

RELOCATING Continued

ments awaiting patients at the new location. According to Pluviose, “the new UHPP Albany health center is designed to let our patients know just how much we value their decision to come to us—their decision to take personal responsibility for addressing their own health care needs. We celebrate each person who comes through our doors and believe the design, comfort, and expanded capacity of our new center will communicate this message.”

According to Pluviose, the new center will allow UHPP to increase the number of family planning visits and the number of screenings for sexually transmitted infections (STIs). It will provide clients with spacious, comfortable reception areas and private recovery spaces. The center has substantially increased parking and is located on a bus route which will improve access for patients, staff and volunteers.

Local Albany teens and particularly those high school students who serve as peer educators for UHPP’s S.T.A.R.S. (Seriously Talking About Responsible

Sex) program can’t wait to see the new dedicated “Teen Room” at the Central Avenue site, according to UHPP Education Director, Meaghan Carroll. The teens spend several hours at the Lark Street location each week converting the Board room into a comfortable, teen-friendly waiting room for those coming to the agency’s Teen Clinic. “Now the teens will have a space of their own—to decorate, to store tools and resources, and to use for a variety of educational activities. The space will convey, without the need for words, just how much UHPP values and supports the teens that come here.”

Dr. Mary C. Kahl, a past Chair of the UHPP Board of Directors and the author of a book on the agency’s history entitled *Controversy and Courage: Upper Hudson Planned Parenthood from 1934 to 2004*, noted that the agency has made many moves over its long history, each time looking to grow and adapt to a changing health care environment and ever increasing community need. “Historically, when Planned Parenthood in Albany moved from its original South

End center to Lark Street in 1964 - just down the street from here - the effect was transformational. It put Planned Parenthood in the mainstream and dramatically increased our patient base. The move to our current building in 1977 provided more space and allowed us to add more services, but after about 35 years here, once more the demand for services has outgrown our physical plant.”

“This is our 76th year of service in the Capital Region,” stated Kahl. “The success of our mission depends on the active support and involvement of local residents, which we know runs wide and deep in the Capital Region and so we are turning to our supporters—both long time and new—to help us raise the final \$400,000.” •

CHOICE

FALL 2010

REMARKS

UHPP's Albany Health Center Relocates to 855 Central Avenue

Upper Hudson Planned Parenthood announced its Expanding Access* Meeting Needs Capital Campaign to raise \$1.692 million to finance their relocation of UHPP's Albany health center and administrative offices. Now located on Lark Street, UHPP plans to move to a new location at 855 Central Avenue in order to improve and expand service to the community.



Honorary Campaign Co-Chairs Phoebe Powell Bender and Charles M. Liddle, and Campaign Committee Chair Dr. Mary C. Kahl—all three well known Capital District philanthropists—along with UHPP President/CEO Patricia McGeown and UHPP Board Chair Geoffrey Moore to announce the public phase of a campaign that has already brought in \$1.282 million in individual gifts, pledges and grants.

“Each of us understands the critical role of UHPP in ensuring that all men and women of reproductive age have access to quality, affordable reproductive health services” stated Liddle. “As a longtime supporter of UHPP, I am delighted to serve as Honorary Co-Chair of this im-

portant endeavor. This fall, UHPP will move its Albany offices to 855 Central Avenue where the agency will occupy 18,000 square feet of completely renovated space, increasing our capacity by 50%. The new expanded space will enable UHPP to see more patients and to educate more young people in a comfortable and client-oriented environment.”

Phoebe Powell Bender noted the high rates of unintended pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections among young people in the Capital Region, and particularly in the city of Albany. She referred to a study by the Guttmacher Institute showing that while UHPP currently serves over 8,000 patients in its Albany health center every year, an additional 12,000 women living in Albany are in need of free or low cost contraceptive services. “UHPP must move to an updated, expanded facility, stated Bender, “in order to respond to increasing community needs.”

