Chicago couple gives $1 million to Ursuline

By SALI McSHERRY

A donation of $1 million by a Chicago couple to Ursuline College in Pepper Pike will help construct a state-of-the-art center for the creative and healing arts and science.

A total of $7 million has been raised for a capital campaign for new construction, renovation to existing buildings and endowment.

The gift from businessman John Boler and his wife, Mary Jo, a nurse, will enhance the quality of nursing, nursing education and health care in Northeast Ohio, Ursuline College President Sister Diana Stano said. The center will provide state-of-the-art teaching and learning space for nursing and art therapy, among other outstanding programs, she said.

Ursuline is celebrating its 140th anniversary this year.

“John and Mary Jo Boler share the values, voice and vision of Ursuline, and their magnificent gift will impact the college’s Breen School of Nursing and ultimately the quality of health care in our area and region. We are grateful to the Bolers for making a difference for our students. They are truly among our treasured friends and generous benefactors,” Sister Stano said. Mrs. Boler was a student of the late Sister Mary Kenan, who had served as Ursuline College president.

Mr. and Mrs. Boler donated $20 million in 2006 to Rush University Medical Center in Chicago, where they both had been patients, to create one of the most advanced imaging centers in the country, enhancing diagnosis and treatment. It was the largest single donation since the university’s founding in 1837.

Mr. Boler, a graduate of John Carroll University in University Heights, was a classmate of Jack Breen, whose family has been a major benefactor of Ursuline’s nursing school.

Mr. Boler is chairman of the Boler Co., a holding company that does business as Hendrickson International. The Boler Co., among the largest privately held firms in the truck industry, makes truck and trailer suspension systems and auxiliary axle systems for the commercial heavy-duty vehicle market.

For more information on the capital campaign, call Kevin Gladstone at (440) 646-8355.