

# Greenport Rotary Student of the Month

## 2024-2025

The Rotary Club of Greenport has been honoring Greenport students with a Student of the Month Award since 1984. The Greenport Rotary Club has also been generous with over \$8000 in scholarships.

Each Student of the Month award is aligned with an area of focus on Rotary International and honors students who promote these ideals in grades 9-12.

*The Greenport Interact Clubs are dedicated to working with the Greenport Rotary Club to instill the key values of Rotary International.*



# September:

## Focus on Education and Literacy

Mildre Granados Rodas is a Senior. She is committed to nurturing the minds of young learners. Over the past years, Mildre has volunteered in the elementary school and has worked, both after school and during the summer, at the Center for Advocacy, Support, and Transformation (CAST) in Southold. Through these experiences she has gained invaluable experience in early childhood development. Mildre is a recipient of an American Legion essay award. As part of her participation in this contest, she explored her writing and communication skills. Mildre is also active outside of school, babysitting and caring for children in the community. Mildre aspires to become a daycare or elementary school teacher and plans on pursuing a post-secondary education in early childhood development.



## Congratulations Mildre!



# October:

## Focus on Education and Literacy.....

Jaqueline Garcia Lopez is a Sophomore. She is committed to her education and to making a positive impact in the Greenport community. While in school, Jaqueline takes a hands-on approach to learning, lending a helping hand whenever she can. Jaqueline also babysits for many children in the community, nurturing their development while simultaneously learning invaluable life skills. Jaqueline is also an entrepreneur, in addition to her many babysitting jobs, she creates crafts including bracelets and silk bouquets. Jaqueline also has a passion for teaching and aspires to become an early childhood educator. She believes that every child deserves a supportive and engaging learning environment, and she is excited to contribute to their growth and development.



## Congratulations Jaqueline!



# November:

## Focus on Peace & Conflict

Faith Welch is a Junior. Faith is thoroughly involved in the high school experience here in Greenport. She is a founding member and President of the newly established African-American Studies Club, a platform through which she advocates for positive change in her communities, and President of the Student Council. She is a cadet in NJROTC, and a member of the Mock Trial Club and DECA, and she contributes to the school newspaper, The Quill. Faith also enjoys singing in the A Capella choir, including for the Rotary during the holiday season, and performing with the High School Drama Club, this year she will appear in the role of Fiona in the school's production of Shrek. And as with many of these activities, she is a long-standing member of the varsity cheerleading squad.

Faith is equally dedicated to her community. In her church in Cutchogue, she serves as a youth leader, co-teaches youth Sunday school, and sings on the praise team. In June, during Greenport's second annual Juneteenth celebration, she presented an article she had written underscoring the importance of the Juneteenth holiday. She was then named Youth Ambassador to the North Fork affiliate of Coming to the Table, an organization focused on racial healing. Over the summer, Faith interned at the Stirling and Oysterponds Historical Societies where, through the archival process and research, she gained a deeper understanding of the region's history. More recently, she was accepted into the Junior Scholars program at the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture in Harlem, where she continues to delve into African American history and culture.

Faith plans to attend a HBCU College, preferably Spelman, where she intends to double major in philosophy and history, with a minor in African American studies. She aspires to become a lawyer, specializing in the representation of wrongfully convicted African Americans.



# Congratulations Faith!





# December:

## Focus on Fighting Disease & Promoting Maternal and Child Health

Alessandra (Aly) DeLaNoval is our Fighting Disease and Promoting Maternal and Child Health Student of the Month. Aly is a senior.

Aly has been actively involved in a wide variety of the extracurricular opportunities offered through the District. Earlier this month, she signed a letter of intent to play lacrosse as a student at Catawba College in North Carolina. Just this past weekend, she and the other members of the Southold-Greenport Competitive Cheer squad won a spot in the Nationals in Florida this February. As with lacrosse, she has enjoyed playing field hockey and serving as a cadet in the NJROTC program for all four years of her high school career. She also contributes to the school newspaper, the Quill, sings in the A Capella Choir, and is a member of the DECA club.

Aly has demonstrated a long-term commitment to her fellow students. In addition to having served as a class officer for each of the past four years and previously serving as secretary of the Student Council, she also serves as the current president of the Athletic Booster Club. She is a long-standing member of Morgan's Message, a non-profit organization focused on improving student-athlete mental health. During the latest field hockey season, Aly facilitated the dedication of a game to this organization allowing her to spread awareness of the mental health issues facing students-athletes while also raising funds to support the organization's cause.

Aly will be attending Catawba College, where she will be a pre-med major while playing lacrosse on the Division 2 level.



# Congratulations Aly!



# January:

## Focus on Vocational Education

Raelynn Hayes is our Vocational Education Student of the Month. Raelynn is a senior.

Raelynn has been involved in a variety of extracurricular activities while attending Greenport High School. She is a long-standing member of A Capella and the Drama Club, and has been a cast member in the two most recent musicals. She is also a long-standing member of the GSA, serving as the Treasurer for three years and enjoying participating in numerous fundraisers and events. Community service is important to Raelynn; she has volunteered many hours to the food relief and education efforts offered through the Center for Advocacy, Support, and Transformation (CAST) in Southold.

