



# Franklin Footnotes

*"We Are Making A Difference"*

## **An Update for Friends of Franklin Community Center—August 2011**

*"Nobody can do everything, but everyone can do something ..."*



Long-time volunteer Peter LaFarr and community helper Chastant Shontz are perfect examples of the importance of "paying it forward", at any age.

Eight-year-old Chastant donates money monthly to help purchase snacks for the kids in Project Lift. Each time he declines dessert at home, his parents pay him a dollar, which he then chooses to donate to the kids who may not be so fortunate. He is wise and kind beyond his years, and we feel lucky to have him as part of our community. A 4th grader at The Saratoga Springs Waldorf School, Chastant enjoys being outdoors and "inventing things; especially new ice cream flavors." (He is featured in the picture with his 5-year-old brother, Robson.)

Pete has been part of the FCC family since 2005. As our "head volunteer", he oversees donations and "shoppers" at our free store at 101 Washington Street. You may also see him mowing our lawns, shopping for our food pantry or shoveling on chilly winter days. Pete is always a phone call away for us, and we'd be lost without him; in fact, we're trying to convince him not to winter in Florida this year!

We are incredibly grateful to all of our volunteers, but we couldn't resist the chance to get these ageless and generous gentlemen together for a photo op. Thank you, Pete and Chastant, and keep up the great work!



## **Board Bio**

**Ann C. Sullivan, Secretary**



Ann Sullivan has been a member of the Board of Directors for five years and was appointed Secretary of the Board in 2008. She was part of the Leadership Saratoga Class of 2006 that helped FCC launch our website. After working many years as a prosecutor in New York City and in suburban New York State, Ms. Sullivan now works as an Assistant District Attorney for Saratoga County. She is a graduate of Smith's College and St. John's University School of Law. She relocated to Saratoga Springs in 2004 with her husband John Dormin, her son Michael and daughter Elizabeth. In addition to her work at FCC, she lectures on behalf of the DA's office at public schools, police departments and community organizations.

**Volunteers Pitch In!**  
Rebuilding Together Saratoga and DZ Restaurants helped spruce up the place back in May. Seniors from SSHS planted flowers donated by Hewitt's, too! A little kindness, paint and some repairs can go a long way.

### **Donation Information:**

- Non-perishable food items and monetary donations may be dropped off Mon.–Fri. from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 10 Franklin Street.
- In-season clothing and small household items may be dropped off at 101 Washington Street on Tues. from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Out of respect for you and your time, we no longer hold our annual Phon-a-Thon, which served as a reminder for our "Friends of the Center" mail campaign. It's not too late to send in your tax-deductible donation to help us continue our invaluable programs.



*Together, we are making a difference.*

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Welcome Aboard...

Franklin Community Center is thrilled to announce the hiring of our new Family Outreach Educator, Lori Beer.



Lori brings more than 25 years of experience in the field of family advocacy, with an extensive knowledge of resources within our community. Her passion for making a difference in the lives of children and families makes her a perfect fit here at FCC, and we are looking forward to having her as part of our team.

Lori's past experience includes Head Start, Northeast Parent and Child Society's Therapeutic Foster Care Program, The Prevention Council and for most of the last 17 years, The Saratoga Center for the Family. Lori says she's always thought very highly of Project Lift and Franklin Community Center and is eager to bring her talents to our agency. She resides in Wilton with her husband Bryan, her daughter Nicole and her son Eric. Welcome, Loril!

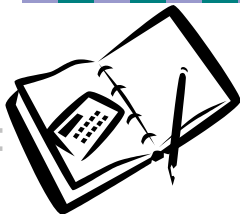
More Than a Woman...

She's a "Woman of Influence!" Our own Jaime Williams was chosen as one of Saratoga Today's "Women of Influence" in May, and we couldn't be more proud! As Deputy Director and Program Coordinator for Project Lift, she works hard, day-in and day-out, managing to accomplish more things on her daily to-do list than most people do in a year! Her "laser sharp focus" helps keep herself, her staff and those she serves on the straight and narrow. Way to go, Jaime, you deserve it!



