

# Our Schools

The Community Newsletter of the Farmingdale Public Schools • Summer 2016

*The goal of the Farmingdale Public Schools is to establish ourselves as a high achieving school District, as evidenced by high levels of student performance in all areas.*

*Congrats to the  
Class of 2016!*



## AT THE HEAD OF THE CLASS

*Congratulations to Farmingdale's Class of 2016 valedictorian and salutatorian Suraj Muralidharan and Clarisse Baes, respectively. The accomplishments of Suraj and Clarisse represent the culmination of many years of hard work, dedication and perseverance. They were a credit to the Farmingdale School District and all the educators and teachers they worked alongside. On behalf of everyone in the District, we'd like to say congratulations to Suraj and Clarisse, and wish them both all the best in college.*



### Valedictorian Suraj Muralidharan

- **GPA:** 107.74
- **Activities:** National Science Bowl regional champion, drum major, National Honor Society, French Honor Society, Tri-M Music Honor Society, Science Olympiad, varsity tennis
- **College and major:** Harvard University, pre-medicine



### Salutatorian Clarisse Baes

- **GPA:** 105.84
- **Activities:** Feinstein Institute for Medical Research, Science Quiz Bowl Long Island champions, National Honor Society, French Honor Society, Mathletes, Go Green Club
- **College and major:** Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, biomedical engineering

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## District Bids Farewell to Barbara Horsley

Congratulations to Farmingdale's Assistant Superintendent for Administration and Pupil Personnel Services Barbara J. Horsley, who is retiring after 24 years of dedicated service to the Farmingdale School District. Barbara's responsibilities and positions included special education; guidance; psychology; social work; census and enrollment; transportation; Districtwide health services; evening high school; secondary summer school; Universal Pre-K; Continuing Community Education; public relations; Hearing Officer; Title IX; Harassment Compliance Officer; senior citizen, PTA and CARE liaison; Board Policy Committee Chair; and Board Legislative Action Committee Chair.

This list does not at all begin to describe who Barbara is or what she has done for Farmingdale, but it is a good indication of her level of commitment, knowledge, expertise and civic advocacy. She is, by definition, a true Daler. We shall be forever grateful for her service, her time, her wisdom and her leadership.

## Thank you, Farmingdale Community Members!

To the Farmingdale community who overwhelmingly approving the District's 2016-2017 budget proposal during the May 17 vote we say thank you. Over 78 percent of the voters approved the District's budget, ensuring that the wonderful education that parents expect their children to receive in Farmingdale schools will continue. "By voting yes on May 17, the Farmingdale community sent a clear message that they understand the intrinsic value of the public school system and are willing to take action to preserve it. Thank you," said Superintendent John Lorentz. "The passing of the proposed budget will enable us to continue offering the wonderful education that has come to define Farmingdale schools." Board of Education President Michael Goldberg added, "We'd like to thank the community for this tremendous vote of confidence, and we look forward to educating your sons and daughters for years to come."



# Scenes from Graduation



## Former Superintendent of Farmingdale Dr. William A. Kinzler Passes Away

In May, the Farmingdale School District lost a beloved member of its community: former superintendent Dr. William A. Kinzler. During his 28-year tenure with the District, Dr. Kinzler served as a classroom teacher, guidance counselor, school principal, assistant superintendent and superintendent of schools.

“Dr. Kinzler’s legacy will never be forgotten,” said Farmingdale School District Superintendent John Lorentz. “He helped generations of Farmingdale students learn, grow and thrive. He was loved, and he will be missed by the thousands of people whose lives he impacted.”

Born in Ridgewood, Queens, Dr. William A. Kinzler received his bachelors, masters and doctoral degrees from St. John’s University. He was also a veteran of the United States Navy, serving the country during World War II. Dr. Kinzler joined the Farmingdale Public School administration in 1956, serving as the superintendent from 1965 until his retirement in 1976. Under his leadership, Farmingdale Public Schools built on its reputation as a center for academic excellence, a reputation which continues to this day. The District sends its sincere condolences to Dr. Kinzler’s family.



