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9-20-2013

TODAY - September 20, 2013

Loma Linda University Health

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Recommended Citation

Loma Linda University Health, "TODAY - September 20, 2013" (2013). *TODAY*.
<https://scholarsrepository.llu.edu/today/31>

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LLU Health to receive nearly \$1 million to help people access affordable health care

By Herbert Atienza

Loma Linda University health will receive a grant of \$990,000 from Covered California to conduct outreach and education programs on how, starting in 2014, Californians can access affordable health care coverage under the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

LLU Health, in partnership with Community Clinic Association of San Bernardino County, is one of 48 lead organizations receiving grant awards totaling \$37 million from Covered California to help residents access affordable health care coverage.

The selected organizations will reach nearly 9 million people and more than 200,000 small businesses in California's 58 counties. Covered California will focus its outreach on 5.3 million Californians in need of individual insurance, about half of whom may be eligible for financial assis-

tance with their premiums.

"We are very excited to build on partnerships with organizations that have trusted relationships in diverse communities throughout the state," says Peter V. Lee, executive director of Covered California. The organization is charged with creating a new insurance marketplace in which individuals and small businesses can get access to health insurance, as provided by the federal health care law.

"Loma Linda University Health's strategy to use provider educators who will champion Covered California has great outreach potential," comments Sarah Soto-Taylor, Covered California deputy director of community affairs. "Our partnership with Loma Linda will help raise awareness about our new health care marketplace in San Bernardino County among the medical professionals who come in contact daily with consumers who may benefit from premium assistance."

The grant will allow LLU Health and Community Clinic Association of San Bernardino County to pursue an outreach plan, developed under the leadership of Dora Barilla, DrPH, assistant vice president for strategy and innovation at LLUH, to reach out to diverse, uninsured populations within the county.

The plan includes staging group meetings, attending community events, coordinating with community clinics, and educating health care providers about the new California Health Benefit Exchange, a major component of the federal health care law.

"Key to successful implementation of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act is education," explains Gerald Winslow, PhD, vice president for mission and culture at LLUH, and director of the Institute for Health Policy and Leadership, the organizational entity at LLUH responsible for administering the grant. "We are very honored to have been selected by Covered California to help educate and assist the residents of San Bernardino County in gaining access to affordable health care."



At a recent training session held at Loma Linda University Health, training consultant Susan Ladua answers questions from representatives of various organizations that received grants from Covered California about the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

Children's Hospital patient lobbies U.S. Congress

By James Ponder

Kimie Metcalf is a 7-year-old *tour de force*.

In addition to all the things kids normally do, Kimie serves Loma Linda University Children's Hospital, the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, and the Childhood Cancer Foundation as an advocate or ambassador.

Earlier this year, the Orange County Inland Empire chapter of the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society sent her to Washington, D.C., to lobby for two bills, HR 460 and HR 1801, which would make cancer treatment more accessible.

"These two bills would really help patients and their families," Kimie says.

As one of 250 individuals dispatched to the nation's capital, Kimie met Congresswoman Gloria Negrete McLeod from California's 35th District, Congressman Dana Rohrabacher from the 48th, and the chief of staff for Congressman Darrell Issa from the 49th. She also delivered a rousing pep talk to her fellow national ambassadors before the group set out for Capitol Hill.

Kimie's engaging, outgoing personality and personal health challenges make her an ideal spokesperson for children with cancer. Born 12 weeks premature as the surviving identical twin of a preterm pregnancy, she weighed a mere 2 pounds, 14 ounces and spent the first 65 days of life in a neonatal intensive care unit. She was treated for a hole in her heart, bleeding in her brain, and cerebral palsy. She also had multiple eye surgeries and is legally blind in her right eye.

Her mom, Kristine Metcalf, credits a laboratory mistake, made when Kimie was 4, for alerting the family to the fact that

Kimie also had cancer.

"The lab tech that did the processing read the requisition slip wrong, did a peripheral smear of her blood, and noticed her white blood cells didn't look normal," Kristine remembers.

Later that same day, Albert Kheradpour, MD, a pediatric hematology/oncology specialist at Loma Linda University Children's Hospital, informed the family that Kimie had acute lymphoblastic leukemia, or ALL.

Kristine wasn't too concerned at first. As a nurse, she knew that the prognosis is good when ALL is properly treated. Besides, Kimie wasn't acting sick.

"She wasn't pale," Kristine says. "She had tons of energy, never complained of pain, and didn't have a single bruise."

Nevertheless, Dr. Kheradpour insisted on starting treatment right away, so Kimie was admitted to LLU Children's Hospital the very next day.

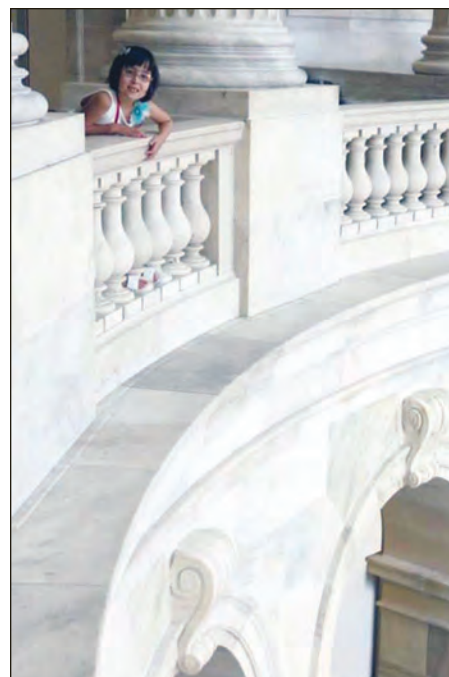
"She had a bone marrow biopsy, surgical placement of her port-a-cath, and started chemotherapy all on the same day," Kristine recalls.

For her part, Kimie hit it off with her new physician. "I like Dr. K," she offers. "He wears wild ties, and rides kids' bicycles around Children's Hospital."

There was more bad news when the biopsy results came back: Kimie was diagnosed with a rare leukemia subtype known as AF4/MLL.

Kristine's optimism faded with this new diagnosis. "It has a very different prognosis than regular ALL," she explains, noting that the likelihood of survival with AF4/MLL is between 30 and 40 percent. But something didn't make sense.

"It's usually associated with infants, and



The halls of Congress might seem intimidating to some kids, but not Kimie Metcalf. While in the nation's capital, the unflappable 7-year-old took a moment to play among the marble pillars between visits to the offices of three elected representatives. She also gave a pep talk to her fellow ambassadors of the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society.

requires a bone marrow transplant," Kristine explains. "I said, 'Well, Kimie's not an infant so what do we do?'"

What Dr. Kheradpour did was to put her on an aggressive course of treatment.

