Mobile home parks to make way for $40 million hospital

By Matthew Sanders and Jodie Jackson Jr.

Monday, April 6, 2015 at 2:00 pm

A new Columbia hospital would be built on land where two trailer parks currently stand, according to an amended letter of intent filed with the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services.

Fulton Medical Center LLC, a partnership between University of Missouri Health Care and private health care company Nueterra, filed the letter March 26. MU Health and Nueterra plan to build the $40 million, 10-bed hospital at 4130 and 4150 Lenior St., the respective sites of Sunset and Ed’s mobile home parks. Whirlwind Properties LLC, owner of the mobile home parks, announced last week its plans to close the parks by Oct. 1 and give residents free rent and utilities until then.

The former planned site for the 51,300-square-foot hospital is an undeveloped plot off Ponderosa Street at the northwest corner of Highway 63 and Discovery Parkway. The Lenoir Street addresses are nearby but on the opposite side of Highway 63.

MU Health spokeswoman Mary Jenkins referred questions about the project to Nueterra, the majority owner of Fulton Medical Center. The joint company purchased the 37-bed Callaway Community Hospital in December.

Nueterra spokeswoman Amy Leiker said the company could not reach an acceptable deal on the former plot, owned by P1316 LLC of Columbia. Nueterra knew the new site came with other issues, Leiker said.

“While we believe the new hospital will significantly benefit the community and provide needed healthcare services for years to come, we were also mindful about the impact the sale of the property would have on residents of the mobile home park,” Leiker said in an emailed statement. “In our negotiations with the seller, we focused on ways to ensure a smooth transition for residents.”

Leiker did not answer a question about the purchase price of the new property.
The company plans to file a Certificate of Need, a document that lays out the case for regulators to approve the hospital, on April 30.

The owners’ plans to give residents six months of free rent and utilities assuaged Nueterra’s concerns, Leiker said.

Residents in the parks’ 89 occupied units were notified the parks would close Oct. 1. Ron Netemeyer, legal counsel for Whirlwind Properties and previously identified as a co-owner and manager of the company, would not say last week who is buying the properties.

Netemeyer was involved in the closure of the El Rey Mobile Home Park in March 2012, giving residents there four months’ notice and an opportunity to have lot fees and rent waived for three months if they moved to Ed’s or Sunset Hills. Netemeyer chose to close El Rey rather than improve the trailer court’s sewage lagoon, which no longer was permitted by the Department of Natural Resources without the improvements. DNR repeatedly cited Whirlwind over the course of three years for sewage lagoon violations.

Reached Monday afternoon, Netemeyer said he had no comment.

Sunset and Ed’s were annexed by the city of Columbia and rezoned for commercial use in 2007. Netemeyer said in December 2011 he had no plans to close those parks.

New hospital planned in Columbia

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

04/07/2015 7:18 AM

COLUMBIA, MO. - A $40 million, 10-bed hospital is planned on the site of two mobile home parks that will be closed in Columbia.

A letter of intent filed with the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services says the hospital will be built by Fulton Medical Center, a partnership between the University of Missouri Health Care and private health care company Nueterra.

The hospital will be built where the Sunset and Ed's mobile home parks currently stand. The mobile home parks owner, Whirlwind Properties, announced last week that it plans to close the parks by Oct. 1. Residents will be given free rent and utilities until then.
The Columbia Daily Tribune reports (http://bit.ly/1H1f72m) the purchase price of the property was not disclosed.

MU Health Care receives Level I certification for stroke care

April 02, 2015  BY Sarah Berger

MU Health Care was recently named one of Missouri’s first Level I Missouri State Time Critical Diagnosis Stroke Centers, which is the highest designation for stroke care.

Developed by the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, a Level I certification recognizes hospitals that have expert caregivers in all areas of advanced stroke care, which includes diagnosis, treatment, rehabilitation, education and research.

