



# Laker Digest

Friday, May 6, 2016

Edition 3

**Laker Digest** – A useful tool to help you stay connected with all of the noteworthy academic & co-curricular news, upcoming activities & events, and the awards & recognition that our students so often receive.

## **A RECAP OF WHAT'S IN THE NEWS (in case you missed it!)**

To get the complete stories and more, please click on the links.

The Citizen newspaper captured updates on the referendum Steering Committee as well as the 2016-2017 Approved budget.

[Updates on referendum Steering Committee](#) and [Editorial 2016-2017 Approved Budget](#)

[Lake Drive students get to the core of earth science](#)

Lake Drive middle school students got their scientific juices flowing by learning about volcanoes and the formation of islands.

[MLHS host annual band festival](#)

MLHS welcomed in Wildwood, Briarcliff and Rockaway Valley School students for annual band festival.

[Briarcliff Middle School stages "Really Rosie"](#)

Briarcliff Middle School student's hard worked paid off with a very successful performance of "Really Rosie"

[ML students advance to Destination Imagination Finals](#)

28 Mountain Lakes students earned the right to compete in Destination Imagination's Global Finals, the world's largest celebration of student creativity!

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## **STUDENTS DOING BIG THINGS IN THE ARTS & ACADEMICS**

To get the complete stories and more, please click on the links.

[MLHS students continue to lead the Arts in a new direction](#)

[Mountain Lakes students have received numerous academic accomplishments this spring.](#)

[MLHS Lakes hosts first Chamber Music Day](#)

[MLHS Second Annual Art Show & Sale going on now](#)

[Mountain Lakes students heading to become America's best historians](#)

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## AWARDS / RECOGNITIONS / WINS

### Friends of Education Award

**Mountain Lakes School District** is the recipient of this year's Morris County Council of Education Association (MCCEA) **Friends of Education Award!** MCCEA honors businesses, teachers, administrators, Board of Education, and districts for their support of public education.

### 2016 Morris County Superintendent Middle School Award

**Sandhya Rajagopalan** is the proud recipient of this year's award! Please [click here](#) and read about her remarkable accomplishments!

### May 16<sup>th</sup> Board of Education Meeting Recognitions

The following students and their parents have been invited to the next Board of Education Meeting for a special recognition for their outstanding accomplishments in following areas: Science Fair, Destination Imagination Global Finalists and Excellence in the Arts.

#### Science Fair Awardees:

<b>General Science Awardees:</b>	First Place: Maia Tolud (Water Quality Testing) Second Place: Rebecca Hirschfeld (Human Eye Adaptation to Darkness) Third Place: Jackson Woltman (Energy Efficiency & Cooking Pasta) Third Place: Melina Penniston (Home Made Ice Packs)
<b>STEM Awardees:</b>	First Place: Lula Duda (Analysis of Food Labels) Second Place: Ryan Lee (Solar Powered Plants) Third Place: Will Span (Home Made Van de Graaff Generator) Third Place: Samantha Ulan (Solutions and Conductivity)
<b>Breakthrough Junior Challenge</b>	Dominic Floreno

#### Destination Imagination Global Finalists:

<b>Musical Tundra – Musical Mishap (Elementary level)</b>	Team Manager: Danielle Fidacaro Students: Nicky Fidacaro, Jake Fidacaro, Will Span, Sarah McAuliffe, Rebecca Hirschfeld, Jenny Catallo, Brody O'Connor
<b>Twongue Tisters – Musial Mishap (Middle Level)</b>	Team Managers: Kim Terhune & Dawn Kraft Students: William Kraft, Andrew Sylvester, Mitra Harpale, Emma Terhune, James Daniel
<b>Mystical Polar Flames – In Plain Sight (Middle Level)</b>	Team Managers: Lisa Lees & Lauren Barnett Students: Aneesh Gadgil, Daniel Leshnower, Adam Lees, Katherine Kostak, Kate Terhune, Jamie Barnett
<b>Mountain Lakes HS – (High School Level)</b>	Team Manager: Elena Goldthwaite Students: Daniel DiGiovanni, Reid Goodbar, Jared Goldfischer, Jack Willke, Jake Muilenburg, Chatham Abate, Owen Goldthwaite
<b>The FanTABulous Four - The Meme Event (HS Level)</b>	Team Managers: Andrea Chipana and Dawn Kraft Students: Emma Terhune, Harrison Kraft, Peter John Droggitis, Jeremy Anderson

#### Excellence in the Arts:

<b>Choral Music:</b>	Erin Bender, Sydney Dydensborg, Nicole Giordano
<b>Instrumental Music:</b>	Sophie Huang, Alex Laurenzi
<b>Drama:</b>	Nicole Giordano, Jillian Gellman, Ella Harris-Hohne
<b>Visual Art:</b>	Corinne Carmiche

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## **Sports Accomplishments:**

### **Boys Tennis Team**

Finished in second place overall in the Morris County tournament! All three of our singles players made it to the finals and placed in second. Our second doubles team made it to the semi-finals.

1 <sup>st</sup> Singles, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	<b>Sam Eden, freshman</b>
2 <sup>nd</sup> Singles, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	<b>John Rudden, sophomore</b>
3 <sup>rd</sup> Singles, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	<b>Oliver Whang, junior</b>
2 <sup>nd</sup> Doubles, 4 <sup>th</sup> Place	<b>Tom Rappleye, senior and Brent Schiller, junior</b>

### **Boys and Girls Track Teams**

Both our boys and girls track teams clinched the championships in the dual meet season for the Liberty Division in the NJAC.

### **Lacrosse Team**

Girls Lacrosse player **Sarah Bedard** scored her 100th career goal on Saturday versus Villa Walsh!

