



The



LIBERTY ADVOCATE

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Marking the End of an Era, While Beginning a New One



Frank Capone,
Liberty's First CEO

“Over the 38 years I have been with Liberty, there have been many, many firsts. These firsts represent the benchmarks of our organization from the opening of our first residence on Market Street in Amsterdam, building our first barrier free home on Ridge Road in Canajoharie, opening our first vocational rehabilitation facility on Route 5S, establishing our first health center, developing our first out

of state program and the list goes on and on. It has been my pleasure and a source of pride to have worked with the phenomenal Liberty team that made these accomplishments a reality.

Though some significant firsts also occurred during 2011, for me, many of the events that happened over the year represented “lasts.” In the spring of 2011, I was well aware that the annual membership dinner would be my last as CEO, each of the much anticipated spring banquets for individuals in program was my last, the Board retreat and Leadership Development Institute and the employee holiday parties...all my last. I am fairly certain that my colleagues got pretty tired of hearing me refer to all my last events.

Yet, in my defense, the reason that I couldn't refrain from mentioning these last events is because all of these events, and all the people involved in each one, have meant so much to me and represent a very important part of my life at Liberty over these past 38 years.

I want to complete this last article as Liberty CEO by conveying my thanks to all the people who have

continued on page 6

The following is a Letter to the Editor published by *The Recorder* on Monday December 5, 2011

On November 27, Bill Albertin passed away after a short illness. There are people who during their lifetime, make a real difference in the lives of others—Bill Albertin is one of those people. Bill is a founding parent of Liberty. He and his wife Joan became involved with Liberty in the early '60s. They were the parents of a son, Dale, who was born with Down Syndrome. They could have been volunteers who helped out at bake sales or even served on the Board for a few years. We would have been grateful for that assistance and involvement.

That is not the type of people or the type of parents they were and are. Bill is the one that stepped up and joined the Board, with Joan's support. He, along with some of his early compatriots on the Board—Vince Sollecito, Nick Manginelli, Wesley Linquist, Cookie Jagiel and others—went to the community to make the case for Liberty House. They advocated local and state legislators for funding, they petitioned local school systems to provide educational programs, they asked local businesses to provide work opportunities and much, much more.



Joan and Bill Albertin
with their son, Dale

Bill never walked away from Liberty even after his son Dale passed away and he and his wife retired to Florida. He was a Board member for over 51 years. His legacy has been carried on by his daughter Valerie when she joined the Board in 2003; she now serves as President.

From the beginning, Liberty has relied on volunteer Board members to help the organization grow. There is a long list of generous volunteers who have contributed to Liberty's success. Bill Albertin is at the top of that list. Starting with a few individuals and unpaid staff, he shared a dream of making Liberty the best it could be for people with disabilities and their families who need quality supports and the opportunity to experience a fulfilling, happy life.

At present, Liberty is the largest provider of services to people with disabilities in our community, serving more than 650 children and adults, and the second largest employer with 850 staff. The organization offers day, residential, vocational, family support, and health-related services as well as operating programs in other states that ultimately help sustain services in our community.

Over the years, Bill Albertin made a big difference in the lives of thousands of people because he had a vision and was committed to seeing it through. He did it with little fanfare and no pay. The term hero is thrown around with some frequency these days. Bill Albertin was the real thing.

Frank Capone

See Frank's
Retirement Party
photographs on
Pages 6–7

LIBERTY

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“People are at the
center of all we do.”

New Year's Greetings to all!

Our Best Wishes for 2012

from everyone at Liberty!



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

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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 the President

It doesn't seem possible that 2011 is gone and we have now moved into the New Year. When I assumed the role of Liberty's Board President in May, I knew I was coming into the office at a time of great change for the organization.

Top among the anticipated change was the impending retirement of Frank Capone. By the time you receive this issue of *The Advocate*, Frank will have retired as Liberty's CEO. Again, one last time, I would like to formally congratulate Frank on his retirement and thank him for his inspired leadership and commitment to Liberty over his nearly four decades of service.

