

# Dialogue

James P. Wilmot  
Cancer Center

*Conquering Cancer Together* Autumn 2001

## Dr. Richard I. Fisher Named Director of James P. Wilmot Cancer Center

Richard I. Fisher, M.D., was recently named director of the James P. Wilmot Cancer Center and director of Cancer Services for Strong Health. Fisher is an internationally known expert in biological research and treatment of lymphoma.

"This is an exciting opportunity to come to an institution with such a fine reputation and help it grow. I want to build a world-class cancer research and treatment facility to provide advanced care and the newest and best treatments for patients with cancer," said Fisher, who was also appointed chief of the Hematology/Oncology Unit in the Department of Medicine and the Samuel E. Durand Professor of Medicine.

He was director of the Cardinal Bernardin Cancer Center at Loyola University Stritch School of Medicine, in Chicago, since 1984.

"Dr. Fisher's leadership in the cancer field is internationally recognized and he will be a tremendous asset for us as we continue to build our patient care, research and teaching programs," says Jay H. Stein, M.D., Medical Center CEO. "We have made it a priority to provide novel treatments to our patients through cutting-edge research and Dr. Fisher will be able to continue building on our long-standing tradition of excellence."

During his tenure at Loyola, Fisher helped create the Cardinal Bernardin Cancer Center and has worked to build a program supported by the National Cancer Institute (NCI). He helped secure state-of-the-art laboratory space for research and championed the construction of a \$35 million facility for cancer prevention, treatment and research.

Here, Fisher oversees clinical cancer services at Strong Memorial Hospital and Highland Hospital, which together provide comprehensive care for cancer patients throughout Western and Upstate New York.

"Dr. Fisher is a nationally renowned cancer clinician, scientist, and educator, who brings to Rochester the kind of world class standard of excellence that represents our vision for the future. All of his science and clinical work starts with the patient at the center," said Edward M. Hundert, M.D., dean of the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry.

"We are thrilled he has taken on the leadership of the Cancer Center to build innovative programs that cut across all of our departments. This will ensure that our patients get cutting-edge care, our cancer research program develops the treatments that will benefit patients around the world, and our students, residents, and fellows become the leaders for the next generation in cancer treatment and prevention."



*"Dr. Fisher's leadership in the cancer field is internationally recognized and he will be a tremendous asset for us as we continue to build our patient care, research and teaching programs."*

*—Jay H. Stein, M.D.,  
Medical Center CEO*

## Blood Transfusion Mystery Unraveled

### Researchers Link Protein to Fevers, Immune Complications

Wilmington Cancer Center researchers have discovered why patients who receive blood-platelet transfusions often spike fevers or develop life-threatening complications. These patients, already very sick with cancer or who have undergone open-heart surgery or organ and bone marrow transplants, usually experience an array of difficult side effects that physicians must aggressively treat along with the underlying disease.

The new research, however, is the first to pinpoint the source of the transfusion-induced symptoms at the molecular level: A protein in the platelets escapes while the platelets are in storage and this leakage may ultimately be responsible for wreaking havoc on the body.



Richard Phipps, Ph.D.

The research may also allow scientists to design a safer approach to the use of blood platelets. "It would be nice to be able to pre-treat the platelets so that patients only get the positive benefits and none of the negative ones," says Richard Phipps, Ph.D., professor of Oncology, Microbiology and Immunology, Pediatrics and Environmental Medicine.

Phipps is co-author of the platelet research, published in the June 23 edition of the British medical journal, *The Lancet*.

"This finding may have repercussions in several areas," adds Neil Blumberg, M.D., co-author and professor of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine. "Not only does it explain one major mystery - fevers as a result of platelet transfusions - but it may help explain post-operative bacterial infections and other serious immune system complications."

Physicians have never been sure why patients develop fevers, chills, and a general sick feeling after receiving blood platelets intravenously. It is widely accepted that the side effects are either related to the underlying disease or to the way the body reacts to the white blood cells present in the transfusion. But the transfusions are necessary to correct a patient's reduced platelet count and promote blood clotting.

