

The



LIBERTY ADVOCATE 2014



Vol. 23 Fall 2014 libertyarc.org

Liberty Fresh Market Opens

Liberty Fresh Market opened its doors in late August to a warm welcome from friends, neighbors, and many new customers from our community. Ever since, the market has been busy, beginning with the ribbon cutting and grand opening ceremonies in September, and several special events, including the very successful "Cookies With Santa" on December 17.

Liberty Fresh Market is one of several program options offered by Liberty Enterprises' employment and training program for people with disabilities. The market proudly offers a unique variety of affordable, high quality, healthier food and product choices to the Amsterdam area, supplied by local growers and producers whenever possible. The primary mission of the market is to hire and teach individuals with disabilities the skills necessary to successfully function as an employee in a retail food business. Profits generated by the market will be used to directly support people with disabilities in our community.

We urge our friends and supporters to stop and shop at Liberty Fresh Market whenever possible. When you are there, sign up for a "Perks" cards and receive regular email notices about what is new or on special, upcoming events, healthy recipes, and other helpful information. Visit libertyfreshmarket.com or find us on Facebook. ♦



4867 State Hwy 30
Amsterdam



*Thank you to all who supported
our 2014 Annual Appeal.*



See Page 5 for a listing of donors to date.

LIBERTY

43 Liberty Drive
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518.842.5080

**Caring About Each Other.
Committed to the Community.**

*Best Wishes for a
Happy New Year!*



affiliated with The Arc, a national organization on intellectual and/or developmental disabilities

VOLUME 23

The Liberty Advocate is a publication of Liberty, the Montgomery County chapter of NYSARC, Inc. Its purpose is to provide relevant information and maintain on-going contact with parents, members, staff, and the community.

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A Message from Liberty's CEO



Jennifer Saunders
Chief Executive Officer

What has impressed me the most over the past eight months as Chief Executive Officer for Liberty, is the people who make up the "Liberty Family." In this group, I include not only our dedicated employees who provide quality services each and every day, but also our Board of Directors and advisors, the families of the individuals involved in our programs, our donors, and the greater Montgomery County community that embraces and supports our organization.

A great example of the Liberty Family at work together in 2014 was the opening of Liberty Fresh Market in Amsterdam. It provides the community with a place to purchase local produce, dairy products, and specialty items while creating employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities.

It was gratifying to see staff from across the agency work together to take this wonderful project from concept to reality in a matter of just a few months. Not only did we have hands-on support from Board members, when we opened the community came to shop, embracing not only the store, but the individuals in the program as well. This is the first employment experience for many of the individuals involved and the encouragement they have received has provided each clerk-in-training with confidence and a sense of accomplishment.

Our donors have and continue to play a role by giving to Liberty Foundation which is underwriting wages for our supported employment store clerks during the start-up phase. We are grateful as well to our friends at Key Bank for awarding Liberty a grant for the purchase of equipment needed to open Liberty Fresh Market. This new enterprise is but one example of why I have been so impressed with the generosity of the family of people who serve and surround Liberty.

As always, the input we receive from individuals, families, staff, and others in the community is important to us. Please do not hesitate to contact me or one of my colleagues at Liberty if you have questions, suggestions, or concerns. We do want to hear from you. ♦

Best Wishes for the New Year,

Recognizing Joel Kaplan's Community Service

Humble words were spoken by Joel Kaplan as he walked into a surprise reception, held at Liberty's Day Support Café, to honor his lifetime commitment to the Amsterdam community, as well as to Liberty.

"I'm just in a state of shock. What did I do to deserve this?"

Joel, a longtime Liberty board member, was honored by Liberty, his family, friends and peers for his many years of service. He has been a Liberty board member for 35 years, a member of the Board of governors of NYSARC for 33 years, a 20-year board member and officer of Liberty Foundation, and has been active in dozens of community organizations since he moved to Amsterdam in the 1950s.

At the reception, Joel was presented with a key to the city, proclamations from both Congressman Paul Tonko and Assemblyman Angelo Santabarbara and a special tribute song sung by Liberty advisor Valerie Beekman. He was also recognized by NYSARC executive director Marc Brandt, Liberty CEO Jennifer Saunders, former Liberty CEO Frank Capone, and longtime friend and Liberty board member Bob Purtell.

