



CAPITAL DISTRICT YMCA

ADMINISTRATION OFFICE
465 New Karner Road
Albany, NY 12205

PRESS RELEASE

FOR RELEASE

Three area residents join the Capital District YMCA President's Award Class of '07

Each year the nine main branches within the broad service area of the Capital District YMCA select and honor an outstanding person to receive the President's Award. These distinguished recipients are recognized for their service and continued commitment they each have provided to the YMCA and to their community.

These deserving recipients receive their award at the Annual President's Dinner which has become one of the area's premier business and community networking and social events. Last year over 675 people attended the event. The event also serves as one of the YMCA's annual major fund raisers. Sponsorship dollars and proceeds are designated for use in each honoree's YMCA branch area; and 100% of the proceeds benefit the important youth programs and services being offered at your YMCA.

The honorees from the three Schenectady and vicinity branches include: Mayor Brian U. Stratton, Schenectady YMCA; Joseph F. Vitale, Glenville area resident and Executive Vice President and CFO of Rose and Kiernan Insurance, Greater Glenville YMCA; and, area businessman and developer, Michael F. Bette, Southern Saratoga YMCA.

The remaining 2007 Capital District YMCA President's Award honorees are:

Albany YMCA

John T. Mitchell

Former Partner & Of Counsel

Tobin & Dempf, LLP

Bethlehem Area YMCA

Dr. Lee A. McElroy

Vice President for Athletic Administration

Director of Intercollegiate Athletics

University at Albany

YMCA Camp Chingachgook

Robert J. Schools

Group VP of Retail Operations

Hannaford Supermarkets

Greenbush Area YMCA

Michael D. Marshall

Vice President

Phoenix Life Insurance Company

Guilderland YMCA

Timothy R. Owens

General Manager

Tri-City Rentals

Troy Family YMCA

Patricia A. DeVito

Coordinator of Volunteer Services

Vanderheyden Hall

Mayor Brian Stratton was nominated and selected because of his deep commitment to the YMCA. In fact, he said during his mayoral campaign a couple of years ago for mayor, that he was an advocate for the construction of a new state of the art YMCA at the Old Big N Plaza on Nott Street. After his election Mayor Stratton agreed to join the Capital Campaign Committee for the new branch and has actively assisted the YMCA seek out needed financial sources for the new YMCA. His wife Lisa presently serves as Chair of the Schenectady Board of Managers, his son Alex has participated in some of our programs and the family has thoroughly enjoyed their relationship with the YMCA.

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Joe Vitale has been engaged in the Capital District YMCA since 2002 by serving on the Capital District YMCA Board of Directors, and he has unselfishly undertaken the responsibility of serving as Treasurer, and Chair of the Finance committee. He and his wife Cindy have raised two children in the Glenville Community and have been long time members of the Glenville Family YMCA.

Michael Bette's company, BBL, was the general contractor of the original Southern Saratoga County YMCA in Clifton Park. Recently Mike and the Bette family donated \$250,000 to the recent expansion and to honor his longtime involvement the new wing was dedicated as "The Bette Family Wing." Mike's family members have been active members of our YMCA. Mike Bette was selected because of his significant contributions to the YMCA and for the example he has set as a prominent leader in the community. Mike is an active volunteer with the Boy Scouts of America and is an active member of St. George's Church in Clifton.

The Capital District YMCA President's Award event will be held Wednesday, April 18th at the Albany Marriott Hotel.