Physicians typically treat the side effects with fever-reducers such as Tylenol. There is no universal prophylactic treatment for the more serious side effects. In some cases, however, the white

*"Despite advances such as white-cell removal from platelet transfusions, we still see patients whose lives are miserable every time they get a transfusion. This work may provide a strategy for making side effects a thing of the past."*

— Neil Blumberg, M.D.

blood cells can be removed from the platelets before they are administered - but not even that always helps.

"Despite advances such as white-cell removal from platelet transfusions, we still see patients whose lives are miserable every time they get a transfusion," Blumberg says. "This work may provide a strategy for making side effects a thing of the past."

The new finding pins the problem on a protein in the platelets, called CD154 or CD40 ligand. When the protein escapes from platelet cells, it then makes contact with a receptor called CD40 once the platelets enter a patient's body.

This "escape" is not supposed to happen, and the resulting compounds cause illness.

It is still unknown what activates the escape of CD40 ligand. It may stem from the way platelets are routinely separated from the blood, how they are stored, or their contact with foreign substances such as the plastic bags they are kept in, Phipps said. Ultimately, the researchers hope to find out how to prevent the leaking of the protein and design a safer approach to treating patients with transfusions.

A patent on the research is pending. The project was funded in part by the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute. A third author on the paper is Julia Kaufman, M.S., a graduate student. The researchers are members of the James P. Wilmot Cancer Center.



Neil Blumberg, M.D.

# Former Smokers Help Teens Quit for Good

For several years, a cigarette was Christina's best friend.

She could take a cigarette anywhere with her. It provided a sense of security.

She lit up the first time when she was just 13. Christina and a friend found a pack of cigarettes on the ground at a youth baseball game. She took them home with her.

"I remember this distinctly: I was alone in the garage and I got a lighter and I smoked one. I remember coughing and hating it — thinking it was the most disgusting thing in the world," she says.

Many of her friends smoked and for a few years she resisted temptation. But she started smoking at 19, progressing to two packs a day, in spite of an asthma diagnosis. She had a series of bad asthma attacks, which landed her in the emergency room unable to breathe.

"I remember a nurse telling me that I had to quit smoking if I didn't want to die. She was very matter-of-fact about it and that was scary," Christina says. She quit smoking a year ago, when she was 25.

Unfortunately, Christina's story is not unique — about 35 percent of teenagers smoke. Research indicates that approximately 3,400 teenagers begin smoking each day in the United States.

Christina and other young adults have become "quit coaches" for an innovative new program called "GottaQuit.com." It was developed by the Monroe County Departments of Health and Communications in collaboration with the James P. Wilmot Cancer Center's Smoking Research Program, to reduce teen smoking. The program assists nicotine-addicted kids in the 14-18 age group to quit by using the tools on a highly interactive web site.

"We know that tobacco use among kids is a major problem," says Monroe County Executive Jack Doyle. "We want to reach out to these kids in language and in a medium they understand. We want to have an impact on them."

Teens are encouraged to visit the web site, where they are educated about tobacco use, entertained, and allowed to compete for prizes. A key element of the site is a section called "Talk To Us. Live" where teens connect with a trained quit coach,



like Christina, using an internet instant messenger program.

Usually a teen enters the web site looking for

information about how to quit smoking. They know the dangers of smoking and are already contemplating quitting, Christina says.

"Three-quarters of adolescents want to stop smoking, but until this site was available in January, there were few resources specifically designed for them," says Deborah Ossip-Klein, Ph.D., associate professor and director, Smoking Research Program at the Cancer Center.

The quit coaches are former smokers who are under 25 and can relate to teens. This helps them build a rapport and sense of trust during the confidential on-line chats.

"We give them information in their terms and are understanding about their addiction. We know how hard it is to quit. We know how it changes your life and how hard it is to quit smoking when your friends are smokers," she says. "We put the idea of quitting into their head, giving them the information they need to quit. If they don't use it immediately, at some point they will."

Since the program started in January, the quit coaches have "spoken" with more than 225 teens. While many times Christina won't know whether she helped a youth quit smoking, she is certain that she's making a difference by trying.

"It was so hard for me to stop smoking and if I can help just one person successfully quit, then I know I'm doing a good job," Christina says.

The GottaQuit.com "Talk To Us. Live" coaching center operates Monday through Friday, from 3 to 10:30 p.m. It is indirectly funded by Monroe County's portion of the Master Tobacco Settlement Agreement.