"Within the first month," Kristine reports, "Kimie's cancer cells were switched to the off mode, also known as remission."



Kimie Metcalf shares a hug and a smile with Congresswoman Gloria Negrete McLeod from California's 35th District, during a recent trip to Washington, D.C., where she lobbied for passage of two bills to make cancer treatment more accessible. Kimie was treated at Loma Linda University Children's Hospital for leukemia, but 10 months later, she's doing fine.

After a two-year therapeutic regimen, the illness remains in remission. Although the treatment ended 10 months ago, Dr. Kheradpour will monitor her progress monthly for one more year, and less frequently for another seven years.

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Many Strengths. One Mission

LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY HEALTH : LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY | LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER | LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL
LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY BEHAVIORAL MEDICINE CENTER | LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER EAST CAMPUS | LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY
MEDICAL CENTER - MURRIETA | LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY HEALTH CARE | LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY HEART & SURGICAL HOSPITAL | FACULTY
MEDICAL GROUP OF LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE | FACULTY PHYSICIANS & SURGEONS OF LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Disaster drill prepares campuses for hazardous chemical release

By Larry Kidder

A tanker car sheers its valve just west of Anderson Street as it travels east on the railway. A cloud of noxious chemical is released into the air, putting the main campus of Loma Linda

University Health in danger.

This scenario didn't actually happen on Thursday, August 15, but the combined campuses of Loma Linda University Health in the area acted as if it had.

All employees on the campuses of Loma Linda University, Loma Linda University



Children's Hospital patient lobbies U.S. Congress ...

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Because she wants to help other children with cancer, Kimie participates in two clinical trials to help researchers find effective treatments for leukemia.

The first, known as ALL0232, is sponsored by the Children's Oncology Group and the National Cancer Institute. It tests whether the chemotherapy drug dexamethasone works better than prednisone, and whether a combination of methotrexate and leucovorin works better than methotrexate alone.

The second, ALL0331, studies different combination drug chemotherapy regimens and compares them to conventional treatments. Both tests are randomized phase III trials, which means they involve between 1,000 and 3,000 individuals who randomly receive either the drugs under study or a placebo.

Because of her tireless advocacy, the Orange County Inland Empire chapter of the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (OCIE-LLS) named Kimie its 2013 Girl of the Year. This year she also received the first-ever Michelle Carew Legacy Award in honor of baseball legend Rod Carew's daughter Michelle, who lost her battle to leukemia in 1996 at the age of 18.

"Kimie has raised and donated approximately \$58,000 over the past three years for the two organizations she holds close to her heart," Kristine says of Loma Linda University Children's Hospital Foundation and

the OCIE-LLS. "She does this by holding monthly fundraisers and sponsoring Team Kimie Racing."

Team Kimie Racing, with its bright orange car, is doing very well this year. The team took top honors at Glen Helen Raceway in June.

"Her car runs six times a year in the regional Lucas Oil Series," Kristine explains, "and her famous Orange Booth, a traveling blood cancer awareness and donation booth, supplies information about different types of blood cancers, and offers leukemia awareness souvenirs for sale."

In her free time, Kimie loves hanging out with her family—which includes father Craig Metcalf and 9-year-old brother Reese Metcalf—and keeping an eye on her menagerie: dogs Snowy and Hachiko, Nerdle the Turtle, three chickens, two fish, one frog, and two ironclad beetles named Grayie and Blackie.

As a health ambassador to the world, Kimie has some advice for kids who, like herself, live with significant health issues.

"Cheer up," she says. "Take a jog. Burn some energy. Play and do your favorite stuff. Do what makes you happy. Eat some soup with saltine crackers. If you don't drink the soup, you won't feel good."

Her final advisory echoes what she enjoyed on her recent trip to Washington. "Get plenty of rest," she concludes. "Do not watch TV for hours; watch DVDs instead. Order room service—soup, salad, and candy!"



Kimie Metcalf hits the road in style. The 7-year-old serves as a health ambassador for Loma Linda University Children's Hospital, the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, and the Childhood Cancer Foundation. Full of energy and optimism, Kimie has overcome a number of daunting health challenges in her life.

Medical Center, LLUMC—East Campus, LLU Heart & Surgical Hospital, LLU Behavioral Medical Center, and other LLUH office areas in the vicinity were advised of a Code Orange—and subsequently to "shelter in place."

Though a real disaster would be unplanned, the August 15 disaster drill took weeks of planning, with more than 50 individuals meeting on a weekly basis for several months. These individuals not only included representatives from various

internal entities, but Loma Linda, Colton, and San Bernardino County fire, with specialists from County Fire Hazmat and police, American Medical Response, Inland Counties Emergency Medical Agency, just to name a few. All shared in the preparation and execution of this full-scale exercise. Two other health care systems—Kaiser Permanente and Prime Health—evaluated the exercise.

Biannual drills are mandated by the State of California as well as accrediting agencies such as the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Health Organizations (JCAHO). Health care and educational

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Innerweave: The Wholeness Story

By Wil Alexander, PhD

A summer of weddings everywhere—Oh the Joy! I thought you readers might enjoy a wedding sermon I preached recently:

Homily

This is a very special moment in the history of the universe and a time of the deepening of two gentle human spirits here on this beautiful piece of earth. It is a most high moment of trust, and hope, and love as you now begin to be, as never before, most humanly, intimately one.

The journey into intimate love is a mysterious journey of possessing and being possessed. Giving yourselves the pure freedom of owning and being owned. There is a delicious relaxation, an unspeakable peace, in knowing that you belong in each other's arms, and that far from being swallowed up by the other's heart, it is here that you discover that the real you is hidden in a love that only exists as you give it away to each other.

We need you to tell us that two people care enough to risk, to be vulnerable enough, willing enough to be committed deeply into their own, and then into each other's, worlds and lives. And, then to express in look and tone and vows your tender, shy, fragile yet intense feelings, hopes, faiths, and even fantasies for all your future lives together.

Think of what your intimacy will be like if you:

- share ideas and thoughts which show the mutual respect you have for each other's great minds
- share significant meanings and feelings, taking risks of being emotional ... building a foundation for all other forms of intimacy
- share experiences of wonder, beauty, epiphany, and especially the ineffable mystery of all happening in you and to you, within your reach but beyond your grasp!
- abandon yourselves to the sensual side of your created oneness
- share what you are discovering and experiencing in the spiritual deepest part of your being and becoming

You will do all this living under the same roof, sleeping under the same covers ... facing each other across the breakfast table, soul to soul obeying no law but the law of love.

Remember that love is restless by nature, continually searching, probing depths, seeking to discover new possibilities, helping each other to become all you can be.

