The Kansas Masonic Foundation’s support of the Kansas Cancer Institute (KCI) at the University of Kansas Medical Center reached a major milestone last month as donations surpassed the $5 million mark.

The Kansas Masonic Foundation has been a major contributor to KCI and the Kansas University Endowment Association for almost 30 years. According to William Jewell, MD, professor of surgery and KCI director, the impact of the Masons’ donation is even more significant.

“Financial aid from the Masons has allowed us to establish a number of programs, which allows us to qualify for a variety of government grants. The Mason’s financial aid has been a driving force behind several elements of our cancer research,” Jewell said.

“They provide the lifeblood that enables our scientists to conduct groundbreaking research against these life-threatening diseases.”

Jewell said the money has supported a variety of programs, including breast and prostate cancer research.

Mark Nelson, a past grand master of the Grand Lodge of Kansas, serves as the executive director of the Kansas Masonic Foundation (KMF). Nelson said support for KCI helps the Masons’ commitment to serving others.

“Cancer touches each of us physically, emotionally and financially,” Nelson said. “Through our support of cancer research, the lives we touch may be closer to our hearts than we realize.”

With part of this year’s donation of $340,000, KCI and KMF plan to develop an outreach program for cancer awareness and screenings in Kansas. Six sites have been chosen to host one-day programs that will include cancer and smoking cessation information, as well as screenings for various types of cancer.

“These programs will be held in Masonic Lodges and will be free and open to the public,” Jewell said. “This is a very important step in getting the word out to the public about cancer and providing some valuable screening resources.”

The programs are tentatively scheduled to begin early this fall and run through early 2004.
Students’ Passion for Community Service Gives Hope to Future of Health Care

The following article, written by Barbara Atkinson, MD, executive dean and vice chancellor for clinical affairs, KU School of Medicine, appeared on the editorial page of The Kansas City Star on July 8.

The news is filled with discouraging, if not frightening, statistics about America’s broken health care system. The Star’s recent series on this crisis accurately depicted some of these issues here at home: rising numbers of uninsured, increasing malpractice insurance rates and reduced reimbursements from third party payers. More and more physicians are being forced to turn away non-paying patients. Growing numbers are hanging up their shingles, finding it too costly and stressful to continue in their life’s chosen work.

As Americans, we have assumed that it is our inalienable right to quality health care when we need it. Yet, this right is becoming more of a privilege, certainly not a right, for many Americans, especially the growing numbers of under- and uninsured. Those at greatest risk are our elderly and the rapidly growing numbers of working poor and their children.

So, it was a great joy to see the KC Star’s recent front-page coverage of the soon-to-open JayDoc free clinic in one of the most medically underserved areas of Kansas City. All the credit goes to these exceptional young people. When they entered medical school, they brought with them a passion for service and a belief system that values all individuals. They looked around, saw the needs in their own backyard, and decided they could make a difference. They developed the concept, built a team, and raised support. Our faculty cheered from the sidelines, offering advice when needed and willingness to volunteer once the clinic is open.

This student-run clinic is just one of many examples of exemplary student leadership and volunteerism we see every day at the KU Medical Center. Students from nursing, allied health, medicine and graduate studies are engaged in the most intensive time of their lives. Yet, they find time to mentor underprivileged kids in schools, run food, clothing and blood drives, befriend young cancer patients, and go into schools to give presentations on health and disease prevention and opportunities for health careers. They find time to lead student organizations, locally and nationally.

Their passion is not a new thing. Former students have told us they ran a free clinic 30 years ago, interestingly with no encouragement from the school’s leadership. At KU School of Medicine we are challenging ourselves, as medical educators, to nurture this passion throughout the students’ long and arduous educational process.

Our challenge as a community is to work together with the same passion to find long-term solutions to these complex health care issues. These medical students are to be applauded and supported in their endeavors. But we must be realistic. We must come together as a community and state to address the escalating health care systems breakdown or we may lose these young people to the growing numbers of once passionate but now disheartened and disillusioned doctors.
How much would it be worth to have lunch with Warren Buffett, chairman of Berkshire Hathaway and second richest person in the world according to *Forbes* magazine?

You can bid on that unique opportunity and many one-of-a-kind items during a charity gala Thursday, Aug. 14, to celebrate the opening of the Nebraska Furniture Mart store in western Wyandotte County. All the money raised will support KU Med’s breast cancer services.

Proceeds will help KU Med purchase a new state-of-the-art GE digital mammography unit for the Breast Center, scheduled to open in September along with the renovated Cancer Center.

The charity gala, called “The Best of Kansas City” to honor both Nebraska Furniture Mart and KU Med, will be held at the new store at 1601 W. Village West Parkway, near Kansas Speedway.

