

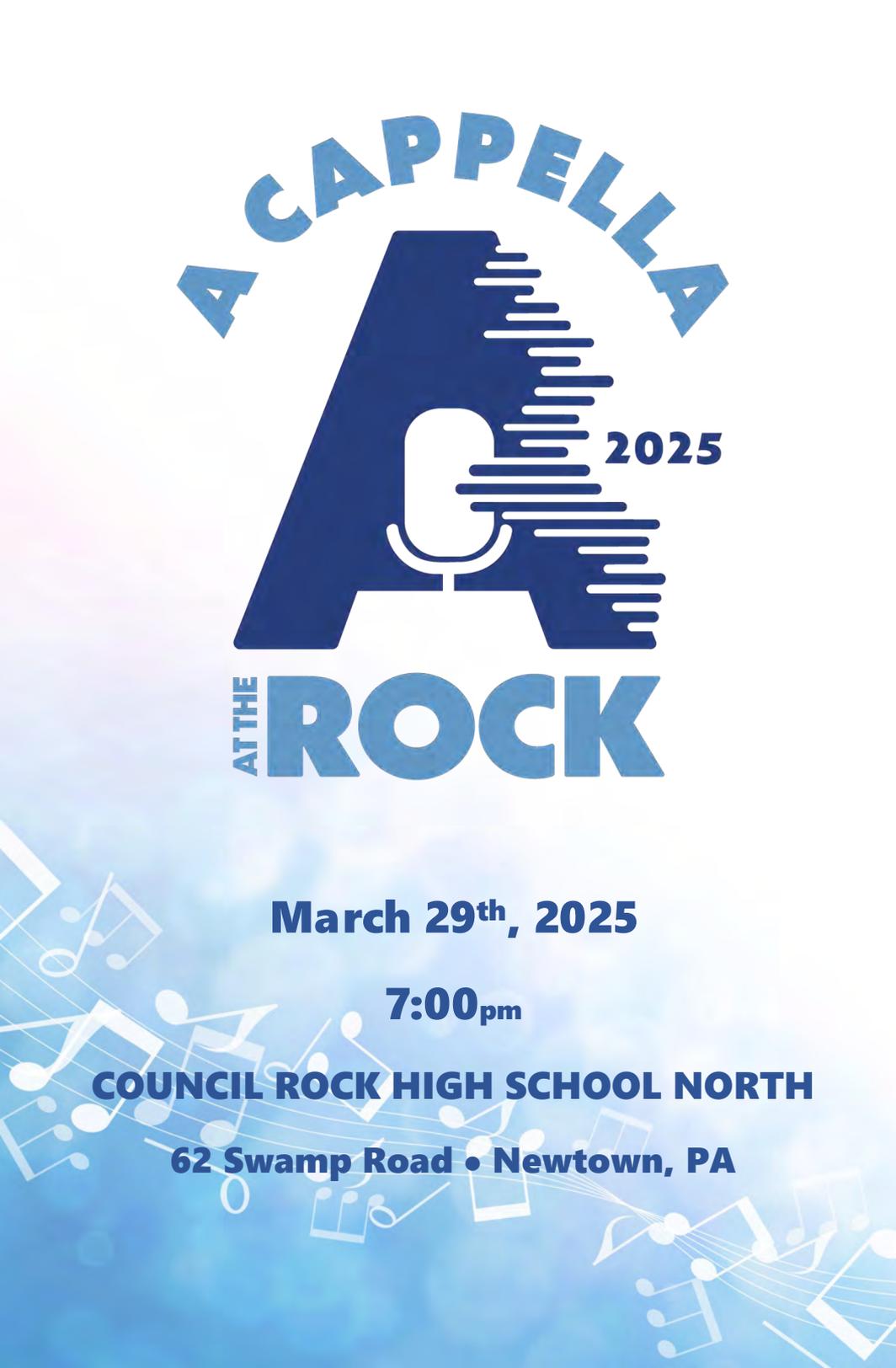
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2025
AT THE ROCK

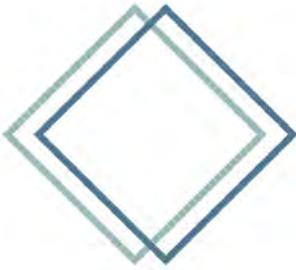
March 29th, 2025

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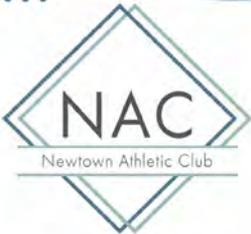
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Doors will be opened between performances only.