The miracle of this true love is that it is God's gift to great and sensitive spirits in two people who can actively accept each other as rough-edged saints, a little less than angels, not yet perfect, and who thereby will nurture each other continually as they keep reaching out with open arms to God and each other, as they keep trying to know and understand each other, and to seek to be fully present to each other.

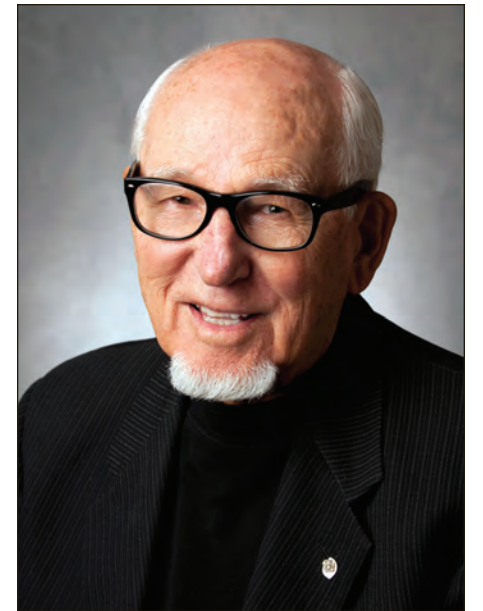
In all of your new love life together, enhanced by this service of committing each to the other in unconditional love, may He who has begun this love in you continue to be with you to help it all grow for your joy, your witness, always and everywhere.

And now, as a symbol of your desire to vow your love to each other, clasp your hands and speak your special words of promise:

Vows

I, Groom, do solemnly and sincerely and joyfully declare that I take you, Bride, to be with you forever, to share both happiness and sorrow, laughter and tears, to be with you whether circumstances are rough or smooth, to protect your individuality and to love you above all others, to encourage your growth and creativity in all our lives together, and thus to love you, deeply and forever, as God loves me, and loves you.

I, Bride, do solemnly and sincerely, and joyfully declare that I take you, Groom, to be with you forever, to share both happiness and sorrow, laughter and tears, to be with you, whether circumstances are rough or smooth, to protect your individuality and to love you above all others, to encourage your growth and creativity in all our lives together, and thus to love you deeply and forever, as God loves me and loves you.



Regional clergy invited to join Faith Community Health Network

By Nancy Yuen

Loma Linda University Health is reaching out to its local clergy by establishing a Faith Community Health Network.

"The faith community has a great impact on the community's well-being," says Timothy Gillespie, DMin, faith and community health liaison, Loma Linda University Health. "We must continue to become acquainted with our faith community leaders, and to grow our relationships for the health of the community."

Loma Linda University Health staff had been given the opportunity invite clergy from their churches to a clergy appreciation breakfast, held in late August. "As this is the second clergy appreciation event," says Dr. Gillespie, "we wanted to invite them to honor what they do, but also to formalize a conversation aimed at collaborative efforts to create a continuum of care for their congregants who find their way into our health care system. We asked them to consider joining our new Faith Community Health Network."

Following the event, nearly 100 of

those who responded to a survey remain in ongoing conversations with Dr. Gillespie. "Not only are we listening to their priorities, dreams, and challenges," he says. "We are committed to giving back to these faith community leaders." Benefits to those joining the network include a three-month membership to the Drayson Center, educational opportunities, access to counseling services, and badges identifying them as clergy members when they are visiting the campus.

The clergy appreciation breakfast was intended to be an early step in the process of creating the Faith Community Health Network. After Ruthita Fike, MA, CEO of LLU Medical Center, welcomed clergy and the LLU Health staff members who had invited them to the event, she shared the impact clergy members have had on her

own family. "We want to honor the work you do," she said. "You make a difference."

Fred Smith Jr., PhD, pastor of the Wayside United Methodist Church in Vallejo, was guest speaker. "Churches are a light," he said, "a place where God resides." He spoke of the power that belief holds in changing health care; his theory mirrors whole-person care. "Many things are a part of one's health," he said, "including how do we feel about ourselves?" After telling the story of Jesus healing a woman who had been unable to stand upright for 18 years, alleviating her suffering, Dr. Smith stated: "for those who believe in God, relying on the Creator is powerful."

"Regardless of politics or ethnicity," Dr. Smith continued, "church is where we meet and reason together, seeking a power greater than ourselves. We are called to reach out to others: 'When I was sick in prison, you sat at my side.'"

As churches respond to the challenges of extreme poverty, hunger, ailments and

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Fred Smith Jr., PhD, pastor, Wayside United Methodist Church in Vallejo, was guest speaker for the second annual clergy appreciation breakfast.

Disaster drill prepares campuses for hazardous chemical release . . .

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organizations like Loma Linda University Health are required to follow these mandates.

Brett McPherson, emergency management supervisor for LLU Shared Services, takes disaster preparedness very seriously. "The more we go through drills for various disaster scenarios," he points out, "the more we find ways to improve our communication and response to the disaster."

In Brett's mind, two drills per year isn't enough. "We need to push our comfort zone out and work toward quarterly campus-wide drills," he proposes, "and even smaller table-top exercises above and beyond the full-scale drills."

Communication is a key component, since the public—or in this case LLUH employees—must first know a disaster is happening. Loma Linda University Health utilizes a system known as "Send Word Now" to communicate with its nearly 20,000 employees on multiple campuses.

The incident command center, strategically located on the Loma Linda campus, becomes the nerve center for coordinating the response. Multiple messages are sent out, updating employees on the details of the disaster and how they should respond.

"We want everyone to have as much information as possible in the event of an actual disaster," Brett explains. "When we question whether a message has gone out, we may choose to resend it."

Those who wish to limit phone and text contact during a disaster drill can do so by going to <http://myllu.llu.edu/profile/contactinfo/> and removing numbers where they don't wish to receive disaster updates.

"We apologize to those who feel they received too many messages," Brett conveys, "but we caution them against eliminating too much contact information. We want them to be 'in the know' when a real disaster happens."

The Code Orange drill on August 15 asked employees to "shelter in place." For obvious reasons, not every employee could physically follow the Code Orange instructions—such as those in the middle of surgery or some other critical task—but employees should know what Code Orange means in case of an actual disaster.

Shelter in place (SIP) guidelines found on the "Environmental Health and Safety" pages of the VIP intranet suggest that "shelter in place is a public protection tool during hazardous materials accidents to minimize the exposure of the threatened public to dangerous chemicals."

The guidelines continue, "Shelter in

place uses a structure and its indoor atmosphere to temporarily separate people from a hazardous outside atmosphere."

Here are steps to follow when a Code Orange asks for SIP: 1) close and lock all doors, windows, and other openings to the outside; 2) shut off the building's ventilation system; 3) post signs, such as "Shelter in Place in Effect: NO ENTRY;" 4) if possible, move to interior rooms above the ground floor with the fewest windows and vents; 5) if possible, use plastic sheeting and duct tape to seal all cracks around doors and any vents in the room; and 6) do not open or leave the building until an "All Clear" is given by LLUH security or the hospital command center's public information officer.

