

Drained and invigorated — all at the same time

MCGHealth recently exhausted another group of prominent community leaders during the fifth CSRA in Scrubs. The class of 17 put on the hats of health professionals as they explored topics ranging from cancer care to simulated surgery.

Pictured (front row, left to right) are: Deke Copenhaver, Mayor, City of Augusta; Scott Fitzgerald, Certified Financial Planner, Strategic Financial Management; Tammy Stout, Executive Director of Greater Augusta Sports Council; Faye Hargrove, Psychologist, Hargrove Leadership Services; Liz Stewart, Consultant, Stewart & Associates, Inc.; Cynthia Taylor, Pastor, Church



of the Holy Comforter; Michael J. Taylor, President of Dawson, Taylor, & Co.; and Mark Maund, Principal of CB&H Wealth Management Services. In the back row, left to right, are: Keven Mack, Agent, Blanchard & Calhoun Real Estate; Greg Porterfield, Senior Pastor of Wesley United Methodist Church; Michael J. O'Neill, Vice President of

Wachovia Bank; George C. Bradley, President of Paine College; Clint Bryant, Director of Athletics at Augusta State University; Ernie Sizemore, President and COO of Regent Security Services, Inc.; Edward Enoch, Attorney, J. Edward Enoch, PC; Patrick G. Blanchard, CEO of First Bank of Georgia; and Mike Bell, General Manager of NBC Augusta. ♦

ED expansion begins

August 17 marks the beginning of Phase 1 of extensive renovation and expansion of our Emergency Department.

During the 11-month project, we will temporarily move the traffic and pedestrian entrances/exits and shift traffic on Harper Street onto what is currently the center turn lane. However, with ample,

easy-to-read signage, free valet parking and extra staff directing traffic at peak periods, we will make this transition as smooth as possible for our patients and employees, as well as fire, law enforcement and EMS personnel.

At the conclusion of this project, the region's only Level I Trauma Center will be better

equipped to care for emergent needs with increased capacity, improved patient flow and shorter wait times, not to mention improved patient amenities.

Over the course of this expansion, we will post construction updates on our website. For the latest on our progress, please visit mcghealth.org/detour. ♦

MCGHealth strategizes on fundraising



Team captains recently gathered to start planning for MCGHealth's participation in the American Heart Association's annual Heart Walk, September 26, 2009.

"We've established a goal of raising \$35,000 this year," said Tom Wagner, Administrative Director of the Cardiovascular Center of Excellence. "It is going to be a stretch for us to exceed last

year's \$20,500 by such a large amount, but we are up to the challenge."

The captains are pictured with Kasey Dillard (standing left) and Julie Kennedy (standing right), both AHA Regional Directors, as they discuss the worthy uses to which the AHA puts the proceeds of the Heart Walk, including research funding for the Medical College of Georgia. ♦

BOGO dining helps you save

The Augusta Aiken Dining Club is making the pleasure of eating out much more affordable. You can become a club member for \$14.95 a month and enjoy "buy one, get one" dining at numerous restaurants in the Augusta-Aiken area. You can buy a month-to-month membership, or you can take advantage of a 25 percent discount by buying a 12-month membership.

Mention MCG when you join, and the club will donate \$10 of your original fee to the MCGHealth Children's Medical Center on your behalf. ♦

New books take animals to the extreme

Engage your child's mind with fun facts about the animals that are the largest, smallest, fastest, slowest, strongest and longest in "*Biggest, Strongest, Fastest.*" To add realism, this book has cut-paper collage illustrations and human-to-animal comparisons.

"*Actual Size*" is a visually-stunning book that answers questions about the size of

crocodiles or which spider is the world's largest. Life-sized, cut-paper collage illustrations and an embedded ruler put things into perspective.

Add to your child's enjoyment with the cuddly green and yellow lizard plush with felt spikes and a spiral tail. Don't forget the super-soft gorilla with gray ears, feet and face or the huggable

cheetah with black spots, white ears and beady eyes. Or, why not buy all three?

