

Post Script



Wappingers Congress of Retired Teachers

2537 Route 52, Suite 15 Hopewell Junction, NY 12533

Vol. 17 No. 5

Vote on 1,2,4, budget, dues hike topics for Spring Luncheon

POUGHKEEPSIE, May 5--The Grand Hotel hosted the Wappingers Congress of Retired Teachers' Spring Luncheon. The meeting itself featured political and financial updates, housekeeping matters, collections for a food pantry, and a 50-50 raffle.

Excerpts from speakers' remarks, speeches, and comments:

"We have to be more active than ever to help active members to have the same benefits we have...Please help out our newer teachers...We are a force. We have friends and neighbors and families and we have to get them out to vote." **Susan Roger, WCRT president**, at right.



Cliff Foley, WCRT Political Action Chairperson, at left, offered candidate updates endorsed by the WCRT and WCT. They urged everyone to vote for John Lumia, lever 1; Norma Drummond, lever 2; and Ved Shrivah, lever 4....

Foley added that all voters support the budget and the above three candidates who understand the importance of collective bargaining and working with unions to preserve and protect worker's rights.... These same three will help protect health care benefits, Medicare reimbursement, and pension and cost-of-living increases.

Pasquale Delli Carpini, WCT president, at right, quipped, "You're retired...part of an exclusive happy club..."



"Nine members served on the candidate selection committee...as a group, they feel these candidates will best represent us..."

"There are union attacks in Ohio and Wisconsin..."

"Westchester, Putnam School Boards Association is comprised of 54 districts representing 165,000 students and families...they are petitioning the Senate and the House, they seek pension reform and the collective bargaining process...we must follow suit.

"Our pension is guaranteed by New

York State Constitution Article 5, Section 7...Petition senators and congressmen who want to repeal the Triborough Amendment of the Taylor Law...I depend on you guys—you've got the time, you know the bennies, you fought for them..."

"In the last school board election, 107 votes separated the first two candidates. We have over 500 retirees and over 900 active strong...we also have the Hudson Valley Area Labor Federation. HVALF is comprised of 113,000 union families across seven local counties representing bricklayers, masons, carpenters, musicians, postal workers, CSEA, firefighters, machinists, teamsters, plumbers, nurses, and electricians, and we have a letter endorsed by their president.

"We must use phone banks, petitions, post cards, emails, and lawn signs...`every vote counts' isn't a cliché...I'm proud to be associated with this elite group of people."

Cliff clarified the Triborough Amendment: "When a contract expires, it's still in effect until a new contract is settled."

He also strongly suggested that no endorsement be given to Joel Miller and Steve Saland for their recent views on our issues.



STILL SPEEDY: John Lewis, at left, track and field and cross country coach, still manages to race to the front of the line.

see LUNCHEON page 5

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POLITICAL ACTION COLUMN

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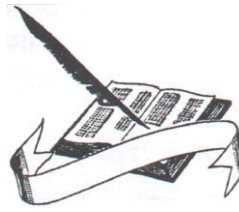
Three win Capasso Scholarships

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RC13 Luncheon features Donahue

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From The President



**SUSAN
ROGER
WCRT
President**

Finally, I want to thank all the retirees who put up signs, stuffed envelopes, and made phone calls for our recent budget and Board of Education election. We were successful in getting the vote out, passing the budget and propositions, and electing positive people to the Board. I was very proud of our retirees who stepped up to help as it was greatly appreciated by the active members.

We must be ever vigilant concerning our profession. The present Governor is pushing for a 2% tax cap, and pushing forward teacher evaluation plans that use test scores as 40% of the evaluation. Collective bargaining is under attack as is the Taylor Law and the Triborough Amendment. We must see that these hard-won rights are not lost. See pages 1, 3, and 5 for more details.

Have a fabulous summer!
Susan Roger

Dear WCRT Members,

Another year of retirement has passed. (I still seem to think of my years as September to June.) Boy, time really does fly by when you are having fun!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Bonnie Kieffer and Eileen Zipes for all their hard work on our Board of Directors. I have enjoyed working with them, and I know they will remain active.

