Jacqueline A. Noonan honored for lifetime of pediatric care

Jacqueline A. Noonan, MD, a pediatric cardiologist and professor emeritus of pediatrics, College of Medicine, treated the very first patient admitted to UK Chandler Hospital—a child with a heart problem—and went on to become one of the most important individuals in the history of American pediatric care. To honor her achievements, the Jacqueline A. Noonan Children’s Miracle Network Endowed Chair in Pediatric Research has been established and she was recognized Nov. 3 with a special symposium and dinner. Gov. Ernie Fletcher proclaimed the day Jacqueline A. Noonan Day.

Dr. Noonan’s notable accomplishments include:
• Being first to describe hypoplastic left heart syndrome.
• Discovering a congenital heart condition now known as Noonan’s syndrome.
• Being one of the original faculty members hired for the College of Medicine in 1961.

• Serving as chair of the department of pediatrics and helping establish Kentucky Children’s Hospital.
• Teaching and mentoring medical students and residents for more than 40 years, many of whom have had distinguished careers dedicated to improving the health of Kentucky’s children.

“Dr. Noonan has done more to impact the health of Kentucky’s children than anyone else in the history of the Commonwealth,” said Tim Bricker, MD, physician-in-chief at Kentucky Children’s Hospital and professor and chair of pediatrics. ‘Her impact upon pediatric care nationally and internationally has been profound. We are keenly aware of our responsibility to continue the level of patient care, teaching and investigation at Kentucky Children’s Hospital that she established here.’

At 78, Dr. Noonan’s dedication remains apparent. She still sees patients in Lexington and at UK’s regional health clinics; serves on the medical school admissions committee, UK’s Institutional Review Board and the State, local and university officials break ground on a rainy day for the construction of a new facility to house University Health Service.

Groundbreaking held for new employee and student health facility

UK President Lee T. Todd Jr. and other officials broke ground Wednesday, Nov. 15, for the new University Health Service (UHS) building to be located adjacent to Kentucky Clinic and the Charles T. Wethington Jr. Building. Expected to open by March 2008, the new facility will feature four floors with more than five times the existing space at a projected cost of $24 million.

UHS provides screenings and immunizations required for medical center employees, workers compensation care for injured UK employees and serves as the preventive and primary health care facility for students. Despite its current space limitations, UHS served approximately 72,000 patients this past year and received a full three-year reaccreditation this year through the Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care (AAHC). The new facility will accommodate 120,000 patient visits per year.

UK HealthCare announced a unique partnership with the Lexington Public Library on Oct. 28 called Reading Rx: A healthy dose of knowledge. The collaboration makes a wide variety of health information available at a kiosk located on the second floor atrium of the Central Library downtown.

Reinforcing UK HealthCare’s position as Kentucky’s health information resource, the kiosk provides an opportunity to reach information-seeking members of the community who may not have prior experience with the health care enterprise. UK HealthCare hopes to set up the information kiosks and also expand its health lecture series throughout the Lexington Public Library system.

The Reading Rx kick-off event featured health screenings and speakers for adults, a craft activity to educate children about preventing the Kentucky Uglies—critical health problems facing the Commonwealth that UK is committed to changing—and a small reception. For more information, contact marketing at 323-2887.

‘As the only accredited student health service in Kentucky, and one of a very small number nationwide, students and employees can be assured that UHS maintains the very highest standards in the provision of cost-effective, quality health care,’ said Greg Moore, MD, director, University Health Service. ‘The expanded space in this new facility will allow for increased productivity, improved privacy and expanded health programming for the university community.’

UK HealthCare partners with library on Reading Rx

The Reading Rx kiosk features informative health literature by UK HealthCare at Lexington’s downtown library.