Everyone at Liberty is thankful for Joel's continuing commitment to people with disabilities and others in need in our community. ♦



Liberty's Annual Membership Dinner

Liberty presented **Brown Coach** with its top award at the agency's **Annual Membership Dinner** in May. Brown Coach received the **Community Partner** award, which is given to a company or community organization demonstrating outstanding support and commitment to people with disabilities in the Liberty's programs. For many years, Brown Coach has been a supportive employer of several Liberty individuals.

Liberty also honored 20 individuals involved in the 7 Main Street, Fort Plain Day Habilitation program with the **Community Commitment Award**, recognizing their 5,000+ hours of volunteer service to the local community. Many of those hours focused on helping the Fort Plain Community recover from devastating floods in early summer 2013. The award recognizes individual and group dedication to volunteerism and making their community a better place.

Special awards were given to individuals in Liberty's program who have been with the agency for 35 or more years. Those recognized were: Eloise Fetterly, Lee Polinski, Melvin Smith, Richard Stankes, and Richard Trzaskos for 35 years; Debra Cleveland for 37 years; Bruce Murphy, Ronald Pabis, and Theodore "Ted" Woods for 40 years; and George Jagielski, MaryLou Richards, and Pamela Sherman for 45 years.

Topping the list of long-term Board members honored was Robert Purtell who has been a member of the Liberty Board for 15 years. Other board



Left: Liberty CEO Jennifer Saunders and Liberty Director of Industrial Operations & Employment Services Bill Sikora present Steve Brown of Brown Coach with Liberty's 2014 Good Neighbor award.

Above: Shauna Hernigle, Day Hab Coordinator at Liberty's 7 Main St. and Liberty Individual Jonathan Lieber accept Liberty's Community Commitment award for outstanding volunteerism from CEO Jennifer Saunders and COO Candy Opalka.

members recognized were Patricia Beck and Wanda Burling for five years of service on the Liberty Foundation Board and Robert Quick for serving five years on the Choices for Community Living Board.

Sworn in as Board officers for the 2014-2015 term were: Ken Adamowski, president; Rev. Lisa VanderWal, vice-president; Michael Cinquanti, secretary; and Joel Kaplan, treasurer. The following directors were sworn in for the 2014-16 term: Ken Adamowski, Carol Cuyler, Paul DiCaprio, Letah Graff, Carl Pucci, Kelly Swart, Psy.D., Rev. Lisa VanderWal and, newly-appointed board member, Calvin Jennings.

Other businesses and individuals nominated for the Community Partner award were: Gary Bottomley, Cable Care Construction, Fort Plain School District, Habitat for Humanity Montgomery County, Palatine McDonald's and Sorooptimist of Fulton County. ♦

Rapunzel...Onstage with Missoula Children's Theatre



Liberty's Children's Recreation program had a grand time presenting the classic play *Rapunzel* this fall at FM. The enterprise was coordinated by Liberty's FSS program and the Missoula Children's Theatre.

The Missoula Children's Theatre is a traveling ensemble aimed at fostering creativity and enhancing acting capabilities in individuals all over the world by providing access to community-driven performing arts experiences. They hope to aid in the development of life skills in children through participation in the performing arts, through education, entertainment, and enrichment in the performing arts.

Two public performances were given by the children in the FSS recreation program after participating in a week-long residency with two professional actors. All props and costumes were provided for this full-length production.

The play was a great success; with the children enjoying this new adventure and their family and friends watching them perform on the "big" stage!

This opportunity was made possible through a grant by NYSARC, Liberty's parent agency. The Trustees of the NYSARC Trusts provided Liberty with a \$10,000 grant to support recreational opportunities individuals in program. The

NYSARC Trusts administer supplemental needs trusts that enable people who have disabilities to remain in their home and community and retain their Medicaid eligible services. The Trustees utilize remainder funds to benefit other persons with disabilities including unfunded Chapter guardianship programs as provided by statute. In addition to the recreation grant, the Trustees awarded \$1,225,500 to support Chapter Guardianship programs throughout the state. Information on how you may benefit from a NYSARC Trust is available by calling 518.439.8323 or 1.800.735.8924 or at info@nysarctrustservices.org. ♦

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*If your name has been omitted,
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so we can acknowledge your gift in
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Liberty Foundation's 2014 Annual Appeal Exceeds Goal

We are happy to report that this year's appeal has raised over \$33,500, exceeding our goal by \$3,500! We thank all the generous people listed on this page for their support of this annual fund raising effort.