“This designation means that we are able to offer patients the safest, quickest and most comprehensive care possible at every stage of stroke,” said Niranjan Singh, M.D., associate professor of neurology and co-director of University Hospital’s Missouri Stroke Program, according to a press release. “From the onset of symptoms through recovery, we have the expertise and technology to deliver life-saving stroke care to all patients around the clock 24/7. We’re proud that our commitment to quality care has been recognized.”

Time is critically important to stroke victims; the longer the stroke, the more damage it does. MU Health Care treated 61 percent of stroke victims in less than 45 minutes once they arrived at the University Hospital’s emergency room, while in other hospitals across the country, only 24 percent of patients are treated under 45 minutes.

MU Health Care offers support and follow-up services after the patient is discharged and patients in the stroke program are also offered the opportunity to take part in clinical trials that explore and advance new treatment methods.

“We not only provide medical care, but support beyond the walls of our facility,” said Brandi French, M.D., assistant professor of neurology and director of the inpatient neurosciences program, according to a press release. “Each stroke patient is unique, and we provide follow-up care and support to help our patients return to the best quality of life as possible.”

MU’s stroke program includes three board-certified vascular stroke neurologists, three neuro-interventionalists, the only neurosurgery cerebral vascular physician in central Missouri, a
dedicated stroke clinic, a leading-edge diagnostic and treatment facility for patients with complex neurological disorders and a neuroscience intensive care unit dedicated to patients who require critical care and evaluation.

In order to make sure the center met the criteria for being a top stroke center, reviewers from the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services observed patient care at MU Health Care, audited documentation and credentials and interviewed multidisciplinary stroke team members.

COLUMBIA MISSOURIAN

MU associate professor first this year to win UM System award
Monday, April 6, 2015 | 7:14 p.m. CDT
BY THERESA NGUYEN

COLUMBIA — MU associate professor Gavin King was recognized Monday for his exceptional work within his first seven years at the university, according to a University of Missouri System news release.

Hank Foley, UM System executive vice president for academic affairs, presented King with the President’s Award for Early Career Excellence at a weekly physics faculty colloquium. He was the first of 10 recipients to receive the award this year.

King, who has been at MU since 2009, studies single-molecule biophysics at his laboratory. The Microscopy Society of America awarded King the 2014 Innovation Award for creating the world’s first 3-D atomic force microscope, according to the release.

COLUMBIA MISSOURIAN

CARL KENNEY: Questionable motives behind crowd control at Bob McCulloch's speech
Tuesday, April 7, 2015 | 6:00 a.m. CDT
BY CARL KENNEY

Tiana Glass did her best to fight back the tears.
"I'm from Ferguson," the sophomore at MU said. "How could they do this after everything we have been through? It's like I'm experiencing the death of Michael Brown again."

Glass found a seat on the brick fence near the door she and others weren’t allowed to enter. The barrier between those with credentials to listen to Bob McCulloch’s speech last Tuesday and the two dozen protesting outside Hulston Hall displayed how MU has a way of keeping people in their proper place.

Those angry with McCulloch’s handling of the grand jury that set Darren Wilson free weren’t given a place to vent their rage. No officials came out to address the crowd. There was no statement from Chancellor R. Bowen Loftin explaining why he refused to stop McCulloch’s visit.

The event, organized by the student chapter of the Missouri Association of Prosecuting Attorneys, was plugged as a discussion about the grand jury process in the Darren Wilson case.

"I don’t think it’s appropriate to learn how a grand jury works from a person who was inappropriate in handling a grand jury," Jessi Miller, a first-year law student at MU, said.

Miller pointed to a number of assumptions a person has to make before inviting McCulloch to speak at any law school.

- Is it logical to presuppose that students and members of the faculty embrace McCulloch as an expert in their field?

- Is the invite a suggestion that those who practice the law in Missouri endorse McCulloch’s interpretation of the role prosecuting attorneys play in managing cases before grand juries?

Who knows the motives of those who organized McCulloch’s speech? It’s hard to judge when you’re confronted with a locked door.