I would also like to thank the retirees who volunteered to substitute so active teachers could attend a funeral for one of their colleagues: Gene Breglia, Lorraine Daley, Judy Ghezzi, Carole Nugent, and Gail Buckle.

Protect your WCRT, NYSUT membership

224 on email;
534 paid members;

84 teachers have chosen not to join or renew their WCRT membership. They have been deleted from our files. They are no longer eligible for NYSUT benefits and will no longer receive our publications.

Membership poem

*If you get a new email address,
Please tell us, to avoid a mess.
If a new email has been set up.
Please tell us, to avoid a mix up.*

**WCT & WCRT
publication dates for
academic year
2010-2011:**
Commentator
mailing dates are in
normal font, *Post-
Script* mailing dates
are in bold font:
9/24/10, **10/29/10,**
11/19/10, **12/17/10,**
1/28/11, **2/25/11,**
3/25/11, **4/29/11,**
5/20/11, **6/17/11,**
and one sometime in
August.

SAVE THESE DATES

(future details coming soon)

- June 2** Retiree Council 13 spring luncheon, Christo's, Pok.
- June 4** NYSUT Editors' Conference and Journalism Awards
- June 7** Hudson River lunch and 2-hr. narrated cruise, \$39.00, 12:30p.m. at Mariner's Harbor, Kingston, guests welcome
- June 14** WCRT Executive Board meeting, 10:00a.m.
- July 8** Deadline for August 2011 *PostScript*
August PostScript will include Fall luncheon notice, Kingston lunch cruise, PostScript wins 4 NYSUT 1st place awards, new officers, and end-of-year R.A. report

WCRT Officers and Board of Directors

- July 1, 2011-June 30, 2013**
 President.....Susan Roger 226-8285
 1st. Vice-Pres..Bonnie Kieffer 297-4245
 2nd. V.P..... Eileen Zipes 463-0022
 Rec Secy.....Flo Mondanaro 454-0352
 Corr Secy.....Barbara Stuck 896-9572
 Treasurer....Elizabeth Moesel 896-9426
 Past Pres.....Alice Baker 452-5793
 WCRT Rep. to WCT Representative
 Assembly...Tom DeRito 440-3476

Directors

- Ruth Ehlers 831-6390
 Alice Heusinger 226-8769
 Judie Rubin 297-9727
 Jack Devine 297-5032
 Margaret Nikola 221-3824

Committee Chairpersons

- Political Action:Cliff Foley
 Constitution and Bylaws: ..Judie Rubin
 Historian:Kathie Munsie
 Gifts and Contributions...Mary Coiteux
 Retiree Council 13 Liaison....Cliff Foley



**Wappingers Congress of
Retired Teachers Newsletter**
 Heritage Square,
 2537 Route 52, Suite 15
 Hopewell Junction, NY 12533
 (845) 227-5065

The WCRT *PostScript* is published in Oct., Dec., Feb., Apr., June, and Aug. during the school year.
 Editor: Bill Dourdis
 wdourdis@verizon.net (845) 473-1796

The WCRT *PostScript* is a 2010 *New York Teacher* Journalism Competition Winner.
 Best Opinion Writing,
 First Award, by Cliff Foley;
 Best Feature Story,
 First Award, by Bill Dourdis;
 and Best Newsletter, First Award,
 to Bill Dourdis, Editor.



POLITICAL ACTION

Editorial views expressed are those of the writer and not necessarily those of the *WCRT PostScript* staff and management.

A FEW BATTLES WON, BUT THE WAR CONTINUES



**CLIFF
FOLEY**
Political Action
Chairperson

Public education, as we know it, is battling for survival. The rocky economy has made schools a target for attacks. While it appears Wall Street and the banks helped cause these troubled times, the blame is more and more being directed at the public sector including teachers. In some states we have seen employees' rights trampled on in the name of cost savings. The political factions we see gaining power have the aim of crushing unions and consolidating power for themselves.

