## ZONTAGRAM



ZONTA CLUB OF WESTCHESTER **CONSTITUENT OF** ZONTA INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT 3 AREA 1 **ORGANIZED 1931** 

> December 2023

Dear Zontians,

We hear a sweetness. The word is Peace. It is loud now. It is louder....

It is what we have hungered for. Not just the absence of war. But, true Peace. A harmony of spirit, a comfort of courtesies. Security for our beloveds and their beloveds. MEETING We clap hands and welcome the Peace of Christmas. We beckon this good season to wait a while with us. We, Baptist and Buddhist, Methodist and Muslim, say come. Peace. Come and fill us and our world with your majesty. We, the Jew and the Jainism, the Catholic and the Confucian. Implore you, to stay a while with us. So we may learn by your shimmering light How to look beyond complexion and see community.

- Maya Angelou

**Tuesday** 

**December 12, 2023** 

**Ciao's Restaurant** 

5-7 John R Albanese Place Eastchester, NY 10709

6:30pm

## President

Dianne Job Vice President Nancy Sanchez-Caro Treasurer Garnjana Palmieri Secretary Joan Mallory Director Laura Dunckley Director Nora Gorman Director Jamie Hubert Director Sheila Sievertsen Exec. Director/Advisor Georgia LaBlanc Zontagram Jamie Hubert

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As 2023 comes to a close, we thank you for all that you have done and look forward to the new year. One of the major big events that will happen next year is the vote in New York on the ERA Amendment. the New York Equal Rights leader, Nia Alvarez-Mapp has agreed to be our speaker in the new year. We will try to book her for either our January or February meeting. She has been an activist since the age of 11 and a dedicated advocate for voter engagement, overall civil rights, one of the founding members of Black Lives Matter and a top leader in fighting for the equal rights amendment to be passed in our state. We would like this to be a big meeting and for our members to invite guests from outside to attend this event. More on this as the time draws closer.

Nancy Sanchez-Caro, one of our most devoted members to advocate for the protection of women, and against sexual abuse and exploitation has called our attention to the registration for the "*Prevention of Human Trafficking Among Women and Girls Webinar*". This webinar will be held on Thursday, December 7<sup>th</sup>. Please review it and try to attend if you are able.

Each month I try to call your attention to the *Fast Action Friday* Caucus managed by Zonta USA. On December 1st we were asked to take action to expand the legal representation for survivors of violence Senate Bill 3124 which was introduced during Domestic Violence Awareness Month. It does authorize a grant for \$80 million to help, support, advocate and protect women who have been the victims of violence.

On November 17<sup>th</sup> Fast Action Friday asked us to support gender parity in the corporate workplace. It is hard to believe but it's still very difficult for women to rise up the corporate ladder and to receive the same compensation as men. This bill was introduced in the House, Bill 790.

As we entered the new year please think of service and advocacy projects that you would like to champion. If you have an idea, please present it to us and I am pretty sure you will have several of our members who will rally to support you.

I hope you have been following my post in support of **Zonta Says N0** 16 days of activism. The 16 days of activism began on November 25<sup>th</sup> and ends on December 10<sup>th</sup>. All Zonta clubs are encouraged to take part in the **Zonta Says NO** to violence against women campaign, **NO**! to child marriage, **NO**! to homelessness of women, **NO**! to women not reporting their experiences with domestic violence, **NO**! to the impact of abuse on children who are witnessing the abuse, NO! to human trafficking which is extreme exploitation of women, NO! to lack of education and economic inequality! This of course is our mission!!!

We will be having our Christmas celebration at *Ciao's Restaurant* <u>www.ciaoeastchester.com</u> on December 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. Many of you have already responded and made a reservation and so far, we have a good turnout, but we would like to have everyone accounted for, so if you are going to come, please confirm your reservation. Special good news is that two former members, Alice Massa and Pat Latona, are expected to join us. The address for Ciao's is **5-7 John R Albanese Place, Eastchester, NY 10709**. If you can donate, Donna Medley would be collecting clothes and jackets for children in need. Looking forward eagerly to seeing all of you at this event!! Sincerely,

Dianne Job President

## <u>Birthdays</u>

December

No birthdays this month

