Yankees Great Bernie Williams Wows Crowd

Bernie Williams, the Yankees' legendary center fielder who helped lead the team to four World Series titles, has forged an award-winning musical career since retiring from baseball. On November 9, he brought his skills to Pattern's Annual Reception, taking the stage to cheers from the crowd of almost 500 guests who had come to celebrate Pattern’s 51st Anniversary.

Joined by three members of his band, Williams treated the audience to a set of soulful, jazzy musical selections--mostly his own compositions--including his unique interpretation of "Take Me Out to the Ballgame." In between songs, he took questions about his life and career from Pattern President & CEO Jonathan Drapkin. Before Williams came out on stage, Middletown Mayor Joe DeStefano and IBM's Sheila Appel, received this year’s Henry Award for their contributions to improving the life of Hudson Valley residents.

Pattern Donates $10,000 to Wappingers School District Music Program

Supporting public education in the Hudson Valley is one of Pattern’s top priorities. As at last year’s 50th anniversary celebration, Pattern again was able to provide $10,000 to support an aspect of K-12 education in the Hudson Valley. Last year, the donation went to a business-education program at Poughkeepsie City School District. This year’s recipient, selected by Bernie Williams, was the nationally recognized music program at Wappingers Central School District.

Music teacher Jim Weinrich and a group of student musicians accepted the donation on behalf of the district before the students brought the audience to their feet with a moving a cappella performance of "America the Beautiful" to end the night.

Planning Magazine Spotlights Pattern’s Community Builders Program

The November issue of Planning Magazine, the widely respected monthly publication of the American Planning Association, spotlights the Community Builders program initiated by Pattern earlier this year. The six-page story by writer Jonathan Lerner focuses on the efforts of Pattern’s first class of Community Builders to advance major projects in several Hudson Valley communities.

Community Builders offers a small group of community development stakeholders the opportunity to build skills and work collaboratively to move "anchor projects" forward in their communities. The program’s first class graduated in June. The full Planning Magazine story can be read on Pattern’s website.