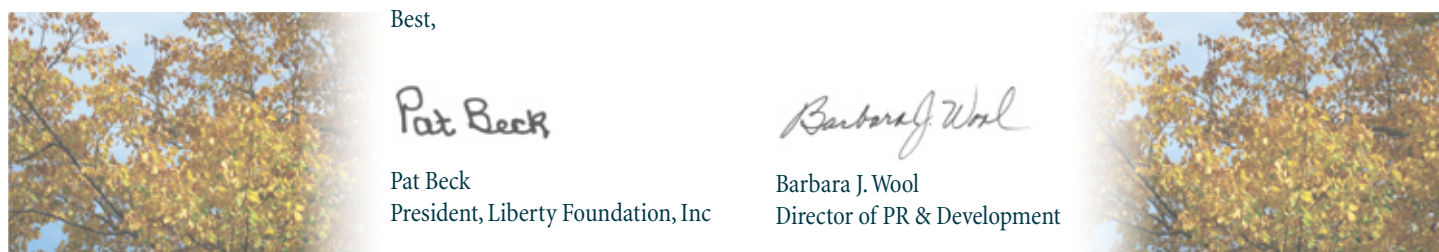
We extend special thanks to Alfred, Mary Doris, and David DiCaprio for sharing their family's experience as longtime supporters of Liberty. In the letter that accompanied this year's annual appeal request, the DiCaprios explained how they became involved with Liberty when David was just a toddler. Their family has embraced a commitment to the organization through the years, beginning with Mary Doris' service on the Board of Directors in the 70s. Their son Michael carried on the tradition when he joined the Board in 2006, serving until his sudden passing in 2011. His brother Paul stepped up to fill his seat in 2013. During all these years, the family supported Liberty's membership campaign, special events, and annual appeals.



Alfred, Mary Doris, and David DiCaprio

We truly appreciate the DiCaprio family's willingness to share their story and encourage others to support Liberty, and the Annual Appeal in particular. Each year, a remarkable family has come forward to give their personal perspective on how Liberty services impact individuals and families like theirs. These testimonials resonate with donors because they convey the very real value and importance of our programs.

Again, our thanks to the DiCaprios and all the donors listed here who gave to the 2014 Annual Appeal. Your support is truly appreciated. ♦



Best,

Pat Beck

Pat Beck
President, Liberty Foundation, Inc

Barbara J. Wool

Barbara J. Wool
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Donna Sollecito-Canestraro

Earlier this year, Donna Sollecito-Canestraro was appointed to the Liberty Foundation Board. Currently, Donna works as Program Director for the Center of Technology in Government (CTG) at the University at Albany.

Donna and her family have a long and rich history with Liberty. Her father, Vincent Sollecito, Jr., served on the Liberty board for several terms in the 60s, a pivotal period of the organization's growth. Vincent and his wife Rosalyn founded a scholarship fund in 1968 in memory of their son Christopher who was

born with Down syndrome. The scholarship, which was administered by Liberty, awarded thousands of dollars to assist students from Montgomery County who planned a career working with people who have disabilities. The intent was to ensure that special education and other human service fields focused on people with disabilities have qualified job applicants entering the workforce. The fund was retired in 2012.

"I am thrilled and honored to take an active role with such a wonderful organization and serve on the Board for Liberty Foundation," said Donna. "Liberty's contributions to the community are an integral part of helping individuals with disabilities to achieve a quality of life each person values. I am honored to follow in my parents' footsteps and give my all to such a worthy organization."

Donna has experience in the fields of education and training, marketing, management, and customer service. Prior to joining CTG, she was program manager with the Professional Development Program at the University at Albany's Nelson A. Rockefeller College.

