SUNY Upstate Medical University will present a display during the New York State Fair completely dedicated to the Children’s Hospital. The display will be located in the Hall of Health in the Science and Industry building on the State Fairgrounds, from Aug. 21 through Sept. 5, and will welcome community members with interactive games, brochures, pictures, and important information regarding the Children’s Hospital. The display will also feature mock layouts of a proposed floor plan for the new center.

Several SUNY Upstate employees have volunteered to work at the display to answer questions and give visitors information about the Children’s Hospital. “I think it will be fun, it’s a chance to tell all of New York about the CNY Children’s Hospital,” said Joy Ganley, RN, patient service manager at University Hospital, who along with several other SUNY Upstate employees, has volunteered to work at the display. “It’s a chance to tell people what we already offer here at the hospital (for children), and what we plan on doing at the Children’s Hospital.”

The official kick-off of the public campaign for the Children’s Hospital is slated later this year. The State Fair provides the first opportunity for SUNY Upstate to show the community that a Children’s Hospital in Central New York will be a reality.

“The State Fair exhibit will provide the public with the most detailed view to date of our children’s Hospital plans,” said Thomas Welch, M D, Chief, Children’s Hospital.

Fall Faculty Convocation is Sept. 17

SUNY Upstate Medical University will hold its Fall Faculty Convocation Wednesday, Sept. 17 at 4 p.m. in the Weiskotten Hall Medical Alumni Auditorium. All SUNY Upstate individuals are invited to attend. A reception will immediately follow the Convocation.

The Convocation features the presentation of awards of excellence to SUNY Upstate faculty and professionals and the annual State of the Medical University Address by SUNY Upstate President Gregory L. Eastwood, M D.

Prior to the event, a reception for SUNY Upstate’s emeriti faculty will be held at 3 p.m. in 1164 Weiskotten Hall.

The following individuals will receive awards during the Convocation:

Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Professional Service

Leslie J. Kohman, M D

Surgery
Wednesday, August 13

Anesthesiology Grand Rounds. 7 a.m. Wsk. Hall, M edical Alumni Aud.


Health Sciences Library Tour. Noon. Meet at New Book area.

Thursday, August 14

SUNY Upstate New Employee Orientation. 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. C.A.B., East Lounge.

Medical Grand Rounds. “Using Med edications in Chronic Renal Failure to Delay Dialysis.” W. Clayton Elliott, M.D., Upstate Medical University. 8:30 a.m. Wsk. Hall, first floor lobby.

Friday, August 15

SUNY Upstate New Employee Orientation. 8 a.m. to noon. C.A.B., East Lounge.

Obstetrics/Gynecology Lecture Series. “VBAC.” H. Arikiilou Louvakis, M.D., Upstate Medical University. 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. “Preventive Health Maintenance.” Gail Dolbear, M.D., Upstate Medical Alumni Aud.

Monday, August 18

Book Fair. See 8/18 Calendar listing.

Payroll Services Workshop. “How SUNY Upstate’s CSEA & PEF Employees Paychecks are Calculated.” 9 a.m. to noon. C.A.B., East Lounge.

Tuesday, August 19

Book Fair. See 8/18 Calendar listing.

Wednesday, August 20

Anesthesiology Grand Rounds. 7 a.m. Wsk. Hall, M edical Alumni Aud.

Book Fair. See 8/18 Calendar listing.

Health Sciences Library Tour. See 8/13 Calendar listing.

Health Seminar. “How to Shorten Your Hospital Stay.” Jennifer Alberry, BSN, Upstate Medical University. Free. 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. HealthLink. Call 464-8668 to register.

Thursday, August 21

Medical Grand Rounds. “Managing Hypertension in the Older Patient.” Alan H. Gradman, M.D., Western Pennsylvania Hospital in Pittsburgh. 8:30 a.m. Wsk. Hall, M edical Alumni Aud.

Book Fair. See 8/18 Calendar listing.

Light the Night On-Site Registration. 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. University Hospital, second floor lobby.

Friday, August 22

Obstetrics/Gynecology Lecture Series. “Menopause.” Einat Czerwinski, M.D., Upstate Medical University. 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. “Office Management.” Maria Zielinski, M.D., Upstate Medical University. 9:45 to 11 a.m. M arley Education Center.

Book Fair. See 8/18 Calendar listing.