Those in vehicles should follow these steps: 1) if close to home or a public building, go there; 2) if unable to leave, pull over to the side of the road and stop your vehicle in the safest possible place; 3) turn off your engine, and close windows and vents; 4) if possible, seal the heating/air conditioning vents with duct tape; 5) listen to the radio for updated advice and instructions; and 6) stay where you are until you are told it is safe to get back on the road.

Many health care institutions have emergency codes unique to their facility. Efforts are being made to standardize these codes at least on a statewide level. At LLUH, the codes are as follows: 1) Code Red, fire; 2) Code Blue Adult, medical emergency for an adult; 3) Code Blue Pediatric, medical emergency for a child; 4) Code Yellow, bomb threat; 5) Code Gray, combative person; 6) Code Silver, person with a weapon and/or hostage; 7) Code Pink, infant abduction; 8) Code Purple, child abduction; 9) Code Green Internal, internal disaster; 10) Code Green External, external disaster; and Code Orange, hazardous material spill/release.

"We're working to exceed the statewide and accreditation mandates," Brett shares. "Every drill we create and take part in strengthens our response and could potentially save lives. That's why we do it."

Brett has one last word of advice: "Start the conversation in your office about disaster preparedness with the phrase, 'What would we do if ... ?' Then discuss your response and what resources you would need."

For more information on disaster preparedness, visit the VIP intranet and go to the "Environmental Health and Safety" pages and "Emergency Management" area. The entire LLUMC Emergency Operations Plan is viewable, as well as a number of other documents. Each department should have its own safety coordinator and disaster plan in place.

GOSPEL BASICS

Going back to basics can be a valuable discipline in life. Whether in business, sports, academics, or any other enterprise, remembering the bottom-line essentials assures ongoing success. The same is true in the spiritual life.




In preparation for the second annual LLUC Prayer Conference on October 11 and 12, we are going back to *Gospel Basics* for the next three weeks. None is so mature or so knowledgeable as to not benefit from this exercise.

Our biblical focus will be on the first and essential words spoken by Christ in his ministry.

Join us for this series!

Randy Roberts
Senior Pastor

Gospel Basics Sermon Series

	September 21 – 9:00 & 11:45 am Where It Begins Mark 1:14–15 For further study . . . <i>Steps to Christ</i> , by Ellen G. White.
	September 28 – 9:00 & 11:45 am What Comes Next Mark 1:14–15 For further study . . . <i>Not a Fan</i> , by Kyle Idleman.
	October 5 – 9:00 & 11:45 am Where It Leads Mark 1:14–15. For further study . . . <i>Just Walk Across the Room</i> , by Bill Hybels.

Dentistry professor named Pierre Fauchard Teacher of the Year

By Doug Hackleman

Edward Ko, DDS, associate professor, department of restorative dentistry, was named the Pierre Fauchard Academy Teacher of the Year by the Southern California section of the academy in April during the California Dental Association's Annual Recognition and Awards Luncheon in Anaheim.

Each year, the academy presents Teacher of the Year Awards to faculty at Southern California schools of dentistry.

Candidates for the Pierre Fauchard

Academy Award are solicited from senior dental students. Nominees are then rated for involvement in various aspects of student mentoring from lectures, to research advisement, to mission trips and community and service activities.

Dr. Ko's route to dentistry began at his birth in Hong Kong. He graduated from the island city's Sam Yuk Secondary School in 1968, earned a bachelor of arts degree in mathematics and chemistry in 1973 from Walla Walla University, and, in 1975, a bachelor of science in medical technology from Walla Walla University before earn-

ing his doctor of dental surgery degree from LLU School of Dentistry in 1985.

After a year's hospital dentistry residency at Loma Linda University Medical Center, Dr. Ko practiced dentistry privately in Bakersfield, California, for 15 years before serving from 2000 to 2004 as director of the dental department at Hong Kong Adventist Hospital. He has been on the LLU School of Dentistry faculty in the department of restorative dentistry since September 2004.

Dr. Ko expresses gratefulness to his heavenly father for "the privilege and opportunity to serve here for the last nine years." He and his wife, Priscilla, a registered nurse, have two married adult sons and

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Edward Ko, DDS



Ten-year-old Samira Ahmed rests in her bed at Loma Linda University Medical Center, her 5-year-old brother, Khalid, and mother, Tawo, at her side. The process of straightening her legs will take Scott Nelson, MD, orthopedic surgeon, approximately three months to complete. Then Samira and her family will travel back home to Nigeria, where she will continue her recovery and get on with her childhood.

LLUMC orthopedic surgeon repairs legs for Nigerian girl

By Larry Kidder

Samira Ahmed, a 10-year-old sixth grader from Nigeria's largest city, Lagos, has suffered from severe bowleggedness as long as she can remember.

On August 16, 2013, that all changed when orthopedic surgeon Scott Nelson, MD, set out to straighten her legs. Dr. Nelson is probably best known for his heroic and dedicated efforts to help the people of Haiti following the devastating earthquake there that changed so many lives.

"Dr. Scott told us Samira had one of the worst cases of bowleggedness he had ever seen," remembers Tawo Ahmed, Samira's mother, "but he didn't hesitate to accept her as a patient."

Samira is philosophical regarding what it was like to be severely bowlegged. "If I stood

in one place for a long time," she details, "I would get cramps." She adds, "Some kids did make fun of me."

Samira's aunt met another parent at the U.S. Embassy in Nigeria whose daughter had suffered from the same condition. This individual told the aunt about Dr. Nelson and what he had done for their daughter. Tawo set out to find more about Dr. Nelson and Loma Linda University Medical Center on the Internet, ultimately reaching out to him via e-mail.

The process of straightening Samira's legs will take about three months of daily adjustment and physical therapy. Both legs are connected to frames that will be slowly straightened. "This is completely worth the time, money, and travel," says her mother, Tawo. Samira's smile suggests that it is worth the pain and discomfort as well.

What's Your Plan?

MANY STRENGTHS.
ONE MISSION.

The Heritage Society honors those who have provided for the work of Loma Linda University, Medical Center and/or Children's Hospital through a planned gift such as a will, trust, gift annuity, charitable remainder trust, life insurance policy or retirement plan.

To join, visit hs.llulegacy.org or call the Office of Planned Giving to request a membership form.

For further information, please contact the **Office of Planned Giving:**
Call 909-558-4553
Visit llulegacy.org
Email legacy@llu.edu



"We are pleased to have created an endowed scholarship in Religion to help Loma Linda University students."