The storybooks and plush characters are \$5 each, with 83 percent of the net profits benefiting the MCGHealth Children's Medical Center.

In addition to the store at 4227 Washington Road, Evans, the merchandise is available online at www.kohls.com. ♦

First Employee Campaign: Where is the money going?

The first ever employee fundraising campaign wrapped up with more than \$46,500 in pledges.

Given the choice of contributing to the pediatric cancer clinic, the MCGHealth Cancer Center Resource Library, the Employee Assistance Fund or one of the three with the greatest need, employees designated the latter to receive the lion's share of the money, more than \$15,300. The 15-plus members of the Employee Campaign Committee determined that 50 percent of this amount will go to the pediatric cancer clinic, with the resource library and the assistance fund each getting 25 percent.

When one of the three options was selected, employees

contributed \$11,500 to the assistance fund, \$9,000 to the resource library and \$8,600 to the pediatric cancer clinic.

"The generosity of our employees is remarkable and so is their willingness to make an investment in improvements for our patients and colleagues," said Connie Guinn, Philanthropy Officer. "The amount raised on our

first try is proof that charity starts at home."

The Employee Campaign Committee continues to welcome new members. If you are interested, contact Guinn at 706-721-3957 or cguinn@mcg.edu. The committee's next initiative will be to plan a special celebration for all campaign contributors to take place around the end of August. ♦

It pays to give

Frances Ross of Environmental Services is the lucky winner of an assigned parking spot in the 15th Street Parking Deck for the month of August. Her name was drawn from among more than 265 campaign contributors. One name will be drawn each month until July 2010. ♦



Can't get from here to there? Here's how...

The perinatal unit — Labor & Delivery, 7 West and 7 North – is now locked. Unless you have an elevator code or an appropriately encoded badge, you are only able to enter the unit from the Sydenstricker elevator bank.

These security measures do not affect access to 7 South using the North/South elevator bank. ♦

2009 Holiday Schedule

Labor Day

September 7, 2009

Thanksgiving Day

November 26, 2009

Day After Thanksgiving

November 27, 2009

Christmas Eve

December 24, 2009

Christmas Day

December 25, 2009

Region's only pediatric hospital ranks No. 1

MCGHealth Children's Medical Center was recently ranked first in the nation in patient quality and safety according to a nationally recognized method for assessing the quality of medical centers.

In the First Quarter 2009 Quality and Safety Management Report from the University HealthSystem Consortium (UHC), MCGHealth Children's Medical Center ranks No. 1 in pediatric care for the past year. The report provides rankings based on quality indicators established by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ). In addition to receiving the No.1 ranking in a composite measure of overall quality, MCGHealth's pediatric care earned the top spot in seven out of 14 AHRQ measures, ranking higher than 99 others.

"We are very excited about this prestigious ranking. Achieving the top position in the UHC is the result of our

focus on delivering the safest and highest quality care available anywhere in the nation," said Don Snell, President and Chief Executive Officer of MCG Health, Inc. "This national recognition is good for our organization, but it's vital for our patients, which is where it really counts."

"We provide excellent patient care at the MCGHealth Children's Medical Center and through ancillary pediatric services throughout the health system," said Barbara Meeks, Vice President of Pediatric Patient Care Services of MCG Health, Inc. "These rankings are evidence that our physicians, nurses and support staff give their best to our patients. We are extremely proud of this success."

"It takes a remarkable team effort centered on children and their families to be the best of the best in children's care," said Dr. Bernard L. Maria, Chairman of Pediatrics and

Medical Director of the MCGHealth Children's Medical Center. "As the site of the first children's hospital in the Southeast, founded in 1910, we enter into a centennial year with our many partners and friends in the community with even more to celebrate."

The University Health-System Consortium is an alliance of 103 academic medical centers and 191 of their affiliated hospitals representing approximately 90 percent of the nation's non-profit academic medical centers. UHC's vision is to be a catalyst for change, accelerating the achievement of clinical and operational excellence.

