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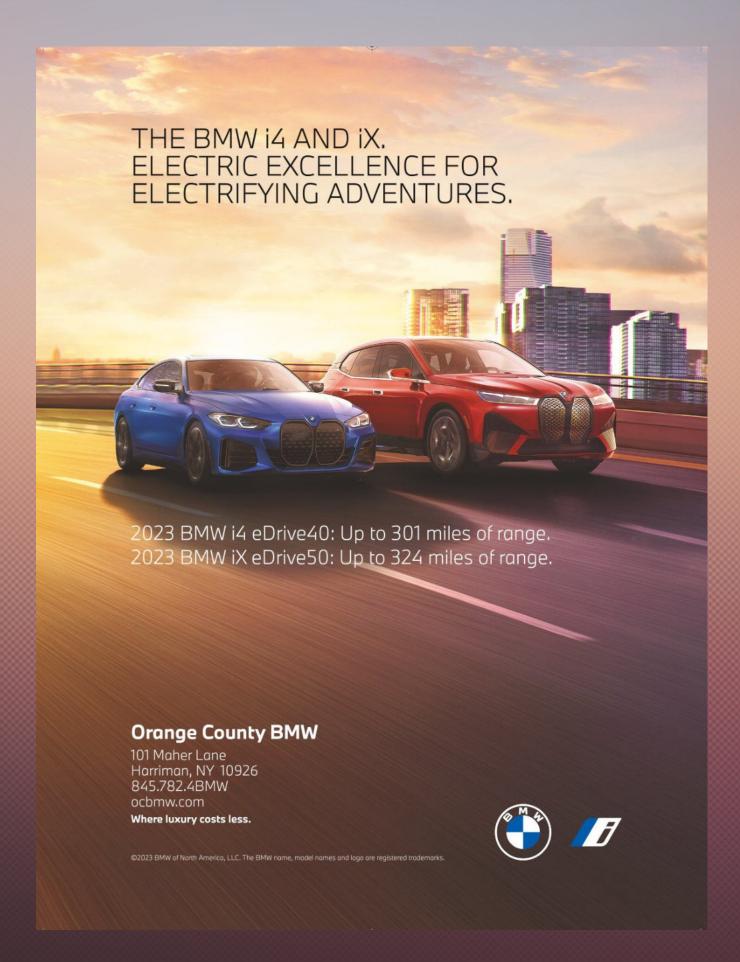




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From a Teddy Bear to a Rough Rider A President That Fought With Fist and Voice

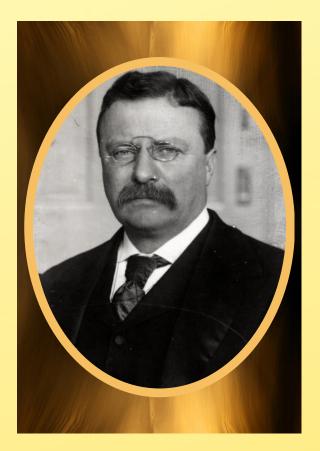
Theodore (Teddy) Roosevelt, the 26th president of the United States, is the person responsible for giving the teddy bear its name. In 1902, President Roosevelt was on a hunting trip in Mississippi. As reported in the Washington Post, the presidential hunting party hunted and lassoed a lean, black bear, then tied it to a tree. The president was summoned, but when he arrived on the scene he refused to shoot the tied and exhausted bear, considering it to be unsportsmanlike.

The following day, Clifford Barryman, Washington Post editorial cartoonist, immortalized the incident as part of a front-page cartoon montage. Barryman pictured Roosevelt, his gun before him with the butt resting on the ground and his back to the animal, gesturing his refusal to take the trophy shot. Written across the lower part of the cartoon were the words "Drawing the Line in Mississippi," which coupled the hunting incident to a then, political dispute.

The cartoon drew immediate attention. It has been said that in Brooklyn, NY, upon reading the article, shopkeeper Morris Michtom, displayed 2 toy bears in the window of his Stationary and novelty store. His wife Rose, had made the bears from plush, stuffed excelsior and finished them with black shoe button eyes. Michtom recognized the immediate popularity of the new toy, requested, and received permission from Roosevelt himself to call them "Teddy's Bears."

