NYSUT RA awards WCT for 50 years of service

ALBANY, NY—NYSUT’s annual convention was held May 3–4 at the Nelson A. Rockefeller Empire State Plaza and the newly constructed Albany Capital Center.

Delegates heard from President Pal-lotta, Exec. VP Jolene DiBrango, 2nd VP Paul Pecorale and Secretary-Treasurer J. Philippe Abraham.

Speakers included a host of union and legislative dignitaries, including AFT President Randi Weingarten, Albany Mayor Kathy Sheehan, and U.S. Representative Tim Ryan, a candidate for President of the United States.

The WCT received an award plaque for 50 years of service. WCT President Pasquale Delli Carpini, WCT President, accepted on behalf of the Wappingers teachers’ union.

UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL:
Plaque inscription.

Spring Luncheon enjoyed by 65 p. 6
Devine Intervention p.8
Scholarship winners recognized p10-11
From The President

Dear WCT Members,

We all had a wonderful time at our spring luncheon. During the business meeting we held our Board of Directors election. The board will stay the same except for a switch. Barbara Stuck will not be Corresponding Secretary, but will now be a director helping Mary Ann Moran with the mailing. Christine Romano will not be a director, but will slide into the Corresponding Secretary position.

At the next election, there will be several openings, including mine. Please feel free to come to an Executive Board meeting to see how our organization is run. You might be interested in a position.

At this time of the year I would like to thank all of the Executive Board for their selfless time and effort for the WCRT.

Have a happy and healthy summer.

Susan Roger

Protect your WCRT, NYSUT membership

Members with email addresses registered on the website wcteachers.org will receive publications and notices by email. Please keep email information up to date on that site. Our files are not linked to that site, so please notify the WCRT office of any changes in address, phone, or email, etc. Prohibitive U.S. Mail costs may soon force us to cancel postal mailings, so please consider going green to save money.

The Commentator and PostScript may be viewed at www.wcteachers.org once a member registers.

WCRT publication dates for academic year 2018-2019:
PostScript mailing dates:
Oct. 10    Apr. 11
Dec. 10    June 11
Feb. 11    Aug. 14

If you have not paid your dues by now, your name will be removed from our files and you will not be eligible for NYSUT benefits until dues are paid. Make checks payable to WCRT and mail to WCRT.

Renewal notices go out in the fall. Dues for 2018-2019 are:
$ 20.00 Yearly; $200.00 Individual Lifetime; $325.00 Couples Lifetime.

Pay Lifetime and alleviate the yearly task of renewing.

wct@frontiernet.net or www.wcteachers.org

SAVE THESE DATES (future details coming soon)

May 30 RC13 Luncheon, Christos, 11:30
May 30 Capasso Scholarship Reception, 7:00, WCT upstairs
June 11 WCRT exec board mtg. 10:00-12:00,
Sept. 13 New Hamburg Yacht Club Golf Tourney for Meals on Wheels

WCRT Officers and Board of Directors
July 1, 2017-June 30, 2019
President...........Susan Roger 226-8285
1st. Vice-Pres. Roger Higgins 297-8757
2nd. V.P............Leslie Leventhal 297-4430
Rec Secy...........Flo Mondanaro 454-0352
Corr Secy. Christine Romano 896-8371
Treasurer...........Tom DeRito 440-3476
Past Pres...............Alice Baker 452-5793
WCRT Rep. to WCT Representative Assembly....Ellen Korz 297-9713

Directors
Ruth Ehlers 831-6390
Jane Stockslager 297-3766
Jack Devine 297-5032
Barbara Stuck 896-9572
Mary Ann Moran 297-4785

Committee Chairpersons
Political Action: .................Cliff Foley
Constitution/Bylaws: ...Jane Stockslager
Gifts and Contributions...Mary Coiteux
Retiree Council 13 Liaison....Cliff Foley

WCT Mission Statement: To bring WCSD retirees together for mutual assistance and socialization, and to promote the best interests of retired educators.

Wappingers Congress of Retired Teachers Newsletter
280 New Hackensack Rd.
Wappingers Falls, NY 12590
(845) 227-5065

Editor: Bill Dourdis
williamdourdis@gmail.com
(845) 266-0430

The WCRT PostScript is a 2017 NYSUT United Communications Competition Winner with two awards: 1st Place, Best Feature Writing, I can see for miles and miles... by Barbara Searle; Award of Distinction, General Excellence, The WCRT PostScript to Bill Dourdis, editor.