**For more information about GottaQuit.com, contact Kathi Burton, Project Coordinator, at (716) 273-3875.**





Lillian Nail, Ph.D., R.N., FA.A.N.

## Former Cancer Center Nurse Researcher, Survivor, to Speak at Thriving After Breast Cancer Conference

*"I spent many years at the Cancer Center and URM and look forward to sharing my experience, as a clinician, cancer researcher and cancer patient, with other women who have experienced breast cancer,"*

*— Lillian Nail*

The James P. Wilmot Cancer Center's Comprehensive Breast Care Program will hold its third annual Thriving After Breast Cancer conference from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday, October 20, at the Hyatt Regency. The event is an opportunity for women affected by breast cancer to learn more about recovering and share their thoughts, concerns, and questions with health professionals and with each other.

The day-long conference will include a presentation by former Cancer Center nurse and breast cancer survivor Lillian Nail, Ph.D., R.N., FA.A.N., of the School of Nursing at Oregon Health & Science University and the Oregon Cancer Institute.

Nail is internationally known for her work on cancer treatment-related fatigue. She is sought after as a speaker on the science of coping with cancer and the art of survivorship. She will discuss ways to beat fatigue associated with cancer treatment.

When asked to give the keynote address, she was thrilled because it's a homecoming, of sorts.

"I spent many years at the Cancer Center and URM and look forward to sharing my experience, as a clinician, cancer researcher and cancer patient, with other women who have experienced breast cancer," Nail says. She received her undergraduate and graduate education at the University of Rochester, worked as a staff nurse at the URM for several years, and was a member of the faculty in the School of Nursing and the Cancer Center from 1985-90.

"Overcoming breast cancer is an incredible challenge and this event is a great opportunity for women to get information and skills that help them deal with being a breast cancer survivor," says Nail, who was diagnosed with breast cancer in 1986.



She was treated at the Cancer Center before relocating to the west. A survivor of multiple cancers, Nail also received treatment for non-Hodgkin's lymphoma in 1994 and 2000.

In addition to Dr. Nail's presentation, activities include a series of workshops, led by professionals from the Cancer Center and throughout the community. Topics include long-term effects of breast cancer treatment, mammography and participating in clinical trials. Participatory workshops will cover imagery, qigong, and massage, and for family and friends of cancer patients and survivors, the value of a circle of support.

"Our faculty and staff work hard to make this event a reality — their participation demonstrates their commitment to women touched by breast cancer," says Jennifer Griggs, M.D., M.P.H., co-director of the Comprehensive Breast Care Program. "We are hopeful that this event and other programs we hold throughout the year will help women learn the most up-to-date information about breast cancer and feel part of a larger community."

Griggs works to help women with breast cancer face challenges during and after treatment. These efforts have included educational lectures, panel discussions and workshops on breast cancer-related topics that include nutrition, genetics, breast reconstruction, journaling, lymphedema, pathology report.

Learning from focus groups of breast cancer patients and survivors, Griggs and her staff continually strive to learn how they can help women live through and beyond their disease.

"It is clear that women who have had breast cancer feel the effects of their disease long after treatment is complete," says Gretchen Ahrendt, M.D., co-director of the Comprehensive Breast Care Program. "Periodic visits to physicians' offices

are not adequately designed to meet their informational and emotional needs.

Our program and the many educational opportunities we strive to provide are intended to bring women and those who love them together to inform, inspire hope, and to help them feel connected rather than isolated."

Reservations are required and can be made by contacting Jo Jones at 275-4797 or e-mail [beverly\\_brooks@urmc.rochester.edu](mailto:beverly_brooks@urmc.rochester.edu).

The cost is \$35 per person, and scholarships and childcare are available. Anyone interested in donating funds to support the scholarships can contact Jones.

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*Gretchen Ahrendt, M.D.*



*Jennifer Griggs, M.D., M.P.H.*



*Breast cancer patients and survivors can network with physicians and clinicians at the Thriving After Breast Cancer event on October 20. Last year, more than 200 people attended.*



*Gretchen Ahrendt, M.D.*



## South Pole Cancer Patient to Share Experience

**D**r. Jerri Nielsen, the physician who diagnosed and treated herself for breast cancer while icebound at the South Pole, will be the keynote speaker for the Highland Hospital Center for Women's Breast Cancer Education Luncheon at noon, Monday, Oct. 15, at the Rochester Riverside Convention Center. Kathy Clark, CEO of Clark Moving & Storage, is honorary chair for the event. Proceeds from the luncheon benefit the Breast Care Center at the Center for Women.

