

Industry News

Michael Amini Center opens at City of Hope

DUARTE, Calif. — Marking a new level of advanced services for patients at City of Hope, the medical center dedicated the Michael Amini Transfusion Medicine Center here on April 6.

City of Hope leaders, elected officials and furniture industry leaders took part in the dedication.

The building was made possible by a \$6 million gift from Michael Amini, CEO of furniture source AICO and a longtime supporter of City of Hope.

The three-story, 60,000-square-foot facility houses the treatment and research center's blood collection, analysis, processing and transfusion programs and supports patients who require significant amounts of blood and platelets.

Transfusion medicine plays a vital role in modern medical care, according to City of Hope officials. Blood transfusions are essential to the successful outcome of treatments such as bone marrow transplants. City of Hope transfuses some 2,500 units of blood per month. With the new facility, the number of treatment beds is doubled



Cutting the ribbon on the Amini Center are Terry Peets, left, City of Hope; Lillian Zacky, Zacky Farms; Steven Hilton, Conrad N. Hilton Foundation; Michael Amini, AICO; Michael Friedman, City of Hope; Joe McFarland, Home Depot; Stephen Forman, City of Hope; and Kurt Kuritsu, a platelet donor at City of Hope

and twice the number of donors can be accommodated.

Amini spoke at the dedication ceremony, as did Dr. Michael Friedman, president and CEO of City of Hope, and other officials.

"It is an honor to share this celebration with such a distinguished gathering of honored guests, colleagues, family and friends," said Amini. "This center represents a dream I share with so many of you: a dream of a future free of cancer. City of Hope is

like a safe haven in the fight against cancer; a compatriot to the many who face the battle, and a heroic leader in the search for a cure. I am privileged and honored to be able to support this vital work."

"We are grateful for Michael's longtime support of City of Hope and our patients," said Friedman. "Without transfusion support, many lifesaving treatments would simply not be possible. Our new multi-dimensional transfusion medicine center



City of Hope's new Michael Amini Transfusion Medicine Center expands the medical center's capabilities in a vital area of medical treatment.



Lily and Michael Amini attended the ceremony with their children Iman, left, and Kian.

will transform the way blood donations will be managed and expedited to reach patients faster. The Amini Center will enable City of Hope to greatly increase and accelerate lifesaving treatments to patients."

A \$2 million gift from the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation helped jump-start the build-

ing project. The Home Depot Foundation gave a \$500,000 grant for installation of the building's solar panels, and longtime volunteers Lillian and Bob Zacky donated \$250,000.

The Michael Amini Transfusion Medicine Center is the first green-certified building at City of Hope.

Sturm wins Haverty Cup



High Point University student Rachel Sturm receives the Haverty Cup in a presentation with Steve Burdette, left, and Clarence Ridley of Havertys and HPU President Nido Qubein. The annual award, established in 1988 by former Havertys Chairman Rawson Haverty Sr., honors the outstanding graduate of HPU's home furnishings program.

Belgrad president of Hall of Fame board

HIGH POINT — Don Belgrad of Schnadig Corp. has been elected president of the American Furniture Hall of Fame Foundation board, heading a slate of new officers and directors.

New members also were appointed to the Hall of Fame Legacy Board.

"Continuing in our tradition of industry leadership, our new boards represent the best of the best of this industry as we move to a new level with plans for exciting and needed new programs," said Belgrad.

Other officers on the Foundation board are Jeff Cook, Broyhill, first vice president; Kurt Darrow, La-Z-Boy, second vice president; and Don Dreher, DMI Furniture, secretary-treasurer.

New directors serving a six-year term are Amyn Audi, L. & J.G. Stickley; George Cartledge III, Grand Home Furnishings, Roanoke, Va.; Randy Ford, Leggett & Platt; Roger Friesen, Casana

Furniture; Bill Kimbrell, Star Furniture, Houston; and Dennis Novosel, Stoney Creek Furniture, Stoney Creek, Ontario.

Re-elected members serving six-year terms are Russell Bienenstock, Furniture World; Art Van Elslander, Art Van Furniture, Warren, Mich.; Eric Hinshaw, Kingsdown; and Don Marks, Badcock Home Furniture & more, Mulberry, Fla.

Furniture/Today's Joe Carroll chairs the Legacy Board, which



Belgrad

provides counsel and aids in fundraising.

New Legacy Board members are Bill Child, R.C. Willey Home Furnishings, Salt Lake City; J. Don Coleman, Hickory Springs Mfg.; Bill Fenn Jr., Ladd Fur-

niture; Mickey Holliman, Furniture Brands International; Fred Schuermann, Ladd Furniture; Wayne Wickstrom, Leggett & Platt; and Melvyn Wolff, Star Furniture.

The American Furniture Hall of Fame Foundation is open to all home furnishings industry companies, organizations and individuals that do business in the United States. It has a Web site at www.furniturehall.com.