**President’s Report**

**Welcome Spring!**

I am always excited to see the first buds on the trees, robins in the air and crocuses in the garden. It looks like we are off to a good start.

The Advocates proudly announced that Café Kubal, owned by Matt Godard, will be opening on the 11th floor of the Golisano Children's Hospital. They are a local company focusing on fresh. They will offer a breakfast, an all day menu and a children’s menu, along with a full service coffee bar featuring Kubal coffee and ice cream from Gannon's. Everyone involved is working hard for a possible May opening.

Café Kubal is a coffee roasting company and they will be presenting a new coffee called Upstate Joe. This will be a whole bean coffee with an essence of peanuts and chocolate. Upstate Joe will be available in all Café Kubal stores including the Golisano Children's Hospital. A portion of the proceeds from Upstate Joe will benefit The Advocates.

The Advocates are happy to share that our contract with the television company TeleHealth has been extended for a year with a decrease in the amount patients have to pay for TV's and eliminates the cost for telephones. Our goal is to continue this trend in the future. We are working hard to make sure that televisions are available to everyone who would like to use them while staying at UMU at an affordable price.

This is our busiest time of year. Mystery Malt and Merlot is just weeks away and everyone is busy with preparations for our 18th event. We are hoping for a record-breaking year so if you don't already have a reservation please make one and join us.

Our Grants Committee will be reviewing the grant applications and making a decision in April on who will be awarded. Our Finance committee is setting our budget for next year and we have blood drives in April at the Downtown Campus and in May at the Community Campus.

A Big “Thank You” to everyone who will help make this a prosperous Spring!

Theresa Devennie, President
COMMUNITY CAMPUS
At our recent March 2nd meeting, we welcomed guest speaker Ken Redmore, Associate Administrator for Facilities & Support Services. He spoke about the new cord blood bank as well as the remodeling of the Diagnostic Area and Wellspring. It was nice to hear about operational improvements.

 Beautification - Plans for spring flower planting on Community Campus are under way.
 Service and Health - The next blood drive at Community Campus will be Tues. May 3rd and Wed. May 4th.
 Macy’s - We will participate again this year in raising funds at their August Shop-for-a-Cause Event. Beneficiary will be chosen later.
   We would like to invite any interested Community Campus volunteers to join our committee. Future meetings: 6/8, 8/10, 11/16.

FUND DEVELOPMENT
Karen Goldman, Chair of Mystery, Malt, and Merlot, was present to encourage participation and attendance at this annual event. The Family Birth Center Postpartum Unit at the Community Campus is this year’s beneficiary

 Donna Breen, VP Fund Development
 Community Committee Chair

MEMBERSHIP/MARKETING
MEET THE ADVOCATE - BONNIE MCCABE
When Bonnie McCabe was questioned about her perception of the role of The Advocates, she responded that in her mind, it’s all about people helping people. Bonnie’s roles in many places within The Advocates and also in the community overwhelmingly attest to this philosophy.

 Bonnie moved to Upstate New York when she got her first job teaching math at Fayetteville-Manlius High School. Her husband John attended medical school at Upstate Medical University and is now the Chief Executive Officer of Upstate. She taught math for many years, both at the high school and community college level. She started and ran the Community Learning and Information Center (CLIC), a not-for-profit based in Manlius. She is the owner of Unique Expressions, a web based personalized pencil business. Bonnie sells the personalized pencils to the Upstate community several times a year and the profits are donated to The Advocates.

 Bonnie’s reach goes far beyond her professional life. She is a regular volunteer in the food pantry at the Temple Society of Concord, a member of the Cazenovia Garden Club, cooks for the Ronald McDonald House, tutors math and is Board Member of Fayetteville-Manlius ABC (A Better Chance). She participates in all aspects of The Advocates and is the first to volunteer for wherever there are needs. She is heavily involved in helping to plan Mystery Malt and Merlot and the Golf Tournament.

 Bonnie sees one role in The Advocates (she is a lifetime member) as being a “devil’s advocate”, asking the hard questions or taking the less popular viewpoint. Her favorite part of The Advocates are the people and the projects explaining there is always something going on to “advocate” for!

 In her “leisure” Bonnie enjoys cooking, entertaining, sewing, tennis and winter sports. The Advocates benefit from the McCabe’s love of entertaining as they donate a pool party at their home for twenty guests as a Live Auction item for M3. Her sewing skills make many a hospital room more homey and personal.

 Bonnie and John are the proud parents of two sons, Brian, a professor at Georgetown and David, a restauranteur in Philadelphia. David and his wife Jill are responsible for Bonnie’s favorite volunteer role: being grandmother to Connor and Charlotte.

 The Advocates thank Bonnie McCabe for another year of unceasing commitment to our organization and to the Upstate Community!

 Judy Carr, VP Membership/Marketing

SERVICE
The Service Committee helps recruit volunteers for many projects at both the Downtown and Community Campuses, such as Vascular Screening, PM&R Dinners, Snowflake Central, and decorating at holiday time. Spring will be here soon and it will be time to do the planting of flowers at Community Campus which brings many positive compliments from patients and visitors.

 The four Blood Drives per year (Winter, Spring, Summer & Fall) at each campus are our major projects. The next Downtown Campus blood drive is April 14th & 15th. The next blood drive at Community Campus is May 3rd & May 4th and will have some changes. The changes include a new location - the cafeteria. We will start Double Red Collection. Double Red Donation is similar to a whole blood donation, except a special machine is used to allow a donor to safely donate two units of red blood cells during one donation while returning the plasma and platelets to donor. Also, in May 2016 the minimum acceptable hemoglobin level for male donors will increase from 12.5 to 13.0. The Red Cross tests all donor’s hemoglobin levels prior to donation to ensure their level is high enough to give blood safely.

 If interested in helping with any of our projects please contact me at jean.pirozzi@gmail.com.

 Jean Pirozzi, VP Service
Our big event is just around the corner! Please consider joining us on April 8th for a great evening of wine and beer tastings, a delicious sit-down dinner and solving a mystery written by 93Q’s own Ted Long. Ted and Amy keep the fun going all evening long.

There will be silent and live auctions with great items being offered, including a fabulous 7-night stay with oceanfront accommodations for four at The Royal Lahaina Resort on the beautiful island of Maui! This hotel package also includes a breakfast buffet daily and 4 adult tickets to “The Myths of Maui” luau, and this offer is valid until February 2019. Another wonderful live auction item being offered is a stunning Stickley “Harvey Ellis” rocker. These are just a few of the many items up for bid; there are items for every taste and budget.

The proceeds from this event will go to the Upstate Community Campus - Family Birth Center Postpartum Unit. If you are interested in supporting the Advocates and would enjoy a fun evening with friends and co-workers, please make your reservations now online at www.upstate.edu/advocates! If you have any questions, please contact Susan York at yorks@upstate.edu or 464-5610. We hope to see you there!

Karen Goldman, Chair
18th Mystery Malt & Merlot
April 8, 2016
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Our Wine & Beer Team Members

There’s still time to make your reservation:
www.upstate.edu/advocates

Go to Mystery Malt & Merlot - Make Your Reservations Online
OR call Susan York, 4.5610, with your credit card information.

DEADLINE: Noon, April 1st

For information, questions, or to volunteer contact Susan E. York at 315.464.5610
Or e-mail at yorks@upstate.edu Visit our website at www.upstate.edu/advocates

NEWSLETTER DESIGN: CALVIN G YORK - COMPUTER HELPER - 315.882.8553