historic events in Nassau's first 25 years, from the moon landing to Woodstock and a performance by Joan Jett!



Click [here](#) or on the image above to watch students and staff celebrate Spackenkill's 160th anniversary.

Wizards Come to Town

At the Harlem Wizards game last Thursday evening at Spackenkill High School, 35 staff members played and volunteered to make the game a success! As always, thank you to the PTA for making this event possible!







Three photos above: Moments from the Wizards visit.



Click [here](#) or on the video above to watch a Wizards dance party.

All-County Festival

Congratulations to our fifth and sixth grade musicians who participated in the DCMEA Elementary All-County Festival. In order to be a part of this festival, students were required to audition against other students in the county. Once selected they were given 4-5 band, chorus, or orchestra repertoire to prepare with the help of their music teacher. They put on a wonderful concert for their families. We are extremely proud of their talents and dedication!



Congratulations Hagan All-County Participants!

1st Row (L-R):
Daren Zheng, Jeremy Han, Jiin Yoo

2nd Row (L-R):
Herrick Ni, Vincent Barker, Mera
Armbruster-Baisch

3rd Row (L-R):
Declan McCarthy, Madeline Finch, Olivia
Pidanick





Congratulations Todd All-County Participants!

1st Row (L-R)

Tiernan Kurtz, Kelsey LaManna, Ian Chien, Sofia Wilms

2nd Row (L-R)

Terra Li, Myles DeLeeuw, Kaylee Anson

3rd Row (L-R)

Emlyn Morris, Adrian Blachman, Ryan Geraci-Peck

Not Pictured

Madison Wilson

Students Experience Live Orchestra

Hagan Gold Strings, Fifth Grade Chorus, and Concert Band visited the Culinary Institute of America to see the Northern Dutchess Symphony Orchestra perform. It was an extra-special event because Ms. Valentine plays in this orchestra, and a Todd student, Timothy He, was selected as a student soloist to perform with the group on cello. He performed a piece called "The Swan" by Camille Saint-Saëns.



Above: Hagan musicians on a field trip to the CIA enjoyed seeing Ms. Valentine perform.



Above: Todd student Timothy He with the Northern Dutchess Symphony Orchestra.

Harnessing Solar Power

Ms. Franzik's Principles of Physical Science students built solar-powered vehicles and then tested them as a part of their alternative energy unit. They will finish the unit with a project to design a sustainable city.





Photos above: Students explored solar-powered possibilities.

Inspired by Iconic Artwork

Students from Mr. Daley's AP European History class and Mr. Romani's Advanced Painting class visited the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City to learn about art history through masterpieces. The students were captivated by the tour. A professional artist recreated a work in oil! It was truly an amazing experience for our students.



Above: Students listen intently to a tour guide at the Metropolitan Museum of Art as an artist recreates a painting nearby.



Above: Sculpture appreciation was also part of the tour.



Above: It was a fun and informative day in the city for all.

Kindergartners Celebrate Day of Green



Students in Mrs. Davis's and Ms. Heavey's classrooms put on quite a show for visiting family and friends last Monday, St. Patrick's Day. The students wore festive green headgear and got up, one by one, to announce their favorite green things (grapes, trucks, leprechauns, Luigi, the Green Bay Packers) and tell the audience why they are lucky. Many of them said they are lucky because of having siblings or loving parents. Afterward, they enjoyed a feast of green snacks.



Click [here](#) or on the video above to watch students in Mrs. Davis's class perform "I'm a Little Leprechaun."



Click [here](#) or on the video above to watch Ms. Heavey's class sing and talk about the color green.



Parents Night Out

Nassau Elementary School

Friday, April 4, 2025
5pm-8pm

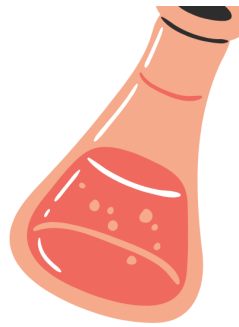
Sponsored by the Music
Boosters of Spackenkill

<https://4-4-25-parents-night-out.cheddarup.com>

The Activities
Craft | Games | Music | Movie



[Click here or on the flyer above for the signup link](#)