But.
Can we assume a mentality among those at the law school that endorses suppositions of intellectual superiority?

Were protesters being told they lack the aptitude to comprehend the nuances of prosecutor law? Were certain people barred from the discussion due to the assumption that critics of McCulloch are too driven by emotions to have a judicious conversation regarding the law?

Are they telling protesters to stay away because they don’t get it? Is this the metaphorical line in the sand dividing those with knowledge from those encumbered by emotions?

If so, has MU cultivated a culture that minimizes the voices of students with rage too deep to regulate?

At this stage in the game, all we have are a series of questions intended to untangle the implications regarding the stupid things people do.

Questions like what are you thinking, don’t you care and didn’t your parents teach you better than that, come to mind.

"Stupid is as stupid does," Forrest Gump said.

Or is it part of a broader agenda to keep people in places where they can be managed?

Maybe certain people are kept from participating in conversations aimed at constructing public policies.

I’m not a conspiracy theorist, but isn’t it possible that certain people are subjugated because the privileged assume them incapable of understanding the terms used by those with the credentials to manage the law?

Sadly, the silence within institutions like MU makes it difficult to form a valid conclusion. What do you do when no one lets you in? You march and scream and cry until there are no tears left to soak away the pain.

Glass wasn’t the only person crying.

Yasmin Younis held her sign in a way that denoted being sick and tired.
"I’m upset because Michael Brown’s death upset me," said the freshman from Town and Country, a suburb in St. Louis County.

Her fury wasn’t enough to unlock the doors.

Once again, anger was locked out while those inside managed the future. The chants and tears of those carrying signs, worn out after months of marching, failed to awaken the conscience of those with the power to let them inside. Once again, there was no room to move past the pain.

Such is life on the campus of MU in Columbia. Seasons of massive rage are followed by long periods of silence. Space is often given for protestors to scream.

Once the reporters leave to write another story about student discontent, the divide widens. Those chosen to maintain the status quo are rewarded for their privilege, while those consumed with pain keep crying and hoping for change.

The semester will end in a few weeks. There’s just enough time for a few buckets of tears and a couple of meetings to process why students are so angry. Expect gatherings of powerful people to discuss ways to get back to business as usual.

In the meantime, we have McCulloch to symbolize the divide.

Forrest Gump is right — stupid is as stupid does.

Carl Kenney is co-pastor of Bethel Baptist Church and an adjunct professor at the MU School of Journalism. He will write a weekly column for the Columbia Missourian that will run in print on Tuesdays.

Fraternity brothers holding vigil for MU student killed in Dallas

By Ashley Jost

Monday, April 6, 2015 at 2:00 pm
A University of Missouri student was struck and killed during an alleged hit-and-run accident in Dallas early Sunday morning.

Paul Miltenberger, a sophomore business administration and marketing major at MU, according to the campus directory, was struck by a black Dodge Charger at about 2:20 a.m. Sunday. The driver of the vehicle did not stop, Dallas police said in a statement.

Miltenberger was walking in a non-crosswalk location on the 5500 block of E. Mockingbird Lane. He was hit by the passenger side of the vehicle, Dallas police said.

MU spokesman Christian Basi said Miltenberger is from Southlake, Texas, which is about 30 miles from Dallas.

Miltenberger was a member of Beta Theta Pi’s MU chapter.

“Whether you knew him as Paul, P-RO, or anything in between, we lost an incredible brother today,” the fraternity leaders posted on their Twitter account. “RIP Paul, our prayers are with you.”

Chapter President Sam Gerlach said in an email that the fraternity was planning a vigil at 8 p.m. Monday on the Beta Theta Pi fraternity house lawn, 520 S. College Ave.

“He was kind, compassionate and always full of laughter,” Gerlach said. “It wasn’t uncommon for Paul to take time out of his day if someone was feeling down and cheer them up, a skill few young men are capable of. Paul will be missed dearly by all who knew him.”

