

NEWS RELEASE

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Leading Area Families Join to Head YMCA Capital Campaign

Gault, Mitchell and Tauck Families Highlight Role of Y in Building Strong Families and Commit Building a “Y For Future Generations” at Mahackeno

WESTPORT, CT, April 28, 2005 – Three longtime and leading Westport and Weston families have joined together to demonstrate the deep community support for the new Y at Mahackeno and to serve as co-chairs for the capital campaign effort to raise the funds to build the new facility. Underscoring the multi-generational commitment, senior family members, William Gault, Bill Mitchell and Arthur Tauck, will serve as the campaign’s honorary chairpersons, while Nancy and Sam Gault, Ginger (Gault) and Jim Donaher, Chris Mitchell and Robin Tauck will serve as the Campaign Family Co-Chairs.

In a joint statement, the family members stated, “For more than 80 years, the Y has been helping to build strong families, which make for a strong community. It is now time for our families to help build a strong Y; a facility that will serve future generations and this entire community for many years to come. The new Y at Mahackeno will be a one-of-a-kind facility in a spectacular location that will even better promote and accommodate family activities. We are proud to be associated with a project that will become one of the true jewels of this community and we look forward to joining with other families to bring it to life.”

Allen Raymond, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Y, stated, “We are incredibly honored and humbled to have such distinguished, respected and dedicated members of the community serve as the leaders of our capital campaign to build a new Y at Mahackeno. It is particularly gratifying to have this campaign led by families – multiple generations who have utilized and benefited from the Y and who have contributed incredibly to the health of our community. The Y of today exists through the generosity and vision of the Edward T. Bedford family and other community members of the 1920s. The future Y at Mahackeno builds upon this legacy and will come to life through the same vision and leadership of these families and hundreds of other families and leaders in this community.”

The capital campaign is focused on raising a minimum of \$15 million dollars which, when combined with the proceeds from the sale of the existing facility, will support the primary capital needs for the development of the new facility. The Y is currently ahead of its goals for the campaign and will commence the community phase of the effort later in the year.

As part of today's event, the Y also announced that going forward it will formally operate under the name "The Westport Weston Family Y," befitting its role in building strong kids, strong families and strong communities.

Westport Weston Family Y CEO Richard Foot, commented, "The Westport/Weston Y has always been focused on building strong families and this name beautifully represents our commitment in that area."

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