# What's Happening in Our Schools

## Albany Avenue Holds Its Annual Spring Concert

As the school year comes to end, family members in the **Albany Avenue Elementary School** Community take part in one of the school's favorite annual traditions: the spring concert. Held at Farmingdale High School, this year's spring concert featured performances from the school's senior band, senior orchestras and junior and senior choruses. More than 100 fourth and fifth grade senior-level students participated in the concert, and more than 30 third grade junior level students participated in the chorus, the youngest group on Long Island. All of the groups performed a variety of songs in front of an excited and proud audience filled with families, friends, teachers and administrators.



## Northside Shines as Farmingdale Participates in Bus-Safety Poster Contest

Students in the Farmingdale School District recently participated in the New York Association for Pupil Transportation (NYAPT) Nassau County chapter poster contest, and **Northside Elementary School** had a wonderful showing: Four students earned top-three finishes in multiple divisions. The theme of this year's contest—*#StopOnRed*—was aimed at bringing awareness to the importance of school bus safety. In Division 1 (grades K-2) Northside students Nicholas Suwalski and Ava Vaden won first and second place, respectively, while in Division 2 (grades 3-5), Northside's Isabella Rivera and Eamonn McLoughlin were first and third place winners, respectively. The impressive showing by Northside students highlights the artistic abilities of the school's children as well as their commitment to being positive role models for other students. Well done!



## Students at Saltzman East Memorial Gear Up for Summer Reading

No matter what age you are, very few things beat having something great to read over the summer. And thanks to an assist from the Farmingdale Public Library, children at **Saltzman East Memorial Elementary School** now have an easier time discovering the perfect book. Near the end of the year, librarians from a local Farmingdale branch stopped by the school to hand out library card applications and show children how to sign up for a library card. The guests also spoke to the students about the importance of summer reading and how they can get involved in the myriad of fun and engaging summer reading programs held at the Farmingdale library over the coming months. Later this summer, Saltzman East Memorial Elementary School will participate in a book swap with the library. Book swaps will be held on July 25 and August 22 from 11:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m.



## Woodward Parkway's Scenery Club Paints One-of-a-Kind Backdrop for School Auditorium



Recent visitors to the auditorium at **Woodward Parkway Elementary School** have probably noticed an alarming addition: a beautiful mural providing a striking backdrop to the stage area. Measuring 36 feet long and 12 feet high, the backdrop was painted by fifth graders in Woodward Parkway's Scenery Club, and it was inspired

by the iconic Gustav Klimt painting, "Tree of Life." More than 15 students dressed in brightly colored painting smocks participated in the art project, a program designed by Farmingdale educators to provide students with another outlet for creative arts, particularly the visual arts.

## Howitt Middle School Students Get Inside Look into World of Organic Farming

**Howitt Middle School's** seventh grade Home & Career Skills students recently learned about the science of the organic food industry straight from the source: organic farmers. On a class field trip to Bethpage Village Restoration, students learned about the benefits of local food production, community-supported agriculture and careers in modern farming. To document their experience, students created technologically advanced multimedia projects including pictures and videos taken during the trip.

The field trip was part of the District's ongoing initiative to provide students with new experiences to broaden their horizons, expose them to career possibilities and give them insight on the myriad ways the food industry works.



## FHS Students Place Third in Long Island 'Envirothon'

**Farmingdale High School** students Urooba Abid, Bailey Benzinger, Ashley Burbano, Emily Dunlop and Kevin Ferriera recently earned third place in the Long Island Regional *Envirothon*. The *Envirothon* is Long Island's premier environmental science competition for high school students. During the competition, students rotated between stations that focused on aquatics, forestry, soils, wildlife and environmental issues.



Each station included 25 multiple-choice questions, which students answered by engaging in fun, hands-on activities involving the use of equipment, pelts, bones, tracks, maps and audio-visual devices. Students were also asked to present their solution to a complex environmental challenge to a panel of judges. Though Farmingdale High School finished in third place overall, the team had the highest score on the oral presentation segment of the competition.





