



DR. LARRY HOLLIER

# CHANCELLOR'S Notes



May 31, 2013

## Copeland initiative increases funds for LSUHSC research

Vice Chancellor Ron Gardner represented LSU Health Sciences Center at a press conference in Jefferson Parish last



week where Al Copeland, Jr., JP Councilman Ben Zahn, and Lafreniere Park officials unveiled plans for the Al Copeland Concert Gardens. The plans feature a memorial statue of the late Al Copeland, Sr., as well as an open, airy plaza, gardens and a large performance stage. The stage serves as a new revenue source for Lafreniere Park and Jefferson Parish, as well as cancer research at LSU Health Sciences Center.



The Al Copeland Foundation will donate the proceeds from the sale of the bricks to LSUHSC for cancer research. The Gardens will also serve as a venue for special fund-raising events benefitting LSUHSC. The initiative will pay tribute to Al Copeland, Sr., while helping to fulfill his dying wish to find a cure for the disease that has cut millions of lives too short.

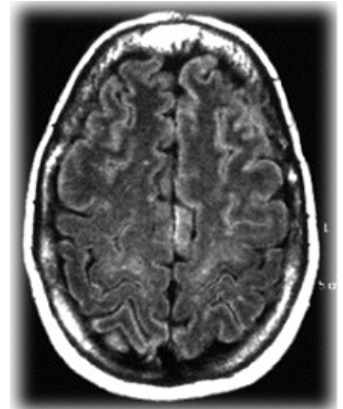
## LSUHSC named first MDA/ALS Clinic in LA

The Muscular Dystrophy Association has designated LSU Health Sciences Center New Orleans as the first MDA/ALS clinic in Louisiana. The designation recognizes the high standard of care offered by the LSUHSC team of specialized physicians and therapists for people in the Southeast living with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, or ALS.

Dr. Amy Gutierrez will direct the new clinic, which will allow us to provide specialty care to patients in the greater New Orleans area, as well as other parts of Louisiana and nearby states. The clinic will continue to provide patients access to care regardless of their economic background.



Dr. Amy Gutierrez



LSUHSC is the 44th MDA/ALS center in the country, joining a national network of MDA/ALS centers that provide a multidisciplinary team of medical professionals skilled in the diagnosis and treatment of ALS. LSUHSC has built a comprehensive medical team of clinicians, including a board-certified neurologist, a pulmonologist, and respiratory, physical and speech therapists.

The clinics also collaborate on ALS research, helping patients access the very latest treatments and moving us closer to an eventual answer for this devastating condition.

## LSUHSC's Camp Tiger theme - *Calling All Heroes* - apropos

Camp Tiger 2013 gave more than 100 special needs kids an experience of a lifetime last week. Now in its 28th year, LSUHSC's Camp Tiger is a week-long summer day camp for children who most other camps are not equipped to take. It's the class project of LSUHSC's first-year medical students who plan and organize, raise the necessary funds so participation is free to campers, and then



volunteer as counselors to make this magical week happen. About 300 LSUHSC medical students participated this year, including Camp Tiger Director Peter Casey and faculty advisor Dr. Joseph Delcarpio.

Early Monday morning, large Hotard coach buses lined the 500 block of Gravier while campers and counselors fueled up for the day with a hearty breakfast in the MEB. Counselors shepherded

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campers aboard, and it was off to Baton Rouge for an LSU Athletic experience. The kids had a ball



playing on venues for three sports – football, baseball, and basketball – followed by an afternoon of bowling before heading home.

At the Children’s Museum, they shopped til they dropped and became human bubbles. They learned about the creatures of the Gulf of Mexico at the Aquarium and butterflies and creepy crawlers at the Insectarium. They spent a morning at the Audubon Zoo. They caught the Mardi Gras spirit, along with beads their counselors threw from the floats, at Mardi Gras



World and played at City Park’s Storyland. Indoor activities included AdventureQuest and Kidsports/Laser Tag. The week wrapped up with a Carnival, complete with a petting zoo, companion dogs, a fire-breathing act, train rides, karaoke, space walks and all manner of outdoor summer activities. Camp Tiger came to a close with an awards banquet for campers and their families.

Camp Tiger let the campers be “just kids” with the freedom to play, socialize, and express themselves as healthy, vibrant children. Our students enjoyed the opportunity to work with these exceptional children and serve the community. Since its inception, Camp Tiger has benefitted more than 1,500 children from the Greater New Orleans and Baton Rouge areas. ■

### LSUHSC school science partnership culminates year with experiments on campus

About 150 fourth-graders from Benjamin Banneker Elementary School, St. Peter Claver School, and Langston Hughes Academy Charter School spent last Monday morning at LSUHSC getting a variety of hands-on science experiences. The kids conducted experiments to learn about genetics, physiology, anatomy, wound healing, and how caffeine, alcohol, and cigarette smoke affect the body.

The field trip ended another successful year of the LSU Health Sciences Center/New Orleans Schools Science Partnership Program. During the school year, LSUHSC faculty and students teach science to 4th grade students in their classrooms at partner



Program Director Dr. Fern Tsien and St. Peter Claver students

schools. The program was designed to make science more interesting, easier to understand, and more accessible; improve 4th grade science standardized Louisiana Educational Assessment Program (LEAP) test scores; and introduce students to positive and diverse role models in the science professions.

The closing awards luncheon celebrated the year’s achievements. Teachers were recognized and each child got to pick out their own new books. Books were also donated to the libraries at each school. LSUHSC faculty, staff, and students generously donated 530 books for this purpose during the recent book drive. ■