Send your comments to johnrogerjr@yahoo.com or call (845) 227-5065.
SCHOOL ELECTIONS AND VOTE-COPE

CLIFF FOLEY
Political Action Chairperson

Marie Johnson
Eddie Sloshower
Mike Lopez

School systems in New York State held budget and school board votes on May 26. The results were very positive. School districts throughout Dutchess and Ulster counties approved their spending plans. This represented $1.16 billion in school money for the upcoming year.

In Wappingers a $234,950,988 budget passed. This represented an actual decrease in spending of over 1.5% from last year. It also stayed within the State’s 2% tax cap. In addition a proposition to purchase school buses got a thumbs up. That totaled $2.3 million dollars.

Voter turnout was light with the budget passing 1,710 for and 624 against. Looking at these results, we can understand the low number of citizens who went to the polls.

Two things come to mind. The fact that the District was able to keep within the tax cap has made the public feel that their interests were being watched out for.

For the other, we need to look back in history. Those of you who have lived in Wappingers for some years may remember a time when there was constant conflict in the District. There was a group called the TDO (Taxpayer Defense Organization) which was championed by a local newspaper. There were also individuals like Dolores Chechek, Mike Zucker, and others who constantly complained about spending and published articles and letters to the editor attacking the schools in general. In recent years, there has been relative peace in the WCSD.

Three school board members were elected. Interestingly there were only three people who ended up running. This may also have been the result of peaceful times in our system. Eddie Sloshower received 1,944 votes, Marie Johnson garnered 1,942 and Mike Lopez had 1,914.

Sloshower was re-elected for a second term while Johnson and Lopez are newcomers.

VOTE-COPE DRIVE ON NOW

Our VOTE-COPE contributions have helped support the district by advocating for the passage of the budget. The WCRT is also involved with the other Wappingers unions in the process of checking out potential Board candidates. Of the money donated, 40% comes back to the WCT for local use.

The 2019 VOTE-COPE drive is underway now. WCRT members should have received a mailing with forms to return with either a check or a signup for pension deduction. These should be returned to the WCT office.

We call on retiree members of the WCRT to stay involved and give to VOTE-COPE. The union is only as strong as the support from its members.

NOTE:
If you are aware of a member’s illness, or the need to send a condolence card, please contact Ruth Ehlers at 831-6390 or ruthellene1@icloud.com

WCS Board of Ed. e-mail address: WCSD.Board@Wappingerschools.org

Directions to WCT office
280 New Hackensack Rd. across from the Dutchess County Airport (Between Rental and Dental)

From Vassar Rd: Jackson Rd. (County Rt. 110), left onto New Hack Rd. toward Rt. 376.

From Rt. 9 Wapp. Falls: take County Rt. 104 at Dunkin Donuts and Perkins on New Hack Rd.

From All Angels Hill Rd: (CR 94) north to NHRd, west to 280 NHRd.

From Red Oaks Mill: Rt. 376 south past DC Airport, right onto NHRd. 280 on left.

NYSUT Retiree Council 13 website: http://ny.aft.org/1c13/

Notify these groups of an address change or death of a member:

WCT office, 280 New Hackensack Rd.
Wappingers Falls, N.Y. 12590
(845) 227-5065
wct@frontiernet.net

WCT, same as above

NYSUT, 800-342-9810
800 Troy-Schenectady Rd.
Latham, NY 12110-2455
www.nysut.org

NYSTRS, 800-348-7298 x 6250
10 Corporate Woods Drive
Albany, NY 12211-2395

WCSD, Human Resources
25 Corporate Park Dr.
P.O. Box 396
Hopewell Jct., NY 12533
845-298-5000 x 115

NOTE:
If you are aware of a member’s illness, or the need to send a condolence card, please contact Ruth Ehlers at 831-6390 or ruthellene1@icloud.com

Mike Lopez
Eddie Sloshower
Marie Johnson

send your comments to cgfoley@optonline.net
Here’s how to register your email with the website:

1. Go to www.wcteachers.org
2. On the right-hand side, go to the “Member Login” module
3. Click on the “Click Here to sign-up” link (It is yellow)
4. Enter all of your information on the form. This is the information that we will use to maintain our records and to send email and/or text notifications. Make sure that you choose a username and password that you will remember.
5. Click submit
6. Review all of your information
7. Click Submit again
8. Wait 24-48 hours for us to verify your membership. You will receive an email advising you that you are good to go. At this point, you can come back to the website and login.