Christine Pluviose, UHPP Vice President for Patient Services, said improve-

SAVE THE DATES

UHPP Fall Event

October, 2010

Location:
Normanside Country Club, Delmar, NY

To make reservations or for more information, call 434.5678, ext 121

PPYL

September XX, 2010

Location:
TBD
Troy, NY

For more information, visit www.uhpp.org or email ppyl@uhpp.org



Presidents Corner

From Patricia A. McGeown, President/CEO

Early this fall, Upper Hudson Planned Parenthood will move from Lark Street, our neighborhood of over 40 years. A recent press report on the impending move referred to UHPP as a Lark Street institution. We are certain that. Having had two different locations on Lark Street dating back to the 60s, we have added color and controversy to this vibrant and evolving area. In the early days the street was populated with Carps' Tavern, Northern Star Bookstore, Lemme's, GJ's, and many vacant storefronts. There were hippies and street people who would wander down to Refer Switchboard on Hudson Avenue or the Washington Park Free Clinic. More recently, it has come to be known as the trendy part of downtown, with eclectic shops, original restaurants, music and culture. Throughout it all, UHPP has been here helping women and men plan their families and take care of their reproductive health needs.

In the early 90s our building and parking lot were often the site of noisy, disruptive picketing and even blockades. The picketing continues to this day, with fewer people and less energy. But our neighbors have been supportive – often bringing flowers, coffee and even contributions to the patient escorts who stand to face the picketers. In 2008, the Lark Street Business Improvement District presented UHPP with an award in recognition of our long presence and service on the street. This summer, another neighbor, In Our Own Voices, presented us with another award in recognition of our work with their population, LGBT people of color. We are justifiably proud of our place in this community, so our plans to move are tinged with sadness and nostalgia.

But time marches on and so must UHPP. The need for our services continues to grow and our current ability to meet that need is limited by inadequate and outdated facility. Our waiting room is crowded and overflowing. There are too few exam rooms, causing inefficiency and long waiting times. We lack private recovery areas. We have insufficient parking.

Our new home, at 855 Central Avenue, will increase our physical space by 50%. We will have more exam rooms, private recovery areas and a more efficient layout. We will be on a bus route

and next to major thoroughfares, such as Central Avenue and I-90. There will be plenty of parking. We are so excited to finally be making this move. The quality of the site will finally match the quality of the service that we always provide.

We look forward to the many opportunities that the new clinic affords us, including becoming part of a new neighborhood. ●

Geoffrey Moore

Chairperson,
Board of Directors

Patricia A. McGeown

President/CEO

Blue Carreker

Editor

LOCATIONS

ALBANY

Health Center/Administrative Offices
855 Central Avenue, Albany, NY 12206
(518) 434-5678

HUDSON

190 Fairview Ave., Hudson, NY 12534
(518) 828-4675

TROY

Hendrick Hudson Bldg.
200 Broadway, Troy, NY 12180
(518) 274-5640

www.uhpp.org



New EC Option

ellaONE

The new drug ulipristal acetate, sold as ellaOne is a possible new version of emergency contraception, is being considered to be made available in the US. Currently, it is available in 22 European countries and is seen as more effective in preventing pregnancy than the EC currently on the market in the US. The new pill works up to five days (120 hours) after unprotected sex.

Levonorgestrel, the most widely used emergency contraceptive pill, is only effective if women take it within three days of having sex. It is sold under various brand names including Levonelle and Plan B, and is available to women aged 17 and older without a prescription. It works by creating synthetic progesterone that mimics natural hormones interfering with ovulation in. EllaOne works because it delays ovulation until egg released from ovary. It is a single pill that contains 30mg of Ulipristal Acetate. EllaOne would require a prescription from a doctor to take this pill

International researchers compared Plan B to ellaOne. The experts tracked nearly 1,700 women aged 16 to 36 who received emergency contraception within three to five days of having unprotected sex. About half got Plan B while the rest got ellaOne. In the group that got Plan B, there were 22 pregnancies. In those that got ellaOne, there were 15. Compared with Plan B, which becomes less effective over time, ellaOne appears to work consistently well over five days in women who have unprotected sex.

The unanimous recommendation from the Food and Drug Administration's panel of reproductive health experts moves the pill one step closer to the U.S. markets. The FDA is not required to follow the panel's advice, although it often does. ●

UHPP Gets a New Look: Updated Logo and New Materials !

In the fall of last year, the management team at Upper Hudson Planned Parenthood determined that with the move of the Albany health center and administrative offices to a state of the art location, it was a good time to re-examine the UHPP image brand. UHPP contracted with a marketing firm from Troy to help us examine the brand identity.

