

giving matters

A publication for supporters of health-related research and education at the University of Minnesota

FALL 2010



PHOTO: JASON WACHTER

Six-year-old Kira Rogers, with her parents, Michele and Mike, received sight-preserving medical treatment at the University of Minnesota.

A better future in sight for kids

Minnesota Lions make a \$3 million pledge to help prevent blindness in infants and children

Six-year-old Kira Rogers doesn't know much about the Minnesota Lions, but the Lions' 50-year partnership with the University was intended to help children just like her. □ A month after Kira was born, her mother, Michele, noticed

something wrong with Kira's right eye. "Her eyelid looked red. The next day it looked puffer. Each day it looked a little puffier," she says.

Kira's doctor soon referred the family to the University of Minnesota. Michele and her husband, Mike, took Kira from their home in Sauk Rapids, Minnesota, to meet with University ophthalmologist Gail Summers, M.D., and later to see pediatric oncologist Marie Steiner, M.D. An MRI confirmed that Kira had a hemangioma — a fast-growing noncancerous tumor.

The tumor's location in Kira's eye had serious medical implications. Michele and Mike Rogers learned that as Kira grew older, the tumor would affect her sight, put pressure on her eye, and affect her visual development in that eye. With the help of University doctors, they held Kira's hand through six years

of treatment and surgeries to remove the tumor, improve the appearance of her eyelid, and preserve her sight.

Fortunately, the surgeries were successful. Now the spunky 6-year-old loves going to kindergarten — and giving hugs. Her eye is vastly improved, and her prognosis is excellent.

"I didn't think it would end like this," says Mike Rogers, happily. "I felt like these doctors could move mountains for us."

The Lions' legacy

Success stories like Kira's have been the impetus behind the Minnesota Lions' longtime support of the Medical School's Department of Ophthalmology.

In July the Minnesota Lions donated \$1 million toward a new \$3 million pledge to establish the Minnesota Lions Fund to

continued on back page

"When Lions see that something needs to get done, they are right up there volunteering and doing it before others even know about it."

— JAY KRACHMER, M.D.

giving matters



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Have you noticed that thoughtfully engaged, curious people tend to ask why?

At the Minnesota Medical Foundation, we think that's a great question — one that offers us tremendous opportunities to showcase the breadth of groundbreaking research, innovation, and exploration under way across the University of Minnesota.

In fact, we quickly adopted the University's new "Because" initiative designed to answer the question, "Why is the University of Minnesota driven to discover?"

As you'll find in this issue of Giving Matters, the answers help us tell hopeful, inspiring stories. Why is our faculty driven to discover?

Because 6-year-old Kira Rogers could start kindergarten with her vision intact, thanks to world-class medical treatment at the University of Minnesota.

Because, following a successful pancreas transplant, Joanie Videen is able to sleep soundly for the first time in years, no longer worried about the potentially fatal complications of diabetes.

Because the University's pioneering stem cell research offers children with a lethal skin disease known as EB their only chance to lead normal, healthy lives.

Of course, the stories on these pages answer another important question, too: "Why does giving matter?" That's easy:

Because the Minnesota Lions have supported the Department of Ophthalmology for 50 years to help children just like Kira Rogers.

Because philanthropy has allowed our diabetes researchers to close in on a widely available cure for type 1 diabetes.

Because private gifts launched the novel stem cell research that offers hope to kids with EB.

I hope you are inspired by the questions and answers found at the intersection of philanthropy and medicine — because with your support, discoveries unfold, breakthroughs happen, and lives are forever changed.

Becky Malkerson

President and CEO
Minnesota Medical Foundation

Building medical student success

Boulger spirit inspires Duluth scholarships

James Boulger, Ph.D., professor of behavioral sciences and director of alumni relations at the University of Minnesota Medical School, Duluth Campus, is widely known for his commitment to medical students. But this year, the Boulger name became truly synonymous with boosting student success.

Last November, Medical School, Duluth Campus alumni Randall Card, M.D., Kristi Elliott, M.D., and Michael Heck, M.D., decided to honor the longtime professor, adviser, and advocate. With help from the Minnesota Medical Foundation (MMF), they asked their Duluth classmates to help build a major scholarship in Boulger's honor.

In his letter to classmates, Card wrote: "If your experience was like mine, you'll agree that Jim believed that everyone attending the UMD School of Medicine was special. In that spirit, I am encouraging everyone who attended the Duluth school to contribute to this scholarship."

By December, a committed group of alumni, community leaders, and faculty had contributed more than \$28,000 to help establish the James Boulger Endowed Scholarship. Pledges and gifts to the fund are now up to \$160,000 and growing.

"I am honored to be remembered in this way by former students who are now friends and colleagues," says Boulger. "Scholarships are so critical if we are to continue to accept those students most likely to fulfill the school's mission to the citizens of Minnesota — and particularly those who are underserved in rural areas and in Native American communities."

A family affair

Meanwhile, Medical School, Duluth alumna Stephanie K. Carlson, M.D., Class of '94, was devising her own plan to honor the Boulger name. In September 2009 the Mayo Clinic diagnostic and interventional radiologist pledged \$50,000 in her estate plan to establish a scholarship recognizing Boulger's son, James Jr.

A self-described sports enthusiast, Carlson met Jim Jr. when they both worked in UMD's sports information office. Jim Jr. shares her enthusiasm for sports even though a form of Duchenne muscular dystrophy (MD) prevents him from participating himself.

