



A Publication of The Foundation of UMDNJ, a New Jersey Health Foundation affiliate

## Couple's Bequest Will Advance Vascular Surgery



Henrietta Siodlowski

Henrietta and Adam Siodlowski of Oldwick enjoyed a rich, 53-year marriage until Mr. Siodlowski's death in September 2005. Throughout their married life, the couple had always been philanthropic, taking part in community fundraisers and contributing to a number of charities that were important to both of them.

However, it was their extraordinary desire to advance research and medical education that led to their final act of charity...creating a trust that would be a lasting legacy to their lives.

Upon Mrs. Siodlowski's death, the six-figure trust will be used to support vascular surgery at Robert Wood Johnson Medical School.

"Adam often spoke of the medical school's good work in the field of research for advancements in vascular surgery," said Mrs. Siodlowski. "He wanted to contribute a portion of his estate upon my death to the Foundation for that good cause."

The Siodlowskis became acquainted with Robert Wood Johnson Medical School many years ago, when Mr. Siodlowski developed a problem nobody seemed to understand, according to Mrs. Siodlowski, who herself is a retired nurse.

"We had been to several doctors and at one point were told that Adam might lose his leg. Then, Dr. Donald Wilkerson figured out that my husband had an aneurysm behind his knee. He also recognized a medicine interaction issue that was contributing to problems with Adam's health," she explained.

Dr. Wilkerson was able to save Mr. Siodlowski's leg and put him on the road to recovery. But it was not just technical excellence that impressed Mr. and Mrs. Siodlowski.

*continued on page 2*

## Contents

- 1** | Bequest Advances Vascular Surgery
- 2** | Reynolds Family Doubles Gift
- 3** | Marsico Scholarship Prepares Midwives
- 4** | Foundations Fund Intern Program
- 5** | Broadway House Wins Makeover
- 6** | Family's Legacy Helps Public Health Students
- 7** | Endowment Funds Geriatric Education
- 8** | Gift Supports Eye Research

## Reynolds Family Doubles Gift to \$2 Million



*Caroline and Tim Reynolds with (l-r) Max, Emily and Chloe*

“I believe in Robert Heary. I know he is a man who can get things done. And I want to do something to help him make a big difference in my life and lives of others who can’t walk,” Tim Reynolds told the group of people gathered at the ribbon-cutting ceremony to celebrate the opening of The Tim Reynolds Family Spinal Cord Injury Center.

The Center was made possible by an initial \$1 million gift from the Reynolds family. The night of the dedication so touched Mr. Reynolds and his family that they pledged a second \$1 million gift and additional support next year to further support the Lab.

Dr. Heary, director of the Spine Center of New Jersey at New Jersey Medical School,

saved Mr. Reynolds’ life following a car accident five years ago, but his crushed spinal cord was beyond repair. He remains paralyzed from the waist down but is hopeful, through Dr. Heary’s research, that he will walk again one day.

“I have tremendous faith in Dr. Heary’s ability to find a cure. I know that my gift to New Jersey Medical School for this purpose is well spent in that effort,” he said.

*For information on how you can support The Tim Reynolds Family Spinal Cord Injury Center, contact Elizabeth Ketterlinus, vice president for development, at (973) 972-2486 or at ketterel@umdnj.edu.*

### The Foundation of UMDNJ

**George F. Heinrich, MD**  
Vice Chairman and CEO

**James M. Golubieski**  
President

**Dale R. Heffler**  
Vice President, Communications

**Debi Price**  
**Mindy Waizer**  
Writers

Design by  
**Alexander & Richardson**

120 Albany Street  
Tower II, Suite 850  
New Brunswick, NJ 08901

65 Bergen Street  
Suite 1551  
Newark, NJ 07101

One Medical Center Drive  
Academic Center, Suite 146  
Stratford, NJ 08084

Toll-free (866) 44-UMDNJ

**www.umdnj.edu/foundation**

Please send comments:  
**d.heffler@umdnj.edu**

## Couple’s Bequest Will Advance Vascular Surgery

*continued from page 1*

“Dr. Wilkerson was a very warm physician and although he was busy, he always saw us when we came for follow-up visits. He took a personal interest and we had a nice rapport with him and his office staff,” she explained. “It gives me great satisfaction to know that I can advance an area of medicine that meant so much to me and my husband.”

