

Caregivers' Corner

Community Caregivers expands hours and adds three new board members

By Regina DuBois

Beginning October 1, Community Caregivers will add Wednesday evening and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. for services to our clients. There have been several requests from clients for week nights and weekends, as well as from volunteers who are unable to assist during normal work hours.

“Over the past year, Community Caregivers has seen an increase in demand for transportation, caregiver respite and shopping assistance during the evening and on weekends. It is important to respond to the needs of our clients, and we believe this initial increase in hours will prove a win-win situation benefiting both clients and volunteers,” stated Tom Tipple, executive director.

The staff at Community Caregivers will continue to recruit and train volunteers who may prefer to donate their time during the evening or weekends. In addition, if you require assistance during these times, please contact our staff at 456-2898.

New Board Members

Three new members have been elected to the Community Caregivers' Board of Directors.

“The Board of Directors would like to welcome Max Chmura, Brent Foulke and Richard Gotti to the board. Each is uniquely qualified and will be an asset to the organization as we strive to meet client needs in a most difficult economic climate,” said Chris Cassidy, president of the board.

Max Chmura retired from the NYS Office for People with Developmental Disabilities as acting commissioner.

Chmura has more than 35 years of human-service and health-care management experience and is known nationally for his commitment to self-advocacy, empowerment and client service. He lives in Loudonville.

Brent Foulke currently serves as Stadia's Association Executive Director for Mobilization and is a principal partner in Church Planting Assessment Center leader assessment programs. He was the founding and lead pastor of Christ's Church of the Capital District in Albany. He lives in Schenectady.

Richard Gotti is a writer, psychotherapist, and educator. He holds degrees in sociology, psychiatric social work, social welfare, and writing and literature. Currently, he is a member of the faculty at the Northeast Center of Empire State College in Albany.

“I look forward to working with the new board members and seeking their guidance as the organization begins to plan for the needs of the baby boomer generation who will be our future clients,” said Tipple.