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WCA to host dinner, honor two local leaders

By Crystal Kang

The Westchester County Association will honor two local leaders at its annual fall leadership dinner to begin at 5:30 p.m. on Nov. 14

The award ceremony, at the Hilton Westchester in Rye Brook, will recognize White Plains Hospital CEO Jon B. Schandler and Simone Development Cos. president Joseph Simone. Alfred F. Kelly, Jr., president and CEO of the 2014 New York/New Jersey Super Bowl Host Committee, will deliver the keynote speech.

Schandler will be honored for improving the quality of care for patients during his long tenure at the White Plains hospital. He joined the hospital in 1976 as a controller and associate executive director and was named CEO and president in 1981.

Schandler led major renovation projects that included the gutting and remodeling of the 500,000square-foot hospital to include new centers for colon cancer and gastrointestinal screening, seizure diagnosis, sleep disorders and neonatal care. He oversaw the remodeling of the hospital's emergency room and the building of its first satellite breast-imaging center.

An active member of the WCA's Healthcare Consortium, Schandler is affiliated with the Healthcare Association of New York State, American Cancer Society/ Westchester Division and Northern Metropolitan Hospital Association.

Simone will receive recognition for constructing buildings in Westchester and Manhattan to accommodate medical and technology needs. He began his real estate career in the 1970s by purchasing depressed commercial and retail properties in lower Westchester and the Bronx and upgrading the properties for resale. Simone's companies focus on acquiring and developing commercial, health care, industrial, retail and residential properties in the tristate area.

His company now owns more than 100 commercial properties totaling more than 5 million square feet of space, including Hutchinson Medical Park in the Bronx and the Harrison Executive Medical Park in Purchase. Simone Healthcare Development Group and development partner Fareri Associates L.P. this summer began construction of an 85,000-square-foot medical office building in the Purchase office park to be leased by Westmed Medical Group.

Kelly had an extensive career at American Express Co. First joining the company's strategic planning department in 1987, he was named vice president of technologies in 1988 and held a series of senior positions leading up to his role as one of two group presidents for the company from 2007 to 2010.

Before joining American Express, Kelly was head of the information systems at The White House, leading information processing functions for eight agencies that make up the Executive Office of the President.

Kelly will host a series of activities leading up to Super Bowl XLVIII held Feb. 2 at the MetLife Stadium in East Rutherford, N.J., home of the New York Giants and New York Jets. He is working with business leaders and public officials to help generate about \$550 million in regional economic activity through the game.

Online registration for the fall leadership dinner is now closed, but walk-in registration is available by emailing events@westchester.org to get added onto the waiting list.