Please do not enter or exit the auditorium during a performance.

Please exit through the center lobby doors only.

- Please enjoy your refreshments before entering the auditorium
- Please silence your cell phones in the auditorium during all performances
- Please refrain from using flash photography during the performance
- Smoking/vaping are not permitted on school grounds

DURING INTERMISSION

Refreshments and A Cappella at the Rock merchandise will be available for purchase.

Act 1

Master of Ceremonies: Will Dennis of Unscripted Productions

Bicycle Race.....**The South Vocal Ensemble**

Soloists: Megan Speak, Lanie Fleming,
Ellie Viscusi, Brooke O'Connor,
Laura Strumila, Remy DeBois

Council Rock High School South

Arranged by: Cory Axler

Chili con Carne**The Ambassadors**

Arranged by: Anders Edenroth

Penncrest High School

Warrior/Kids Are Alright.....**Rush Arts Chamber Singers**

Soloists: Ashley Bussey, Sofia Kempa
Vocal Percussion: Aisha Auguste

Arts Academy at Benjamin Rush

Arranged by: Suzanne Spencer

De Selby (Part 2).....**Chord Street A Cappella**

Soloists: Alyssa Cooke, Elliot Downey
Vocal Percussion: Buck Abdelmonisif

Central Bucks West

Arranged by: Rob Dietz

Feelin' Good**String Theory Singers**

Soloists: Amirah DeVose, Darneil Abdula,
Janeen Hill, Sarain Ceesay

*Philadelphia Performing Arts:
A String Theory Charter School*

Vocal Percussion: Jahmir Boston

Arranged by: Stephen Calgaro

Greedy.....**Rhythm of the Rock**

Soloists: Sage Ondik, Lolita Azcuaga-Suayfeta

Council Rock High School North

Vocal Percussion (all): Mason Ambbs

Arranged by: Rob Dietz

Good Luck Babe

Soloists: Emerson Gottlieb (featured), Jane Leifer, Andrew Loudon

Arranged by: Walter Chase

Dancing in the Dark

Soloists: Adalae Howe, Jack Wattenmaker

Arranged by: Rob Dietz

Intermission

Enjoy refreshments in our cafeteria - snacks and drinks available!

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Act 2

Special performance by THE HOUSE JACKS

Awards Ceremony

Grand Finale

"Freedom"

Jon Batiste

Arranged By Tracy LJ Robertson

The House Jacks

featuring

Council Rock North Choirs
and All Visiting A Cappella Groups

The South Vocal Ensemble

Council Rock High School South

Director: Corey Axler

Bicycle Race (a tribute to Queen)

Queen, arr. Corey Axler



The South Vocal Ensemble is an auditioned mixed vocal group that performs a wide variety of music ranging from 14th century works to contemporary pop and jazz compositions. The group is comprised of thirty-four 9-12th grade students. Under the direction of Corey Axler, the ensemble rehearses two hours a week after school or in the evenings. The ensemble performs at numerous community functions, competitions, and adjudications across the Delaware Valley as well as abroad and consistently receives superior ratings at local and national choral adjudications. The group has also had the wonderful opportunity to recently sing for and with award-winning a cappella groups, The Bobs, Take 6, Accent, and Manhattan Transfer.