Raelynn is a student in the two-year Culinary Program at Eastern Suffolk BOCES. She is eager to learn everything she can about the food service industry, and in her first year of the BOCES program, she obtained the ServeSafe Food Manager's Certificate. She has also won First Place for Restaurant Service in last years' Skills USA Regional Competition, a competition she plans on entering again this year. After she graduates from high school, she will be heading off to culinary school with the goal of opening her own pastry cafe.



# Congratulations Raelynn!



# February:

## Focus on Journalism

Gabriel Alvizures is our Journalism Student of the Month. Gabe is a senior.

Gabe has been involved in many activities while a student in the Greenport School District. As a senior, he is a member of the Journalism Club and has had many articles appear in Greenport's school magazine, The Quill. He is also a member of the Virtual Enterprise Class as well as the Yearbook and the Senior Class Clubs, clubs in which he serves as President. Over the course of the past four years, he has also been in the Photography Club and served as the President of the Sophomore Class Club.

While in school, and as a freshman and a senior, Gabe has represented Greenport on the boys soccer teams. This is an activity that he also enjoys participating in outside of school along with fishing, photography, swimming, skating, and working out. Gabe also works when he is not in school.

When he graduates, Gabe would like to get certified in the electric field with the goal of starting his own electric company. He plans on attending New England Institute of Technology as the first step in reaching this goal.



# Congratulations Gabriel!



# March:

## Focus on Service & Sustainability

Liliana Sanchez Diaz is our Service and Sustainability Student of the Month. Liliana is a junior.

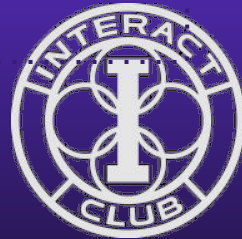
Throughout high school, Liliana has been a member of the Interact Club, the focus of which is on community service. As a member of this club, she has helped organize and set up a number of events involving her school colleagues and directed to the community at large, including the Easter Egg Hunt and Trunk or Treat. She has also been a cadet in NJROTC, an organization that helps students develop leadership skills while being active in their community. Liliana plans on continuing her service to the community as a member of both of these organizations during her senior year.

Liliana's dedication to her community extends to her activities outside of school. She is a member of Saint Agnes R.C. Church where, among other things, she participates in church-sponsored food drives. Liliana also works at Little Creek Oyster Farm and Market in Greenport.

Liliana plans on attending college after she graduates. Currently, she is interested in attending either Notre Dame University, Fordham University, or SUNY Stony Brook with a focus on pre-law studies or criminology.



# Congratulations Liliana!





# April:

## Focus on High Technology

Matthew Versheck is our High Technology Student of the Month. Matthew is a senior.

For the past three years, Matthew's focus has been on technology within the school building lending an extra hand whenever and wherever it has been needed. Among other things, Matthew has assisted the IT Department by connecting Chromebooks to the network for the high school and setting up Chromebook carts for the elementary school. He has also helped with the plays put on by the Drama Department.

Matthew has participated in his community in a variety of ways. In addition to assisting his contemporaries in setting up and refurbishing computers and cell phones, he volunteered at the Senior Class Spaghetti Fundraiser and participated in Job Shadow Day at Peconic Landing. Additionally, Matthew helped clean out the South Free Library during its refurbishment.

Matthew plans on attending Suffolk County Community College with the goal of obtaining a degree in the cybersecurity field. He is currently interested in the surveillance component of cybersecurity. Matthew is also considering working in the Greenport schools, supporting the students in their goals as a teacher aide.



# Congratulations Matthew!



# May:

## Focus on Leadership

Gavin Sage is our Leadership in the Community Student of the Month. Gavin is a Senior.

Gavin is a member of two organizations that empower and equip students with the knowledge and skills to be transformative leaders in their communities; for the past two years, he has been a member of the National Honor Society, which also encourages and recognizes academic excellence and this year, he became a member of the Interact Club. Gavin is also a member of Greenport's Virtual Enterprise program, for which he serves as the Vice President of Marketing, as well as the Museum and the DECA Clubs. And for the past three years, Gavin has been on the Varsity Golf team and the Theatre Spotlight Director.

Gavin is also active in his community. In addition to working at Founder's Tavern in Southold, he performs community service for St. Agnes Church through the CCD program.

Gavin will be attending college this fall, having committed to Providence College in Providence, Rhode Island. His plan is to study business and marketing.



# Congratulations Gavin!



# June:

## Focus on Protecting The Environment

John McInnis is our Environment Student of the Month. John is a Senior.

John is currently the Editor-in-Chief of the Quill, Greenport's school newspaper, where he has also authored articles focusing on environmental issues. He is a member of the National Honor Society, an organization that recognizes and encourages academic excellence, leadership, service, and character. And he has participated in the Rotary Youth Leadership Association (RYLA) both as a student and a mentor.

In the community, John built and has maintained the "augmented reality" or AR sandbox at the East End Seaport Museum. Using this hands-on exhibit, which allows users to shape miniature landscapes from sand that are then augmented in real-time with virtual elevation maps, contour lines, and simulated water, he has taught children about the environment, including on such topics as erosion and water dynamics. John has also helped to build and market a local microgreen business through the development of its online presence, setting up social media and ad campaigns.

John will be attending college this fall, having committed to Wesleyan University in Middletown, Connecticut. He plans on focusing his studies on the sciences while continuing to work with local businesses.



# Congratulations John!