*To find out how you can contribute to vascular research at Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, contact Denise Gavala, senior development officer, at (732) 235-5109, or gavaladp@umdnj.edu.*

## Marsico Scholarship Prepares Midwives

Teresa Marsico dedicated her life to taking care of women and babies, especially those with limited financial or healthcare resources. She was nationally and internationally respected and known for her role in the midwifery field, having founded the midwifery program at the School of Health Related Professions (SHRP) and serving as past president of the American College of Nurse-Midwives.

Her untimely death in 2005 was a tremendous loss for her students, her colleagues, her friends and her family, but in death as in life, Ms. Marsico was able to support that which meant so much to her...preparing nurse-midwives of the future.

To continue the legacy that she started during her lifetime, she bequeathed \$250,000 to the Foundation of UMDNJ to establish the Teresa Marsico Scholarship Fund, which will award yearly scholarships to nurse-midwifery students in the UMDNJ program.

“Teresa was a dynamic force within our school and the entire field of nurse-midwifery,” explained Elaine Diegmann, ND, a friend of Ms. Marsico’s for 43 years and one of the first graduates of the UMDNJ program, which began in 1975.

Dr. Diegmann, who has been the director of the program since 1990, said that the first class of nurse-midwives had eight graduates. Since then, 375 have graduated from the program and are in practice across the country.

“When Teresa started our program there were only 10 nurse-midwifery programs in existence,” explained David Gibson, EdD, dean of SHRP and a close friend of Ms. Marsico. “Today, there are 37 such programs, all affiliated with universities or nursing schools. She was a pioneer in her field, loved and respected by so many.”

The program is now part of the School of Nursing, having transitioned from a one-year certificate program to a Master of Science and Nursing program to educate students in midwifery and women’s health.

“In the future there will be a growing need for nurse-midwives and advanced-practice nurses to care for women across the life span,” said Dr. Diegmann. “We will need an increasing number of practitioners to treat women who, today, comprise 51 percent of the senior population and 75 percent of seniors over 75. Teresa’s gift will help us do that and is an incredible tribute to an incredible woman.”

*For more information about the Teresa Marsico Scholarship Fund, contact Elizabeth Ketterlinus, vice president for development, at (973) 972-2486 or [ketterel@umdnj.edu](mailto:ketterel@umdnj.edu).*



*(l-r) Dr. Elaine Diegmann and Dr. David Gibson, School of Health Related Professions; Dr. Sarah Torres, former dean, School of Nursing; Dr. George F. Heinrich, vice chair and CEO, Foundation of UMDNJ*



Yaakov Saturen (back right) with 2006 summer interns

## Foundations Fund PHRI Intern Program

Thanks to grants from The Prudential Foundation and the Victoria Foundation, disadvantaged, high-achieving students from Newark with an interest in biomedical research will be able to have hands-on research experiences this summer through the Public Health Research Institute (PHRI) Center Summer High School Research Internship Program.

PHRI, an independent, not-for-profit research organization founded in 1941, moved from New York to Newark in 2002. It was recently acquired by UMDNJ and incorporated into New Jersey Medical School to further strengthen the school's research capabilities in the study of infectious diseases.

"We have been running this internship program for almost 15 years under the leadership of Yaakov Saturen, a science teacher at Jane Addams High School in the Bronx. When we moved our operation to New Jersey in 2002, we started working with Newark public school science administrators, who were very enthusiastic about the program," explained David Perlin, PhD, director of PHRI.

Participants in the program take part in advanced biomedical research in a professional academic environment. During the first two weeks, they participate in lectures, discussions and lab work. They are then assigned to a mentor and specific project in which they are involved for the remainder of the eight-week program.

Upon completion of the program, a fall symposium is held when students present their projects to a full auditorium of fellow students, friends, family, teachers and others.

"This is a very intense program for these students," Dr. Perlin said. "We expect them to be productive and responsible and work at a very high level."

According to Dr. Perlin, students in the program have risen to the high expectations set for them. Many have received local and national research awards; some have chosen to pursue the biological sciences as a career path as a result of their experiences, while others have pursued medical careers.

*The program hopes to accept 8 to 10 participants for the 2007 program if they are able to secure additional funding. If you are interested in making a difference by supporting this program, contact Elizabeth Ketterlinus, vice president for development, at (973) 972-2486 or at [ketterel@umdnj.edu](mailto:ketterel@umdnj.edu).*

## Broadway House Wins Makeover from Ace Hardware

Broadway House for Continuing Care was selected from more than 2,700 nominations across the country to win a “new face” in Ace Hardware’s third annual “New Faces for Helpful Places” competition.