## STUDENTS OF THE CLASS OF 2016 WERE A

- Adelphi University
- Adirondack Community College
- American University
- Amherst College
- Assumption College
- Binghamton University
- Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania
- Boston University
- Bowling Green State University
- Bryant University
- Centenary College
- Central Connecticut State University
- Colgate University
- Columbia University
- Connecticut School of Broadcasting
- Cornell University
- CUNY—Baruch College
- CUNY—Borough of Manhattan Community College
- CUNY—Buffalo State College
- CUNY—Macaulay Honors College
- CUNY—Fiorella H. LaGuardia Community College
- CUNY—John Jay College of Criminal Justice
- CUNY—Queens College
- Daemen College
- Dominican College
- Drew College
- East Stroudsburg University of Pennsylvania
- Florida Atlantic University
- Fordham University—Lincoln Center Campus/Rose Hill Campus
- Franklin Pierce University
- Gwinnett Technical Institute
- Ithaca College
- James Madison University
- Johnson & Wales University
- LIM College Laboratory Institute of Merchandising/Art/Business
- Long Island University Post
- Marist College
- Mercy College
- Mohawk Valley College
- Molloy College
- Mount Saint College
- Nassau Community College
- New York Institute of Technology
- Northwestern University
- Ohio University
- Pace University
- Pratt University
- Princeton University
- Purdue University
- Quinnipiac University
- Rensselaer Polytechnic University





## ACCEPTED TO THE FOLLOWING COLLEGES

- Roanoke College
- Robert Morris University
- Rochester University of Technology
- Sacred Heart University
- Sarah Lawrence College
- Seton Hall University
- Southeast Technical Institute
- Southern Connecticut State University
- St. John's University
- St. Joseph's College
- Stevenson University
- Suffolk County Community College
- SUNY — Alfred State College
- SUNY — Albany
- SUNY — Broome Community College
- SUNY — Buffalo State College
- SUNY — Brockport
- SUNY — College of Environmental Science and Forestry
- SUNY — Cortland
- SUNY — Delhi
- SUNY — Farmingdale State College
- SUNY — Geneseo
- SUNY — Maritime College
- SUNY — New Paltz
- SUNY — Old Westbury
- SUNY — Oneonta
- SUNY — Oswego
- SUNY — Plattsburgh
- SUNY — Stony Brook University
- SUNY — University of Buffalo
- Syracuse University
- The College of Saint Rose
- The Ohio State University
- Towson University
- United States Naval Academy
- University of Alabama
- University of Central Florida
- University of Delaware
- University of Hartford
- University of Illinois — Urbana-Champaign
- University of Maryland — College Park
- University of Massachusetts — Amherst
- University of Mississippi
- University of New Haven
- University of Pittsburgh
- University of Scranton
- University of Rhode Island
- University of South Florida — Tampa
- Utica College
- Virginia Commonwealth University
- Worcester Polytechnic Institute



# MOVING INTO THE FUTURE

At the end of every school year, all six schools in the Farmingdale School District hold a special Moving-Up Ceremony or graduation (FHS). At each of these ceremonies, the Board of Education Scholarship & Citizenship Award and Dr. Gary E. Karp Award are presented. Read on to see who won these prestigious awards. Congratulations to all of Farmingdale's students!

## DR. GARY E. KARP COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

The Dr. Gary E. Karp Community Service Award is given to a student each year in each school service who demonstrates commitment to our schools and community and exemplifies the standard that was set by Dr. Karp, a school board member, from 1987-1997. Dr. Karp was a selfless individual who was involved in many different community organizations and encouraged our students to follow his example.

## BOARD OF EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP AND CITIZENSHIP AWARD

Each year, the Board of Education recognizes a student in each school with the Scholarship and Citizenship Award who exemplifies those characteristics that are most meaningful for success. The criteria that is used to choose this award winner include scholastic achievement, character, citizenship, discipline and leadership.

