Initiative helps campus remain flu free

Under the supervision of School of Nursing faculty, LSUHSC nursing students have given more than 800 flu shots this week. The immunizations have been available on a first-come, first-served basis to LSUHSC faculty, staff and students.

Wednesday, October 12 is the last day for flu shots on the LSUHSC main campus. They’ll be given from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m., while supplies last, in room 5B12 in School of Nursing. There is no charge for students. There’s a $15 fee for faculty and staff, payable by check or money order made out to LSUHSC-NO.

University Medical Center site humming with activity

Cranes and other heavy construction equipment dot the skyline of the site of the new University Medical Center. Test pilings are being driven to determine how far the pilings have to be driven to support the new structures. Facilities Planning and Control Director Jerry Jones told the University Medical Center Board at its meeting this week that process is expected to be completed by November 21. He reported that the schedule for the patient towers and diagnostics-treatment building calls for driving pilings in February.

Jones also told the Board that demolition of the former Palace Hotel on the corner of Canal and South Claiborne is slated for November 20th. That date was chosen partly because it’s a Saints bye week and the implosion will require closure of area streets including the interstate.

The other major step will be to move the historic McDonogh 11 School from the UMC footprint.

Jones says although various components will be on different schedules, the project is proceeding on track to open the new UMC teaching hospital in early 2015.
Grant to LSUSCHC tumor registry creates pediatric cancer research tool

Dr. Vivien Chen, Professor of Public Health and Director of the Louisiana Tumor Registry at LSU Health Sciences Center New Orleans, has been awarded a grant totaling $794,091 over three years to develop a system to rapidly collect and report pediatric cancer cases at the local, state, and national levels. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention awarded the grant.

LSUHSC’s Louisiana Tumor Registry will collaborate with state pediatric organizations and the pediatric oncology community to capture the cases rapidly. Now, it can take six months or more to collect this information. Key partners include the LSU Health Sciences Center New Orleans Pediatric Oncology Program which practices at Children’s Hospital in New Orleans (where about 50% of new Louisiana pediatric cancer cases are diagnosed and/or treated), as well as St. Jude-affiliated-clinics in Louisiana, and large out-of-state children’s hospitals. LSUHSC’s registry will also expand upon its cancer data on children and young adults by linkages with secondary data sets.

This new database will be a valuable tool for local, state, and national researchers as well as health and policy professionals working to control cancer in children and save lives.

LSUHSC’s Louisiana Tumor Registry is one of only 17 population-based cancer registries in the US designated as Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results (SEER) registries by the National Cancer Institute. The SEER Program is the authoritative source of information on cancer incidence and survival in this country.

Golf tourney benefits Camp Tiger

Get your golf gear ready! The golf tournament to benefit Camp Tiger 2012 is being held on November 12, 2011 at 12pm at Lakewood Golf Club.

There are various registration options, ranging from individual participants at $55 for medical students and $100 for non-medical students, to sponsorship packages from $100 up. All participants receive a gift bag.

Camp Tiger is a free week-long summer day camp run by first-year students from the LSU Health Sciences Center New Orleans School of Medicine. It gives disadvantaged and challenged children what may be their only chance to socialize with other children without being singled out for their disabilities.

Pick up registration forms in the Medical School Student Affairs Office.