



Charlie Muller



David Soares



Charles Touhey

Caregivers' Corner

Caregivers honor Soares, Muller, and Touhey

By Regina DuBois

A Harvest Happening is the theme of the 17th annual gala to benefit Community Caregivers, which will be held at Albany County Club on Saturday, Nov. 19.

The annual gala is one of two major events to raise funds for Community Caregivers. This year's event will honor three men who are community leaders in their own right.

Albany County District Attorney David Soares and Pastor Charlie Mueller will receive the Community Caregivers Public Service Award.

Charles Touhey will receive the Joseph A. Bosco Community Service Award.

Soares was elected in 2001 and re-elected in 2008. During his two terms in office, he has redefined the role of the District Attorney to emphasize public integrity and crime prevention. He also has shifted the criminal enterprise prosecution paradigm by taking action against the leaders of organizations instead of low-level offenders.

Some of his initiatives include: Seniors and Law Enforcement Together (S.A.L.T.), addressing crimes committed against senior citizens, and to help prevent crimes of opportunity against one of our most vulnerable populations; and the Community Accountability Board, which empowers community members to take responsibility for the quality of life in their neighborhoods.

Pastor Charlie Mueller is best known in the Capital Region for starting the first-ever gun buy-back Program in Albany. To date, the program has taken over 350 handguns from the streets of Albany and Schenectady. A recent study in 2010 showed that there was not one homicide in the city of Albany during the year with a handgun.

Muller established the Victory Christian Church in Albany and recently opened a second church in Colonie.

His passion is clearly for needy children, building and opening the first Children Only Feeding Center in Albany. To date there have been over 400,000 meals served to at-risk inner-city children.

In 2010, he received the Boys and Girls Club Community Impact Award.

Charlie Touhey has been a main stay in Capital Region for many years. He has extensive experience in the private sector with an emphasis on real estate and housing.

He currently is the managing partner of The Latham Four Partnership and oversees one million square feet of offices and distribution facilities in New York and Florida. He has also developed several residential subdivisions using such innovations as modular housing.

In addition, he is also vice president of Orange Motor Company, as well as the president of The Spare Room, Inc. a mini-storage facility with over 3,000 units.

At the present time, Touhey is supervising construction of 50 new owner-occupied two-family homes in Arbor Hill. He is a member of the College of Saint Rose Board of Trustees and a board member of the Albany Center for Economic Success, a small business incubator, which assists women and minority entrepreneurs in starting up new enterprises.

Sponsors for the event include: Adirondack Environmental Services, Christopher J. Cassidy and Wells Fargo Advisors, PBR Graphics, NBT Bank, St. Peter's Health Care Systems, Netrition Inc., Selkirk Cogen, Times Union, Berkshire Bank, Max E. Chmura, S2S Enterprises, Norman and Micki Massry and The Nigro Companies.

Tickets for the gala are \$100 per person. In addition to cocktails and dinner, there will be a silent and live auction.

For more information on sponsorships or to donate an auction item please call 456-2898.