I would also like to use this first message of 2012 to welcome our new CEO, Mike Decker. I can tell you that the Board and I are confident that Mike is just the right person to take over at this crucial time. Not only does he understand the organization, he has deep roots in this community and an abiding commitment to and respect for the people we support. We are all looking forward to working with Mike to take on the challenges and opportunities ahead.

Another major change that occurred this year is breaking down the administration of Liberty's day and residential program to three areas of the county—western Montgomery County, mid-County and in and around Amsterdam. Known as "regionalization," this new approach is already proving to be a worthwhile endeavor by streamlining and improving communication with individuals, families and staff.

Finally, I am pleased to welcome Nancy Collins, Michael Cinquanti and Chuck Schwartz to our Liberty Board; Cornelio Catena and Mel Chudznik to our Choices for Community Living (CCL) Board, and Jay

Quatrini to the Liberty Foundation Board. We feel truly honored that these six talented and well-respected individuals have chosen to give their time and expertise to our organization.

I want to remind our friends and supporters that we are always seeking to involve family members and friends on our many boards and other committees. The input and participation of our stakeholders is the key to ensuring the quality and longevity of Liberty's programs. Please do not hesitate to contact me or Mike Decker if you have an interest in becoming more involved in our organization. ♦



Val Zabo, President, with her father and founding Liberty Board member, Bill Albertin. Bill passed away in November, 2011.

A Letter from Mike Decker, CEO

I'm very proud and excited to be Liberty's CEO.

While the agency has grown over the decades, we have remained true to the vision set by our founding parents who committed their lives to creating opportunities for their children to enjoy the same rights and freedoms as their fellow citizens.

Mike Decker and Greg Tokarczyk helping out seniors by providing shoveling assistance as part of the Community Connections Program.

We recently lost one of our founding parents, long-time board member, and friend Bill Albertin. Bill's obituary noted his professional and personal accomplishments while recognizing that his passion was Liberty. When I read this I thought to myself how fortunate I am to have a profession where I can practice what I'm passionate about. I know that so many of my colleagues feel the same way.

No one relished this opportunity more than our CEO for the past 38 years, Frank Capone. His unique blend

of passion, caring, intellect, and drive supported so many of Liberty's successes. Frank's contributions form a strong foundation for the agency to continue to make an important difference in the lives of thousands.

I am confident that we will continue to carry out and improve upon our important mission over the coming years which will be full of opportunities and challenges. ♦

Mike Decker has been an administrator at Liberty since 1989, and served as chief operating officer since 2007. His past accomplishments include developing the manufacturing operation at Liberty to the largest, most diverse, state preferred source provider in the New York State Industries for the Disabled (NYSID) system as Director of Industrial Operations. He also spearheaded Liberty's out-of-state business development, helping to establish Choices for Community Living in Delaware.

Decker is a graduate of Union Graduate College, and received a Master's in Business Administration in Healthcare Management, a Bachelor's degree from State University of New York at Plattsburgh in Business Administration and an Associates Degree from Fulton-Montgomery Community College.

Mike and his wife, Liz grew up and raised their three sons Ryan, Shaun, and Ian in Amsterdam. His commitment to the community is also exemplified by his service on numerous community service boards over the past three decades.

Liberty Board New Members



Michael Cinquanti



Nancy Collins



Charles Schwartz,
Esq.

At the Annual Membership Dinner held on May 5, 2011, Michael Cinquanti, Nancy Collins, and Charles Schwartz were each elected and sworn to serve a two-year term through May 2013. Mr. Cinquanti and Mr. Schwartz both served as advisors to Liberty Board Committees and Ms. Collins serves as President of the New Dimensions in Health Care Board.

Michael Cinquanti is a native of Amsterdam and has his Bachelor's Degree in Political Science from the State University of New York at Albany. In 1984 Mr. Cinquanti founded Genium Group, Inc. a publishing company based in Amsterdam.

Nancy Collins has been a member of the New Dimensions in Health Care Board of Directors since 1999 and President of the Board since 2009. Originally from Fonda, Ms. Collins attended school at FM and is now employed with St. Mary's Healthcare as Director of Primary & Specialty Care Services. Ms. Collins also serves as Councilwoman for the Town of Mohawk and is a member of the New York Group Managers Association of Northeast New York.

