

The WCT COMMENTATOR

October 29, 2010

One Nation March

By Rena Finsmith

On Saturday, October 2nd, WCT members loaded onto a coach bus and started their journey to “March on Washington.”

As we got closer to D.C. my excitement elevated as this was my first time to Washington, D.C. Paul Nostrand and Diane DiChiara started to pass out our AFT shirts to wear that day. If you wanted to know who had the better arm you will have to ask them. To make sure that no one got lost, our fearless leader, Pasquale, needed to make sure he had all our phone numbers. As this process was going on, Martha and I decided to teach him the young hip phrase - “Can I get your digits?”

At RFK stadium our bus #846 (we tried to convince the worker to give us #845 for obvious reasons) finally parked and was immediately met with a warm welcome. We took a group picture and passed out our lunch for the day and we were on our way to walk towards the Metro Station.

As we walked towards the Lincoln Memorial we passed many groups and their organizations as well as many signs. Signs discussed jobs, teachers, healthcare, war, and the newest controversy “Waiting for Superman.” Many people were dressed as Superman. We heard speakers like the Reverend Al Sharpton and Jesse Jackson.

Alyson McCarroll, Theresa Stowell, and myself decided to walk up and see Lincoln’s Memorial up close and personal. The first way we tried, we were denied, but with Theresa leading the way we were on our way up the stairs. As we walked into where Lincoln’s statue is, I immediately felt goosebumps. As I turned around and looked towards the Washington Monument, I couldn’t help but think that I am standing on the same hallowed ground as some of the most prominent figures in history. I was left speechless.

The day unfortunately came to an end, but I must say that this was a great opportunity and experience. I hope –if there is a next time – that more members of the WCT join in. As I reflect on the day’s events, the sites I saw, the messages I read, and the speeches I heard, I came away with the feeling that I was part of something so special and so unique. Even with all the issues, problems, highs and lows, these people met in Washington as strangers but yet somehow left UNITED for a cause. That cause is for a better life for their children, grandchildren, and better life for you and I. So I ask you what President John F. Kennedy asked us back in 1961, “Ask not what your country can do for you—ask what you can do for your country.” Get out there, vote, support your local, state, and national governments as well as our union the Wappingers Congress of Teachers, and most importantly teach the future of America that they should get involved.



Inside this issue:

One Nation March	1-6
Question of the Month	7
Caps for Good	7
One Nation March (cont'd)	8-9
Walking Challenge	10
Business Dept. Press Release	11
Health Insurance	12
Good News	13
Defensive Driving	14
WTF News	15
Golds Gym	16
Trip-Mark Travel	17
Advertising/Info	18-20



Why I Marched: One Nation Working Together
 Pasquale Delli Carpini, Italian/Spanish Teacher, JJHS
 On the Job: 29 years

As an immigrant, it was very important for me to march in Washington on October 2nd in solidarity with other hard-working American men and women. In 1971, I left my birthplace, Gallo Matese Provincia di Caserta, hoping to build a better life for myself and my future family. America (a beautiful Italian word), gave me that opportunity and more. Education with old-world values instilled by my family, afforded me the privilege to work and prosper. Coming together in Washington as middle-class, working families that have built this nation to the symbol of hope it represents today, rendering our voices meaningful and powerful for the future of this country. This was not only an honor, but also a duty to remind the elected officials in Washington of the dignity of labor. It is unfortunate that the bottom line has forced many American companies to transport jobs overseas and produce, in many instances, products of lesser-quality. We must embark on an endeavor to promote and restore the manufacturing of goods and services within our borders to re-establish the workforce in order to revitalize the economy. As a nation, we should regard unions as in the past, not as liabilities but as assets.