JOIN US FOR THE

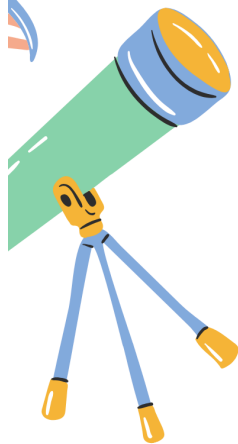
SCIENCE RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM



MAY 21, 2025

6:00PM TO 8:30PM

SPACKENKILL HIGH SCHOOL

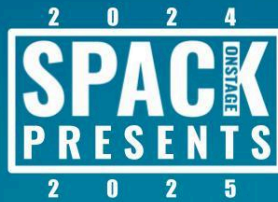


Featuring Guest Speaker
Dr. Paul Reider, PhD



A Message from Spack Onstage

Spack Onstage's production of *The Little Mermaid* is coming up soon! The cast, crew, and youth cast are busy learning music and dances, building elaborate sets, and creating costumes! We are excited for this community event. Tickets are selling quickly. We would like to encourage you to reserve yours soon. [**Click Here for Little Mermaid Tickets**](#)

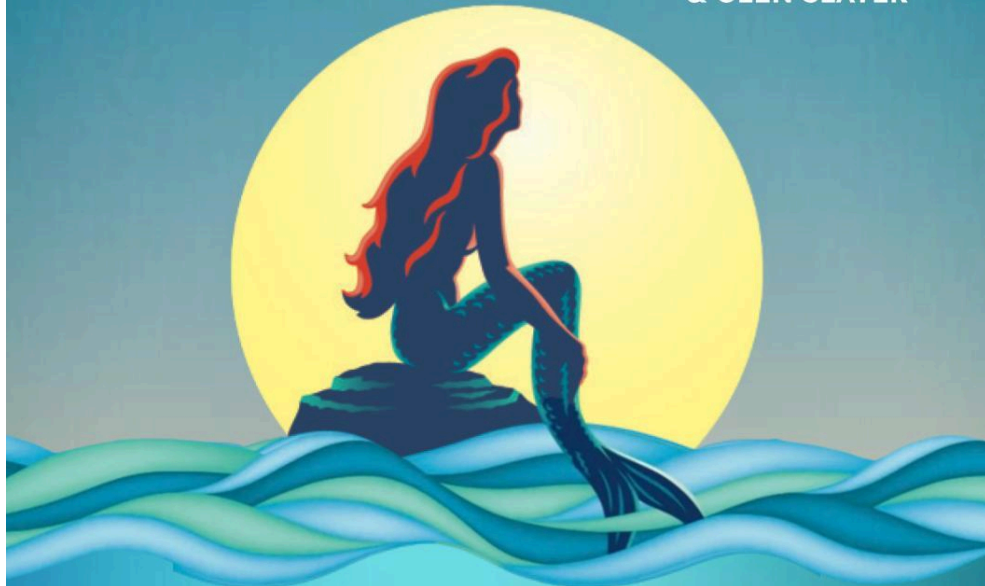


Disney **THE LITTLE MERMAID**

Music by
ALAN MENKEN

Book by
DOUG WRIGHT

Lyrics by
**HOWARD ASHMAN
& GLEN SLATER**



APRIL 25
7:00 PM

APRIL 26
7:00 PM

APRIL 27
2:00 PM

SPACKENKILL HIGH SCHOOL

\$5 – students/seniors **\$12** – adults

To purchase tickets, please visit www.spackonstage.com

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SPARTAN

FLAG FOOTBALL



2025 SPRING SEASON

APRIL 24 – JUNE 16

**FOR BOYS
& GIRLS
K - 8**

**AT SPACKENKILL HIGH
SCHOOL FOOTBALL FIELD**

REGISTRATION

\$120 **INCLUDES
JERSEY
AND BELT**

**MONDAYS:
GRADES K-2**

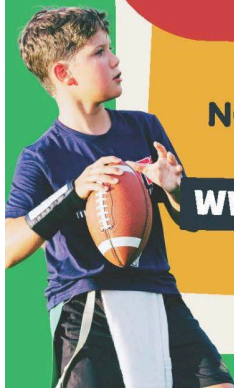
**THURSDAYS:
GRADES 3-5**

**6-8 WILL BE
SCHEDULED ON
BOTH DAYS**

*NO REQUESTS FOR DAYS TO BE PLAYED
CAN BE ACCOMMODATED*

**REGISTER BY APRIL 1ST!
NO LATE REGISTRATIONS WILL BE
ACCEPTED**

WWW.SPACKENKILLFLAGFOOTBALL.COM



Requests for Transportation



Parents and guardians: If you haven't already made a request for private/parochial school or daycare transportation, please send it to the Spackenkill UFSD Transportation Department by April 1, 2025.

