UNM Student Regent Joins Cherry & Silver Society

The Cherry & Silver Society has reached a milestone—membership has now surpassed 800! We are grateful to all UNM alumni who have renewed their commitment, and we thank those recent graduates who recently made a gift to UNM and thus earned membership into the society.

Ryan Berryman is one of those recent graduates who’ve shown their appreciation to UNM by joining the Cherry & Silver Society. Ryan graduated summa cum laude from UNM’s Anderson School of Management this past May with a designation from the Honors College. He is now pursuing an MBA from UNM as well. In addition to his studies, Ryan serves as the UNM Student Regent.

When asked what inspired him to give to UNM, Ryan stated, “What is incredible about the University of New Mexico is its unique ability to bring our community together. The ways our university is able to make an impact in people’s lives is what encouraged me most to make a gift.” We hope all alumni will be as inspired as Ryan and decide to give to an area at UNM that is important to them.

Ryan’s advice to fellow alumni who are eligible to join the Cherry & Silver Society is that “a little goes a long way.” He stated, “Although my donation capabilities are small, I know that an accumulation of my giving will make a positive difference for UNM. The University of New Mexico drastically changed my life over the past four years, and I will always feel inclined to do what I can to say thank you.” We agree with you, Ryan, and wish you continued success as you move forward with your master’s degree and your work as Student Regent. For more information, please contact Margaret Ortega at Margaret.Ortega@unmfund.org or (505) 277-0689.

UNM President’s Club Supports Innovation Academy

O-chaired by Terri Giron-Gordon and Gary Gordon, the UNM President’s Club is a group of dedicated alumni, community members and local business leaders who support opportunities that have a significant impact on student success at UNM. For example, the President’s Club has supported both need- and merit-based scholarships. Additionally, it has helped fund Freshman Learning Communities, which have become a standard part of UNM’s improved freshman year experience. The club has not only made a positive difference in the lives of our students, but it also allows UNM the flexibility to respond to emerging opportunities.

Now, we have a new opportunity called the UNM Innovation Academy. The academy focuses on experiential learning, innovative thinking and job skills training with the goal to produce a more refined, “real world ready” student. Its first session began this fall and already has more than 1,300 students, 90 faculty members and 70 courses.

Recently, UNM President Robert G. Frank and his wife, Janet, hosted President’s Club members at University House to get the “inside scoop” from the Innovation Academy’s Executive Director Robert DelCampo and current Innovation Scholar Laura Meurer. Events like this are held throughout the year and provide an open forum for President Frank and President’s Club members to collaborate on the club’s current efforts and identify new opportunities.

For more information, please contact Jalen Dominguez at Jalen.Dominguez@unmfund.org or (505) 277-2816.

Celebrating UNM Children’s Hospital Champion Child

Each year, Children’s Miracle Network Hospitals name one child from every U.S. state and Canadian province to serve as an ambassador for their region. These children are known as Champion Children. Many of these heroic youngsters have recovered from their illness, while some are still undergoing treatment.

We are proud to announce our 2015-2016 Champion Child for the state of New Mexico: Myles, a 7-year-old leukemia survivor. Myles was diagnosed with leukemia at the age of 2 and was treated at UNM Children’s Hospital for more than three years. Though he has now been cancer-free for over a year—receiving his last treatment on April 22, 2014—Myles still visits the hospital regularly for tests.

Throughout his illness, Myles stayed strong and positive about his diagnosis. Visiting the hospital for therapy never wore him down; in fact, on the days he didn’t have treatment, he still wanted to go! Myles still remembers the doctors, nurses and Child Life specialists who became his friends during those years.

Today, Myles is an outgoing and energetic boy, always making goofy faces and singing along to his favorite songs. Although it is rare to hear Myles tell anyone that he had cancer, he loves to represent UNM Children’s Hospital.

This past June, Myles and his family traveled to Washington, D.C. for the first of two Ambassador Tours sponsored by Marriott, Delta and Chico’s FAS. While there, he had the chance to meet with a representative from Senator Tom Udall’s office and share his personal experience and explain why children’s hospitals need continued support.

Next February, Myles will once again join other Champions when he travels to Walt Disney World in Florida for the second Ambassador Tour. This tour serves as a celebration of the children, and representatives from Children’s Miracle Network Hospitals’ corporate partners as well as hospital associates travel to meet the inspirational Champions.

Myles continues to inspire us each and every day with his zest for life and positive attitude. He truly understands the importance of being a Champion.

For more information, please email us at ChildrensMiracleNetwork@unmfund.org or call (505) 277-5685.
College of Nursing Celebrates 60 Years

In 1955, UNM’s College of Nursing opened its doors with 17 students inside Marron Hall. The college currently has more than 500 students enrolled across our BSN, MSN, DNP and PhD programs and more than 6,000 alumni worldwide. Over the past 60 years, the college has become a nationally recognized leader in nursing education. Both our nurse practitioner and midwifery programs are ranked high nationally and two-thirds of our graduates practice in New Mexico.

The college is excited to celebrate our past and envision our future, as we mark our 60th Anniversary throughout 2015 and honor our alumni, who have made a significant impact on health care. On September 10, 2015, the college hosted a 60th Anniversary Celebration Dinner and honored 60 Outstanding Alumni for our 60 years, the college has become a nationally recognized leader in nursing education.

Please consider joining us as we celebrate 60 years of excellence by making a contribution to a nursing scholarship to help educate future generations of nurses. For more information on making a gift in support of the College of Nursing, please contact Sara Lister at Sara.Lister@unmfund.org or (505) 272-0200.

Recognizing a Generation of World Change

Can you guess what the following people have in common? John Wayne, Anne Rice, Mary Tyler Moore, Bobby Unser, David Brinkley, Gerald Ford and Chris Evert. Some of you correctly guessed “names in 1976 newspaper articles.” The world has of course changed since then, but in many ways, current headlines remain the same. In the past 40 years we have seen innovations such as laptops, cell phones, digital media, emails, texts and much more.

With so much having changed since 1976, discoveries in science, technology, medicine and success in diplomacy and communication have become a part of everyday life. An important part of UNM history also began in 1976: the Presidential Scholarship Program was established, based on an idea proposed by then-Dean of Admissions Robert M. Weaver, who found that many top-notch students were going out of state to college.

To learn more about how you can sponsor a Presidential Scholar, please contact Cathy Bunch at Cathy.Bunch@unmfund.org or (505) 277-5688.

College of Pharmacy Celebrates 70 Years

On November 2, 1945, the UNM College of Pharmacy welcomed 33 students into a new four-year undergraduate program. Now, 70 years later, the college boasts more than 3,000 alumni, a professional doctoral program (PharmD), and MS and PhD programs in pharmaceutical sciences as well as postdoctoral opportunities.

As a leader in the nation, the college is developing new models of patient care, conducting cutting-edge research, and providing outreach to communities to improve the health of New Mexicans. The college is preparing the next generation of pharmacists, educators and scientists whose leadership, dedication and innovation improve the health of our local and global communities.

Please join us in recognizing this important milestone and our successes by going to www.unmfund.org and making a gift of $70, $700 or $7,000 or more to the College of Pharmacy in order to help us continue to benefit the future of pharmacy. You may also celebrate with us by attending our 70th anniversary gala on November 14 at the Hyatt Place Albuquerque. We will also have a special anniversary symposium, “The Next 70 Years,” the same day at the Domenico Center Auditorium. For more information, please visit hsc.unm.edu/pharmacy/ or contact UNM College of Pharmacy Director of Development Michele Tigelaar at (505) 272-3657.