

WLS Celebrating Libraries Breakfast April 7, 2017

On April 7, 2017, WLS held its Annual Celebrating Libraries Breakfast at Doral Arrowwood in Rye Brook, NY to coincide with National Library Week, a yearly observance to encourage library use and support. The Breakfast was sponsored by TD Bank and featured NY Times best-selling author, child advocate and library supporter, Regina Calcaterra. Ms. Calcaterra shared stories from her memoir, *Etched In Sand* describing how she and her siblings survived neglect and abuse growing up in a fractured foster care system on Long Island. Underscoring Library Week's theme *Libraries Transform*, Ms. Calcaterra emphasized how libraries and librarians were an important influence in her young life, inspiring her to go to college, pursue a legal career and to help others find hope.



Left to Right: Rob Kissner (The Digital Arts Experience) Cathy, John Bojko (TD Bank), author Regina Calcaterra and Terry.

Rob Kissner, President, Founder and CEO of The Digital Arts Experience received the WLS National Library Week Recognition Award for his outstanding contributions to libraries and digital literacy. County Executive Rob Astorino presented Mr. Kissner with a Proclamation naming April 7, 2017 Rob Kissner Day in Westchester. A Proclamation was also presented to Westchester Library System declaring April 10 – 17 Westchester Library Week.

The Breakfast also acknowledged the dedication and service over 150 trained WLS volunteers who assist in bringing Westchester Seniors Out Speaking and HSE Connect! programs to Westchester libraries.

WLS welcomed an audience of 200 guests, including Westchester County Executive Rob Astorino, Westchester County Legislator Catherine Borgia, Marianne Oros, representing NY State Senator Terrence Murphy. Representatives from 19 WLS member libraries were in attendance, as well as 47 WLS volunteers from WSOS and HSE Connect.



County Executive Rob Astorino with Some of the WLS volunteers.



Rob Astorino with Cathy and Terry.



Sue with Director Beth Bermel and others from Scarsdale Public Library.



Marianne Oros and Elena Falcone.



Rob Kissner (The Digital Arts Experience) and Cathy.