Charles Schwartz, Esq. is also a native of Amsterdam. He received his Bachelor's Degree from State University of New York at Albany and his Juris Doctor at Albany Law School. Mr. Schwartz serves as Town Attorney for Amsterdam and on the Counsel of Amsterdam's Industrial Development Agency. He is President of the Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce, and serves on the Board of Directors of St. Mary's Hospital, United Way of Montgomery County, Montgomery County Office for the Aging, St. Mary's Institute, and Industries for Amsterdam. ♦

CCL Board Welcomes Mel Chudzik

The CCL board elected Mel Chudzik, Professor and Dean Emeritus for the School of Management at Union Graduate College, to join their Board of Directors. Mr. Chudzik has been with Union Graduate College School of Management for the past 13 years as a professor and administrator. Currently, he teaches the MBA Capstone course that includes comprehensive business planning. He also teaches a China Studies course that includes a 12 day visit to companies and universities in Shanghai and Beijing.

Before beginning his work at Union Graduate College, Mr. Chudzik worked for General Electric Company and was responsible for business and market development in a high technology business in both Europe and Asia. He holds a degree in electrical engineering from the University of Buffalo and a Master's degree in Management. He currently serves on several boards and is a member and investor in Eastern New York Angels Fund for early stage companies and Idea Spec Venture Fund for seed investment in companies associated with the Innogen Business Accelerator. ♦



NYSARC Trust Recreation Grant

In July, 2010, the Trustees of the NYSARC Trusts authorized \$250,000 in grants to NYSARC Chapters for exclusive purpose of funding new Chapter recreational opportunities. Liberty received a \$5,000 grant. The allocation was used to send 33 individuals to see a New York Yankees home game on September 3, 2011. This was the first opportunity that the majority of the individuals attending the game had to visit New York City, let alone Yankee Stadium. The 33 individuals each were allowed to bring one family member to share in the experience. All in attendance had an unforgettable time.

One parent who attended the game with his son stated, "I had always dreamed of going to Yankee Stadium with my son, Billy, and this trip gave me that opportunity." The trip paid for the cost of the bus, game tickets and food at the ballpark.

Liberty's Family Support Services program offers a wide variety of routine and special programs to individuals with disabilities and their families in our community. Liberty is grateful to the Trustees of the NYSARC Trust for providing our agency with this chance to offer an extra special event for the people we support. ♦

Making Friends at FM



Standing: Left-right: Kyna Kuhlman, Cheryl Murphy-Schiemer (professor), Tinea Wright, Olivia Esposito, Emily (aide), Angel Noack, Victoria Kennedy, Brittany Moore, Amber Tatlock, and Courtney Stocker. Seated: Jorge Sepulveda, Caitlin Morse

Cheryl Murphy-Schiemer is a freelance community interpreter who provides interpreting services in American Sign Language for Angel Noack and Matthew Novak, two individuals with hearing impairments. She also teaches American Sign Language (ASL) classes at FM, and recently arranged to have both Angel and Matthew come visit her ASL class at FM on Thursday, September 29.

Angel and Matthew both loved the experience. They were able to freely converse with the students in sign language, share their stories, joke around and make some new friends. It really empowered them to be a part of the community and be able to be a part of FM.

Students were so touched by meeting both Angel and Matthew, and said their silent conversations were full of life and energy. Both Angel and Matthew took the weekly vocabulary quiz and scored higher than many of the FM students! They were so proud! ♦

Working Together

Community Garden Project



Liberty CEO, Mike Decker, and the President of FM, Dustin Swanger, at the groundbreaking.