The state leaders in Albany are pushing to have the 2% tax cap in place by June 20 when the current legislative session adjourns. It is interesting to note the extremely hard push being made by Governor Cuomo for a quick passage. Maybe the reality is he knows that if people get beyond the wonderful sound of "Tax Cap" and begin to understand the reality, the uprising against it will push our legislators in a different direction. A Quinnipiac poll in early June found that support for the tax cap had dropped from 71% to 60%. There are numerous organizations, including NYSUT, which are working to stop the law from being passed. One small positive note is that the current proposal includes an expiration date. This would allow for a reassessment of the law's impact.

What the public needs to know is that it is not just children who will be affected. We hear some senior citizens commenting that they do not have children in school and would welcome the cap. An article in the Poughkeepsie Journal on June 5, 2011 dealt with the Fairview Fire District and concerns about fatigue due to a manpower shortage among its paid fire fighters. One of the fire commissioners states they could hire the three people needed this year but he goes on to say they "may be unable to retain them--especially if lawmakers ap-

prove a proposed 2% property tax cap." People need to wake up to the fact that adequate fire coverage, police protection, and ambulance service can be negatively impacted. This is not just a battle about school budgets.

A recent letter to the editor in the Poughkeepsie Journal concerning the tax cap stated that, "This does not address the real problem. The basis for school and property tax is a joke. It assumes that real property is a measurement of one's ability to pay the tax." In June of 1978 a case titled *Levittown v Nyquist* invalidated New York's system of financing schools. In a 1982 decision, the Court of Appeals ruled that while substantial inequities in funding did exist, the New York State constitution does not require equal funding for education. Maybe it is time to address the basic concept of property taxes.

So what will we do if the cap is passed? Our legislators have one idea to raise funds. They are looking to copy Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, Tennessee, New Jersey and Texas by allowing individual school districts to sell advertising on the sides of school buses. There would be limits such as no beer, tobacco, or political ads. Just think of other possibilities. We already have Bank of America Stadium, FedEx Field and Minute Maid Park. We even see Pepsi ads on the gates at the toll booths on the Mid-Hudson Bridge. Why not the Coca Cola Elementary School or Volkswagen High? Okay, we could be getting a little carried away... or are we?

The title of this article said there were a few battles won. In the Wappingers Central School District we saw a budget and bus proposition pass and three board candidates endorsed by the Wappingers Congress of Teachers overwhelmingly victorious. The support of retired WCRT members and help from other labor union members in the area assisted in winning that battle. VOTE/COPE money continues to play an important role and make a difference. Considering the challenges ahead, we all need to join the fight to win the war.

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

■ WCRT, Heritage Square,
2537 Route 52, Suite 15
Hopewell Jct, N.Y. 12533
(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, www.nystrs.org

800-348-7298x6250

10 Corporate Woods Drive

Albany, NY 12211-2395

■ WCSD, Human Resources

167 Myers Corners Rd. Suite 200

Wapp. Falls, NY 12590

845-298-5000 x 115

NYSUT Retiree Council 13 website:

<http://ny.aft.org/rc13/>

Directions to WCT office

☞ The WCT office is in the Heritage Square complex at 2537 Route 52 in Hopewell Junction.

☞ Heritage Square is a short distance east of the intersection of Routes 376 and 52 and west of the Taconic State Parkway.

☞ Enter the parking lot and make the second right turn into parking.

☞ Enter main entrance of building.

☞ The sign over the main entrance is "Prudential".

☞ Take stairs or elevator to 2nd floor.

☞ Go right, all the way to the end.

☞ "Wappingers Congress of Teachers" sign posted on Suite 15 door.

WCSD Board of Ed. e-mail address:

WCSD.Board@Wappingersschools.org

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.

Three named Capasso scholarship winners

Three children of Wappingers Congress of Teachers members won Ralph and Janet Capasso Scholarships at a reception in their honor at Roy C. Ketcham High School Library on Tuesday, May 31, 2011.