Nonetheless, Jim Jr., now 43, has never let MD get in his way, says Carlson. "He was always positive and courageous." The James



The Boulger family: Jim Jr., seated, with his brother, Peter, and parents, Dee and Jim Sr.

Boulger Junior and Stephanie K. Carlson Scholarship, she says, is a way to help students and thank those, like Jim Jr., who have inspired her.

Another good turn

But there's more to the story. Last February, at an MMF event in Rochester, Carlson was invited to speak about her motivation for creating the scholarship. James Sr., his wife, Dee, and James Jr. also attended and made a surprise announcement: They were pledging \$25,000 to begin the scholarship immediately.

Carlson was thrilled. Just one month later, she matched the family's pledge, adding another \$25,000 to the current scholarship — for a total of \$50,000 in active pledges and another \$50,000 in the estate gift.

"Support from generous folks like Stephanie Carlson makes it possible for our students to attain their dreams of helping the underserved," says James Boulger Sr. "None of us succeeds on our own."

—MICHELLE JUNTUNEN

To learn more or to support Medical School, Duluth Campus scholarships, please contact Michelle Juntunen at 218-726-6876 or m.juntunen@mmf.umn.edu.

A reason to celebrate

University, Fairview embark on \$175 million campaign for children's health

The University of Minnesota and Fairview Health Services have launched a \$175 million campaign to support pediatric research, education, and care at the new home for University of Minnesota Amplatz Children's Hospital.

The campaign, led by the Minnesota Medical Foundation, already has raised \$84 million — nearly half of its goal.

More than 400 people — including kids, parents, hospital staff, and community volunteers — celebrated the public launch of the children's health campaign on September 25 with a family-friendly event. Children and adults alike decorated their own versions of the new hospital's colorful exterior and made special cards and origami paper cranes for ill children in the hospital. Event attendees also had a chance to conduct their own science experiments, learn about what it's like to be a medical student, and participate in heart-healthy Wii Fit activities.

University of Minnesota Amplatz Children's Hospital is Minnesota's first and only academic pediatric hospital engaged in basic science, translational research, and leading-edge patient care.

Its new location on the University's Riverside campus will bring together children's and mothers' services, which are currently divided by the Mississippi River. The new configuration is designed to enhance

efficiency of pediatric care while capitalizing on the cross-specialty, multidisciplinary relationships for which the University has become known.

The 227,000-square-foot facility will feature 96 acute-care hospital beds, state-of-the-art medical/surgical units, a pediatric intensive care unit, and a dedicated pediatric emergency room, in addition to transplant services units and Minnesota's only pediatric dialysis unit. Construction, which began in 2008, will be completed by March.

Leaders plan to celebrate the culmination of the children's health campaign by 2015.

"Minnesotans understand the unique role that an academic children's hospital has for our state and our kids and will support this campaign," says Rich Ostlund, who chairs the University of Minnesota Amplatz Children's Hospital Philanthropic Board. "Donors understand that kids don't stop getting sick even in tough economic times."

Learn more about how you can support the campaign and view photos from the kickoff event at www.uofmhope.org.



PHOTOS: BRADY WILLETTE

Campaign kickoff participants folded paper cranes and decorated greeting cards to give to patients at University of Minnesota Amplatz Children's Hospital.



Cameron Cassidy colored a picture of the new children's hospital.



cures and care can live under the same roof.

At University of Minnesota Amplatz Children's Hospital, the search for cures is endless. Every day, we're conducting groundbreaking research for children who need it most. However common or complex the illness, our caring staff can do the amazing for your child. Learn more at uofmchildrenshospital.org.



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
Amplatz Children's Hospital

CHECK OUT OUR NEW ADS

University of Minnesota Amplatz Children's Hospital's new advertising campaign debuted this fall throughout the Twin Cities. The ads, designed in conjunction with a University-wide initiative, feature "Because" statements, which are meant to answer the question, "Why are we driven to discover?" View the full Amplatz Children's Hospital's ad campaign at uofmchildrenshospital.org.

Peace of mind — priceless

A grateful patient and her husband support the U's cure-focused diabetes research

Friends are surprised when Joanie Videen, 54, says it is sleep, not food, that has put her over the moon about her pancreas transplant in July. "It's the best gift I've ever had," she says. "I can sleep all night."

While Videen has dealt with diabetes for nearly 20 years, for the past decade she experienced hypoglycemia unawareness, meaning she had none of the warning symptoms that help diabetics recognize when their blood glucose level falls too low.

Because the consequences can be deadly, this special education teacher slept only three hours at a time before waking to an alarm to check her glucose levels.

Since 2004, Videen and her husband, Brad, a University of Minnesota-trained orthodontist, have made 11 separate donations to support diabetes research through the Minnesota Medical Foundation.

"There isn't a higher-quality medical facility anywhere," says Joanie Videen, also a U of M alum. "Nothing is comparable to what we have at the University."

In fact, Joanie Videen has firsthand experience. In 2005, she participated in a University of Minnesota human-to-human islet transplantation clinical trial conducted by the Schulze Diabetes Institute. The transplant resulted in 15 insulin-free months for Videen, but eventually, symptoms returned, and she had a pancreas transplant at the University last summer.