— David L. Taylor, PhD and Maxine J. Taylor, EdD



LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY
HEALTH

New task force forms to promote NIH Center of Excellence

By James Ponder

A new task force was recently formed to create awareness that Loma Linda University is an NIH Center of Excellence in Health Disparities and Minority Health. Currently, only four organizations in California and 48 in the nation share the designation and few Inland Empire residents are aware of the important work the LLU center is doing in their own backyard.

Called the NIH Center of Excellence in Health Disparities and Minority Health task force, the group is composed of Marino De Leon, PhD; Tammi Thomas, MD; Susan Onuma, MBA; Tammy Veach; Herbert Atienza; Kristina Benfield; Lucinda Betcher; James Ponder; and Brian Weed, MA. It reports to Tony Yang, MBA.

"We want people to know three things about the NIH Center of Excellence at Loma Linda University," says Marino De Leon, PhD, who directs the center. "First, that we conduct top-flight research into the causes and treatments of health disparities;

Dentistry professor named Pierre Fauchard Teacher of the Year ...

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two grandchildren. Dr. Ko is the honorary president and founder of Hong Kong Sam Yuk Secondary School alumni association. His avocations include amateur classical harmonica soloist and singing in the New Stream Chinese Chorale and the Heralds of Hope Men's Chorale of Loma Linda University Church.

The Pierre Fauchard Academy is an international dental honors organization named after Pierre Fauchard (1678-1761), considered to be the father of modern dentistry. The academy seeks to encourage, through annual awards, outstanding contributions to the art and science of dentistry and service to the profession. It also aims to encourage dental students and foster advancement of their professional and scientific standards, as well as to promote continuing education for all members of the dental profession.

second, that we're partnering with community-based organizations in the Inland Empire to implement prevention and well-



ness activities to improve health outcomes in our region; and third, that we have ongoing programs to recruit and train a significant number of talented Inland Empire high school and college students to meet the need for physicians and scientists in Riverside and San Bernardino counties."

Students, researchers, and administrators from the 2013 Apprenticeship Bridge to College program pause to commemorate the annual summer research program in which talented high school and college students are brought to the campus of Loma Linda University to conduct scientific research. Many of the students go on to become physicians or scientists. The program is an outreach of the NIH Center of Excellence in Health Disparities and Minority Health on campus.



Timothy Gillespie, DMin, faith and community health liaison, LLU Health, describes the Faith Community Health Network during the second annual clergy appreciation breakfast. Nearly 100 faith community leaders who responded to a survey are sharing their priorities, dreams, and challenges as they seek ways to improve health and wellness in their congregations and communities.

ness activities to improve health outcomes in our region; and third, that we have ongoing programs to recruit and train a significant number of talented Inland Empire high school and college students to meet the need for physicians and scientists in Riverside and San Bernardino counties."

The NIH Centers of Excellence program, which is administered by the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities, seeks to eliminate health disparities—inequalities in health status and outcomes among population groups—in the United States.

LLU was first designated an NIH Center of Excellence in 2005 and again in 2012. Dr. De Leon says the qualifying process is highly competitive.

"The NIH reviews a large number of submissions from institutions across the country before making a final decision," he observes. "We have been blessed with winning this designation to conduct important research in health disparities."

The new task force rallied on Monday, August 26, when David R. Williams, PhD, professor of African and African American studies and sociology at Harvard University, returned to Loma Linda to lecture on health disparities.

As Dr. Williams spoke, Brian Weed, social media coordinator for the Web Center, and freelance blogger Jenann Elias live-tweeted his comments. Their 50 tweets attracted numerous new followers and 24 retweets, including one to the 56,000 Twitter followers of Harvard Public Health. Reports of Dr. Williams' remarks drew approximately 20,000 views on the LLU Facebook page, 27 shares, 15 pertinent comments, and 133 likes. In addition, activity on the LLU Facebook page increased 63 percent from the previous week.

Prior to that, Herbert Atienza, media relations specialist, issued press releases on two of the center's activities—the annual summer symposium and black men's health fair—that were carried by local, national, and international media outlets.

Dr. De Leon says the center's influence will extend far beyond the Inland Empire.

"We look forward to benefiting the health status of individuals in the Inland Empire for years to come," he says. "But the work we are doing here will also lead to improved health outcomes for people around the nation and the world."

Regional clergy invited to join Faith Community Health Network ...

Continued from page 3

stress, clergy draw upon a power greater than all of these, certain in the belief that suffering isn't the end to the story, and providing survivors with hope and meaning that they can share with the world. In an atmosphere of unconditional love, healing can take place in people and in communities and nations.

"As clergy in faiths including Catholicism, Church of Latter-day Saints, Church of the Nazarene, Judaism, and non-denominational congregations join Loma Linda University Health as part of the Faith Community Health Network," says Dr. Gillespie, "we will continue to converse, moving forward in a more formal manner, identifying needs and planning how to respond to the health disparities in our region. As we identify existing resources and create new ones with the collaborative work between our two healing institutions—churches and medical—we will have an even greater opportunity to change lives. This is a model for collaboration that this region has yet to see in maturity."

The final speaker at the clergy appreciation breakfast, Saul Barcelo, LLU Health chaplain, left the group with these words. "Remember, you are not alone. God bless."

You are invited

Loma Linda University
Children's Hospital

Remember

we walk for the steps they will never take

Sunday, October 13, 2013

Remembering service at 4:00 p.m. followed by a short walk

Register online at lluchwalk2remember.eventbrite.com

After Friday, October 4, please plan to register at the event.

Questions, call 1-877-LLUMC-4U (1-877-558-6248)



LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY
CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

Each October, memorial walks are held across the nation in honor of National Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness Month.

How Marisabel Nicoletti found a new lease on life through proton therapy ...

Continued from page 8

active, healthy lives and singing the praises of protons.

Dr. Loredo explained that while the majority of proton patients are in treatment for prostate or lung cancer, about 1.5 percent

come to Loma Linda with brain tumors. She also said ongoing clinical trials are finding solid applications for proton treatment of breast cancer and other diseases.

Ms. Nicoletti returned to Kansas almost convinced that God was leading her

to Loma Linda. One thing still bothered her, however: if proton therapy really were as harmless and effective as Dr. Loredo claimed, how come none of the other institutions had suggested it?

The answer arrived from an unexpected source when a radiation oncologist at one of the four hospitals she had initially consulted bravely disclosed that her organization was far behind Loma Linda in proton expertise.

"She advised me to go where the pioneers are," Ms. Nicoletti remembers. "I took that as confirmation that I was supposed to go to Loma Linda. As soon as we left the office, I called Dr. Loredo and said 'Green light!'"