Soprano 1: Alissa Daniel, Devyn Fox, Kady Mathew, Brooke McInerney, Simone Shvarts

Soprano 2: Lily Baker, Zoe Gillard, Brooke O'Connor, Megan Speak, Christa Varghese

Alto: Eva Challender, Lanie Fleming, Kay Nelson, Sasha Parkhimovich, Caty Satko, Laura Strumila

Tenor: Remy DeBlois, Nick Herzog, Olivia Kearney, Ava Markley, Ellie Viscusi

Baritone: Skye Wiggins, Noah Witner, Aaron Yang

Bass: Nicholas Devlin, Matthew Geiger

The Ambassadors

Penncrest High School

Director: Janet Kaido

Chili con Carne

The Real Group, arr. Anders Edenroth



The Ambassador choir is a group of 16 voices that sing a wide variety of a cappella and accompanied works of all genres and styles. They perform chamber works as well as vocal jazz, pop and contemporary pieces and much more! They are also a fun-loving group of students who play sports, snag lead roles in the musical, and write their own music. Together, they hope to live up to the choir's motto: "Make something beautiful; do something good!"

Soprano 1: Julia Hunt, Nora Zimmerman

Soprano 2: Lydia Petrucci

Alto 1: Aubrey Cartledge, Selina Fagundes

Alto 2: Aiden Fox, Ava High, Rita Tonsa

Tenor 1: Kameron Donnelly, Lazarus Palmer

Tenor 2: Lucas Chladek

Bass 1: Adam Ciuca, Pierre Croquette, Gabriel Palmer, Matthew Psaris

Bass 2: Lucas Crawford

Rush Arts Chamber Singers

Arts Academy at Benjamin Rush

Director: Suzanne Spencer

Warrior/Kids Are Alright

Chloe x Hall, arr. Suzanne Spencer



Chamber Singers is an elite ensemble comprised of Juniors and Seniors from the Arts Academy at Benjamin Rush, a performing arts special admissions High School in Northeast Philadelphia. The students included in this group are the most talented and dedicated singers and performers in the school. Chambers performs contemporary A Cappella repertoire chosen by the students and arranged by their vocal director. We believe that music has the ability to make people think and grow, whether in their personal lives or in their community, and they enjoy performing songs that mirror that belief. They are so excited to be here and grateful for the opportunity to perform for you all!

Soloists: Ashley Bussey, Sofia Kempa

Soprano 1: Mia Alicea, Savannah Thach

Soprano 2: Skyla Holton, Robin Kilbride, Serena Ornedo

Alto 1: Alondra Concepcion, Darmeliss Croussett, Maddy McGraw, Allura Stahl, Lunden Welsh

Alto 2: Meriem Hocine, Emma Jimenez, Genesis Melgar-Wooten, Diana Varghese, Chloe Wang

Baritone: Jay Clayton, Gabe Hedgepeth, Amare Robbins, Bobby Somershoe

Bass: Xavier DePena

Vocal Percussionist: Aisha Auguste



Chord Street A Cappella

Central Bucks West

Director: Abby Marchione

De Selby (Part 2)

Hozier, arr. Rob Dietz



Chord Street A Cappella (est. Fall 2023) is proud to join a strong tradition of contemporary pop a cappella in the Central Bucks School District. In their inaugural year, the group enjoyed performing throughout their community as well as traveling to the Highlands A Cappella Festival in Allendale, New Jersey. This year, the group looks forward to hosting the first CB High School A Cappella Showcase at West at 7:00 pm on May 16. This event will feature the Penn State Pennharmonics. Chord Street 2024-25 is directed by Ms. Abby Marchione (CB West Choir Director) and student directors Brian File and Alex Storck.

