

UNC Breaks Ground on New Housing Community

On August 23, United Neighborhood Centers of Northeastern Pennsylvania (UNC), broke ground on a new housing community at 185 Fallbrook Street in Carbondale. UNC's nonprofit housing and economic development subsidiary, United Neighborhood Community Development Corporation (UNCDC), is transforming the former Carbondale General Hospital building and grounds into a housing community that will provide 36 apartments and townhomes with 1-, 2-, 3- and 4-bedroom units as well as indoor and outdoor community space for social and intergenerational programming. The new complex will be called Fallbrook.

Carbondale Mayor Justin Taylor, who attended the groundbreaking, said, "The nature and scope of this project is monumental when it comes to solidifying the West Side of Carbondale. The West Side has always been a solid residential community with strong values and a commitment to individual properties, so to take an under-utilized property and convert it to affordable housing is the icing on the cake for this side of town."

The 10.2-acre property will include a Walkway to Wellness consisting of an outdoor walking path and community garden. UNC will relocate its existing Carbondale Active Older Adult Community Center to a large community room in the former hospital and create a SMART Wing (Support, Movement, Arts, Recreation, and Technology) in the building, which

will provide multi-purpose community areas. Six apartments equipped for the elderly will also be located in the former hospital. All other homes will be new construction on the grounds with several units equipped for people with disabilities

"This project is fabulous because it gives people an option for intergenerational housing," said State Representative Bridget Kosierowski who attended the groundbreaking. "We have a lot of people in the sandwich generation who are taking care of aging parents and raising children. To have a housing option like this that's affordable is ideal."

This intergenerational housing model is becoming more prevalent as the Baby Boom generation ages and younger parents increasingly work outside the home. Bringing these generations together within the same complex or in some cases, in the same unit, can help older adults combat isolation and

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Pictured above, from left: Marty Fotta, vice president of community development, UNC; Maureen Brennan, board member, UNCDC; Michele Bannon, city clerk, City of Carbondale, and president, Carbondale Chamber of Commerce; John Gorel, executive director, Carbondale Chamber of Commerce; James Spencer, children's services & intersystems director, Northeast Behavioral Health Care Consortium; Tyler Kohut, grandson of Joseph P. Connor; Joseph P. Connor, council member, City of Carbondale; Rose Broderick, chair, UNCDC, and vice chair, UNC; State Representative Bridget Kosierowski; Lisa Durkin, president and chief executive officer, UNC; Senator John Blake; Carbondale Mayor Justin Taylor; Christine Tocki-Mulvey, director of commerce and economic development, City of Carbondale; and Ralph Melone, project architect.





Lisa Durkin

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT & CEO

Change is in the air both literally and figuratively! Outside, the leaves are changing colors, the daylight is ending earlier, and the air is becoming cooler with each passing day. At United Neighborhood Centers, we've been facilitating other types of change for the past several months.

At the end of the summer, we broke ground on our Fallbrook project in Carbondale. This property, which has been blighted for many years, is being transformed and will host 36 new units of housing, an active older adult center, walking trails, and gardening space. The residents of Carbondale have matched our enthusiasm for this project and anxiously await the outcome.

Earlier this fall, we unveiled the new signage for the Cedar Iron District. This event marked the culmination of rebranding work after ten years of revitalization efforts in South Scranton. Accompanied by government officials, community partners, neighbors and other supporters, we revealed the first "Cedar Iron District" sign, a name chosen by the community residents to represent the gateway to the new and improved South Scranton neighborhood.

With Thanksgiving quickly approaching, our feelings of gratitude and happiness are heightened. We are keenly aware of the support and generosity that is consistently provided to us in the fulfillment of our mission. We are particularly thankful to our board of directors who give so selflessly of their time and expertise, our funders who challenge us and afford us the ability to provide crucial programs, and our volunteers and donors who give generously of their time and resources. Our appreciation extends to our community partners such as Wegmans in Dickson City, who recently, in honor of their store's 25th anniversary, donated a tractor trailer full of items to our Angel's Attic food pantry. Finally, we're grateful for the opportunities we have at United Neighborhood Centers to effect change on a daily basis.

