



Community Action At Work

Saratoga County Economic Opportunity Council, Inc.

Message from the Executive Director

Julie Hoxsie

The EOC 22nd Annual May Day Spring Fling Honors D.A. Collins Companies

October 2011

The EOC 22nd annual May Day Spring Fling was held on Wednesday, May 4, 2011 at the Canfield Casino in Saratoga Springs. The event, EOC's major fundraiser, was sponsored by Longfellows Restaurant, Hotel & Conference Center and



Julie Hoxsie, David Collins and Ronald Deutsch

the Olde Bryan Inn who graciously provided all food and beverages and also decorated the casino with beautiful pale yellow and moss green accents.

The evening program began with a welcome by EOC Board President Ron Deutsch and EOC Executive Director Julie Hoxsie. Gary Dake representing Stewart's Shops, EOC's 2010 Community Recognition Award winner, presented **D.A. Collins Companies, Inc.** with the **2011 Community Recognition Award**. Gary spoke to D.A. Collins Companies, Inc.'s numerous contributions to the community and David Collins accepted the award.

An exciting live auction with guest auctioneer Kathy Kingston from Kingston

Auction Company brought out the competitive nature of the guests. Big winners of two guided photo safari tours to South Africa were Margaret Mangano and Ray DeRidder. David Collins won the golf package, which included rounds of golf from 5 area courses. Gary Dake won 'An Evening of Taste Sensations', dinner and wine tasting from Lily and the Rose/Fifty South Restaurant. Joe and Lisa Ribis were the lucky winners of one of the raffle prizes, a beautiful Regis Brodie original vase. The other raffle prize, a box at the Saratoga Race Course was won by Andrea Masters.

Guests were treated to a beautiful video, featuring students from EOC's **English for Success** program who spoke to the enormous impact that the classes had made in their lives.

May Day Spring Fling was made possible with underwriting provided by Saratoga Casino and Raceway, D.A. Collins Companies, Inc., The Adirondack Trust Company, The Adirondack Trust Insurance Agency, Ballston

Spa National Bank, National Grid, S.E.F.C.U., The Anderson Group, LLC, Munter Enterprises, Inc., New York Racing Association, Inc., Saratoga National Bank & Trust Co., Stewart's Shops, Stone Bridge Iron & Steel, Inc., Four Winds Hospital Saratoga, King's Glass, Inc., Richard Higgins, Nixon Peabody, LLP, Saratoga Springs Rotary Club, Tech Valley Technologies, Inc., and The Wesley Community.

The evening raised over \$83,000 for the Saratoga County Economic Opportunity Council, Inc. EOC is a not for profit organization that has helped low income residents of Saratoga County since 1973 and is the federally designated anti-poverty organization of Saratoga County.

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"I had a guest tell me that the EOC Spring Fling is the Saratoga Springs- Spring Welcome Party. She said that this was a party for the Saratoga people, the track parties are for the tourists, but this was really all about the people. She looks forward to it every year!"

The Saratoga County Economic Opportunity Council, Inc. (EOC) is a not-for-profit organization whose mission is to assist individuals and families with low incomes to access the services they need to meet their basic needs and to obtain the skills, knowledge, and resources necessary to work towards self sufficiency.



Saratoga County EOC Community Action Awards

On Friday, May 27th, Saratoga County Economic Opportunity Council, Inc. (EOC) celebrated National Community Action month. The EOC honored four individuals and one organization with Community Action Awards. The awards are given in recognition of volunteering 'above and beyond' with EOC to further the EOC mission in helping low income individuals and families work toward self sufficiency. All honorees received proclamations and letters from Senator Kirsten Gillibrand, Congressman Chris Gibson, NY State Senator Roy McDonald and the Saratoga County Board of Supervisors. **Senator Roy McDonald, James Leary**, Associate Counsel for NY State Department of State and **Matt Veitch**, Saratoga Springs Supervisor attended and spoke to the staff, Board of Directors and community members who celebrated the awards with a breakfast prepared by the EOC staff. The celebration breakfast was held at The Presbyterian-New England Congregational Church of Saratoga Springs, site of the EOC Soup Kitchen—Community Lunch Program.

The following are the EOC Community Action Award recipients for 2011:

Mr. Paul Lincoln was honored with a Community Action Award for volunteering consistently with the Extra Helpings program for the past 17 years. Extra Helpings is a food buying club that helps families stretch their food budgets. Unfortunately, the Extra Helpings program is being discontinued by the Regional Food Bank this month. True to form, Mr.

Lincoln will continue to assist by volunteering in the food pantry.

Colin Schaefer, another recipient, has volunteered thousands of hours since 2007, when he came to EOC. Colin assisted in stocking and organizing the

Pantry, food pick ups, food drives, serving dinners at the backstretch of the track, helping with the EOC mobile home recycling program and many other initiatives, always tirelessly, and with humor and kindness.

Cindy Munter was recognized for her volunteer efforts for helping plan, organize and write grants to fund and bring awareness to EOC's Latino Community Advocacy Program. Cindy has chaired the committee for the opening reception of the "Estamos Aqui" photo exhibit, in which Latino immigrants document their lives and experiences. She has also organized and installed the exhibit at numerous sites in the community.

Temple Sinai was awarded for their work in providing a Sunday mid-afternoon dinner at the EOC Soup Kitchen for over 15 years, extending EOC's soup kitchen services from 6 days to 7 days per week. The Temple also prepares and serves meals on Christmas. Wendy Zeh and Linda Glansberg, as longtime organizers and



Pictured (left to right) Colin Schaefer, Mr. Paul Lincoln, Executive Director Julie Hossie, Cindy Munter, Wendy Zeh, Linda Glansberg and Rosie Manley

volunteers of the Sunday and holiday meals, accepted the Community Action Award for the Temple.