"The University offered me the best care during the islet transplant and again during the pancreas transplant," she says.

Each year, the Videens carefully determine how much money they are able to donate to diabetes research. Joanie notes that while the tough economy has affected them, "we feel fortunate that we are still able to contribute."

They hope their contributions will help lead to a cure, possibly through islet cell



Joanie Videen, with her husband, Brad, dealt with type 1 diabetes for nearly 20 years before receiving life-changing islet and pancreas transplants at the University.

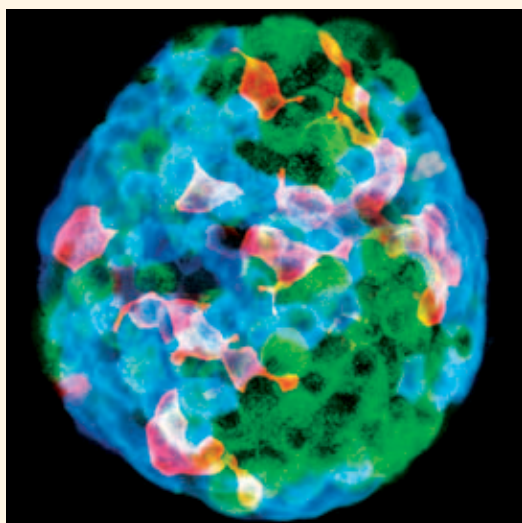
transplants. And they foresee a day when stem cells taken from a patient's own skin may become the "ultimate cure," relieving people of the daily burdens of diabetes.

In the meantime, Joanie is enjoying her new sense of freedom. "There's so much mental energy devoted to dealing with diabetes," she says. "All that is totally gone, and there's such a feeling of relief and relaxation. I've got my independence back."

—KARIN MILLER

To support University of Minnesota research leading to a cure for type 1 diabetes, please visit www.mmf.umn.edu/diabetes or contact Jean Gorell at 612-625-0497 or j.gorell@mmf.umn.edu.

CLINICAL TRIAL REVEALS PROMISE OF ISLET TRANSPLANTS



Islet cells: This year two University islet cell transplant recipients celebrate 10 years of insulin independence.

Islet transplantation has remained experimental since the 1970s, but recent clinical trial outcomes at the University of Minnesota Schulze Diabetes Institute (SDI) are revealing the procedure's promise as a standard therapy, and even a cure, for type 1 diabetes.

In 2008, SDI was selected as one of three principal sites to test human islet transplants to treat type 1 diabetes in Phase III clinical trials—the final round of study before the U.S. Food and Drug Administration determines whether the procedure can be used as a standard therapy for diabetes.

Melena Bellin, M.D., a University pediatric endocrinology fellow and physician involved in the clinical trials, says new protocols using islets from two to four donors per transplant patient and

advances in antirejection drugs have significantly improved patient outcomes.

Previously, about 10 percent of transplant recipients achieved insulin independence post-transplant, she explains. Today, the figure is nearly 90 percent. "More than 50 percent [of patients] have maintained insulin independence at their five-year follow-ups," Bellin says.

The University also has had good results with single-donor islet transplants. "Since 2000, about 50 percent of our insulin-independent patients have needed only one donor transplant, including several patients who are now 8 to 10 years out from their transplant and insulin independent," Bellin says. "This is one way the U of M stands out from other centers doing islet transplants."

Finding hope

U researchers' stem cell breakthrough treatment for a fatal skin disease began with philanthropy

For the first time ever, physician-scientists at the University of Minnesota have demonstrated that a lethal skin disease can be successfully treated with stem cell therapy.

Medical School researchers John E. Wagner, M.D., and Jakub Tolar, M.D., Ph.D. — in collaboration with researchers in Oregon, the United Kingdom, and Japan — used stem cells from bone marrow to repair the skin of patients with a fatal skin disease called recessive dystrophic epidermolysis bullosa (RDEB).

It's the first time researchers have shown that bone marrow-derived stem cells can repair the skin and upper gastrointestinal tract and alter the natural course of the disease.

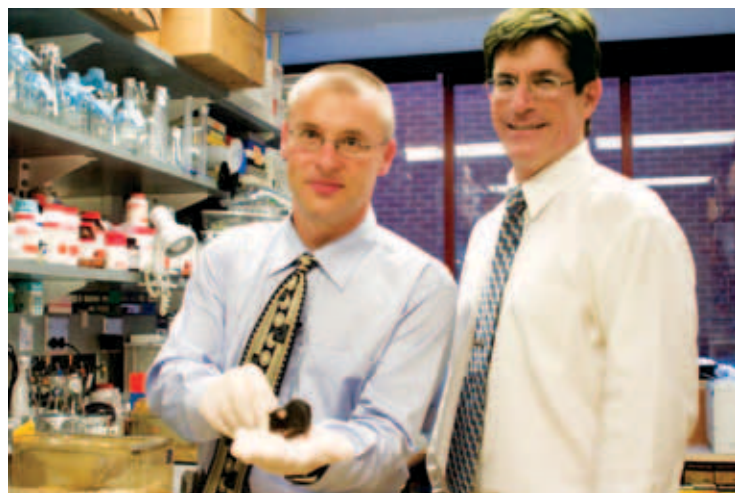
Until now, bone marrow has only been used to replace diseased or damaged marrow.

