

The Gazette

Week of March 31 through April 6, 2022



Above, from left, Ann Hoye, Janice Zanfardino, Rita Wilcox and Aurelia Semisa get ready to play at Croton Caring's Bagels and Bingo event last Saturday. Below, Madelyn Boglioli, Croton Caring ExPOSE student co-director, calls bingo for participants. photos: Vince Duffy

Bagels, bingo & birthday greetings

This past weekend was a busy one for Croton Caring, with two senior-focused programs on Saturday.

The first, Bagels and Bingo, brought more than 40 seniors together to enjoy bagels, bingo and social time with friends and volunteers.

"Our first Bagels and Bingo event in the fall was so well received that we decided to make it a semi-annual event," said Nancy Squire, Croton Caring's president. "The event was sponsored by Unified Retirement Planning Group of Briarcliff Manor, and guests got a chance to meet the group's founder and managing director, Peter Gallagher, as well as their marketing manager, Catherine Maroney."

While enjoying bagels from Croton's own Bagels on Hudson, guests played ten games of bingo, each of which had a gift card to a local business as its prize. Madelyn Boglioli, Croton Caring's ExPOSE (Experience, Participate, Observe, Share and Engage program) student co-director, called the bingo games and her ExPOSE co-director, Nicholas Godek, as well as high school volunteers Ryann Dugan, Charlotte Green, Arianna Saporito, Francesca Sarcone and Lauren Shilling, were on-hand to assist with the event. "As usual, the student volunteers were outstanding and add an extra dimension to our senior programs," commented Debi

Braddick, a member of Croton Caring's Board of Directors.

In addition to Bagels and Bingo, Croton Caring's March Senior Birthday Club deliveries were made. Volunteers from the Center for Jewish Learning of Temple Israel of Northern Westchester baked birthday cookies and delivered the sweets, along with personalized greeting cards made by Holy Name of Mary confirmation class students and a birthday bouquet of flowers donated by Upper Village Blooms, to seniors celebrating a birthday in the month of March. "To all who contribute to this program each month, we say thank you," said Carrie Sena, Croton Caring's executive director. "Your efforts go a long way in brightening the day of our seniors."

Next up for Croton Caring is its "Stuff the Truck" event, which will be held in front of ShopRite of Croton from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. this Saturday, April 2.

The proceeds will support Croton Caring's Spring Food Basket Program, which will take place the following weekend. Individuals interested in donating non-perishable items can do so at the Stuff the Truck event, and those wanting to donate their free hams (from ShopRite) can do so at the register or drop them off at 11 Eklof Court. "Please reach out to Croton Caring at crotoncaring@gmail.com to learn more," added Ms. Sena.