Beacon Awards: Hospital wins three!

A trio of hospital units has won The Beacon Award for Critical Care Excellence, one of the few hospitals in the nation to receive so many of the prestigious honors.

Beacon Awards went to:
- Medical Intensive Care Unit – Nurse Manager Doug Peterson, RN; Medical Director Amy O’Brien-Ladner, MD
- Cardiothoracic Surgery Intensive Care Unit – Nurse Manager Staci Giudicesi, RN; Medical Director Jeff Kramer, MD
- Neurosciences Intensive Care Unit – Nurse Manager Stacy Smith, RN; Medical Director Abhijit Lele, MD

This is the second Beacon Award for the MICU, which received the award in fall 2007. It’s the first for CTS ICU and Neuro ICU.

“This is a fantastic accomplishment for us all,” said Carol Cleek, RN, who oversees the hospital’s Emergency and Critical Care Services. “The fact we are the only hospital in Kansas to have a Beacon award-winning ICU – and we have three – speaks volumes to the quality in critical care services that this hospital has. Our critical care division is second to none.”

Along with Magnet designation, the Beacon Award is the highest achievement possible for intensive care units. Just five hospitals in the nation have three or more Beacon Award-winning units, according to a review of the American Association of Critical-Care continued on page 2

Heart Walk donations need final push

The walk may be over but the finish line hasn’t been crossed. With June 29 set as the final day to turn in Heart Walk donations, hospital and KUMC employees are urged to keep up efforts toward the campuswide team goal of $75,000. As of June 8 the team had raised more than $49,000.

Walkers have an extra incentive to push for more pledges. The American Heart Association is offering prizes to a certain number of walkers who raise $100, $75, $50 and $25. Details are available from your team captain.

All hospital employees can support the heart association, regardless if they participated, by signing up for automatic payroll deduction. Ask your team captain for a form; they’re due June 18.

Information: Hospital, Ally Moore, 5-5248; KUMC, Hallie Kates-Calloway 8-0606.

NICU’s clean handiwork

Neonatal ICU, led by Nurse Manager Laurie Hay, RN (right), has received the inaugural Clean Hands Save Lives award. The traveling trophy, sponsored by Infection Prevention and Control, will be awarded monthly to the unit displaying the best hand hygiene compliance. NICU’s compliance rate was 98 percent. Other RNs on the unit (from left) are Janet Wisner, Missy Golubski, Katie Levi, Amanda Terrill, Leasa Clemens and Alyssa Cahoj (seated).

Reminder: Garage construction, closings start Friday evening

On Friday, June 11, KUMC will begin construction of Olathe 2 Garage, a patient and visitor parking garage across from the new Medical Office Building. At 5 p.m. that day, Lot 45 (east of Olathe 1 Garage) will permanently close, and a portion of Olathe Boulevard will close for approximately one year.

To accommodate the loss of parking south of campus, KUMC has developed several parking alternatives. See 24/7 or kumed.com for a campus parking map.

Only construction, delivery and emergency vehicles may use Olathe Boulevard between Francis and Cambridge streets. There will be no sidewalk access along this section of Olathe Boulevard.

Outdoor and tunnel access between Olathe Pavilion and Olathe 1 Garage will remain open. Two-way traffic will continue between Rainbow Boulevard and Francis Street and between Cambridge Street and State Line Road.

Along with patients and visitors, staff must now enter and exit the Olathe 1 Garage from the west entrance. Staff will be directed to a second key-card entry and departure area within Olathe 1 Garage.
Shaffer receives first Legacy in Nursing

In a surprise presentation at the Nursing Excellence Awards Dinner June 2, longtime nurse administrator Suzanne Shaffer, RN, received the hospital’s first Legacy in Nursing Award.

Shaffer was honored for four decades of career contributions to the hospital – as a teacher, mentor, role model, expert and Magnet designation coordinator.

“Truly, there aren’t many people who’ve left as many indelible footprints in our organization as you have over 40 years, Suzanne,” said Tammy Peterman, RN, MS, executive vice president, chief operating officer and chief nursing officer.

A graduate of the KU School of Nursing, Shaffer joined the hospital in 1969 and later became a clinical nurse specialist in hematology/oncology. As assistant director of Nursing, she coordinated the hospital’s Magnet journey, helping earn the first Magnet designation in Kansas.

Twenty other nurses were honored as Nursing Excellence Award winners and recipients of donor-supported awards during the event at Indian Hills Country Club.