Soprano 1: Julia McCarty, Alex Storck

Soprano 2: Kailyn Angelitis, Lila Trout

Alto 1: Carey Bigley, Alyssa Cooke, Eden Lyons

Alto 2: Esha Gadi, Mia Kelly, Nora Kushnier

Tenor: Joey Amico, Jordan Blaszczyk, Elliot Downey, Drew Gamangasso

Baritone: Abhi Medi, Erik Morehouse

Bass: Brian File

Vocal Percussionist: Buck Abdelmonisif

String Theory Singers

Philadelphia Performing Arts: A String Theory Charter School

Director: Rosemary Schneider

Feelin' Good

Michael Bublé, Arr. Stephen Calgario



Concert Choir is the superior choral group at Philadelphia Performing Arts: A String Theory Charter School. Students chosen for this ensemble perform the highest level of high school choral literature and demonstrate musical excellence. Members are auditioned on an annual basis and perform a wide range of repertoire at various venues and functions throughout the year.

Soprano: Amirah DeVose, Chloe High, Ramaya Hunter, Trinity Blessedlove Jahchild, Cherish Stewart Cheatham, Camiel Warren-Taylor

Alto: Sarain Ceesay, Janeen Hill, Cayla Montgomery Wilson, Khloe-Nyazja Oliver, Nena Rodrigues, Mia Talarico, Lila Tangi, Brianna Vaughn

Tenor: Darneil Abdula, Kevin Aguirre, Brian Butler, Keighlen Gay-Neal, Brian McFarland, Jasy Charles Sills

Bass: Semaj Brown, Caliq Henderson, Alex Nardo, Charles Zulli

Vocal Percussionist: Jahmir Boston

Rhythm of the Rock

Council Rock High School North

Director: Heather Brewer



Greedy

Ariana Grande, arr. Rob Dietz

Good Luck Babe

Chappelle Roan, arr. Walter Chase

Dancing in the Dark

Bruce Springsteen, arr. Rob Dietz

Rhythm of the Rock is Council Rock North's Pop A Cappella Group. Featuring 9-12th graders, "Rhythm" is an extremely competitive group that meets after school for two hours each week. The group performs at school functions and community events. Rhythm is proud to host the annual A Cappella at the Rock and wishes the best of success to everyone participating!

Soprano: Adalae Howe, Jane Leifer

Mezzo-Soprano: Sage Ondik

Alto: Talitha Profitt, Lolita Azcuaga-Suayfeta

Tenor: Emerson Gottlieb, Christopher Woods

Baritone: Jack Wattenmaker

Bass: John Daniel, Andrew Loudon

Vocal Percussion: Mason Ambs

Student Choreographer: Grace Seamans

RHYTHM OF THE ROCK

North Choirs – Finale Participants

Council Rock High School North

Director: Heather Brewer

Shealyn Davis, Harrison Eshelman, Bri Fein, Penelope Garonski, Kenzie Gehring, Andrew Kempf, Mandy Medeiros, Maya Micsion, Morgan Miller, McKenna Nungesser, Grace Seamans, Brie Seeley, Maddie Seiple, Cam Wittig

The HOUSE JACKS

Founded in 1991, The House Jacks instantly redefined what people thought of as “vocal music.” Combining their virtuosic harmonies with spectacular stagecraft, these world-class performers continue to push the boundaries of the human voice, thrilling audiences around the world.

In addition to their jaw-dropping performances and multi-award-winning albums of original music, The House Jacks are among the world’s leading a cappella educators, providing extensive coaching to scholastic and professional groups, as well as corporate clients worldwide.

As such, the members have worked behind the scenes of mainstream hits like Pitch Perfect, NBC’s The Sing-Off, BBC’s The Naked Choir and Pitch Battle, working directly with the cast to hone their performances for the camera. The group has also been the featured artist-in-residence at countless international music, choral and jazz festivals around the world as master clinicians, adjudicators, and performers.



Clinicians

Walter Chase



For the past two decades, Walter Chase has crafted unique, show-stopping charts for artists around the world. As a freelance producer/arranger, he has had the opportunity to work alongside world renowned artists including Sara Bareilles, Kristen Bell, Colbie Caillat, Barry Manilow, The Texas Tenors and Joshua Bell. He has created full length shows from the ground up for great clients such as Celebrity Cruises, Silver Dollar City Casino, and Landau Music.