Print and complete form from below and mail to/drop off at:

Attn: Doreen Wright
Spackenkill Union Free School District
15 Croft Road
Poughkeepsie, NY 12603

Or email completed form to:

doreen.wright@sufsdny.org

[Print a Request for Private/Parochial School Transportation](#)



SPRING COLLEGE FAIR

**OUR LADY OF LOURDES HIGH
SCHOOL**

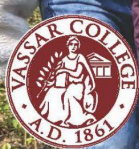
APRIL 2ND

6:00-8:00PM

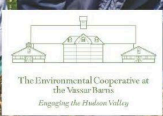
POUGHKEEPSIE, NY



A photograph of several children wearing colorful rain boots (blue, red, green) wading through a shallow stream. The background shows a wooded area with trees and foliage.



The Vassar College logo, featuring a circular emblem with a seated figure and the text "VASSAR COLLEGE" and "A.D. 1861".



The logo for The Environmental Cooperative at the Vassar Campus, featuring a stylized building and the text "The Environmental Cooperative at the Vassar Campus" and "Engaging the Hudson Valley".

April 15th

Family Day at the Vassar Preserve

FREE

Come hike, play games, make crafts, and learn all about local ecology!

10am - 3pm
50 Vassar Farm Ln
Poughkeepsie, NY

Email LDalton@vassar.edu
for more info + to register



REGISTER FOR A SUNY COLLEGE FAIR!

Meet representatives
from more than
40 SUNY campuses
and learn how you
can get a great
education at a
fraction of the cost of
other college options.

WEDNESDAY
MAR
19
5:30PM

LONG ISLAND

Farmingdale State College
Nold Athletic Complex
Farmingdale, NY

TUESDAY
MAR
25
6:00PM

LOWER HUDSON

Purchase College
Physical Education Building
Purchase, NY

WEDNESDAY
APR
23
6:00PM

MID-HUDSON

SUNY New Paltz
Athletic and Wellness Center
New Paltz, NY

SUNDAY
APR
27
12:30PM
2:30 PM

NEW YORK CITY

The Nike Track & Field Center
at The Armory
New York, NY

TUESDAY
APR
29
6:00PM

ROCHESTER

SUNY Brockport
Special Events Recreation Center
(SERC)
Brockport, NY

SUNDAY
MAY
4
1:00PM
2:30 PM

LONG ISLAND

Suffolk County Community
College - Michael J. Grant Campus
Suffolk Credit Union Arena



REGISTER TODAY!

Register at:

suny.edu/fairs

or call: **1.800.342.3811**

20 25

POUGHKEEPSIE CHILDREN'S BOOK FESTIVAL

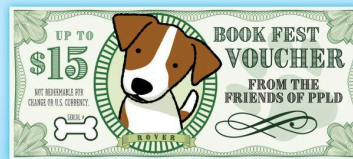
Saturday, March 29, 10-3

Falcon Hall, Dutchess Community College

Parking Lots A and D

**100+ authors,
illustrators,
characters, and
activities!**

**Books for sale!
Free book voucher
for every child.**



**1,450 people
attended the
2024 Book
Festival!**



**PP PPOUGHKEEPSIE PUBLIC
LD LIBRARY DISTRICT**

(845) 485-3445 x3320
poklib.org/bookfestival





THE CHAMBER FOUNDATION, INC.
Leadership Programming • Scholarships • Workforce Development

**We are accepting applications for 2025
scholarships starting January 1, until April 11,
2025.**

**CLICK HERE TO VISIT THE SCHOLARSHIP
APPLICATION PAGE**

Enjoy your first spring weekend.

Sincerely,

Paul M. Fanuele, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools



Spackenkill Union Free School District

15 Croft Road, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603; 845.463.7800

Established 1865