

Issues & Programs Report

2nd Quarter 2018

WEBO-AM

DATE: April 9, 2018, Morning Show Interview
TIME: 8:15am
ISSUE: Disability Awareness in Tioga County

It is the 70th anniversary of Franziska Racker Centers, and Dan Brown, the Executive Director, visited the morning show to share plans for the celebration of this milestone and also to share what Racker offers to the community it serves. The 70th anniversary celebration will take place the morning of April 26th at Tioga Downs. Everyone is welcome to attend, and it is free. Racker Center spans several counties, and there will ultimately be a celebration in each. This one is for Tioga, which employs 300 individuals such as direct service professionals, therapists, nurses, social workers, just to name a few. Brown also talked about the history of Racker Centers and the services they now provide. It started as a group for those with cerebral palsy in 1948. The vision was to have a son or daughter be a part of the community as opposed to being institutionalized, which was recommended by physicians of the time. While much has changed over the 70 years, this vision has not. Those with disabilities are included in their communities more than ever. There is a preschool for disabilities, 150 Tioga County families are supported through home services, and there are six group homes in Tioga County. Listeners learned how to connect with Racker Center to receive services. And the interview concluded with the announcement of a name change for the organization. It is now known as just, "Racker" and includes a new logo. A big reason for this change is because this is what most people call the organization. There is also a new logo.

DATE: April 12 2018, Morning Show Interview
TIME: 8:15am
ISSUE: Disability Awareness, Performance Arts, Fundraising

Dance representatives from Kathy Hansen School of Dance discussed their upcoming 4th annual benefit performance fundraiser for Camp Ahwaga. Camp Ahwaga is a summer program & year-long recreational program for children and young adults ages 4-22 in Tioga County with a disability. The summer camp runs 6 weeks & provides fun and learning through field trips, academic skills, arts and crafts, swimming, & physical activity. It's designed for those who might not otherwise be able to participate in typical summer programs because of their disability. Camp Ahwaga also has a monthly recreational program throughout the year with local day trips and day trips out of area and is open to ages 4-22 and beyond. The summer camp and year-round recreational activities are provided free to those attending the camp, which relies heavily on

fundraisers. Kathy Hansen School of Dance has been a part of the Owego community since 1975, and is comprised of recreational dance programs as well as dance teams that compete at different skill levels and dance styles throughout the region. Four years ago, the competitive team dancers were seeking an opportunity to give back to the community that has supported them through the years. A dance student at the time had a sibling who benefitted from Camp Ahwaga's programs and the decision was made to host a benefit performance to raise money for Camp Ahwaga. This year's benefit is comprised of the KHSOD competitive team dancers, along with the Binghamton University Dance Team, chamber singers from Owego Free Academy, pianist Rick Pedro, and Camp Ahwaga participants who will sing the camp song to kick off the benefit. It all takes place Sunday, April 15th, starting at 1:00pm. Cost is \$5.00 at the door or \$20 per family. There will also be raffles. 100% of the money raised goes to Camp Ahwaga.

DATE: April 18, 2018, Morning Show Interview
TIME: 8:15am
ISSUE: Mental Health Services, Families

Joshua Nickels of Intuitive Family Strengths discussed some of the mental health needs facing families and the guidance his organization can provide. He and his counselors focus their counseling services on the challenges facing children & families such as ADHD, special needs, schoolwork, the transition to college and the workplace, suicide and addiction just to name a few. According to Nickels, Intuitive Family Strengths takes a unique approach to counseling services as opposed to one-size fits all counseling, because every individual is unique and therefore requires a tailored approach. All the counselors bring real-world, personal experiences to the table.

DATE: April 24, 2018, Morning Show Interview
TIME: 8:15am
ISSUE: Energy Efficiency, Central NY & Southern Tier

Cornell Cooperative Extension's Eileen Henrehan, Community Energy Educator, and Andy Fagan, Executive Director, discussed the topic of energy efficiency in the home and programs available through CCE to property owners to assist in making homes more energy efficient and comfortable. Low to moderate-income residents in Broome, Tioga & Chemung counties could save a bunch of money on their energy bills. The Empower NY Program, is based on income, and if you qualify, you can receive up to several thousand dollars in free energy upgrades, such as insulation and improved lighting. The Weatherization Assistance program adds more opportunities to improve efficiency of your home, with a new water heater or heating unit. Another program is the Assisted Home Performance with Energy Star Program. This is for higher incomes of up to \$71,000 for a family of four and can match up to 50% or \$4000 in home energy improvements. Another program is for those living in rural areas who can get wood pellet stove and wood boilers. There are also grants to help you get on

board for solar energy options. To start the process for any program, one needs an energy assessment & can contact Eileen to get that started. From there, contractors will do a whole-house assessment & make sure everything is healthy and safe. Some recommendations will be made to improve your efficiency and NYSERDA will approve some or maybe all of them, and then based on your income level, you may qualify for part or all of the costs to be covered.