Kristen Turi, a senior at John Jay High School, is the daughter of Mary Turi, a Kindergarten teacher at Fishkill Elementary. Kristen is #3 in her class of 572. She will attend Boston College, working towards a dual degree in Psychology and Business. She was captain of the tennis team and *Poughkeepsie Journal* Fall All-Stars Tennis Player of the Year in 2009, a member of varsity indoor and spring track, Student Government treasurer, an AP Scholar with Honor, and an inductee in the National, Spanish, and Math Honor Societies. She also received the Exemplary Character and Citizenship Award in 2010.

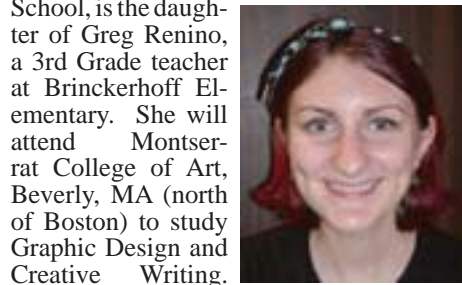


New Paltz High School senior **Charlotte Bloom**, daughter of Ann Fredrick, a Home Careers and Clothing Management teacher at Van Wyck Junior High School, is in the top 10% of her class. She will attend Union College in Schenectady, New York to study Bio Engineering. She was captain of her varsity lacrosse and swim teams. She qualified for Section IX Championships in Track, Nordic skiing, and swimming, and is a 15-time Mid-Hudson Athletic League Scholar Athlete. Charlotte helped raise \$3,000 for Making Strides for Breast Cancer Walk at Woodbury Commons. She would have enjoyed meeting Mahatma Gandhi and discussing the principle of "paying it forward."



Committee members are parents of last year's award winners: from left, Louise Rose, Myers Corners Elementary Reading teacher; Emily Guthoff, Social Studies teacher at Van Wyck Junior High; and Rosemary Versace-Pinczes, Phys. Ed. Teacher at Evans Elementary.

Danielle Renino, from John Jay High School, is the daughter of Greg Renino, a 3rd Grade teacher at Brinckerhoff Elementary. She will attend Montserrat College of Art, Beverly, MA (north of Boston) to study Graphic Design and Creative Writing. She won the Scholastic Art and Writing Competition Silver Key in 2010 and 2011 and the Exemplary Media Arts Awards in 2011. Her artwork was displayed in Houlihan-Lawrence Art Shows from 2007-2009 and showcased at the WCSD Festival of the Arts at Mesier Park from 2001-2011. (Ten years, not a typo!) Danielle volunteers at Lodgett Memorial Library in Fishkill to collect funds for the library, and collects materials and cards for troops serving overseas, and has worked with Proscenium, JJHS theatre group, painting sets and helping with props.



Committee members processed and agonized over 14 scholarship applications. After the initial process of reading an essay, a transcript, SAT scores, grades, activities in and out of school, one letter of recommendation, nine were granted interviews as semi-finalists.



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All applicants had academic excellence, with extensive lists of awards, school activities, and community service.

Pasquale Delli Carpini, WCT President, congratulated recipients on their \$1500 scholarships awarded by the Wappingers Congress of Teachers and the Wappingers Congress of Retired Teachers, which contributed \$200 to each scholarship.

Pasquale recognized distinguished guests present at the reception. They included: Dwight Bonk, new John Jay High School principal since October, 2010; Susan Roger, Wappingers Congress of Retired Teachers president; parents of the recipients who supported and encouraged their children; and "you winners at this exclusive event, you are top notch and the very best. You made the cut which speaks volumes on your behalf to receive this highest honor."

Pasquale noted that "a lot of benefits we enjoy as teachers and retirees are because of Ralph Capasso." In introducing Ralph, Pasquale added "the Capasso Scholarship is the Academy Award of Scholarships and Oscar is going to give you the Oscar."

Ralph Capasso served with dignity and respect as teachers' union president for 21 years. He was awarded Teacher of the Year twice. He retired from the John Jay High School English Department in 1991, the year the scholarship changed its name in honor of his service. The scholarship began in 1989 and has awarded 58 scholarships. He personally congratulated each winner and said, "I am sure you will continue to be extremely



Donors and recipients at the scholarship reception were Sue Roger, WCRT President; Ralph Capasso, former WCT President; Danielle Renino, Kristen Turi, Charlotte Bloom, and Pasquale Delli Carpini, current WCT President.