Nielsen's book on her experience, *Ice Bound: A Doctor's Incredible Battle for Survival at the South Pole*, reached the top of *The New York Times* Bestseller List for Nonfiction. She had gone to Antarctica to operate a one-woman clinic when she discovered in June of 2000, that she had a lump in her breast.

She was advised to return to the United States for diagnosis and treatment, but severe weather conditions prohibited planes from landing in Antarctica. Her only option was to diagnose and treat herself until she could be airlifted out. Medical equipment and supplies were air-dropped to Nielsen, and

doctors and nurses instructed her through e-mail and video-conferences.

Event partners include the Highland Foundation, the Highland Hospital Auxiliary, the Comprehensive Breast Care Program at James P. Wilmot Cancer Center, American Cancer Society, Cancer Action/Gilda's Club, the Breast Cancer Coalition, Hadassah, Sisters Network, and the Women's Health Partnership. Dr. Nielsen will sign books, which will be available for purchase on-site, following the luncheon.

Tickets for the event are \$35 and individual patron tickets are \$50. Tables of 10 may be purchased by sponsors for \$500. Information about sponsorship of this event and reservations for the luncheon are available at 273-3179. Tickets will also be available at Wegmans.



*Dr. Jerri Nielsen will share her experience battling breast cancer at the South Pole without other medical help, during the Highland Hospital Center for Women's annual Breast Cancer Education Luncheon.*

## STAR Cruise

**P**articipants in the Study of Tamoxifen and Raloxifene (STAR) enjoyed an afternoon cruise on *The Canandaigua Lady*. The event allowed women to connect with other participants and share their experiences. Anyone interested in participating in the international study can call (716) 275-9959.



## SURVIVORSHIP

# The Road to Recovery



*"Prayers and swift action by my oncologist to submit the paperwork to get me into the program really helped me get into the program."*

*— Karen Hayes*

## Early Clinical Trial Helps Woman Battle Breast Cancer

**K**aren Hayes calls herself a survivor. She has to think positively. After battling breast cancer for nearly 10 years, she relies on faith and hope to get her through each day.

In 1992, Hayes found a lump in her breast, which was later diagnosed as breast cancer. She endured a mastectomy and chemotherapy.

She did well taking tamoxifen for three years. And then, they found the disease had spread to her spine, requiring a basal cell bone marrow transplant in 1995.

Eighteen months later, the disease had spread to her liver.

"When Ms. Hayes' condition worsened, we were looking for new ways to treat her," says Jennifer Griggs, M.D., M.P.H., co-director of the Comprehensive Breast Care Program.

Clinical trials of herceptin, a now-approved drug to treat some breast cancers, were just beginning and Hayes was selected to participate in a study at a New Jersey center.

"I was getting sick really quickly," says Hayes, 42.

"Prayers and swift action by my oncologist to submit the paperwork to get me into the program really helped me get into the program."

She secured weekly trips to the clinic through Corporate Angels, a service that provides cancer patients free transportation. The trips were a great success — herceptin targeted the tumor and Hayes was thrilled to see the progress.

"I felt so good then. It was like a new beginning again," says Hayes, who has a 15-year-old son and teaches ballet in Penfield. "It was an answer to my prayers."

Hayes has continued her cancer battle, most recently completing radiation treatment for a tumor in her brain.

"Ms. Hayes is a real fighter and has a positive attitude, which is so important when a serious health issue arises," says Griggs.

## Dr. Richard I. Fisher Named Director

*Continued from Cover*

Fisher earned his medical degree from Harvard Medical School. Following an internship and residency in medicine at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston, Fisher served as clinical associate in the Immunology Branch of the National Cancer Institute in Bethesda, Md., and completed an oncology fellowship in the Medicine Branch.