Liberty and Fulton-Montgomery Community College joined together to create a Community Garden to help local families in need. The two organizations, with the help of volunteers from both Liberty and FM, broke ground at the FM campus on Friday, October 7, 2011. The volunteers built nine 10'x10' raised planter boxes for crop rotations in the spring, and will be planting trees for various fruits surrounding the garden. All produce will be donated to local organizations supporting families in need in the community. ♦

Liberty Donates Products to Help Clean-up Effort

When acting Montgomery County Chamber President Peter Capobianco sent out a call for cleaning supplies to help area residents and businesses clean up after Hurricane Irene, Liberty Board member, Bob Purtell, and Director of Manufacturing, Bill Sikora, knew that Liberty had the opportunity to help out in a big way. The organization moved quickly to get supplies to those in need by gathering up Liberty's own line of cleaning products that are packaged at the Liberty Enterprises building. Staff and individuals in the program worked together to gather a variety of 13 products, from Tough Job Cleaner to Hand Sanitizer, valued at \$4,500. The items were then loaded onto Purtell's truck and delivered to a pick-up point near the Fonda Fair and to the Fort Hunter and Fort Johnson Fire Departments. ♦



Liberty Production area worker, Amanda Gatto helps to package soap products for donation to the clean-up efforts after Hurricane Irene.

Celebrating Achievements



Women's Life Horizons Group

The women's Life Horizons groups successfully completed an American Red Cross Adult CPR class. The class was held on two evenings and each of the women worked hard and exhibited excellent teamwork to complete the course.

The women would like to thank Janice Sheckton for volunteering her time in the evening to instruct the course and to Megan Toas, Kara Austin, and Cesar Ortiz for organizing this opportunity and providing support when needed.

Congratulations to: Maggie Rodriguez, Colleen Irish, Jamie Frederick, Adobi Woods, Breana Theobald, Yvette Jevitt, Melissa Thompson, Jessica Romano, and Tiffany Macan on this wonderful accomplishment. ♦

Chicken BBQ Held to Aid Flood Victims

On October 6, 2011, individuals and employees from Liberty's Up-County programs held a chicken BBQ to help aid flood victims in Montgomery and Schoharie counties. The BBQ was held at the new Mohawk Day Hab and raised nearly \$800.

2011 Joslin Outstanding Performer



Pictured here is Mark Bentz (right) as he accepts the 2011 Joslin Outstanding Performer award from Jennifer Lawrence of New York State Industries for the Disabled (NYSID) at the 2011 annual CEN Luncheon in October.

Joe Rice Recognized

At the October 5 Safety Committee meeting, a presentation was made by Dennis Yacobucci on behalf of the agency Directors and Safety Committee to Joe Rice of Vrooman Avenue. Joe acted responsibly when he heard a carbon monoxide detector alarm at his residence and evacuated and called 911 to alert the fire department and get help. His quick and proper actions are exactly how we train all agency staff and individuals. We commend Joe on his response, which could have saved his life and the lives of others in his house. ♦



Joe Rice (center) poses for a photo with Dennis Yacobucci, Director of Facilities Management and New Dimensions in Health Care (left) and Wendy Moore, Associate Director, (right) after receiving his safety award on October 5.

CMA Visits Bullshead Road



On August 14, 2011 the Marantha Chapter of the Christian Motorcycle Association (CMA) took a ride up to Bullshead Road to visit a group of motorcycle enthusiasts. Pictured here is Vinny Lamendola, Bullshead resident, on a CMA member's bike.

5th Annual COOL Follies

The 5th Annual COOL Follies was held on Saturday, November 19, 2011, at the Fonda-Fultonville High School auditorium. There were over 25 acts, over 50 performers, and the day was enjoyed by Liberty individuals, staff, family members and friends.

Thank you to all who helped make this year's Follies another huge success! ♦



Above: Hester Livengood sings 'Oh Holy Night' a cappella.



Right: Steve Canizzaro takes part in a dance routine at the 5th Annual COOL Follies.

Many Hands Make Light Work



This past October and November, Liberty, with help of family members, business supporters and volunteers, constructed a 140 square foot addition to Heather Purtell's bedroom at her home on Northern Boulevard in Hagaman. The intent of the project was to alleviate space issues and provide a better quality of life for Heather.

Before the addition, Heather had a difficult time moving around in her bedroom. She recently started using a larger electric wheelchair which made movement more challenging. With the addition, Heather is able to maneuver comfortably and staff are able to help her in and out of bed safely and easily.