Monday, August 25

AA Open Meeting. See 8/18 Calendar listing.

Tuesday, August 26

Health Seminar. “Women’s Healthy Heart Cuisine.” 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. 2402 University Hospital. Call 464-8668 to register.

Health Seminar. “Learn Your Individualized Breast Cancer Risk.” Jayne Charlamb, M.D., Upstate Medical University. 6 to 7 p.m. HealthLink. Call 464-8668 to register.

Wednesday, August 27

Anesthesiology Grand Rounds. 7 a.m. Wsk. Hall, M edical Alumni Aud.

Light the Night Registration. 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. UHCC, 4th floor Community Room.

Health Sciences Library Tour. See 8/13 Calendar listing.

Thursday, August 28

SUNY Upstate New Employee Orientation. 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. C.A.B., East Lounge.

Medical Grand Rounds. Philip Hольtappel, M.D., Upstate Medical University. 8:30 a.m. Wsk. Hall, M edical Alumni Aud.

Health Seminar. “Optimizing Pain Management.” Andrew Burgdorf, PharmD, Upstate Medical University. 6 to 7 p.m. HealthLink. Call 464-8668 to register.

Friday, August 29

SUNY Upstate New Employee Orientation. 8 a.m. to noon. C.A.B., East Lounge.

Obstetrics/Gynecology Lecture Series. “Vaginal Infections.” Judy Barreiro, M.D., Upstate Medical University. 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. “Female Sexuality.” Sandra Lane, M.D., Upstate Medical University. 9:45 to 11 a.m. M arley Education Center.


SUNY Nursing Services Orientation. 1 to 3 p.m. C.A.B., East Lounge.

Visit Upstate Update on the web at: www.upstate.edu:80/hr/update/
Children’s Hospital

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professor and chair of SUNY Upstate’s Department of Pediatrics. “With more than 1 million visitors expected at the Fair, it presents a wonderful chance to create visibility for the new children’s center.”

University Hospital currently offers top-notch pediatric care, but the advent of a dedicated center will greatly enhance the level of care for children across the region. “University Hospital already offers the full-range of pediatric medical and surgical services,” said Dr. Welch. “The Children’s Hospital will make it possible to bring all of these services within the same geographic area. In addition, a wide range of support services will be offered to help families deal with the stress that comes along with a sick child.”

The new state-of-the-art children’s center will be on two floors of new construction over the east wing of University Hospital. It will encompass 70,000 square feet and will have a dedicated entrance lobby and banks of elevators. The location of the Children’s Hospital will make it possible to use shared spaces in other areas of the east wing for the pediatric emergency department, imaging services, and operating rooms, while keeping most pediatric activity in a distinct location.

“The new facility will provide a more comfortable environment for children,” said Leola Rodgers, University Hospital’s pediatric service line administrator. “The center will be designed with private rooms to give patients and their families a better setting in which to recover. The extra space will also create a more familiar atmosphere for children. Family members can stay around the clock and will be much more involved in the patient’s recovery, keeping the family bond intact,” she said.

For more information about the Children’s Hospital display, contact Bj Adigun at 464-9389 (adigunb@upstate.edu) or visit www.empireexpo.com/state_fair/2003/.

Convocation

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Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Teaching
Frank C. Smith, MD, Pediatrics

Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Scholarship and Creative Activities
Richard L. Cross, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Biology

President’s Award for Excellence and Leadership in Research
Ruth S. Weinstock, MD, PhD, Medicine

President’s Award for Excellence in Basic Research by a Young Investigator
Mark E. Schmitt, PhD, Biochemistry & Molecular Biology

President’s Award for Excellence in Clinical Research by a Young Investigator
Timothy A. Damron, MD, Orthopedic Surgery

President’s Award for Advancement of Affirmative Action
Janice F. Ross, CHE, Hospital Administration

President’s Award for Excellence in Library Science
Diane Davis Luft, MLS, Health Sciences Library

President’s Award for Excellence in Teaching:
- College of Medicine, Basic Science/College of Graduate Studies: Stewart N. Loh, PhD, Biochemistry and Molecule Biology
- College of Medicine, Clinical Department: Lynn M. Cleary, MD, Medicine
- College of Medicine, Clinical Department: Gary F. Nieman, Surgery
- College of Health Professions: Ronald J. Seymour, PT, PhD, Physical Therapy Education
- Clinical Campus: Gregory P. Scagnelli, MD, Pediatrics