CEDAR IRON DISTRICT SIGN UNVEILED

On Wednesday, Oct. 30, UNC gathered with community leaders, philanthropic foundations, local businesses, and other community partners at the Scranton Iron Furnaces to unveil new signage welcoming travelers from downtown Scranton to South Side.

Since 2009, UNC has been working with residents of the South Side of Scranton and local organizations to improve the neighborhood physically, socially, and economically. The neighborhood along Cedar and Pittston Avenues has been branded the Cedar Iron District to recognize and celebrate the neighborhood's industrial heritage during the railroad and ironworks boom of the late 19th century. The sign not only marks the entrance to this historic district, it is also a marker of the hard work and ongoing efforts of residents and local organizations to make South Side a more vibrant and welcoming community. South Side revitalization efforts are funded by Wells Fargo Regional Foundation and through a neighborhood partnership grant with Peoples Security Bank, PNC, and PPL Electric Utilities.



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assist working parents who may look to the older generation for help with child care.

Fallbrook is slated for completion in August of 2020. In addition to the UNCDC, the development team consists of Ralph Melone, AIA, project architect; GKH Consulting Company, housing consultant; and Charles W. Grimm Construction, General Contractor. This \$11.9 million development project is made possible by funding from the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency, Northeast Behavioral Health Care Consortium, the Harry and Jeannette Weinberg Foundation, Peoples Security Bank and Trust, and the Federal Home Loan Bank of Pittsburgh.



3rd Annual Welcoming Scranton Draws Neighbors Together

Hundreds of long-term local residents and newcomers to our country came together for the 3rd Annual Welcoming Scranton in Connors Park on Sept. 7. Attendees from around the globe enjoyed a beautiful day together with local organizations providing food, kids activities, information about community resources, and more. UNC distributed a Welcoming Guide, funded by the United Way of Lackawanna and Wayne Counties, to interested newcomers.

Welcoming Scranton is part of Welcoming America, a movement to foster more inclusive communities and build cross cultural understanding. Being a welcoming community makes us stronger socially, culturally, and economically. Thank you to our sponsors — Peoples Security Bank, PPL Electric Utilities, PNC, Wells Fargo Foundation, and AmeriHealth Caritas — for making this event possible!



Andrew Hailstone Honored for 50 Years on UNC's Board



Pictured above: Andrew Hailstone speaks after accepting his 50 Years of Service plaque.

At the Chocolate & Wine Frolic on Oct. 20 at the Scranton Cultural Center, UNC honored Andrew Hailstone for 50 years of service to UNC's board of directors. Over the last five decades, Hailstone has helped guide UNC through numerous changes and substantial growth. Fellow Board Member Amy

Hlavaty Belcher and UNC President and CEO Lisa Durkin presented Hailstone with a plaque to commemorate his service to our organization and our community.

Chocolate & Wine Frolic Raises \$15,000 for SCOLA

More than 350 people filled the Scranton Cultural Center ballroom for the Chocolate & Wine Frolic Goes Broadway on Sunday, Oct. 20. Attendees sipped assorted beverages and sampled sweet and savory chocolate dishes from 19 vendors while enjoying Broadway's biggest hits performed by Stephen Murphy and Michele Conaboy McGrath. The event raised \$15,000 for the Scranton Council of Literacy Advance (SCOLA), UNC's free adult literacy and English as a Second Language education programs. Thank you to everyone who came out and helped make this event a sweet success!



UNC NEWS

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Back-to-School Donations



Thank you to everyone who helped the children in our community prepare for school this fall by generously donating school supplies to UNC's Angel's Attic!

Pictured above, from left: PPL Electric Utilities' Alana Roberts, regional affairs director, and Kristen Kelly, regulatory programs specialist, deliver school supplies donated by employees at PPL Electric Utilities' Scranton Service Center to UNC's Frannie Chandler, intake coordinator, and Mariely Colin, Angel's Attic Coordinator.

Thank You, Wegmans!



In celebration of its 25-year anniversary in Dickson City, Wegmans Food Markets gave back to our community in a big way! On Thursday, Oct. 17, Wegmans delivered 17,256 pounds of non-perishable and frozen foods to UNC. Staff and volunteers from UNC and Wegmans were on hand to unload the tractor trailer of food and stock the shelves of Angel's Attic, UNC's food pantry located in its community services building at 410 Olive Street in Scranton.