"We are looking forward to working with Donna in her new role as a member of Liberty Foundation's Board. She is an energetic and committed person who truly understands our mission and the importance the Foundation plays in the future of Liberty and the people we support," said Barbara Wool on behalf of the Board. ♦



Your Bequest Can Promote "Bright Futures"

*A gift can make a difference in many lives...
now and for years to come!*

Please consider making Liberty Foundation, Inc. part of your estate plan. Our Bright Futures program gives you the unique opportunity to determine how you want Liberty Foundation to benefit from your assets and continue Liberty's valuable work. Here are some of the vehicles you can use:

■ **Make a Gift Through Your Will** – You can make a bequest of funds, securities, or personal property to Liberty Foundation. You can also give a gift that will increase the value of your estate for your heirs, ensuring that your assets will go to them with significantly reduced gift and estate tax consequences.

■ **Giving a Gift that Returns Income to You** – You can make a meaningful contribution that enables you to receive income from your donated assets. These gifts are known as charitable remainder trusts and gift annuities.

■ **Giving a Gift of Your Home or Other Real Estate** – Contributing a home, farm, or other real estate can produce handsome income tax deductions with little out-of-pocket expense.

■ **Making a Gift of Your Life Insurance** – Naming Liberty Foundation as the beneficiary of a newly-purchased or all or a portion of a life insurance policy you currently own, is an excellent way to make a tax-deductible gift.

These are some of the many strategies available to help you with gift planning. For details visit our website at libertyarc.org or call Barbara Wool, Director of Development, at 518.954.3202. ♦

It's a win-win! You can help the individuals supported through Liberty's programs by donating your used car, truck, boat or motorcycle...and receive a tax deduction! In 2014, Liberty began participating in a car donation program sponsored by The Arc (formerly The Arc of the US), the national organization supporting people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.



The Arc has contracted with Melwood, a national organization that handles gathering information, answering donor questions, arranging for vehicle pick-up and towing and sale of the vehicle.

How do you donate your vehicle? It is easy. **Online:** Just visit Liberty's website at LibertyArc.org. On the bottom of the Home page, click on the Car Donation logo. This will link you with an overview of the process and a link to The Arc's car donation page. If you wish to make a donation, you will need to provide the following information about yourself and your vehicle: At the top of the car donation form there is a drop down list of Arc Chapters, presented alphabetically, by state. Scroll to NY; Click on Liberty Arc to assure that your donation goes to this Chapter. Your contact information (name, address, phone #s, email, etc.) • Location of the vehicle • Vehicle information (including year, make, Vin#, model, # doors, mileage, color) • Condition of vehicle (including interior, exterior, mechanical, tires, etc.) • Title number, state,

control number and whether there is or ever was a lien and a copy of the lien release. (All vehicles must have a clean title.) **By Telephone:**

Call The Arc toll free line at (1-877-272-2270). Be sure to have all information ready. *After your vehicle has been picked up, you will receive a formal receipt from The Arc. Arrangements for your vehicle to be placed in a local auction will be made by Melwood. You will receive a letter, along with the IRS 1098C form, indicating the amount for which your donated vehicle was sold. (Your tax deduction is based on the sale price.)*

20th Annual Golf Tournament

Liberty Foundation's 20th Annual Golf Tournament was held on Thursday, June 5, at Rolling Hills Country Club. Golfers were there to support the Foundation and the people with disabilities who benefit from programs funded by the organization.

After play, the following on-course contest winners were recognized for their efforts:

Low net category—1st Place: Steve Brown, Robert Brown, Ron Limoncelli, and Jeff Coon with a score of 55.8; **2nd Place:** Bob Purtell, Steve Oughton, Jennifer Saunders, and Tim O'Brien—56.9; and **3rd Place:** Marty Hughes, Vic Spurduto, Paul Gegzno, and Robert Reidy—58.

Low gross category—1st Place: Brennan Parker, Andy Rubilotto, Mike Maddalone, and Jason Ellis with a score of 60; **2nd Place:** Mike Schebel, Keith Plummer, Rich Frank, and Jay Marsden—64 and a tie for **3rd Place:** Jessica Smrtic, Butch Greco, Tom Puskarczyk, and Karen Riley—66; and Ross Setlow, Joe Daley, Frank Capone, and Jack McKeever—66.