President’s Award for Excellence in Professional Service
George L. Paul, Educational Communications

President’s Award for Excellence in Faculty Service
Carl P. Wiezalis, MS, Cardiorespiratory Sciences

President’s Award for Voluntary Faculty Service
- College of Medicine: Richard S. Cohen, MD, Community Memorial Hospital, Hamilton
- College of Nursing: Sally A. Palmer, MS, RN, Health Services Association
- College of Health Professions: Janice A. Michaels, PT, MS, Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, University Hospital
- Clinical Campus: Lawrence P. Kerr, MD, United Health Services/United Medical Associates

President’s Award for Distinguished Service:
Stephen Kimatian, regional vice president, Clear Channel NY Stations

President’s Award for Excellence in Philanthropic Service, Corporate
Communication Workers of America
Steve Matro

President’s Award for Excellence in Philanthropic Service, Individual
Chris Arnold & Ellen Yeomans
Noyes named hospital affairs compliance officer for SUNY Upstate

Darlene A. Noyes, a registered nurse with more than 20 years of experience in the medical field, including as an emergency room nurse and as director of patient access at Crouse Hospital, has been named institutional compliance officer for hospital affairs at SUNY Upstate.

In this capacity Noyes oversees a compliance program and works to educate and inform all faculty and staff of federal, state and local regulations as well as provide the guidelines to enable health care providers and employees of SUNY Upstate to fulfill their obligations in an ethical and honest manner.

Before joining SUNY Upstate, Noyes was director of patient access at Crouse Hospital (2000-2003), where she was responsible for all admitting procedures and oversaw a staff of 74. Noyes also served as director of medical management for United Healthcare, East Syracuse, where she won a variety of awards for her management of Medicaid programs. She also served as director of utilization management/quality management credentialing for Physicians IPA, Syracuse, and as utilization review and coding supervisor at Community General Hospital.

SUNY Upstate professor wins Young Investigator Award

Paul Klawitter, MD, PhD, assistant professor of emergency medicine at SUNY Upstate, has been honored with the Young Investigator Award from the Society of Academic Emergency Medicine (SAEM). The award was presented to Klawitter at the SAEM’s annual meeting in May.

The award honors individuals who show promise and distinction in their emergency medicine research career and who have demonstrated commitment to research as evidenced by their academic achievements and qualifications.

Dr. Klawitter, who earned his medical degree in 1993 from SUNY Upstate and his doctoral degree from Ohio State University in 2002, has had his research published in the American Journal of Physiology and the Journal of Critical Care and has been awarded research grants from the American Lung Association and the National Institutes of Health. He is the author of a chapter in the “Handbook of Cardiovascular Emergencies” (Lippincott Williams & Wilkins, 2001).

Prior to joining SUNY Upstate, he served as assistant professor in the Department of Emergency Medicine at Ohio State University, where he also was a research fellow.

The SAEM honor is one of several he has received in recent years. Others include the NIH National Research Service Award (2000), Ohio State University Woody Hayes Award for Outstanding Contribution to Emergency Medicine (2000) and the Ohio State Department of Emergency Medicine Fellow of the Year (1999).

SUNY Upstate faculty present at conference

Jannie Woo, PhD, professor of pathology, Sue Stowell, associate professor of cytotechnology and Cindy Steele, supervisor of SUNY Upstate’s Cytopathology Section attended the Slice of Life Conference for Medical Multimedia Developers and Educators at Drexel University College of Medicine, Philadelphia, PA, June 2 through 28. They presented a web site entitled “Web-Based Approach to Teaching Diagnostic Cytology Using a ‘Virtual’ Microscope.” Other participants in this project included Weichen Wang, M D, Simpson Dee, M D and Asghar Naqvi, M D, of SUNY Upstate’s Department of Pathology.
**SkillSoft on-line courses available**

SkillSoft's e-learning, on-line education, including 400 business skills and 400 information technology courses, is available to all SUNY Upstate employees. The courses help build competencies needed for top performance, develop potential for advanced assignments and promotions, and teach skills that will expand personal needs and interests. The courses can be accessed 24 hours a day, seven days a week, on or off campus, and are free of charge to employees. SkillSoft courses are easy to use and navigate and allow for individualized learning style, schedule, and expertise. All employees are encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity.

