

EMMET DELANY
2 Hull Place
Ridgefield, Connecticut 06877

January 19, 2021

Mayor Mark Sawwick
The Village of Scarsdale
Scarsdale, NY 10583

VIA EMAIL TO mayor@scarsdale.com

Dear Mayor Samwick:

I have recently been informed that a group of Scarsdale residents has asked the Board of Trustees to consider renaming the Crossway Athletic Complex to the Richard Rippy Philipps Field. I enthusiastically support the effort and believe that the circumstances relating to naming a field after Rippy are unique.

Rippy has devoted close to 3 decades serving the youth of Scarsdale and the Crossway Field has been the epicenter of his work. I have known Rippy since he was a high-level athlete at Scarsdale High School and have followed his path as a longtime volunteer coach and advocate for the youth of Scarsdale. I will share some compelling reasons why Scarsdale should consider renaming the field after Rippy.

The SHS football program was disbanded in the 1990s because not enough athletes wanted to play football. Rippy realized that the key to having any high school sport was to have a vibrant youth program, which he restarted when he moved back to Scarsdale in the early 1990s. The Scarsdale Youth Football program has since become a highly respected program because

of Rippy more than any other person. Yet, Rippy's impact goes far beyond just dealing with football and student athletes.

Rippy detests bullying and incorporates that into his guidance to young athletes. He has also been instrumental in finding opportunities for girls and special need's children to participate in sports and outdoor activities at a time when too many school age children are spending an inordinate time on electronic devices.

Rippy has always been most concerned about finding places for more games and additional opportunities for all kids to play more games. Rippy extends his love for the youth of Scarsdale by being an advocate and networker beyond their time in the Scarsdale schools, including helping them with college considerations and even into the workplace. Rippy is now teaching and mentoring the children of the players from his first teams, evidencing an unparalleled longevity in volunteering to help the youth of Scarsdale.

As a former Scarsdale resident and volunteer coach in the 1970s who has continued to follow Scarsdale since moving to Connecticut, I am confident that Rippy is unique as a volunteer with respect to longevity and commitment. I cannot think of any other person in Scarsdale history going back to the 1960s who came close to his devotion as to time and commitment from a volunteer coach and mentor.

I respectfully request that you and the Board of Trustees consider naming the Crossway Field after Rippy for the reasons set forth above. If you want to discuss my letter or learn more about Rippy, please contact me at emmetdelany@gmail.com or at 203-431-3262. Thank you for your consideration of my request.

Emmet Delany

