

WESTCHESTER RISING - FRIDAY, JANUARY 3, 2020

Con Ed Funds 'Solar Tree' At Pace University

Bringing together imagination, technology and sustainability, Pace University recently unveiled a "solar tree" on its Pleasantville campus with the support of Consolidated Edison Company of New York.

The modern-art style e-tree, located on the lawn between Elm and Alumni Halls and the Kessel Student Center, was unveiled at a ribbon cutting ceremony Nov. 22 with local officials and representatives of Con Edison present.

"Pace University is committed to environmental stewardship, just as we're committed to providing a welcoming campus where students, faculty and staff can convene and collaborate," said Pace President Marvin Krislov. "We are grateful to Con Edison for making the solar tree project a reality, and for providing a focal point where our community can relax, recharge, and learn about renewable energy."

The e-tree will provide a shaded resting area with benches that can seat six, as well

as Wi-Fi, six USB ports, an interactive LCD display screen, night lighting, and a panic button feature. The tree is nearly 15 feet tall and weighs 2,755 pounds. Seven insulated solar panels that can provide 1,400 watts of energy are suspended from its branches.

"The solar tree is a smart, novel, and self-sustaining source of clean energy, as well as a symbol of Pace University's long partnership with Con Edison," said Jane Solnick, Con Edison's director of Westchester regional and community affairs.

"It's also a learning tree where students, faculty and the public may benefit from all the university has to offer," she continued. "Renewable energy is the fastest growing source of the country's supply of electricity and Con Edison, through our Clean Energy Businesses, is North America's second-largest solar producer."

The solar tree is the latest addition to Pace's Pleasantville campus, which has gone through a multi-million-dollar transformation that consolidated its Briarcliff and Pleasantville campuses, and in 2015 unveiled its Environmental Center Complex that includes classrooms and a replica of the former farmhouse building, which serves as a key facility for faculty and students.