Access the SkillSoft site at http://skillport.skillsoft.com/suny and enter your Upstate user ID, followed by “umu,” in the User ID field (example: smithjumu) and enter your Upstate employee number as your password.

Contact Michael Wendell at 464-4401 or Lauren Brady at 464-4407 with questions regarding SkillSoft on-line courses.

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**Oncology Services golf outing is Sept. 6**

University Hospital’s Oncology Services will present its Second Annual Golf Outing Saturday, Sept. 6, at 1 p.m. at the Seneca Golf Course in Baldwinsville. For more information, call Rich Williams, RN, at 464-6583 or email Williamr@upstate.edu.

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**Update on University Hospital’s use of state funding**

In 2002, Gov. George Pataki signed the Health Care Workforce Recruitment and Retention act that provides funding for three years to each public hospital in the state for the recruitment and retention of health care workers. University Hospital’s allocation for the three years is approximately $5 million.

University Hospital has used its 2002 portion to address the recruitment and retention needs of all non-supervisory workers and any worker with direct patient care responsibilities by:

- increasing the number of staff to provide weekend relief in areas experiencing significant off-shift and weekend demands such as physical therapy, social work and radiology;
- hiring a diversity recruiter to expand the minority recruitment efforts and to develop a minority recruitment process/consultation;
- creating a scholarship program for College of Health Professions students as an incentive for them to seek employment at University Hospital upon graduation;
- enhancing travel opportunities for staff education and training necessary for job expectations and career plans;
- hiring a professional development advisor to serve as a dedicated career and educational counselor, to support onsite guidance as to career choices, programs available, funding options and schedule planning;
- establishing a Computer Resource Center that provides all hospital individuals walk-in assistance with basic computer skills, programs and web-based courses;
- purchasing a wide-range of educational resources (books, CD Roms, videos) to create a multidisciplinary library of knowledge;
- promoting staff recognition by earmarking funds for the ongoing Upstate Stars program, allowing for direct frontline recognition of staff;
- continuing efforts in enhancing the quality of care by offering the FISH program, Get the Red Out classes, new Physical Plant uniforms, Clean Up Day activities, and Ambulatory recognition.

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**Biomedical Sciences Retreat to be held Sept. 5**

SUNY Upstate's Biomedical Sciences Retreat will be held Friday, Sept. 5 at Welch Allyn’s “The Lodge” in Skaneateles. The retreat features keynote speaker Jay Dunlap, PhD, chair of the Department of Genetics at Dartmouth Medical School, SUNY Upstate's College of Graduate Studies faculty presentations, and a poster session. The Retreat includes continental breakfast (8 a.m.), a noon luncheon, and concludes with a social from 5:30 to 7 p.m. The retreat is sponsored by SUNY Upstate's College of Graduate Studies. Deadline to register is Thursday, Aug. 21. Registrations will not be accepted after the deadline date.

To register or for more information, email Sandi Granger at grangers@upstate.edu
“Tidy-Up” is a year-long campaign

University Hospital designated April 30 of this year as Clean Up Day, an activity of its on-going “Tidy Up” campaign. The day proved highly successful in ensuring our hospital patients and visitors a clean and pleasant environment. Also benefitting from the experience were hospital employees and volunteers whose efforts to “tidy up” resulted in a more efficient and organized workplace.

In the days leading up to and including April 30, more than 67,707 lbs. (33.9 tons) of waste was removed from the hospital environs, including 22,060 lbs. of cardboard and paper that was recycled and more than 22,700 lbs. of general waste, including non-functioning refrigerators and/or air conditioning units, old paint cans and recycled lead battery acid, and 4,364 lbs. of confidential paper shredding. Congratulations to the Clean Up Day planning committee and to each department that participated in cleaning up their environment.

University Hospital’s “Tidy Up” committee offers the following steps to continue to ensure a clean and safe environment:

Guidelines for keeping our environment clean:
• Dispose of any trash dropped on the floor.
• Place a lid on all drinks to prevent spills.
• Immediately clean any small amounts of spilled liquid.
• Call 464-T1DY for Environmental Services assistance for larger amounts of spilled liquid.
• Call 464-T1DY if a public restroom is in need of supplies or an immediate clean up.
• When leaving a meeting/class, discard trash in trash receptacles, replace chairs or tables you have moved, erase boards.
• Be sure that “clean-up” arrangements are also made when arranging for catered events or food deliveries within the facility.
• Boxes should not be placed in hallways for pickup. Leave them within office/work area for regular trash pick up. Call 464-T1DY for unusually large amount of boxes.

