

## Knockout Cancer tournament to raise money for Roswell

In just three years, Alexander Grano and his family have raised more than \$12,000 for Roswell Park Cancer Institute through Ride For Roswell. Now he is recruiting the help of the community and challenging other youths to a knockout basketball tournament to raise additional funds.

Alexander thought it would be fun to get more youths involved in the fight against cancer, and his love for basketball spurred the idea for the event.

The free-throw shooting basketball game known as knockout was used to name the event, "Knockout Cancer." The tournament is open to youths ages 5-16. Participants will be grouped by age and then randomly assigned to a game with other players.

Each participant will play one 30-minute game of knockout and will be scheduled between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. on Saturday, June 2 at 36 Summershade Court in East Amherst.

Prizes will be awarded to the winners of each game, and all participants are eligible for second-chance drawings for prizes. Donated prizes include free weeks at several area college summer basketball camps and items from the Harlem Globetrotter, NBA and the NCAA. Also, sports bags and basketballs will be given away.

There will also be a raffle for a Dunkstar Hoop donated by SnapSports.

Registration forms are available at [www.rideforroswell.org](http://www.rideforroswell.org) under "Pedal Pals," and then click on Knockout Cancer Basketball Tournament. Register by May 20 to secure a spot.

## Judge Farrell named to state commission

Amherst Town Justice Mark G. Farrell has been named to the state Special Commission on the Future of New York State Courts.

The appointment was made by the office of Judge Judith Kaye, chief administrative judge of the State of New York.

She established the commission, chaired by attorney Carey R. Dunne of Manhattan, to make recommendations with regard to potential sweeping changes in the organization and operation of all levels of courts.

The commission's creation came in the wake of the recent Action Plan for Town and Village Courts in New York State and the recently expressed interest in enhanced subsidy and operational support for town and village courts.

The state Office of Court Administration sought the input of the judges at the local criminal court level.

Farrell's appointment is a result of his long involvement in promoting the welfare of town and village courts and his current position as president-elect of the New York State Magistrates Association.

Farrell has been an Amherst justice since 1994 and has been recognized for his innovations in the institution of Therapeutic Problem-Solving Courts including implementation of the first suburban drug court in the United States, the first Domestic Violence Court in Erie County and the only Gambling Treatment Court in the United States.



Farrell

## Charity bike ride prepares for fifth year

In August, AIDS Community Services of Western New York will once again participate in the fifth annual Empire State AIDS Ride.

The Buffalo Wings Team, along with about 100 other bicyclists from across the country, will leave Niagara Falls on Aug. 12 and make its way to New York City, crossing the finish line on Aug. 18 after a meandering route totaling 560 miles.

In preparation, members of the team are recruiting more riders

for the ride. To participate, contact Colden Ray at 847-0340, ext. 323 or go to [EmpireStateAIDSride.org](http://EmpireStateAIDSride.org).

The 2007 fundraising minimum is \$3,500. Registration forms are available on the Web site or at AIDS Community Services. The Empire State AIDS Ride provides bike mechanics, full road support, a medical team, tents and group campsites with catered meals.

The nonprofit Empire State AIDS Ride was founded by for-

mer Snyder resident Marty Rosen. Last year the ride raised more than \$280,000 for AIDS organizations in Buffalo, Rochester, Syracuse and New York City.

AIDS Community Services of Western New York serves more than 1,500 men, women and children dealing with the consequences of HIV/AIDS. The case load has doubled in just four years. Money raised is used for prevention, care and research — keys to ending the epidemic, according to the organization.

## Republican Committee plans annual dinner

The Amherst Republican Committee will hold its annual spring dinner on Friday, May 4.

The evening begins with a cash bar at 6 p.m. and dinner at 7 p.m. at Banchetti by Rizzo's Banquet Facility, 550 N. French Road.

Rep. Thomas Reynolds, R-Amherst, will be the keynote speaker and will be honored along with State Sen. Mary Lou Rath and Assemblyman Jim Hayes.

Posthumous honors will be presented to former Amherst super-

visor John R. "Jack" Sharpe, former Republican committeewoman Elloeen Oughterson, zoning attorney Tony Renaldo and veteran GOP committeewoman Bette Hauenstein.

Tickets are \$35 per person and \$350 per table of 10. Reservations can be made to reservations chair Ken Lee, 271 Fruitwood Terrace, Williamsville, NY 14221. Checks should be made payable to Amherst GOP Dinner.

For more information, call 861-5770.

The dinner is chaired by Elizabeth Jaeger, Kathy Lane and Michele Johnson, with support from Amherst GOP Vice Chairwoman Marjory Jaeger and Amherst GOP Vice Chairman Phil Gulisano. Proceeds will assist GOP candidates in the fall.

### Community News

**The Daemen College Student Physical Therapy Association** held its second annual charity gala, "Putting on the Ritz," at Marygold Manor in Cheektowaga recently. This year's event raised \$2,200 for the Central Amherst Little League Challenger Division. Students from the Daemen College Education Club and Lambda Chi Iota assisted during the event.

**The Women's Activities Association of Park Country**

Club of Buffalo has named Ellen Balon as chairwoman; Beth Holmwood, vice chairwoman; Patty Yanity, treasurer; Beth Powalski, secretary; Shari Smith, 18-hole division; Sharon Bakshi, 9-hole women's golf division; Trish Griaziano, junior golf; Marcy Munson, publicity chair; Lisa Scherrer, hospitality chair; Rebecca Greenwald, bowling; Kathleen Karas, tennis; Jodi Mabee, bridge; Donna Karas, pool chair; and Maureen Wydysh, junior activities.

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