On behalf of Heather, we would like to thank all the volunteers who helped make her expanded bedroom a reality. We wish to particularly recognize the staff of Liberty's Facilities Management department for planning, overseeing and assisting in completing the project. A special thank you to those companies who donated building materials and other supplies:

**Bonded Roofing • Carpet Master of Latham
David Jablonski Construction Corporation
Kingsboro Lumber • PODS of Albany**



Inset: Heather Purtell. Above: Heather's father, Bob Purtell (left) and CEO, Mike Decker (right), volunteer their time to help with the addition.

Left: Facilities staff member, Gary Hanson (left) and volunteer Rocco Minasi (right), outside of Northern Boulevard.

This project would not have been possible without the help of these generous business and volunteers. ♦

Celebrating the 38-Year Career of Frank M. Capone



*Best Wishes
on Your
Retirement,
Frank,
and...
Thank You!*

*Left to right: **Beth Francisco**, Administrative Assistant to the CEO; **Mark and Susan Brandt**, NYSARC; and **Barbara and Frank Capone** pose for a photo at RiverStone Manor on December 1, 2011.*

Frank's Farewell Letter

continued from page 1

made my career at Liberty such a wonderful and rewarding experience. I have to start by thanking the individuals in our programs and their families. They represent the essence of Liberty's mission. From the beginning, I was witness to individuals achieving personal goals—large and small—that made them feel proud and gave them a sense of self worth and belonging.

I want to thank all the members of our Board over the years for their vision, guidance, commitment and plain old common sense. Together we were able to always move Liberty forward, while keeping our mission, vision, and values at the center of each decision.

Finally, I want to thank my colleagues at Liberty. I have been praised for our organization's successes over the years and, as I have said many times, taken credit for the good work of our outstanding workforce. Yet, I am under no illusions—Liberty would not have become the fine organization it is today if not for the commitment, expertise and compassion of our staff.

I am looking forward to experiencing more firsts in my new role as a retiree. Wherever I am, whatever challenging new experiences come my way, I will always be grateful and proud to have been a part of Liberty. ♦

Thank you.

Frank Capone

Frank Capone



Individuals in the Liberty Through the Arts program under the able direction of Amy Devendorf, created 'Little Franks,' depicting Frank at various stages of his career. The 'Little Franks' graced the centerpieces at each of the retirement events held in Frank's honor. [At the fête held on December 13, 2011, at the Day Support Center, individuals presented Frank with a collage of 'Little Franks' to help him remember his time at Liberty.]

***Doug Small** and Frank have a quick chat during the Day Supports party on December 13, 2011.*



The Parties...



1 Frank takes a moment for a photo with **Maggie Rodriguez** at the Day Support Party on December 13, 2011.



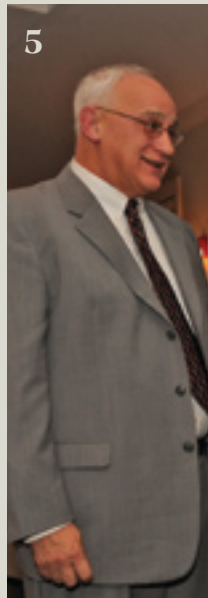
2 **Christine Mazur, Valerie Tarantelli and Valerie Lennenbecker, Melissa Craig and Patty Reksc** enjoy Frank's retirement party at RiverStone Manor held on December 1, 2011.



3 At the party held at Arkell Hall on December 12, Frank thanked everyone for coming out to say goodbye and told the group how much his time with Liberty meant to him...because of each of the people in the program and staff.



4 Frank greets **Jim Jesenski**, one of the many individuals who honored Frank's many years of service at gatherings held in December.



5 At RiverStone Manor on December 1—Artists involved in the Liberty Through the Arts program, presented artwork created by Marjorie VanBuren to Frank as a thank you for all he has done throughout the years. From left: **Frank Capone, Amy Devendorf**, instructor of Liberty Through the Arts; **Marjorie VanBuren** and **Pam Sherman**.