Golf tourney benefits Meals on Wheels

by Charlie Powers

The New Hamburg Yacht Club's 8th Annual Day of Golf will benefit Meals on Wheels of Wappingers. All proceeds go to this organization. The tournament is Friday September 16, 2011 at the Beekman Country Club. Registration is at 10:00a.m. with a shotgun start at 11:00a.m. Cost per golfer is \$125.00. Checks are payable to NHYC. A buffet, serving sliced sirloin of beef in gravy and oven roasted turkey, will follow the tournament.

Former WCSD teachers on the committee, and strong supporters of our efforts, are Skip Rottkamp, Chair; Bob Blose, Jack Devine, Joe Corrigan, Rosemarie Gardner and Charlie Powers. As in the past, we are looking for golfers, tee/green sponsors, program advertisers, gifts and prizes for our raffle, boosters (\$25.00), donors (any amount). Whatever anyone can do to aid our efforts will be most appreciated.

For a registration form or if you have any questions, call Skip Rottkamp at 845-



297-3546 or e-mail him at skipro44@aol.com. If you would like to be a booster or donor, mail your contribution to Skip Rottkamp, 57 DeGarmo Hills Rd., Wappingers Falls, NY 12590.

By the way, if you think you are getting close to needing the services of Meals on Wheels, perhaps you should seriously consider helping us out in some way.

Spring LUNCHEON topics: vote on 1,2,4, budget, dues hike

from page 1

Cover Story

Jack Devine, WCRT Negotiations Representative, reported negotiators haven't had a meeting yet. Updates to follow. He was also recognized for the work he does with and for the Zion Food Pantry.



Sue Roger reported on a proposal to raise WCRT dues. She enumerated six reasons the WCRT Executive Board needs this motion passed and listed old and new rates. Voted on and approved.

Beth Devine, at right, presented the new slate of officers for 2011-2013. They will be listed in the next PostScript issue when their term begins July 1.



Jack Devine and Bonnie Kieffer, both volunteers at Zion Food Pantry, transport items donated by luncheon attendees. (Editor's note: The box of cereal is not for Jack.)



Cliff Foley reminds luncheon attendees on May 5 about candidates endorsed by the WCRT and WCT. They urged everyone to vote for John Lumia, lever 1; Norma Drummond, lever 2; and Ved Shrivah, lever 4....(Editor's note: District voters elected all three on May 17.)

News since last issue



Kathleen Donahue, NYSUT VP, & Mt. Beacon Incline Railway featured at RC 13 Luncheon

POUGHKEEPSIE, NY—Kathleen M. Donahue, NYSUT Vice President of Program Services, spoke to the Retiree Council #13 Spring Meeting and Luncheon at Christo's Restaurant June 2, 2011.

After congratulating award winners, she immediately pushed toward the NYSUT website "which has lots of information pertinent to the US, Albany, and locals.



It's what makes us important contributing citizens and our different faces are integral."

Updates reported include these excerpts: the recent Representative Assembly approved the election of an elected slate of officers and board of directors for **three new RCs**—44, 45, and 46. Each is allowed

three reps for a total of nine new members to give their voices for retirees. In RC 11 and RC4, a new map of election districts has been created.

Retiree Services: "I came on board six years ago. It's not the 20th anniversary. This past February's report from the past five to six years had a history and structure of almost 180,000 member retirees, a number almost equal to K-12 active members.

Retiree Advisory Committee (RAC) met in August, 2010 and are "tightening belts. We're losing 13,000 members this year to layoffs. We lost 7,000 last year. That's quite a loss in revenue. We want to continue services to members. We've saved \$60,000 using tri-fold versus first class mail. This is a big financial issue.

"Thanks for your **VOTE/COPE** contributions. We raised \$8 million last year and did ads on radio and television to combat Albany's Tax Cap and Teacher Evaluations. We count on you to be our feet on the street in the daytime.