When Ms. Nicoletti arrived for treatment, physicians at Loma Linda University Medical Center explained that unlike conventional radiation therapy, which can damage surrounding healthy tissues, proton treatment is delivered with exacting preci-

sion. With protons, physicians can target the tumor and leave surrounding organs and tissues with minimal exposure. As a result, most patients experience minimal side effects, if any.

Unbeknown to Ms. Nicoletti, Loma Linda proton researchers rank among the world's leading authorities in understanding and treating meningiomas. An August 2012 article in the *International Journal of Radiation Oncology*Biophysics* presented the findings of a study conducted at Loma Linda on the type of tumor Ms. Nicoletti had.

Principal author Jerry D. Slater, MD, and a team of scientists—one of whom was Dr. Loredo—concluded that "fractionated proton radiotherapy for grade 1 cavernous sinus meningiomas achieves excellent control rates with minimal toxicities, regardless

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LLU Health representatives at ASI Convention in Orlando



At the 2013 ASI convention, which was held in Orlando, Florida, from August 7 to 10, three Loma Linda University Health representatives surround a photographic poster of a fourth. (From left): Leonard Brand, PhD, chair of the department of earth and biological sciences; Elisa Brown, MBA, director of health policy and management at the LLU School of Public Health; and Tricia Murdoch, MPH, senior development officer. On the poster, Dilys Brooks, MDiv, associate campus chaplain, promotes the wellness campaign Live It. James Ponder, public relations writer and editor, also represented the organization and took the photo. ASI stands for Adventist-laymen's Services & Industries, a cooperative network of lay individuals, professionals, business owners, and ministries who collectively support the global mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

LLUH to bring breast cancer survivors together for 5th annual 'The Pink Runway'

By Herbert Atienza

A memorable and inspiring day of empowerment is anticipated as Loma Linda University Health department of plastic surgery hosts the fifth annual "The Pink Runway" Breast Cancer Reconstruction Seminar and Fashion Show on September 29.

"The Pink Runway" will feature breast cancer survivors, who received post-mastectomy reconstruction surgery, modeling the latest fashions from Macy's. This year's event, sponsored by K-FROG music radio station, also features a new format, with informative and exciting seminars preceding the fashion show.

"We have planned a very special program for this fifth edition of The Pink Runway, combining an educational program by stellar presenters with our amazing fashion show supporting breast cancer awareness," said Subhas Gupta, MD, PhD, chair of the Loma Linda University Health System department of plastic surgery.

"We are expecting a huge turnout from the Inland Empire to support our breast reconstruction campaign," he said.

K-FROG personality Heather Froglear will host the fashion show, which will feature special appearances by Riverside Mayor Rusty Bailey, and Tina Sugandh and Tarz Ludwigsen, the stars of the Bravo TV series "Newlyweds."

The event starts at noon, with The Pink Carpet arrivals and photos; followed by breakout sessions at 1:00 p.m.; and seating for The Pink Runway Fashion Show at 3:30 p.m. "The Pink Runway"

will be held at Riverside Auditorium and Events Center, 3485 Mission Inn Avenue, in Riverside. Tickets cost from \$35 to \$45 and may be purchased at www.ThePinkRunway.com or by calling (909) 558-5566. Proceeds from the event will benefit Loma Linda University Health System Department of Plastic Surgery's breast cancer reconstruction education and research efforts.

Among the topics and presenters for the break-out sessions are:

- ♦ **"Food for Thought,"** a discussion about the link between diet and health, presented by Andrew Woodward, registered dietitian at Loma Linda University Cancer Center.
- ♦ **"Ask the Experts,"** a freewheeling discussion about breast reconstruction options, moderated by Linda Wat Jacobson, MD, and a panel of physicians, including: Derek Cody, MD, MS; Michael Hill, MD; and Hahns Kim, MD.
- ♦ **"The Mind/Body Connection,"** a session on exercise, yoga and relaxation techniques, presented by Daniel and Shawna Head, owners and instructors of The Yoga Room in Redlands, Calif.
- ♦ **"Your Time To Shine,"** a discussion that focuses on tips for looking your best, presented by Dr. Gupta.

"A lot of work goes into this event by our entire team, and this year, there's going to be a little more fun with our planned celebrity game show in which members of our audience will have a chance to participate," Dr. Gupta says.

Monthly lunch seminars keep researchers apprised of trends

By James Ponder

A series of monthly seminars sponsored by the department of research affairs provides members of the research community at Loma Linda University Health an opportunity to stay current on topics trending in their field.

According to Lorraine Sarmiento, MHA, accreditation coordinator, the seminars have proven to be very popular, drawing capacity crowds on several occasions. She says the opportunity to network with their peers is an important side benefit for many attendees.

"Researchers, research coordinators, research assistants, student researchers, and research technicians are spread all over campus," Ms. Sarmiento observes. "They are located in laboratories and classrooms in each of our eight schools and six hospitals, and sometimes they can feel a little isolated from their colleagues in other sections of the enterprise. The monthly seminars help them make contact with others involved in similar pursuits."

Topics and presenters so far this year included:

- ♦ **January**—Faculty inventions and patents: overview of patent process. Carol Grande, MEd, director of technology transfer, LLU;
- ♦ **February**—Financial management, part I: Tips and tools for managing your sponsored project, Ella Christiansen, MBA, CRA, senior financial analyst, LLU, and Jessica Portillo, MBA, CRA, financial analyst;
- ♦ **March**—Financial management, part II: support for clinical research. Trina Bunch, MBA, CRA, associate director of financial management for research affairs, and Michael Wilson Jr., senior financial analyst;
- ♦ **April**—Marketing strategies for research subject enrollment. Lisa Middleton, senior clinical research associate, Quintiles Transnational Corporation, and Heather Valentine, MA, marketing and brand manager, LLUHC;
- ♦ **May**—Investigator-initiated research and emergency use of investigational products. Michael R. Hamrell, PhD, president, Moriah Consultants;
- ♦ **June**—Monitoring and audit preparation. Megan Russell, MA, regulatory affairs coordinator, Clinical Trial Center, and Darmaseeli Moses, RN, CCRC, CCRP, director of clinical services, Health to Hope Clinics;
- ♦ **July**—Speed networking. Research affairs staff; and

- ♦ **August**—Achieving clinical trial compliance. J.R. Krausz, JD, CIP, CCRP, research education program manager, LLU.

Kimberly Payne, PhD, assistant professor in basic sciences at the LLU School of Medicine, was very excited to learn about the speed networking session in July.

"One of my major goals at LLU has been moving my basic science research in a translational direction so that it can impact patients," Dr. Payne discloses. "I had heard about speed-dating, and this musical chair approach, with five minutes to get to know other researchers before moving on to the next, sounded like a way to pack a lot of networking into a small amount of time. I was not disappointed. Because of the short time, we felt comfortable getting right to the point. I learned about exciting research at LLU that I had no idea existed."