6 Frank and Liberty Foundation Board President, **Ken Adamowski**, at RiverStone Manor.



7 Left to right: **Mike Decker**, CEO; **Mark Bentz**, and Frank at the retirement fête held at Liberty Enterprises on December 16.



Liberty Foundation Donations



Our sincere thanks to the following individuals, families and businesses who contributed to Liberty Foundation, Inc., since January, 2011. We truly appreciate your support.

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If your name has been omitted we apologize. Please let us know so we can acknowledge your gift in our next newsletter. 518.954.3203

What Does a Planned Giver Look Like? Meet Wanda Burling.



In 2010, Wanda Burling, a member of the Liberty Foundation Board, and her husband Chuck, decided to include a bequest to the Foundation in their will. The decision to make a planned gift to a charity is personal and different for each individual or couple. We asked Wanda the following questions about what prompted their gift to Liberty Foundation, Inc.

“Wanda, how did you become involved as a Board member and supporter of Liberty?”

“I am originally from Long Island where I belonged to a group called the Association of Professional Mortgage Women (APMW). The group conducted a variety of fundraising events for the benefit of local charities. When I moved to Saratoga Springs I stayed involved and decided to host a fashion show.

My intent was to give to a local charity in the Saratoga area but had no success making contact with the charity I had chosen. One of my business associates, who actually has a daughter involved with Liberty, told me about the organization and indicated that Liberty would be more than happy to accept the proceeds of the fundraiser. The rest is history. I

have been involved with Liberty in various ways since 2001.”

What have you enjoyed doing in life, family, work, hobbies, or volunteerism?

“I have had many losses in a short period of time. In 2005 I lost my husband, Tom; 2007 my dad, Klaus; 2008 my son, Nicholas; and 2009 my mother-in-law, Emily. What I probably have enjoyed most in life... is life, and the time, whether short or long, with those who are so special to me. Memories never fade they last not only in the mind but in the heart. You never really know where life will take you or what challenges you will face;

you just have to understand that things happen for a reason. So I have made a bucket list, not only for myself, but for those who were so special to me. I try to do one thing a year for myself and one thing I know those who have passed would appreciate me doing on their behalf. Giving to Liberty is one of those special activities.”

Your planned gift to Liberty is special. What prompted you to make this gift?

Various things prompted me to make a gift to Liberty. What encouraged me the most is just the pleasure of giving. I realized in experiencing life's ups and downs, that you can and should give while you're alive, (every little bit helps and is appreciated). I also realized that each person or family faces their own struggles. I have witnessed a miraculous difference in the lives of those experiencing life's struggles... when someone reaches out to offer just a little bit of help. The smiling faces that result when you show someone you care provides a very special feeling in return. I realized that giving while you're alive is wonderful, but a bequest is a way to provide a legacy that continues even after you are gone.

In your gift planning, what gift plan options did you consider?

“I considered various gift plans and options, as I stated before every little bit counts. It is up to each individual to think about what level of giving and option is best for them. I do advise potential donors to speak with an attorney to review various options. I understand that Liberty can recommend attorneys who can provide guidance and explain the various giving options available.”

Outright bequests are fairly common and straightforward. However, life income plans such as an annuity, or trust, life insurance etc., are also important options. Leaving gifts of real estate, antiques, jewelry, art, heirlooms or any item of value can provide a lasting legacy as well.

For more information about bequests or other ways you can support the work of Liberty Foundation, Inc., contact Barbara Wool at 518.954.3202 or email at barbw@libertyarc.org. ♦

Liberty Foundation Board Recognitions and a Welcome

The Board of Directors of Liberty and Liberty Foundation, Inc. would like to formally convey our sincere gratitude to **John P. Woods, Jr.** and **Pamela Hotaling** for their service as Directors of Liberty Foundation.

Mr. Woods served the Foundation board from 1997 to 2011 and as president of the organization from 2002 to 2004. We wish to particularly express our appreciation to John for his guidance and leadership of the Foundation's Investment Committee.

