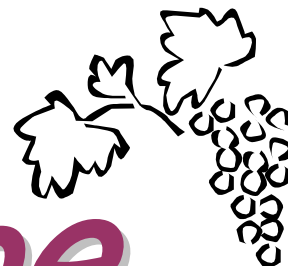




WESTCHESTER RECREATION
AND PARK SOCIETY, INC.
P.O. Box 152 • Valhalla, New York 10595

JUNE
2017



the Grapevine

President's Message

By: Matt Arone

I was very impressed and quite proud of our society during the 60th Annual Awards and Scholarship Luncheon on June 9th. The Awards and Scholarship Committee did an amazing job organizing the event. Chairperson Sally Veltidi and her committee deserve a lot of credit for their time. Seventeen of the eighteen possible award categories were fulfilled including the new Future Mentoring Fellowship which took over a year to finalize the logistics. The room at Shenorock Shore Club was filled with award winners, friends and family members, past presidents and many other guests. The event has always recapped the accomplishments of a terrific year while marking the beginning of the hectic summer season for all of us. I am always pleased and proud after this annual luncheon, however in this, my first year as WRAPS President, I was extra proud in speaking to many of our members during and after the event. I had the enjoyment of speaking to many of our younger members such as our inaugural Future Mentoring Fellowship winners Liz Linsalato and Bill Camarra to hear about how they are doing in their full-time recreation positions. Their careers have just begun and I am already impressed with their attitudes and interest in our profession. Then I get to talk to members who have a few years under their belts, like Doug Scott from Rye, who tells me how great the day was and expresses his continued interest to get more involved in our society. I can pass along some words of advice and encourage him to keep offering his time and expertise to WRAPS as he moves forward. I love sitting and joking with the folks I came up through the ranks with. We've done so many things together already. Guys and gals like Brian Gray, Lesley Popkin and Ike Kuzio have been on boards and committees together with me for years and it is unbelievably rewarding when programs like this luncheon go off so beautifully. When a respected member who has more years than me, like Peter J.

Mayers Award for Merit winner Henry Jamin comes up to you and says thank you for all the hard work and commends you for putting on an entertaining show, that certainly puts a smile on your face. It's special to give proper send offs to recently retired members like Bob Snyder and Frank Bernabei who so many of us have relied on over the years for advice and guidance. And when they shake your hand and tell you to continue the good work, you can't help but feel a sense of satisfaction. And finally the many congratulatory e-mails in the days that follow from colleagues that you enjoy working with like Bob Kazmareck and Donna Esperito really cap things off and justifies why we all give our time to help each other out. I love that our society works so well together. I've always said WRAPS is like a family and no place is that more evident than at our June luncheon. We get to spend time with members of all ages, take and give advice and wish each other luck for the upcoming camp and pool season. I can visualize the new members taking over the leadership roles in the near future and at the same time, give well-wishes to the individuals that are wrapping up their career after many years dedicated to the society and their respective municipalities. The Awards and Scholarship Luncheon makes you want to get and stay involved with WRAPS. So as you all dive into our busy summer season, don't forget to pay attention to what we have to offer and take some time to support WRAPS. A perfect way to start is to participate in our Camps Care for Kids initiative. Or volunteer to assist in helping put together a social or fundraising event. Visit our web site and Facebook page when you can and keep in touch with all your peers and colleagues during the summer, and hope to see all of you in the fall.

Thank you, and have a great summer season!



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Camp Top 10 Violations for 2016!

2017 Rat Race

In March, Westchester County Parks & Recreation held the 87th Annual Boys' Recreation Basketball Tournament and the 33rd Annual Girls' Recreation Basketball Tournament at the County Center. Teams from all over Westchester Competed in this Do or Die tournament run by Westchester County Recreations Kevin Cook.

This Year's Girls Winners:

Cub Rec Division: Eastchester
Cub Open Division: Yonkers
Midget Rec Division: Harrison
Midget Open Division: Shrub Oak

This Year's Boys Winners:

Cub Rec Division: Rye
Cub Open Division: Cortlandt
Midget Rec Division: Pelham
Midget Intermediate Division: TDYCC
Midget Open Division: Cortlandt

Congratulations to all this year's winners! This is a fantastic tournament for all local teams to compete!



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During the 2017 Camp Operators Meeting with the Westchester County Health Department, a list of the top 10 violations for 2016 was shared with the group. Here is the recap of those violations.

#10: 19 violations: Issues within the Infirmary, Holding Area, Medical Supplies.

#9: 21 violations: Issues with Exits Unobstructed.

#8: 21 violations: Issues with Fire/Smoke Alarms, fire drills.

#7: 21 violations: Issues with Aquatic Director, Lifeguards, Ratios.

#6: 27 violations: Issues with Safety Plan complete, on file, updated and implemented.

#5: 33 violations: Issues with trip swimming, lifeguard ratios, non swimmers identification.

