

The Salvation Army East Stroudsburg Corps Raised \$80,430

By Cari Friend / Executive Secretary The Salvation Army

EAST STROUDSBURG - The 6th Annual Salvation Army East Stroudsburg Red Kettle Gala, held on December 6, 2019 and hosted by the Trapasso family at Desaki Restaurant in honor of Advisory Board member and philanthropist Samuel W. Newman, raised \$80,430 in Newman's memory. Major

Gilbert Parkhurst, commanding officer of the East Stroudsburg Salvation Army said, "Through the generosity of Vincent and Charlie Trapasso, their family and staff, the Salvation Army staff and Red Kettle Gala Committee members, donors, food purveyors, and philanthropic attendees, the event in Sam's memory raised an unprecedented \$80,430 which will go to feeding and sheltering those in need in Monroe County, PA. We cannot thank all those involved enough for their hard work in making the event one of the largest fundraisers in the history of our Corps."

Aware of the great needs of the East Stroudsburg Salvation Army, six years ago local business owners Vincent and Charlie Trapasso offered to help by donating their Desaki Restaurant for the Red Kettle Gala. Parkhurst continues, "The Trapasso Family's contributions over the years have helped raise almost a quarter of a million dollars. Their generosity of hosting the event at no expense to the Salvation Army makes a significant difference to the lives of many. This year, we were faced with the unexpected passing of long time Salvation Army supporter and Advisory Board Member Samuel W. Newman. In his honor and memory, the Trapasso Family asked that we recognize Sam at the 6th Red Kettle Gala for his life-long contributions to both The Salvation Army and our community."

Newman founded the East Stroudsburg Salvation Army Hometown Endowment Fund. Through his efforts, interest from the Fund now helps support the Corps Christmas efforts, Emergency Shelter, and Emergency Feeding Programs. "Thanks to the community's desire to support and honor the memory of Sam and the Trapasso's donation, this event was a great success," Parkhurst said.

East Stroudsburg Salvation Army's local programs such as food baskets, hot meals, nights of shelter, rental assistance, clothing, Christmas toys for children, nursing home visitation, and disaster service response rely directly on community support and giving. Parkhurst concludes, "Events such as this show how fortunate we are to live in a community that is so willing to give. We could not provide for all those in need without that support and during this Christmas season, we offer our deep gratitude and thanks to all who volunteer and donate to the East Stroudsburg Salvation Army."



L-R Senator Mario Scavello, Major Gilbert Parkhurst, Maryanne Newman, Gina Bertucci

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**Ken
Field**

Owner of Slate
Belt Energy
Services

Exclusively in the Blue Valley Times
The Cold Hard Truth

How could telling the truth cause someone to not get hired? It sounds odd and of course there is more to the story. When someone needs a new furnace I sometimes have to be the one to break the news to them. After the initial disappointment of hearing the news we usually discuss the options for equipment and all the ways the new furnace will be different and usually better. In some cases the old furnace did not perform well because of things outside of the furnace cabinet itself, like the duct system. Replacing a furnace is pretty straightforward but modifying a duct system is not. Ducts are usually buried in ceilings or floors. Even when they are exposed they can't be easily modified without complete replacement that many times includes some sort of remodeling.

Here is an example of how I lose a few jobs a year. A homeowner calls for an estimate after having a few already and I go to meet them. I look over the system and compare the furnace to the duct system it must work with. I ask questions about the comfort that the old furnace delivered and if there were any problems in any areas. Usually there is a room or two that doesn't stay quite as comfortable as the rest.

More often than not an older oil furnace is oversized for the house and lots of gas furnaces are too. My goal is to match the furnace to the house and not the old furnace and also make sure the furnace can move the amount of air it needs to so it doesn't overheat. When I prepare a proposal for a smaller furnace and also explain that without changes to the duct system the rooms will be no different with respect to comfort than they were before,

I either get no response or a decline from the homeowner. I've been told that other contractors planned to use a bigger furnace and that will correct problems with comfort. Even though I politely disagree with that, I'm not the one writing the check. Oversized furnaces self-destruct in their own heat. Undersized duct systems choke airflow. Low airflow makes rooms uncomfortable. Higher fan speed cannot overcome undersized ducts. Promising the impossible or agreeing to do a job incorrectly just to make a sale is unethical and I'm fine with not having to compete on that playing field. I still feel sorry for the homeowner because the truth will play out in the future and but will be too late by then to do it right.

Ken Field is the owner of Field's Service, Inc. and Slate Belt Energy Services. He has over 40 years of experience in heating, air conditioning and is certificated by RESNET and BPI in various areas of energy conservation. He can be reached at 610-599-8832 or at www.SlateBeltEnergy.com

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