

In The News

Hall of Famer, UConn Huskies Basketball Coach and His Wife Named Honorary Co-Chairs of the New Regional Community YMCA



June 18, 2010 Putnam, Conn. – The YMCA of Greater Hartford announces that Jim and Pat Calhoun will serve as honorary co-chairpersons of the Regional Community YMCA Capital Campaign, a multi-dimensional effort aimed to realize a new community center with a state-of-the-art health and wellness center in Northeast Connecticut. The new Regional Community YMCA, will be a branch of the YMCA of Greater Hartford.

The Calhoun's have a long-standing commitment to supporting organizations that promote health and wellness programs for children and adults, such as those that will be a central component of the new Regional Community YMCA.

Jim Calhoun has been an NCAA Division I coach for 37 years and is one of the most successful basketball coaches in college history.

With more than 800 career wins, he has taken his team to two NCAA tournament championships, in 1999 and 2004; an NIT championship in 1988; and six Big East tournament championships.

In 2005 he was inducted into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame. The Calhouns have long supported many non-profit organizations dedicated to health and wellness for adults and children, including the Pat and Jim Calhoun Cardiology Center at the University of Connecticut Health Center.

“The Regional Community YMCA will serve as a resource for health and wellness education in Northeast Connecticut and will help unite our community,” the Calhouns said. “But most importantly it will provide safe and exciting activities for children and families to build strong and healthy lifestyles. We’re thrilled to be a part of the project to bring this first-rate YMCA to the area.”

“We’re so glad that Jim and Pat have joined this important effort,” said Betty Hale, of the Newell D. Hale Foundation and Campaign Trustee. “The RCYMCA will bring us one step closer to helping us strengthen the foundation for a stronger Northeast Connecticut community. It means a lot to this project to have the Calhouns’ support.”

“Like Betty, I am very proud that Jim and Pat are going to help support the development of this YMCA,” said Kevin Washington, President and CEO, YMCA of Greater Hartford. “Through our Youth Development,

In The News

Healthy Living, Social Responsibility programs the YMCA will provide a positive impact on the Northeast Community.”

The planned Regional Community YMCA will be conveniently located in Putnam’s new Technology Park, off Kennedy Drive. The Regional Community YMCA will be a branch of the Greater Hartford YMCA, which consists of eleven branches including two resident camps, one of which is nearby YMCA Camp Woodstock . The new YMCA will offer activities and experiences for every age and fitness level as well as programs for active adults, literacy, families, community development, and after-school and youth education. Although the Regional Community YMCA will be located in Putnam, it will be a truly regional community center serving the towns of Brooklyn, Eastford, Killingly, Plainfield, Pomfret, Putnam, Thompson and Woodstock.

Planned features of the Regional Community YMCA include a swimming pool, state-of-the-art health and wellness center, gymnasium, group exercise studio/multi purpose room, cycling studio, amazing kids and child watch rooms (babysitting while in the facility).

Health and wellness programs are already running as part of a “virtual YMCA,” coordinated by Christine Rivers, for residents in the towns of Putnam, Killingly, Eastford, Thompson, Brooklyn, Pomfret, Woodstock and Plainfield.

The new Regional Community YMCA is made possible by the collaboration of donors, volunteers, local leaders, fitness and health enthusiasts, the YMCA of Greater Hartford, and members of the community the new facility will serve. Among the many groups and organizations supporting the Regional Community YMCA and its family-oriented wellness programming are the YMCA of Greater Hartford YMCA, the Town of Putnam, the Newell D. Hale Foundation, state agencies and private organizations and individuals.

To find out more, to receive an e-newsletter or to get involved, click on www.regionalcommunityYMCA.org or contact Laurence Hale at 860-377-7258 or email RegionalCommunityY@gmail.com.

The YMCA of Greater Hartford was established 1852 and is one of the nation’s oldest YMCA’s. In 2009 the YMCA of Greater Hartford served more than 111,000 people in 46 towns and cities throughout the Capital Region. YMCA programs put the values of caring, honesty, respect and responsibility into practice to build healthy spirit, mind and body for all participants.