



247 Factory St., Watertown, NY 13601—(315) 782-8440 - (315) 782-8441  
[www.WatertownUrbanMission.com](http://www.WatertownUrbanMission.com) – Find Us on Facebook

**For Immediate Release**

Contact Drew Mangione, Director of Development

## **Alpine Fence, Watertown Urban Mission Announce New Course for 2013 Run for Recovery in September to Remember Tommy Ivey**

5<sup>th</sup> Annual 5k/10k to Raise Awareness of the Dangers of DWI, Support Bridge Program  
Run/Walk In Memory of Clayton Man Killed in 2003 by DWI to Feature New Course

WATERTOWN (March 5, 2013) – The Watertown Urban Mission will have a new course, a new starting time, and a repeat lead sponsor in Alpine Fence for the 2013 Run for Recovery, which will be run to honor the life and memory of Tommy Ivey, who was killed in a DWI accident on November 23, 2003 at the age of 27.

The 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Run for Recovery on September 7 will again start at the Alex T. Duffy Fairgrounds, Watertown, by the Agricultural Building, but the course, which has been approved by city and county officials, will go out Vanduzee Street to outer East Main Street and into Glen Park along Route 12E, starting at 9 a.m. Runners and walkers in the 5k event will turn around near the Jefferson County Dog Shelter, while the 10k runners will continue to a turnaround point just past Reeves Street in Glen Park. All participants will return to the starting line to finish the race and share in the same great post event celebration and meal.

“We’ve decided to take this great event and simplify the course to make it even better for our runners and walkers,” said Sal Ciulo, Bridge Program Director and event organizer. “As a runner myself, I love this new course and have tested it out many times already. I think everyone is going to be happy with this new and improved course.”

Pre-registration is still just \$20 for an individual and \$25 on race day. New this year is team participation with a discounted price of \$110 per six member team and 10 percent off both individual and team registrations for our military. T-shirts and gift bags are guaranteed for all who register before August 26<sup>th</sup>.

An awards ceremony will follow with free food, a silent auction, activities for children, a DJ and more. Awards will be given to the top walker, the top team time, and the three top male and female runners in seven age categories.

To register, go to [www.WatertownUrbanMission.com/runningforrecovery.htm](http://www.WatertownUrbanMission.com/runningforrecovery.htm).

The 5k run/walk and 10k run raises awareness about the real consequences of driving while intoxicated. This year the event will put a human face on the danger of DWI by remembering Tommy Ivey, whose family shares his story – his love for people around him, his passion for life, his accomplishments beyond his years, and the night that he died – to help prevent future tragedies.

“Last year, we had close to 250 participants and we hope to build on its success,” said Erika Flint, Mission executive director. “This will be a fun event for the whole family again this year as we work with the Ivey family to take their loss and turn it into something positive. We are so grateful to the Ivey family for agreeing to be a part of this and to Alpine Fence and all of our sponsors.”



All proceeds from the race support the Mission’s Bridge Program, which helps individuals facing jail time to address their addictions, make restitution, and get their lives back on track. The Watertown Urban Mission program also organizes the STOP DWI Victims’ Impact Panels, at which the Iveys and others who lost loved ones to incidents involving drugs and alcohol put a human face on the danger.

“We lost someone more precious than life itself, our only son Tommy,” said Martha Ivey. “This tragedy was preventable. Driving while impaired does not discriminate. People of all walks of life make this tragic mistake because they do not understand the consequences. We’ll never have our son back, but we hope that by telling everyone we can about his story, we can help prevent your family from enduring our pain. We’re honored to be able to do that through the Victims’ Impact Panels and now the 2013 Run for Recovery.”

Nick Washburn, the owner of Alpine Fence, lead sponsor for the 2013 Run for Recovery, knows the power of the panels, and how the Bridge Program helps people rebuild their lives. He is one of the many success stories of the program, which helped him put mistakes in his past behind him.



“The families that tell their stories show the consequences of driving while intoxicated,” Nick said. “The Bridge Program changes lives. It’s important that we come together in support of this event and the Bridge Program. I’m proud to give back to make this event a success.”

Nationwide, just 44 percent of the people enrolled in treatment programs complete their treatment, according to a 2005 Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration report. Yet, more than 70 percent of the individuals sentenced by a court to Bridge complete the program, which not only requires alcohol or drug treatment as needed, but also includes volunteer service, full payment of fines and restitution, and participation in regular group meetings, including the Victims’ Impact Panels

With between 25 and 35 individuals per year enrolled in the Bridge instead of jail or prison time, the program saves county and state taxpayers about \$1 million per year, based on a standard cost of \$100 per day, per inmate. Instead, the Bridge Program operates on an annual budget of about \$65,000, with limited state funding of just \$26,100 per year.

The program depends on this event to raise money in support of its work to strengthen our community. To join Alpine Fence as a sponsor, please call Drew Mangione, Development Director, or Sal Ciulo, Bridge Program Director, at 782-8440.

###