Carol Fabian, MD, a world-renowned breast cancer researcher and clinician at KU Med, will receive the first “Rose Blumkin Award for Excellence” for her leadership in the fight against breast cancer. The award is named for the founder of Nebraska Furniture Mart.

The gala will kick off at 7 p.m. and will include live entertainment, hors d’oeuvres and tours of the store. There will be drawings and auctions for a variety of special items: a lunch for four with Buffett; a sheet of $2 bills signed by Buffett and Bill Gates (the only person wealthier than Buffett on the *Forbes* list); a grandfather clock personalized by Buffett; and other prizes courtesy of NetJet, Helzberg Diamonds and Nebraska Furniture Mart.

Co-chairs of the event are Barnett and Shirley Helzberg and Norman and Elaine Polsky.

““This is an opportunity to have an exciting evening while contributing to a very special cause – breast cancer,” said Janice Benjamin, KU Med’s vice president of Development. “KU Med is pleased to be the recipient of proceeds from this important community event.”

Tickets for the charity gala are $50 per person, are tax deductible and must be purchased by Aug. 1. Checks made payable to the KU Endowment Association or credit card payments are accepted.

In addition to the public gala, there will also be a pre-gala reception beginning at 6 p.m. Only 200 reservations are available at $500 each, and they are fully tax deductible. Each person in attendance will have a chance to meet and be photographed with Buffett. For more information call 913-402-1881.

Rose Blumkin founded Nebraska Furniture Mart in 1937 in the basement of her husband’s second-hand clothing shop. Her philosophy of “selling cheap and telling the truth” built a highly successful business. In 1993, Buffett’s Berkshire Hathaway purchased 90 percent ownership in the store for $60 million. The deal was closed with a handshake. Blumkin continued to work in the store until her death in 1998, at the age of 104.
KUMC Video Productions Go 3-D with New Hollywood Technology

The same 3-D animation technology used in Hollywood blockbusters, such as Shrek and Finding Nemo, is now available right here at KUMC. And it can be used to demonstrate complicated medical procedures, illnesses and anatomical processes, according to Dan Ginavan, Kansas Video Network project manager.

If you want to explain a complex procedure (such as deep brain stimulation) or depict microscopic medical images (like bacteria or viruses), Kansas University Center for TeleMedicine and TeleHealth (KUCTT) can help. Its video production department can produce animated 3-D models that can be used in videos, on Web sites or in PowerPoint presentations.

The Cinema 4D software—worth about $7,000—was donated by Maxon Computer. In return, the video production department created a video for Maxon on the Neurology Department’s deep brain stimulation treatment for Parkinson’s disease patients. The software was used to animate portions of the video.

Maxon plans to feature the animation on its demo reel of video clips made by professionals who use its software, Ginavan added. The department is beginning work on another animated video to illustrate how heart pacemakers work.

“Creating these detailed images is both time intensive and more expensive than most video productions, including the award-winning documentary Medicine on the Kansas Prairie. That program was produced for the KU School of Medicine and aired on PBS in 2002.

To see a sample of the new 3-D animation, go to http://www2.kumc.edu/telemedicine/services/videoproduction.htm.
KUMC Leads Multinational Study to Develop Epilepsy Treatments

A multinational group of scientists, including four from Russia, recently visited KUMC to meet with Ivan Osorio, MD, associate professor of Neurology.

Osorio, the lead investigator, and the team of researchers are conducting groundbreaking work to develop a device that can be implanted in the brain to detect and control epileptic seizures. Osorio believes their findings will some day offer hope to the 60 million people worldwide who suffer from epilepsy, 30-40 percent of whom do not respond to medication.

Since 1989, Osorio has done research in seizure prediction and has developed an algorithm that allows short-term prediction of epileptic seizures. His research was done in collaboration with Mark Frei from Flint Hills Scientific, a KU spin-off company located in Lawrence, Kan.

They are working with a Fortune 500 company to develop and commercialize a device for automated seizure warning and blockage. The process of using high-frequency automated electrical stimulation to block seizures, using this algorithm as a cue, was recently tested in human trials at KU Med with good results. A multicenter study is being launched this month, with KUMC as the lead center, to attempt to reproduce the results obtained in the earlier tests on humans.

Technology that can detect minute temperature changes in the brain and rapidly cool brain tissue to prevent seizures is also being developed in collaboration with three Department of Energy national labs and a group of Russian scientists. Osorio believes that local cooling of brain tissue will prove to be a safe and effective therapy that can be used alone or in combination with electrical stimulation to block seizures.