Hope this helps. Thanks, Nancy

NANCY BEINER
WCT Webmaster
webmaster@wcteachers.org

TOM DERITO
WCRT Treasurer

Financial Report available

As a service to any interested WCRT member, our union’s financial report is always available upon request.

Address your questions or concerns to tderito@verizon.net and we’ll make arrangements to satisfy your numerical curiosity.

We provide communicative services to our former colleagues, philanthropic support through student academic scholarships, and donations to community libraries and Meals on Wheels.

www.WCTeachers.org or tderito@verizon.net

WCRT by the numbers:
WCRT membership as of April 30, 2019:

- 604 WCRT members
- 149 yearly members
- 383 Lifetime members
- 52 Complimentary Lifetime members
- 9 Complimentary members
- 62 retirees don’t belong to WCRT & not entitled to NYSUT benefits
- 12 about to be deleted from our files for not paying dues this year.
- *130 members receiving publications & notices by U.S. mail down from *232 members postal subscribers
- 486 members email subscribers.
- 4 2017 retirees wisely chose copay Lifetime

*Notice the reduction in printed newsletters. We encouraged members to “go green” and help us save on mailing costs. We all benefit from their cooperation.

Register on the website wcteachers.org

If you know a retiree who is not a member, please encourage them to reconsider joining WCRT/NYSUT for their benefit and ours.

www.wcteachers.org
WCRT's watchdog about “insider information” affecting WCSD retirees

RA Meeting
April 30, 2019

1. Most of the meeting was spent discussing how to encourage people to get out and vote for the Budget on May 21. Since there are only three openings and three candidates, there is much less work to do to get them elected. Signs will be put together and mailings done, but as of today there are no dates to help or pick up signs. Pasquale will send an email.

2. The meeting about the Health Insurance and Open Enrollment was discussed. Teachers were asked to use the phone rather than e-mails because the District has the right to check District e-mails. Even if teachers want to arrange a meeting with the District, they should call and not use email.

3. WCT elections were held and the only change was the Director of Political Action, who will now be James Nurre. (NEXT PARAGRAPH HAS JIM MARRINAN HAS THAT TITLE. WHAT'S THE NEW TITLE FOR MARRINAN?)

5. Board of Ed. Meeting Minutes are always on the WCT website.

6. Pasquale and the Director of Political Action, Jim Marrinan met with the Education Advisory Committee and Sue Serino. Serino was in Albany, but the committee met anyway. They are working on a partnership between the educational community and the business community. I reminded them that years ago we had a similar committee with the Chamber of Commerce and the District. We had a plan and a program, but it disbanded when the District would not contribute money. I asked them to look into all the paperwork involved with that program, either through District archives or the Business Dept. in the two high schools.

7. There will be a Food Drive in all buildings, from May 16-23, organized by Kate DeGroat to benefit Dutchess Food Pantry.

8. On May 23, NYSTRS will send a health insurance representative to give a presentation to retirees and active teachers. It will be at JHS.

9. Also discussed were the video cameras in the buildings in the gym, cafeteria, and hallways. Pasquale explained that the District can have them there and they are mainly for safety. They cannot be used to evaluate any teachers.

10. I mentioned the WCRT was sending a donation to the Heartship Fund. They were very appreciative.

Happy Spring!

RA Meeting
May 21, 2019

It was a conference day, some schools were on a trip, and it was the Wappinger’s School Budget vote, so many members were not at this meeting.

The main focus was the DEHIC update. The negotiating between the Westchester Medical Health Center Network and Empire Blue Cross/Blue Shield will continue after their contract expires May 31, 2019. If any members have an emergency, they will still be treated as in network. If you have a surgical procedure and the follow-up is after that date, you will still be covered. Check with Blue Cross/Blue Shield if you know you will need continuing care.

Information will go out to everyone about the transition to Ingenio Rx. After July 1, you should contact them either online or by phone (numbers are on your new card) to continue to receive your prescriptions by mail or at CVS or whatever pharmacy was on the previous lists. If you have any issue, call one of the numbers on your new ID card.

Pasquale will send out letters to those who helped get out the mailings for the budget vote. He and the RA are always appreciative of our help.