Dr. Payne was particularly excited to see clinical fellows and medical students doing summer research at the session.

"From my experience, increasing translational research comes directly from interacting and establishing collaborative relationships with clinicians and with other schools," she says. "This was a wonderful opportunity for just that. My only question is, 'When can we do it again?'"

Ms. Sarmiento notes that continuing medical education credit is now available for attendance at the monthly luncheon meetings, and that the seminars are held in the research affairs conference room at 24887 Taylor Street, Suite 201, in Loma Linda.

She adds that while lunch is provided, reservations are required. She invites individuals interested in the seminars to contact her by e-mail at lsarmiento@llu.edu.



Lorraine Sarmiento, MHA, coordinates the monthly seminars.

Murrieta receives accreditation as STEMI receiving center

By Briana Pastorino

Loma Linda University Medical Center—Murrieta has received accreditation from the County of Riverside Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Agency as a designated STEMI receiving center—the first and only hospital in the Murrieta area with a designation of this kind.

This designation brings lifesaving care to those in Murrieta and the surrounding communities who suffer from STEMI (ST elevated myocardial infarctions)—the most deadly form of heart attack. The designation became effective August 20 after a successful survey with EMS officials August 15.

“Obtaining accreditation as a STEMI receiving center is a vital step for our growth as a cardiac provider,” said LLUMC-Murrieta CEO Rick Rawson, MBA. “It is absolutely lifesaving for those who need this care. When a person experiences a STEMI, it is essential for the patient to receive immediate interventions. Individuals in the area have had to endure long transports to appropriate facilities for their care, but now

they have what they need closer to home.”

Health care data show that approximately 20 to 30 patients per month suffering from a STEMI in the Murrieta area have had to be transported out of town—more than 30 miles away—for appropriate, interventional care. Now, with this accreditation, those patients will be brought to LLUMC-Murrieta.

Matt Shobert, fire chief, Murrieta Fire Department, said of the new accreditation, “Simply stated, this means more lives saved in the Murrieta Valley. We congratulate Loma Linda University Medical Center—Murrieta for this important milestone and are delighted to have been working with them. We look forward to an ongoing partnership with the hospital to continue saving lives in our community.”

“This accreditation is an important step in our ability to care for the members of our community,” said Sanjay Bhojraj, medical director, LLU International Heart Institute, “and will allow us to work closely with our first responders in the critical emergency of STEMI.”



Murrieta mayor Rick Gibbs congratulates LLUMC-Murrieta for being designated as a STEMI receiving center by the County of Riverside Emergency Medical Services Agency. With him are Sanjay Bhojraj, MD (left), medical director, LLU International Heart Institute, and Kathryn Stiles (center), director of marketing and communications.

In April 2012, LLUMC-Murrieta became a licensed provider of interventional cardiology, and to date, more than 120 open heart procedures have been performed at the hospital and more than 70 patients suffering from heart attacks have been cared for.

A STEMI results from the partial interruption of blood supply to a part of

the heart muscle, damaging heart cells. The resulting oxygen shortage can cause the heart muscle to die. Patients experiencing a STEMI are at risk for developing sudden cardiac arrest and need to be transported immediately to a facility that can provide interventional care, stents, angioplasty, or even open heart surgery.

Research affairs awards intramural grants to collaborative projects

By Heather Reifsnnyder

The LLU Health office of research affairs recently announced the seven winners of the GRASP awards (Grants for Research and School Partnerships).

Twenty-four applications were received from 43 different co-investigators, which were reviewed by a panel of senior researchers. Based on the combined scores of the reviewers, seven projects with investigators from six different schools were selected for funding.

“Our goal is to encourage collaborative research between various parts of the institution,” says Anthony Zuccarelli, PhD, associate vice president for research.

The funded applications include basic laboratory research, translational studies, clinical projects, environmental investigations, and behavioral research.

“We earnestly hope that the researchers are successful and publish their work,” says Dr. Zuccarelli.

The following four applications received \$50,000 awards for 12-month projects:

- Ying Nie and Richard Hartman: *The Long-Term Behavioral and Neuropatho-*

logical Effects of Radiation-

Induced Growth Hormone Deficiency

- Kevin Nick and Kerby Oberg: *Characterization of “Irritant Soil” in Ethiopia and its Role in Podoconiosis*

- Mathew Kattadiyil and Susan Hall: *Are Bone Turnover Markers Associated With Frequency of Complete Denture Relines?*

- Victoria Maskiewicz and Serkan Inceoglu: *Novel Orthopedic Cements for the Controlled Delivery of Antibiotics in the Treatment of Prosthetic Infection in Total Joint Arthroplasty*

Three additional applications were awarded \$75,000 for 24-month projects:

- Xuezhong Qin and Wei-Xing Shi: *Role of miRNA223 in Multiple Sclerosis*

- Cameron Neece and Lisa Roberts: *Supporting Families of Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) and Challenging Behavior: A Pilot Study of the MAPS Project*

- Valery Filippova and Karen Jaceldo: *Discovery of Serum Mediators, Biomarkers and Pathways that Reflect the Effects of Diet, Gender, Physical Activity and Race*

How Marisabel Nicoletti found a new lease on life through proton therapy ...

Continued from page 6

of surgical intervention or use of histologic diagnosis. Disease control for large lesions can be achieved by primary fractionated proton therapy.” In other words, the treatment is effective against meningiomas.

Her treatment began on June 6, 2011. A mere month and 13 days later, it was over. The Nicolettis returned to Lenexa hoping and praying the meningioma had been killed.

At her first postprocedure checkup six months later, Ms. Nicoletti received good news from Dr. Loredo—the tumor was inactive. At her next evaluation, a full year after treatment, the results were the same; everything was still looking good. In August of 2013, the couple returned to Loma Linda for her two-year checkup. Once again, the prognosis could not have been better.

“We are doing OK!” Ms. Nicoletti beams. “Everything is stable. The tumor is the same size, and there are no side effects on my pituitary. I am very happy to hear that.”

To celebrate, Mr. and Mrs. Nicoletti are taking their two grandkids—6½-year-old

Isabella and 1-year-old Alex—to Orlando for some family time at Disney World. When they return, Ms. Nicoletti has lots of things to do. There are bridge parties to host, rounds of tennis to play, toy stores to scour for Isabella and Alex. ... The only thing she’s not likely to do is let a brain tumor slow her down.

Today, more than three years after her ordeal began, Ms. Nicoletti is thankful to God for guiding her to Loma Linda University Medical Center. “Proton treatment at Loma Linda was a solution for my problem,” she reflects.