Fisher's research centers on the biology and treatment of lymphoma, cancers derived from white blood cells, and he has led national and international studies in Hodgkin's Disease and non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. He is chairman of the Lymphoma Committee of the Southwest Oncology Group, a cooperative clinical research organization that includes 283 institutions and more than 4,000 physicians around the U.S. and Canada.

Fisher is a member of the American Society of Clinical Oncology, American Association for "Cancer Research, American Society of Hematology, American Joint Committee on Cancer's Lymphoma Task Force, American Association of Immunologists, Clinical Immunology Society, Central Society for Clinical Cancer Research and the American College of Physician Executives. A member of the board of governors of the Southwest Oncology Group (SWOG), and principal investigator since 1985, Fisher also chairs the SWOG lymphoma committee and serves as director of the Southwest Oncology Group Foundation.

He is also on the advisory boards of International Symposia on Hodgkin's Disease and International Conferences on Malignant Lymphoma.

A reviewer for *Annals of Oncology*, *Leukemia*, *Clinical Cancer Research*, and *New England Journal of Medicine*, among others, Fisher has also served on the editorial boards of *Journal of the National Cancer Institute*, *Journal of Clinical Oncology*, and *Hematological Oncology*. Fisher has authored more than 250 articles and chapters in national and international publications.

Fisher and his wife, Susan G. Fisher, Ph.D., who is serving as chief of the Epidemiology Division in Community and Preventive Medicine at the Medical Center, have three children. He enjoys spending time with his family, traveling, running and weight training.

# Connections

FROM THE CHAIR'S DESK

## James P. Wilmot Cancer Center Board

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*Dialogue* Editor:  
Leslie White,  
Assistant Director  
of Public Relations,  
(716) 273-1119.



Dear Friends,

The diagnosis of cancer is overwhelming for many of us. And for some, the financial burden of treatment — transportation, parking fees, and prescriptions — is too great. Some patients avoid treatment because they simply can't afford those expenses or are faced with other financial problems that prevent them from following through with care.

For example, one woman missed a series of treatments, which was unusual. When a social worker was able to contact her, they learned that she had been evicted from her apartment. She couldn't come to treatment because she was trying to find a new place to live. How can someone deal with the complexities of treatment when they are worried about where they will sleep that night?

One gentleman couldn't get in touch with medical staff to schedule appointments. His telephone service had been cut off and there wasn't a pay phone near his home.

Those situations may seem extreme, but are a reality for some. Thanks to the Patient Needs Fund, concerned individuals can help. Social workers, nurses and physicians identify needy patients and help them bridge the gap and break down barriers to treatment.

The Patient Needs Fund was established when the 1997 graduating class at the University of Rochester's School of Medicine and Dentistry donated \$4,500 to the Cancer Center. It serves as an important resource for patients and staff to help ease the burden of extra expenses associated with treatment.

Often staff, patients and their families donate to the fund or offer to provide the necessary items that will help another through a difficult time. For example, a Cancer Center employee donated a bed when a gentleman needed one after relocating unexpectedly.

To date, \$49,348 has been donated to the fund, including more than \$1,000 collected through "A Penny For Your Patients" jars that are located throughout the Center.

Supporting this fund truly helps individuals in need. I encourage you to participate by contacting our Development Office at (716) 275-6292.

*Judy von Bucher*

Judy von Bucher  
Chair, Cancer Center Board



## Wish list items

The following items, which are not covered in the Cancer Center budget, would help provide a comfortable environment for patients and staff. To donate funds to purchase any of the items, please contact Mary Ann Dever, director of development for the James P. Wilmot Cancer Center, at (716) 275-0806.

### IV POLES

IV poles provide a convenient holder for bags of IV solutions and IV pumps, if necessary. They allow for the infusion of needed solutions and more convenient transport of patients who are receiving supplemental fluids and/or medications. Cost: \$97.64 each.

### DOUBLE DISINFECTING SYSTEM FOR FLEXIBLE ENDOSCOPES

This system allows for easy cleaning and sterilization of several scopes that are used for head and neck exams. Cost: \$144.

### STORAGE CABINET

To store supplies needed in the treatment areas. Cost: \$461.25.

### VENDING MACHINE

This would provide convenient access to snack items for those who are waiting and whose blood sugar levels are low.