Next month’s meeting will be to adopt the new budget for the WCT. There were few changes. The audit went well. The WCT will try to pay off the mortgage on the building sooner than the 15 years, as advised by their lawyer.

Happy Spring!

Ellen Korz

In Memoriam

Dennis Craig

WAPPINGERS FALLS – Dennis J. Craig, 76, of Wappingers Falls, passed away Monday, May 20, 2019 at Vassar Bros. Medical Center.

He was born in Kingston, N.Y. December 15, 1942, the son of Hasbrouck and Viola Linnartz Craig. Denny was a chemistry teacher at John Jay High School until he retired in 1997. He also coached football at the school. After retirement he owned Pioneer Blacktopping.

Surviving are his wife, Emily Simon Craig, at home, Sons, David (Shannon) Craig of Middletown, N.Y., Aaron Craig of Wappingers Falls, a granddaughter AnnaBelle Rose Craig, a brother, Arthur Craig, Warrensburg, N.Y., several nieces and nephews, a brother-in-law, and sisters-in-law. He was pre-deceased by a son, Neil Hasbrouck Craig, a brother Robert, and a sister Helen.

Burial will be in Wappingers Rural Cemetery Thursday at 2:00 PM to which relatives and friends are invited.

Memorial services will be held in late June at a time to be announced at the Delehanty Funeral Home, Wappingers Falls.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Macrini Sports Hall of Fame,(Scholarship) c/o R.C. Ketcham Athletic Dept., 99 Myers Corners Road, Wappingers Falls, N.Y. 12590

To send a condolence, visit www.delehantyfuneral.com

Spring Luncheon enjoyed by 65

Agenda in pictures

Roger Higgins, 1st VP, reports on the WCRT Scholarship winners. Their reception is May 21 at the WCT office.

Leslie Leventhal, 2nd VP and Program Chair, urges attendees to convert from postal to email versions of the newsletters and other correspondence. She also gave hints about a fall trip.

Ruth Ehlers, Sunshine Committee Chair, was recognized for the cards and letters she sends out.

Mary Coiteux, Gifts and Contributions Committee Chair, listed local libraries and the Science Fair contributions that were recently given.

Flo Mondanaro, Recording Secretary, cast one vote for changes made to the Board of Directors.

Pasquale Delli Carpini, WCT President and NYSUT Pension and Retirement Committee Vice Chair for over 10 years, happily announced the pension fund is fully funded. He asked for members to vote and encourage others to vote for the WCSD budget funded because we need to hire new teachers. The WCT also received an AFT plaque for 50 years of service. (See page 5.)

Rich Lotze traveled 12 miles from Hopewell Junction while Bob Ruopp traveled 260+ miles from New Hampshire to attend the luncheon. “The trip is always worth it for the fun, friendship, food, and fellowship—and not necessarily in that order.”

Joyce Betros, Andrea Miller, Judy Moran are all smiles.

Worth the trip.
In Memoriam

Marie Muyot

FISHKILL - Marie McCaffrey Muyot, of Fishkill, NY, entered peacefully into Eternal Rest on May 25, 2019 at her home. Marie was born in Beacon, NY on February 2, 1933, to John and Mary McCaffrey. She is pre-deceased by her siblings Michael, Janie, and her beloved brother James ("Jimmy") McCaffrey.

Marie was the first in her family to obtain a college degree. She received a degree in Spanish from SUNY Albany, which was to become her lifelong passion. Marie went on to receive a Masters Degree from Albany Teaching College.

After college, Marie moved to NYC while she worked as a Spanish-English translator for a major corporation. In 1963, while at a USO dance in NYC, Marie met and later married the love of her life, Mariano Muyot. Marie was a sailor in the U.S. Navy, having been born in the Philippines and joined the Navy at Subic Bay. They married on April 4, 1964, in San Diego, CA, and had 52 loving years of marriage. Mariano died in 2016.

Marie leaves behind daughter Julianna LoBiondo, and son-in-law Anthony LoBiondo, of Newburgh, NY; and her son Michael Muyot, of Newburgh, NY; as well as four devoted grandchildren, Vuk Muyot, Christian LoBiondo, Nikola Muyot, and Michael LoBiondo.