Send eGreetings!
Families and friends can send e-mail greetings to patients.
ukhealthcare.uky.edu/eGreet
“Frosty Scenes” holiday card sales benefit Kentucky Children’s Hospital

Grab your coat, scarf and mittens and head outside to purchase “Frosty Scenes” limited edition holiday cards now on sale. Three talented patients at Kentucky Children’s Hospital created artwork including snowmen, holiday trees and a gingerbread girl for the covers and inside of the cards. This year marks the 19th anniversary of the sale. Proceeds benefit the Kentucky Children’s Hospital. The cards are sold in packages of 12 for $11.99, and will be available throughout the holiday season at Central Kentucky Kroger stores and in Lexington at Joseph-Beth Booksellers at Lexington Green and The Cotton Patch at 3357 Tates Creek Road. Cards are also available through the Kentucky Children’s Hospital Office of Development by calling 257-1212 or 800-886-9287.

This is a great opportunity for you to buy your personal and special holiday cards for family, friends, colleagues and clients. The program has been recognized by the American Heart Association for its unique, comprehensive service with emphasis on healthy behaviors for healthier hearts and minds.

Kentucky Children’s Hospital’s Adolescent Medicine Clinic helps reduce risky teen behavior

Kentucky Children’s Hospital Adolescent Medicine Clinic holds its grand opening Nov. 8 to provide comprehensive primary sub-specialty care to young people from adolescence through early adulthood (between the ages of 10 and 21 years). Faculty and staff at the clinic have expertise in adolescent medicine, nursing, psychology, nutrition, health education and social work to provide medical care and help reduce teen-risk taking behaviors such as experimenting with alcohol, drugs and sex.

“We recognize your role in your child’s life and encourage you to be an active participant in your child’s health care.”

– Dr. Hatim Omar

Our adolescent medicine program has provided a unique, comprehensive service with emphasis on prevention to thousands of teens from the entire state,” said Hatim Omar, MD, director of adolescent medicine and the College of Medicine’s Young Parents Field. The new clinic is an added resource for parents of adolescents. “We recognize your role in your child’s life and encourage you to be an active participant in your child’s health care,” Dr. Omar said.

Pain management center opens at UK HealthCare East

On Oct. 24, Interventional Pain Associates opened its new $2.5 million facility to provide comprehensive pain management for preoperative, chronic and cancer-related pain syndromes. The facility is located at UK HealthCare East, 101 Prosperous Place, Suite 335, Lexington.

“This facility puts the University of Kentucky at the forefront of an up-and-coming technology for the treatment of chronic and cancer-related pain,” said William O. Wirtz, MD, director of the pain management program. “I know of no other facility in the country that combines the level of clinical facilities with a fully-accredited sub-specialty fellowship in pain management and a National Institutes of Health-supported pain research program as well.”

New pagers keep families and visitors close at hand

Intensive Care Units are now providing pager service to families and visitors, giving them more freedom to move about the medical center with the assurance they will not miss important updates on their loved ones. ICU clerks assign the pagers along with instructions for use, visiting guidelines, services available at UK Chandler Hospital and lodging options available in Lexington. This important customer service initiative builds upon the “Bring Peace of Mind to families during stressful intensive care situations.

Special visitors help Kentucky Children’s Hospital celebrate World Children’s Day

Patients at Kentucky Children’s Hospital received some special visitors during the Nov. 16 World Children’s Day celebration. Ronald McDonald, former UK and Pittsburgh Steelers football player Dermontti Dawson and former UK basketball player Kyle Macy passed out toys and gift certificates from McDonald’s to the children.

World Children’s Day is an annual global fundraiser for Ronald McDonald House Charities® and other children’s charities around the world that has raised nearly $75 million since its inception in 2002.

Children Award. The award recognizes and supports community-based collaborative efforts to improve the health of children. The partnership has produced several service and education programs, including:

• The Mobile Dental Program that served approximately 1,500 children in 2004-2005.
• Seal Kentucky, the school-based dental sealant program that involves first-year dental students at UK and has increased the number of children with dental sealants from 8 percent in 1987 to 27 percent in 2001.
• Kids Smile, a program that trains public health nurses, school nurses and nursing assistants to screen and provide fluoride varnishes to children through age 5, give referrals for follow-up treatment with a dental practitioner and provide oral health education to caregivers.