We posed the questions...Should we adapt the Planned Parenthood Federation of America colors? Should we continue to build on the recognition our colors already have? Should we consider a fresh new look that is both ours but compliments national?

The management team decided, with a recommendation from the marketing firm, to "freshen" our image with new colors that were more closely aligned with the national image but still allowed UHPP to have autonomy and distinction.

A new color palette was selected and approved by the management team. We also have a new basic layout for letterhead, envelopes and business cards. Our new look will help us convey a clear message to all our audiences. Our message goes to a diverse

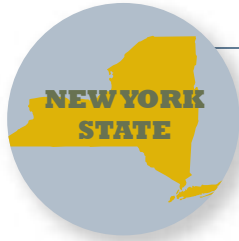
group, i.e. clients, donors, volunteers, advocates, of all ages, and having a consistent image helps us stay connected to those audiences and build a trust. With our move, we have an opportunity to unite our efforts and present a consistent, valuable, modern looking brand. We will be creating all new marketing materials, brochures, and CHOICE Remarks newsletter to help achieve this goal.

What is a brand? A brand is a symbolic embodiment of all the information connected to a company or agency. A brand is a name, sign, symbol, slogan or anything that is used to identify and distinguish a specific product, service, or business. It is all the activities that form the identity. Your brand resides within the hearts and minds of customers, clients, and prospects. It is the sum total of their experiences and perceptions, some of which you can influence, and some that you cannot. ●

HIV Free Testing Week

Once again, UHPP worked with their coalition partners to provide free HIV testing in Columbia, Greene, Rensselaer and Albany Counties. Testing was held at the Columbia County Department of Health, Upper Hudson Planned Parenthood Hudson, Albany and Troy Health Centers, Greene County Family Planning and Bliss Towers. UHPP and their partners offered free testing during the week of June 21 to 25. Thank you to our coalition partners: NYS Department of Health, Hudson Housing Authority, Columbia County Department of Health, Greene County Family Planning, Women's Health Project and the NYS Department of Health AIDS Institute.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE



NYS Senate Switchboard: (518) 455-2800 • NYS Assembly Switchboard: (518) 455-4100

CHOICE
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REMARKS

Reproductive Health and Privacy Act

Our statewide coordinated campaign to update New York's abortion law was certainly noticed, but while we made important new progress in the Senate, we could not gain enough votes to secure passage of this bill. UHPP staff and volunteers registered some of the highest numbers of emails to targeted Senate offices and kept up a steady stream of communication through phone calls, emails and lobby visits to key Republican Senators Seward and McDonald, as well as our other legislators. In the end, we were defeated by continued timid leadership and a legislature diverted by in-fighting and budget negotiations.

Funding For Family Planning Services

Early lobby visits and a steady stream of testimony regarding the need for maintaining access to affordable family planning services in times of economic hardship won understanding and support from our legislators and the Governor. At the time of printing, family planning dollars had survived budget negotiations without severe cutbacks.

Some Positive Bills Did Become Law:

Midwifery Modernization Act: Would remove the requirement for a Written Practice Agreement between midwives in New York State and obstetricians.

HIV Testing Act: Mandates that all doctors offer patients ages 13 to 64 an HIV test and states that oral consent, rather than written permission, will be acceptable for use in rapid HIV testing.

Family Health Care Decisions Act: Grants medical decision-making authority to loved ones of an incapacitated patient who does not have a health care proxy or other advance directive.

Access for Immigrants and Refugees

UHPP staff is working with a wide network of local and state organizations to ensure that immigrants and refugees are able to access affordable, quality reproductive health care services. Specifically, we are focusing on the need for expert medical interpreters and cultural competency training for providers; and the need for empowerment through education of incoming immigrant and refugee populations. While we are working with legislators to move bills that would provide funding for these initiatives, we are also looking at new technologies and inter-agency cooperation to bring about our goals.

Dignity for all Students Act: Would afford all persons in public schools an environment free of harassment and discrimination based on actual or perceived race, national origin, ethnic group, religion, disability, sexual orientation, gender or sex.



Albany S.T.A.R.S. peer educator with UHPP volunteers, staff and interns at the Albany Pride Parade



Columbia County S.T.A.R.S. peer educators at the Hudson's first Pride Parade.