"We're fighting off entitlement programs, and fighting for Social Security." As an example, Donahue told of a school-age kid who lost parents and was on Social Security. She reassured guests that our pen-

sion system is 102% funded, and we must talk to the younger people.

Donahue explained Where We Stand on topics including labor rights, collective bargaining, millionaire tax, LIFO, Triborough, Tax Cap, tenure, teacher evaluations, student evaluations, and Charter Schools.



Fred Schaefer, at left, former chairperson for the Walkway Over The Hudson, and Anne Lynch, President and CEO of the Mount Beacon Incline Railway, offered a slide presentation of his new endeavor.

"This railway needs complete renovation to view the most beautiful river and valley in the country. People used to stop on the Day Liner and the train to come to Beacon. This project is less involved, less costly, and not over the river," Schaefer said.

Lynch, at right, gave the current status which included a Dyson grant for \$45,000. They will present their proposal to Scenic Hudson in August. She added the MBIR group has been around for 16 years.

Plans include an all-weather observa-



Matt Ostoyich, at left, RC13 President, presents Bill Schultz, NYSUT Consultant Liaison to RC13 from 2002-2011, with a plaque for his nine years of service.

Cliff Foley, WCRT Political Action Chairperson and member of the RC13 board of directors, receives a NYSUT Community Service Award from Matt Ostoyich, RC13 President.



tion tower. The goal is to bring in the elderly, handicapped, and families with young kids. Total estimated cost is \$14-\$18 million collected from grants, private donations, and loans. It will be a 1300-foot ride in four minutes offering breathtaking views.

The schedule to complete the project is July 2013 in time for the 100th anniversary of the City of Beacon. The committee hopes to build a restaurant eventually.

For more background on the history, she recommended the book *The Hudson: America's River* by Frances F. Dunwell, published by Columbia University Press.

Next year's spring luncheon is already scheduled at Christo's for 11:30a.m. on the Thursday following Memorial Day.



Report newsletter distribution glitches, dues info, renewals

by Barbara Stuck,
WCRT Corresponding Secretary
and Membership Chairperson

If you have indicated that you would like to receive the *Commentator* and *Post-Script* by email and have not been receiving them, we are looking into the problem. Be sure to include wctteachers@gmail.com in your address book and contact Ronnie Dwyer at the WCT office wct@frontiernet.net if the problem continues.

Anytime a retiree gives his/her email

address to us, the address is given to Kim Mahusky, WCT member in charge of emailing the publications. US Mail costs are becoming prohibitive and may force us to cancel such mailings in the future. Please consider going green and be patient with our efforts. We are all volunteers working on your behalf.

The *Commentator* may also be viewed at wctteachers.org. The *PostScript* will soon be available for viewing.

Several retirees have almost had their NYSUT benefits cancelled because they

neglected to pay their WCT dues. Calls to the office and checks sent in a panic have mitigated the problem.

Don't be among the panicked. Renewal notices will go out in the fall. Economics have caused us to raise the dues for 2011-2012. Present rates are \$15.00 Yearly, \$150 Individual Lifetime, \$250 Couples Lifetime. Fall rates will be \$20.00 Yearly, \$200 Individual Lifetime, \$325.00 Couples Lifetime.

Pay Lifetime and alleviate the yearly task of paying.

In Memoriam

Mildred A. Doughty

HOPEWELL JUNCTION - Mildred A. Doughty, 98, of Hopewell Junction, passed away Tuesday, May 3, 2011 at St. Francis Hospital, Poughkeepsie.

A lifelong area resident, Mrs. Doughty was born on September 28, 1912 in LaGrangeville, the daughter of Jesse H. Alley and Alice Townsend.

She attended New Paltz Normal School, and N.Y.U., where she received her teaching certificate.

Mrs. Doughty taught in the Wappingers School District for 32 years.

