



Franklin Footnotes

"We Are Making A Difference"

10 Franklin Street, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866

518—587-9826 • FAX 518—587-5293

www.franklincommunitycenter.org

Quarterly Newsletter for Friends of Franklin Community Center

April 2008

Volume 2008

Issue 2



Franklin Community Center will be hosting its tenth annual Golf Tournament June 7, 2008 at Windy Hills Golf Course. Please see the enclosed registration form for further details.

Donor Spotlight

You don't have to be a religious person to be reminded of the angels that surround us here at Franklin Community Center; they are those people who offer us constant support and kindness, and whose generosity always seems to arrive just when we need it the most. Sometimes, though, it's these constants in our lives that do not always get the recognition they deserve, even when their selflessness does not go unnoticed. There is hardly enough room in this newsletter to share just how instrumental the Saratoga Springs United Methodist Church is to the Center's success, but perhaps it is the perfect place to start.

Not a season goes by without the support of UMC and its members. From the sleigh full of toys at Christmas, to the mounds of school supplies in the fall, there is a pretty good chance that each time our blue door opens, someone from the church will be walking through with a smile. Our annual golf tournament would not be possible without the church's Silver Level Sponsorship, and far more families would go hungry on Thanksgiving without their donation of food baskets each year. Dozens of individuals share their kindness by regularly donating to our food pantry, as well as the Ruth Circle, the Men's Group, the Mission Committee and others all making frequent contributions in their own unique ways. Every summer, a few lucky children are offered a chance to make the most of their school break with a scholarship to Skye Farm camp, and each month, deserving adults and families are offered renewed hope as the Men's Group offers assistance with first month's rent and security deposit--two essential programs which have positively changed lives. To top it all off, we are truly blessed to have Reverend Brolin Parker and several of his parishioners as dedicated members on our Board of Directors.

So, while we may not get the chance to express our gratitude as often as we'd like, it is certainly no secret that we are eternally grateful to our personal angels at Saratoga Springs United Methodist Church. Thank you for remaining a constant source of support and a vivid reminder of our community's kindness.

Recent Grant Awards

We are very fortunate to receive support from many local businesses and foundations. These donations help to ensure the continuation of our efficient and effective services. Please join us in thanking the following groups:

- The Saratoga Springs School District (McKinney Vento Grant) has awarded us \$15,000 to expand Project Lift to Geysers Road Elementary School.
- We also received \$2,500 from The Charles R. Wood Foundation to help support our expansion.
- A recent grant of \$1,000 from Lockheed Martin-KAPL, Inc. will help to support our Furniture Distribution Program by allowing us to purchase updated technology so that we can more efficiently operate our program.
- Keybank has opened an office on Congress Street in Saratoga and has awarded the Center \$500 to help support our food pantry.
- State Farm Insurance granted us \$2,500 to support general operating needs.
- Quad/Graphics made a \$2,000 contribution towards Project Lift.
- Project Lift received a \$2,900 grant from Target.
- Informz, Inc. has made a \$1,000 donation towards the work of the Center.
- A \$3,470 grant through Saratoga County Program for Arts Funding has been awarded for the Creation of "The Crestnut Tree". Stay tuned for details in our next newsletter!
- The Saratoga Gaming and Raceway Foundation granted us \$1,000 towards our furniture assistance program.
- Saratoga Gaming & Raceway donated \$10,000 towards Project Lift.
- The Ethel & W. George Kennedy Family Foundation, Inc. donated \$10,000 towards the work of the Center.
- Project Lift received a \$5,000 donation from BJ's Wholesale Club.

Thank you to all of these generous groups for helping us to help others!!!

Thanks to the following businesses for sponsoring this issue of "Franklin Footnotes":

Pro Realty, Weathervane, and Adirondack Trust Company



Weather-Vane
SEAFOOD RESTAURANT

Route 9
Saratoga Springs
Open 11 days Daily
Dine In or Take Out
Phone 518-584-8157

Weather-Vane Seafood Restaurant is the place to go for the freshest fried clams, succulent shrimp, tender scallops, delicious salmon and haddock, hand-cut fried onion rings, hearty chowders and delicious Maine lobster!

Steaks & chicken dishes for land-lubbers, too!

MAINE LOBSTERS
shipped anywhere in the continental U.S.
www.weathervaneseafoods.com

Your Home is Our Business.™

PRO REALTY
of New York, Inc.

Saratoga Springs
Main Office
518-583-2100
ProRealtyNY.com

RESIDENTIAL - COMMERCIAL

PROJECT LIFT REPORT



As Program Coordinator for Project Lift, Franklin Community Center's after school prevention program for at-risk youth, I am extremely proud to announce that we have expanded our program into a third elementary school in the Saratoga Springs City School District. We are now serving at-risk students in the Geyser Road Elementary School every Friday from 3 p.m. until 4:30 p.m. Project Lift was able to expand because of extra funding received from the Saratoga Springs City School District through the McKinney-Veto fund. Julianne O' Toole, Saratoga Springs School Social Worker/ Homeless Liaison, is responsible for making the expansion a reality and on behalf of the staff of Project Lift we would like to thank her for her support of our program. In addition, we always appreciate the continued support of the community and without this support we would not be able to run such a successful program.

Courtney Lamport, M. Ed.