Guidelines for keeping staff lounges clean:
• All personnel are expected to keep the area clean.
• Keep areas free of trash and dirty scrubs; organize materials.
• Staff refrigerators should be cleaned every two weeks by the unit staff.
• Make sure that cleaning materials are available for cleaning surfaces.
• Call 464-T1DY for special cleaning needs.

Guidelines for keeping visitor lounges clean:
• Visitor lounges should be open and available to all.
• Exclusive use by any group is prohibited.
• No electrical appliances or cooking is allowed in lounges.
• Visitors will need to vacate area during hours of cleaning.

How to Shorten Your Hospital Stay
Wednesday, August 20  3:30 – 4:30 p.m.
Presenter: Jennifer Alberry, BSN, RN PSL, University Hospital
When you must go to the hospital for elective surgery there are many things you can do ahead of time to prepare for discharge. Program will offer tips on recovery and making the transition back home.

Learn Your Individualized Breast Cancer Risk
Tuesday, August 26  6 – 7 p.m.
Presenter: Jayne Charlamb, MD, Breast Care Center, Department of Surgery, University Hospital
Your risk for developing breast cancer is an individualized risk, dependent on a combination of lifestyle and traits known as “risk factors.” Program will help you calculate your breast cancer risk and learn how to decrease your chance of developing the disease.

Women’s Healthy Heart Cuisine
Tuesday, August 26  2:30 – 3:30 p.m.
Presenters: Kim Glidden, RD, CDN, CNSD, registered dietitian, Cardiovascular Service Line; Greg Augello, Sodexho, chef & production manager, University Hospital
This special class at University Hospital will demonstrate how to prepare heart-healthy meals with an emphasis on providing Omega 3 fatty acids.
Location: University Hospital – Room 2402 (after hours dining room next to the Crossroads Cafeteria). Registration limited to 20 participants

Optimizing Pain Management
Thursday, August 28  6 – 7 p.m.
Presenter: Andrew Burgdorf, PharmD, pharmacist, University Hospital
Good pain control helps your body rest, heal with greater comfort and recover faster. Discussed will be general principles of pain management, classes of medications and their uses and side effects.

Students return to campus: orientation program Aug. 19 through 24

SUNY Upstate Medical University’s four colleges will present orientation programs for new and returning students and their families Tuesday, Aug. 19 through Sunday, Aug. 24. First day of classes is Monday, Aug. 25.

SUNY Upstate President Gregory L. Eastwood, M.D., will officially welcome parents and families of entering students during ceremonies to begin at 1 p.m., Wednesday, Aug. 20 in the Institute of Human Performance’s athletic atrium.

Joining Dr. Eastwood for the ceremony will be Kenneth L. Barker, PhD, provost and vice president for academic affairs and research; William J. Williams, M.D., dean of the College of Medicine; Rajesh J. Dave, M.D., dean of the Clinical Campus at Binghamton; Maxwell M. Moez, PhD, dean of the College of Graduate Studies; Elvira Szegedi, PhD, RN, dean of the College of Nursing; Hugh Bonner, PhD, dean of the College of Health Professions; and E. Gregory Keating, PhD, dean of Student Affairs. Frank Tees, director of Public Safety will discuss safety on campus.

The Parents and Family Association of the Medical Alumni Foundation at Upstate Medical University will provide each College of Medicine freshman with a white coat during ceremonies to be held Wednesday, Aug. 20 from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. in the athletic atrium of the Institute for Human Performance (IHP). In addition, each freshman will receive a copy of the Netter’s Anatomy Book, courtesy of the Medical Alumni Foundation. Following the White Coat Ceremony, the Parents and Family Association will sponsor a reception in the main atrium of the IHP.

The College of Health Professions will present ceremonial white coats to students during ceremonies, Wednesday, Aug. 27 beginning at 5 p.m. in the the Institute for Human Performance’s athletic atrium.

(Note: The complete orientation calendar of events for each of Upstate’s colleges is available through Student Affairs at 464-8855.)

