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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PRESERVATION LEAGUE AWARDS PRESERVE NEW YORK GRANT **Chautauqua Home Rehabilitation & Improvement Corp. Secures \$6,000**

ALBANY, NY – 10/13/09 – The Preservation League of New York State will present a **\$6,000 grant** to the **Chautauqua Home Rehabilitation & Improvement Corporation (CHRIC)** on **Tuesday, October 13** at a “cookie social” which begins at 7:00 p.m. at the **Stanley Hose Company Fire Hall** at 122 Park Street in Sherman. The grant will be used toward a Cultural Resources Survey of the Village of Sherman.

CHRIC, one of 235 organizations of the national NeighborWorks® network, is assisting Sherman with its downtown rehabilitation projects. The survey will provide documentation on the village’s early nineteenth to mid-twentieth century commercial blocks, homes, churches, and the Yorker Museum complex.

Clinton Brown Company Architecture of Buffalo will complete the project which will help position Sherman to take advantage of New York’s tax credit and grant programs.

The Preserve New York Grant Program is a partnership program of the Preservation League and the New York State Council on the Arts. “Preserve New York has a strong track record of bolstering local preservation efforts and delivering a strong return on investment,” said Jay DiLorenzo, President of the Preservation League. “In its 17-year history, Preserve New York has provided over \$1.4 million to 233 projects across the state, leveraging over \$20 million in additional project support and over \$500,000 in donated labor, services and materials.”

“Four years ago we held a similar meeting in Sherman to learn how residents viewed their downtown and the potential of the Village,” said John Murphy, Executive Director of CHRIC. “That meeting launched a historic preservation project that’s raised more than \$1 million in grant funding. At this meeting, we’ll discuss the next steps needed to preserve this truly unique downtown, including pursuit of historic district designation, which will be made possible in part with the support of the Preserve New York grant.”

Sherman Mayor John Patterson said, “My wife and I are especially pleased to know that Sherman’s unique history and architecture have been so recognized with this prestigious Preserve NY grant. I hope it helps Sherman in bringing additional resources and positive recognition to our community as we continue to work to preserve our architectural heritage.”

The Chautauqua Region Community Foundation will also present a Community Betterment grant of \$4,000. Mr. Randy Sweeney, Executive Director of the Foundation stated, “The Chautauqua Region Community Foundation is committed to enhancing the quality of life in the Chautauqua Region. Through this project the Foundation is pleased to be able to work with CHRIC and the Village of Sherman on a project that will help revitalize the village’s historic downtown and bring back the charm of their Main Street structures.”

“At its August, 2009 meeting, the Preserve New York grant program panel selected 16 projects in 15 counties around the state to share \$96,400 in funding,” said Tania Werbizky, the League’s Regional Director of Technical and Grant Programs in central and western New York. “As always, the competition for these funds was intense. The Preservation League is delighted to help advance the historic preservation efforts of the Village of Sherman with this grant.”

According to Anne Van Ingen, Director of the Architecture, Planning and Design Program and Capital Projects at the New York State Council on the Arts, “Preserve New York grants have proven to be an effective catalyst for realizing community preservation goals and saving some of the Empire State’s most significant places. We are gratified that state funds made available for strategic grants through Preserve New York continue to leverage private investment, revitalize our historic neighborhoods and downtowns, and celebrate New York’s incomparable architectural legacy.”

Organizations and municipalities receiving grant awards in 2009 are: **Albany County:** Historic Albany Foundation; **Broome County:** Village of Whitney Point; **Cattaraugus County:** Village of Franklinville; **Chautauqua County:** Chautauqua Home Rehabilitation & Improvement Corporation (CHRIC), Mayville; **Chemung County:** Historic Elmira; **Chenango County:** Guilford Historical Society, Guilford; **Columbia County:** Historic Hudson, Hudson; **Erie County:** Local Initiatives Support Corporation-Buffalo (Buffalo LISC); **Montgomery County:** Village of Fort Plain; **New York County:** Carnegie Hill Neighbors, New York City; **Otsego County:** Otsego 2000, Cooperstown; **Rockland County:** Town of Ramapo; **Saratoga County (2):** Saratoga Springs Preservation Foundation and Village of Round Lake; **Steuben County:** Market Street Restoration Agency, (MSRA); **Ulster County:** Town of Rochester.

For more information on the Preserve New York Grant Program, please call 518-462-5658 or visit the League’s website at www.preservenys.org.