It was also a portal to new understanding. “I learned a lot in Loma Linda,” she adds. “We are Catholics, and we were taught that you have to pray in church or in a quiet place. But at Loma Linda, I learned to talk to God from the heart at any place.

“Since the first day at Loma Linda,” she concludes, “I felt I was in a special and caring environment. The people there were very supportive all the time. When I walk in there, I can breathe deeply. I trust the doctors. I’m very grateful for Loma Linda.”



8th annual Walk to Remember to honor infants lost too soon

By Heather Reifsnnyder

A Walk to Remember will take place October 13, to be held by LLU Children’s Hospital bereavement services at Loma Linda University Church. The walk is part of a countrywide movement coinciding with October’s designation as National Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness Month.

The walk allows for people to take the steps

that these babies, gone too soon, will never get to take.

The event will begin with a remembrance ceremony at 4:00 p.m., followed by the short walk.

This free event will take place in the University Church, 11125 Campus Street, Loma Linda, CA 92354.

Register online by October 4 at luchwalk2remember.eventbrite.com. For more information please call 1-877-LLUMC-4U.

Reportable Crimes

The Crime Awareness and Campus Security Act of 1990 requires Loma Linda University Health to publish interim reports on campus crime activities. Listed below are the crimes reported for the month of August 2013.

Type of Crime	Number of Crimes	Place of Crime
Assaults/Battery	1	Lot A Anne
Vehicle Burglary	1	Nichol Hall
Auto Theft	1	Lot O
Under the Influence	1	Lot Q
Unlawful Entry	1	Mountain View Plaza
Trespassing	2	Emergency Room; LLU Property
Suicidal Subject	1	Behavioral Medicine Center

You can assist the Department of Security in maintaining a safe and secure environment by notifying Security immediately at extension 9-1-1 if you see or know about a crime taking place.

How Marisabel Nicoletti found a new lease on life through proton therapy

By James Ponder

The story of how an Argentine-American grandmother from Lenexa, Kansas, found hope after receiving a frightening diagnosis reveals a lot about how proton therapy at Loma Linda University Medical Center blends equal parts sophisticated medical technology and compassionate care.

Three years ago, Marisabel Nicoletti's doctor asked a startling question: "Do you know you have a brain tumor behind your left eye?" The doctor went on to explain that Ms. Nicoletti had a meningioma in the membranous layers surrounding her brain.

"It was like the end of the world," she recalls. "I was in shock for almost a month,

refusing to talk to anybody."

Several weeks later, as Ms. Nicoletti and Norberto, her husband, were coming home from a walk, they ran into an Adventist neighbor who expressed concern and inquired how Ms. Nicoletti was doing. "Slowly, I was able to cry and open up," she recalls. "She asked if we could pray together."

Armed with the support of her family and her neighbor, Ms. Nicoletti launched a relentless search for the best treatment option. With two adorable grandkids, a wonderful daughter and son-in-law, a loving husband, large family, and many friends, she had plenty of reasons to live. She made up her mind to do whatever it took to get the help she needed.

"When a neurosurgeon told me I wouldn't be able to find help for my condition anywhere in Kansas, I resolved to search the whole U.S.A. for treatment," she says. "I refused to give up."

She eventually narrowed her search to four prominent institutions—the Mayo Clinic, UCLA, University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, and Johns Hopkins.

"The four," she reasoned, "rank among the finest health centers on earth; surely one of them would be able to halt the growth of the tumor and save my vision." She was soon to be disappointed.

"They all offered me the same three choices," she says. "I could either do nothing and lose my vision, have a craniotomy with a 50/50 chance of success and maybe lose my vision, or undergo normal radiation with the same luck."

Ms. Nicoletti didn't like any of those

options. "I was involved in a lot of things that use my eyes," she says. "I didn't want to lose my vision."

Disappointed yet undeterred, she intensified her quest for a better alternative. "We kept searching on the Internet and found the Loma Linda website, Protons.com."

Determined to investigate every possibility, she and Norberto traveled to California to consult with Lilia Loredo, MD, a radiation oncologist at Loma Linda University Medical Center.

"Since the first moment I arrived here," Ms. Nicoletti shares, "Dr. Loredo had a different opinion. She said proton could be an option."

Physicians and scientists at the James M. Slater, MD, Proton Treatment and Research Center have successfully treated more than 17,000 patients with proton beams in the last 20 years. Many of those individuals had previously been told their condition was fatal and untreatable; yet today, 10 or 15 years later, they're living

Please turn to page 6

Construction supervisor tours LLUH buildings on his 95th birthday

By Larry Kidder

Alonso "Al" Phillips moved his family from Fresno to Loma Linda in 1954 for two reasons: first, he had been asked to join the construction department; and second, he wanted to be near a good Seventh-day Adventist elementary and high school for his kids.

On Labor Day, September 2, 2013—his 95th birthday—Al's son arranged for the family and friends on hand for his birthday party to take a special tour of the Loma Linda University Health campus, which brought back many memories for Al.

His son, Gordon Phillips, MD, graduated in the class of 1981 from Loma Linda University School of Medicine and practices at Beaver Medical Clinic in Redlands, California, in urgent care and preventive medicine.

Mary Clement, tour coordinator for the LLUH office of public relations, led the group of nearly 20 family and friends including Al and his wife, JoDee, to see the buildings he helped to create from 1954 to 1961.

Al supervised or served as foreman for the original LLU School of Dentistry's Prince Hall (before the tower was added), the Shryock Hall amphitheater, the student services complex (originally the U.S. Post Office, bank, and Loma Linda Market), Kate Lindsay Hall, a major Campus Hill Adventist Church remodel, and construction of Linda Hall.

"Many of his grandchildren had no idea my dad had a hand in creating so many buildings

on the Loma Linda campus," says Dr. Phillips. "They were quite amazed and impressed."

Al and JoDee Phillips currently live in Yucaipa, California. Family members traveled from far and near to share in Al's birthday celebration, held at the home of Dr. Phillips in Redlands.

"The tour leader, Mary, was just wonderful," JoDee smiles. "Al thoroughly enjoyed going down memory lane."



Al Phillips sits in his favorite chair at home in Yucaipa, enjoying a favorite pastime—reading his Bible. "He has such a lovely smile," says his wife, JoDee.



Norberto and Marisabel Nicoletti. Ms. Nicoletti was treated in 2011 for a brain tumor at Loma Linda University Medical Center where physicians at the James M. Slater, MD, Proton Treatment and Research Center targeted the tumor with incredible precision



Al Phillips (center, leaning on cane) and his wife, JoDee (to his right), gather with family and friends following a special tour of the Loma Linda University Health campus. Directly behind Al is his son, Gordon Phillips, MD, who organized the party and the tour. The group is standing in front of one of the buildings Al helped to build.



Volume 26, No. 9 | Friday, September 20, 2013

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