## **Donna Conkling**

From:	Fred Powers < fred@powerspe.com>
Sent:	Friday, January 15, 2021 2:46 PM
To:	Mayor

Cc: Clerk's Department

**Subject:** Rippy Philipps Field Crossway

CAUTION: External sender.

Dear Mayor,

I am writing to strongly endorse the naming of the field at Crossway the Richard "Rippy" Philipps Field.

Growing up in Scarsdale at 32 Marjory Lane, in the early 1970's I was introduced to the game of football through the Rec department in Scarsdale . Being a Heathcote student I had the privilege to fall in love with football because of coaches like Chuck Mercein and Mr Blitz who ran the league.

The lessons of teamwork, dedication, listening, being part of something bigger then yourselves were values instilled in you at a young age through youth football in Scarsdale.

Fast forward 3 decades, I am living at 21 Carriage House on the Mamaroneck strip. My son attended Quaker Ridge School and in 4 th grade he shared the same experience to play youth football in Scarsdale.

It was one person who was the glue and inspiration for the program, Rippy Philipps. While other towns were dismantling football, we had record numbers with 2 plus team per division. Real uniforms, practices 2-3 x per week. Schedule in a league vs other town on beautiful fields w refs.

It was the spirit, vision and dedication of Rippy to get volunteer coaches to help guide and support the program. But make no mistake, it was Rippy who kept football alive for the youth of Scarsdale.

Rippy is an educator at heart. His love of football is second to his passion to mentor youth on and off the field. Be it difficulty in school, social issues, parental matters, college choices, helping get your first job. It was Rippy who cared snd carried the program on his back. Not paid, not for glory or press clippings, but for the heartfelt compassion to help others.

I had the fortunate pleasure to assist as a coach for several year fir the Scarsdale youth program. While it was nice to coach my son, I enjoyed being w Rippy and being part of something great. The impact on and off the field the youth football program gives the kids of Scarsdale in not measured w wins and losses. It is the building of character. Rippy Philipps is the backbone for over 4 decades in building character and mentoring the youth of Scarsdale.

Please, I highly recommend you to name the Crossway field after a man who dedicated himself to others to educate snd teach the youth in Scarsdale skill sets that last a lifetime.

Thank you, if I can be if any more help I am available for any questions or help.

Respectfully,

**Fred Powers** 

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