The Legacy in Nursing Award was revealed in clever fashion. The evening started with business-as-usual for an awards banquet. But just as the nurse executives were about to begin doling out the gleaming row of awards and certificates, Peterman said it was more than a two-person job. She needed Shaffer to come up and help.

Looking a tad bewildered, Shaffer started toward the front of the room. A split second later, a dozen relatives who’d been hiding in the wings slipped in to take seats in the audience and help celebrate her tribute.

“This was a truly humbling experience,” she said afterward. “The only thing that I ever wanted about to begin doling out the gleaming row of awards and certificates, Peterman said it was more than a two-person job. She needed Shaffer to come up and help.

Looking a tad bewildered, Shaffer started toward the front of the room. A split second later, a dozen relatives who’d been hiding in the wings slipped in to take seats in the audience and help celebrate her tribute.

“This was a truly humbling experience,” she said afterward. “The only thing that I ever wanted to accomplish in my professional life was to make a difference.”

Awards honor resident, postdoc, fellow research efforts

Winners of KUMC’s Resident, Postdoc and Fellow Research Day were announced last month. This is the first time the event has combined the three categories. The event is slated to be held annually.

Oral Presentations – 1st Place
- • Resident – Eric Clarkson, DO, Family Medicine
- • Postdoc – Pallavi Limaye, PhD, Pharmacology, Toxicology and Therapeutics
- • Fellow – Dana Hawkinson, MD, Internal Medicine-Infectious Disease; Ammar Almehami, MD, Internal Medicine-Nephrology and Hypertension; and Sachin Wani, MD, Internal Medicine-Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Motility

Oral Presentations – 2nd Place
- • Resident – Joel Mermis, MD, Internal Medicine, Pulmonary and Critical Medicine
- • Postdoc – Bo Kong, PhD, Pharmacology, Toxicology and Therapeutics

Poster Presentations – 1st Place
- • Resident – Heather Cunningham, MD, Internal Medicine
- • Postdoc – Flavia Costa, PhD, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
- • Fellow – Emma Khan, MD, Pathology and Laboratory Medicine

Poster Presentations – 2nd Place
- • Resident – Edward Penn, MD, Otolaryngology
- • Postdoc – Pallavi Limaye, PhD, Pharmacology, Toxicology and Therapeutics

Poster Presentations – 3rd Place
- • Resident – Ammar Almehami, MD, Internal Medicine-Nephrology and Hypertension; and Sachin Wani, MD, Internal Medicine-Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Motility

Poster Presentations – Honorable Mention
- • Fellow – Annette Bloch, RN, Family Medicine
- • Fellow – Emma Khan, MD, Pathology and Laboratory Medicine
- • Fellow – Pallavi Limaye, PhD, Pharmacology, Toxicology and Therapeutics

Celebrating cancer survivors

During the 25th Annual Celebration of Life Rally June 6 at the Bloch Cancer Survivor Park near the Country Club Plaza, Cancer Services’ Jeff Wright (second from right) joined local dignitaries/cancer survivors Larry Moore (from left), Annette Bloch and Len Dawson.
Thursday, June 10

MIDWEST CONSORTIUM: “Rural Health and Health Disparities Research in the Heartland,” 11 a.m.-7 p.m., KU School of Nursing. Also Friday, June 11, 7:30 a.m.-3 p.m., KU School of Nursing. Information: www.icts.uiowa.edu/midwestconsortium.

“STRAIGHT FROM the Heart” Cardiac Recovery Support: Mondays and Thursdays, 3:30-4:30 p.m., White Heart Learning and Resource Center Conference Room, Center for Advanced Heart Care. Talk with a heart health expert. Information: 8-1227.

LUNG CANCER Support Group: Second Thursdays, 5:30-6:30 p.m., Atrium Conference Room, Westwood Campus. Information: 8-1227.

Friday, June 18

NEUROLOGY/NEUROSURGERY Grand Rounds: “Psychosis in Neurology,” Manoj Mittal, MD, 8-9 a.m., Lied Auditorium.

PEDIATRIC GRAND Rounds: “Pediatric Epilepsy – An Update,” Eve-Lynn Nelson, PhD, 8-9 a.m., Wahl Hall West Auditorium.

HOSPITAL PATIENT SAFETY Seminar: “Accommodating the Human Element in Developing Effective Patient Safety Interventions!” 10 a.m., Boley Conference Room. Also, 3 p.m., July 16 in Boley Conference Room. Information: Hospital Risk Management, 8-4444 or 8-7468.