PeaceNotes

Peace Notes is provided by SUNY Upstate’s Office of Spiritual Care Services. Chaplains: Fr. Alfred J. Bebel and Rev. Gerald M. Shave. Office: 464-4687

By the declining day, humankind is at a great disadvantage, save those who do good works, admonish one another to be forthright, and inspire each other to endure hardship.

-Holy Quran, Chapter 103, Verse 1

A book is a child’s window to the world!

DONATE CHILDREN’S BOOKS
AS PART OF UPSTATE’S 2003 Days of Caring project

Throughout August, SUNY Upstate employees, students, faculty, and volunteers are encouraged to donate new or gently used children’s books to Success by Six, a United Way program that promotes childhood literacy by giving books to Pre-K, HeadStart, before- and after-school programs, and child care and family care programs throughout Onondaga County.

Open new windows to the world. Help a child learn to read. Donate books.

Bins for donating children’s books will be at the following locations throughout August:

- University Hospital main lobby
- UHCC Administration Room 5040
- Health Sciences Library
- Silverman Hall first floor lobby
- Weiskotten Hall first floor lobby
- Jacobsen Hall first floor lobby
- C.A.B. lobby
- 250 Harrison Street, fourth floor lobby

For more information, call Becky Cerio, 464-4845

Save the Date: Molly Cooke, M.D., to keynote at Teaching Day Oct. 28

Molly Cooke, M.D., director of the Academy of Medical Educators, will discuss teaching excellence at SUNY Upstate’s Third Annual Teaching Day for Teachers, Tuesday, Oct. 28, from noon to 5 p.m. in the Institute for Human Performance. The Teaching Day includes workshops and poster and oral presentations.
Winners of the Second Annual Hospital Recognition Awards announced

University Hospital Upstate Stars Employee Recognition Committee selected the winners of the Second Annual Hospital Recognition Awards. The recipients were honored during the week of May 12, as part of the National Hospital Week festivities.

The Upstate Stars Recognition Awards Program recognizes University Hospital staff for exceptional service to the hospital and to patients in 2002. The program is an activity of University Hospital’s Upstate Stars Employee Recognition Team, under the auspices of Hospital Administration.

This year’s awards program expanded to recognize four category winners for clinical staff and four category winners for non-clinical/support staff. The four hospital award categories are Employee of the Year, Supervisor of the Year, Team of the Year and Outstanding Contribution of the Year.

Individual winners received a plaque, certificate and a $100 savings bond. The Team of the Year recipients received a plaque, a certificate for each individual on the team and a party from Sodexho.

Congratulations to the following award recipients:

Hope Silvis of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation and a University Hospital employee for four years, received the University Hospital Employee of the Year (clinical) award for 2002.

Hope symbolizes excellence in patient care and genuine compassion. Her dedication to the treatment of burn patients began two years ago when she voluntarily chose to treat individuals with burns. As an educator on pain management she helps others understand the devastating effects of pain from burns and how it affects a person’s function and ability to perform daily activities.

Devoted to pediatric burn patients, she helps send them to Summer Burn Camp. For the last two years, she used two weeks of her own vacation time to volunteer as a camp counselor, assisting children with the stigma and social challenges they face. In addition, Hope is involved in raising money and awareness for the Children’s Miracle Network and Clark Burn Center. She also gives of her own time on a weekly basis to the Big Sister, Big Brother Program.

Lori Plaisted of Cytogenetics, an employee of University Hospital for 19 years, has received the University Hospital Supervisor of the Year (clinical) award for 2002.

Lori commits to improving safety and efficiency within the lab. Through her leadership and continuing education of staff, there has been a significant improvement of the patient turn around time for specialty and oncology cytogenetic testing from three weeks to three days. Lori was instrumental in the implementation of the FISH lab, which resulted in tripling the laboratory income.

An important element to her success as an outstanding supervisor is her compassion towards employees. Lori encourages her staff to strive for and achieve their best despite the working lab temperatures, which can reach over 90 degrees at times.

Lori has natural leadership ability, heartfelt dedication to her staff and a strong commitment to University Hospital’s core values. She leads by example in raising the bar for herself and the staff.

Linda Robson, patient service director from the Recovery Room, a 28 year employee of SUNY Upstate, has received the 2002 University Hospital Outstanding Contribution of the Year (clinical) award.