## ALBANY AVENUE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

The fifth graders from Albany Avenue Elementary School celebrated their Moving-Up Ceremony on June 20 at Farmingdale High School. They were led in to the celebration by the Sir Edward Elger's "Pomp and Circumstance," played beautifully on the piano by Mihee Hwang. Under the direction of Music Director Catherine McLoughlin, the fifth grade chorus performed a rendition of "One Call Away" by Charlie Puth. Also in attendance were Farmingdale Board of Education member Michael Goldberg and Assistant Superintendent Barbara Horsley. Additionally, Albany Avenue's Student Council President reminisced about memories of her fifth grade classmates. This year, Callie O'Brien was honored with the Board of Education Scholarship & Citizenship Award, and Matthew Pantorno received the Dr. Gary E. Karp Community Service Award.



Callie O'Brien



Matthew Pantorno

## NORTHSIDE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

At Northside Elementary School's Moving-Up Ceremony, the school's music staff performed "Trumpet Voluntary" as the 89 graduates entered Bicentennial Hall. Kacey Renneisen, Demetrios Thomatos, Vincent Horn, Rebecca Kenjesky and Isabella Rivera led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance, and the student ensemble performed the Star-Spangled Banner. Assistant Superintendent Barbara Horsley assisted Northside Principal Michael Febbraro in distributing the certificates. A video reflection of the graduates' six years at Northside brought tears of joy to all. Under the direction of Judy Feuss, the graduates entertained the audience with "Wherever I Go" by M. Poryes/S. Peterman. Mia Smith addressed the Class of 2016, and Christopher Peterson emceed the event. Additionally, the Moving-Up Ceremony program covers were created by Brendan Gigante (front cover) and Laura Chen (back cover). This year, Anjini Katari received the Board of Education Scholarship & Citizenship Award, and Mia Smith received the Dr. Gary E. Karp Community Service Award.



Anjini Katari



Mia Smith

## SALTZMAN EAST MEMORIAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Saltzman East Memorial's 2016 Moving-Up Ceremony was held on June 21. The school's Color Guard – Michael J. Fernandez, Makayla L. LoCicero, Christian Menichino, Kaylee Schneider, and Zaara F. Yaqoob – led the recitation of The Pledge of Allegiance and the SEM Senior Band, under the direction of Ms. Jenna Witterman, played a rendition of "The Star-Spangled Banner." Reflections on the year were given by Interim Principal Jennifer DeHayes. The students were greeted by the opening remarks of Principal Patricia O'Regan. Highlights of the show included Maha Hussaini's Class of 2016 address and the band performing "We Are the Young" by Mary Donnelly and "May You Always Have a Song" by Sally K. Albrecht and Jay Althouse.



Hailey Batista



Charlotte Beda Luquer

Certificates were distributed by Principal Patricia O'Regan, Interim Principal Jennifer DeHayes and Assistant Superintendent Paul Defendini. The event concluded with closing remarks by Assistant Principal Jessica Santarpia. Hailey Batista was the recipient of the Board of Education Scholarship and Citizenship Award, and Charlotte Beda Luquer received the Dr. Gary E. Karp Community Service Award.



## WOODWARD PARKWAY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Woodward Parkway Elementary School celebrated its Moving-Up Ceremony on June 22. The audience joined the 5th grade class on The Star-Spangled Banner following the Pledge of Allegiance. The Class of 2016 sang “We Are the Young” conducted by Mr. Hulse and accompanied by Mrs. Lutz. Principal Patrick Klocek, Assistant Principal Jennifer DeHayes, Board Member Kathy Lively and Assistant Superintendent Dr. Joan Ripley distributed the certificates. Assistant Principal Jennifer DeHayes provided the closing remarks. It was a touching end to a great day. Two students were recognized for their remarkable individual accolades: Patrick Murphy was awarded with the Board of Education & Citizenship Award and Sabrina Schwartz was honored with the Dr. Gary E. Karp Community Service Award. Congratulations to all the fifth graders at Woodward Parkway.



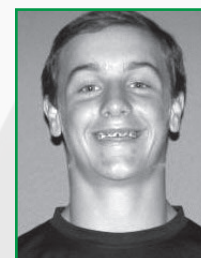
Patrick Murphy



Sabrina Schwartz

## HOWITT MIDDLE SCHOOL

Howitt Middle School held its Eighth Grade Awards Ceremony and Moving-Up Ceremony at the Howitt Courtyard on June 20, honoring students who received awards in all subject areas. Jacqui Merlo provided opening remarks, Principal Luis Peña and Jacqui Merlo provided closing remarks, and Howitt faculty members presented the many student achievers with their certificates. Additionally, the Farmingdale Board of Education and District Administration attended the ceremony. Kevin Wilson was the recipient of the Board of Education Scholarship & Citizenship Award, and Brianna Loughlin was honored with the Dr. Gary E. Karp Community Service Award.