Marie worked as a school teacher and retired [in 1992] from Fishkill Elementary after 30 years of service. Her passion was both teaching and the Spanish language. Her entire life, she tutored children for free, in her home and in their homes, something she continued into her 80’s. She also volunteered as a Spanish-to-English translator for the Department of Health where she went into the homes of new mothers and translated for the nurses. Marie also volunteered for Birthright of Dutchess County. Her passion for the Spanish language and for helping others continues on in her grandsons, who are all bilingual in Spanish and English, and who have spent time studying and helping people abroad, from Panama to Nicaragua to Nepal.

The family will receive friends and neighbors on Friday, May 31, 2019 from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm at McHoul Funeral Home of Fishkill, Inc., 1089 Main Street, Fishkill. Funeral services for Marie will be Saturday, June 1, at 10:00 am, at St. John's the Evangelist Church, 31 Willow Street, Beacon, NY followed by a private burial service. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to: Birthright of Dutchess County, 1081 Main Street, Fishkill NY 12524. Please visit her Book of Memories at www.mchoufuneralhome.com.

Published in the Poughkeepsie Journal on May 30, 2019.

Peter Phillips

VILLAGE OF FISHKILL - Peter D. Phillips, a lifelong local area resident, passed away at home on Saturday, May 25, 2019 following a courageous battle with cancer. He was 72. Son of the late Douglas and Esther f "Tippy" (Williams) Phillips, he was born in Beacon on February 7, 1947. Pete was a gradu-
YOU’VE GOT TO BE TAUGHT (BEFORE IT’S TOO LATE!)

One night recently, when Beth was at a Grinnell Library meeting, I decided to forego my usual political jabberwocky TV viewing and check out the 1958 movie version of South Pacific on TCM. An excellent decision on my part. Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein II’s original Broadway South Pacific opened in 1949 to unanimous critical acclaim. My parents quickly reserved tickets for themselves, my two sisters, and me. I was 14. We had a two-month wait, but songs were on our phonograph player day and night. I think I mentioned (I could pinpoint) I started theorizing). South Pacific was one of my life at that time consisted of football, baseball, swimming, movies, food, and yes, girls (mostly theorizing, okay, to one another). Before you are six or seven or eight, you’ve got to be taught to be afraid. You’ve got to be taught to be a two love interests. There is unsophisticated female nurse Lt. Nellie Forbush head over heels for wealthy (and older) French plantation owner Emile deBeque whose feelings are reciprocal. That is until Nellie finds out that Emile had been married to a Polynesian woman who died leaving Emile with two young mixed-race children to bring up. Nellie is from Little Rock, Arkansas, and conjuring up thoughts of adding two dark-skinned children into her future causes Nellie to do a quick exit out of the relationship. And then Marine Lt. Joe Cable arrives at the end of Act I and manages to fall in love with Liat, a beautiful Tonkanese woman. Lt. Cable’s history includes the Philadelphia Main Line, Princeton, and a made-to-order blue-eyed blond fiancé waiting at home. Hum-m-m? Could be a problem.

Stage productions are allowed quite a bit of dramatic license when it comes to coincidences so not only do Joe and Emile find each other, they are teamed up in a high-risk assignment as coast watchers on a Japanese-held island. Before they push off, Joe tries to explain to a distraught Emile how a wonderful girl like Nellie can have racial issues:

You’ve got to be taught To hate and fear.
You’ve got to be taught:

From year to year,
It’s got to be drummed
In your dear little ear
You’ve got to be carefully taught.

You’ve got to be taught to be afraid
Of people whose eyes are oddly made,
And people whose skin is a different shade,
You’ve got to be carefully taught.

You’ve got to be taught before it’s too late,
Before you are six or seven or eight,
To hate all the people your relatives hate,
You’ve got to be carefully taught!

Emile and Joe’s mission makes them both heroes, but what about Nellie and Liat? We find that while Emile is gone, Nellie has connected with Emile’s kids and is at the plantation with them when a battered and bruised Emile returns and you can guess the rest. We don’t know what Joe would have decided because a Japanese bullet made his final decision for him. We are given some time to mourn Joe’s death, but shortly after there is a soaring crescendo of Some Enchanted Evening announcing the finale with Nellie, Emile and the children in an embrace.