Linda’s invaluable leadership role in the implementation of the Pain Management Program exemplifies University Hospital’s core values. She spearheaded the development of this program which focuses on the continuing assessment of each patient’s pain and their response to therapeutic interventions.
Winners of the Second Annual Hospital Recognition Awards announced

Linda exhibits compassion towards her patients, demonstrates excellence in patient care and is conscientious of patient safety, resulting in improved patient satisfaction regarding pain management. An educator and an advocate for both patients and staff, Linda ensures that the staff is provided with the most current knowledge in order to provide the highest quality care.

Linda’s commitment to the creation of the Pain Management Program required an enormous amount of time and effort. She devoted her own time to ensure this program was successful while maintaining her duties as a Patient Service Director in the PACU.

The Gamma Knife Center Team, comprised of nurses, physicians and support personnel, received the University Hospital Team of the Year (clinical) award for 2002.

Innovative improvements made by the team include the patient screening process and the streamlining of the documentation process.

Exemplifying dedication and compassion to their patients, the team “adopted” a patient and his family during this past holiday season. The patient was out of work due to his condition and his wife lost her job due to her husband’s illness. After the nurses brought the patient’s circumstances to the attention of the team, members of the team contributed to help make their holiday bright and cheerful. The family received many holiday surprises and were very grateful.

The team is comprised of an exceptional group of dedicated employees, working with patients with devastating situations, making a permanent impact on their lives.

Twenty-six year University Hospital employee Kathryn Same of Infection Control has received the University Hospital 2002 Employee of the Year (non clinical) award.

Kathy, a nurse epidemiologist and the team leader of Infection Control, plays a critical role in leading the Infection Control Office to limit the acquisition and spread of hospital-associated infections. She oversees the management of communicable disease exposure and patient isolation practices. She has voluntarily assumed the role of chair for the Needlestick Task Force. Through her leadership and expertise in the field, University Hospital is making tremendous strides in reducing employee and patient blood exposures.

Kathy is also the institution’s team leader responsible for performing monthly water cultures for legionella. Kathy has also played an active role in leading several efforts to address the spread of MRSA as well as developing policies and protocols for CJD.

Kathy rapidly discovered a very unusual organism found in the hospital supplied mouthwash called bcepacia. Upon discovery, she performed intricate analysis of the situation and coordinated a swift solution to the crisis. The New York State Department of Health recognized her keen efforts.

Her involvement in many organizations such as the Iroquois Infection Control Project, NYS APIC Committee, and NYPORTS Regional Council have distinguished her as an integral part of the healthcare community. Her standing is unparalleled as a resource for Infection Control issues.

Gail Banach of the Poison Control Center has received the University Hospital Outstanding Contribution of the Year (non-clinical) award for 2002. Gail has been an employee of SUNY Upstate for 17 years.

Gail is an outstanding role model for the hospital staff. Thinking out of the box is one of her strongest
assets. Taking her job to the next level is part of her superior work ethic. All of her activities are within the mission and scope of University Hospital.

Through self-directed resourcefulness and diligence, 100 percent of her education budget is underwritten by outside agencies. Gail has secured corporate sponsorships from such companies as Kinney Drugs and Saturn for billboard displays.

Gail is the only poison educator in the nation to use points of service such as Cooperative Extensions to distribute poison prevention information and conduct the trainer poison prevention education programs. The interactive programs that she has developed for children on poison prevention are both fun and educational. Gail developed the protocols for the interfacing of 911 call centers and poison centers in our 34 county area.

Gail works with various community organizations such as Safe Kids and with Syracuse University volunteer students. She is an active member of the National American Association of Poison Control Centers (AAPCC). She willingly chairs numerous education committees and is a guest lecturer at sponsored conferences. Internationally, Gail was a guest presenter at the World Health Organization’s meeting in Belgium.

The University Hospital Team of the Year (non-clinical) award for 2002 was presented to the Oncology Leadership Team, the Cancer Committee and all providers of oncology care for successfully receiving accreditation from the American College of Surgeons for a newly developed Cancer Program. This accreditation is parallel to the standards endorsed by the Joint Commission but it places an in depth emphasis on oncology services.

