

SCHOOL NEWS

Herren speaks in Port Washington



PHOTOS COURTESY PORT WASHINGTON SCHOOL DISTRICT

Former NBA player Chris Herren spoke with students at Paul D. Schreiber High School on Dec. 10 about his personal battle with substance abuse.

In what made for candid, educational and poignant appearances, former NBA player Chris Herren visited Paul D. Schreiber High School on Dec. 10 to discuss his personal story of playing in the NBA and his battle with substance abuse.

Herren spoke during the afternoon to the entire student body at Schreiber High School, and later again in the evening at the school to students as well as community residents. The presentations were made possible through the Port Washington Safety and Substance Abuse Task Force. Sen. Jack Martins assisted in garnering bullet aid for the Port Wash-

ington School District so it could host the educational presentations.

During the afternoon session with students, a 30-minute video was shown chronicling the ups and downs of Herren's personal and professional life. Herren later spoke with students about being drafted by the Denver Nuggets in 1999 and eventually playing for the Boston Celtics, being featured in Sports Illustrated and his harrowing descent into addiction and substance abuse.

Alcohol and drug-free since 2008, Herren has put his sobriety and family above all else, and has made his new life

mission to share his story with audiences in the hope of making a difference in the lives of others.

Herren later participated in a question and answer session with students, where he fielded a range of questions, all while emphasizing the importance of avoiding peer pressure and taking a stand against abusing drugs. In addition, he called on students who believe they may have any personal issues to seek immediate help to ensure that they stay on track to a healthy, balanced and drug-free life.

"I would like to extend my sincere thanks to Mr. Herren for visiting our

district to share his personal story," said Superintendent of Schools Kathleen Mooney. "His invaluable presentations were incredibly well-received by our students as well as community members, and I thank him for sharing his candid story to educate our students on the importance of remaining drug-free. I also commend the Port Washington Safety and Substance Abuse Task Force for its continued efforts to help establish a safe and drug free learning environment that supports student academic achievement, as well as Sen. Jack Martins for his strong support of this effort."



Pictured from left: Port Washington Safety and Substance Abuse Task Force Co-Chairpersons Stephanie Joannon and Karen Sloan, former NBA player Chris Herren, and Schreiber High School Principal Ira Pernick, are pictured with members of the Schreiber High School Natural Helpers Club.

Port students named All-County musicians

A total of 77 students in the Port Washington School District have been selected to perform in the Nassau Music Educators Association All-County Festival at LIU Post this winter.

This prestigious honor indicates that these student-musicians are among the top performers in Nassau County. Selection was based upon their New York State School Music Association solo evaluation scores and strong teacher recommendations.

"I am thrilled at the accomplishments of all of our music students in Port Washington — it takes an extra amount of dedication and hard work to reach the ability level to be selected for an All-County ensemble," said Director of Creative Arts Kevin Scully. "We are very proud of the amount of students selected, as well as the fact that they represent so many segments of our student body. The ability of these students to excel in their school work, while also leading the way in music is a tremendous tribute to their dedication and hard work."

The district congratulates the following students on this fine achievement:

- Chloe Anderson — South Salem Elementary School — Orchestra
- Faith Ausfresser — Schreiber High School — Choir
- Elizabeth Bain — Schreiber High School — Choir
- Amy Baxter — Guggenheim Elementary School — Chorus
- Christopher Bendix — Schreiber High School — Orchestra
- Diana Benedicto Jimenez — Manorhaven Elementary School — Orchestra
- Michael Bischoff — South Salem Elementary School — Chorus
- Sophie Brett-Chin — Schreiber High School — Choir
- Ryan Bronsky — Sousa Elementary School — Chorus
- Hannah Brooks — Daly Elementary School — Orchestra
- Alayna Calderwood — Schreiber High School — Choir

De Giorgio appears on 'Talk of the Town'



Councilwoman De Giorgio with host Ryan Mulholland on NHTV's "Talk of the Town."

North Hempstead Town Councilwoman Dina De Giorgio recently stopped by the North Hempstead Television (NHTV) Studio in Westbury to film the NHTV sit-down talk show "Talk of the Town."

De Giorgio, who assumed office as Councilwoman of the 6th Council District in 2012, spoke about some of the initiatives in her office, including marketing the attractions in the Port Washington area, creating more merchant parking in Port Washington, and renovating existing parking lots.

Council District 6 is comprised of Port Washington, including the villages of Baxter Estates, Manorhaven, Port Washington North, and Sands Point. It also includes the villages of Flower Hill, Plandome, Plandome Heights, Plandome Manor and Munsey Park.

The interview will begin airing the week of Dec. 22 at 7 p.m. on NHTV. NHTV is Channel 18 and 63 on Cablevision or Channel 46 on Verizon FIOS. You can also view the episode on www.mynhtv.com.