"To understand this achievement, you have to understand how horrible this disease actually is," says Wagner. "From the moment of birth, these children develop blisters from the slightest trauma, which eventually scar. They live lives of chronic pain, preventing any chance for a normal life."

That was reality for the Liao family of New Jersey.

Theresa Liao tracked down Wagner at a medical conference in New York in 2004, literally thrust her then-2-year-old son, Jacob, at him, and begged him to save her child. It was a promise Theresa had made to her son at birth.

"I used to hold him in my arms and cry," she says. "I told him I was going to make a



Research by Jakub Tolar, M.D., Ph.D., and John Wagner, M.D., moved quickly from mouse studies to showing success in patients.



University researcher Jakub Tolar, M.D., Ph.D., with Keric Boyd, who underwent an experimental bone marrow transplant to treat his EB. Now Keric can ride his bike — something he was never allowed to do before.

difference, and that we were going to fix it or make it better or at least go down swinging."

The encounter launched Wagner's work on the disease. The Liao family raised enough money for his team to start a laboratory study with mouse models of RDEB. In 2007 the team found that a rare subpopulation of marrow stem cells could repair the mice's skin.

With additional philanthropic support, Wagner and Tolar launched a clinical trial to find out if the therapy also could work in humans.

Since that study began at the University in 2007, 10 children with the most aggressive forms of EB have received transplants at University of Minnesota Amplatz Children's Hospital. Although all of those children have responded to the therapy, the magnitude of each response has varied.

"While the treatment offers a chance for a better life, it comes with significant risk," Tolar says. "Two children have died from complications related to the treatment, so refinements are needed."

Jake Liao was one of the two children who didn't make it. His younger brother, Nate, who also was born with EB, however, has improved significantly since his transplant.

For Theresa Liao, the success is bittersweet.

"I miss my best friend," she says of Jake, "but I wasn't afraid, because one way or the other I knew what the outcome was going to be if we didn't give him a chance."

And that's precisely what motivates both Wagner and Tolar to keep improving the therapy.

"My hope is to do something that might change the natural history of this disease and enhance the quality of life of these kids," Wagner says.

—NICOLE ENDRES

To support this research, contact Elizabeth Patty at 612-625-6136 or e.patty@mmf.umn.edu.

GIFTS IN ACTION

This groundbreaking EB research happened in large part because of philanthropy. Gifts from the Liao family, the Sarah Rose Mooreland EB Fund, and the Children's Cancer Research Fund — as well as grants from the National Institutes of Health; the Ministry of Health, Labor, and Welfare of Japan and the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science, and Technology of Japan; and the University's Academic Health Center — have funded this work.

Speaking of healing

Cancer survivor Ruth Bachman raises money by inspiring others

Ruth Bachman had never been afraid of public speaking. In her roles as educator, travel guide, and volunteer coordinator, she'd spoken to dozens of groups and organizations.

But her speech before a University of Minnesota audience in 2004 differed from any she'd given in the past. This time, she was telling her personal story—about how she lost her left hand and how the experience changed her.

That story began a year and a half earlier, when Bachman noticed a soft, painless lump on her left wrist. After an MRI revealed a six-inch mass hand to forearm, Bachman's doctor referred her to Denis Clohisy, M.D., a professor of orthopaedic surgery at the University of Minnesota and Masonic Cancer Center researcher. He performed a biopsy and diagnosed an aggressive soft tissue sarcoma, an uncommon cancer that affects connective and supportive tissues.

Because of the risk that the cancer would spread rapidly to the rest of her body, Clohisy recommended treatment that included chemotherapy and then amputation of her hand and part of her forearm. As a lefty, Bachman couldn't imagine how she would cook, write, do yoga, and accomplish the innumerable other tasks of everyday life. Still, faced with a drastic alternative—death—she had the surgery, in June 2003. Within a year, she was cooking, writing, practicing yoga, and doing strength training using a prosthetic device of her own design.

The narrow spot in the hourglass

Bachman felt grateful to be alive and thankful for the care she received from Clohisy. "I always felt like I was his only patient," she says. "I never felt rushed. He answered every question.

"After receiving remarkable, skillful, compassionate care, I went to Denis and said, 'What can I do to help the Masonic Cancer Center?'" He invited her to join the center's Community Advisory Board and put her well-honed speaking skills to use. One of her first audiences was a group of estate lawyers.



Ruth Bachman, who publicly shares her personal story of triumph over cancer, donates her speaking fees to the Masonic Cancer Center, University of Minnesota and to the Center for Spirituality and Healing.

"I silenced a roomful of estate lawyers, which I'm told is quite rare," Bachman recalls. She knew she was onto something.

She'd begun to view her cancer as the "narrow spot in an hourglass." Like the sand at the bottom, she had emerged from the experience the same person, differently arranged. She used the metaphor to refine her speaking themes: confronting fear, being transformed by the narrow spots, relying on faith and a sense of humor.

Practices such as yoga and meditation helped her move through the fears and uncertainty of cancer. During her cancer treatment, she'd attended a workshop on mindfulness-based stress reduction at the University's Center for Spirituality and Healing. Bachman believes both complementary and traditional approaches have a place in cancer treatment.

"I would not have been a person who would not have chemotherapy or surgery for cancer," she says. "But I know that what I had in place in terms of mind-body-spirit awareness made a significant difference in my surviving and thriving."

