

Kip Kourrier

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" Building Bridges for Successful Aging "

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Time To Say Goodbye

On Saturday, February 8th over 150 members braved the cold and ice to pay tribute to Karen Tucker at her farewell party. However, getting to the center was not the toughest part of the day. Once inside, we were faced with a plumbing problem which resulted in water gushing up from the floor drains. Rooms had to be closed off, the bathrooms were inaccessible and Ricky spent the day mopping up the water. Without the use of our facilities we would have had to close early. Our neighbors across the street at Macagna Diffily came to our aid and offered the use of their restrooms to us for the afternoon. Despite the setbacks, we shared a wonderful afternoon filled with speeches, gifts and a video highlighting Karen's accomplishments during her 18 year tenure as director. In keeping with a valentine theme, the room was decorated with red and white carnations and everyone dressed in red. Valentine cookies and candy were served along with the cake. Around 3p.m., just as it was "Time To Say Goodbye" (as the song goes), the water began to recede and the plumbing was once again working. We wanted the farewell party to be a memorable one and I think we accomplished that! Thank you to our members Carol Sienicki, Marion Trafton, Jean Benzing, Joan Everleens and Fran Heim who served the coffee and cake and helped with the clean up afterwards. We thank Lee Schilare for her help with the decorations and Jennifer Mariano for helping to serve. A big thank you to Jim Schak for generously offering his time and talent to produce the video. If you haven't seen it yet - check at the front desk, we will be happy to show it.

As the staff settles in to the daily routine of keeping the center running smoothly, it is slowly sinking in that Karen is no longer the "go to" person. Karen will be difficult to replace but we thank her for her leadership and guidance and wish her our best as she begins her new venture.

Membership Renewal

In the next few weeks you will be receiving your membership renewal for April. Included in that mailing are two raffle books for the Grand 50/50 Raffle which will be drawn at our 8th Annual Kip Center Golf Outing. This is the center's major fundraiser. We will need the involvement and support of members more now than ever before. The outing which is usually held in July has been moved to a new date and location. This year the outing will be held on Monday, May 19th at High Mountain in Franklin Lakes. The raffle books and money will be due back no later than Saturday, May 17. By moving the outing to May we will be one of the first golf fundraisers rather than one of the last. We need golfers, sponsors, prizes and raffle tickets sold. Please involve your family and friends in this very worthwhile cause.