VOLUNTEER/ACTIVISM TRAINING

September 25, 2010 at 855 Central Avenue—at our new Albany health center!
New Volunteer Orientation and Patient Services Volunteer Training
GOTV Activism Camp



Health care reform: *the Good and the Bad*

The passage of historic health care reform legislation in the form of the Affordable Care Act was a major step forward for women and families. It is now possible to foresee a day when the vast majority of Americans, regardless of job status or medical conditions, will have reliable, affordable, health care coverage. Key provisions of the Act will do away with longstanding discrimination against women who have historically paid more for health care services and received less coverage.

Still, anti-choice members of Congress were willing to hold health care reform hostage to their demands to further limit access to abortion. And while a national mobilization stopped the Stupak amendment, recent acts by the Obama administration appear to signal an appeasement policy toward anti-abortion forces that will further erode a woman's right to decide when and whether to bear children.

Specifically, when Pennsylvania stepped forward as one of the first states to request fed-

eral funding to establish a Pre-existing Condition Insurance Plan (PCIP) for high risk individuals, the National Right to Life Committee raised a firestorm because the plan included coverage for medically necessary abortions. Immediately, the White House, through the U.S. Health and Human Services, issued a memo stating that the Hyde amendment restrictions on funding of all abortions except in cases of rape, incest or to save the life of the mother, would apply to the establishment of PCIPs. The memo appeared to deny even the use of private funds by women to purchase health insurance coverage for abortion services in the new high risk insurance pools. Said PPFA President Cecile Richards in response, "This decision has no basis in the law and flies in the face of the intent of the high-risk pools that were meant to meet the medical needs of some of the most vulnerable women in this country"

It is clear that the opposition is ready to issue a call to arms any time a state or federal dollar is utilized in the vicinity of abortion care—and ready to demand that under health care reform, women seeking abortion services will simply not be able to obtain coverage. What is not yet clear is if and when the White House or Congress will be willing to say "enough is enough." To say we are disappointed is a gross understatement.

Supreme Court Outlook

It appears likely that Elena Kagan will be approved by Congress as the next Supreme Court justice. She will join a court that, according to a recent report, is the most conservative in living memory. The report, detailed in a New York Times article on July 25, 2010, speculates that, based in its first five years of rulings, this Roberts court is likely to "allow a greater role for religion in public life, to permit more participation by unions and corporations in elections and to elaborate further on the scope of the Second Amendment's right to bear arms. Abortion rights are likely to be curtailed, as are affirmative action and protections for people accused of crimes."

Albany VOX Goes to Washington!



Blue Carreker, of UHPP with VOX members Rebecca Cleere and Sara Musacchia with Representative Scott Murphey

Two incoming officers for the University at Albany pro-choice VOX chapter—Sara Musacchia and Rebecca Cleere—received scholarships to attend the Planned Parenthood Federation of America's Youth Leadership Conference in Washington, DC this summer. Blue Carreker, UHPP Vice President for Public Affairs and Marketing, accompanied the students. The conference was timed to coincide with PPFA's Organizing and Policy Summit.

This meant that those attending were able to take advantage of workshops to support their campus-based organizing efforts and also hear presentations from national pollsters and political analysts.

Over 250 youth, including high school peer educators and college VOX leaders, joined 150 Public Affairs staff for the events. Highlights for the students included gaining new ideas

for more effective membership recruitment and coalition building on campus; lobbying on Capitol Hill and meeting New York State Representative Scott Murphy; attending a reception for Majority Leader Nancy Pelosi; attending the PPFA Media Awards; and hearing Amy Walter, one of the nation's top political forecasters and editor-in-chief of The Hotline, Washington's premier daily briefing on American politics.

IOOV Award



Tandra LaGrone, CEO of In Our Own Voices IOOV), with Rob Curry, Patricia McGeown and Blue Carreker of UHPP at the annual IOOV Jazz in July fundraiser. UHPP was recognized as a "community collaborator" for our work with this agency that provides support and services for l/g/b/t/ people of color.



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**Seriously Talking
About
Responsible Sex**

PEER EDUCATORS END OF YEAR EVENTS

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REMARKS

To many of us, Fall usually conjures up memories of getting back to school, with classes starting and a buzz of excitement about new learning and new opportunities in the air. At UHPP we are no exception. This year, the S.T.A.R.S. (Seriously Talking About Responsible Sex) peer educators feel the change in the air. Both the new peer educators and the graduating high school peer educators are gearing up for a Fall full of learning in order to make a difference in their community.