Now that’s a pretty long introduction for the point I want to make. I mentioned seeing South Pacific when I was 14 years old. My life at that time consisted of football, baseball, swimming, movies, food, and yes, girls (mostly theorizing, okay, totally theorizing). South Pacific was one of the first times (I could pinpoint) I started thinking about things outside of myself. My parents and sisters played a huge part in who I became, of course. And school, church, friends, books, movies, and something called TV, added to the mix. I know it’s only a small piece of the puzzle, but when I heard You’ve Got to Be Carefully Taught the first time, it stuck with me and it still does. The music is like a lullaby, and if you aren’t paying attention you will miss its dire message. Anyway, all of this got me to muse about the many things, small and large, that have had an effect on me and how I see the world around me. Someday, when you are home alone, try it. You will kick up some stuff you thought (or maybe wish) you forgot. It’ll take some time, but it will be worth it. You will be amazed.

A lofty look at retirement by Jack Devine

In 1957 I was one of the federal troopers that was sent to Little Rock, Arkansas by President Eisenhower to make sure 9 black students were safely admitted into Little Rock Central High School. Some--not all--of their prospective classmates--boys and girls--were nasty as were their parents, relatives and interested by-standers. I wonder where Nellie Forbush would have fit in if she had chosen to stay home and be “Rosie the Riveter” instead of a nurse. I wonder how much of that nastiness has dissipated over the years.

Rodgers and Hammerstein were begged by their friends, and especially by their financial backers, to cut Carefully Taught from their song list, but they refused. The song caused quite a stir in tryout cities, and they were not all in the South. This was the era that the House Un-American Activities Committee was finding communists under every stone and Joe McCarthy was sharpening his Shiv. It took courage. They had a lot to lose.

It’s always nice to end on a happy note. Rufus is a rescue dog we welcomed into our home two Easters ago. He is sweet and loves everyone, and that apparently includes the miscreant who skulked up our driveway and stole our visiting daughter’s car on Christmas Eve! Not a single “yip” or a “yap” from Rufus. But as I say, he is sweet, and he comes to us from Arkansas!

On an even happier note: In May, Flo Mondanaro, Leslie Leventhal, Ellie Masinoff, and friend, Elise Mansfield, flew across country to see (and hear!) Flo’s daughter Rachel star as Cio Cio San in Madam Butterfly to RAVE reviews! Where did this wonderful event occur? In Little Rock, Arkansas.
SAVE THE DATE!!

The New Hamburg Yacht Club’s 16th Annual Day of Golf Tournament is scheduled for Friday, September 13th at the Beekman Golf Course.

Total proceeds will again go to Wappingers Meals on Wheels. We are proud to say that the Annual Day of Golf has raised over $100,000 to help MoW stay on the road.

Information and entry forms are available at powersie@optonline.net (Charlie Powers) or fox230@aol.com (Jack Devine).

Many of our “repeat” golfers say this is their favorite tournament!

This kinda gives new meaning to what the word “June” used to mean to retirees.

Remember?

No need to anymore.

One-Time Donation Card

Return this form to the WCT Office

I, the undersigned, donate a one-time sum of $ ____________ to the WCT HeartShip Fund, 280 New Hackensack Road, Wappingers Falls, NY 12590.

I understand that this designated amount is a charitable donation.

WCT HeartShip Fund will not disadvantage anyone for any reason of the amount of their contribution or decision not to contribute. Contributing to WCT HeartShip Fund is purely voluntary. The WCT HeartShip will provide all monies toward members within the WCSD community, including all district employees. (As per application process)

Union Affiliation: WCT WAA CSEA WRPN STEPS Central/Admin
(Please circle) WFW WCRT Cafeteria WTAA Confidentials WFEA

Name ___________________________________________ Building _______________________
Email Address _______________________________________________ Date ____________________
Phone # __________________________________________________________ Signature ______________
Questions: CONTACT: Ann Liebergot@secondary.AL@wcteachers.org

MAY - JUNE, 2019

---


GRAND AVENUE

BY STEVE BREEN & MIKE THOMPSON

I, the undersigned, donate a one-time sum of $ ____________ to the WCT HeartShip Fund, 280 New Hackensack Road, Wappingers Falls, NY 12590.

I understand that this designated amount is a charitable donation.