President, Pasquale Delli Carpini and former teacher and current BOE member, John Lumia

Why I Marched: One Nation Working Together
 Diane DiChiara, Special Education Teacher, JJHS
 On the Job: 16 years

I decided I would march in the early spring when I heard Randi Weingarten, President of the AFT, speak at an ED 13 meeting. It was my chance to not only use my mouth but my feet. Weingarten called on NYSUT members to turn out in force to support public education. I believe in public education. I believe that it was meant to be the great equalizer for all children in this country. I believe that whether you live in New Orleans or Fishkill the quality of a public education should be equally rigorous. As the months passed I began to hear more about this *One Nation March* for not just education, but jobs and social justice. The connection made sense to me. A week before the march *Waiting for Superman* was released and I knew I had made the right decision to take 24 hours of my weekend and actively express my support for not only my students but also my colleagues. **As an active member of the WCT, I have seen that teacher unions don't just protect teachers; they protect students.**



Near day's end: WCT holding up the Washington Monument

Why I Marched: One Nation Working Together
 Renee Nostrand, Taconic Hills Central School District
 On the Job: 22 years

Why I marched on 10/2/10: Although I am not a teacher, I have worked for 22 years in the public school system, mostly as Secretary to the Superintendent. In that time I have seen how the education field is having more and more demands placed on it, teachers being under attack for things they cannot control and funding being pulled away. Teaching is a very important job and a difficult one. New York State is one of the most stringent states for certification of teachers. As in any profession, there are always a handful that are not the best. Unfortunately, those are the ones everyone seems to hear about. I marched in support of the public education system, to make our voices heard to improve our education system and to support the unions. Unions are fighting to get more money for our schools and improve education for all of our youth, our future.



Unifying tee shirt worn by all WCT members

Why I Marched: One Nation Working Together
 Paul Nostrand, Guidance Counselor, WJHS
 On the Job: 20 years

I marched on Oct 2nd to show solidarity and support unions in general and teacher unions in particular. In recent times tenure, teachers and their unions have been under attack and portrayed as the "problem" in public education. This attack, I feel, is unjust unwarranted and grossly misleading to the public. Teachers in public school systems must teach to a variety of students with varying backgrounds, ethnic customs, home situations and levels of abilities. To say this is challenging is an understatement. Tenure is nothing more than a guarantee of due process rights which every worker should be entitled to. We are not in a production oriented business where your job is secure as long as your are generating a profit for your employer. This is why tenure and unions are of particular importance to educators as we continue to be guided by what is truly best for each and every student.

Why I Marched: One Nation Working Together
 Naomi Saddlemire, ELA Teacher, VWJHS
 On the Job: 7 years

I marched on 10-2-10 because I was one of the teachers who lost their job at the end of the school year last year. Thankfully, I am back to work teaching 8th grade ELA at Van Wyck. I am currently in a long term leave position. I felt it was important to make my voice and presence known in Washington as one of the teachers who was faced with layoffs and the uncertainty that it brings. Life for me this summer was stressful and daunting not knowing where or if I would be working the following school year. The dilemma of paying my bills and saving money was at the forefront of my mind. AFT and our local union have been very supportive in all their efforts. It was my duty to stand beside them in Washington. It was an amazing day and I feel blessed to have been part of history that day. I bonded with my colleagues and created new memories. Thanks everyone for a great day!

Why I Marched: One Nation Working Together
 Martha Bilsback, Elementary Teacher, Myers Corners
 On the Job: 24 years

I marched because I believe that I have the responsibility to show my solidarity with other Americans who are concerned about the state of the US economy and its impact on public education. I am thankful that I am a citizen of a country where I have the right to peaceably assemble and express free speech.

Why I Marched: One Nation Working Together
 Lauren Korz, ELA Teacher, RCK
 On the Job: 5 years

I went on the trip to D.C. because I am a strong believer in unions. As an educator I feel that our country needs to better support education. I feel that teachers are misrepresented and the media/public views us **negatively. The focus is on “bad” teachers and not the majority of us who do a wonderful job! As a whole, our country needs to come together to rebuild our economy.** As a citizen of this country, I felt that this was an opportunity for me to voice my concerns.