Landon Center on Aging “Chat ‘n’ Chew Movie Event: “Horton Hears a Who,” 6-8 p.m., 200 Landon Center; Free movie and popcorn; bring family, friends. Information: Hallie Calloway, 8-8060.

Wednesday, June 16

2010 RALPH MAJOR Lecture at Internal Medicine Grand Rounds: “Genetics of Non-Familial Heart Failure: A Complicated Issue for a Complex Disease,” Gerald Dorn II, MD, 8-9 a.m., 3015 Sudler Auditorium. Information: Bobbie Fink, 8-3344.

BROWN BAG Lunch Series for Older Adults: “Why Write Your Life Story,” noon-1 p.m., 200 Landon Center on Aging.

Thursday, June 17


HELEN CALDICOTT Lecture: “If You Love this Planet: Medical Consequences of Nuclear Weapons and Nuclear Weapons Production/Nuclear Energy Production,” Helen Caldicott, MD, noon-1 p.m., Clendening Auditorium. Sponsored by Family Medicine and supported by the Bohan Funds.

Parking, garage permits expire June 30

Main campus surface lot parking permits and garage cards will expire June 30. All garage card and permit holders will need to pick up new parking permits.

Garage card holders will retain their current garage parking cards and access devices.

Garage permits may be picked up in the parking office at the Support Services Facility. Surface lot permits may be picked up in the parking office or 10 a.m.-3 p.m. in Stoland Lounge on June 14-16, June 23-25, and June 29-30.

Remember to bring your KU ID. Also, your permit will not be available in the parking office while the Parking Services staff is at Stoland Lounge. Permits will be available in the office after 3:30 p.m. on those days. Students may also pick up permits at this time.

Details are on 24/7, the hospital intranet, at intranet.kumed.com. Information: 8-5175.

Check out Missys’ Boutique at June 15 open house

Missys’ Boutique, an appearance center on the main floor of the Richard and Annette Bloch Cancer Care Pavilion, debuts Tuesday, June 15. An open house for patients and employees is 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Browse through the new boutique, enjoy refreshments and register to win merchandise. Meet the boutique’s manager, Judy Newell, a cancer survivor who was also the mother-in-law of one of the Missys.

Information: 8-1227 or lucancercenter.org/missysboutique.

Loosen up for August golf fundraisers

Golfers have a chance to participate in two important fundraisers benefiting KUMC and hospital organizations.

The Superior Buick Cadillac tournament, which benefits KUMC’s Cardiovascular Research Institute, will be Aug. 2 at the Nicklaus Golf Club at LionsGate in Overland Park.

This is the second year for the golf outing. Registration and breakfast are 7:30 a.m., followed by 9 a.m. tee-off and 2 p.m. lunch and awards. Teams of four are $600, with other sponsorships available.

The Cardiovascular Research Institute provides a state-of-the-art research environment that promotes innovative approaches to biomedical discovery and improved patient care. The institute performs a wide spectrum of investigation.

Information/registration: Peggy Person at KU Endowment, 8-5441 or pperson@kuendowment.org.

The second annual Golfology Fore Cardiology, a pro-am charity golf tournament, will be 10:30 a.m. Aug. 23 at Shadow Glen Golf Club in Olathe.

The tournament benefits the cardiac rehabilitation program at the hospital’s Center for Advanced Heart Care. Proceeds provide ongoing funding for a preventive vascular disease program with a focus on diabetes, obesity, heart and vascular disease. Last year’s tournament raised nearly $30,000.

Heart patient Larry Louk, wife JoLinda Vega and friends organized the event as a way to give back to the hospital and its heart program. Information/registration: golfology4cardiology.com. Sponsorship opportunities: Louk at 913-458-7700 or louk@ssc.us.com.
Maisonet is one of just 13 students nationwide to receive the award, which includes a $10,000 scholarship. She also has received the 2010 Medical Student Rotation award from the American Society of Clinical Oncology, which is funded by Susan G. Komen for the Cure. In recognition of her achievements in improving minority health, she is the recipient of the 2010 Medical Student Rotation award from the American Society of Clinical Oncology.

It was after her daughter was diagnosed with cancer in both eyes that Maisonet began to realize the need for more culturally and linguistically skilled physicians. She hopes to practice oncology in the future. "There is such a tremendous need for physicians from diverse backgrounds," Maisonet said. "The KU School of Medicine does a wonderful job of attracting a diverse student body and providing them with the training and tools they need to serve all patients.”