In our Albany program, one peer educator graduated, and will be attending Herkimer Community College in the fall. He received a partial scholarship from In Our Own Voices, for his commitment and activities in addressing the

needs of youth of color in the community. There are six returning "senior" peer educators and five new peer educators in the Albany program for the 2010-2011 school year from Albany High School.

In the Columbia County program there are four returning "senior" peer educators, and five new peer educators; three from Hudson high school, one from Chatham high school and one from Taconic Hills high school. The five graduating peer educators from Columbia County will be attending five different schools and pursuing different courses of study in the Fall. Columbia County graduating peer educators have been accepted to Western New England College, Russell Sage College, Hudson Valley Community College, the State University of New York and Albany, and Bryant and Stratton Business School.

It is important to the program to note the post-high school graduating plans of our peer educators, as one of the key assets that peer educators develop in our S.T.A.R.S. program addresses personal responsibility for future success in life, family, career and community.

At the end of the school year, both peer education programs hosted an end of the year event, which recognized their accom-



S.T.A.R.S. peer educators

plishments and celebrated their achievements during this school year.

The new peer educators have already begun their training for the new school year. This Summer, all of the peer educators from both programs attending an overnight retreat at Silver Bay Conference Center, where they bonded during a "low ropes" course, as well as participated in training workshops on a variety of sexual health topics, mentoring, principles of positive youth development, and basic background about effective peer education, along with basics of outreach skills. This commences their forty week training period, which will consist of over eight hours of weekly trainings.

"One of the cornerstones of the S.T.A.R.S. program is our ongoing commitment to positive youth development and providing our peer educators with a variety of 'futuring' opportunities, so that they may gain a greater understanding of future possibilities open to them once they leave our program", said Meaghan Carroll, Director of Education. "That's why I am always so proud and excited to see our peer educators going on to colleges where they can take some of the skills they've learned through our program and apply them to their academic career, especially choosing a career path that allows them to continue their work in the health and human ser-

Former S.T.A.R. Peer Educator Wins Scholarship Award!



S.T.A.R. Peer Educators at Silver Bay



Back row.

Welcoming UHPP's New Board Members

UHPP welcomed two new board members (pictured below) on to the Board of Directors at our Annual Meeting in May. Beginning two-year terms are Tara Lindsley, Ph.D., Professor/Research Scientist at Albany Medical College and Nada Rifai from Groff NetWorks LLC. We asked them to share their reasons for volunteering in a leadership role at UHPP.

Tara Lindsley

"I'd always supported UHPP because their mission is so closely aligned with my world view valuing justice, responsibility, respect and compassion. I joined the board to do more at this critical time to help safeguard the right of all people to make informed choices about their sexual and reproductive health according to their own conscience, and to improve access to high quality services needed to exercise those choices. I hope my service inspires my children to be activists for what they believe in too."



Nada Rifai

"My internal compass has always led me to the forefront of protecting a woman's right to govern her own body. Planned Parenthood is a strong leader in this mission and it is an honor to join UHPP's effort to continue to ensure that every person has the access to affordable reproductive health care, and that every woman's right to family planning is upheld."

UHPP ANNUAL MEETING: Honors Volunteers

Eight community volunteers who contributed an exceptional number of hours as public affairs volunteers in 2009 were recognized at the Annual Meeting and Volunteer Recognition Reception in May. Volunteer patient escorts recognized included Matthew Arnold-Lloyd and Linda Leue, Joe Levingert, Nora Adelman, Chris Bayley, Stancia Cramer and Dianna DeFreest. Judith Karis was recognized for her volunteer work in office support.

UHPP named Pauline Kamen Miller the Outstanding Volunteer of 2009 not only for volunteering as a patient escort but also for her work lobbying legislators, writing letters to local papers and leading the agency as a member of the UHPP Board of Directors Mark Yolles was recognized for being a UHPP patient escort for twenty years.

