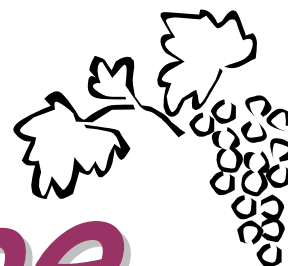




WESTCHESTER RECREATION  
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P.O. Box 152 • Valhalla, New York 10595

March  
2013



# the Grapevine

## President's Message

By: Kevin Cook

Dear Fellow Professionals,

Since my last President's message we have been punctuated by disaster and crisis, from the Hurricane Sandy ravaged streets of New York and New Jersey to the horrendous tragedy that took the lives of 20 children and a half dozen adults at Newtown, Connecticut's Sandy Hook Elementary School.

After Hurricane Sandy, we watched as everyday people stepped up and provided any assistance they could to help out. Many of our community centers became temporary shelters for those affected by the hurricane. We provided a warm place to rest, a shoulder to lean on, games for children to play and outlets to recharge cell phones, iPods and iPads so our residents could stay connected with loved ones. Our parks staff worked tirelessly to put our vital parks and playgrounds back on line for our patrons by removing downed trees and debris in a timely and safe manner.

WRAPS members along with our family, friends, commercial vendors and co-workers, are responding to the tragedy in Newtown, Connecticut as one. The Executive Board has committed to matching a minimum of \$1000 in donations to help support the Newtown Recreation and Parks Department with a rebuilding of a playground/spray park/butterfly garden project in memory of those who lost their lives. No donation is too small; please consider supporting this effort so the residents of Newtown, especially the children, can realize a safe place to play, socialize and have fun.

A common denominator that has come from both these events is people going above and beyond. This is something that happens within WRAPS year in and year out, we might not notice or appreciate it at the time, but there is someone volunteering their time to further benefit our association. Just a few examples are: organizing the monthly luncheons, keeping track of our finances, taking minutes at board meetings, state and downstate conference committees, liaisons to the Health Department, keeping track of membership renewals, awards and scholarships, past president luncheon, fundraising, nominations and elections, grapevine, website, parks seminars, summer auditions, salary survey, and much more!

WRAPS is very fortunate to have so many wonderful people doing these types of things behind the scenes for us. Michael Jordan, who happens to be turning 50 as I write this, once said, "Some people want it to happen, some wish it could happen, others make it happen."

Thanks to all of you who are making it happen for WRAPS!

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## *Newtown Playground*

The tragic events that took place at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown CT are very difficult to understand. We are left feeling helpless and speechless from such horror as we struggle to grasp the grim reality of the senseless loss.

As recreation professionals we can all see those young children as our campers, youth sport players and special event participants. WRAPS has proven itself to be a devoted fraternity of members built on close ties to our fellow professionals and the residents we serve.

In memory of those lost, the Newtown Parks and Recreation Department is rebuilding a playground/splash pad and designing a memorial butterfly garden. The WRAPS Executive Board feels this is a meaningful project and is committed to making a monetary donation towards the cause but we would like your help to make our impact go even further.

WRAPS will match a minimum of \$1,000 raised by our fellow members, friends, family members and co-workers. Your support will help. Your donation of \$200, \$100, \$50, \$25 along with the matching donation from WRAPS will help Newtown take a step closer to making this project a reality and aid in helping a community heal.

Please make checks payable to:

WRAPS  
PO Box 152  
Valhalla, NY 10595

Together we will make a difference!



## *NYSRPS*

We are excited to welcome you all to the NYSRPS 73rd Annual Conference and Business Expo being held March 17 – 19, 2013 in Rochester at the Radisson Hotel Rochester Riverside.

We are looking forward to all the exciting events and hope that you will join us for this special conference! Registration and information can be found on our website at [www.nysrps.org](http://www.nysrps.org)"

### *2014 NYSRPS Annual Conference*

*By: Dave Goldberg, Conference Chair*

I have been honored with the task of organizing the 2014 NYSRPS Annual Conference. I am reaching out to my multi-talented colleagues for assistance with this task. I am looking for volunteers for the following committees: Exhibitor, Logistics/Audio-Visual, Moderator, Offsite Program, Professional Resource Center, Promotion/Marketing, Registration, Special Fundraising and Student Relations.

Remember, everyone can contribute and make a difference. We can lean on prior year volunteers for advice. I hope to hear from you soon. I can be reached at 914-764-3987 or by email at [dgoldberg@townofpoundridge.com](mailto:dgoldberg@townofpoundridge.com).



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## Employment Opportunities

### North East Special Recreation

Looking for a dedicated and reliable Registered Nurse to work with our participants at our summer camp. It is a fun and rewarding job that is perfect for someone that is looking to make a little extra money as well as make a difference in the lives of our campers!