Men's Long Drive on Hole #1: Jeff Casey • **Closest to the Pin on Hole #2:** Ross Setlow at 7.6" • **Women's Long Drive on Hole #4:** Michele Furnare • **Closest to the Pin (Team Prize) on Hole #6:** Gary Leva, Fred Quist, Matt Ossenfort, and Dawn Jacksland at 12.0" • **Closest to the Pin on**



SEFCU FOURSOME: Dave Ball, John Rose, Mike Hutcherson, and Jim Kosakoski

Hole #14: Ron Limoncelli at 4.10" • **Men's Straightest Drive on Hole #18:** Vic Spurduto at 3.8" • **Women's Straightest Drive on Hole #18:** Karen Riley at 11.10"

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Sincere Thanks to Our Sponsors and Golfers!

Liberty Foundation was founded in 1993 to provide funding for family support services offered by Liberty as well as other worthy projects benefiting people with disabilities in Montgomery County. Over the last 19 years, the Foundation has allocated over \$5,000,000 to help underwrite the cost of unfunded programs such as after-school and school recess programs, evening and weekend recreation, transportation services, wages for individuals in training programs, and other programs designed to assist children and adults with disabilities and their families.

Golfers

Mr. A.J. Augustine
Mr. Kenneth Adamowski
Mr. Karl Bach
Mr. Dave Ball
Mr. Chuck Barbarulo
Mr. Tim Barker
Mr. Matthew Beck
Mrs. Patricia Beck
Mr. Matthew Becker
Mr. Paul Boshart
Mr. James Boudreau
Mr. Robert Brown
Mr. Steve Brown
Mr. Michael Bucciferro
Mr. Frank Capone
Mr. Jeff Casey

Mr. Jeff Coon
Mr. Tim Coons
Mr. Perry Courto
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Mr. Don Devine
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Mr. Paul DiCaprio
Mr. Rick Douglas
Mr. Jason Ellis
Mr. Chris Fossum
Mr. Richard Frank
Mr. Michael Frolo
Mrs. Michele Furnare
Mr. Joseph Galarneau
Mr. Paul Gegzno

Ms. Suzi Gola
Mr. Corey Graff
Ms. Heather Graff
Mr. Butch Greco
Mr. Jon Harvey
Mr. William Hawkins
Mr. Corey Heritage
Mr. Dave Hornidge
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Mrs. Dawn Jacksland
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Mr. Jim Kosakoski
Mr. Jerry Krishe
Mr. Christopher Lail
Mr. Gary Leva

Mr. Ron Limoncelli
Mr. Michael Maddalone
Mr. Jay Marsden
Mr. Jim McCarthy
Mr. Jack McKeever
Mr. Jeremy Meisel
Mr. Rick Miller
Mr. Billy Moore
Mr. Ken Moran
Mr. Rick Morey
Mr. Bill Morrone
Mr. Jim Murphy
Mr. Bob Nosik
Mr. Tim O'Brien
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Mr. Steve Oughton
Mr. Joe Palmieri
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Mr. Brian Rafalski
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Ms. Karen Riley
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Ms. Jennifer Saunders
Mr. Andy Sawicki

Mr. Ed Sawicki
Mr. Michael Schebel
Mr. John Sciuto
Mr. Mitch Seid
Mr. Ross Setlow
Mr. Frank Shuster
Mr. William Sikora
Mr. Ron Smith
Ms. Jessica Smrtic
Mr. Vic Spurduto
Mr. Dan Tabor
Mr. John Vazzy
Mr. Jim Wurz
Mr. Mike Wurz

Save the Date for our



21st Annual Golf Tournament
June 4, 2015

Feather Your Nest Raffle Raises Funds for Liberty Foundation



RAFFLE 2014

Liberty Foundation held its Annual Feather Your Nest Raffle at a Fall Festival held at Liberty's Day Supports Building. The community was treated to a craft fair and food. For the little ones, there was

a bounce house, pony rides, petting zoo, and pumpkin painting. Those in attendance also had the opportunity to listen to former "The Voice" contestant James Massone. ♦

Raffle Winners:

\$6,000—Mike Cinquanti
\$1,000—William Bonafede
\$1,000—Cory Graff
\$1,000—Karen Mullarkey
\$1,000—Deanna Young
\$500—Marlene Augustine

\$500—Alexander Robbins
\$500—Gary Kosiba
\$500—Franklyn Whitney
\$500—Thomas Woods
\$500—Jessica Lamphere
\$500—Chuck Humphreville
\$500—Susan Trumpick



Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Adamowski	Ms. Janet Czeski	Ms. Michele Ilnicki	Ms. Catherine Mowrey	Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Scott
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	Ms. Linda Hunt			

Note: Group ticket purchases are listed with main ticket holder name only.