### COFFEE CART VOUCHERS

To give to patients and family members while waiting.

### STURDY CHAIR

A larger chair for obese folks would be useful in the treatment waiting area.

### LIBRARY FURNISHINGS

Love seat, recliner chair, new art work, wallpaper, and plants to enhance the comfort and usability of the Cancer Center Library.

### WIGS

For patients experiencing hair loss from treatment. Cost: \$50.

### HATS

For patients experiencing hair loss from treatment. Cost: \$10.

### WELLNESS CENTER MEMBERSHIPS

Provide patients with personalized fitness, nutrition and education programs through the Center for Lifetime Wellness. Cost: \$350.

### DINAMAP COMPACT VITAL SIGNS MONITOR

Checks all vital signs and has an integrated printer for quick documentation. Cost: \$4,500.

### MOBILE LAP-TOP TREATMENT ROOM TABLE

An infusion-chair side piece for storage. Cost: \$280.

### WALL-MOUNTABLE TVs

To place in the infusion room. Cost: \$1,000.

## Children's Pennies Add Up to Help for Chemo Patients

A group of Sunday schoolchildren recently learned a lesson in dollars and cents and helping others.

At the beginning of the year, youngsters from Concordia Lutheran Church in Kendall decided to collect pennies to help the needy. They had hoped to gather 5,000 coins by August 1st.

The children counted and counted and rolled and rolled the coins. When all were counted they surpassed their goal, collecting nearly 7,000 of them.

Then they had to decide how to help people in need, following the example of the Bible story of Jesus feeding thousands with just a few loaves of bread and fish.

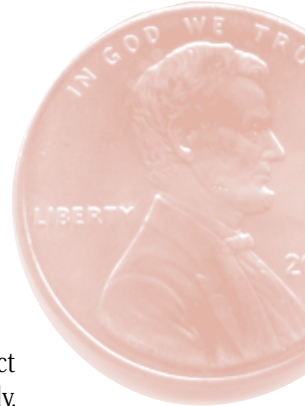
The Rev. Stephen Brisson received his copy of the Dialogue newsletter in the mail and read about the need for Ensure nutritional beverages for patients receiving chemotherapy treatment.

"The pennies were our loaves of bread and fish," Brisson says. "I thought it would be a wonderful way for our children's offerings to serve as food and nourishment in a place of need. It's an example of how God helps people in need, in this case through our children."

The children purchased two cases of Ensure and Brisson delivered them to the Cancer Center.

"We are very grateful for this thoughtful gift from the Concordia Lutheran Church," says social worker J.E.

Giarrizzo, M.S.W., C.S.W., who coordinates the Patient Needs Fund. "These children worked hard and their donation is very appreciated by our patients."



## Bicyclist on Cross-Country Trek Visits Wilmot Cancer Center

**M**att Allen was just a teenager when his mother was diagnosed with breast cancer in 1990. Throughout her exhaustive treatment, he vowed to honor her courage, but he wasn't sure how.

Earlier this year, he found an answer – a cross-country trek to raise awareness and funds for breast cancer research. Allen stopped at the James P. Wilmot Cancer Center on July 30th as he neared the end of his 6,000-mile journey from Long Beach, Calif., to Bar Harbor, Maine.

“There are women all around us who faced the same situation. It was an incredible challenge for her, and this trip is my challenge and my way of showing her that I love her,” Allen says. “I'm very grateful that she beat the cancer and hope that someday the fight won't be so difficult.”

Allen will raise about \$15,000 for the National Breast Cancer Coalition through his four-month excursion. For more information about his trip, or to see his journal, go to [www.rideforcancer.com](http://www.rideforcancer.com).



*Bicyclist Matt Allen recently completed a cross-country trek to raise awareness for breast cancer. He stopped at the Wilmot Cancer Center on July 30th as he made his way from California to Maine. He visited with breast cancer patients and spoke with support-group coordinator J.E. Giarrizzo, C.S.W., about new treatments and survivorship.*



## Prostate Screenings Raise Awareness of Need for Early Detection

**P**rostate cancer is the most common form of cancer for men over 65 and, from the overwhelming turnout at two free screenings at the James P. Wilmot Cancer Center, it's obvious that men are concerned about the disease.

