



# Richard D. Tenenini Foundation (RDT) February 2009 Newsletter

501(c)3 NFP organization

## - Giving in 2008 -

### First Fundraising Event – Charity Softball Game

On September 6, 2008, despite the presence of Hurricane Hannah, a spirited softball game took place. The competing teams were **New York State Office of Mental Health** and the **New York Association of Psychiatrist Rehabilitative Services** and **Mental Health Association in New York State**. Each team deserves a huge THANK YOU for their sincere dedication on that day. You really “stepped up to the plate!” Since the driving rain did not allow the athletes to illustrate their true talents, it is only fair to call the game a tie. Until next year, athletes!

Fantastic entertainment was provided by **Frank Jaklitsch & friends** ([www.frankjak.com](http://www.frankjak.com)) and a delicious pork and chicken barbeque was provided by **Tex's BBQ Longhorn Catering Company** ([www.texsbbq.com](http://www.texsbbq.com)). Games, a 50/50 raffle, and a raffling off of wonderfully amazing items were also a part of the event. Nearly 200 people attended, despite the extreme weather. Funds raised from this event will be used to assist young adults recovering from mental illness to achieve their educational or vocational goals.

The RDT Board sincerely *thanks everyone* who attended, volunteered, and donated raffle items, as well as the many who gave generous donations to this worthy cause.

ESTABLISHED  
LOVINGLY  
BY THE  
FAMILY,  
FRIENDS,  
COLLEAGUES  
AND  
ADMIRERS  
OF  
RICK TENENINI

THIS  
FOUNDATION  
CELEBRATES  
RICK'S  
VALUES,  
INTEGRITY,  
PASSION  
AND LIFE-  
LONG  
COMMITMENT  
TO MAKING  
A DIFFERENCE  
IN THE LIVES  
OF PEOPLE  
WITH MENTAL  
ILLNESS.

*Donations to RDT are appreciated more than can be expressed. It is realistic that, in this time of financial uncertainty, many must think twice in order to give with comfort. Gratefully, the first RDT event was very successful. **Over \$9,000** was raised! After the event, additional donations were received from other generous and caring people. As we embark on this journey, it is obvious that our community and beyond is complete with people who have kind hearts, care about those less fortunate, and are willing to share their good fortune.*

### “Holiday Heroes”

Due to your generosity, RDT was able to support the Parsons Child and Family Center “**Holiday Heroes**” program; eight special children in particular. “Holiday Heroes” helps to provide happy and memorable holidays for boys, girls, and families receiving services through Parsons. While the holiday season is a time of joy for most, it can be a difficult time for the children living in Parsons’ group homes and cottages, with foster families or receiving services from Parsons Child and Family Center. “Holiday Heroes” supports the idea that every child is important and should experience the pleasure in giving and receiving during the holidays. ([www.parsonscenter.org](http://www.parsonscenter.org))

RDT supported the Parsons Child and Family Center “Holiday Heroes” program in 2007, as well as in 2008. The goal is to make this part of RDT’s annual giving. Therefore, we anticipate supporting “Holiday Heroes” in 2009.





**Foundation Mission:**  
To celebrate Rick's life and continue his legacy of helping individuals recover from mental illness.

## - Giving in 2009 and Beyond -

In the Spring of 2009, RDT will give **monetary awards** to young people with psychiatric disabilities who are transitioning into a community college, four-year school, or trade/vocational school. The funds are flexible and are intended to support recovery for young people to successfully transition into a new phase of their lives. Funds could be used to help pay for school costs, books, supplies, school fees, transportation, meals, room & board, etc. Individuals learning a trade – a new set of tools, individuals beginning a new job – new clothes, individuals starting out in a new apartment – new items to help furnish it, individuals pursuing an educational or vocational goal – a new computer.

In addition, **award funds** will be given to a graduating senior from Colonie Central High School (Rick's Alma Mater) who receives mental health services. With the exception of the Colonie High School award, those applying for an award do not have to be graduating from high school, nor have to have a GED. The supports provided will help ease the transition and will let individuals know that the community cares about their well-being and success.

### **BOARD MEMBERS:**

**Sue Costantini &  
Joe Reilly  
Co-Presidents**

**Joe Costantini  
Vice President**

**Rocco Tenenini  
Treasurer**

**Lisa Noles Secretary**

**Kelly Tenenini  
Manager**

*The volunteer Board accepts no compensation.*

### **CREDIT & THANKS:**

#### **Website**

Professional web designer, Jody Morgenegegg ([www.customwebcare.com](http://www.customwebcare.com)) volunteered her time to create and update our Foundation website and providing info on events while capturing the essence of our family & friend run not for profit charity.

#### **Logo Design**

Samantha Noles drew the Rose Breasted Grosbeak (Rick's favorite bird), Ralph Blackshear (now in heaven with Rick) provided the poignant words, and Walter Boppert designed the logo and assists in designing other documents.

#### **Corporate Sponsor**

AXA Advisors, LLC was RDT's corporate sponsor for the Charity Softball Game. For more info on AXA, please contact Rodney Brewer at (518) 373-7364 or via email at [Rodney.Brewer@axa-advisors.com](mailto:Rodney.Brewer@axa-advisors.com).

#### **Business Guidance**

RDT is the fortunate recipient of advice, kindness, and financial support from our favorite local newspaper company, the Times Union. ([www.timesunion.com](http://www.timesunion.com))

### Frank Jaklitsch Entertainment - Events!

**February 24<sup>th</sup> – 6:30pm** → Albany American Irish Center Mardis Gras celebration 375 Ontario St. in Albany. This is a cash donation event; everyone is encouraged to bring a dish. No reservation needed, no admission fee, free authentic New Orleans food, low beer prices.

**February 28<sup>th</sup> – 8:00pm** → Caffè Lena in Saratoga Springs. Reservations are required and are accessible by visiting [www.caffelena.org](http://www.caffelena.org).

**GET YOUR TICKETS NOW!**

*Frank will be donating half of the money collected from both events to RDT and the other half to Shaker Veterinary Hospital's Save-A-Pet Fund. The more tickets sold, the more both charitable causes will receive!*

### *\*Cinco de Mayo Celebration and Charity Event\**

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS** for May 2, 2009 at 5pm for a Cinco de Mayo Extravaganza! This festive party will be held at The Crossings of Colonie Clubhouse. Delicious, theme-related food will be provided by Classé Catering ([www.classecatering.com](http://www.classecatering.com)). Frank Jaklitsch will entertain all by playing his Irish tunes with a bit of a Salsa style.

*Rick loved vacationing yearly in Mexico, therefore this is a perfect theme. Many Americans like to celebrate Mexico's victory over the French army by gathering together for delicious food, yummy drinks, and great entertainment all for the purpose of helping people much less fortunate than ourselves.*

**If you would like to volunteer...help solicit for raffle and auction donations...or if you have questions, suggestions, or ideas to share, please e-mail us at [rdtfoundation@gmail.com](mailto:rdtfoundation@gmail.com).**

**RDT Address: Richard D. Tenenini Foundation, 11 Talbot Ct., Rexford, NY 12148**  
[www.teneninifoundation.org](http://www.teneninifoundation.org)

*"I believe that the rendering of useful service is the common duty of mankind and that only in the purifying fire of sacrifice is the dross of selfishness consumed and the greatness of the human soul set free."*

John R. Rockefeller Jr.