The little stuffed bears were a success. As demand for them increased, Michtom later moved his business to a loft, under the name of the Ideal Novelty and Toy Corporation.

Theodore "Teddy" Roosevelt (October 27, 1858 -January 6, 1919) was noted for his exuberant personality, range of interests, achievements, and his leadership of the Progressive Movement, as well as his "cowboy" persona and robust masculinity. He was a leader of the Republican Party and founder of the short-lived Progressive ("Bull Moose") Party of 1912. Before becoming President, he held offices at the city, state, and federal levels. Roosevelt's achievements as a naturalist, explorer, hunter, author, and soldier are as much a part of his fame as any office he held as a politician. Roosevelt was 42 years old when sworn in as President of the United States in 1901, making him the youngest president ever. He was also one of only three sitting presidents to have won the Nobel Peace Prize.





Roosevelt often described his ancestry as "half Irish and half Dutch". His patrilineal Roosevelt family, colonists of Dutch origin, had been in New York since the mid-17th century. He was born into considerable wealth. The family, by the 19th century, had grown in wealth and influence from the profits of several businesses, including hardware and plate-glass importing.

The family was strongly Democratic in its political affiliation until the mid-1850s, and then joined the new Republican Party. Theodore's father, known in the family as "Thee", was a New York philanthropist, merchant, and partner in the family glass-importing firm, Roosevelt and Son.

"Father," as the children called him, was an ardent patriot and a prominent supporter of Abraham Lincoln and the Union effort during the Civil War. His mother Martha "Mittie" Bulloch was a Southern belle from a slave-owning family in Roswell, Georgia, and she maintained Confederate sympathies. Theodore Roosevelt was distantly related by birth to the 32nd president of the United States, Franklin Delano Roosevelt (they were fifth cousins), and he was the uncle and guardian of Franklin D. Roosevelt's wife, Eleanor Roosevelt.

Teddy Roosevelt was a sickly child who suffered from asthma and stayed at home studying natural history. To compensate for his physical weakness, he embraced a strenuous life. Homeschooled, he became an eager student of nature. He attended Harvard University, where he studied biology, boxed, and developed an interest in naval affairs. In 1881, one year out of Harvard, he was elected to the New York State Assembly, where he became a leader of the reform faction of his Republican party (the "GOP").

His "The Naval War of 1812", (1882), established his professional reputation as a serious historian; he wrote numerous books on hunting, the outdoors, and current political issues, as well as frontier history.

Continued next pg



In 1884, his wife and his mother died on the same day. He eventually left politics and went to the frontier, becoming a rancher in the "Badlands" in the Dakotas where he became a deputy sheriff. While searching for a group of relentless horse thieves, Roosevelt met Seth Bullock, the famous sheriff of Deadwood, South Dakota.

The two would remain friends for life. After the uniquely severe winter of the late 1800's wiped out his herd of cattle (together with those of his competitors) and most of his \$80,000 investment, Roosevelt returned to the East.

Returning home, he ran for mayor, finishing third. He later gained fame by taking vigorous charge of the city police. The Spanish-American War broke out in 1898 while Roosevelt was effectively running the Department of the Navy. He promptly resigned, and formed the "Rough Riders".

At that time, the United States Army was weakened and left with little manpower after the American Civil War roughly thirty years prior. As a result, President William McKinley called upon 1,250 volunteers to assist in the war effort.

Wood's second in command was Theodore Roosevelt, when Colonel Wood became commander of the 2nd Cavalry Brigade; the Rough Riders then became "Roosevelt's Rough Riders", and Roosevelt fought side by side with them. That term was familiar in 1898, from Buffalo Bill who called his famous western show "Buffalo Bill's Wild West and Congress of Rough Riders of the World". The Rough Riders were mostly Native Americans, college athletes, cowboys, and ranchers. On August 12th, 1898, the Spanish Government surrendered to the United States and agreed to an armistice that relinquished their control of Cuba.