The annual screenings are offered as part of Project Believe, Strong Health's initiative to create the healthiest community by 2020. Early detection of prostate cancer is key to successful treatment and survival.

The two simple diagnostic tests, used to detect the disease in men as young as 40, were given to 201 men. In the first screening on June 28, 25 men showed abnormalities in one or both of these tests that will be further evaluated to see if cancer is the cause. And on the second screening, July 25, four more had abnormal test results.

“Those men in whom cancer is diagnosed are at an advantage because we were able to detect the problem early enough that chances of curing the disease are very great,” says Edward Messing, M.D., chairman of the Urology Department.

For more information about future screenings, contact Bill Flesher, R.N., M.P.H., at (716) 275-1817.

## Participants Sought for “Strides” Walk



The James P. Wilmot Cancer Center is organizing teams to participate in the annual Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk, Sunday, October 14.

Anyone interested in joining the effort, which supports breast cancer research, prevention, and education programs, should contact Leslie White at (716) 273-1119.

# Discovery Ball



## 2002 Discovery Ball

*Longtime volunteers Paul and Judy Linehan are leading the planning*

*effort for the 2002 Discovery Ball to benefit the James P. Wilmot*

*Cancer Center, named after Judy's father. They are*

*excited about the opportunity to continue the momentum*

*from the last Ball and hope to raise \$300,000 next year.*

*The third annual Discovery Ball will be held April 27th, 2002,*

*at the Rochester Riverside Convention Center.*

*More details about the Ball will be available in the next few months.*

*The Discovery Ball Steering Committee is seeking sponsors*

*for this elegant event. If you or your company would like*

*to become sponsors, or reserve tickets, please contact*

*Mary Ann Dever, director of development, at*

*(716) 275-0806.*

## Schultz Foundation Supports Clinical Trials, Biotherapeutics

**T**he James P. Wilmot Cancer Center recently received a \$70,000 donation from The Schultz Foundation to support the Clinical Trials Office.

Elizabeth Schultz Vanderlinde, M.D., chief resident of the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, recently presented the donation.

The Schultz Foundation was founded in memory of William and Mabel Schultz, Vanderlinde's grandparents, and provides support to biomedical research, educational and community-related programs.

"We are pleased to be able to help support cancer research and treatment programs at the James P. Wilmot Cancer Center," Vanderlinde says. "The novel treatments offered through clinical trials are important steps in the ongoing search for cancer cures."

The funds donated in August are the first in a series of three annual donations from the Foundation.

"We are very grateful for the support and generosity of The Schultz Foundation and Dr. Vanderlinde. Community interest in cancer research is so very important to our efforts," says Joseph Rosenblatt, M.D., former director of the Cancer Center.



*Elizabeth Schultz Vanderlinde, M.D., chief resident of the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, recently presented a \$70,000 donation from The Schultz Foundation to Joseph Rosenblatt, M.D. The funds will be used to support clinical trials.*

# With Our Sincere Thanks

The James P. Wilmot Cancer Center's physicians, researchers, technicians, nurses, social workers, and staff would like to thank those individuals, businesses, and organizations that show an outstanding commitment to conquering cancer through generous gifts of time, talents, and treasures. This report lists donors who contributed gifts of \$100 or more from **April 16 - August 15, 2001**.

Although all gifts are greatly appreciated, due to space and budget limitations we are unable to list the donors who contributed less than \$100 during this time period.

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this report. If your name or any other information has been listed incorrectly, we apologize and ask that you call Mary Ann Dever, director of development, at (716) 275-0806, to correct the misinformation.

\* = deceased

+ = matching gift

## **INDIVIDUALS \$30,000-\$49,999**

Wilhelmina O'Connor Trust\*

## **INDIVIDUALS \$5,000-\$9,999**

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## **INDIVIDUALS \$500-\$999**

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Dr. Jay H. Stein

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## Benefit Tournament

*The Annual Arrowhead Golf Club Ladies Day Tournament raised nearly \$3,300 to support cancer research at the James P. Wilmot Cancer Center. The tournament was held in memory of Jerry Boozer and Amy Potote. From left are Peggy Wohlers, Arrowhead owner; Mary Ann Dever, director of development for the Wilmot Cancer Center; and Nancy Blure, a member of the tournament organizing committee. Missing are Donna Lashbrook and Linda Ottley, who also helped plan the tournament.*