College of Medicine

Colleges of Medicine applications on the rise. For the 2006-2007 cycle, the College of Medicine received 2,129 applications representing 437 Kentucky and 1,692 nonresidents. Compared to the 2005-2006 cycle, these numbers represent a 50 percent increase in total applications, a 21 percent increase in the number of Kentucky applicants and a 68 percent increase from those out-of-state.

Making decisions about colorectal cancer treatment options

Although colon and rectal cancer share many features and are often referred to together as colorectal cancer, treatment options may be different. Cancers of the colon and rectum are serious, but treatable. The multidisciplinary team of health care professionals at UK Markey Cancer Center works together with patients to develop the best treatment plan for each patient’s individual circumstances.

For a free copy of colon and rectal cancer treatment guidelines, call toll-free 1-800-333-8874.

Remember fire safety this holiday season

Whether decorating your home with extra lights, cooking for family and friends, or trying to stay warm this winter, fire is a serious risk during the holidays. Monitor burning candles, never leave cooking unattended and do not overload electrical outlets. Check your smoke alarm and take other necessary steps to keep your loved ones safe. For a free brochure with information on fire safety, call toll-free 1-800-333-8874.
Smoke-free policy now in effect

All university buildings officially became smoke-free Nov. 6 when UK President Lee Todd Jr. signed a new Administrative Regulation (AR 8-1.1-15) outlining the policy. A recent change to the Kentucky Revised Statute required the UK Board of Trustees to adopt a written policy related to smoking in all university facilities. The board officially passed the smoke-free policy at its Oct. 10 meeting and delegated authority to President Todd to set forth an appropriate administrative regulation.

The new regulation prohibits smoking in all university owned, operated, leased or controlled buildings, parking structures, enclosed bridges, walkways, and vehicles. Smoking is also prohibited outside buildings within 20 feet of entrances, exits, air intakes and windows. Any previously authorized indoor smoking areas are immediately designated as no smoking areas. All divisions of the university should work with building operators to define authorized smoking areas with appropriate waste receptacles that meet the standards set forth in the regulation.

The full policy is available at www.uky.edu/Regs/AR/ar046-2.pdf.

Know severe weather policies before you need them

Take time now to become familiar with policies and procedures guiding university and hospital employees in dealing with severe weather conditions as winter approaches.

The university’s emergency severe weather staffing plan is known as Plan B and requires employees whose job functions are considered essential to report to work even when classes are delayed or cancelled or if offices are closed. The full policy may be read at www.uky.edu/PR/News/severe_weather.htm.

All hospital employees are deemed essential and are excluded from the university’s policy. Policy HP01-19 guides hospital employees during severe weather. It may be found at www.hosp.uky.edu/policies. Announcements regarding cancellation of classes and closure of offices or a delayed opening will normally be made by 6 a.m. through the local news media. The most up-to-date and complete information will be available from the UK InfoLine at 257-5684, UKTV Cable Channel 16 and 19 or www.uky.edu.

Great art at a great price: Free!

As part of the University of Kentucky, UK HealthCare employees have the opportunity to experience a wide variety of educational and cultural activities, such as the current exhibition at the UK Art Museum.

“A Romance with the Landscape: Realism to Impressionism” runs through Dec. 10 and features 19th-century French landscape paintings including works by Impressionist masters Claude Monet and Pierre-Auguste Renoir. A concurrent exhibition, American Impressionism, features paintings by artists ranging from John Singer Sargent, Julien Alden Weir and Willard Metcalf to regional Impressionists such as Ohio artist Wilder Darling. Tickets are free for all current or retired UK faculty and staff, or $8 general admission and $5 for seniors. The museum is located in the Singletary Center for the Arts at the corner of Rose Street and Euclid Avenue. For more information, visit www.uky.edu/ArthMuseum.