

A MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

Dear YMCA Families,

Message #6, Saturday, 10/26

When disaster strikes, Our YMCA is uniquely positioned to mobilize quickly, thanks to its deep roots in our local communities. Because of this, we have good news to share!

This glorious Fall weather has kept the timeline to re-open the 50M pool on schedule for the end of November. We are excited that our work thus far including inspections, measurements, liner design, filling in the cracks, surge pits waterproofing, moving the bulkheads, prepping the curtain skirt, and more has allowed us to remain on schedule.

Yet, our recovery includes more than the 50M pool. We witnessed flood damage in our basement destroying two boilers. They will be replaced by two new elevated boilers in the upcoming weeks which are critical to heat areas of our YMCA. Debris have been removed near the river including removal of fallen and comprised trees. The road leading to the paddle courts has been addressed and court 5 has been stabilized. The Little League fence and field has been repaired. Our Phase 1 of recovery is estimated at \$1.2M with a goal of completion by Memorial Day to welcome the summer and camp with a much-needed breath of exhalation.

These are just some of the “big things” we have been focused on since August 18th.

However, it is just the “little things” that give us hope. We started a new LIVESTRONG program this month. LIVESTRONG is a small-group cancer survivorship program for those who are living with, through or beyond cancer. I am fortunate to have met the program participants and see them occasionally in the halls of our YMCA. While participating in the Diwali Celebration at Our Y, everyone was dancing. It was tiring and I was giving up. Yet, a LIVESTRONG participant who was dancing with me said, “don’t give up.” Her words were encouraging and are the reason why I and our staff family show up every day. We will not give up on our recovery efforts. Our Y will remain the heart of our community for our children, families, adults and seniors.

On behalf of the staff family at Wilton Family YMCA, we thank you for your emails, texts, and office visits expressing your encouragement for our people and this place we all love.

Warmly,

Christene K. Freedman

CEO Riverbrook Regional YMCA