#4: 43 violations: Issues with buddy system/checks/board, swim ability assessment, triples.

#3: 44 violations: issues with qualified personnel, staff training provided, documentation of training.

#2: 55 violations: issues with personnel records, resumes, criminal justice checks.

And the **#1** most cited violation with 93 total violations was: issues with Camper medical history not being provided, medical logs not properly maintained, incident reporting, emergency contact information.

These were your top 10 most cited violations from 2016. The County Health Department wants everyone to work hard to ensure these numbers go down! Have a great summer camp season!!!

2017 Awards & Scholarship Lunch

On June 9th, WRAPS held its 60th Awards and Scholarship Lunch at the Shenorock Shore Club. This great event was well attended by many WRAPS members, award winners, friends and families!

Below are the 2017 award winners:

Dr. Sal J. Prezioso Professional Fellowship

- Beth Bricker, Westchester County PRC
- Scott Naylor, Town of Mt. Pleasant
- Mike Newman, Village of Pleasantville
- Kim O'Brien, Town of Bedford
- Bruce Riehl, Town of Mt. Pleasant



Henry B. Funking Scholarship

Catherine Troiano- John Jay High School



E. Mario Cribari Scholarship

Jamie Corradina- SUNY Cortland



Public Service Award: Organization

Mt. Kisco Senior Group, Village/Town of Mt. Kisco



Public Service Award: Individual

Van Muller, Town of Pound Ridge



Voluntary Service Award – Organization

Jill E. Solomon Charitable Foundation,
City of White Plains



E. Mario Cribari Voluntary Service Award
Tony Cutri, North East Westchester Special
Recreation, Inc



Henry B. Funking Youth Award
Artem "Tim" Golikov, Rye Recreation



Staff Associate Award
Christina Harper, Town of Greenburgh-
Dept. of Community Resources



Irwin "Red" Klein Commercial Recreation Award
FUJIFILM, Westchester County Parks



Ruth M. and Bill Lederer Fellowship & Grant
MAINSTREAM Program



Matt Dolan Innovative Program & Award Grant
Rye Recreation's Food Truck Festival, City of Rye



Future Mentoring Fellowship
William Camarra, City of Peekskill
Elizabeth Linsalato, Village of Mamaroneck



Peter J. Mayers Award for Merit
Henry Jamin, Village of Briarcliff Manor



Austin Welch PIERRE Award

Frosty Day Committee, Hamlet of Armonk



Joseph E. Curtis Achievement Award

John Palmiotto, Town of Cortlandt



WRAPS President Award

Chris Soi, Village of Ossining



2017 A&S Committee



Above: Donna Esposito, Angela Thornton, Leslie Bornstein, Mark Duncan, Sally Velti, Matt Trainor, Kyle Peterson, Erin Mantz.

Additional Awards & Scholarship Lunch Photos can be found on our Facebook page. Photo Credit to Frank Bernabei!



Camps Care about Hunger

In an effort to fight hunger in Westchester County, WRAPS is continuing our “**Camps Care About Hunger**” campaign. Expanding on the efforts from last year, we would like to ask that your camps take as we work together to help feed the hungry in our county by supporting this great cause this camp season.

To participate simply:

- Pick a date that works best for you
- Select a food bank/pantry or soup kitchen you wish to support (list attached if needed)
- Insert your departments name and the benefactor of your choice in the attached flyer
- Copy and distribute the flyer
- Collect the items
- Deliver them to the benefactor of your choice

For additional assistance or information please contact Bob Kaczmarek at rkaczmarek@greenburghny.com

For further inspiration please visit the WRAPS website at <http://www.wrapsny.com> then click on the Socials & Events tab for a fantastic video created last year to help promote the cause.

Our goal is to help feed those in need while promoting our departments and our profession.

Hopefully through all of our efforts we will help make an impact in someone’s life that goes beyond the fields or studios.

Thank you for your understanding and support in making this worthwhile effort a huge success.

Respectfully,
The WRAPS EXECUTIVE BOARD

Bits ~N~ Pieces

Congratulations to **Erin Mantz** on her new position as Assistant Superintendent of Recreation at Rye Recreation Department.

Congratulations to **Jen Giusti** on her new position as Assistant Superintendent of Recreation at the Mt. Kisco Recreation Department.

Congratulations to **Lauren O’Connor** on her new position as Recreation Supervisor at the New Rochelle Recreation Department.

Congratulations to **Deanna Peterson** on her new position as Recreation Assistant at the Scarsdale Recreation Department.

Congratulations to **Sean Florenz** on his new position as Recreation Assistant at the Hastings Recreation Department.




Photo: Someone looks suspicious at the North East Special Recognition Dinner Two Weeks Ago...

Dates to Remember

WRAPS BBQ – Location TBD
September- TBD


Downstate Conference – County Center
November 14th



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The next issue of the Grapevine is scheduled to be printed in November 2017!

Anyone interested in submitting materials must do so by **Wednesday, October 31, 2017**

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