## **CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF OUR WINNING STUDENTS, ARTISTS & ATHLETES!**

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### **ALUMNI NEWS**

**Lindsey Munday**, class of 2002 and sister of Wildwood Teacher Jen Topakas class of 1999, has lead a remarkable season as the head coach of University of Southern California's Women's Lacrosse team. Lindsey has brought the team to win their league title and are 19-0. They are now headed to the NCAA National Tournament, which is a tremendous feat in only the fourth year of the program at USC. Please follow Lindsay and her team by clicking [University of Southern California Women's Lacrosse](#).

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### **IN OTHER NEWS**

#### **April 27<sup>th</sup> will be remembered as "Bob Sproha Day"**

Students and faculty came together to celebrate cherished colleague, Bob Sproha, and to raise money for a scholarship in his name. Faculty and students participated in a bake sale, kickball tournament, and the selling of "Buy one of Bob's Ties". It was a lovely tribute and memorable day for all who were involved. If you would like to donate to the scholarship fund, please drop off your contributions at the high school's main office. Thank you very much for your consideration.

#### **Wildwood's Celebrates Arbor Day and the "Seeds of the Future"**

Wildwood kicked into spring on Arbor Day which took place on April 28<sup>th</sup>. Students, faculty, administrators and honorary guests were all there for the celebration. Wildwood band sang "For the Beauty of the Earth" and the first graders sang "The Garden Song". Neighbor Edwina Marchev read the [The Wildwood Seed](#) skit which was directed by Janet Horst. Please click here to read the full skit of [The Wildwood Seed](#).

#### **May 24th Special Education Forum:**

##### **Helping Students and Their Families Better Manage Stress and Anxiety**

Lori Phelan, Sage Day Counselor, will be leading this important forum. Sage In-District Services are designed to provide identified students with a higher level of support than they would typically get in a regular school setting. Our skilled clinical team work with administration and staff to provide a seamless counseling experience for the student. All parents are invited to attend the forum.

## **Mountaineer**

Keep current with MLHS and click here to visit the [online Mountaineer](#)

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### **DID YOU KNOW?**

#### **MLHS Band Director, Chris Bernotas, has impressive news to share:**

“After attending my session at the Texas Music Education Association conference in San Antonio, the folks at Smartmusic asked if I would write a feature article for them. I was glad to do so and share some of the teaching strategies that I use with our Mountain Lakes students. Our district's support of music education has fostered the idea of taking risks and challenging students in a positive and healthy way. I am glad to be part of our teaching and learning community. It is also very nice to be able to share the concepts used here with other teachers throughout the nation. I wanted to share the article with you and say thank you for all your support.” Mr. Chris Bernotas <http://www.smartmusic.com/blog/>

#### **MLHS Guidance Office is now tweeting!**

The MLHS Counseling Department has created a twitter account to advertise programs, college visits, scholarships, and other important information for students. Follow them on Twitter at ML Counseling Department.

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### **FROM THE MAIN OFFICE**

#### **Referendum Small Group Discussions Now Available**

For the month of May, Dr. Anne Mucci will be hosting a number of in person, small group meetings to informally review the referendum proposal and offer residents the opportunity to provide input that will be used to define our proposal. You can sign up for the talks by clicking [here](#) to access the e-vite and schedule your time. If you have trouble with the link, the page can also be found here <http://www.mlschools.org/Page/3638>.

We also encourage you to review our new website, <http://www.mlschools.org/Page/3636>, to learn more about the referendum process.

### **PARCC**

With two weeks left to go of PARCC testing, we want to acknowledge all of our faculty, students and parents for doing a tremendous job of getting through a very hectic, challenging and stressful time. We will be in the homestretch of summer soon when everyone can find some time to catch up on some much needed relaxation and fun.

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### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

#### **Briarcliff / Rockaway Valley 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Mixer**

**May 13<sup>th</sup> | 7:30 pm**

**Mountain Lakes High School**

#### **“Thanks for Being You” Recognition**

**May 18<sup>th</sup> | 7:30 pm**

**Mountain Lakes High School**

**Wildwood Spring Concert**  
**May 18<sup>th</sup> | 7:00 pm**  
**Wildwood Elementary School**

**MLHS Spring Instrumental Concert**  
**May 19<sup>th</sup> | 7:30 pm**  
**Mountain Lakes High School**

**Briarcliff 7th Grade Dance**  
**May 20<sup>th</sup> | 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm**  
**Briarcliff Gym**

**MLHS Guitar Recital**  
**May 24<sup>th</sup> | 7:30 pm**  
**Mountain Lakes High School**

**Special Ed Forum: Helping Students and Their Families Better Manage Stress and Anxiety**  
**May 24<sup>th</sup> | 7:30 pm**  
**Mountain Lakes High School**

**MLHS Spring Choral Concert**  
**May 26<sup>th</sup> | 7:30 pm**  
**Mountain Lakes High School**

**Briarcliff Middle School Spring Concert**  
**June 2<sup>nd</sup> | 7:00 pm**  
**Briarcliff Middle School**

**National Honor Society Induction**  
**June 7<sup>th</sup> | 7:30 pm**  
**Mountain Lakes High School**

**Briarcliff Middle School Book Fair**  
**June 7<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup>**  
**Briarcliff Middle School**

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## **Contact Us**

If you know someone in the community who would like to receive **Laker Digest** or if you have an item for consideration in an upcoming edition, please email Julie Levine at [jlevine@mlschools.org](mailto:jlevine@mlschools.org)

For questions, please contact Dr. Anne Mucci, Superintendent of Schools at: Phone (973) 334-8280 or email at [amucci@mlschools.org](mailto:amucci@mlschools.org)

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[Laker Digest Archives](#)