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FIFTH ANNUAL MONTGOMERY COUNTY BUSINESS HALL OF FAME HONORING THE LEADERS OF TODAY AND TOMORROW

BETHESDA, MD – May 9, 2016 – The future is in good hands. Five years ago, Lawrence Rosenblum of Grossberg Company LLP (Grossberg Company) and H.L. Ward of Monument Bank had a vision to build an event that would honor Montgomery County business leaders who have made a positive impact on the corporate environment, and support students seeking educational excellence. The bridge to connect the two was their creation of the Montgomery County Business Hall of Fame (MCBHOF) coupled with the Universities at Shady Grove (USG) scholarship programs.

Since its inception, MCBHOF has raised a net over \$540,000 for the scholarship fund, supported over 500 students, and honored 20 outstanding business leaders!

This fifth annual ceremony will honor the following 2016 inductees into the MCBHOF: Robert Brewer, Principal, Lerch, Early & Brewer; Frank F. Islam, CEO, FI Investment Group; Ginanne Italiano, President, The Greater Bethesda Chamber of Commerce; Alan Meltzer, CEO & Founder, The Meltzer Group; and William Schlossenberg, former Director of Development and Community Partnerships, The Universities at Shady Grove. These honorees will be added to the ranks with past honorees, including but not limited to, Dr. Martine Rothblatt, CEO of United Therapeutics Corporation; J. Willard Marriott, Jr., Marriott International; Cliff Kendall, formerly of Computer Data Systems, Inc.; and Sol Graham, founder of Quality Biological. The event is scheduled to take place on Thursday, October 27, 2016 at 11:30 a.m. at USG.

“We are eager to continue this award tradition with Grossberg Company that brings together a broad spectrum of talent, industries, expertise, and achievements,” states H.L. Ward, CEO of Monument Bank. “Both our professional communities and family neighborhoods have greatly been enhanced by these individuals”.

All net proceeds from the MCBHOF benefit the scholarship programs at USG, the University Systems of Maryland's regional educational center which brings nine Maryland public universities and more than 80 academic degree programs directly to Montgomery County.

“To date, the amount raised for the USG scholarship fund by MCBHOF has been able to support over 500 students,” notes Lawrence Rosenblum, Partner at Grossberg Company. “The annual event allows honorees and community leaders to meet some of the students who have received the benefit from these scholarships first-hand and the same type of vision that led to the creation of USG – *to do something truly unique and extraordinary* – is the type of vision our honorees share.”

About the Montgomery County Business Hall of Fame

The Montgomery County Business Hall of Fame brings area businesses together to honor Montgomery County's special business leaders and support the scholarship fund at the Universities at Shady Grove. Benefiting the next generation of Montgomery County's business leaders, the Business Hall of Fame event is now in its fifth year. For more information or to register for the event, please visit www.mcbushalloffame.com or contact Lenore Dustin at 301-571-1900 or lmd@grossberg.com. Add us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/MCBHOF> or follow us on Twitter @MCBHOF or <https://twitter.com/mcbhof>.

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