

'Make a Difference' concert at SUNY New Paltz

NEW PALTZ -- In honor of Make a Difference Day 2008, SUNY New Paltz will offer a free concert to community members ages 55 and over at 7 p.m. on Saturday in the Student Union Building's multipurpose room.

"An Evening of Music" is the highlight of college's annual participation in the national day of community service created by USA Weekend. This year, the theme is "SUNY New Paltz Celebrates Senior Citizens." The concert will feature performances by student musical groups including the Vince Tampio Jazz Quartet, Absolute A Cappella and the Sexy Pitches, as well as a solo performance by Christine Sweeney, a university senior majoring in music.

"We look forward to inviting and welcoming senior community members, and caregivers of other senior citizens, to campus to enjoy this evening of music performed by our students," said Michael Patterson, director of student activities and union services at New Paltz. "Not only is the focus of the event to honor our senior community members, but it is a good opportunity

for our students to socialize and learn from them, as well."

The college will kick off its participation in Make a Difference Day on Friday with a Pack-a-Lunch event. Nonperishable food items will be collected from students, faculty and staff and then donated to the Ulster County Office for the Aging's Meals on Wheels program. The donations will be used in emergency food packs for more than 600 residents in need of home-delivered meals.

Make a Difference Day at New Paltz is sponsored by the Office of Student Activities and Union Services at SUNY New Paltz, the Lifetime Learning Institute at SUNY New Paltz, Campus Auxiliary Services and Sodexo, the Ulster County Office for the Aging, the Senior Club of New Paltz-Gardiner, the Village of New Paltz Senior Citizens Advisory Committee, the Town of New Paltz Senior Task Force, the Town of New Paltz and the Village of New Paltz.

For more information about the event, contact the Office of Student Activities and Union Services at 257-3025.