

Wappingers CSD high school students honor American POW/MIAs



America's POW/MIA soldiers were remembered recently by Wappingers Central School District administrators, staff and students at John Jay Senior High School and Roy C. Ketcham High School. Among the groups present were American Legion Post 427 Wappingers Falls, American Legion Post 1758 Hopewell Junction, Disabled American Veterans Chapter 144 Castle Point, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 5913 Wappingers Falls.

-Courtesy photos from Wappingers CSD



Wappingers Central School District (Wappingers CSD) high schools, John Jay Senior HS and Roy C. Ketcham Senior HS, each hosted a ceremony honoring our country's POW/MIA soldiers. The ceremony was led by Air Force veteran and Board of Education trustee Virgil Capollari, who was joined by representatives from local chapters of Veterans of Foreign Wars, the American Legion, and Disabled American Veterans, as well as members of the BOE and Wappingers CSD administration.

Capollari shared with students the history and importance of the POW/MIA flag, which serves as a symbol of our

nation's commitment to their return. "Many of our soldiers lost their lives on foreign soil—and until they are brought home, we do not have a full accounting of them. It's important to remind everyone that they are not forgotten," he said.

Wappingers CSD Superintendent Dr. Dwight Bonk thanked our service members in attendance, and reminded students that "the price of our freedom is often paid with soldiers' lives, and we owe them our respect and gratitude." The respective principals also thanked our soldiers, and their students for giving their full and respectful attention to this event.

Truitt announces bid for Dutchess County Comptroller



On Feb. 22, Dutchess County Legislator Will Truitt announced that he is running for the office of Dutchess County Comptroller.

-Courtesy photo

In front of a standing-room-only crowd of over 100 supporters on Saturday, Feb. 22, Dutchess County Legislature Chairman Will Truitt announced that he will run for Dutchess County Comptroller in the November election this year. A ten-year veteran of the Dutchess County Legislature, Truitt has served as the chairman since January of 2024.

"I am running for comptroller to return this office to the people and fight for their priorities," Truitt said. "Dutchess County needs a strong fiscal watchdog who will ensure that taxpayer dollars are spent efficiently. I have the right blend of public and private sector financial experience; and have built relationships with stakeholders across county government and in our community that will serve me well in this role."

Truitt is a graduate of Marist University, holding a degree in finance and accounting. In a professional capacity, he manages the finances for a local, family-owned construction business in Dutchess County. He has also previously

served as the chairman of the Dutchess County Legislature's influential Budget, Finance and Personnel Committee.

Introducing Truitt at the event Saturday was former Dutchess County Executive and U.S. Congressman Marc Molinaro. "I, more than anyone, have seen first-hand how Will has grown from an honest young man eager to serve his community into the knowledgeable and well-respected public servant that he is today. In his time in the legislature, he has helped deliver ten consecutive budgets that have cut the property tax rate while increasing investments in our seniors, veterans and youth. I know that he will take this spirit of service into his role as comptroller and will work tirelessly on behalf of Dutchess County taxpayers," said Molinaro.

"From the bottom of my heart, I want to thank everyone for all of their support" Truitt said. "I am excited to hit the campaign trail and meet the voters of Dutchess County. I will work hard to earn your vote and demonstrate to you why I am the right person for this job."

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