- Camp runs from June 24<sup>th</sup> thru August 2<sup>nd</sup>
- Only exception being July 4<sup>th</sup>
- You must be able to commit to all 6 weeks
- Hours are Monday thru Friday; 8:45am – 3:15pm
- Must be a Registered Nurse
- Must have updated CPR & RTE certifications
- Must have reliable means of transportation

If interested please call Joe Bellini at 914-347-4409

### City of White Plains Recreation & Parks

Looking for two instructors:

1. **Tai Chi Instructor** to teach evening adult classes. Class will be held at the White Plains Recreation & Parks Community Center starting on Monday, April 15<sup>th</sup>. Classes will be held every Monday for 8 weeks from 7pm – 8pm.
2. **Computer Instructor** to teach daytime senior classes. Classes will be held at the White Plains Recreation & Parks Community Center on Fridays, from 9am – 12:30pm, starting April 12<sup>th</sup> for 4 weeks and again from June 7 – August 30.

If interested or for more information please contact:

Sia Tofano, Senior Center Director  
White Plains Recreation & Parks  
914-422-1423

### 2012 Past President's Luncheon held at The Traveler's Rest



*Front Row (L to R): Jen Fava, Daryl Sudlow & Sally Rogol*

*Middle Row (L to R): Kathy O'Connor, Suzanne Busby, Karen Kuzio, Dana Mayclim, Mary Zimmerman, Bill Zimmerman, Dave Goldberg & Jim Arles*

*Back Row (L to R): Henry Jamin, Harry Canniff, Chris Soi, Brian Gray, Matt Nordt, Kevin Cook, Ike Kuzio, Bob Snyder, Bill Rodriquez, Fran Brunelle, Joe Lemischak & Joe Stout*

### 2012 Holiday Luncheon at the Kittle House



Congratulations to Henry Jamin (proudly holding the Lancer bottle), on his induction to the Lancer Hall of Fame.

Now granted this picture is supposed to highlight the Lancer ceremony which has become a Holiday Luncheon tradition, but honestly, who can ignore that sweet looking Christmas sweater Brian Gray is wearing?

## *Bits & Pieces*

Congratulations to **Todd Orlowski, Assistant Superintendent** of the **Yorktown Recreation Department** and his wife on the arrival of a baby girl; Scarlett Orlowski on December 12, 2012.

### **Never too old for baseball camp!!**



Dana Mayclim (top left), Superintendent for Lewisboro Parks & Recreation, and Elaine Apfelbaum, Senior Recreation Supervisor for Clarkstown Parks & Recreation Department spend a week at NY Yankees Baseball Camp.

### **Stadium Tour**



Sally Rogol and Jen Giusti from the Rye Recreation Department stopping to take a picture during their tour of Yankee Stadium.

### **2013 WRAPS Vendor Luncheon**



Rosanne Saracino, Town of Mamaroneck Recreation Department, was the “big” winner at this year’s vendor luncheon

### **Saki Bomb!**

WRAPS was well represented at this year’s Apple’s to Apple’s poker run in New City. This annual event is run by Elaine Apfelbaum of the Clarkstown Recreation Department with the proceeds going to the Hi Tor Animal Shelter.



From L to R: Mark Duncan, Croton Recreation Dept; Beth Bricker, Westchester County; Matt Arone, Dobbs Ferry Recreation; Sally Veltidi, Eastchester Recreation; Matt Nordt, Dana Paolino, & Patti Anne Nordt.

## *Bits & Pieces Cont.*

**Kim Sinistore** has accepted a new position as Executive Director for the City of Pearland Convention & Visitors Bureau located just south of Houston, TX. Kim formerly worked for the City of White Plains Recreation & Parks as a Supervisor and the Westchester County Tourism & Film Office as Director of Tourism.

Congratulations to **Suzanne Busby** on her retirement from the Village of Scarsdale Parks & Recreation Department. Suzanne spent 22 years with Scarsdale, 11 years as the Superintendent.

## *DATES TO REMEMBER!*

### March 17 - 19

NYSRPS Annual Conference  
Rochester, NY

### March 20

WRAPS Luncheon  
Yorktown – Sparkle Lake Service Bldg

### April 24

Health Department Camp Meeting  
Westchester County Center

### May 15

WRAPS Breakfast  
TBD

### June 14

WRAPS Awards & Scholarship Luncheon  
Shenorock Shore Club  
Rye, NY

## *TO REACH THE EXECUTIVE BOARD*

Kevin Cook, President	231-7036
Daryl Sudlow, Vice President	864-3175
Karen Kuzio, Secretary	941-6560
Brian Gray, Treasurer	245-4650
Joe Lemischak, Past President	231-4536

### MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

Matt Arone	693-0024
Dana Mayclim	232-6162
Dave Goldberg	764-0947
Ike Kuzio	328-1542
Chris Soi	238-3909
Matt Nordt	

## *CALL FOR GRAPEVINE ARTICLES!*

The next issue of the Grapevine is scheduled to be printed in June 2013.

Anyone interested in submitting materials must do so by Wednesday, May 22, 2013.

Mail, Fax or E-mail Information to:  
Ike Kuzio - Westchester County PRC  
1 Bronx River Parkway  
Valhalla, NY 10595  
Fax: 914-813-4358

E-mail: [iak2@westchestergov.com](mailto:iak2@westchestergov.com)