Basi said university administrators are making sure fraternity members and Miltenberger’s friends are aware of the counseling services available to them.

MU student killed in Texas remembered on campus

COLUMBIA, MO -- A candlelight vigil was held Monday evening to honor a member of Mizzou’s Beta Theta Pi fraternity who was killed in Dallas, Texas last weekend.
20 year old Paul Miltenberger was hit and killed by a car while crossing the street.

His friends say he’ll be remembered for being a great guy.

"He made everyone feel like he was their best friend... so me saying I was his best friend isn't saying much,” said Sheely Taylor, a friend of Miltenberger.

Taylor went on to say, “He was genuinely admired by everyone. I think he's going to be remembered in every time we see a good quality in someone else, it's going to remind us of him."

A vigil is also planned to honor Miltenberger in Dallas, Texas.

Police are still searching for the driver who hit Miltenberger.

Friends remember MU student killed in hit and run accident

Watch story: [http://www.komu.com/player/?video_id=28261&zone=5&categories=5](http://www.komu.com/player/?video_id=28261&zone=5&categories=5)

COLUMBIA - Friends of MU student Paul Miltenberger are remembering him following his death in a hit and run accident in Dallas, Texas Sunday.

A friend, Mary Rudelic, said Miltenberger was a good person often seen as the life of the party.

"He was a very very happy guy. He was lovable, the life of the party. Everyone was friends with him, she said. He was one of the nicest guys I know," Rudelic said.

Miltenberger was a sophomore business major and a member of Beta Theta Pi fraternity, which sent this tweet:

@Beta_Missouri Whether you knew him as Paul, P-RO, or anything in between, we lost an incredible brother today. RIP Paul, our prayers are with you.

The fraternity's president and members otherwise declined to comment publicly.
Rudelic said Miltenberger would put others before himself.

"When you walked into a room, you didn't have to go up to him first. He would call you out and find you first and see how you were doing, make sure you were good," Rudelic said.

Members of Beta Theta Pi tweeted they will be holding a candle light vigil to honor Miltenberger's life Monday at 8 p.m. on the front lawn of their house at 520 South College Street.

They said all are welcome to attend.

'COLUMBIA MISSOURIAN'

'Unanimously loved': MU student remembered at candlelight vigil

Monday, April 6, 2015 | 11:39 p.m. CDT; updated 12:14 a.m. CDT, Tuesday, April 7, 2015
BY KYLE BROWN

COLUMBIA — As dusk approached Monday night, all that was audible from the lawn in front of Beta Theta Pi fraternity house were cars whirring past on College Avenue.

MU students with wilted faces shuffled along the sidewalk while darkness fell in advance of a candlelight vigil to remember MU student Paul Miltenberger, 20, of Southlake, Texas, who died early Sunday in a hit-and-run in Dallas.

Miltenberger was crossing East Mockingbird Lane about 2:20 a.m. when a black Dodge Charger heading west in the center lane hit him, according to a release from the Dallas Police Department. Miltenberger was not using a crosswalk.

According to the release, the driver did not stop to assist Miltenberger. The Dallas police had been unable to identify the driver as of Monday morning.

Beta Theta Pi chapter president Sam Gerlach said Miltenberger was visiting his family in Southlake for Easter. Miltenberger was studying business and was on track to graduate in 2017.
The front porch of the house was empty leading up to the vigil, save for a shrine to Miltenberger made up of a podium draped with the Texas flag, pink lilies at its foot. To the left was a picture of him on an easel. A black veil hung around the front door.

Miltenberger’s fraternity brothers steadily filed onto the porch, wearing dark blazers and khakis. A few held their heads in their hands as they walked through the foyer of the house. Once the podium was flanked with men, Gerlach took the stage to begin the ceremony.

"This is a testament to what Paul meant to this community," Gerlach said, addressing the more than 100 people.

Gerlach introduced Kyle Richter, a minister at The Crossing.

"Life is no accident," Richter said. "Paul’s life was a gift, and Paul used that gift to bless the people around him."