The armistice also gained the United States control of the territories of Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Philippines. This was an enormous turning point for America, which had been wounded by civil war for over thirty years. Gaining such a large mass of land all at once brought the United States up on the ladder of world powers. The Spanish-American War also began a trend of United States intervention in foreign affairs.

In WWI, Just after the United States entered the war against the Central Powers, the U.S. Congress gave Roosevelt the authority to raise up to four divisions similar to the Rough Riders. Roosevelt immediately selected eighteen officers including his good friend from Deadwood, South Dakota, Seth Bullock. After several months, many more men joined Roosevelt's World War I volunteers.

On September 2nd, 1901, at the Minnesota State Fair, Roosevelt first used in a public speech, a saying that would later be universally associated with him: "Speak softly and carry a big stick, and you will go far".

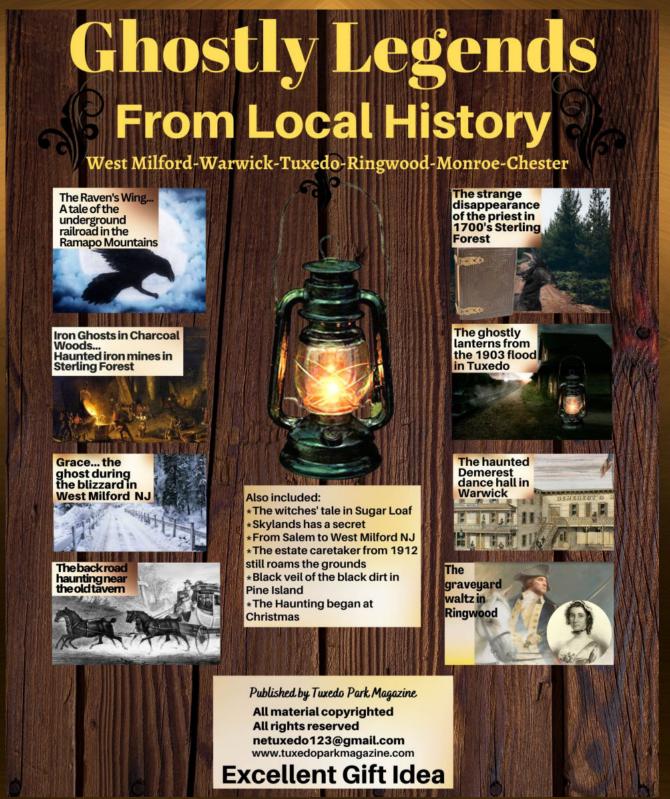
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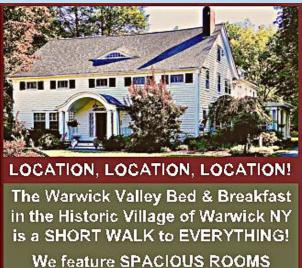
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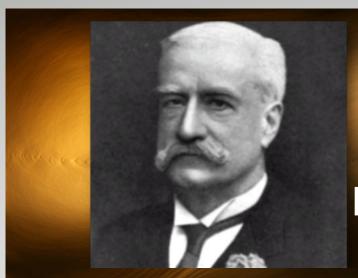
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Henry William Poor Tuxedo Park Resident Founder of S&P 500

Henry William Poor was born in Bangor, Maine in 1844, the son of Henry Varnum Poor. The family moved to New York City when he was five years old, and he spent his youth there. He attended Harvard University. The firm that he and his father established in 1868, H. V. & H. W. Poor, was a predecessor to the business that eventually became Standard & Poor's.

Henry was a banker, stock broker and author, a man thoroughly American in sentiment, an authority of world wide reputation in railway matters and statistics, and for character and accomplishments highly regarded. All of his ancestors on both sides of the family originated in England and established themselves in Massachusetts in the earliest colonial times, where they shared in all the activities of their day for subduing the wilderness and the Indian tribes, planting a commonwealth, and creating in the new world a representative form of government. Ezekiel Merrill, great-grandfather of Mr. Poor on his father's side, held a commission as an officer and wielded a sword bravely in the American Revolution. He served in Colonel Gerrish's regiment, April 19, 1775, when the Minute Men in New England were summoned, at the time of the Lexington alarm, to withstand the aggressions of the British troops, and had the honor to be present in the American army at the time of Burgoyne's surrender at Saratoga, Oct. 17, 1777. In 1785, he moved to Andover, Me., situated among the mountains of Oxford county near the Rangeley Lakes.

