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## Celebrities Doodle For Charity Overcoming Donor Fatigue

By Michelle Gabrielle Centamore

December 14, 2005

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**In a most innovative charitable event, a select few and very notable personalities have given approval to have their art/doodle reproduced on a unique ceramic tile collection, called Celebrity Ceramics™, to help raise funds for Long Island Cares, The Harry Chapin Food Bank. The ceramic tiles include art/doodles by celebrities such as Phil Collins, Nelson DeMille, Phyllis Diller, Dion DiMucci, Marty Balin, Noel Paul Stookey, Eli Wallach, Peter Yarrow and Marc Brown, among others.**



*CELEBRITY DOODLES—To help raise funds for Long Island Cares, The Harry Chapin Food Bank, some notable personalities have given approval to have their art/doodle reproduced on a unique ceramic tile collection, called Celebrity Ceramics™.*

**The owner of the collection is Long Islander, Frank Duffy, who said he chose Long Island Cares to honor the late Harry Chapin, the organization's founder.**

"He [Chapin] was always way out there trying to get something done — knocking on doors to get people to donate for a good cause. I'm trying to do something on a different scale," said Duffy, who has been collecting the doodles for about 10 years.

Long Island Cares is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) community-based organization that works with other charitable agencies to fight hunger in Nassau and Suffolk Counties. According to a recent survey by America's Second Harvest, every week, more than 50,000 people visit member agencies of Long Island Cares for food assistance.

Proceeds from the Celebrity Ceramics™ collection will support all programs and services of Long Island Cares, such as its community outreach programs that work with individuals most at risk of needing emergency food assistance during their lifetime, helping them to acquire job skills and confidence to make them self-sufficient.

"We are very happy to be working with Frank and we are grateful to him for making us a beneficiary," said Robin Amato, director of development for Long Island Cares.

"I think that this particular year has been very tumultuous, between the tsunami and Hurricane Katrina," Amato said. There has been a lot of tragedy and unfortunately a lot of "donor fatigue," she added. "Whatever we raise is more than we had."

Beyond the financial benefits, Amato said that the Celebrity Ceramics™ fundraiser has created awareness about Long Island Cares and the hungry families the organization helps to "get back on their feet." In addition, "these

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would make great holiday gifts — the gift that gives twice — Long Island Cares benefits and someone gets a favorite tile from one of their favorite celebrities.” The Celebrity Ceramics™ fundraiser has and will continue “to create positive exposure for Long Island Cares and fun exposure for celebrities,” said Duffy. “It is a fun, worthwhile thing to do; there is a lot of fun art to explore and make people more aware of charities. This is close to home and people need to be aware.” The collection of Celebrity Ceramics™ is produced by design firm Duffy, Barrett & Taggart, Inc., with the participation and cooperation of Long Island Cares. Each ceramic is an authentic and approved reproduction of a noted public personality’s art/doodle. Each tile measures 6” x 6” and comes with a 5” tabletop easel. Celebrity Ceramics™ will be sold by Duffy, Barrett & Taggart through the Long Island Cares website, among other places, to help them in their fight against hunger on Long Island. The collection is currently on display at the East Northport Library and will be there throughout the month of December. Thereafter, it will move to other libraries throughout Long Island. For more information, visit [www.licares.org](http://www.licares.org).

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