

Geneva Family YMCA renovation benefits members, looks to future

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GENEVA — A \$70,000 capital project that took less than two weeks to complete is now being put to use by Geneva Family YMCA members.

Executive Director Charlie Evangelista said the renovation of the Wellness and Fitness Center includes state-of-the-art HOIST fitness equipment from the company's "Roc-It" series. Also included in the work were rubberized flooring, a new ceiling, and painting of walls and trim.

Guardian Industries of Geneva donated mirrors for the project, which also included local contractors.

"This truly was a combined effort of Geneva Y board members, staff and several Y members who volunteered their time, muscle and tools, removing heavy equipment, removing carpeting, painting, and then putting it all back together," Evangelista said.

The project included the replacement of older Nautilus equipment with 14 new pieces of HOIST equipment. Company officials said the equipment enables bio-mechanically correct movements that mimic the more natural, comfortable and functional movements of free weight training with the convenience of a machine.

The project was partially funded by donations from YMCA members, community members, a grant from the Greater Rochester Health Foundation, a SUNY award sponsored by state Sen. Michael Nozzolio, R-54 of Fayette, and a contribution from Casella Waste Management.

"We are thrilled with the results and very appreciative of everyone that contributed, especially Sen. Nozzolio, the Greater Rochester Health Foundation and Casella Management," Evangelista added. "The 'Roc-It' HOIST equipment is state-of-the-art, granting users a better, safer and enhanced workout. This revamped room gives our members — young adults, adults and seniors — greater exercise capacity in a much improved space."

Evangelista said the project coincides with the YMCA's board of directors' strategic initiatives that include planning for future expansion and partnering with the city of Geneva, the Geneva City School District, other foundations and non-profits. The Y is also increasing its emphasis on retaining and adding members.

"This project is going to increase our members' experience," Evangelista said. "The completion of the project represents the start of some new programs and services that will serve our community going forward."