Why I Marched: One Nation Working Together
 Rena Finsmith, Special Education Teacher, JJHS
 On the Job: 5 years



I marched on 10/2/10 because I preach to my students that they have certain rights that are given to them and that there are people in our past, present, and future who fight for these rights that we all have. It is important to practice what you preach and this was a wonderful opportunity to show my students that no matter what background, race, age, etc. you can be apart of something and take a stand. It is when we are silent that these issues continue to exist and grow. Marching on Washington allowed me the opportunity to stand where many great historical figures stood. The March on Washington brought together many different causes such as jobs, healthcare, justice, equal rights, and education. Talking to and with the other marchers and having them tell their stories were just as important as the guest speakers that day. Marching on Washington allowed me and my fellow marchers to take part in standing up for those causes and hoping that more people will get involved and of course go out and exercise their right to vote.

Why I Marched: One Nation Working Together

Alyson McCarroll, Special Education Teacher, JJHS

On the Job: 11 years

I marched because I wanted a free trip to DC. Just kidding... With what happened last year with all of the layoffs I thought that it was important for us as teachers to support our union for all that they do for us. I know that I was lucky because it doesn't directly affect me but you never know one day. We need to be concerned with giving the children what they need, that is a good education. Which means no lay offs for teachers. It is time for the government to step it up!



Why I Marched: One Nation Working Together

John Lumia, Board of Education Member, former math teacher, RCK

On the Job: 37 years

I marched to show solidarity with all the other unions.



Protesting the treatment of immigrants and the assumption that many Latinos are illegal.

One Nation Working Together Signage



Protesting Waiting for Superman

QUESTION OF THE MONTH??

Does the show *Teach* starring Tony Danza work for or against public school teachers?

If you haven't seen the show go to <http://www.aetv.com/> Send your replies to commentator@wcteachers.org by November 20th.

This is a new monthly column. Send questions you would like to see the answers to via email to: commentator@wcteachers.org by November 20th.

Your answers can be kept confidential if you wish... just indicate that in your response.

This column can be a forum for any topic of discussion that members would like to see in future issues!

CAPS FOR GOOD YOUR HANDMADE CAP CAN HELP SAVE A LIFE!

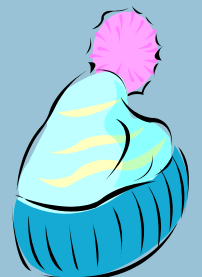
Two years ago the WCT and the WCRT took part in "Save the Children's" Knit one Save one Campaign making hundreds of caps for babies.

"Save the Children" is once again accepting baby caps for newborn health programs in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

Nearly 4 million babies die each year in their first month of life – half within their first 24 hours and mostly from preventable or treatable causes. In many developing countries, something as simple as a knit or crocheted cap can help the baby keep warm, which is key to helping newborns survive.

Visit www.GoodGoes.org/caps for cap patterns and to see how caps are making a difference in the lives of mothers and children around the world.

Send completed caps to Chris Romano at Myers Corners Elementary School.



One Nation Working Together March: Who Was There and What Some Said**Theme: Jobs, Justice, and Education**

By Diane DiChiara

Ed Schultz (radio and talk show host)

Reverend Al Sharpton “We cannot scapegoat teachers... We need to hold them accountable, but there’s a difference between accountability and union busting ...we need teachers and parents and students to work together.”

Lisa o’Reily Irish immigrant, St. Mary Assumption Church, Baltimore “Don’t fear immigrants (as they) share and give, (for our country) to grow and to prosper, not at anyone’s expense...to give to this country.” She “spoke on behalf of those who are afraid to speak (who) ‘live in the shadows’.”

Richard Trumka, AFL-CIO President, mine worker, Western Pennsylvania “America needs...good jobs...support all families...retire with dignity...support small businesses...innovate and move America forward...we believe in America and its time for America to believe in each and everyone of us.”

Diana Ortiz, Small Business Owner, catering company Pueblo, Colorado, “(We) need help for Main Street.”