Benjamin Franklin, great great uncle of Mr. Poor, performed services in the period of the struggle for independence. On his mother's side, also, Mr. Poor is a grandson of the Rev. John Pierce, who presided over the first parish church in Brookline, Mass., for over fifty years and was a prominent figure in the annals of Harvard University, his picture occupying a conspicuous position in Memorial Hall at Cambridge, Mass.

His father, Henry V. Poor, a graduate, in 1835, of Bowdoin College, Maine, was a lawyer in Bangor, Me., until 1849, when he moved with his family to New York and was well known in this city in railway affairs and as editor of The American Railroad Journal, which he conducted until 1863. In 1865, he retired from active life and moved to Brookline, Mass. He became the author of various financial and statistical works.

The banking firm, of which Mr. Poor was the senior partner, was organized in 1880, under the name of Anthony, Poor & Oliphant. They located their office at No. 19 Broad street and attracted important clients from the start. They took the name of Poor, White & Co., in 1883, upon the addition to it of B. Ogden White, who had been for twenty years the secretary of the New York Stock Exchange. In 1884, the name was again changed to Poor, White & Greenough by accession of John Greenough, a classmate of Mr. Poor in Harvard University, and who formerly had been a leading merchant in the South American business, in which he had accumulated a fortune.

The house had always managed its affairs with prudence, energy and ability and was prominent in Wall street, both partners being rated as millionaires. It represented a number of important foreign interests and corporations, had extensive English and continental connections, deals largely in railway and other securities, having issued upward of \$100,000,000 of railway loans, was important in railroad reorganizations, and had acted as financial agents of The Louisville, New Albany & Chicago Railway, The New York, Ontario & Western Railway, The Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway and many other corporations.

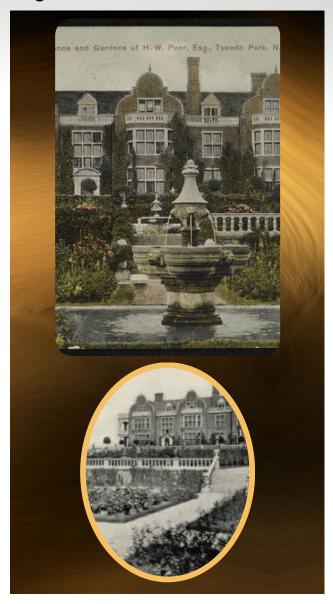
Mr. Poor purchased a seat in the Stock Exchange, in 1890, and individually had made investments and was active in the management of a large number of corporations, in which his counsel had been desired. He was the president of the Kansas City & Pacific Railway; an active director of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway; a director of the Bank of the State of New York, chairman of the Sherman, Shreveport & Southern Railway; as well as a director of the United States Casualty Co. He had also been connected at various times with many other corporations in an official capacity.

Mr. Poor was a man of refined and scholarly tastes and prominent in the social life of the city. He was an ardent student and a great lover of books and had, by careful and gradual accumulation, collected one of the finest private libraries in the city of New York; and he maintained his vigor for business pursuits by recreation in the open air, having been distinguished in youth for prominence in athletic sports and great physical strength.



Among the clubs of which he was a member are the Union Club, Harvard Club, and Tuxedo Club. Tuxedo Park is where he had a grand home built and enjoyed Tuxedo Park for its society and beautiful landscape. He was also a prominent member in the American Institute of Fine Arts, a member of The New York Geographical & Statistical Society, The Metropolitan Museum of Art and The American Museum of Natural History and The Hakluyt Society of London. He was also a director of The Symphony and Oratorio Societies and a member of The Musical Art Society. He was married to Constance Brandon, and was the father of four children. Tuxedo Park Magazine