Speaking for a purpose

Bachman has brought her inspirational talks to a variety of business, community, and religious organizations. In a lightbulb moment last year, she decided to donate her speaking fees to the Masonic Cancer Center and the Center for Spirituality and Healing. Her goal for the "Hourglass Fund" is to raise \$1 million for collaborative research on integrative cancer care.

"My goal in telling my story is to encourage and inspire others to live life—every day—experiencing all of life's moments as they contribute to the authenticity we all long for," Bachman writes in her blog. "Life is full of issues and challenges not of our choosing. What we do get to choose is our attitude and how we respond to those moments. That is where bravery shines."

—LEE ENGFER

To learn more or to give to the Hourglass Fund at the Minnesota Medical Foundation, contact Kathy Beenen at 612-625-6495 or k.beenen@mmf.umn.edu or visit www.ruthbachman.com.

DISCOVER YOUR LEGACY

Information for supporters of medical research, education, and care at the University of Minnesota



A passion for their profession

Couple's planned gift benefits pediatrics, neurosurgery

Over 48 years of marriage, Drs. Betty Oseid and Michael E. Carey have shared a stimulating and fulfilling life — one that's included three children and six grandchildren, two wartime deployments, leading-edge research, and Medals of Valor for each of them.

The University of Minnesota brought the Careys (Betty uses Oseid professionally) together. And by giving back, the couple has helped to ensure a healthier future for others.

Beginning their careers at the U

Betty and Michael met in 1960, when both were starting their residency training at the University. Bemidji native Betty Oseid had just graduated from the Medical School and was a first-year pediatrics resident.

"It was an exciting time to be in medicine, an era of great advances," she says, citing the development of polio vaccines, promising new leukemia treatments, and surgical repair of congenital heart defects.

Mike Carey, fresh out of Cornell University's Medical College, was in Minnesota to begin his surgical internship and residency before tackling five more years of training in the University's Department of Neurosurgery.

Their grueling schedules actually brought them together. "We were often both on call," Betty explains, "so we'd get together for a soft drink and talk."

Military service sparks brain trauma research

Two years after they met, the Careys married, started a family and, following Mike's training, moved to Hartford, Connecticut, for private practice. A year later, Mike was called to serve as chief of an Army neurosurgical "K team" in Vietnam.

Mike returned in 1969 and soon joined the neurosurgery department at Louisiana State University Medical School in New

Orleans, where he conducted research to improve treatment for nonlethal brain wounds.

In 2006, after the hospitals in New Orleans were devastated by Hurricane Katrina, he retired from LSU to become chief of neurosurgery at the VA New York Harbor Healthcare System in Manhattan. He stepped down in September to write a book on the history of wartime surgery.

Following his return from Vietnam, Mike had joined the Army Reserves as a colonel and served as a neurosurgeon in several Army hospitals, including one in Saudi Arabia during Operation Desert Storm. In 2008 he was sent to Ramadi, Iraq.

Over the years, Betty worked at various medical positions, serving on the University of Connecticut pediatrics department staff and in public health clinics in El Paso, Texas, and New Orleans, where she joined LSU's pediatrics department. The couple's children — Tom, Elizabeth, and Sarah — kept her busy as well.

Meanwhile, Betty's support proved invaluable when radical animal-rights activists targeted Mike's brain trauma research. For standing firm, even in the face of death threats, Mike and Betty each received a Medal of Valor from the American Medical Association.

Giving back to support research

For decades, the Careys have supported the University's work in pediatrics and neurosurgery through the Minnesota Medical Foundation (MMF). In 2000, for example, they made a major pledge to help establish the Shelley N. and Jolene J. Chou Chair in Neurosurgery.

As part of their retirement planning, the couple also created three deferred payment charitable gift annuities that will benefit the Departments of Pediatrics and Neurosurgery; in the meantime, MMF will make regular payments to the Careys during their lifetimes.



Medical School alumni Drs. Michael Carey and Betty Oseid support University research in pediatrics and neurosurgery through both current use and estate gifts.

"The medical field is vast and fast-moving. It's important that researchers can use money the way they feel is best," says Mike, discussing their support.

"Being able to find answers to medical questions is valuable," adds Betty, pointing to University legends Robert Good, M.D., Ph.D., and C. Walton Lillehei, M.D., Ph.D., as stellar researchers. "Everyone benefited from their inventiveness. It's so important to help, to provide the wherewithal to address the questions."

—KARIN MILLER

Learn more by contacting the Minnesota Medical Foundation Office of Gift Planning at 612-625-1440, 800-922-1663, or giftplanning@mmf.umn.edu. Or visit www.mmf.umn.edu/giftplanning.

Leaving a legacy that matters

Your annual gifts to the Minnesota Medical Foundation (MMF) make a real difference for children and adults suffering from diabetes, cancer, heart disease, and other devastating illnesses.

You can continue to provide ongoing support after your lifetime as well by remembering the foundation in your estate plan—for example, by including a bequest in your will or living trust or by naming the foundation as a beneficiary of a retirement plan or life insurance policy. The funds generated each year by your endowed gift will continue to advance world-class medical research, education, and care at the University of Minnesota.

With a bequest to MMF, a named endowment may be established to support scholarships, research, or a department or program.

For sample bequest language or to speak to a development officer at the Minnesota Medical Foundation, contact the Office of Gift Planning at 612-625-1440 or 800-922-1663 or visit www.mmf.umn.edu/giftplanning.