Joe Madison, Radio and Talk Show Host

Harry Belafonte, actor and singer, “Thank my brothers and sisters in Local 1199,” “MLK...47years ago...’slavery may have been abolished, the crippling poison of racism still persists’, America’s wakeup call (for) citizens coming together to say that freedom does not sleep...lethargy...fully awake...we the people are its engine.” “Greatest weapon is the vote and the answer is to overburden our voting booths.” “Vote for jobs peace justice human right, for our children.”

Marian Wright Edelman, Childrens’ Defense Fund Founder and President, learn from Noah’s Ark

Lesson one: “don’t miss the boat, failure to invest in and educate all of our children...every 11 sec of the school day a child drops outs...needs the correct course right now...all of us parents, educators...need to be a part of the solution. God did not make 2 classes of children, every single one deserves a quality education.”

Lesson 2: “We are all in the same boat...inclusive rally...fair playing field for other people’s children.”

Lesson 3: “Plan ahead it wasn’t raining when Noah built the ark ...take care of the children now.”

Lesson 4: “Don’t listen to the critics and neighsayers, just get on with what is right ...stand up and fight for all children.”

Lesson 5:”For safety sake travel in pairs – better yet, travels with others.”

Lesson 6: “Remember that the ark was built by amateurs and that the Titanic was built by professionals...use your power and vote to save our country...don’t rely on experts.”

Lesson 7: “Build our children’s future on high ground... let’s leave (the world) better than we

One Nation Working Together March: Who Was There and What Some Said (*cont'd*)

Theme: Jobs, Justice, and Education

President Benjamin Jealous President and CEO of NAACP, “Get off the couch and turn out to vote.”

“Growing up I knew that my family origins were illegal... (we need the) promise of unity... look for common threads... E pluribus unum... out of many, one.” “Strongest thread: America family,”

“Whether we were born here or sacrificed everything to get here... our commitment to persevere in great odds... national destiny to move ever forward, never backwards...”

College Students from across America, spoke about the rights of affordable education, “How big is our heart? Do we have room for everyone? Are we one

Reverend Jesse Jackson, founder of Rainbow/PUSH

Yves Gomes 18 yrs old was to be deported to a country he has never known, India, as his parents brought him to America at 18 months of age. “I consider myself to be an American. I grew up here. I have a brother whom I love who was born here as an American. “My parents were deported in 2008. My brother and I were forced to say goodbye to our mother in July of 2009... devastating to me... I got accepted into college and received scholarships. I fulfilled their dreams and mine. I am considered illegal. I was set to be deported in August, but thanks to so many I was able to get a deferral of removal and I am here today. A broken immigration system has torn my family apart.”

Ernie Green, Little Rock Nine

Wade Henderson Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights “education is key to success... poor drop out... economic and political costs are outstanding... no matter what your zip code... equitable education... true test of our greatness as a society do what’s right for our children today and generations to follow all in this together. All children can learn. Demonizing teachers is not the answer. Invest in their success so our children can achieve... close out his dropout factories... the school to prison pipeline... can we do it? Yes we can. Will we do it? That’s up to us. Voting is the lifeline of democracy. If you don’t vote, you don’t count. Case closed.”

Dennis Van Roekel, President of the NEA, largest labor union in the US, “Poorest kids need to be in the heart of every American... possibility of affordable college... build a great public school for every child... dedicated to justice for all. This is the America we will vote for on November 2nd.”

Victoria Rowell, actress, “We must stand up take notice and vote. All Americans to be who we are – inspired by Harvey Milk.”

Mark Thompson Sirius Radio, “2008 voting for the president, 2010 voting for the people.”

Randi Weingarten AFT President, “We must do what we do in our best schools for all our children in all our schools. Teachers can’t do this alone... everyday heroes... our kids are our kids... aspire to our ideals... our children must not only dream our dreams but achieve them. We can do it. We must do it. Join America’s public school teachers in our quest to make a difference in our children’s lives.”

Beau Sia Slam Poet “Teacher, Teacher” “Literacy beyond reading... I believe in you... The report card of your life is not out yet.”

