



## [Is Your Garden Running Over?](#)

**Did you have a BOUNTIFUL HARVEST?  
Not sure how you'll use it all?  
How about donating your "extra" to help  
local families in need?**

**If you find you have extra produce from your garden, contact one of our local food pantries or senior centers. They will tell you when would be the best time to bring your produce in. They will make sure your gift of love gets to those who need it most.**

**CALL FOR A LIST OF PLACES TO DROP OFF YOUR EXTRA PRODUCE  
943-9205**

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### Greene County Youth Fair

<http://www.greenecountyyouthfair.com/index.html>

#### Wacky Raft Race

<http://greenetourism.com/>

#### Community Action of Greene County, Inc. Back to School Drive

Parents, Partners & Pancakes  
Catskill High School  
September 19, 2008

Columbia-Greene Domestic Violence  
3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Battle of the Bands  
September 28, 2008

## COLUMBIA-GREENE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

### Domestic Violence Has No Boundaries



Barbara Palmateer  
DIRECTOR

Recently, The Domestic Violence Task Force had "In Our Own Voices", an organization serving the needs of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, & Transgendered People of Color present to committee members. The speaker reiterated the fact that domestic violence crosses all ethnic, racial, age, national origin, sexual orientation, religious, and socio-economic lines. Domestic violence in the GLBT community is a serious issue, it is estimated that 46% of lesbian women experience abuse. During the presentation it was reported that rates of domestic violence in same-gender relationships is roughly the same as domestic violence against heterosexual women and as in opposite-gendered couples, the problem is likely underreported. It was also discussed how clients are often faced with a system which is often oppressive and hostile towards those who identify as anything other than "straight", causing those involved in same-gender battering to report being afraid of revealing their sexual orientation or the nature of their relationship. Vital information was provided and all walked away with a new resource to refer to for future needs.

### Breaking the Silence

During the month of April Columbia Greene Domestic Violence joined forces with the Reach Center to bring awareness to residents of Greene and Columbia County, domestic violence affect the lives and compromise the safety of hundreds in our own community and has tragic, destructive and sometimes fatal results. To begin the month an exhibit of the Clothesline Project was displayed at Columbia Greene Community College. The Clothesline Project is a visual display, of t-shirts decorated by women survivors of violence, which represent their experiences and express their feelings. Shirts can also be made to remember a woman who has been murdered. The t-shirts are color coded to represent the type of violence and whether or not the victim survived.

- **White** - for women who have died of violence;
- **Yellow or beige** - for women who have been battered or assaulted
- **Red, pink, or orange** - for women who have been raped or sexually assaulted
- **Blue or green** - for women who are survivors of incest or child sexual abuse
- **Purple or lavender** - for women attacked because of their sexual orientation

Over 150 t-shirts were created locally and hung arm to arm, each t-shirt telling an individual woman's story. This display was a powerful true testimony to the existence of the problem of violence against women within our own small community.

To end this event, a dessert tasting and a presentation from the Shaolin Self Defense Center of Hudson was held.

## SENIOR COMPANION PROGRAM



Deborah Frederick  
DIRECTOR

Senior Companion Program and Greene County Department for the Aging: Retired Senior Volunteer Program sponsored its 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Senior Corps Health Fair at the Washington Irving Senior Center in Catskill on Thursday, March 27<sup>th</sup>. This educational, non-solicitive outreach event was held to improve our communities' quality of life by providing knowledge of resources & supportive services to encourage health, safety, and well being. Twenty-two agencies participated & represented more than 26 programs!



Right: Deborah Frederick, Director  
Left: Liz Ducey, Program Coordinator

On April 22<sup>nd</sup> the Senior Companion Program sponsored a Blood Drive with the American Red Cross calling it "Make a Difference Day". Held at the Catskill Elks Lodge, 9 Senior Companion Volunteers helped this event to succeed: Volunteers made calls to schedule appointments, registered 30 donors at the event and provided them with refreshments at the Canteen. The blood drive assisted 90 patients!



Deborah Frederick at Blood Drive surrounded by Senior Companion Volunteers



Deborah Frederick at Blood Drive donating blood

## FAMILY & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



Connie Bentley  
DIRECTOR

We are happy to announce that, in addition to the local TANF monies received from our local Department of Social Services to address the homeless families in Greene County; our agency received a grant to assist single individuals who are disabled and/or chronically homeless. Two separate individuals will receive dedicated services through this program for a full two years.

These monies are made available through the Continuum of Care Housing Assistance Program which is an important part of the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development.

One goal of the program is to help participants obtain and remain in permanent housing; this is done through case management and rental subsidies provided by the program.

Another component of the program is to assist participants in finding and utilizing the supportive services within their communities. Referrals are made to mental health services, alcohol and substance abuse, if necessary, and legal services.

In addition, participants will achieve greater self-determination by working with the case manager to develop and carry out the long and short term goals set in their Individualized Service Plans.

## WEATHERIZATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

### Weatherization offers air conditioners

Greene county households that would be at risk of health problems in a heat wave may be eligible for an air conditioner.



Robert Rock  
DIRECTOR

To qualify the household must meet Weatherization income guidelines and have medical documentation indicating the need for air conditioning. In households where an air conditioner is installed additional energy conservation measures will be provided to minimize the increase in electric consumption. In households where an air conditioner cannot safely be installed other cooling measures may be done. Cooling service will be provided on a first-come, first serve basis.

### Summer Energy-Saving Tips

Save energy and reduce heat by shutting off lights and home electronics, while not in use. If possible unplug these items or use a power management device to completely turn off electric. Many electronics continue to use electricity and produce heat even when they may be turned off.

- Keep blinds or curtains closed during the day, especially on the south facing windows.
- Keep doors and windows closed when it's hotter outside than inside.
- Do your laundry, cooking and dishwashing during the morning or night.
- Changing household habits could keep your home cooler and may reduce your energy bills.