WCT HeartShip Fund will not disadvantage anyone for any reason of the amount of their contribution or decision not to contribute. Contributing to WCT HeartShip Fund is purely voluntary. The WCT HeartShip will provide all monies toward members within the WCSD community, including all district employees. (As per application process)

Union Affiliation: WCT WAA CSEA WRPN STEPS Central/Admin
(Please circle) WFW WCRT Cafeteria WTAA Confidentials WFEA

Name ___________________________________________ Building _______________________
Email Address _______________________________________________ Date ____________________
Phone # __________________________________________________________ Signature ______________
Questions: CONTACT: Ann Liebergot@secondary.AL@wcteachers.org

3 win Capasso Scholarships

At this year’s Capasso Scholarship reception at the WCT office on May 30, Flip Gertler, WCT VP Elementary, stepped in as Master of Ceremonies for Pasquale Delli Carpini, WCT president, who was ill.

“This is the most prestigious and generous award in the Wappingers School District. You are now part of an exclusive club.”

“The WCT and WCRT take it extremely seriously and award $2,000 to each winner,” Gertler noted.

“Parents, you will interview the next group.” Committee members wrote the bios listed below introducing their respective honoree and last year’s recipients read these speeches.

“Five districts and six high schools were represented, 14 students applied, seven were interviewed, and three winners chosen.

The WCT & WCRT offer three $2,000 scholarships to seniors currently enrolled in any private or public high school, and who plan to attend college in the fall of 2019. Eligible seniors must have a parent or guardian who is a member in good standing of the WCT.

Cosette Veeder-Shave is a senior at Franklin D. Roosevelt High School. Her mother, Neegan Veeder-Shave, teaches 7th grade clothing at Wappinger Junior High.

Cosette will attend the University of Mary Washington, Fredricksburg, VA with a double major in Historic Preservation and American History. She is ranked 43 in her class with a GPA of 95.052.

She is a member of the National Honor Society, Tri-M Music Honor Society and the Gender-sexuality Alliance. Community clubs include 4-H Dutchess County club, Bard College Preparatory Division Conservatory of Music, Dutchess County Quilter’s Guild, and Sources of Strength.

She also volunteers at Mohonk Preserve and Historic Huguenot Street, in New Paltz, as a musician, historic interpreter, and actor, and is an Art Room assistant at North Park Elementary School.

During the interview process, what really stood out to the committee was her interest in her studies and how she easily settled into a conversation. She discussed her interest in history and she loved talking about her education.

Cosette’s most influential teacher was Sara Bussert, “who I had for three years of Art in high school. She believed in me and became my mentor. I learned so much from her both about art, ceramics, and life. She was there to help me through hard times. Without her, my high school experience would have been drastically different.”

Sarah Wood, a Rhinebeck High School senior, is the daughter of Robert Wood, Art teacher at Roy C. Ketcham High School.

She carries a 98.7 GPA and will attend Manhattan College to major in International Studies and Peace and Justice Studies and minor in Spanish.

In-school clubs are Drama Club, Art Club, Varsity Field Hockey, Women’s Choir, and Art.

Out-of-school activities include Interact Club, and Altar Server for Good Shepherd Church.

“I believe I was chosen over the other applicants because of my passion to fully engage with people, my surroundings, and everything I do.”

Her most influential teacher was Sarah Wheeler, who taught me English and journalism for the past two years. “She taught me how to see the world like no one else and helped me discover my goals and aspirations.”

Paige Stuart is a senior at Minisink Valley HS and the daughter of Caryn Stuart, a John Jay High School Special education teacher.

Her GPA is 95, and is ranked 52 in her class of 335.

She will attend SUNY Cortland to major in Speech and Hearing Science and minor in Social Gerontology.

In-school activities and clubs: Study Buddies, FBLA, NHS, Senior Class Vice President, and Teacher Intern.

Out-of-school activity is volunteering at the Carlucci Nursing Home where she organizes arts and crafts and plays games with residents.

“The teacher who had the greatest influence on me is my ninth grade algebra teacher, Mrs. Papa. She never let me give up on math and helped me all the way up to my current class which is college trigonometry. I hope to someday have the same impact on people around me that she does.”

“I think I was chosen by the scholarship committee because I have demonstrated a strong desire to help other people and give back to my community. My decision to study speech and language pathology and gerontology further shows my commitment to making a difference in the lives of others.”

The WCT & WCRT offer three $2,000 scholarships to seniors currently enrolled in any private or public high school, and who plan to attend college in the fall of 2019. Eligible seniors must have a parent or guardian who is a member in good standing of the WCT.

Parents, you will interview the next group.” Committee members wrote the bios listed below introducing their respective honoree and last year’s recipients read these speeches.

Five districts and six high schools were represented, 14 students applied, seven were interviewed, and three winners chosen.