Local Students, Teachers, and Parents Participate in a Ten Day Walking Challenge

Kinry Road School and Oak Grove School will be participating in a ten day walking challenge during the last two weeks of October. The goal is to motivate students to increase their level of physical activity outside of physical education class. Physical Education teachers, Anne Seymour and Dawn Turpin-Orgetas coordinated



the NYS Healthy Steps Program in their schools over the past several years. But unfortunately this program lost its funding and no longer exists.

But that didn't stop Turpin-O. and Seymour. Together they made a plan to

challenge Oak and Kinry students, staff members, and their families to compete in a contest to see which school could do the most walking over the ten day period from October 18 to 27. Both schools kicked off the program with a walk over the Scenic Hudson Walkway after school on Monday. Marley Brothers, a P.E. student teacher at Oak Grove, showed her school spirit by completing the walk in



full costume. She was dressed as a squirrel representing the school mascot for Oak Grove.

Students will be participating in special activities at school during P.E. class and recess to increase the number of steps students take. Students will be learning about healthy nutritional choices, the benefits of walking, measuring heart rates, and leading a healthy, physically active lifestyle. The P.E. teachers expect this energizing event to bring families together to achieve a common goal. Parents and family members who walk with a Kinry or Oak student will be able to include their steps toward the school total as well.

This event is being sponsored by:

Anne Seymour, Physical Education Teacher,
Kinry Road School 845-463-7322x116

Dawn Turpin-Orgetas, Physical Education Teacher,
Oak Grove School 845-298-5280



Business Teachers Association of New York State

Chartered by the New York State Board of Regents

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Kristen Bockemuhl, Kathy Conroy, Maralice Goodall, Lynda Murphy, Corrinne Streever and Rob Wehmann, Business Education teachers at Roy C. Ketcham High School and John Jay High School attended the Business Teachers Association of New York State's 58th annual conference held on October 14-15, 2010 at the Westchester Marriott in Tarrytown, New York. The conference attracted 150 business and marketing teachers from high schools and colleges located in New York State.

This year's theme, "Get Caught in the BTA Web," was highlighted at the conference. The business education workshops keyed in on ways to 'catch' current business education curriculums through new courses, technology, projects, ideas, and more. Educational session topics included: Foolproof Real Financial Education for Your Students, Virtual Enterprises, International (VEI): An Entrepreneurship and Global Business Instructional Simulation, Music, Art, and Computers (MAC), Empowering Youth with the Soft Skills through the Certificate of Employability, Incorporating Twitter and Blogs into Your lessons, TechYES in the Middle School: Bringing Financial Literacy to Life, Business & Education Employability Portfolio, Connecting with Gen Y—Using eClips Media in the Classroom, 'e-Portfolios 101', The New EntreSkills: An Enriched Online Curriculum for Teaching Entrepreneurship, Becoming 21st Century-Ready, Student Transition from High School to Business School, The Junior Apprentice—A Middle School Business Elective, Program Promotion, Make Your Students Bilingual: Teach Game Maker Language (GML), Sports Extravaganza: A Sports Management Project, Project: High School Prom Fashion Show, Automated Accounting, and BTANYS Showcase. A number of exhibitors were present displaying current curriculum materials.

The Clinton A. Award honoring an "Outstanding Business Educator," the Hobart Conover Award honoring a "Friend of Business Education," The Julian A. Milkes Outstanding New Business Educator Award, and the SED Regional Department of the Year Awards were presented.

www.btanys.org



Wappingers Central School District
 167 MYERS CORNERS ROAD, SUITE 200
 WAPPINGERS FALLS, NY 12590
 (845) 298-5000, EXT. 113
 FAX (845) 298-5047

HEALTH INSURANCE

Memo to: Wappingers Central School District Employees & Retirees
 From: Carleen Scherer
 Business Office
 Date: October 2010
 RE: **Health Insurance Open Enrollment Period**

November is the month you have the opportunity to change your health insurance plan. There are four meetings scheduled with representatives from MVP, CDPHP and Empire Blue Cross & Blue Shield (Alternate Blue Choice PPO). There will be a question and answer period following a brief presentation from each representative.