New Planting Dedication in Honor of Robert Murray



On a blustery October day, a beautiful Frasier Fir tree was planted and dedicated in remembrance of Robert Murray, a.k.a. Santa, who passed away in March, 2014.

For many years, Robert Murray brought joy to individuals in the Liberty Enterprises program when he attended the Annual Holiday Party as "Santa." He handed out gifts, posed for photos, and spread holiday cheer to all in attendance. He was not paid to be there...he did it because he loved the season, the role and the joy his presence brought to so many. Mr. Murray will forever be remembered for his kindness and for the gift of joy he brought to others.

His daughter Sue Liberantowski, grandson Chris Malec (both work for Liberty), and niece Jessica Murray were in attendance. Liberty CEO Jennifer Saunders opened the dedication with some words of remembrance. Each person at the gathering was given a Christmas tree ornament picturing Mr. Murray as Santa to hang on the tree. The ceremony ended with a rousing rendition of *Good Saint Nick* in his honor. ♦

Liberty Through the Arts



Liberty Through the Arts program began five years ago under the direction of **Amy Devendorf** who shares her artistic abilities with individuals in Liberty's day programs. This soon blossomed into regularly-scheduled art classes at various locations and has since grown immensely. Throughout the years and at varying levels, more than 60 individuals have contributed to the art program through painting, drawing, poetry, photography, and other endeavors. The arts program celebrates and showcases the creativity of the individuals involved.

• Third Annual Creative Expressions Art Show

More than 10 NYSARC chapters joined Liberty to celebrate the artistic achievements of the individuals we support. The October 2 Art Show was installed at the Century Club in Amsterdam. Artists recognized: First—James Price, Ontario ARC; Second—Douglas Countryman, Lexington; Third—Donald Shaffrey, Orange County ARC; Honorable Mention—Randii "Crew" Reddick, Liberty; People's Choice Award—Joey Then, Liberty.

- Bethany Cramer's artwork was chosen to adorn a NYSACRA program cover
- Anthony Battisti attended three college classes at FM, earning an A in the last class.
- Artwork was showcased at Liberty's Annual Dinner. Floral centerpieces were made by Marge Kinary.
- The Second Annual Art in the Garden soirée was held at the FM/Liberty Community Garden.
- Program individuals designed and participated in the Canajoharie homecoming parade with a "Frozen" themed float. They took home First Prize!
- Pam Sherman's artwork was selected for Liberty Foundation's holiday card.
- "Crew" Reddick won national recognition from ANCOR—her artwork was chosen as the face of its holiday card. Her cards were for sale at Liberty Fresh Market.
- Individuals decorated a Christmas tree at the Century Club's annual Festival of Trees event. This year's theme was "Coming Home" in honor

of our military. Each ornament was personalized with messages to our troops. ♦

Top photos, L to R: Individuals in the Liberty Through the Arts program created a butterfly masterpiece that was chosen for the cover of Liberty's 2013 Annual Report.

Anthony Battisti proudly stands beside his totem pole, which he made in his 3-D Design class at FM. The pole is now on permanent display in the Liberty/FM Community Garden.

Bethany Cramer holds her artwork which was chosen to represent NYSACRA's Annual Conference, "Strong Together."