The researchers are also working on a probe that will sense minute temperature changes in the brain to 1/1,000th of a degree. In addition, they are developing a cooling device and a telemetry system that would allow the cooling device and the temperature sensor to communicate through a wireless connection. This would cool a brain region in anticipation of the onset of a seizure.

“Efforts to develop intelligent therapies, which will be delivered only when needed and preferentially only to abnormal brain regions, will hopefully bring much needed relief to the millions of people with uncontrolled epilepsy,” Osorio said.
Teel Appointed to Assistant Dean, Primary Care

Associate professor Cynthia Teel, RN, PhD, has been appointed to the position of assistant dean for the division of Primary Care, Nursing Systems Administration at the University of Kansas School of Nursing.

As assistant dean, Teel will be responsible for scheduling courses, reviewing course evaluations, supporting faculty development and keeping the division current on trends in nursing. Teel also plans to continue her nursing research, which has included studies on family caregiving for people with dementia.

Teel plans to make faculty scholarship a priority.

“I’m a strong believer that faculty research and writing enhance professional satisfaction and expertise,” she says. “Promoting faculty scholarship encourages their success and supports the school in maintaining its position as an innovative leader in education, research and practice.”

Teel joined KU’s faculty in 1993 and has served as the interim assistant dean since September 2002. She is the immediate past president of KU’s Delta Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International and has served on a variety of committees in the SoN and at KUMC.

Allied Health Faculty Member Joins Task Force

Karl Koob, Health Information Management clinical assistant professor for the School of Allied Health, has been selected to serve on the American Health Information Management Association’s (AHIMA) standards development task force for electronic health information management.

As a member of the task force, Koob will assist in developing guidelines to standardize and improve the transition from paper to electronic records keeping.

Koob has been a Kansas HIM Association president. He has worked in the health information management field for more than 20 years and has firsthand experience developing electronic medical records.

AHIMA is a professional association representing more than 45,000 health information management professionals who work in the health care industry. They manage, analyze and use patient care data and make it accessible to health care providers where it is most needed. Enhancing individual patient care through timely and relevant information is one of the priorities of the association.

Schedule for Sixth-Floor Moves

Unit 65 (Medical Intensive Care Unit)
- Patients were moved from Unit 44B/C to Unit 65 starting Tuesday morning, July 15.
- The new telephone extension for Unit 65 is 8-0800.

Unit 66 (Medical Telemetry Unit)
- Unit 53 temporarily moved to Unit 66 for approximately three weeks while an air handler is placed above Unit 53. This initial move began on Wednesday morning, July 16. Unit 53 will remain closed until the work is completed. Patients will then be moved back to Unit 53.
- Plans are for the unit to open to medical telemetry patients in late August or early September.
- The new telephone extension for Unit 66 is 8-0900.
Tuition Deadline

University employees who have worked full time at KU Medical Center for at least six months are eligible for tuition assistance. The deadline for applying for the fall semester is July 25.

For information about the program and to print an application, visit www2.kumc.edu/hr/training/tuition.html. Forms are also available in the Benefits Office, 1044 Delp or by calling 8-5263.

KUMC Fun Night

All employees, staff and students on the KUMC campus are invited to a special night at Worlds of Fun and Oceans of Fun on Saturday, Aug. 16. The event begins with a picnic from 3-4:30 p.m. at the Festhaus.

Ticket are $18.45 for adults and children four years and older. Children under four are admitted free. The ticket price includes admission to both parks and a picnic dinner that includes beef brisket, hot dogs, fried chicken, potato salad, baked beans and more.

Tickets must be purchased no later than Friday, Aug. 8. To purchase tickets, stop by 1024 Murphy between 8 a.m. and noon, Monday-Friday. Payment may be made by cash or check. Tickets are limited to 10 per employee.

For more information, contact Tamela Loos, event coordinator, at 8-5148 or tloos@kumc.edu.

Race for the Cure

Join the KU Med Race for the Cure team and support the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation. The 5K run/walk will begin at 7:30 a.m., Sunday, Aug. 10, at Union Station. The entry fee is $25.

To be included on KU Med’s team, your entry form should be completed and returned with payment by Thursday, July 24, to one of these locations:

- Radiation Oncology, basement Delp Pavilion.
- Breast Cancer Prevention Center, 1347 Hospital.
- Kansas Cancer Institute, 5002 Robinson.
- KU MedWest Breast Center, second floor.

You may also register on-line at www.kansascityraceforthecure.com. Please register using “Team Registration” and select “KU Med” as your team name. On-line registrants will receive an optional $5 discount. They should register by Monday, July 28.

Team members will receive a KU Med team tank top or T-shirt to wear on race day, as well as the T-shirt included in the race packet. KU Med team race packets can be picked up on Thursday, August 7, and Friday, August 8, from 9-11 a.m. in the Wyandotte Room.

The Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation was founded in 1982 by Nancy Brinker to honor the memory of her sister, Susan G. Komen, who died of breast cancer at age 36. The Komen Race for the Cure is the largest series of 5K runs/fitness walks in the world. Since the organization began in Dallas in 1983, the Komen Race for the Cure series has grown to 112 races with more than 1,500,000 participants in 2002.

Breast cancer survivors who wish to be recognized will also receive a complimentary pink cap, pink T-shirt and button provided by Zeta Tau Alpha. Please note this on your entry form.

Honor a Nurse

For 13 years, the “Nursing: The Heart of Healthcare” awards program has honored many outstanding registered nurses from across the state of Kansas and the metropolitan Kansas City area.

Coordinated by the KU School of Nursing, this public service program is currently seeking nominations through the end of the month. Nomination forms are available from Kari Ziblut in G040 SoN. You may contact her at 8-1616 or kziblut@kumc.edu.

Any registered nurse, employed by KU Med or elsewhere in Kansas or Kansas City, is eligible for this award. Winners and all nominees will be honored at the annual awards banquet on Nov. 7 at the Westin Crown Center Hotel.
Classifieds, etc.

Automotive:
2000 Nissan Maxima SE, 4-door, fully-loaded, leather, ABS, front and side air bags, all power, 44K, great condition, 913-481-7057.

2000 Honda Accord EX, 2-door, fully-loaded, leather, ABS, front and side air bags, all power, 44K, great condition, 913-481-7057.


1997 Acura 2.5TL, great condition, 54K, auto, leather, moonroof, extended warranty, power windows and locks, $10,000. 816-333-0593.

1997 BMW 318 IS, dark green w/tan interior, 5-speed, heated seats, CD player, 83K, excellent condition, $9,500. 913-831-1309.


For Sale:
KCK townhouse, 2 BR, 1½ BA, full basement, quiet and friendly neighborhood, 2 window A/Cs, 2 ceiling fans, window coverings included, Berkshire Village Townhouses, a HUD housing cooperative. $4,975 reduced to $4,000. 913-362-0574.

Campbell Hausfield 3-gallon pancake air compressor, 1 hp, like new, 913-962-9803.

GE refrigerator, model TBF16SY, 15.7 cu. ft., off-white; GE stove, model P7, self-cleaning, off-white/almond; both clean and in great condition, $350 for both. 816-753-2410.

Beautiful imperial topaz ring, very unusual color, 6.14 carats, oval cut, must see. 913-383-2249 after 6 p.m.

Large L-shaped computer desk, 78” x 78”, keyboard drawer, 3-drawer unit, light cherry, 3 years old, like new, $250. 913-269-3086.

1995 Seadoo Bombardier XP, 2-seater jet ski, Yacht Club trailer and cover, excellent condition, runs great, $3,300. 913-441-6226.

Estey console piano, all wood construction, excellent condition, $1,200. 816-524-8255 or 816-590-8189 after 6 p.m.

Wanted:
Roommate for 2 BR, 2 BA house, 2-car garage, off 119th and Hwy. 69, approximately $550/mo. 913-696-1985.

Tuesday, July 22
• Surfin’ the Net II, 10 a.m.-noon, Senior Resource Center.

Wednesday, July 23
• Osteoporosis Screening, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. and 2-4 p.m., Blue Ridge Family Physicians.

Study Subjects Wanted:
Gastroesophageal reflux disease clinical study, 4 mornings, 3 hours each morning, subjects need to be 18-70 years old and have heartburn for more than 6 months almost daily, includes $180 stipend. 8-3934.

Irene M. Cumming Donald Hagen, MD President and Executive Vice Chancellor Chief Executive Officer University of Kansas KU Med Medical Center
Barbara Jaekel, Editor Val Renault, Senior Writer Kevin White, Senior Graphic Designer Jan Lewis, Editorial Manager
Mary King, Communications Services Director
In The Center is a weekly employee publication published by the KU Med Communications Services Department. Send story ideas to Barbara Jaekel, Bldg. 48, Room 1070, or e-mail bjakelel or call 8-1074.

Ad Policy: Send or bring your ad, 30 words or less, to Bldg. 48, Room 1070, fax to 8-1063, or e-mail bjakelel by noon Thursday of the week before it is to run. Ads run free of charge for employees, students and volunteers. All ads must include the advertiser’s name and work extension (or student box number) for verification. Only home phone numbers—no pager numbers or work extensions—will be published. Please include area code. No ads for commercial services or pets for sale will be accepted. Ads will not be taken by tele- phone. Ads may be held a week if space is limited.