As one of the 10 winners selected, Broadway House received \$10,000 from Ace for renovations to upgrade its activities room, where residents spend much of their days as they rebuild their lives. In addition, the Foundation of UMDNJ was able to secure an additional \$25,000 from an anonymous donor to purchase furniture, window treatments, computer workstations and a pool table to help complete the project.

“Ace strives to be a helpful place inside and outside our stores,” said Marilyn Miller, head of the Northern New Jersey group of Ace Hardware retailers. “Broadway House does so much for the community. It’s rewarding to give back to this important organization to assure its future success.”

The one-day transformation project was led by national home improvement expert and Ace Hardware’s “helpful hardware man” Lou Manfredini who was assisted by Ace spokesperson Bill Rancic, season one winner of *The Apprentice*.

Broadway House, a UMDNJ affiliate, is New Jersey’s only specialized long-term care facility for adults living with HIV and AIDS.

*For more information about how you can support Broadway House, contact Elizabeth Ketterlinus, vice president for development, at (973) 972-2486 or at [ketterel@umdnj.edu](mailto:ketterel@umdnj.edu).*



*(l-r) Ace spokesperson Bill Rancic, James Gonzalez, president and CEO of Broadway House, and James Golubieski, president of the Foundation of UMDNJ*

## Supporting Scholarship and Research



*Since 1995, the Columbia Foundation has awarded \$124,000 to select New Jersey Medical School students of Italian-American ancestry. Presenting the check to this year’s recipients are (l-r) Benjamin Del Vento, Esq., chairman of the Scholarship Committee and Joseph D’Errico, president, awarding a total of \$16,000 in scholarships.*

*More than 260 friends, including Governor Jon Corzine who was recognized for his special interest and support of those with autism and their families, attended the third annual benefit for The Autism Center of New Jersey Medical School, held this year at the National Newark Building. The event raised over \$200,000. Pictured are (l-r) Jeff and Leslie Gitterman, event coordinators, and Mitzi and Ron Barhorst, representing ING, a major sponsor of the event.*



## Family's Legacy Will Help Students Realize Their Dreams

When the Robson family of Burlington County became farmers in the 1930s, little did they know their decision would affect so many lives in so many ways. Now, three generations later, the Robson family is making it possible for students in financial need to meet their educational goals in the area of public health.

The Robson Scholarship for Public Health was initiated by Charles and Theresa Brown, grateful parents of a student of Mark Robson, PhD, MPH, a graduate and faculty member of the UMDNJ-School of Public Health. Their donation was matched by Mr. Brown's employer, Schering-Plough and was added to by School alumni.

When Dr. Robson suddenly lost his father and brother, both dedicated and well-respected New Jersey farmers, within one month of each other in November 2006, the scholarship fund became a venue for family and friends to make donations in their memories. Today, many of the Robson's family members, employees and the farming community have contributed to the endowment, which now has nearly \$10,000.

"My father and brother were very involved in the farming community and were an integral part of a great many organizations that advocated for farmers and agriculture. In addition, they donated our farms' produce to families in need and helped raise awareness about the value of family-owned farms. Coupled with my work in toxicology and the effect of exposure that agricultural chemicals have on farmers and their families, establishing a scholarship in my family's honor was a natural choice. They would be proud and pleased to know our family is giving students the opportunity to explore their own interest of public issues," said Dr. Robson.

*The scholarship needs additional support to become endowed so that it is awarded in perpetuity. If you are interested in finding out more about the Robson Scholarship for Public Health and how you can support it, contact Alix Garzero at (732) 235-4635 or at [garzeral@umdnj.edu](mailto:garzeral@umdnj.edu).*

## Foundation News

Tammy Hojeibane has been named Associate Director of Development for the New Brunswick campus. In her new position, Mrs. Hojeibane will be responsible for fundraising and development for RWJMS and assisting the Senior Director in major gift cultivation. Prior to joining the Foundation, she was employed by UMDNJ-RWJMS Departments of Medicine and Surgery as a Nurse Clinician. Mrs. Hojeibane can be reached at (732) 235-2964 or via e-mail at [hojeibta@umdnj.edu](mailto:hojeibta@umdnj.edu).

