

PARTY IN THE PARK EVENT

Saturday, June 2, 2012 is a day for community members to celebrate and give thanks to those who have made contributions to Crellin Community Park. "Party in the Park" is an event that will take place from 1 to 6 PM that day to celebrate the accomplishments of Crellin Park over the years, honor those past and present who have made great contributions to the Park and to kick off the fundraising campaign for new projects that are underway. Some of the day's activities include live music, face painting, skateboarding demonstrations, disc golf demonstrations, concessions, a bounce house and a Chicken BBQ cooked up by members of the Ghent Fire Department. The BBQ, dine in or take out, will be served from 4 to 6 PM. Information about the Town of Chatham recreation programs will also be available.

Some of the names and faces honored include Eugene Pessetto, first program director in 1974; Robert Crosby, first superintendent of parks; Roberta Rose, director from 1987 through 1999; Ellen Irose, past Crellin Park board member and Francis Blake, past Town of Chatham Supervisor, both of who were very influential in obtaining grant money for the Park and assisting in many ways to add onto the park amenities, and the members of the Chatham Lions Club and Rotary Exchange Clubs who have made financial as well as physical contributions to the park since 1974.

The Town of Chatham plans to remember Tom Meyn in a dedication service at the Chatham Town Hall that morning at 10:00 AM and the Park will follow up by honoring past volunteers, directors and employees.

Since 1974, Crellin Community Park has provided local youth with a variety of recreational opportunities. On June 15, 1974, an official ribbon-cutting ceremony was held and a dedication ceremony was celebrated the following afternoon.

In 2008, the Crellin Park Foundation, Inc. was created to support and enhance all local efforts toward recreational activities for the Town of Chatham. As a not-for-profit, the Foundation works to assist the town in implementing the park master plan. Currently, the Foundation and the Town are working to raise funds to create a new "community" building that would take the place of the deteriorating pavilion and life safety building that is located near the pond, and also to complete Phase 2 of the Chatham Skate Park, which includes a concrete bowl and landscaping. Plans are also in the works for the proposed Stonykill Disc Golf Course to be located on Route 295 near the Town Hall and Transfer Station. The plans are being led Town of Chatham resident Stephen Vardin from DisCap, a group of disc golf players from around the Capital District.

Tickets (\$10ea.) for the Chicken BBQ should be purchased in advance by calling the office of the Recreation Department at 392-0337. All proceeds from the day will benefit the projects and programs at Crellin Park. For more information please contact the office, visit the website at <http://crellinpark.org> or email Shari Franks at recdirector1231@fairpoint.net.