We would also like to thank Pamela Hotaling for her service as Director of Liberty Foundation from 2004 to 2011 and as President of the organization from 2007 to 2010. Pam's knowledge of the community and her willingness to assist in fundraising efforts was an invaluable asset to the organization.

On behalf of the individuals and families who benefit from the services funded by the Foundation we thank John and Pam for their unwavering support and commitment to improving the lives of people with disabilities in our community. ♦

Jay Quatrini was appointed to the Liberty Foundation Board of Directors for the 2011–2013 term in September, 2011. Quatrini, an Amsterdam native, received his BS from Le Moyne College, a JD from the New England School of Law and an LL.M. from New York University School of Law.

Mr. Quatrini has over 20 years of experience in the entertainment industry and is considered a specialist in the field of music, television, and motion pictures. He has extensive experience in production, finance and talent deals, recording agreements, music publishing, distribution agreements, touring, merchandising, and overall celebrity representations. He is also a frequent speaker on various subjects relating to the entertainment industry.

When asked what he hopes to contribute to the Liberty Foundation Board, Mr. Quatrini states, “I have seen the support Liberty gives to the community and to the individuals in its programs. I am proud to be a part of Liberty and am happy to have an opportunity to do my part in strengthening community ties and partnerships.” ♦



Jay Quatrini

Building Bright Futures Capital Campaign

We would like to gratefully acknowledge the following individuals, corporations and foundations for their outright gifts and pledges to the Building Bright Future Capital Campaign during the silent phase of the campaign. Their support of this ongoing and important initiative to develop inclusive community-based day programs that give individuals with disabilities a chance to participate in meaningful programs, close to where they live,

has and will continue to make a real difference in the lives of individuals and the community.

Over the coming months, Liberty Foundation will share more information about what has been accomplished to date and the goals of the Building Bright Futures campaign going forward. Again, our sincere thanks to those who have shown their support of the people who are at the center of the Building Bright Futures Capital Campaign. ♦



Mohawk Day Hab Ribbon Cutting



Members of the Montgomery County and Canajoharie Palatine Chambers of Commerce, campaign donors and Liberty representatives celebrated the opening of the first project of Liberty's Building Bright Futures Capital Campaign at a Ribbon Cutting/Business After Hours mixer on April 21. The new facility, known as Mohawk Day Hab, is located at 91 West Main Street, Canajoharie. ♦

\$25,000 Capital Campaign Gift from KeyBank Foundation

Representatives of the KeyBank Foundation presented the Liberty Foundation with a check in the amount of \$25,000 towards the agency's Building Bright Futures Capital Campaign to help in promoting community inclusion, dignity and quality of life for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities throughout the county. ♦



From left to right: KeyBank Foundation's VP & Director, Ellen Sax; Liberty's retired CEO, Frank Capone; Liberty's Director of PR & Development, Barbara Wool; and KeyBank's Senior Relationship Manager, William Palmer.

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Liberty Employee

Liberty Foundation News



17th Annual Golf Tournament

The Foundation's 17th Annual Golf Tournament was held on Thursday, June 9, at Rolling Hills Country Club. The support received from the tournament is always overwhelming—and the benefits for the individuals we support are everlasting.

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

Low net category: 1st Place, Bob Brown, Jeff Coon, Ron Limoncelli, and Howard Ostrom with a score of 55.7; 2nd Place, Jim Izzano, Gary Leva, Tim Shepard and Ben Ziskin – 56.8; and 3rd Place, Matt Becker, Steve Hurtubise, Jeremy Meisel and Bob Urban – 57.6.

Low gross category: 1st Place, Charlie Dezolt, Keith Plummer, Chris Scaringe, and Mike Schebel with a score of 60; 2nd Place, Joe Daley, Jim Kosakoski, Carl Pucci, and Ross Setlow – 64; and 3rd Place, Jamie Bettini, Kyle Bollen, Pat Bresonis, and Kevin Brzezicki – 65

- Men's Long Drive on Hole #1, Charlie Dezolt • Closest to the Pin on Hole #2, Jamie Bettini at 5'9"
- Women's Long Drive on Hole #4, Michelle Furnare • Closest to the Pin on Hole #6, Jeff Coon at 7'4" • Closest to the Pin on Hole #14, Pat Beck at 4'10"
- Men's Straightest Drive on Hole #18, Joe Galarneay • Women's Straightest Drive on Hole#18, Michelle Furnare



Premier Donor, SEFCU foursome, from left: Jim Kosakoski, Carl Pucci, Ross Setlow, and Joe Daley.