At three points during his sermon, Richter had everyone bow in quiet reflection and prayer; sniffling perforated the silence each time.

"And so now we mourn because it is right to grieve," Richter said. "In the midst of our grief, Jesus gives us hope."

Miltenberger’s fraternity brothers took the podium to share their stories about him.

MU student Max Rowe spoke first. He had driven Miltenberger to St. Louis so he could catch his flight to Dallas this past weekend.

Everyone who spoke about Miltenberger brought up his sense of humor.

Rowe said that before heading to St. Louis, Miltenberger suggested picking up Coronas for the ride so they could get a head start on celebrating the weekend. The anecdote drew a round of teary-eyed laughter from the otherwise solemn group.

One of Miltenberger’s dreams was to open a food truck named "Tacos and Tequila," Rowe said. True to its name, the menu would have consisted solely of tacos and José Cuervo tequila.

Rowe’s last memory of Miltenberger was driving him to the airport. An hour before he had to catch his flight, Miltenberger alerted Rowe that he needed a ride. So they went.
Before leaving for the terminal, Miltenberger told Rowe he would need to be picked up at 9:30 p.m. Sunday. Rowe agreed, under the condition that he could drive Miltenberger’s truck.

"He said, 'Eff no,,'" Rowe recalled. "'I'll hitchhike home before I let you drive Big Tex.'"

Rowe closed his speech saying that even though the two had only met in August, Miltenberger was the best person he had ever met.

"No one will be as funny as Paul, as unanimously loved as him," Rowe said.

MU students Cole Montgomery and Nick Swoboda also shared their sentiments.

Montgomery said that when Miltenberger came to Columbia from Texas, he didn’t know anyone, and the brothers at Beta Theta Pi didn’t know much about him, either.

"It wasn’t until we saw Paul on the bed of a truck in Greektown, dancing and embracing the bid day atmosphere that we finally realized the personality we were getting ourselves into the next couple years," Montgomery said. "Paul quickly went from the ‘I’m Paul, but you can call me P-Ro’ to the stage where he was unanimously recognized as a unique spark of life that our class is missing now more than ever."

Swoboda emphasized Miltenberger’s love for sports and his competitive nature. His sporting attitude carried into games of pool, basketball and golf, and when money was on the line, Miltenberger was sure to win.

MU student Sam Scorby closed the vigil, thanking all who came to remember Miltenberger. He let everyone know that counselors were available to anyone who needed to talk.

Afterward, the crowd of students pressed forward to embrace Miltenberger’s fraternity brothers.

Although Miltenberger was not physically present, Montgomery stood assured that his spirit lingered on.

"If Paul wasn’t too busy making friends in heaven right now, I’d know that we’d all have a guardian angel looking down on us until we meet again," Montgomery said.
Rader’s beer party

Perhaps illegal. Probably won’t help

By Henry J. Waters III

Monday, April 6, 2015 at 2:00 pm

Sensing the University of Missouri student vote might make a difference in his campaign for election to the Columbia City Council from the First Ward, candidate Dan Rader staged a free beer party at his Bengals Bar and Grill for students who registered to vote.

Rader denies he linked free beer to promised votes, but Missouri Wellness Resource Center director Kim Dude said the message from Rader campaign workers promoting the party was “register to vote, and vote for Dan.”

This is not the same as driving a voter to the polls and offering a free growler for a properly marked ballot, but who doubts the intent of the beer hustle was to create votes for Rader?

The candidate’s saving grace, however, might be the notorious and likely slip ’twixt a student’s promised intention to vote — even to the point of registering just to get a free brew — and an actual visit to the polls on election day. Rader’s best defense might be, “Prove I got a single additional vote because of my party. It was all about getting students to register.”

One of Rader’s campaign workers said the party was mainly to attract campaign workers. Dude said nothing in the invitation said attendees had to be of legal drinking age. Rader said all his guests were of legal drinking age. We’re into murky legal territory here, and not having been there watching police ID checkers ply their trade, I don’t know the answers. I don’t even know whether it’s legal for the holder of a state liquor license to give away free alcoholic beverages.