Quick with a Calculator...

Our new part-time bookkeeper, Lois Kellas is another welcomed addition to our team. She comes highly recommended by our friends at The United Methodist Church of Saratoga, where she is currently the business manager. Lois has volunteered for organizations throughout our community, including Friends of Grant Cottage and the library. Her administrative skills, knowledge of book keeping and kind sense of humor will be well received among our staff. Thanks, Lois!



Happy Retirement, Pat!

We're sorry to see her go, but we'd like to wish our former office manager and bookkeeper, Pat Sammler a very Happy Retirement.

She spent nearly 15 years at FCC, keeping impeccable records and making sure the numbers were in all the right places.

**Thanks for everything!**



Gearing Up for Another Year...

Fall means the start of school...and Project Lift! We're searching for two part-time Prevention Educators to join our team for the 2011-2012 school year. Do you know someone looking for a fun, part-time job who has experience working with children and is available during after-school hours? Check out our website at [www.franklincommunitycenter.org](http://www.franklincommunitycenter.org) for complete details on the available positions.



## Strength in Numbers...

It's been an amazing couple of months for Franklin Community Center, thanks to all of you! Here's why:

Our **13th Annual Golf Tournament** was a huge success, raising more than \$20,000! Thank you to our generous sponsors, prize donors, and golfers who support our tournament, year after year. We are amazed that our proceeds continue to grow with each tournament, and we are beyond grateful to have such a core group of supporters who really understand and encompass what we stand for here at FCC. Next year's 14th Annual is scheduled for June 2, 2012.

**Our  
2011  
Winning  
Team!**



The **Saratoga Springs Rotary Club** has awarded Franklin Community Center \$7,000 from their Major Gift Program to be used toward energy efficient upgrades for our apartment building, Franklin Community Manor. The money will be used to repair and replace windows, so we can continue to ensure our residents have a safe and comfortable place to live. Thank you to all who helped make the decision!

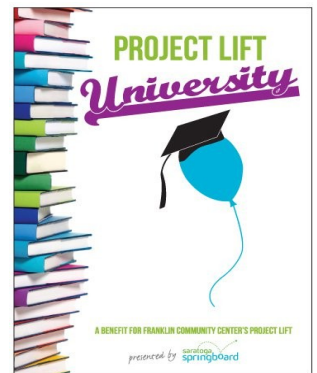


**Project Lift University**, a fund-raiser held at Longfellows on June 23rd, was also a huge success, thanks to the help of Saratoga Springboard and the overwhelming generosity of attendees, donors and sponsors. The college-themed evening was full of energy, creativity and talent—with dozens of silent auction prizes, a Live Auction, and classes to bid on featuring local “professors” from various backgrounds who graciously donated their time. Nearly \$22,000 was raised, offering Project Lift a much-needed boost in funding after losses on state and federal levels. Franklin Community Center and the families we serve through Project Lift are so thankful for all the help. We couldn't have done it without you!



### Lace Up Your Sneakers for a Good Cause...

Franklin Community Center is excited and honored to have been chosen as the recipient of the proceeds from the upcoming **"Saratoga Palio: Melanie Merola O'Donnell Memorial Race"**, on **Sunday, September 18th**. Whether you're up for the half marathon or the 5K, this is one race that encompasses and promotes a true sense of community, kindness and compassion. Started in honor of the late Melanie Merola O'Donnell, the mission of The Melanie Foundation is to provide financial assistance to graduate students in the mental health field, as well as to give back to local charities that possess the similar attributes and characteristics that Melanie embodied. Throughout her life, Melanie worked to help people in need and to better the world. You can see why the staff of Franklin Community Center is determined to help carry on Melanie's legacy by continuing to provide compassionate and quality care to all those who turn to us for help.



For more information, please visit:  
[www.themelaniefoundation.com](http://www.themelaniefoundation.com)  
Or to register for the race online, go to  
[www.thesaratogapalio.com](http://www.thesaratogapalio.com)