Dr. Mary C. Kahl and Dr. William Kahl, as well as Mr. Charles M. Liddle, all of Albany, were recognized and named UHPP Lifetime Trustees. Lifetime trustees have given a lifetime total of \$25,000 or more to the agency. ●

Vagina Monologues Performance Benefits UHPP

Many thanks to Amanda Brinke of ABB Event Productions and Susie's Café 217 for producing, directing and hosting three benefit performances of the Vagina Monologues at Suzy's 218 Café in March of this year. Partial proceeds of this fabulous show were donated to UHPP. UHPP is truly grateful to be the recipient of this wonderful community support from our friends! ●

Gifts in Tribute

Giving tributes is a special way to remember or honor someone special, while helping others in our community. If you would like more information about tributes, please

In memory of Anna Fantini
UHPP Staff

In memory of Meredith Meislahn

Reverend James H. Miller and Ms. Margaret Miller, Ms. Jessica Brand, Ms. Phoebe P. Bender, Mr. William and Ms. Elizabeth Nathan, Mr. Charles M. Liddle, III, Mr. Timothy P. Briney and Ms. Dallas C. Briney, Ms. Josey Twombly, Ms. Lisa Lyon Evans and Mr. Thomas D. Evans, Ms. Miriam M. Netter and Mr. Carl Bloomberg, Ms. Rosemarie V. Rosen, Ms. Denise Carnell, Ms. Cynthia Maier, Ms. Susan Moya, Mr. Richard P. Wallace and Ms. June Wallace, Ms. Carolyn I. Hejna, Ms. Judy Laufer Rosen and The Honorable Larry Rosen, Ms. Sherry Gold, Dr. Harry J. and Mrs. Connie S. Wilbur, Dr. Harry J. and Mrs. Connie S. Wilbur

In Memory of Minette Munson

Ms. Marion Price

In memory of Robert Price

Frances and Robert Kamp

In memory of Joan A. Taylor

Mr. Harold W. Taylor

In memory of Pola Yolles

Ms. Barbara C. Manning and Mr. Charles W. Manning

In honor of Mrs. Doris Lifshin's special birthday

Mrs. Peggy L. Mann

In honor of Virginia Martin on her birthday.

Mr. Peter A. Armour

In honor of Pat McGeown's 15th Anniversary with UHPP

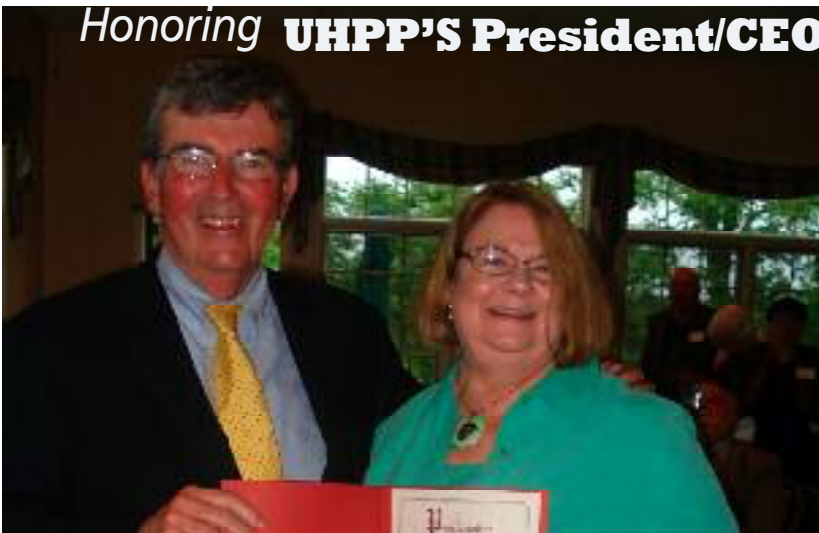
Ms. Ethel Silverberg

In Honor of Geoff Moore & Terry Tamer

Ms. Marian Hoyle and Mr. Robert Fager

This list is inclusive from March 1, 2010 to July 22 2010. Please notify us if we have made any errors and accept our apologies.

Honoring UHPP'S President/CEO



At the UHPP Annual Meeting and Volunteer Recognition event in May, President/CEO Patricia A. McGeown was honored for her 15 years of outstanding service. Several UHPP staff and Board members spoke about her contributions and achievements. Senator Neil Breslin (pictured above with Pat) presented her with a Proclamation honoring her for exemplary service to our community.