Henry William Poor's home in Tuxedo Park



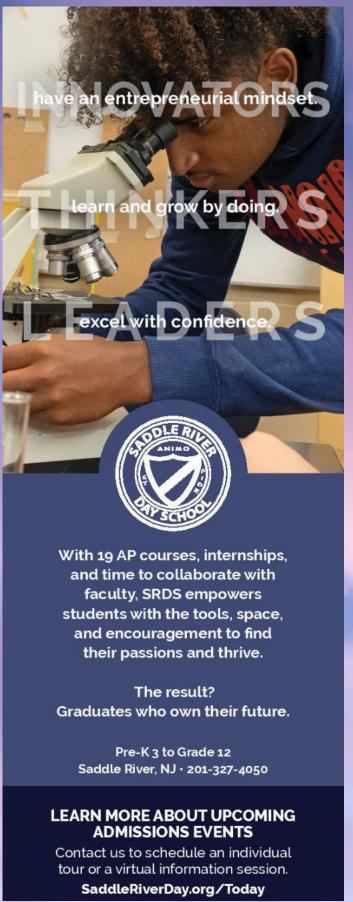
There's an argument to be made for

Middle School Debate

Anyone who cares for a teen or tween would probably agree that kids this age are experts at presenting a strong case when they want things like extra screen time, a new puppy, or fewer veggies on their dinner plate. But there's a big difference between advocating for oneself with one's parents and marshaling a well-constructed, researched argument for or against a topic, and then presenting that argument in public. It was these skills that were on display when Saddle River Day School hosted a Garden State Debate League Tournament on December 3rd.

We all have opinions, some strongly held and some less so. As we have seen in recent years, the way these points of view are communicated makes a great difference in the way they are received and we are perceived. This is why learning the art of debate is an important life skill for students at Saddle River Day School, so they can effectively carry out the mission of the school to "become a caring and ethical contributor to society" by, as debate coach and Middle School history teacher, Radley Glasser puts it, "developing and articulating their own thoughts, but also considering opposing opinions critically and empathetically, while engaging in civil, yet substantive, discourse."

During debate prep, our students had to carefully prepare to take a position and then defend it on topics that included: the value of homework, the influence of TikTok, and raising the minimum wage in New Jersey. The trick is that our students didn't know which position they would be asked to defend. Perhaps in their real life, they believe that TikTok is a valuable tool for sharing information and education. But during the debate, they might be required to argue exactly the opposite, a valuable lesson in seeing and understanding the other side.

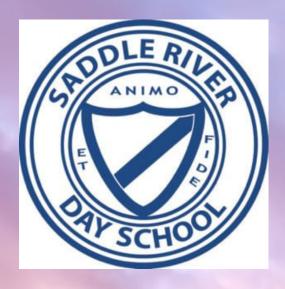


Speaking in teams of three, the students participated in four rounds of debate with 20 minutes or less to organize and rehearse their arguments in between rounds. Any of us who has rehearsed in front of the mirror for days before we make a request for a raise or job promotion can marvel at how quickly these 5th through 8th graders planned and prosecuted their cases.

This was the first ever debate tournament for SRDS middle schoolers Ari, Praadhyumn, Gaia, Evan, Colton, Cece, Noah L., Krishang, Matthew, and Brett but they were competing against over 200 seasoned debaters from schools like The Hun School in Princeton, Broad Street School, and Cedar Hill Prep.

They should all be proud that each of their teams scored a victory in their individual rounds. It takes a great deal of courage to speak in a public forum with conviction and clarity. It also takes confidence and skill. These Middle School students should be proud that they are developing an expertise many adults will never even try to tackle. Congratulations to the Saddle River Day Middle School debate team and best wishes in your next tournament. But be warned, even your recently developed, superior skills of persuasion probably won't get you that puppy.









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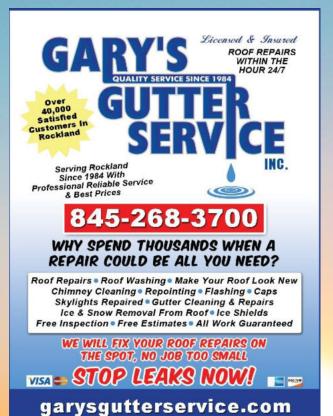






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