Art Show Award photos, top to bottom:

- Donald Shaffrey, Orange County ARC with Jennifer Saunders, CEO;
- Douglas Countryman, Lexington;
- People's Choice Award—Joey Then;
- Honorable Mention—Randii "Crew" Reddick with Jennifer Saunders, CEO

NYSARC 65th Celebration

Liberty's parent organization NYSARC marked its 65th this past July and Liberty was right there to show support with a walk up State Street in Albany to the Capitol for the grand celebration! We also said our goodbyes to NYSARC Board President Jack Schuppenhauer with a fun dance video! This year also saw Liberty hosting a kick-off breakfast for NYSARC staff and John Robinson as they continued their bike trek along the Erie Canal. ♦



OFA Award

Montgomery County Office for Aging President Dave Jordan visited Liberty this past spring to present award certificates to our Community Connections group for their dedication and service to the county's elderly.

The group pictured below supports OFA by delivering meals, doing housework, and helping with outdoor chores, such as snow shoveling and lawn maintenance.

Congratulations and thanks to all who participate in this program. ♦





Mark Your Calendar

March 1, 2015
Pancake Breakfast

JOHNSTOWN MOOSE LODGE
8 to 11 am

Adults \$6 • Kids 5 and under free

*Sponsored by Liberty's Day Hab programs in
partnership with Soroptimist International
of Fulton County*

For tickets call 518.993.9973
All proceeds will be used to fund the
Snack Bag Program for area children.



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Habitat for Humanity finds Willing Partners



Habitat for Humanity Montgomery County and Liberty have joined forces, along with other community supporters, to build a home for two individuals in Liberty's program, Manual and Melissa Castro. Since the ground-breaking ceremony in May, 2014, there has been a great deal of progress made toward building Manny and Melissa's dream home on Brookside Ave., Amsterdam. The exterior of the house has been completed. A final construction date of summer, 2015, depends on monetary and materials donations and the number of volunteers who come forward to help.

Community Partners involved in this worthy project include: St. Mary's Hospital, MCT Credit Union, NBT Bank, Cranesville Block, Patriot Federal Bank, CT Male, Bonadio & Co., Wladis Law Firm, Eastern Medical Support, and Cool Insurance Agency. Materials or skilled labor donations have also been made by Correll Roofing, Aspen Roofing, Roger Lottman Excavation, Horning Excavation, Delanson Supply, and Pumpcrete.

Liberty staff who have volunteered time include: Tara Stanton, Dennis Yacobucci, Gary Hanson, Jason Downing, Adam Fish, Jim Burroughs, Wayne Nellis, Joe Ouderkirk, Chris Porter, Mike Vooys, Chuck Hanson, Luis Rosario, Carmen Izzary, and Roxanne Vecchio. A crew of individuals in the Liberty Enterprises grounds keeping program played a big role in clearing the lot prior to construction.

These very special and generous organizations and people are commended for their willingness to support this worthwhile undertaking. If you would like to help make Manual and Melissa's dream of home ownership come true, contact Tara Stanton at 954.3250.

Group photo, L to R: Kelly Quist Demars (Habitat for Humanity Board); Heather Casler (Habitat Board); Mike DiMezza (Habitat Board); Jennifer Saunders, Liberty CEO; Dennis Yacobucci (Habitat Board Vice President) and Liberty Director of New Dimensions in Health Care & Facilities Management; Candy Opalka, Liberty COO; Matt Ossenfort (Habitat Board President) and Montgomery Co. Exec.; Melissa Sacca (Habitat Board Secretary); Tara Stanton (Habitat Board) and Liberty employee. Manual (orange striped shirt) and Melissa are standing in front.

Upcounty Happenings

Staff and individuals in Liberty day and residential programs from the western part of Montgomery County were busy with events in 2014. Highlighted here are two of the larger events:

- Undeterred by rainy weather, on August 13 the 8th Annual Carnival for kids involved with the Canajoharie Youth Center was held... inside the Center. Approximately 70 school-aged children from the Canajoharie area were treated to carnival-type games, food, prizes, face painting, and even an indoor bounce house. A great time was had by all.

- Upcounty and Mid-County day programs and residences got into the Halloween spirit by hosting the 2nd annual Trunk-or-Treat event held in the Church St. parking lot in Canajoharie. This event was open to the public with over 300 young ghouls and goblins and their parents visiting each car gathering treats. All vehicles were all decked out in various themes from Alice in Wonderland to Duck Dynasty! Those in attendance paid \$1 and were able to visit 17 trunks this year, all sponsored by Liberty day hab sites and residences. The funds raised went to adopting families in the community for Christmas.

