

UHA News



The monthly newsletter for the community and partners of the University Heights Association.

JUNE 2005

VOLUME 6, NUMBER 5

AMC celebrates record fundraising effort

A fittingly spectacular fireworks display lit the skies over Albany on the evening of June 9, signifying the successful end to the largest fundraising campaign ever by a health care entity in the Capital Region.

Hundreds of people were on hand at the Empire State Plaza to witness Albany Medical Center's celebration of its extraordinarily successful Pillars Campaign. The campaign raised more than \$131.6 million over five years, surpassing the goal of \$125 million.

"This is an incredible accomplishment and constitutes a wonderful expression of confidence in our institution from the community. I thank the residents of the Capital Region and many alumni from across the country for their generous donations," said James J. Barba, chairman of the Board of Directors and president and chief executive officer of the medical center.

The Pillars Campaign, named after the landmark columns situated at the front of the medical center on New Scotland Avenue, was designed to strengthen northeastern New York's only

academic health sciences center, which consists of both Albany Medical Center Hospital and

president of the Orange Motor Group, principal owner of Touhey Associates and a long-time AMC



Fireworks light up the night skies June 9, signifying the end of a successful fundraising campaign by Albany Medical Center.

Albany Medical College.

It was led by three area businessmen with long-time ties to the institution: Robert J. Higgins, chairman and chief executive officer of Trans World Entertainment Corp. and former chairman of the medical center's Board of Directors; John Picotte, chairman of the Picotte Cos. and former chairman of the medical center's board; and Carl Touhey,

board member.

"While I am thrilled by the success of the Pillars Campaign, I am not surprised by it," Barba added. "The region is blessed by a variety of individuals and corporations that truly understand the importance of our medical center's missions and that spare no time, effort or expense in their support of it. For this we will be forever grateful."

UHA Institutions 'On the Move'

More than 100 people from University Heights institutions attended the kickoff event for the America on the Move initiative May 17 in the ACP gym.

The first 50 entrants received free pedometers, and healthy snacks, bottled water and wellness information were provided, as well as maps of walking routes on the UHA campus marked with step counts. Groups of walkers departed from the gym for tours of the trails.

The event kicked off a six-week challenge to increase activity levels. Participants log on the America on the Move Web site

and record their steps to track progress: virtually, along well-known American routes such as the Appalachian Trail, and practically, to better health.

The campaign's message is simple: move more and eat less to stop weight gain and increase wellness. The aim of the national initiative is to encourage people to take 2,000 more steps a day and reduce calorie intake by 100 (about the equivalent of a pat of butter).

The UHA office coordinated a vigorous e-mail and poster campaign to build interest in the initiative, giving tips on how to work

more steps into daily routines, cut calories and convert everyday activities to steps or miles.

Prizes for the UHA participants who log the most steps will be awarded in July. The individual who logs the most steps will receive a \$50 gift certificate donated by Honest Weight Food Co-op, while the group that logs the most total steps will receive tickets to a Park Playhouse presentation of their choice this summer.

For more information on the ongoing America on the Move initiative at UHA, go to www.universityheights.org/news_and_events/index.cfm.

University Heights Association was established in 1995 to create an academic/medical consortium of international stature. The four member institutions – Albany Law School, Albany College of Pharmacy, Albany Medical College and The Sage Colleges - are a unique collaboration promoting quality education, premium health care, public discourse of important issues, cutting-edge research and technology, vibrant neighborhoods and progressive private and public partnerships. UHA continues to build upon a network of shared resources to enrich academic connections for the benefit of students, faculty, staff and the surrounding neighborhoods.

University Heights Association, Inc.
130 New Scotland Ave.
Albany, NY 12208
518/434-9603 phone
518/462-3207 fax

June McQuide
Executive Director
1mcquij@sage.edu

DID YOU KNOW ...

UHA institutions offer 112 degree programs?!?

Sage, ACP team up for a joint Clinical Biology degree

Sage College of Albany and Albany College of Pharmacy have partnered to offer a new degree program designed to train qualified health care experts and technologists.

The Bachelor of Science degree in Clinical Biology couples a comprehensive basic science background with an in-depth understanding of diagnostic laboratory techniques and their application in quality patient care. Students can choose a concentration in Cytotechnology or Clinical Laboratory Sciences.

“Graduates of this program will stand out from those of other biology programs simply because of the intensive hands-on training they will receive from the combination of Sage and ACP resources and teaching faculty,” says Professor Mary Rea, Ph.D., chair of Sage’s Biology department.

This career-targeted program prepares students for entry into one of two modern health professions – Cytotechnology (knowledge of cell abnormalities and methods of identifying them) and Clinical Laboratory Sciences (knowledge of diagnostic lab techniques).

Students in the Cytotechnology track will

spend three years at Sage and a fourth at ACP.

Students with a focus on Clinical Laboratory Sciences will complete two years at Sage and two at ACP. Graduates will receive a Clinical Biology degree from Sage College of Albany and a certificate from ACP allowing them to take the national registry examination.

Both professions face critical workplace shortages nationwide, which will become more acute in the future as the current workforce ages out. ACP recently created these two concentrations in its B.S. in Biomedical Technology program to provide an important pipeline of younger professionals entering these fields, said M. Elyse Wheeler, Ph.D., associate dean for graduate and extension programs at ACP.

“In today’s medical laboratories, highly skilled teams of technologists use sophisticated tests to identify diseases and help chart courses of treatment,” Dr. Wheeler said. “The provision of high-quality care would be impossible without these technologists. We are proud to partner with Sage to expand the options for students to enter these rewarding career fields.”



June McQuide, Executive Director

Thoughts from the Executive Director:

UHA continues to explore ways in which it can provide a forum for collaborations that will benefit its institutions and the community. Sometimes these collaborations are far reaching and include other institutions and neighborhoods. Such is the case with the recently announced Employer Assisted Housing Program. UHA institutions are partnering with the University at Albany and St. Rose in a program whereby full-time faculty and staff who purchase and live in a home within designated areas can receive up to \$5,000 to be used for a down payment or closing costs. The purpose is to foster homeownership in the Midtown section of the city, thereby positively impacting the neighborhood. Citizen’s Bank is providing matching funds for interested individuals who are not employees of the six colleges. We are proud to be part of this initiative.

www.universityheights.org

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS ASSOCIATION, INC.
130 New Scotland Ave.
Albany, N.Y. 12208-3425

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED