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extra

news for Owensboro Medical Health System employees

“It is exciting that we have the opportunity to develop cancer cures that could someday benefit patients around the globe.”

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

Jeff Barber, Dr.PH
on Helmsley grant announcement

WHAT'S INSIDE

United Way silent auction

p.2

Healthy Steps program

p.3

Ask Extra!

p.4

OCRP receives \$4.5 million for research



OMHS Chief Operating Officer, Greg Strahan (left), First Lady, Jane Beshear (center) and Dr. Donald Miller, director of the James Graham Brown Cancer Center (right) prepare to chop tobacco at a luncheon celebrating the Helmsley grant announcement.

The money comes from a grant by the Helmsley Charitable Trust and the “Bucks for Brains” program.

Through a \$3.15 million dollar grant from the Helmsley Charitable Trust and matching funds from Kentucky’s “Bucks for Brains” program, the Owensboro Cancer Research Program (OCRP) has \$4.5 million dollars for additional research in the area of plant based pharmaceuticals.

“The promise of plant-based pharmaceuticals and vaccines to dramatically improve healthcare at reduced cost is both exciting and critically important,” said John Codey, a trustee for the Helmsley Charitable Trust.

The grant will create an endowed faculty position at OCRP, located in the Mitchell Memorial Cancer Center, in Owensboro, where research is being done. The money will allow for a nationally recognized researcher and two new faculty members to become a part of the program.

“We have a tremendous amount of resources in the Owensboro region to assist in the research to develop new therapies to prevent or treat cancer,” Jeff Barber, president & CEO of OMHS said. “It is exciting that we have the opportunity to develop cancer cures that could someday benefit patients around the globe.”

In speeches by Kentucky’s Senate President, David Williams, and Speaker of the House, Greg Stumbo,

(Continued on back page)



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Do you have a story for Extra? Send an email to speck@omhs.org.

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Upcoming Events at OMHS

September 21st-22nd

7 Habits for Managers

This workshop provides specific applications for managers and includes many management tools and job aids to increase your productivity and performance. This course helps you put into practice what you learned in 'Seven Habits for Highly Effective People.'

September 23rd

Women's Health Forum

This year's forum is being held at the OMHS HealthPark and will include booths and activities to help women stay informed about their health. The event is open to the public and is free of charge.

Do you have an OMHS related event you'd like to share in Extra? Send it to speck@omhs.org and we'll include it in the 'Upcoming Events' section!



Elvis' son "Elvis Jean Presley" made an appearance at the summer nursing forum at OMHS. The forum updated nursing staff about the 2011 Success Sharing goals and included a presentation by Dr. Bill Bryant on the use of sleeping medications for patients. This quarter's theme was Las Vegas. The next forum is scheduled for October 28th.

Did You Know...



Karen Wetzel

You may be able to purchase \$4.00 prescription drugs at some pharmacies and retail stores. Drugs included on the lists may vary depending on the pharmacy or retailer and even from state to state with chain stores. Some retailers even have a list of commonly prescribed "no cost" drugs, such as antibiotics.

"The problem is that patients don't tell each pharmacy everything they're on," according to Michael Bursleson R.Ph., Executive Director of the Kentucky Board of Pharmacy.

In shopping for bargains, medication duplications and life threatening interactions between drugs may occur. Be sure to inform your pharmacist, physician, and all healthcare providers regarding all the medications and dosages you're on to prevent any problems.

This tip is provided by the Owensboro Community Health Network (OCHN). If you have questions about the management of your health you can contact Karen Wetzel, Nurse Navigator at 691-8027.

United Way campaign approaching

Items needed for silent auction

The 2010 United Way campaign is set to kick off in less than two weeks, and one of the highlights is sure to be the silent auction. This always-popular event allows employees to bid on merchandise either online or in person. This year's auction is slated for Sept. 13-17.

Each year, departments and units throughout the organization contribute to the auction by assembling gift baskets and donating items. If your department would like to help, now is the time to get started.

Your baskets and donated items are needed by Thursday, Sept. 9th. Along with your donation, please submit a brief, written description in larger font suitable for photographing. Bring your items to the Health Information Management Office or call 688-3839.

The OMHS United Way campaign will kick off Aug. 30. The campaign is a major source of funding for United Way agencies throughout the region. Watch Extra for more details on this year's drive.

Healthy Steps program receives Community Benefit grant



Beau McKaman works on a project during the Healthy Steps program. The program helps kids learn healthy eating and exercise habits.

Program gives kids a place to learn about making healthy decisions while having fun.

For a group of about 70 kids, just because school was out for the summer, didn't mean they stopped learning. Through the Salvation Army's Healthy Steps program participants in the day camp learned the importance of healthy eating and exercise.

"You teach a child this way to live and that's how they're going to live," said Lieutenant Carl Melton with the Salvation Army in Owensboro.

The Salvation Army was a recipient of OMHS' Community Benefit grant and received \$2,500 to use for the Healthy Steps



Marley Simon gives a big smile for the camera during the Healthy Steps program at the Salvation Army in Owensboro.

program. Guest speakers came in and spoke to the kids explaining what it means to have a healthy lifestyle. The kids also kept health journals to track what they were eating and how much physical activity they were getting.

"They begin to speak the language," said Melton. "Hopefully they learned something here that they'll take home with them."

The Salvation Army say the grant from OMHS was vital to make the program as successful and exciting for the students as it was. The summer day camp ran from six a.m. to six p.m. everyday during the summer. If you're

interested in enrolling your child in next summer's program, you can contact the Salvation Army at 685-5576.



3rd quarter: July 1st – Sept.24th
4th quarter: Oct. 1st – Dec.17th

HIP 2010

The 3rd quarter of HIP is underway. Below is a list of classes available during the quarter. You'll need to know your employee ID number when attending. For a complete list of classes, log onto the intranet and go to the Health Improvement Plan section at the bottom of the right hand column.

August 16
5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.
Humor: The Best Medicine
HealthPark classroom B

August 24
11:00 a.m. – noon
Nutrition 101
New Life Education Center

August 25
5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.
High Cholesterol
HealthPark classroom A

August 17
7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.
The Process of Quitting Smoking
New Life Education Center

August 24
11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Nutrition 101
New Life Education Center

August 25, 2010
5:30 pm - 6:30 pm
High Cholesterol
HealthPark classroom A

- Cardiac Surgery Excellence Award™ for the second year in row
- Pulmonary Care Excellence Award™ for the sixth year in a row
- Gastrointestinal Care Excellence Award™ for the sixth year in a row
- Gastrointestinal Surgery Award™ for the third year in a row

Ask Extra!

Q. Does the new hospital design incorporate energy conservation or “green” initiatives?

A. The new hospital design team has sought to create an efficient facility in all areas, including energy conservation. Reuse, recycling and other “green” initiatives will become part of the facility whenever possible, provided they can support a safe, high quality environment for our patients.

Do you have a question for Extra? Send it to speck@omhs.org and we'll try and find the answer and publish it in a future edition!

From front: Helmsley

the two talked about the impact the research being done in Owensboro could have on the world. OMHS' Chief Operating Officer, Greg Strahan said he has confidence in the emerging industry.

“We believe the bio-tech sector will continue to grow in our region forming an international presence and creating more jobs.” said Strahan.

With such a high rate of cancer in Kentucky several programs at the OCRP are dedicated to researching lung cancer. Dr. Keith Davis, executive director of OCRP says the real niche' of this program is the use of plants to incubate proteins that could potentially be used in vaccines.

“That’s really what sets us apart from the hundreds if not thousands of other programs that are trying to do similar research in cancer,” according to Davis.

The thought of having a major break through in cancer research is exciting for Davis and his staff.

“That’s why we get up everyday, hoping that we’re able to make real progress,” Davis said.

Welcome new OMHS employees



Janet Michelle Veach- General Surgery, Megan Hoover- Med Tech, Lyndsey Lewis- Med Tech, Leslie Aud- Med Tech, Christopher Ferguson- Med Tech, David Price- Housekeeping, Shami Paris- Orthopedics, Rhonda Jones- Rehab, Tiffany Marcum- Medical Telemetry, Courtney Fogle- Patient Transport, Kelsey Jarboe- Patient Transport, Laura Hendrixson- Patient Transport, Shelby Bratcher- Laboratory, Thomas Scales- Physician Recruitment



Steve Johnson

The largest health insurance provider in the country, and also here at OMHS, is Medicare. Therefore, Medicare cost containment is a focal point of healthcare reform.

The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act will establish the Independent Payment Advisory Board (IPAB) to monitor the fiscal health of the Medicare program and to recommend payment policy revisions to contain Medicare cost growth. The IPAB begins its work in 2012 and will be

required to submit recommendations to Congress annually on how to best improve quality of care for Medicare beneficiaries, while reducing the rate of growth in Medicare costs.

The IPAB's proposals on how to improve care and control program expenditures are binding when Medicare cost projections exceed certain targets, unless Congress acts to reduce expenditures in other ways. The act projects that the IPAB could reduce Medicare costs by almost \$24 billion by 2019.