



DR. LARRY HOLLIER

# CHANCELLOR'S Notes



May 11, 2012

## LSUHSC faculty recognized as Health Care Heroes

Faculty of the LSUHSC Schools of Medicine and Nursing were recognized at the annual CityBusiness Health Care Heroes luncheon and awards ceremony yesterday. They included:



Nursing's Dr. Yvonne Sterling



Medicine Dean Dr. Steve Nelson



Medicine's Dr. Juzar Ali

## Magnets removed in time from a child due to LSUHSC media stories as national awareness efforts grow

The mother of a 9 year-old local child told media at a follow-up briefing this week that she knew what to do when her daughter swallowed magnetic beads because of the television stories she saw with LSUHSC's Dr. Adam Noel a couple of weeks earlier. Mary Firmin brought Brianna to Children's Hospital where Dr. Noel successfully removed them endoscopically. They joined Braylon Jordan's family and Dr. Noel to issue another warning about the dangers of these powerful little magnets.



Brianna



Dr. Noel updated media about Braylon's condition since they first told his story in April. The Mississippi toddler made an appearance, too, demonstrating how he is learning to walk again after seven surgeries to remove most of his destroyed small intestine and spending nearly a month in the ICU at Children's.

Dr. Noel told reporters about a podcast series available on iTunes with information for parents and the general public, as well as emergency medical personnel, GI specialists and surgeons. Dr. Noel is one



Braylon

see *Magnets*, page 2

## LSUHSC medical student & faculty volunteers find oral cancers at free screenings



Dr. Roban Walvekar and Dr. Renee Gardner with med students

LSUHSC's Otolaryngology and Oncology faculty, along with LSUHSC medical students, volunteered to screen for oral cancer at outreach events in New Orleans and Baton Rouge recently. They saw more than 50 people and referred four for further consultation and care. The students are members of the School of Medicine ENT and Hematology/Oncology Interest Groups.



## Magnets, from page 1



*Dr. Adam Noel demonstrates the strength of these tiny magnets at the media briefing*

one of the members of the North American Society for Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition featured. NASPGHAN issued an alert with details about the series. The heads of Safe Kids Worldwide and the US Consumer Product Safety Commission also issued an alert through a joint statement that referenced Braylon's case and was released yesterday. ■

## Campuswide Book Club, a forum for collegial discourse

Dr. Derek Rovaris, Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic and Multicultural Affairs, launched the LSUHSC Campuswide Book Club this week. A guest panel – Drs. Cassandra Youmans, John Estrada, and Corey Hebert – led a spirited discussion of *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* by

Rebecca Skloot. The book tells the story of a poor, black tobacco farmer named Henrietta Lacks, known to scientists as HeLa, whose cells were taken without her knowledge in 1951. These cells became one of the most important tools in medicine, used to develop the polio vaccine, cloning, gene mapping, IVF, and more. They



have been bought and sold by the billions, yet she remains virtually unknown, and her descendants can't afford health insurance.

The LSUHSC Campuswide Book Club, open to LSUHSC faculty, staff, and students, is planning to meet quarterly, and the next book selection has already been chosen. Stay tuned! ■

## LSUHSC student chosen as inaugural MRSP scholar

Jessica Shields, an LSUHSC MD/PhD student, is one of the 45 medical, dental, and veterinary students chosen by the National Institutes of Health to participate in the inaugural class of the Medical Research Scholars Program.



The new NIH MRSP is a year-long enrichment program designed to provide mentored training to creative, research-oriented students at the intramural campus of the NIH in Bethesda. The MRSP enables scholars to conduct basic, clinical, or translational research in areas that match their personal interests and research goals. They also attend courses, seminars, a structured lecture series, and clinical teaching rounds, and present their research to the NIH community and at professional conferences. Help is also provided to develop a well-articulated career plan. ■