Since the campaign to replace retired Ginny Chadwick got underway, a noticeable surge in student registrations has occurred. As noted here and elsewhere, with nine candidates sharing the vote, relatively few might tot the teeter. MU students are probably the largest untapped reserve of potential voters in the ward. Any candidate would like to garner an outsize share.

Whether any candidate is able to pull this off we will know in a few days. Maybe Dan Rader skirted the law and pulled off a coup. Maybe he skirted the law and gained nothing. Maybe he lost as many votes as he gained with his beer bust.
I’m not for putting Dan in jail for his awkward attempt. If he had it to do over again, chances are he would pass.

COLUMBIA MISSOURIAN

Columbia AmeriCorps organizations to be recognized this week

Monday, April 6, 2015 | 9:05 p.m. CDT; updated 9:24 p.m. CDT, Monday, April 6, 2015
BY CLAIRE LARDIZABAL

COLUMBIA — Local members of AmeriCorp organizations will be recognized this week at the Mayors' and Commissioners' Day of Recognition for National Service.

AmeriCorps, AmeriCorps VISTA and Senior Corps create jobs and offer volunteers ways to give back to their communities.

Boone County commissioners Dan Atwill, Karen Miller and Janet Thompson will thank local members for their services at 9 a.m. Tuesday at the Boone County Courthouse Plaza. Columbia Mayor Bob McDavid will hold a similar ceremony at 9 a.m. Thursday at the Columbia Center for Urban Agriculture on 1207 Smith St.

The center has hosted 12 AmeriCorps members in the past three years. Erin King is a former AmeriCorp VISTA member, a program that works to fight poverty.

King said when she moved to Columbia, she had no ties to the community but after volunteering at the Columbia Center for Urban Agriculture, the town became smaller because she began to know people. As an AmeriCorp VISTA member, King had a living allowance of $11,000 a year, which was just above the Boone County poverty line. She volunteered about 40 hours a week, with overtime in the summer. She lived on a stipend of $850 a month and had student loan debt and car payments.

"Money got tight at times, so I learned how to be frugal and got creative with my meals," King said. One time, she recalled making a meal out of rice, cucumbers, tomatoes and a fried egg on top.
King said her volunteer experience was beneficial. At the center, she developed skills in areas such as graphic design, customer service, event planning and even growing a garden. She engaged with the community through programs such as the Opportunity and the Edible Landscape program, which are tailored to people in need in the community.

**MU student Danielle Roethler is an AmeriCorps member and volunteer for Big Brothers Big Sisters of Columbia. Roethler wanted community experience and found the job through HireMizzouTigers.com. After researching about the program, she said it fit with her school schedule.**

Roethler matches children and teens who are faced with a range of adversities with adult volunteers. Some of these children come from single-parent homes or have parents who are incarcerated.

According to a Missouri River Communities Network news release, more than 120 AmeriCorps, AmeriCorps VISTA and Senior Corps volunteers serve in Columbia in organizations including:

- Jumpstart
- Missouri College Advising Corps
- Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Missouri
- Bright Futures USA
- Foster Grandparents
- Primaris/Community Leaders Assisting the Insured of Missouri
- Retired and Senior Volunteer Program
- Columbia Center for Urban Agriculture
- Southern Boone Learning Garden in Ashland

**Furor over Rolling Stone rape article may leave mixed legacy**

*By DAVID CRARY*
NEW YORK (AP) — The furor over a retracted Rolling Stone article may deter some rape victims from coming forward, but the national campaign to curb sexual assaults on college campuses will keep gaining strength, according to advocates who have been following the high-profile case.

The November 2014 article, purporting to describe a vicious gang rape at a University of Virginia fraternity house, was retracted by Rolling Stone on Sunday after the Columbia Journalism School issued a scathing critique of how the story was reported and edited. The critical report followed an announcement by police officials last month that investigators had found no evidence to back the claims of the alleged victim.