ENDOWING YOUR ANNUAL GIFT

The chart below shows the approximate size of the bequest required to endow your current annual contribution.*

Current gift	Endowment required
\$500	\$10,526
\$1,000	\$21,053
\$2,500	\$52,632
\$5,000	\$105,263
\$10,000	\$210,526

*Calculations assume an annual payout of 4.75 percent, based upon the current investment.



PHOTO: SHAWN SULLIVAN

The Minnesota Medical Foundation's gift planning team (back row from left): Holly McDonough Gulden, Stephanie Oskie, Kelly Crow, and Jay Kautt. Front row from left: Jeanne Bischoff and Roxana Hedberg

No time like the present

Here's why you should review your estate plan before year's end

Anticipated estate tax legislation, the economic downturn, and any changes in your personal situation make late 2010 a crucial time to review, and possibly revise, your will and other estate plans. Here are some factors that may affect your plans:

Death and taxes

Will your estate have to pay taxes upon your death? The federal estate tax has been repealed—for 2010 only—but is scheduled to return in 2011 with an exemption of only \$1 million, unless Congress revises the law. Watch for news of estate tax legislation in Congress and ask your advisers to review your plans to ensure that they are up to date and in line with any congressional changes.

The economy

Shrinking real estate and portfolio values may have shortchanged some of your beneficiaries. Rather than distribute specific assets, such as an IRA to one child and a life insurance policy to another, consider an estate plan that leaves heirs a fraction or percentage of all of your assets, so all beneficiaries will be equally affected by the ups and downs of real estate, collectibles, and the stock market.

Personal situations

You may need to revise your will or living trust for a variety of personal reasons, including marriage, divorce, death of a spouse, birth of a child or grandchild, acquisition of new assets by gift or inheritance, distribution or sale of assets mentioned in your will, death of a beneficiary named in your will, changes in your beneficiaries' needs, inability of an executor or trustee to serve, relocation to a different state, or purchase or sale of real estate.

Charitable goals

If you do make changes to your estate plan, the Minnesota Medical Foundation encourages you to consider adding or augmenting charitable bequests to the organizations that have been important in your life.

Our gift planning officers would be happy to work with you and your attorney to create a legacy gift that will improve the quality of life for generations to come. For more information, contact the Minnesota Medical Foundation's Office of Gift Planning at 612-625-1440, 800-922-1663, or giftplanning@mmf.umn.edu.

visit: www.mmf.umn.edu/giftplanning

JANUARY

27 THURSDAY

Diamond Awards

Target Field, Minneapolis
Celebrate the Minnesota Twins' inaugural season at Target Field for the sixth annual Diamond Awards. Event highlights include a televised awards ceremony featuring an exciting lineup of current Twins players and legends. Proceeds support the University of Minnesota's innovative research and patient care in ataxia, muscular dystrophy, multiple sclerosis, Parkinson's disease, and ALS (Lou Gehrig's disease).

① Visit www.diamondawardsmn.com and contact Valerie Brod at 612-624-4444 or v.brod@mmf.umn.edu
Become a fan on Facebook and follow us on Twitter.

MAY

6 FRIDAY 10 A.M.

Medical School Commencement

Northrop Memorial Auditorium*
University of Minnesota
① Contact Linda Reilly at 612-624-9608 or reilloo2@umn.edu

6-7 FRIDAY AND SATURDAY

WineFest No. 16 – A Toast to Children's Health

The Depot, Minneapolis
Enjoy two evenings of wonderful food and wine, while benefiting University of Minnesota Amplatz Children's Hospital. The festivities begin Friday with the Grand Tasting, which features signature menu selections from top Twin Cities restaurants and more than 400 wines for sampling. Continue your experience Saturday with the Fine Wine Dinner, which begins with a champagne reception and silent auction. Dinner features a multicourse gourmet menu with premier wine pairings from international honorary winemasters,

a live auction, and dancing. Since its inception, WineFest has raised more than \$8.5 million for children's health research, education, and care at the University of Minnesota.

① Visit www.thewinefest.org, or contact Ashley Lawson at 612-624-8474 or a.lawson@mmf.umn.edu
Become a fan on Facebook and follow us on Twitter.

16 MONDAY 5 P.M.

School of Public Health Commencement

Northrop Memorial Auditorium*
University of Minnesota
① Contact Nichole Axtman at 612-626-9303 or mart1047@umn.edu



Tuscan Vineyard, by Rochester, Minnesota, artist HeeJune Shin, is the signature artwork for WineFest No. 16.

*Watch for updates; spring commencements may be moved to Mariucci Arena.

go to: www.mmf.umn.edu

For event descriptions, updates, links, and contact information.

New name for Medical Biosciences Building honors longtime U supporters

In recognition of a lifetime of support, the University of Minnesota in June named the newest building in its Biomedical Discovery District the Winston and Maxine Wallin Medical Biosciences Building.

The growing district is a biomedical sciences research park located on the University's East Bank campus near TCF Bank Stadium.

In addition to their generous financial support, the Wallins — both University alumni — have contributed their time and

talents to the advancement of higher education, particularly in the health sciences.

"Their commitment to higher education and medical research is unrivaled," says University President Robert Bruininks, Ph.D. "The Winston and Maxine Wallin Medical Biosciences Building aptly honors their longtime commitment to and support of the University of Minnesota."