Anyone electing to change their health insurance plan **must** complete an application and return it to me in the Business Office by Tuesday, November 30. Applications may be obtained in the Business Office for any one of the three plans.

If you elect to change your insurance plan, it will become effective January 1, 2011. You will be covered by your present plan through December 31, 2010.

If you do not wish to change your insurance plan, you do not have to call me.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (845) 298-5000 extension 113.

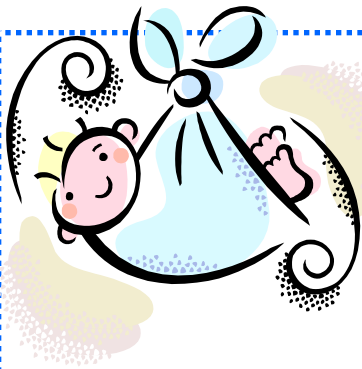
SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

1.	11/01/10	DISTRICT OFFICE	10:00AM	CONFERENCE ROOM A
2.	11/05/10	VAN WYCK JR. H.S	3:00PM	LIBRARY
3.	11/09/10	MYERS CORNERS.	5:30PM	LIBRARY
4.	11/12/10	OAK GROVE	4:00PM	LIBRARY

******PLEASE NOTE, if you are contemplating changing to a different health insurance plan or a change from individual to family or a change from the buy-out to District health insurance, you must do so between November 1 and November 30, 2010 with an effective date of January 1, 2011.**

The next opportunity to make a change will not be until open enrollment in November 2011, unless there is a qualifying event (loss of coverage, marriage, birth or adoption).

New Babies...



Krista Robinson (Gayhead) and her husband Wayne welcomed a girl, Sarah Marie, in May.

Jessica Carola (Gayhead) and her husband Joe welcomed a girl, Annabelle Marie, in July.

Brianne DelGreco (Gayhead) and her husband Anthony (John Jay) welcomed a boy, Carson Robert, in May.

Keri Duncan (Vassar/Kinry) and her husband welcomed a girl, Alexa Leighann, on Setember 1, 2010.

Wedding Bells ...



Andrew Nikola (Vassar Road) married Heather Troncillito on June 26, 2010

Patricia Brilla (Vassar Road) married Peter Dean on July 23, 2010.



The Wappingers Congress of Teachers

Presents

NYSUT's Defensive Driving Program

(Recognized by the National Safety Council)

THIS COURSE IS OFFERED TO WCT MEMBERS AND IMMEDIATE FAMILY ONLY

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2010

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2010

6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Sessions will be held at Roy C. Ketcham High School, Room Large Group Instruction.

Family members are welcome to participate. A fee of \$30.00** per person is necessary to cover cost of materials. (Participants **MUST** attend both sessions).

- ****If you subscribe to auto insurance through NYSUT Member Benefits (METPAY), there is a \$25.00 refund.**

Benefit to Participants:

Upon completion of the course, members and their family members, who are principal operators of a vehicle, are entitled to a ten percent reduction in the base rate of their liability (bodily injury and property damage), no-fault (personal injury) and collision insurance premiums each year for three years.

WCT members and their family members who complete the course may receive a subtraction of up to four points on their driving records. This applies only to points for violations occurring within the 18 months immediately before course completion. It does not affect points for earlier violations and can never be used as a **“credit” for future points. Points may be reduced only once in any 18-month period.**

To register, send the clip-off below and your check to the WCT office ASAP. Reservations will be accepted on a **“first come, first serve”** basis. **No cancellations after Monday, November 1, 2010.**

Defensive Driving – November 3 & November 10

Member's Name _____ Are you attending? Yes _____ No _____

Family Members (Attending) 1) _____

2) _____

3) _____

School (School Mail Location) _____

Home Phone _____

A check for \$30.00 per person must accompany this form. Please make check payable to **“WCT.”**
 You must be a WCT member or WCT family member to enroll in this course.

Important Information about the WCT Welfare Trust Fund...