The WCT & WCRT offer three $2,000 scholarships to seniors currently enrolled in any private or public high school, and who plan to attend college in the fall of 2019. Eligible seniors must have a parent or guardian who is a member in good standing of the WCT.

The Ralph and Janet Capasso scholarship awards are named after Ralph, “a benefactor and union activist.” Ralph served 17 years as WCT President from 1973-1990 and started the WCT. “Ralph’s a gentleman, a scholar, and union activist who has made a difference in the lives of thousands of teachers, students, and their families. Many of the current benefits and working conditions we enjoy today are due to Mr. Capasso’s hard work and commitment. To provide students with a quality education has always been his top priority.”

He was Teacher of the Year and Outstanding Educator.

Ralph added, “We also have to thank our wives’ support so we can do these things. We should be proud of our teachers, parents, and Pasquale for preserving the values and principles that keep our union strong.”

Last year’s winners were Sierra Dahl, Rosemarie Fesko, and Grace Holod.

This year’s selection committee were Heather Dahl, a psychologist at John Jay High School, Nelida Fesko who teaches Occupational Therapy at Fishkill Plains Elementary School, and Richard Holod, Music teacher at Roy C. Ketcham High School.

Dignitaries and honored guests included Leslie Leventhal, WCRT vice-president and WCT president for seven years, Gertler, and Bill Dourdis WCRT PostScript editor.
3 WCRT Scholarship, 2 Leventhal Scholarship winners recognized

The WCRT offers up to three scholarships, each for $500, to a graduating senior at RCK, JJ, & Orchard View schools. Applicants should have a high school average of 80 or better, and seniors pursuing an education or education-related program in college are given additional consideration.

Todd Weaver, a senior with a 92 GPA at Orchard View Alternative High School, will attend Mt. St. Mary College, Newburgh, NY and major in Primary Education. In-school clubs are Student Government, SADD, Yearbook, and Wellness Newsletter.

Out-of-school activities include being an Astor Volunteer and Youth Power NY.

“My most influential teacher is Mr. Nicolas Perino, Science 9-12, because he inspired me to choose teaching as a career and inspired me to succeed.

“I feel the committee chose me because of my leadership skill and community service.”

Roy C. Ketcham High School’s Karla Machado will attend SUNY Albany this Fall. She plans to double major in Math and Psychology, with a possible minor in Sociology. She hopes to one day be a Secondary Education teacher in Math.

Her class rank is 54 out of RCK’s 445, and her GPA is 94.

Karla excels academically and is an involved and caring student. She is a member of National Honor Society, Vice-President of the Spanish Honor Society, Mu Alpha Theta Math Honor Society, and Volleyball.

Karla always looked up to her teachers as role models and her desire is to inspire students to succeed not only academically but emotionally and socially as well.

“My most influential teacher is Mrs. Holly Seibert. She taught me to truly believe in myself and pushed me to help me reach my true potential in class.”

Karla also works part-time and enjoys playing sports with her family and learning how to bake new things.

"The Wappingers Central School District mission is to empower all our students with the competencies and confidence to challenge themselves, pursue their passions, and realize their potential while growing as responsible members of their community."
Protect Your Loved Ones with Union-Endorsed Benefits

Insurance... it’s often the type of product you hope to never have to utilize. In the event you do need it, though, it’s important to have the insurance product that best meets your needs and those of your loved ones.

NYSUT Member Benefits endorses a variety of crucial insurance programs that provide important protection for NYSUT members and their families, including life, auto and home, disability, long-term care, dental and vision plans, and more.

The Power of the Union

Regardless of whether you’re participating in one of our endorsed insurance programs; legal or financial services; or many shopping, entertainment or travel offerings, NYSUT members receive a quality product and enjoy the “Power of the Union” behind them.

The “Power of the Union” should serve as a steadfast reminder to all NYSUT members that we are your advocate. Unlike when purchasing products available to the general public, NYSUT Member Benefits is here if you ever have any issues or concerns with our endorsed programs. You aren’t just a member to us... you are part of our union family.

Member Benefits is here to offer assistance with the student loan crisis. Visit our website for more information.

To learn more about Member Benefits-endorsed programs & services, visit memberbenefits.nysut.org or call 800-626-8101.

For information about contractual endorsement arrangements with providers of endorsed programs, please contact NYSUT Member Benefits.