



***United Hebrew Geriatric Center to Break Ground on "Next Generation" Nursing Facility***

*UHGC to kick-off Livable Community initiative*

**New Rochelle, NY - (September 06, 2006)** - United Hebrew Geriatric Center (UHGC), a not-for-profit, non-sectarian, multi-service, 4.5-acre senior living campus in New Rochelle, today announced that it will break ground on the Lucile and Joseph Skalet Pavilion, a state-of-the-art, 143,000-square-foot nursing facility. The \$52 million project, which also includes renovation of the Lola and Saul Kramer Pavilion, is scheduled for completion in May 2008.

The groundbreaking ceremony will be held on Friday, September 15. UHGC will also announce its livable community initiative to establish itself as a senior-friendly model for purposeful and meaningful aging.

New Rochelle resident and two-time Tony award winner Frances Sternhagen will serve as honorary guest speaker. Sternhagen is known for her work on the hit television series, *Cheers*, as well as other screen and stage productions.

Janine Rose, Director, News 12, will serve as emcee at the groundbreaking, to be held from 11:00 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. Speakers will include New Rochelle Mayor Noam Bramson; Malcolm Lazarus, President of the UHGC Board of Directors; and UHGC Executive Vice President/CEO Rita Mabli.

UHGC's eldest resident, Rose Cornacchio, 105; Mayor Bramson; members of the UHGC Board of Directors; and various donors will break ground with ceremonious first shovels.

"Our multi-service campus includes both eldercare and child care, so we truly are building for every generation," said Mabli. "In redefining what it means to age, we hope to be a model for other facilities nationwide in preparing for the aging of the baby boomer population."

In "Building for Every Generation," UHGC will further establish itself as a livable community which will promote dignity, independence, and quality of life for residents of all ages. Livable communities address the full spectrum of residents' needs in an environment accessible to everyone. Health and supportive services are available in the community, as are work, volunteer, educational, and recreational opportunities.

UHGC's livable community offers unique services that benefit *all* generations: the Gerontechnology Program in which Pace students teach residents basic computer skills; the strong volunteer program staffed by baby-boomers; local high school students doing community service; and working parents utilizing the on-site child day care center. All generations enjoy a meaningful and purposeful life at UHGC.

About 18% of Westchester residents are over the age of 60, and baby boomers are rapidly entering their senior years. By the year 2020, the county's 60-plus population will grow by 37%, according to the Westchester County Department of Planning and the 2000 U.S. Census.

Recognizing the value of its older residents, Westchester County's livable communities

project was launched in June 2006 as a way to address the needs of its aging population. Following the County's lead, UHGC's livable community will offer affordable, appropriate, and accessible housing; promote dignity, independence, and quality of life; address the physical needs of residents; improve affordable, reliable, safe transportation; and encourage participation in civic, cultural and social activities, among other components.

New York City-based Perkins Eastman Architects, PC designed the five-story, 143,000-square-foot Lucile and Joseph Skalet Pavilion, and Goldens Bridge, NY-based Andron Construction Corporation will oversee the facility's construction as well as the renovation and modernization of the adjoining Lola & Saul Kramer Pavilion.

The facility will be designed to mimic individual neighborhoods and will create a sense of community. Amenities will include a 176-private bed addition with wireless internet access; the addition of a resident activity center, fully equipped with a library, arts & crafts room; a 2,300-square-foot multi-purpose room and a café; a new receiving area, landscaped courtyard and additional parking.

Each neighborhood will have its own 800-square-foot activity room with views of the Long Island Sound, fully furnished with an entertainment center, tables and chairs. The fifth floor of the Pavilion will house a 44-bed short-term rehabilitation unit. Dining areas for each neighborhood will measure about 800-square-feet and will have views of the interior courtyard.

"This facility will foster a stronger sense of community among residents, and it will help them maintain their dignity and independence," Mabli said. "This is truly a unique model that we hope will set higher standards for eldercare."

United Hebrew Geriatric Center is located at 391 Pelham Road, New Rochelle, New York 10801. For further information, please contact Linda Forman at 914.632.2804 x 224, e-mail [lforman@uhgc.org](mailto:lforman@uhgc.org), or visit [www.uhgc.org](http://www.uhgc.org).

**About United Hebrew Geriatric Center:**

United Hebrew Geriatric Center (UHGC) is a vibrant not-for-profit, non-sectarian, multi-service senior living campus serving the Westchester metropolitan area since 1919. UHGC offers a rich array of skilled and community-based programs and services that encourages and supports a life of dignity and spirituality and promotes the highest possible quality of life. UHGC serves over 600 clients daily in its campus facilities -- Willow Towers, a 126-unit assisted living residence; a 270-bed Nursing Home; the 135-unit Low-Savin Apartments for seniors; a Long Term Home Health Care Program; and the Azor Home Health Agency. Its newest project, the renovation and expansion of its nursing home facility, combines world-class care with state-of-the-art features.

Website: <http://www.uhgc.org/>

**United Hebrew Geriatric Center**

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