## Kane Endowment Funds Geriatric Education

At 80 years young, Ed Kane goes to work every day, is active in charitable and educational organizations and lectures on biochemistry. He is also an active member of the Dean's Development Council for the New Jersey Institute for Successful Aging at the School of Osteopathic Medicine.

Recently, Mr. Kane and his wife, Dr. Patricia Kane, responded to the Institute's dire need for funding with a generous donation of \$80,000 for its geriatric education programs.

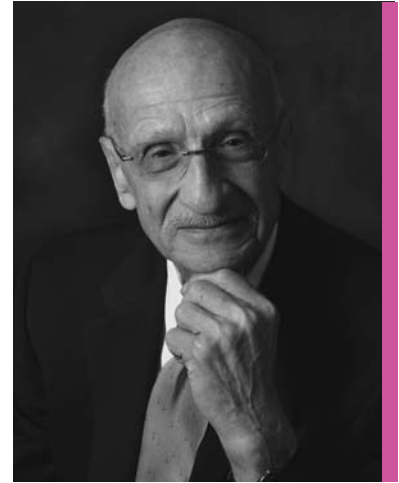
"I know how rare it is to find doctors who understand how to work with seniors," said Mr. Kane. "As we get older, we need to understand what is happening to our bodies and how we can protect ourselves. The Institute is doing pioneering work in this area not only as a fine medical school but in training doctors to become geriatricians to raise the level of care throughout this growing field."

The Ed and Patricia Kane Education Endowment provides much-needed support at this crucial time. While a disproportionate percentage of the population continues to reach retirement age and beyond, the federal government recently cut funding for a broad range of geriatric education programs. Affected programs at the Institute for Successful Aging include the Geriatric Education Center, which has trained over 17,000 healthcare providers throughout the state of New Jersey and the Geriatric Fellowship Program, which is ranked as one of the top 20 geriatric education programs in the U.S. Both programs suddenly find themselves without the funding they have depended on for the past 17 years.

A primary goal of the Dean's Development Council, which Mr. Kane helped to create, is to build a \$10 million endowment to support geriatric education initiatives, which will help to create permanence for the Institute. The council, comprised of influential business, education and healthcare professionals, is committed to improving the quality of care and the health of the citizens of South Jersey.

"I've thoroughly enjoyed the time I've spent on the Council," said Mr. Kane. "It is a privilege to be a part of the fine work the Institute is doing."

*To find out more about the Institute or how you can contribute to its endowment, contact June Hampson, vice president for development, at (856) 566-6300, or [hampsoju@umdnj.edu](mailto:hampsoju@umdnj.edu).*



Ed Kane

Congratulations to Senior Director of Development Denise Gavala, who passed the academic exam to become a member of the US Merchant Marine and received her captain's license from the US Coast Guard. In the tri-state area, females make up only 10 percent of those who have achieved captain status.

## Research to Prevent Blindness Awards \$110,000 Gift

Research to Prevent Blindness (RPB), the leading non-government supporter of eye research directed at the prevention, treatment and eradication of all diseases that threaten vision, recently awarded a \$110,000 grant to the Department of Ophthalmology at New Jersey Medical School (NJMS).

“This very generous grant from RPB will contribute greatly to the support we need for a number of clinical research studies and projects aimed at preventing diseases and conditions that cause blindness. As funding from government agencies like the National Institutes of Health is further reduced, important grants like this are critical to our research, and for that, we are most grateful to RPB,” said Marco Zarbin, MD, PhD, professor and chair at the Institute of Ophthalmology and Visual Science.

RPB provides major eye research funding to leading scientific institutions and supports the work of hundreds of talented vision scientists engaged in a diverse range of disease-oriented research.

“RPB is very pleased to award this grant to NJMS. We consider a number of factors when awarding grants and NJMS has demonstrated it possesses the strength and quality of researchers that we feel deserve support,” said James V. Romano, PhD, chief operating officer, RPB.

*For more information on how you can support the Department of Ophthalmology, contact Elizabeth Ketterlinus, vice president for development, at (973) 972-2486 or at [ketterel@umdnj.edu](mailto:ketterel@umdnj.edu).*



FOUNDATION

UNIVERSITY OF MEDICINE &  
DENTISTRY OF NEW JERSEY

120 Albany Street  
Tower II, Suite 850  
New Brunswick, NJ 08901

Non-profit Organization  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Foundation of UMDNJ