Trustees:

Christine Romano, Chairperson
 Betty Seifert, Treasurer
 Erin Mulligan, Secretary
 Philip Gertler, Trustee
 Pasquale Delli Carpini, Trustee
 Ronnie Dwyer, Administrator

WCT Telephone Number:

845-227-5065

Daniel H. Cook Telephone Number:

1-800-342-6651

- You must let the WTF know of any changes in your personal information ASAP
- Student verification forms must be sent to Daniel H. Cook every semester
- Dental & prescription reimbursement forms are on-line at the WTF website
- Please direct all questions & concerns to the WCT office or directly to Daniel H. Cook

from the... WCT Welfare Trust Fund

A financial consultant from Stacey Braun Associates, Inc. will be in the WCT office on the following dates:

November 16, 2010
 December 7, 2010
 January 11, 2011
 February 15, 2011
 March 15, 2011
 April 5, 2011
 May 17, 2011
 June 14, 2011

Appointments are (1) hour blocks available between 2pm & 6pm on a first come first served basis.

When you call the office to

schedule an appointment, we will forward a questionnaire to you. Please complete it and bring it with you to the meeting.

Since these slots fill up very quickly CALL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. The WCT office number is 227-5065.

If the above dates are not convenient for you, call Stacey Braun Associates, Inc. directly at 1-888-949-1925 and other arrangements may be possible.



also from the WelfareTrustFund

The attorney will be in the WCT office to meet with members on the following dates:

November 15

December 15

January 19

February 16

March 23

April 27

May 18

and June 22.

Times - 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Please call 227-5065 to schedule an appointment.

Special Discount Offer for Wappinger's Central School District Employees

GET STARTED FOR \$15!

\$35/month • No Obligations • Just Results!
Offer valid: 10/15 - 11/28/2010.

Complimentary
**5-Day
Membership**

Sign-up today to attend



READY-SET-GOLD'S!

You're invited to attend a one-hour seminar where we pay you \$15 to learn about our programs, services, and amenities, and how to achieve life-changing results!



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- Gold's Group Exercise (GGX): BODYPUMP®, BODYSTEP®, BODYCOMBAT®, BODYFLOW®, BODYATTACK®, BODYJAM®, BODYVIVE®, RPM®, Yoga, SilverSneakers™, Pilates and ZUMBA®
- Indoor pool and aqua classes (Newburgh)
- Annual programs & events including: 12-Week Body Transformation, member holiday party, cancer walk, road races, ADA golf outing, and Tour de Cure
- 24-hour access (Fishkill)
- Kids' Club - child care
- KidZone - children's fitness and activity center (LaGrange)
- Children's Birthday Parties (Newburgh & LaGrange)
- Children's Summer Camps (Newburgh & LaGrange)
- Basketball • Volleyball • Racquetball • Indoor tracks (Newburgh & LaGrange)
- Boxing Studios

ZUMBA NOW AT GOLD'S GYM!

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- Lady Gold's - women's only fitness areas
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Contact: Mike Terzini at mterzini@goldsgym.net

Fishkill, 982 Main Street 896-3300 • Newburgh, 15 Racquet Rd., Rte. 17K 564-7500 • LaGrange, 258 Titusville Rd. 463-4800

Use TripMark.travel for all your travel needs!

Next time you're making travel plans, be sure to check out the newest travel discount program endorsed by NYSUT Member Benefits Corporation, TripMark.travel.

When you plan your next vacation, flight or cruise with TripMark.travel, you can enjoy great deals on the most beautiful vacation spots in the world. This program provides NYSUT members and their family and friends with online and offline (toll-free travel agents) leisure travel benefits.

TripMark.travel allows you to effortlessly book flights, hotels, vacation packages, car rentals and cruises online for personal and business travel needs. With a simple interface and advanced encryption technology, your information is safe and secure, giving you peace of mind as you plan your next trip. Your information will never be shared or sold to any third parties.

Offline, toll-free agents are standing by, waiting to assist you if you prefer speaking to an agent. Agents can be reached between 8:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m., ET. Please note: At this time, travel agents cannot book airline flights. You can either book flights online or call the airline directly.

