

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:



CONTACT:

Annette Fisher – (410) 637-4569

Ken Banks to Chair Baltimore's 25th Anniversary Heart Ball for the American Heart Association

(BALTIMORE, MD) September 2, 2008 - The American Heart Association is proud to announce Kenneth R. Banks as the Chair of Baltimore's 25th Anniversary Heart Ball to be held on Saturday, February 21, 2009, at the Renaissance Baltimore Harborplace Hotel.

In his role as Chair, Mr. Banks will work diligently to raise funds to fight cardiovascular disease, expand research, and transfer the energy of the event to 2010 and beyond. "I'm thrilled to chair the 25th Anniversary of Baltimore's Heart Ball. This is an incredible honor, but more importantly, I'm committed to seeking financial means that will have a deep and powerful impact in the hearts and minds of those who truly want to make a verifiable difference toward the advancement of research for heart disease and stroke," says Banks.

Banks is president of Banks Construction and Development, an award-winning commercial construction and real estate development firm of 28 years. He is a member of the Greater Baltimore Executive Committee and serves as a member of the board on the Chesapeake Crescent Commission, chaired by the governors of Maryland and Virginia and the mayor of Washington, D.C. He is also a member of the board of the Maryland Affordable Housing Trust and the United Way of Central Maryland. He is a past member of the Board of Trustees at Adelphi University, his alma mater, and is an Executive-in-Residence at Morgan State University's Earl G. Graves School of Business and Management Honors Program.

Historically, Baltimore's American Heart Association (AHA) affiliate has raised over \$8.8 million for research, education, advocacy, and community services. The mission statement of the AHA is "Building healthier lives, free of cardiovascular diseases and stroke."

To find out about corporate sponsorship opportunities and tickets for next year's Heart Ball, please contact Lorraine Campbell at 410-637-4523, or visit our website at www.baltimoreheartball.org.

-MORE-

American Heart Association:

Founded in 1924, the American Heart Association is the nation's oldest and largest voluntary health organization dedicated to reducing disability and death from cardiovascular diseases and stroke. These diseases, America's No. 1 and No. 3 killers, claim about 870,000 lives a year. In fiscal year 2005–06 the association invested more than \$473 million in research, professional and public education, advocacy and community service programs to help all Americans live longer, healthier lives. To learn more, call 1-800-AHA-USA1 or visit americanheart.org.

###