Kevin Wilson



Brianna Loughlin

## FARMINGDALE HIGH SCHOOL

Farmingdale High School celebrated its 99th annual commencement ceremony at Hofstra University on Tuesday, June 21. Principal Glen Zakian welcomed the Class of 2016 to the ceremony, congratulating them on their immense accomplishment. High school graduation marks the culmination of over a decade of hard work and dedication to education, and the 480 students who received their diplomas earned the many congratulations that came their way. Speeches were delivered by Valedictorian Suraj Muralidharan, and Salutatorian Clarisse Baes, and District Superintendent John Lorentz and FHS Principal Glen Zakian distributed hard-earned diplomas to graduates. There were individual awards as well. Class President Deanna Rosenberg was awarded the Board of Education Scholarship & Citizenship Award, and Veronica Sack received the Dr. Gary E. Karp Award. Congratulations to Patricia and Marisa, and to the entire Class of 2016!



Deanna Rosenberg



Veronica Sack

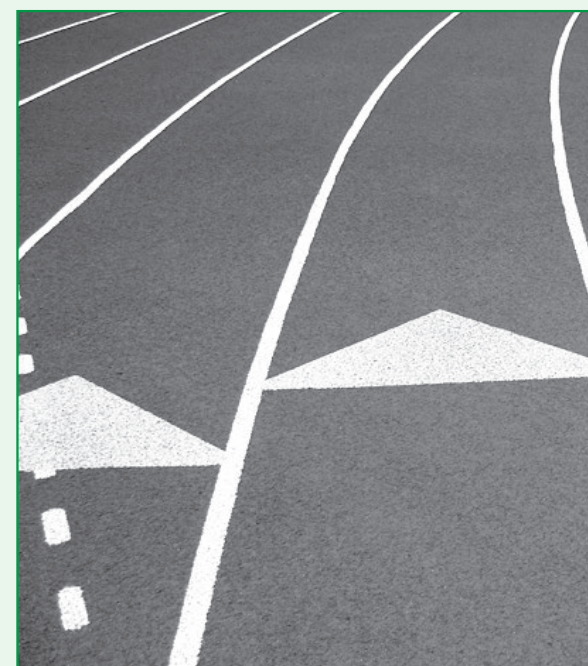
# FROM THE SPORTS DESK

## Farmingdale Sports Teams Still On a Roll—On the Field and in the Classroom

*For the Seventh Consecutive Year, ALL Farmingdale Varsity Spring Teams Earn Scholar-Athlete Status*

The Athletic Department is proud to announce that ALL varsity spring teams have achieved Scholar-Athlete team status! This is the **21st consecutive season—seventh year**—that our athletes have obtained this honor! A team is awarded scholar-athlete status when the cumulative GPA of its members is over 90. It can be a challenge for students to juggle the dual responsibilities of academics and athletics; earning such sterling grades is testament to our student’s discipline, determination and intelligence. Way to go Dalers. See below for a more detailed breakdown.

TEAM	# OF STUDENTS PARTICIPATING	TEAM AVERAGE
Boys’ Lacrosse	37	92.933
Girls’ Lacrosse	32	95.584
Boys’ Baseball	17	91.606
Girls’ Softball	16	92.917
Girls’ Badminton	34	97.082
Boys’ Tennis	25	93.897
Girls’ Spring Track	55	95.898
Boys’ Spring Track	78	95.647





