

White Plains Watch

The Community Newspaper of White Plains

Delfino To Continue With All-Democrat Council

By Pat Casey

Following what appears to be a national trend this election season, Democratic Party candidates for White Plains took complete control of the city's Common Council, adding Glen Hockley to incumbent winners Thomas Roach Jr. and Rita Malmud, and already seated Arnold Bernstein, Benjamin Boykin and Bob Greer—all members of the Democratic party. Hockley, Malmud and Roach were also endorsed by the Working Families Party.

Incumbent Mayor and Republican Party candidate Joseph Delfino took 58 percent of the mayoral vote, leaving Dennis Power, Democratic Party and Working Families Party candidate with 42 percent—a closer race than had been anticipated early on as Power came into the fray rather late in the game and with a message that City Hall needs to listen more closely to the concerns of residents and less to outside interests, such as the developers who are making major strides in the city.

While it was clear that White Plains voters preferred their Democratic Party choices, with Hockley (D) unseating Delgado (R) at 6,926 to 5,765 votes and Malmud (D) and Roach (D) receiving 22 and 21 percent of the vote to Carlson's (R) and Mastracchio's (R), 10 percent each, the results do not necessarily indicate a clear desire to change the direction in which White Plains has been heading for the past four years—a cautious approach to future planning perhaps, based on the respective platforms of the Democratic and Working Families parties, but conceivably the results of this election are more an



The Trove, White Plains' new 13,000-square-foot children's library, opened to the public Oct. 23. The Sailaway, a reading nook to resemble the stern of a ship; The Cave, a flat screen viewing area under a sound dome; and the CyberPool, a technology center for children kindergarten through grade six; are just three of the treasures children can explore at The Trove.

endorsement of the status quo based on the Common Council voting records of the incumbent winners.

This was the first year that New York State's Working Families Party endorsed the entire Democratic Party slate indicating a focus on community organizations, unions and individuals who support people of ordinary means and issues related to living wage jobs, improved education, affordable housing, accessible health-care, campaign finance reform and fair taxes, all issues at the heart of this election. How well each of the winning Democratic candidates lives up to their endorsing parties' expectations will be evident as future debate and ongoing issues come to vote before the Council. ■

Local Group Helps Needy Families

By Jean Bello

Once again, compassion and action have sprung from tragedy. Five years ago at 46 years old, with no life insurance policy, Le Ahlers died unexpectedly leaving behind a wife and four young children. The shock and grief over his brother's death, matched only by his concern for Le's family, led Keith Ahlers, a White Plains resident and attorney, to search for a means of helping families like Le's when tragedy strikes. With support from his friends, Keith established The Breadwinners Foundation, a 501c(3) private, not-for-profit organization. Dedicated to providing immediate short-term financial assistance to families who have lost the primary breadwinner to death, disability or illness, the foundation has become a safety net for families throughout Westchester and across the nation, providing rent, mortgage, child care, medical and funeral expenses. According to Keith, "There is such a need out there—the need is exponential. The only limit is money."

Recently, The Breadwinners Foundation held a benefit cocktail party at Tango Grill, 128 E. Post Rd., raising over \$10,000. A golf outing last June raised over \$30,000; and a 10-day online auction is being planned for February. It will be hosted by missionfish.org, the nonprofit arm of e-Bay. You can visit www.breadwinners.org for information regarding donations.

Susan L. Rose, executive director of the foundation, commented on the effectiveness of the foundation saying, "There's nobody else around doing this. This is such a pure mission because of the way Keith has set it up. There's very low overhead and money goes directly where it's needed." Rose hopes to have an empowerment program in place to further help families restore stability.

The foundation's Board of Directors includes largely White Plains residents and/or businessmen: Keith J. Ahlers, Esq.; Michael Calano, Esq.; Michael Curan, Esq.; John Iodice; Felix McElroy; and Scott B. Tulman, Esq.

To contact The Breadwinners Foundation for information about its services, to make a donation, or to volunteer, call 686-0690 or visit www.breadwinners.org. ■

White Plains Election 2005 Results

| Candidate | Party | Office | Votes | % Total |
|-----------------------|------------|----------------|-------|---------|
| Joseph Delfino | Republican | Mayor | 7,236 | 58% |
| Dennis Power | Democrat | Mayor | 5,214 | 42% |
| John Carlson | Republican | Common Council | 3,558 | 10% |
| Larry Delgado | Republican | Common Council | 5,765 | 17% |
| Glen Hockley | Democrat | Common Council | 6,926 | 20% |
| Rita Malmud | Democrat | Common Council | 7,486 | 22% |
| Francesco Mastracchio | Republican | Common Council | 3,487 | 10% |
| Thomas Roach | Democrat | Common Council | 7,452 | 21% |

Source: Westchester County Board of Legislators, preliminary numbers. Certified vote count available 30 days after election.

PRSR STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
WHITE PLAINS, NY
PERMIT #818

WHAT'S INSIDE