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18th ANNUAL LIBERTY FOUNDATION GOLF TOURNAMENT

SAVE THE DATE: THURSDAY • JUNE 7 • 2012

Liberty Foundation's Feather Your Nest Raffle Winners Announced



Patrick Bresonis (right), winner of the \$6,000 Grand Prize in Liberty Foundation's Feather Your Nest Raffle receives his honorary check from Liberty Foundation's Board President, Ken Adamowski.

At the annual Liberty Foundation Feather Your Nest Raffle held on October 27, 2011, a drawing was conducted for \$14,000 in cash prizes at the Liberty Day Support Café in Amsterdam. The Grand Prize of \$6,000 went to Amsterdam resident and Liberty staff member, Patrick Bresonis.

Other winners included three \$1,000 prizes to Marcia Albertin, Holly and Tony Dargush, and Donna Mochrie of Amsterdam. Six \$500 prizes were awarded to Erin Abele of Fonda, Mohammad Baghaei-Rad, Mary Doris DiCaprio, Rosalie Playford of Amsterdam, Sonia Ring of Palatine Bridge, and Peggy Nixon of Canajoharie. Six \$250 prizes were awarded to Ed Kosinski of Tribes Hill, Jennifer Saunders of Schoharie, Kelly Davis of Watertown, Karl Bach of Ballston Lake, Deanna Young & Deanne Hart of Gloversville, and Domitila Ortiz of Amsterdam. The three \$200 prize winners were Joel Kaplan, Gabriel Contractors of Amsterdam, and Jeffrey Collins of Johnstown. ♦

Check out the new
Liberty web site!
Same address, but with
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design and feel!

www.libertyarc.org

Liberty's Product Line has a
new and improved site as well—

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In the Community

Making Strides against Breast Cancer



On October 16, 2011, twelve individuals, staff and family members from Liberty's residential program joined thousands of other supporters in the Annual Making Strides against Breast Cancer walk in Albany's Washington Park. The group raised \$150 to help support the cause. Pictured here is Tricia Smith, Residential Manager; and Jamie Frederick, an individual who resides at Liberty's Cochrane Avenue home.

Joint Main Street Project in Fort Plain



Pictured in front of the recently-designed window displays are individuals from Liberty's 7 Main Street, Mohawk, Church Street, and Canal Street Day Habs. From left to right: Ellen Freiberg, Lloyd Dibble, John Pugliese, Mary Richardson, Ivan Camacho, Tom Crosby, Christian Willman, Annette LaDue, Kelly Borst, and Millie Herringshaw. Missing from the photo are: Amy Devendorf and the members of the Friends of Fort Plain community group.

Liberty Through the Arts and Friends of Fort Plain joined together in June, 2011, to revitalize two of the downtown area shops on Main Street. Beginning with the store windows, Liberty through the Arts instructor Amy Devendorf created Victorian inspired figures and archways. The storefronts are in the planning stage for remodeling to promote community activity! The Preservation League of New York State has chosen a photograph of the Fort Plain Victorian window displays for its holiday greeting cards! ♦

Elves Night Out

The Up-County Liberty Day Habs and Residences all took part in Canajoharie's Elves Night Out on Friday, December 2, 2011. Between the music, vendors, and Santa—the night was enjoyed by all! ♦



Pictured here with Santa is Millie Herringshaw (left) and Santa's elf, Francis Slater.

Joey Then Donates to Albany Med's Ronald McDonald House



On October 21, 2011, Joey Then presented a check for \$100 to the Ronald McDonald House. Joey raised the money by making and selling his very own cookie recipe books. Thank you to all who supported Joey and the Ronald McDonald House.