She was a member of the Wappingers Congress of Retired School Teachers, the E. Fishkill Historical Society, and an active member of the Church of the Resurrection, Hopewell Junction,

and the church's Altar Guild. Mrs. Doughty was active in the 4 H in her earlier years

On April 1, 1932, she met her husband, Louis A. Doughty. They were married in a garden ceremony in LaGrangeville, on June 24, 1939. Mr. Doughty died April 10, 1967.

Survivors include her son, Louis Joseph Doughty and his wife Patti, of Hopewell Junction, her daughter, Alice Katherine Gregory and her husband Kevin of Wappingers Falls, Grandchildren, Jason, Ryan, Allison, Aaron and Jesse, eight great grandchildren, and several nieces and nephews.



She was predeceased by her twin brother Milton Alley, brother, Franklin Alley, and a sister Dorothy Abel.

Friends may call at the Delehanty Funeral Home 64 E. Main St., Wappingers Falls, Friday 3 to 6 PM.

Funeral services will be held Saturday at 2:00 PM at the Church of the Resurrection, 182 Route 376, Hopewell Junction. Father Domingo Shriver officiating.

Burial will be in Hopewell Cemetery.

Contributions may be made to the Church of the Resurrection.

To send a condolence, or for directions, visit www.delehantyfuneral.com.

Published in the *Poughkeepsie Journal* from May 5 to May 7, 2011

Stephen Zuck Lacey (1934 - 2011)

GREENVILLE, NC - Stephen Zuck Lacey entered into rest on May 11, 2011 in Greenville, NC. He was 77 years old. Steve was a resident of Fishkill, NY for many years.

He is survived by his wife Bonnie of Plymouth, NC, his former wife Connie Lacey of Fishkill, son Gregory A. Lacey and wife Gina of Hyde Park, son John S. Lacey and wife Lisa of Clinton Corners, son Christopher S. Lacey and wife Robin of Poughkeepsie, 5 grandchildren and several cousins, nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his brother John Frederick Lacey in 1999.

Steve was born in Cleveland, Ohio



on May 4th, 1934 to John and Helen (Zuck) Lacey. He attended Harding High School in Marion, Ohio. He graduated from Ohio Wesleyan University in 1956.

He was employed as a cello teacher at Capital University in Columbus, Ohio and Denison University in Granville, Ohio. He was also a member of the Columbus Symphony.

He entered into the US Army in 1957 and served for 3 years attaining the rank of Sergeant. On December 27, 1957 Steve married Constance Rayner in West Hartford, CT.

In 1962 he moved to Hopewell Junction where he was employed by the Wappingers Central School District as Orchestra Director and string teacher. He moved to Fishkill, NY in 1963 where he lived for 31 years.

He played cello as a member of the Hudson Valley Philharmonic from 1962-1970 and performed as a cello soloist at several concerts in the Wappingers Central School District.

While teaching in the Wappingers school system, Steve formed a student cello octet that was selected to play at the Music Educators National Conference in Atlantic City, NJ in 1979.

He also organized the Strolling Strings, a group of string students who were able to perform while walking about. He retired in 1992. In 1995 he moved to Asheville, NC. In 2003 he married Bonnie Blue Buchanan of Newport, NC.

Steve enjoyed gardening, camping, cooking, crossword puzzles, and was well know for his poetry writing. Steve had a lifelong interest in the environment and conservation.

Steve was a dedicated string teacher and orchestra director and was always well liked by his students. He will be remembered for his sense of humor and his passion for music.

In accordance with Stephen's wishes, cremation has taken place. A memorial gathering will be held in August at a family reunion in Lakeside, Ohio. If desired, memorial donations may be made to the World Wildlife Fund (www.worldwildlife.org).

Published in the *Poughkeepsie Journal* on May 22, 2011

Summer is the perfect time

Summer is the perfect time for so many things – gardening, vacationing, swimming, catching up on reading, and whatever else one wants to do but can't seem to find the time for during the school year. That's why summers seem to go so fast, because we're so busy!

But summer is also the perfect time to pay attention to those things that we don't have time for during the rest of the year, such as, (groan), our finances. It's so easy to go day-to-day without making any long-term financial plans, setting up a budget, saving for a rainy day, etc.

