

Mar. 9, 2007

Proud Winner of AFT & NYSUT Journalism Awards

# the COMMENTATOR

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## WCT Rookies Meet and Mingle with Executive Board



WCT rookies were invited to an after-school get-together on February 23, 2007, with members of the Executive Board. Refreshments were served, and three door prizes raffled off. Door prizes included a relaxation kit, a gift certificate to attend the May 4th WCT dinner, and a gift certificate for a free WCT shirt.

**Pictured bottom left:** Rookies from Myers - Paul, Diane, & Paul

**Pictured top left:** Gina - BR, Renae - BR, & Nicole - GY (winner of a door prize) getting a tour of the WCT office

**Pictured top right:** Corinne - JJ/RCK (another door prize winner)

## Dates to Know

- |          |  |
|----------|--|
| March 12 | BOE meeting (WJH, VR, & OV)  |
| March 23 | payday   |
| March 26 | BOE meeting (KR & BR)  |
| March 27 | Superintendent's Conference Day & R.A. meeting   |
| March 30 | All WCT shirt orders due - any orders received after the 30th will not be filled until the 2007-2008 school year |



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## Thanks to the WCT

By Ann Meagher

I just wanted to send a quick report of sincere thanks to the WCT. We had 264 attendees Saturday night and raised over \$30,000 (double what we had hoped for) to help Mark Abrams. The WCT was specifically announced with all the help you've given us, as well as the National Honor Society. The Abrams family was incredibly touched. I cannot thank you enough.

## State of New York 2007 - 2008 Budget:

### Proposed State Aid

\$1,952,206



## AFT Special Education Complaint Form

The AFT Special Education Complaint Form is designed to capture member complaints on special education issues. Information provided will be used to identify patterns of federal, state, and/or local implementation of the Individuals with Disabilities Education (IDEA) regulations. Complete the survey by going to the AFT site at <http://www.aft.org/teachers/index.htm> and clicking on "Special Education" towards the bottom of the screen.

## Ralph & Janet Capasso Scholarship

The WCT, in conjunction with the Wappingers Congress of Retired Teachers, is offering three (3) \$1500 scholarships to seniors who are presently enrolled in any public or private high school and planning to attend college in the fall of 2007. To be eligible, candidates must have a parent or legal guardian who is a member in good standing of the WCT.

The selection process for these awards will require the following:

- an application
- an essay
- a high school transcript
- one letter of recommendation
- a personal interview for the finalists.

Applications are available in the WCT office. Please call 227 - 5065 to request an application, or pick it up directly. To be considered, applications must reach the WCT office no later than 5 p.m. on **April 10, 2007**.

Committee members are: Catherine Kim, Marla Rohwer and Kathryn Shekitka.

# Pennies for Patients

By Denise Lombardi

Fishkill Plains Elementary School participated in the "Pennies for Patients" fundraiser, a wonderful educational tool for children to learn about leukemia, as well as rewarding them with a feeling of accomplishment in helping to find a cure for those less fortunate.

During a three week period, January 8<sup>th</sup> - January 26<sup>th</sup>, students, faculty, and staff collected change in their classrooms. It was exciting to see everyone working together to help put an end to the number one child-killing disease.

The total collected was \$909.32. Congratulations to Mrs. Leone's 4<sup>th</sup> grade class, who collected a total of \$142.24. They will receive a pizza party!

A very special "Thank-You" to all the wonderful children, parents, faculty, and staff at Fishkill Plains for making "Pennies for Patients" a very successful fundraiser!

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*the WCT COMMENTATOR*

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The deadline for the March 23rd  
 issue is **Monday, March 12th.**

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