DATE: May 1, 2018, Morning Show Interview
TIME: 8:15am
ISSUE: Arts in Owego, Community Involvement

Representatives from Historic Owego Marketplace and Lockheed Martin shared details for the first, First Friday event of the season, formerly known as First Friday Art Walk. The event will take place in the evening of Friday, May 4th in Downtown Owego. Sponsors for the event are Lockheed Martin and Historic Owego Marketplace. The May 4th event is the kickoff for the season. As always, art galleries will be open, and this year so will shops and restaurants. New this year is a free outdoor movie, free ice cream for kids, a Lockheed Martin booth demonstrating 3d printing, as well as unmanned aircraft displays. Lockheed is also hosting a free community art project where everyone can help paint a giant canvas of art. OFA music students will perform music throughout the evening. The focus for the event is on community. Lockheed's sponsorship allows for the event to be more robust than in years' past. Another new feature of the event is the First Friday passport. Visitors will visit 6 locations, get a stamp at each, and then be entered into a drawing for a prize. There will be 6 bundled prizes full of items from the local merchants.

DATE: May 8, 2018, Morning Show Interview
TIME: 8:15am
ISSUE: Veterans' Services, Mental Health

Voices Recovery Center is a new support group for the Southern Tier area, and Veteran Michael Page visited the morning show to discuss it. It is open to any veteran who's interested in a new perspective or answers to life's post military struggles. The first event is Thursday, May 10th, & every Thursday afterwards. Any veteran is welcome. He or she does not need to have any disability. Veterans who feel they might be able to help others are also welcome. This is a way for veterans to express their internal feelings that they keep hidden from everyone. It shows the veterans that there is a light at the end of the tunnel and with love and support, life can get better. Those who are helping others are proof that this can happen. They can connect on a different level with veterans. There is no charge for the services, and there will be free local transportation for those who need it. Page shared that there is a lot of healing that comes with sharing one's story. And it is hoped that through this new program, this will happen for those in need of it. Discussion also touched on PTSD including how it is a thought process that one gets stuck in that can occur for different reasons and how there are different ways it

can manifest in an individual. Michael also shared a bit of his journey through healing and how he came to be where he is today.

DATE: May 29, 2018, Morning Show Interview

TIME: 8:30am

ISSUE: Community Services, Charity

Owego Town Supervisor Don Castellucci visited the Morning Show to promote his 4th annual rigatoni and meatballs event to raise money for Catholic Charities. This particular event takes place Tuesday, May 30th starting at 5:00pm, at the Owego Elks Club and is a free-will offering. A program presentation will begin at 5:30pm with speakers talking about the good things Catholic Charities does in our community. There will also be speakers who have been recipients of services. A couple examples of services provided by Catholic Charities could be paying a fuel bill, or helping finance a car repair, to mentoring in schools. For this event, all the money stays in Tioga County.

DATE: June 12, 2018. Morning Show Interview

TIME: 8:15am

ISSUE: Awareness/Prevention of tobacco use in Broome & Tioga Counties

Sharon Fisher and Beth Small, representing the Tobacco Free Broome-Tioga Program talk about the tobacco control programs in the community, of which the purpose is to educate that tobacco is everywhere, and there are things that can be done to stem the use of it. This program has been part of the health department in Broome County for many years. Some of the work they do is through programming and education starting in elementary schools. They also do a lot of policy work, such as assisting with a lot of tobacco-free outdoors policies, smoke-free housing policies, etc.

Their goal is to reduce and eliminate tobacco use because of the health concerns for society. They accomplish this goal by promoting four initiatives: tobacco-free outdoors, point of sale, smoke-free housing and smoke-free media., Working on these initiatives helps protect youth from starting to smoke and eliminates exposure to second-hand smoke.

Some lengthy discussion took place on the tobacco-free outdoors initiative. One example is how they work with Reality Check Youth, made up of high school students, and work with them to educate elected officials on the benefits of tobacco-free outdoors parks, where kids play, making it not a normal activity one would find there. They also provide small enforcement cards that one give to a person who is smoking in an area they shouldn't, as a gentle way to inform the smoker of the smoke-free policy. Another example is how they also provide signage to local businesses to help with enforcement of tobacco-free entryways.

A couple facts were cited during the interview. The first was for every \$1 spent on tobacco control, \$55 was saved in government expenses to treat illnesses caused by tobacco. This then saves taxpayers money.

A second, sobering fact: tobacco use kills about 28,000 New Yorkers every year.

An important take-away from the interview is the most effective way to eliminate tobacco use is to keep children from ever starting to smoke.

DATE: June 19, 2018 Morning Show Interview
TIME: 8:15am
ISSUE: International Student Exchange Program, Education, Culture

To raise awareness of the International Student Exchange Program, two students, one from Italy and one from Spain, discussed their experiences in the Union-Endicott School District. In the beginning, Olivia (Spain,) said it was a little difficult, but didn't take long until they made friends and were immersed in the school's culture. They talked about what lead them to become a foreign-exchange student, such as wanting to learn new languages, experience new cultures, and meet new people. Mattia, who was from Italy, said his exposure to American culture was through movies, and he felt that it was a fairly good representation of American culture. They talked a little about the differences in education between their home countries to the United States. As for what they will take away from their time in the United States, both Mattia & Olivia will take back with him the culture and the friendly hospitality of Americans.

Host families in the area are needed for the 10 students coming in for the next school year. These students will be between the ages of 15 & 18. They speak English and will come with their own spending money and insurance. Host families will need to provide meals, a bed, a place to study, and of course a loving, caring home. Listeners were directed to our website for full contact information.