The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality is the health services research arm of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The mission of the AHRQ is to improve the quality, safety, efficiency and effectiveness of health care for all Americans. ♦

Don't tread on me

The brick campaign to support the MCGHealth Cancer Center is one case where you shouldn't mind people stepping all over you. Don't miss your opportunity

to leave an indelible mark on the history of cancer care in Augusta by buying a brick and having it engraved. Your personalized message could include your name or a mes-

sage in memory or honor of a loved one.

The campaign ends August 31, so call 706-721-3957 or visit mcghealth.org/giving today. ♦

Teen volunteers say goodbye



More than 40 teens spent six weeks volunteering in 33 different areas at MCGHealth.

At a luncheon held in their honor, the 2009 Volunteers received well-deserved thanks after volunteering more than 1,800 hours over six weeks in Behavioral Health, the Family Resource Library, OT/PT, the Sports Medicine Center and the

MS clinic, among others. They helped to transport patients, worked in the gift shops, served as liaisons between families and physicians in Pre-Op and assisted on nursing units.

During his luncheon remarks, President Don

Snell reminisced about volunteering in a hospital as a teen and how that experience started him on the path to a career in health care.

Each teen received a certificate and the whole-hearted thanks of MCGHealth. ♦



Special recognition was given to Ralph Callahan III for devoting 109 hours to MCGHealth this summer. He is congratulated by Tony Emetu, Volunteer Services Administrative Specialist.



Sophia Goulet also received special recognition for putting an extraordinary number of hours – 105 – into her volunteer experience. She received her certificate from Emetu.

Welcome new team members

Danny Blair, *Technical Support*

Hollis Bradberry, *3 West Neuro*

Sandra Butler, *Pediatric Respiratory Care*

Bonnie Clark, *Neonatal ICU*

Amy Farris, *Pediatric OR*

Angela Fuller, *Medical ICU*

Joseph Germany, *Equipment Cart Services*

Deborah Gillen, *Labor & Delivery*

Lindsey Grayson, *Labor & Delivery*

Isaac Green, *Chemistry*

Emily Hagler, *ED*

Neva Harrison, *GRTC Administration*

Marilyn Hedrick, *Kidney Transplant*

Gwenell Hensley, *Environmental Services*

Philip Howard, *Facility Services*

Leigh Jackson, *Pediatric OR*

Nicole Johnson, *Family Services Development*

Sheena Jordan, *Pediatric Respiratory Care*

Lindsey Kitchen, *HIMS*

Jason Knight, *Medical ICU*

Courtney Knox, *4 CMC*

Diana La Luz, *3 West Neuro*

Burt Neblo, *3 South Adult Psych*

Emilie Pond-Tinley, *Emergency Medicine*

Anuradha Prashad, *Application Installation & Support*

Jeffrey Saunders, *Environmental Services*

Karen Shockley, *3 South Adult Psych*

Macia Smith, *6 North Cardio Pulmonary Care*

Robin Smith, *Pediatric Respiratory Care*

James Thomas, *Patient Accounts*

Melissa Tiller, *5 CMC Peds Hemo/Oncology*

La Nita Todd, *4 South Med Surg*

Vanessa Udom, *5 West Med Surg*

Ryan Wade, *Medical ICU*

Sarah Wilby, *Shock Trauma*

Joanna Willis, *Diagnostic Radiology*

Angela Wilson, *Labor & Delivery*

Linda Yates, *Desk Operations* ♦

A heavy hitter visits

Much to the delight of patients at the MCGHealth Children's Medical Center, Ryan Klesko, a former Atlanta Brave, recently dropped by to visit and autograph baseballs. Klesko was in town to throw out the first pitch at an Augusta GreenJackets' game. Klesko is pictured with 6-year-old Corbin Delk, who recently had heart surgery at the Children's Medical Center. ♦