This diverse team is comprised of many talented employees who began their quest over two years ago. The team ardously prepared for the required on-site survey as the American College of Surgeons mandates a complete one year documentation history of compliance with all standards. The approval process was recently redesigned and expanded the scope of the cancer program approval process from four major components to ten areas of evaluation.

This dedicated team successfully met all ten mandatory standards with no deficiencies. University Hospital received a full three-year accreditation status. The team members worked beyond all expectations to achieve the highest available rating of “substantial compliance” in all ten evaluative categories. University Hospital is the first Syracuse area hospital to receive this national accreditation as an approved Cancer Program.
Immunization Awareness Month

Are you up-to-date, or do you need to vaccinate? Not only is August Immunization Awareness Month, but parents are preparing for the start of school, students are leaving for college, and flu season is rapidly approaching.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), vaccinations play a vital role in staying healthy. Vaccines have eradicated naturally occurring smallpox, eliminated wild poliovirus in the United States, and significantly reduced the number of cases of measles, diphtheria, rubella, pertussis and other diseases.

Vaccine-preventable diseases and their complications cause more than 40,000 adult deaths in the United States each year. Many of these deaths are caused by viral hepatitis, meningococcal and pneumococcal infections, pertussis (whooping cough), measles and influenza. Influenza and pneumonia combined are the fifth leading cause of death in older Americans. People who have not been vaccinated against chickenpox or had the disease as a child are at risk for contracting chickenpox as an adult. The risk of complications and death from chickenpox can be 10 to 20 times greater for adults than children. Vaccines offer safe and effective protection from infections that could lead to debilitating illness and death.

Everyone should be vaccinated, regardless of age, sex, race, ethnic background or country of origin. Recommended vaccinations begin at birth and continue throughout one's lifetime. Awareness of the vaccines that are recommended for infants, children, adolescents and adults of all ages is critical to protecting our community from disease.

Children are particularly vulnerable to infection, so it's important that parents make certain that their children are properly immunized. This is especially critical during the first four years. Infants and children should receive nearly eighty percent of their vaccinations by two years of age. Certain vaccines and boosters are recommended during adolescent years and throughout adulthood. Vaccines against certain diseases that may be encountered when traveling outside the United States are recommended for travelers.

Parents should be mindful of their children's immunization schedules. If a child is lacking a vaccination or is possibly behind in their vaccination schedule, contact your health care provider today to confirm that your child is up-to-date and, make sure that your own immunizations are current, as well.

(courtesy of the NYS Department of Health)
Retirement reception for Rosemarie Capriotti is Aug. 15

All SUNY Upstate individuals are invited to a retirement reception for Rosemarie (Ro) Capriotti, Friday, Aug. 15, from 3 to 4:30 p.m. in the first floor lobby of Weiskotten Hall. Rosemarie joined SUNY Upstate in 1981, working for the Department of Radiation Oncology. Since 1984, she has served as the Information Desk receptionist in Weiskotten Hall.

Crossroads Cafeteria extends hours

Crossroads Cafeteria, located on the second floor of University Hospital, now offers continuous service from 6:30 a.m. to 2 a.m., seven days a week thanks to funding provided by University Hospital for recruitment and retention. The cafeteria offers grill service, soup and salad bar, pizza, desserts and beverages.

SUNY Upstate on display in Washington, DC

Following their participation in Chamber of Commerce Day, held May 14 on Capitol Hill, SUNY Upstate Vice President Ronald Young and Dan Hurley, director of government and community relations at SUNY Upstate, presented collages of SUNY Upstate's campus to U.S. Sen. Hillary Clinton and U.S. Rep. James Walsh for display in their Washington offices.

Bowlers sought for SUNY Upstate mixed league

The Upstate Medical Mixed Bowling League is looking for bowlers (teams or individuals). The league bowls on Mondays at 5:30 p.m. beginning Sept. 8. For more information, call Debbie Benware at 464-7882 or Chris Mieczkowski at 464-2412.

Book Fair held Aug. 18 through 22

Be sure to visit the book fair sponsored by Advocates for SUNY Upstate Medical University, Aug. 18 through 22 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the main lobby of University Hospital. The fair will feature a variety of children's and adult books as well as other gift items, including toys and novelties. Visa, Mastercard and checks will be accepted. For more information, call 464-5610.

Upstate Update Production Schedule

August through Dec. 2003

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Note: Contact the Human Resources Department for address corrections.