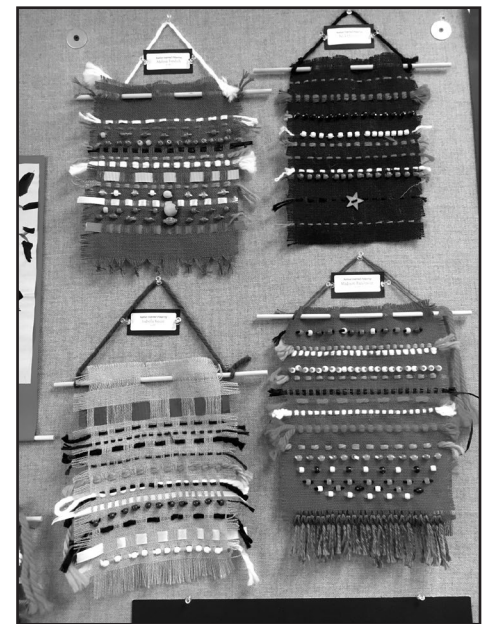
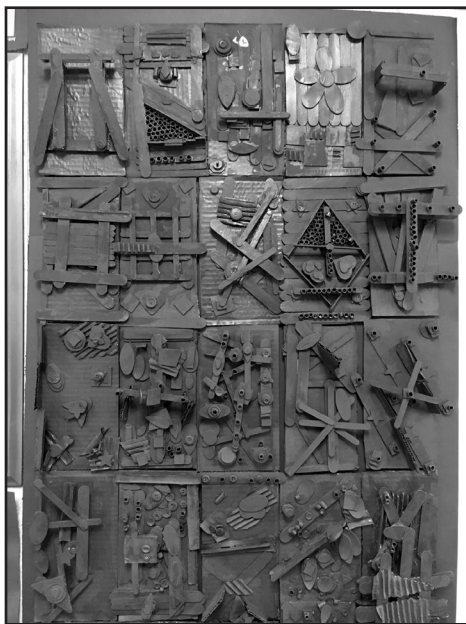
# Music and Fine Arts News

## The Talent and Creativity of Farmingdale's Students Was on Full Display During the District's Recent Art Show

For more than two weeks in May, beautiful works of art were on display at Farmingdale High School, all thanks to the boundless creativity and startling talent of Farmingdale student artists. Farmingdale's District Art Show featured student work from all six schools and was open to the public every school day from May 10 until May 27. At the opening reception, Farmingdale's art director Rita Padden thanked the 700+ students and parents who attended and applauded the combination of good teaching, student effort and parent support that created such a beautiful show. Art teachers spoke about the value of artistic experiences, the variety in the K-12 art curriculum and the accomplishments of art students.

Some of the elementary highlights included the history of the world through art. Egyptian cartouches, Native American weaving and totems, Chinese scrolls, and Mexican bark paintings were only a few of the fascinating works that captured diverse cultures through traditional works of art. Elementary students created art in the style of Seurat, Van Gogh, Mondrian, Monet and Picasso, as well as more modern greats such as Romero Britto, James Rizzi and Chuck Close. There was also art inspired by literature and pop art ceramic food!

Middle school art work displayed the variety of the art curriculum with radial designs, perspective, contrast, shading, color, positive/negative space and many other concepts. At the high school level, the work reflected studio, painting, digital photographs, life drawings, a variety of ceramic pieces, contemporary fashions, computer imaging, advertising and more. See below for samples of some of the beautiful work that was on display!



## Farmingdale High School Take First Place!

In early June, Farmingdale High School's choruses competed at Dorney Park's *Music in the Parks* competition in Allentown, Pennsylvania. Adjudicated by two renowned choral judges, the choruses received scores and comments on the pieces they performed and were ranked in their respective categories. Awarded a score of "excellent," the Women's Chorus, under the direction of Jessica Mischke, was awarded first place in the women's category; the Mixed Chorus, under the direction of Claire Zatorski, was awarded first place in the mixed category with a score of "superior."



Tenor Evan Torres was presented with the "Outstanding Vocalist" award for his solo in "Daniel, Daniel, Servant of the Lord." Additionally, both groups were awarded the coveted Esprit de Corps award, which is presented to the district whose students demonstrate proper social and musical behavior throughout the festival and the qualities of successful people. All in all, it was a wonderfully successful event for the teachers and students involved. Congratulations to the talented musicians of Farmingdale High School!