Fortunately, the **Financial Counseling Program** endorsed by *NYSUT Member Benefits Corporation* can be of great assistance in getting your financial house in order.

When you enroll in the plan, you'll receive toll-free access to certified financial planners and registered investment advisors who will address your various financial questions and situations. You'll also have options for in-person consultations. And you have the added comfort of knowing these professionals are there solely to help you, not to line their pockets by pushing you in one direction or another.

These financial professionals do not sell any financial products; hence, they receive no

commissions from mutual funds, brokerage firms, insurance companies or any other third party. These are the professionals of Stacey Braun Associates, Inc., the provider of the Financial Counseling Program.

Stacey Braun Associates is an investment advisory company established in 1977. It provides fee-based professional financial counseling.

Here is a sampling of topics you can receive advice and assistance on:

- Pre- and post-retirement planning
- 403(b) and 457(b) plan advice
- Mutual fund questions
- Establishing risk tolerance
- Mortgages and refinancing
- Savings
- Estate and inheritance planning
- Financial advice relating to divorce
- Tax planning
- Insurance
- Social Security
- Education funding

The plan also includes no-cost written summaries or reports upon request; access to Stacey Braun's password-protected website, which features all kinds of helpful information and calculators; an e-mail helpdesk; and free admission to regional educational workshops.

In addition to the plan described here, a

403(b) Limited Financial Counseling Program is available.

So why not take a little time out of your busy summer and see how you can benefit from the Financial Counseling Program?

For more information, call NYSUT Member Benefits at **800-626-8101** or visit www.memberbenefits.nysut.org.



For information about contractual endorsement arrangements with providers of endorsed programs, please contact NYSUT Member Benefits. Agency fee payers to NYSUT are eligible to participate in NYSUT Member Benefits-endorsed programs.

Post Script

**This issue's out-takes:
a bonus for e-mail
subscribers**

Dear readers,

I got an idea a while back, and I tried something new. I ran it by e-mail subscribers because they can handle whatever I send them.

I'd like some feedback on your thoughts about this concept. Printed hardcopies limit me to eight pages. I can be more flexible electronically. You get the benefit. Let me know what that benefit is for you.

Enjoy the leftovers.

Bill Dourdis
PostScript editor



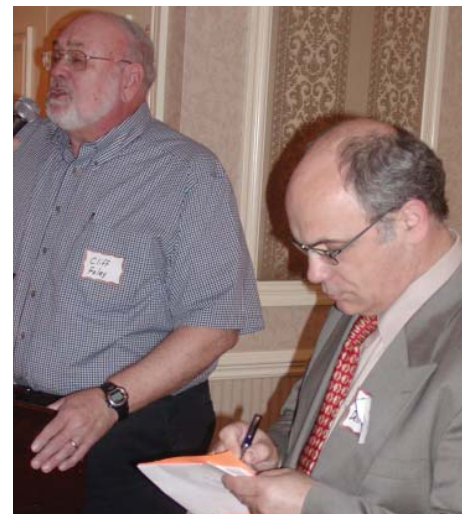
Barbara Stuck, WCRT membership, and Sue Roger, WCRT president, remind each other about agenda items.



Audrey Ryan, Ceil Collopy, and Franca Petrillo catch up on activities.



Pasquale Delli Carpini, Bill Green, and John Lewis chat before lunch.



Cliff Foley, WCRT Political Action Chairperson, and Pasquale Delli Carpini, WCT president, offer a tag-team presentation about the budget vote.



Eileen Zipes, event coordinator, and Floren Haiber sit at registration table.



Dan Hickey and Mary Quinn ask about colleagues still teaching.



Josephine Krygowski, Maureen Skora, and Judy Masterson reunite over coffee, good food, and good company.



Frank and Donna Mears are all smiles in spite of the chocolate mousse.



Steve and Andrea Miller enjoy seeing their administrative and teacher friends.



Ellen Lachowicz and Carol Cummings, class of 1998 retirees, carpoled to see friends and former colleagues at lunch.

see more pictures & story of spring luncheon on pages 1 & 5