Advocates for victims of sexual assault, in interviews Monday, had mixed views on the legacy of the Rolling Stone article.

"I'm afraid this will perpetuate the myth that sexual assault on campus is this made-up phenomenon," said Alison Kiss, executive director of the Clery Center for Security On Campus. "It puts a lot more on the plate of those who are working to combat it."

Kiss described on-campus sexual assault as an epidemic that needs to be addressed aggressively. The rate of false reports, she said, is between 2 percent and 10 percent.

At the University of California-Los Angeles, anti-violence activist Savannah Badalich also worried that the Rolling Stone retraction might dissuade some assault victims from coming forward. Badalich, a senior who is UCLA's student wellness commissioner, has written about being sexually assaulted during her sophomore year and deciding not to report the incident. She subsequently founded a group called 7,000 in Solidarity that campaigns against sexual violence on campus.

Rolling Stone, she said, did a disservice to the woman featured in its article by not fact-checking her account more rigorously.

"Survivors often jumble their stories — they remember bits and pieces," she said. "Now this becomes this evidence for people who are trying to oppose violence-prevention efforts on campus. They say, 'Hey, this is an example of someone lying about their case just to get reported.'"

However, Badalich said there could be a positive legacy to the case if journalists improve the overall coverage of sexual assault.

"If we take this as a teachable moment on how to report on incidents of violence like this, it could be positive," she said.
Scott Berkowitz, president of the Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network in Washington, D.C., said he was hopeful that the case would have only a limited deterrent effect on victims.

"This was such an unusual case in every respect," he said. "I think most victims would see that it's easily distinguishable from their own cases."

Berkowitz noted that the University of Virginia and the local police department responded vigorously when the allegations surfaced last year.

"There was a tremendous amount of attention and effort put into investigating them and taking them seriously," he said. "Hopefully that would be comforting to victims."

Nationally, Berkowitz predicts that efforts to curb on-campus sexual assault will gain further momentum, with active engagement by the White House, the NCAA and many other parties.

"We've seen a tremendous amount of effort from college administrators in the past year," he said. "I wish everything about this Rolling Stone case had never happened, but the country is going to continue to pay more attention to sexual violence on campus."

At the University of Virginia, a group of students, faculty, staff, alumni, parents and board members has formed to explore how to improve the safety and well-being of sexual assault survivors and other students. The effort is focusing on prevention, institutional response and campus culture, holding town meetings and preparing recommendations for changes.

Some students have called for disciplinary action against the purported victim in the Rolling Stone article, identified only as Jackie. Her lawyer, Palma Pustilnik, told The Associated Press on Monday that "we are not making any comment at all at this time."

At the University of New Hampshire's Prevention Innovations center, co-director Jane Stapleton and her colleagues have been working to develop and evaluate programs to help end violence against women.

As soon as she read the Rolling Stone article, Stapleton became concerned about its sensational aspects.

"It seemed to me so splashy and flashy — it set the bar so high for what campus sexual assault looks like," Stapleton said. "I worried that some survivors might have thought, 'My assault wasn't so bad. Somehow I am less of a victim.'"

"Then, with the retraction, you have some people saying, 'Well, she was lying. She had ulterior motives,'" Stapleton added. "The effect on some survivors would be, 'Well, I'm never going to tell my story because nobody's going to believe me.'"

However, Stapleton expressed long-term optimism.
"There's more and more attention to sexual assaults on campus, and what campuses need to do to prevent them," she said. "It's not inevitable. We can stop it."

Lisa Maatz, the top policy adviser for the American Association of University Women, said it likely would be a boon for advocates to be able to move past the Rolling Stone case.

"We've seen that it's only a very sensational, scandalous story that gets the attention," she said. "Truthfully, the daily amount of sexual assault on campus is scandalous enough. We don't need to sensationalize it to report the story."