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## Kicking Tumor Butt

*Lauri Tondryk believes attitude is everything when you battle cancer, so she recently created this t-shirt, which is available for purchase at the Specialty Shop at Strong. They sell for \$15 and proceeds benefit brain tumor research at the Wilmot Cancer Center.*

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## Tom Wurzer Memorial Golf Tournament

*The Tom Wurzer Memorial Golf Tournament, sponsored by SWBR Architects and Engineers P.C., raised \$20,000 for the Bone Marrow Transplant Research Program at the James P. Wilmot Cancer Center. From left are: Debbie Smith, tournament coordinator; Eileen Wurzer; Camille Abboud, M.D., and David Beinetti, SWBR managing partner.*

*Thank you!*

**Scott McIntosh, Ph.D.**, was named co-director of the Cardiovascular Health Practitioners' Institute, a training program for professionals from departments of public health throughout the U.S. and abroad, and staff members of the American Heart Association. McIntosh is assistant director of the Smoking Research Program.

**Alok Khorana, M.D.**, Hematology/Oncology fellow, and **Douglas Ney**, medical student, received grants from Cancer Action to support research. Khorana received a \$10,000 grant to study the prognosis for metastatic colon cancer. He is researching proteins present in tumors that may indicate whether tumors will recur in some patients.

**Ney** was awarded an \$8,550 grant to continue studying music therapy to soothe children during treatment for brain tumors at Children's Hospital at Strong.

**Khorana** also received the Faculty Award for Creative Excellence, sponsored by the University Cluster on Human Values in Health Care. He was honored for a short story entitled "Relativity."

Several staffers recently published the 8th edition of *Clinical Oncology: A Multidisciplinary Approach for Physicians and Students*. The nearly 1,000-page textbook was edited by **Philip Rubin, M.D.**, and **Jacqueline Williams, Ph.D.**, with **Paul Okunieff, M.D.**, and **Joseph Rosenblatt, M.D.**, as consultant editors. **Amy Huser, M.A.**, served as technical editor.

Contributing authors include **Ralph Brasacchio, M.D.**, **Louis Constine, M.D.**, **Jennifer Griggs, M.D., M.P.H.**, **Peter Keng, Ph.D.**, **David Korones, M.D.**, **Regis O'Keefe, M.D., Ph.D.**, **Raman Qazi, M.D.**, **Randy Rosier M.D., Ph.D.**, **Deepak Sahasrabudhe, M.D.**, **Ajay Sandhu, M.D.**, **Michael Schell, Ph.D.**, **Khaled Tolba, M.D.**, and **Sandra McDonald, M.D.** Other contributors include **George Uschold, RT Ed.D.**, **Arvind Soni, M.D.**, **Ann Muhs, C.C.R.C.**, and **Leslie Koprowski, C.C.R.C.**

**John Bennett, M.D.**, was a featured lecturer at the Keil Microscope Workshop, June 26-30, in Siegen, Germany. The event centered on the advantages of the World Health Organization's new classification system of acute myeloid leukemia and myelodysplastic syndrome. And he chaired a symposium on pediatric leukemia.


Bennett also participated in the International Society of Geriatric Oncology conference in France. He served on the Scientific Committee, led presentations on the treatment of myelodysplastic syndrome and chaired sessions on developments in geriatric oncology. Then he spent four days as a Visiting Professor of Hematology in Beijing, China, lecturing on leukemias and assisting researchers improve their skills in preparing research papers.

**Jeffrey Hayes, Ph.D.**, associate professor of Biochemistry and Biophysics, was the featured speaker during the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life in Bath. He is conducting ACS-funded research into ways the body works to correct DNA damage, which can ultimately lead to the development of cancer cells. He also spoke of the center's research to combat chemotherapy-induced nausea during treatment for cancer.

**Michael Schell, Ph.D.**, and **Walter O'Dell, Ph.D.**, presented results of research using BrainLab Novalis stereotactic radiosurgery to reduce the size of metastatic tumors in lung and liver cancer patients during the American Association of Physicists of Medicine annual meeting in Salt Lake City July 21-26.

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# Dialogue

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