

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Office for the Aging Presents *John B. Miller Jr. Community Spirit Award*

The St. Lawrence County Office for the Aging recently held a reunion reception for the residents of Riverview Towers in Ogdensburg who were displaced from the fire at the towers in March 2022. The residents wanted a chance to be reunited with the first responders and volunteers who helped them during such a tragic and frightening event. Over 50 residents, volunteers and first responders joined the celebration at the Dobisky Center for food, drinks and laughter.

During the event, Office for the Aging Director, Andrea Montgomery, presented a new Community Spirit Award created by her office. The award is named the ***John B. Miller Jr. Community Spirit Award*** and its inaugural recipient is John B. Miller Jr.

Mr. Miller is a beloved teacher at Ogdensburg Free Academy and was one of the first to arrive at the staging area to offer support. Mr. Miller immediately took charge to organize the emergency response for the displaced residents. He led the efforts to move the residents to the emergency shelter at Wadham's Hall and stayed there over the course of the next 10 days helping to provide the fire victims with food, comfort, support, entertainment and access to needed services.

John B. Miller Jr. embodies the term community spirit through his leadership, compassion, integrity and vision. The Office for the Aging was honored to create an award in John's name that will be given out annually to others who exemplify what it means to be a good human.

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Photo 1: John B. Miller, Jr.

About St. Lawrence County Office for the Aging:

The Office for the Aging provides service and advocacy for county residents 60 years and older. Programs and services includes: Nutrition Centers and Home Delivered Meals; Home Care Services; Family Caregiver Support; Medical Transportation; Legal Services; Health Insurance Information Counseling and Assistance. The Office's mission is to develop a service system specifically designed to best meet the social and human needs of the older adults.

Contact:

Andrea Montgomery

Department Head

St. Lawrence County Office for the Aging

(315) 386-4730

amontgomery@stlawco.org