Rosie Manley, an instructor at Skidmore College, was also honored with a Community Action Award for her work and dedication to helping the development of early literacy skills in young children. Rosie has taught the '1000 Book Class', wherein students learn about lesson planning, curriculum development and helping children develop a love of books. Students utilize and practice these skills on weekly visits to homes of children enrolled in EOC's Head Start program.

It goes without saying that each community member and organization that EOC recognized, volunteers their services without expecting acknowledgement of their tireless work and efforts. Congratulations and 'Thank You' to all of our Community Action Award recipients, they demonstrate the true spirit of volunteerism and community action.



Weatherization Factoid! Did you know...

Some of the largest returns are from the easiest projects including weather-stripping doors and windows, caulking exterior cracks and replacing door sweeps and door bottoms.

Latino Community Advocacy Program

4th Annual Visión - “a look at life behind the scenes”

Tuesday, August 9th marked the 4th Annual Visión ~ “a look at life behind the scenes” to benefit the Latino Community Advocacy Program. The event, held on the Clubhouse Porch at the Saratoga Race Course, featured new additions to EOC’s ongoing black and white documentary photography project “Estamos Aquí” (We Are Here), in which La-

sales will provide a crucial source of funds for the Latino Community Advocacy Program which has seen a dramatic rise in the demand for its English as a Second Language and Bilingual Advocacy programming at a time when funding is anything but guaranteed.



Saratoga County EOC Executive Director Julie Hoxsie, Ilde Correias and Latino Community Advocacy Program Coordinator Krystle Nowhitney



Winning photograph by Marco Antonio Acosta Rodriguez

tino immigrants document and present their experiences living and working in Saratoga. Over 200 guests joined EOC for the event, making it the most successful year to date. Guests enjoyed music by the Garland Nelson Trio and hors d’oeuvres from local restaurants. All proceeds from sponsorship, ticket sales, and photo

The Latino Community Advocacy Program provides English language instruction to over 200 adults annually and responds to over 700 calls for bilingual advocacy assistance. You can continue to support the Latino Community Advocacy Program by visiting <http://www.saratogaec.org/store.html> where the prints and note cards are available for purchase. You can also make a donation online.

The Adirondack Trust Company, ESMI of NY/D.A. Collins, Anthony V. Malatino, Munter Enterprises, Lisa & Joe Ribis Jr, and the entire 2011 Vision Honorary Committee for their generous support in making this evening possible.

EOC would like to extend a special thank you to The New York Racing Association, Centerplate, Southern Wine & Spirits-Pernod Ricard USA, State Farm Insurance Company ~ Agents Keith Stewart and Nicolas Morales, Collins Mechanical LLC,



Student photographer Alfonso Rodriguez Garcia and Saratoga County Chamber of Commerce Vice-President Linda Toohey

WIC Program



The Saratoga County WIC Program has 6 new Certified Lactation Counselors!

WIC Nutritionist Becki Fignar and Breastfeeding Peer Counselors Sarah Smith, Ashley Baird, Becky Cotton, Pam TenEyck and Bethani Whiting attended an intensive one week ‘Certified Lactation Counselor’ Training Program held June 6 – 10, 2011 in Albany, NY. This program provided participants in-depth training on how to effectively and accurately give lactation and support services to WIC participants from pregnancy to birth and beyond. Trainees who attend the full training and pass the CLC exam are issued a ‘Certified Lactation Counselor’ Certificate which is good for 3 years. It is a renewable certification if continuing education requirements are met. All 6 SCEOC—WIC staff members that attended this training passed the exam, and are now ‘Certified Lactation Counselors’. They join Nutritionists Sarah Murabito and Deanna Spencer, who have been Certified Lactation Counselors since 2003. The SCEOC – WIC Program now has 8 Certified Lactation Counselors on staff. Think of all the moms and babies these women will be able to help! Congratulations to all of our ‘CLC’s’ and Thank You!



Saratoga County Economic Opportunity Council, Inc.

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NEEDED!!!

Volunteers: We are in need of volunteers in our Food Pantry, Soup Kitchen and for various events. If you are interested in volunteering with the EOC, visit our website at www.saratogaeoc.org and complete the volunteer form or come into the office and we will give you the paperwork! Come help us help others!

Bags for our Food Pantry:

We are always in need of bags for the food pantry. One of our supporters has donated a small supply of reusable bags. Thank You! We will, of course, encourage customers to bring back the reusable bags! Please bring bags, either disposable plastic or reusable to our pantry at 40 New Street, Saratoga Springs.

Cars:

Our Wheels for Work program is looking for donated cars. To be used in the program, the donated vehicle has to be less than 15 years old and have less than 150,000 miles. Please call Lori Staigar at 587-3158, ext. 31.

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Upcoming Events:

October 3-28, 2011 - Thanksgiving Basket Applications (EOC office 9AM - 3PM)

November 21-23, 2011 - Thanksgiving Basket Distribution

November 27, 2011 - Dickens Christmas Food Drive (Longfellows)

December 2, 2011 - Victorian Street Walk Food Drive
(Downtown Saratoga)

March 14, 2012—Interagency Awareness Day, Skidmore
College (10AM - 2PM)

May 23, 2012 - 23rd Annual May Day Spring Fling



We're on the web!

www.saratogaeoc.org

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