He is a founding member and producer for the world-renowned a cappella group Straight No Chaser. The ensemble has performed around the world in support of their seven albums with Atlantic Records. The group has been accompanied by artists including Sir Paul McCartney, Sir Elton John, Stevie Wonder, Dolly Parton, Phil Collins and Jason Mraz. Walter's most notable Straight No Chaser composition, "The Christmas Can-Can," has become an international holiday standard.

Ben Spalding



Ben Spalding, a former choir director, is the visionary behind Forte, a group that boasts four-time runner-up status and clinched victory at the prestigious ICHSA Finals in 2016. His unwavering dedication to a cappella music is evident in his co-authorship alongside Deke Sharon and Brody McDonald of the book "A Cappella," widely available including on Amazon.com. Ben's influence extends beyond performance; he is a founding member of the A Cappella Education Association and maintains ties with various other a cappella organizations. Renowned as a sought-after clinician, Ben travels the country, conducting workshops for a cappella groups. Ben is spearheading the revival of the professional a cappella group Vocalight in 2024, further solidifying his impact on the a cappella landscape.

About the Adjudication

Each group is assessed on a 1-10 point scale using the following criteria developed by the A Cappella Education Association (AEA).

Final scores are provided to each director.

JUDGING CRITERIA

Balance & Blend – Is there balance between the harmony, melody, and rhythm across all parts? Do they sound like a unified ensemble? Voices balanced across parts and within parts?

Arrangement – Difficulty. Creativity. Is it musically, lyrically and rhythmically interesting?

Rhythmic Accuracy – Precision, tempo consistency, or effective use of non-metered time.

Interpretation – Is the performance true to the style of the arrangement? Is the interpretation of the arrangement musically, lyrically and rhythmically interesting? Does it work in a live a cappella format? Does it convey appropriate emotion?

Intonation – Pitch accuracy and consistent tuning. Centered. Does the group sing on pitch?

Tone Quality – Control of vibrato/straight tone where appropriate. Vocal color and tone appropriate to the music. Well-supported, freely produced, resonant where stylistically appropriate, volume appropriate.

Dynamics – Musically interesting, appropriate and well executed? Are phrases shaped?

Diction – Matched word sounds (vowels, consonants, etc.)? Stylistically appropriate diction?

Effectiveness of Presentation – Is there audience connection? Eye contact? Emotional credibility? (Believable or forced?)

Energy/Stage Presence – Are they comfortable and energized on stage?

Creativity of Movement – Do they stand out from the crowd? Is creative energy evident?

Transitions/Blocking – Are the transitions smooth and brief, or as stylistically appropriate?

Professionalism – Is it evident that this performance was well thought out and rehearsed? Is the overall effect professional? Is this a performance that people would pay to see?

CAPTION AWARDS

In addition to the numerical scores, there are four overall "caption awards":

- Outstanding Group Sound
- Outstanding Stage Presence
- Outstanding Vocalist
- Outstanding Vocal Percussionist



Acknowledgments

Council Rock North Choir Parents Association (CRNCPA)

Christy Howe, President

Kristy Davis, Vice President

Sabrina Profitt, Vice President

Emily Ondik, Corresponding Secretary

Heather Loudon, Recording Secretary

Andrew Howe, Treasurer

Valerie Mihalek, Fundraising Committee

Kelly Wattenmaker, Fundraising Committee

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Jennifer Bertagni, Assistant Principal

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Joseph Spera, Assistant Principal