Crest-Nut Tree

The Center was recently awarded a grant for \$3,470.00. The grant will be used to create a sculpture called the *Crest-Nut Tree* that will be created through the guidance and expertise of Daniel Hart and will be placed on a lonely piece of property in front of the Center for the entire community to enjoy for many years to come. Daniel is a well known local artist who is known for his exquisite and unique sculptures made out of a plethora of interesting and difficult materials.

A series of four workshops, open to the entire community, will take place on July 12th, July 26th, August 9th and August 30th at Franklin Community Center, Inc. located at 10 Franklin Street at 1 p.m. In these four workshops community members will create a personalized epoxy copy of an organic leaf. These final copies will be adhered to a mixed media sculpture of a tree. A magnificent celebration and unveiling of the Crest-Nut Tree sculpture will take place on September 13, 2008 to coincide with the Center's 25th anniversary. In addition to our celebration, we are excited to be teaming up with Beekman Street for their annual West Side Celebration. This program is funded in part by the Saratoga Program for the Arts Funding (SPAF) part of the Decentralized Program, a regrant program of the New York State Council on the Arts, administered by the Saratoga Arts Council.

The first workshop will be an orientation and discussion about the design of the project. Participants will be instructed on how to cast and replicate natural leaves. Starting with a leaf and a self hardening medium, the participants will create organic imprints that can be personalized (example family name). During the second workshop, members will be instructed on how to use a polyurethane rubber to make molds for their previously created leaves. These molds will then be used to make the final copy of their leaf. In the third workshop, members will use their polyurethane mold to make the final copy of their leaf. Members will mix a two part epoxy that will be tinted and coupled with a wire infrastructure that will be used to adhere the branches of the Crest-Nut Tree. Members during the final workshop will be releasing their final casts from their molds. The final copies will then be cleaned and be prepared to be attached to the "Crest-Nut Tree's branches. Please call 587-9826 to sign-up for a space to create a piece of history...space is limited to 20 people for the workshops. All are welcome.

If you do not have time to attend the workshops but would like to be involved in this exciting event, simply make a donation to the Center and Dan will make a leaf for you and engrave your name and/or business on it for all to see. A limited number of 50 leaves will be available. If this is of interest to you, please fill out the form below and mail it to the Center, with your donation, as soon as possible. This is another wonderful way for the community to be involved in creating a piece of history for all to view and enjoy.

Name:

Business:

Phone:

What do you want engraved on your leaf:

Amount of donation: \$

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it’s the only thing that ever has.”

Margaret Mead

Where would Franklin Community Center, Inc. be without its dedicated volunteers at our 101 Washington Street distribution center? We would be lost without them!!

The dedicated help of Eddy Jones, Linda LaRou, Leslie Benton, Nicole Rosevear, Shirley Ballard, Barbara Crandall, Jeanne Whitney, Ana Avital, Joan Sweeney, and Fran Ariel make it all possible for our distribution center to be available to community members. Their job is not an easy one either! Every Tuesday, community members come in and drop off items that they wish to donate. It is a non-stop steady stream every week. These amazing ladies take everything in, sort through it, and organize it all in one day. Their job doesn't end there. On Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday they are there helping people find items that they need. If they are unable to find something someone needs, they take their name and keep looking for that item.

We would like to extend a special congratulations to Fran Ariel for being named Volunteer Of The Year in 2007. When asked why she volunteers, Fran replied: “I do it to keep myself young. I turned 86 in February and if I don't do anything I'll get old. I also do it because I love kids and I love when they come in here.”

Once again, we would like to extend our endless thanks to the volunteers!! The distribution center would not be available to the people in the community without their dedicated work.

A Special Thanks

A special thanks goes out to the following businesses who have allowed us to put a coin box at their business location.

- D'Andrea's Liquor
- Allerdice Hardware
- Country Corner Café
- Superior Automotive
- 50 South Restaurant

The money collected from the coin boxes helps to support our current programs. Please patronize these business.

E-Mail Address

Help us defray the cost of mailing our newsletter, "Franklin Footnotes". Send us your e-mail address and we will e-mail the newsletter to you. Send it to:

info@franklincommunitycenter.org

Thank you!

We sincerely apologize for omitting the following name from our "Friends of the Center" list in last months newsletter. If we have omitted anyone else's name, please let us know. Thank you for your support.

Supporting Members

William & Collete Fox

Reminder

Our next coin drop will be held May 3rd at the corners of Lake Ave. & East Ave.

Board of Directors of Franklin Community

Center Officers:

- Dennis Zimmerman----- President
- Dorothy Lysyczyn----- Vice President
- Andrew Ferrara----- Treasurer
- Shannon Rabbitt----- Secretary

Members:

- Michael Russo, Rick Amico, Edward Stano,
- Maura Russo, Brian Corcoran, Cathy London,
- Rev. Brolin Parker, Gary Ferguson,
- Karen D'Andrea, Joseph Bulmer,
- Ann Sullivan, and Roberta Goliber

Franklin Community Center Staff

- Kari Cushing ----- Executive Director
- Courtney Lampert----- Program Coordinator
- Jaime Williams ----- Family Outreach Educator
- Patricia Sammler ----- Office Manager
- Maxine Lewis ----- Property Management Assistant