Win Wallin, a Minnesota Medical Foundation trustee, led the capital campaign in the early 1990s that raised \$30 million to construct the Masonic Cancer Research Building. Additionally, he and Maxine have established the Winston R. and Maxine H. Wallin Land-Grant Chair in Cancer Prevention and Genetics and were major contributors to the John H. Kersey Chair in Cancer Research.

The Winston and Maxine Wallin Medical Biosciences Building houses investigators working in several areas of neurosciences research, including those involved with



Maxine and Winston Wallin



Located in the University's Biomedical Discovery District, the new Winston and Maxine Wallin Medical Biosciences Building houses state-of-the-art neuroscience labs.

the Bob Allison Ataxia Research Center and the N. Bud Grossman Center for Memory Research and Care.

When complete, the multiphase Biomedical Discovery District project will provide more than 700,000 square feet of space (larger than 12 football fields) for 1,000 investigators and personnel to collaborate on research leading to lifesaving discoveries.

A special thanks

We'd like to extend an extra thank-you to the following individuals and organizations that have made commitments totaling \$100,000 or more to the University's health-related work between May 1 and October 15, 2010.

The **Fred C. and Katherine B. Andersen Foundation**, Bayport, Minnesota, gave \$1 million in support of cardiovascular research, education, and care.

The **Children's Cancer Research Fund**, Minneapolis, gave more than \$1.9 million to the University's childhood cancer program.

The **Cook Group Incorporated**, Bloomington, Indiana, contributed \$310,000 to fellowships aimed at improving vascular and gastrointestinal health.

Thomas H. Curran, Lakeville, Minnesota, pledged \$100,000 in memory of his wife to the Kathleen M. Curran Leukemia Research Fund.

Rudolf Dankwort, Phoenix, Arizona, pledged a future estate gift in support of unrestricted diabetes research and the Jeffrey Dobbs–David E. R. Sutherland, M.D., Ph.D., Diabetes Research Chair at the Schulze Diabetes Institute.

Fairview Health Services, Minneapolis, gave more than \$1 million to the Medical School.

Fred R. and C. Marie Friswold, Edina, Minnesota, committed a generous future estate gift to the Michelle Marie Friswold Endowment Fund. This fund honors their daughter and supports innovative research in the Department of Pediatrics.

Marlene J. Grassl, Minneapolis, committed a future estate gift in support of pediatric cardiac research.

Gerald W. Ireland, M.D., Lakewood, Colorado, committed a future estate gift in support of the Dr. Gerald and Constance Ireland Endowed Professorship in Urologic Surgery, Dr. Gerald and Constance Ireland Diabetes Research Fund, and Dr. Gerald and Constance Ireland Urologic Resident's Fund.

Robert C. Johnson, M.D., Sausalito, California, pledged a future estate gift in support of the University of Minnesota's health-related work.

Robert W. Johnson, Mendota Heights, Minnesota, established a trust to support Dr. Kathryn Dusenbery's work in therapeutic radiology and cancer research at the Masonic Cancer Center, University of Minnesota.

Arnold S. Leonard, M.D., Ph.D., Golden Valley, Minnesota, directed \$100,000 from the Arnold S. Leonard Cancer Research Fund to support research in adult and pediatric cancer.

Nancy E. and John E. Lindahl, Wayzata, Minnesota, pledged \$200,000 to sponsor an Adopt A Room at the new University of Minnesota Amplatz Children's Hospital.

Dr. Norman D. and Elizabeth E. Macken-Olson, Palo Alto, California, committed a future estate gift to support scholarships for medical students.

Margaret Harvey Schering Trust for Cancer Research, Edina, Minnesota, pledged \$500,000 to support the cancer genetics research of David Largaespada, Ph.D.



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The annual gift you make today will help support current medical school students through scholarships, research grants, and mentoring opportunities at the University of Minnesota.

To learn more or to make an annual gift, visit www.mmf.umn.edu/give or call 612-626-5720.

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A bequest to the Minnesota Medical Foundation in your will or living trust is a simple way to make a future gift that will improve the health of the next generation.

To learn more or to make a planned gift, visit www.mmf.umn.edu/giftplanning or call 800-922-1663.

PRESIDENTS CLUB

Welcome, new members!

Because of their generous support, the following donors became members, or rose to a higher giving society, of the University of Minnesota Presidents Club between May 1 and October 15, 2010. Their gifts have been designated (all or in part) to the Medical School, School of Public Health, Masonic Cancer Center, or other areas served by the Minnesota Medical Foundation.

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Dr. Judith A. and Edward A. Schuck

Charles S. and Carrie M. Semrow

Drs. Helen H. and + Yang Wang

+ Deceased

Medtronic, Inc., Minneapolis, gave nearly \$300,000 to help advance heart and lung research and the work of the Center for Research in Education and Simulation Technologies at the Medical School.

Mercy Health System, Janesville, Wisconsin, gave \$250,000 to establish the Mercy Health System/Javon R. Bea Fund.

The **Minnesota Lions** pledged \$3 million to establish the Minnesota Lions Fund to Prevent Blindness in Infants and Children and gave an additional \$128,000 in support of ophthalmology research.

The **Minnesota Medical Association Foundation**, Minneapolis, pledged \$120,000 in support of the Minnesota Medical Association Foundation Scholarship.