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Tracey Osecki

Yota Palli

Michael Roosevelt

Linda Stone

Edward F. Tate III

North Choirs Student Board

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Sage Ondik, Vice President

Grace Seamans, Secretary

Adalae Howe, Public Relations

John Daniel, Underclassmen Liaison

Jack Wattenmaker, Librarian

Maddie Seiple, Department Liaison

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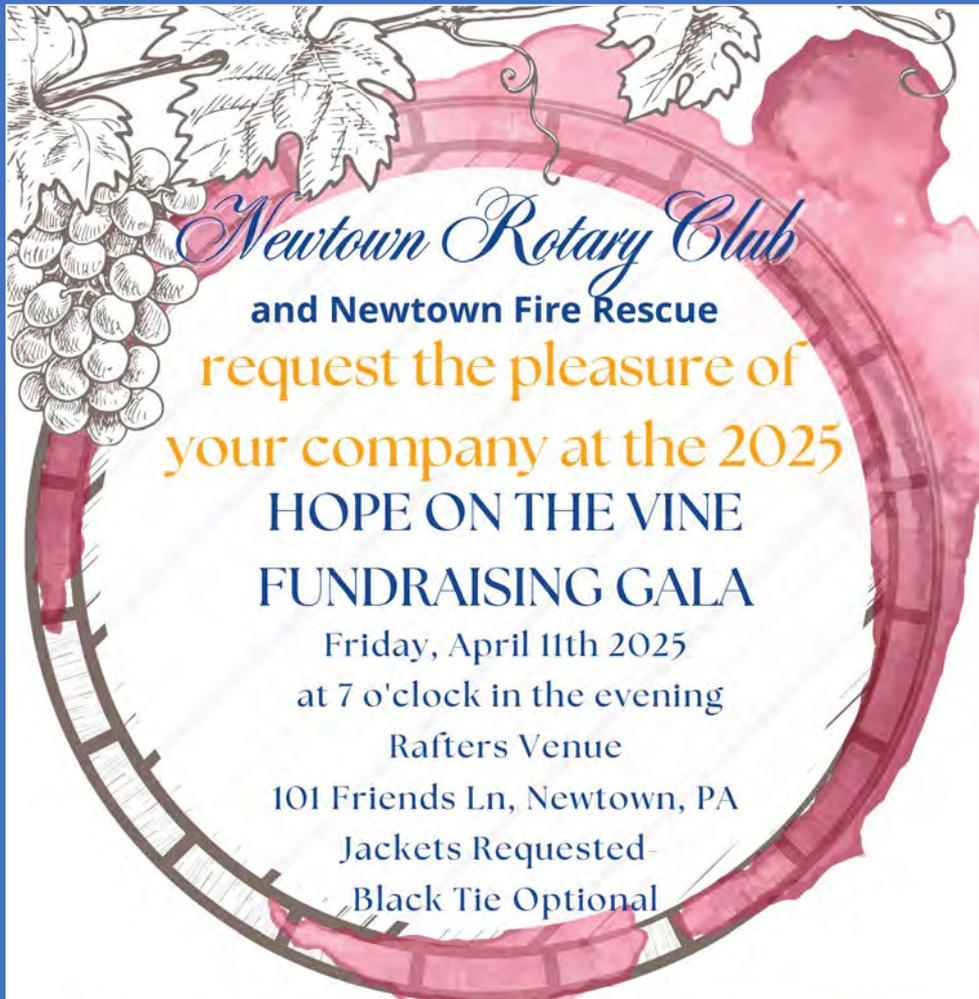


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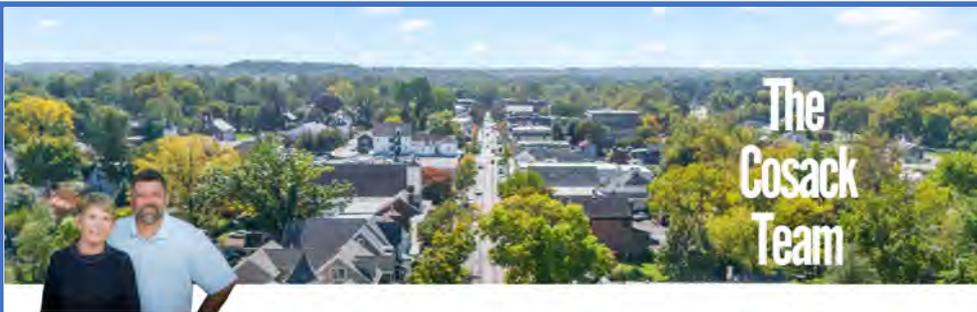


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