To help in your planning, TripMark offers destination guides. These guides offer recommendations for top-rated attractions,



restaurants and hotels, as well as providing general information for thousands of destinations.

Maybe you'd just like to plan a road trip, but you aren't sure where to go. The TripMark.travel site presents you with many options, anywhere from one hour to six hours away from a specified zip code, in any direction you choose.

Planning a family reunion? Vacationing with friends? TripMark.travel can help you with group travel.

To get started, visit www.memberbenefits.nysut.org and click on TripMark in the Featured Discounts section on the home page. There, you'll find toll-free numbers for reservations, cruises and group travel, as well as a link to a NYSUT member-specific TripMark website. Or give Member Benefits a call at

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Agency fee payers to NYSUT are eligible to participate in NYSUT Member Benefits-endorsed programs.

Get Your WCT Gear

Short sleeve tees, long sleeve tees, and lanyards are available for purchase at the WCT Office. Shirts range in size from small through 3X. Please stop by the office to make your purchases. Payment for these items must be a check made out to WCT - cash will not be accepted.

WCT Gear is available at the WCT Office:

- **\$9 for short sleeve tee**
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MEMBERS' CLASSIFIED ADS

For Sale: Two J.C. Penney rocker recliners in brand-new condition (used only one month). Normal retail cost was \$1,200 for the pair. (Sale price we paid was \$598). Will sacrifice for \$498. Must see to appreciate. Also, 25 " Panasonic tv/vcr combination set. Asking \$50. Please call 255-7167 . Dave DeMers, retired teacher

For Sale: 2 Bench seats for Dodge Caravan in very good condition: \$50 or best offer. Contact Ed @ 471-7607 or edmundtmckenna@gmail.com

For Sale: Dining room set which includes **42x58" oval table with 1 leaf**, four chairs, and hutch with 2 additional end chairs for \$500. Call 845-297-6471

For Sale: 10 year old console television - cherry finish - for \$75. Call 845-297-6471

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For Sale: **52x28'** Woodfield 28 Series manufactured home with whole house AC on 4 Scribo Rd in W.F. - den, 2 bedrooms, 2 full baths and spacious open kitchen, dining and living room areas. All appliances included. Fully carpeted except for kitchen and separate laundry area. Gray siding with white shutters and a 13x28 roofed porch. Asking \$110,000. Call 845-297-6471 or 845-896-8909

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WCT COMMENTATOR Policy

The content of the *WCT COMMENTATOR* shall reflect the official positions and policies of the WCT, with the following three exceptions:

1. The President of the WCT should present his/her views in a message to the members from time to time, but not less than bimonthly.

2. Signed Letters to the Editor (of responsible length) containing personal views from members and subscribers shall be published subject to laws of libel.

3. Members of the WCT may place articles adhering to the Canons of Journalism concerned with WCT positions, policies, and issues of interest to teachers in the Commentary Section. (For both Letters to the Editor and the **Commentary Section, the writer's name and WCT affiliation shall be attached, and an editor's note shall accompany these sections indicating that "The opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect the official views and policies of the WCT."**)

Reprints of articles from the *WCT COMMENTATOR* are allowable only with the permission of the WCT President.

WCT COMMENTATOR Advertising Policy

The *WCT COMMENTATOR* advertising policy as adopted by the Executive Board is as follows:

Noncommercial (Personal) ads for WCT MEMBERS only will be run for two issues at no charge.

Commercial (Business) ads for WCT MEMBERS only: guaranteed placement for half of the school year, \$35.00 per half year payable Sept. 15th and Feb. 1st or \$5.00 per issue.

For prompt placement of advertisements and articles in upcoming issues of the *WCT COMMENTATOR*, e-mail the information to commentator@wcteachers.org. Information can also be sent to the editor at the WCT Office. Do not send articles or ads through the GroupWise e-mail system.

2010-2011 Newsletter Schedule

11/19/10

12/17/10

1/28/11

2/25/11

3/25/11

4/29/11

5/20/11

6/17/11