Bernard D. Paul, San Diego, California, committed a future estate gift to support the Bernard and Cheryl Paul Fund for Breast Cancer Research.

Pediatric Home Service, Roseville, Minnesota, pledged \$200,000 to sponsor an Adopt A Room at the new University of Minnesota Amplatz Children's Hospital.

Dr. Rene W. and Barbara A. Pelletier, Osceola, Wisconsin, committed a future estate gift in support of the Dr. Rene W. and Barbara Pelletier Scholarship and the Department of Ophthalmology.

The estate of **Hedwige V. Rosen**, Atlanta, Georgia, gave \$695,666 to the Medical School to fund the purchase of books and other learning materials for students with limited financial means.

Carlos H. Schenck, M.D., Minneapolis, pledged \$100,000 to support the Linda Shriro Schenck, M.D., Women Medical Students Endowed Scholarship.

The **Scott Richards North Star Charitable Foundation**, Minneapolis, pledged \$250,000 to establish the Scott Richards North Star Alzheimer's Disease Prevention Research Fund.

Ronald D. and Teresa F. Sit, Golden Valley, Minnesota, pledged \$200,000 to sponsor an Adopt A Room at University of Minnesota Amplatz Children's Hospital and gave an additional \$9,000 in support of WineFest No. 15.

Ronald L. and Martha W. Swain, Excelsior, Minnesota, committed a future estate gift in support of the Adult Cystic Fibrosis (CF) Program Research and Education Fund.

3M Company, St. Paul, Minnesota, made gifts totaling \$136,000 to the Ken Wallace/3M Toxicology Research Fund at the Medical School, Duluth Campus and the Alexander and Tim Church Research Support Funds at the School of Public Health.

Helen H. Wang, M.D., Minneapolis, committed a future estate gift in support of the Dr. Yang Wang Memorial Fund. The fund, which honors her late husband, supports cardiovascular research and education.

The Wasie Foundation, Wayzata, Minnesota, gave \$125,000 to the Pediatric Rheumatology Fellowship.

Thomas M. Wendel and Deborah D. Butterfield, St. Louis, Missouri, gave \$100,000 to the Auto Islet Transplant Program at the Schulze Diabetes Institute.

The estate of **Muriel Whiteside**, Duluth, Minnesota, gave \$122,163 to the Medical School, Duluth Campus.

The estate of **Lillian S. Wong**, San Francisco, California, gave \$640,000 to the Lillian S. Wong, M.D., Endowed Scholarship for Asian Women.

MINNESOTA MEDICAL FOUNDATION

The Minnesota Medical Foundation is a nonprofit organization that raises funds for health-related research, education, and care at the University of Minnesota.

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BETTER FUTURE continued from front page

Prevent Blindness in Infants and Children at the University. The money will advance research, education, and care in the Department of Ophthalmology to help children like Kira.

Department head Jay Krachmer, M.D., says the Lions' recent pledge will have a tremendous impact. "Because of this fund, babies will not go blind due to retinopathy of prematurity, congenital cataracts, congenital glaucoma, and other sight-threatening conditions," he says.

The pledge represents a milestone in the Lions' dedication to the University's work in blindness prevention and marks the 50-year partnership of the Minnesota Lions, Minnesota Lions Eye Bank, and the Department of Ophthalmology.

The Minnesota Lions Eye Bank provides donor eye tissue for transplantation, research, and teaching and promotes donation through education. It has helped restore sight to more than 23,000 people.

Over the years, the Minnesota Lions have launched and sustained several other important initiatives with the University, including establishing the Lions Children's Eye Clinic, the William H. Knobloch Retina Chair, and the Lions Macular Degeneration Center. They also helped build the Lions Research Building at the University and have garnered community support for correcting vision problems and contributed countless hours of volunteer time.

About 22,000 Lions are working on service-focused projects throughout Minnesota. "Each Lions Club has its own unique way of raising funds," says Richard Reger, Minnesota Eye Bank, Inc., board chair. "Some have pancake feeds and fishing tournaments, but the dedication and commitment is always there to reach out to the less fortunate."

Krachmer concurs: "When Lions see that something needs to get done, they are right up there volunteering and doing it before others even know about it," he says. "Over these 50 years, they have said, 'How can we help?' That's the relationship we have with the Minnesota Lions."



PHOTO: JASON WACHTER

Successful eye surgery has helped Kira Rogers get off to a good start in kindergarten.



PHOTO: TIM RUMMELHOFF

Minnesota Lions and University representatives celebrated their 50-year partnership and the Lions' \$3 million pledge with a tour of TCF Stadium and a reception at Eastcliff. From left, Jay Krachmer, M.D., head of the Department of Ophthalmology; Patty Porter, Minnesota Medical Foundation VP of development; Lion Lynn Farley; and Richard Reger, Minnesota Lions Eye Bank, Inc., board chair.

That legacy has allowed vision experts at the University to do more for families like Kira's, who say they are grateful that they had access to University doctors' skill and expertise.

"They've all been compassionate and aggressive — exhausting every possibility," says Michele. "At the U, they're finding new solutions and looking for the best treatments for the next Kira."

—ROBYN WHITE

To learn more about how you or your organization can support research in the University's Department of Ophthalmology, contact Chuck Semrow at 612-624-6313 or c.semrow@mmf.umn.edu.

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