



# CHANCELLOR'S Notes



November 08, 2013

## LSUHSC oral cancer screening finds suspicious areas

LSUHSC head and neck surgeon Dr. Rohan Walvekar conducted a free oral cancer screening on a recent Friday afternoon at the Bank of New Orleans in Metairie. Of the 62 people screened, 5 were referred for suspicious lesions or follow up.



*Dr. Rohan Walvekar screens a participant*

Second-year resident Dr. Susie Smart and four medical students also participated.



The screening, offered on a first come, first served basis, involved an examination of the oral cavity and neck, as well as counseling about risk factors for oral cancer.

If oral cancer is caught before the disease has spread, the 5-year relative survival rate is 75%, compared to only 20% for oral cancer diagnosed late. Treatment for very early stage oral cancer may require only minor surgery to remove the cancer.

## LSUHSC'S Noel honored for outstanding achievement

The American Academy of Pediatrics recognized Dr. R. Adam Noel, Associate Professor of Pediatrics at the LSUHSC New Orleans School of Medicine, with the 2013 Outstanding Achievement Award. The award was presented by the Section on Epidemiology/Council on Community Pediatrics at the American Academy of Pediatrics annual meeting.

An LSUHSC pediatric gastroenterologist, Dr. Noel was honored for his work over the past two years on neodymium, or rare earth, magnets. After seeing several children who swallowed these powerful tiny magnets, he led an international effort to identify the incidence and danger to kids. Dr. Noel was the principal investigator of the first large study on the issue, a landmark study he conducted with the North American Society for Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition that documented a drastic increase in cases and associated illness. His research results contributed to the US Consumer Product Safety Commission's action recalling neodymium magnet adult desk toys and lawsuits to compel companies to stop selling these magnet sets and comply with the recall. His work also led to similar work in Canada and abroad. At the same time, Dr. Noel has worked tirelessly to increase awareness of the dangers of these powerful magnets to protect children and families.



## LSUHSC Doctor of Audiology students receive their white coats

Eleven students in the Class of 2016 and twelve students in the Class of 2017 were coated during the 5th Biennial Doctor of Audiology White Coat Ceremony at LSU Health Sciences Center New Orleans School of Allied Health Professions.



*Dr. Gordon-Wendt coats Andrea Wesner*

Family and friends filled the new Lecture Room A for the ceremony, which included introductory remarks from Barbara L. Gordon-Wendt, Ph.D., CCC-A, F-AAA, Audiology Program Director, a welcome from Dr. Jimmy Cairo, dean, and an address by Bettie B. Borton, AuD, see *Coat*, page 2

## Saints forced turnovers translate to Dental School donations

Louisiana Dental Center CEO Dr. Joseph Lacoste (DDS '80) came bearing gifts – a check for the LSUHSC School of Dentistry and a visitor who helped drive up the amount written on it. Louisiana Dental Center's Big Turnover Program unites a commitment to support the LSUHSC School of Dentistry with enthusiasm for New Orleans Saints football. For every takeaway the Saints defense creates, Louisiana Dental Center pledges to "turn over" \$250.

This year's donation was \$8,100 – for the renovation of the preclinical teaching labs and the Summer Enrichment Program. New Orleans Saints inside linebacker #50 Curtis Lofton helped deliver it.



Mark Meunier, Terry Ernst, Richie Reith, Eugene Graff, Curtis Lofton, Dean Henry Gremillion, Drs. Joey Lacoste, Steven Cummings, Taro Digney, & Jared Harris

Lofton stayed late to autograph all manner of items for the 4th year dental students invited to attend. They ranged from the expected, like a photo of Lofton, to the esoteric, like the scrub shirt still on the student's back.

The event also included a drawing for tickets to an upcoming home game, won by four lucky students!



Curtis Lofton, Rosalie Nguyen, Caroline Cobb, & McKenzie Holloway

Donations of non-perishable food items for our Thanksgiving Food Drive benefit the Second Harvest Food Bank can be brought in through Friday, November 22nd. Rouses's red barrels are located in each campus building. Checks made payable to Second Harvest Food Bank of Greater New Orleans can be hand delivered on campus through campus mail to: "Food Drive," Office of Computer Services, Resource Center Building, 7th floor. Second Harvest Food Bank of Greater New Orleans and Acadiana services 23 parishes in southern Louisiana providing emergency food assistance to more than 263,000 people, including 82,000 children and 40,000 seniors.



Coat, from page 1

President of the American Academy of Audiology. Dr. Borton is an LSUHSC alumna, earning her Master's degree in Audiology here. The day before the ceremony, Dr. Borton gave a presentation to our students and faculty. She has mentored several of our AuD students as externs and has been quite impressed with them.

The Doctor of Audiology degree at LSU Health Sciences Center New Orleans was the first AuD program approved in Louisiana. The first graduates were awarded their degrees in 2008.

A reception in the Chancellor's Reception Room followed the ceremony.

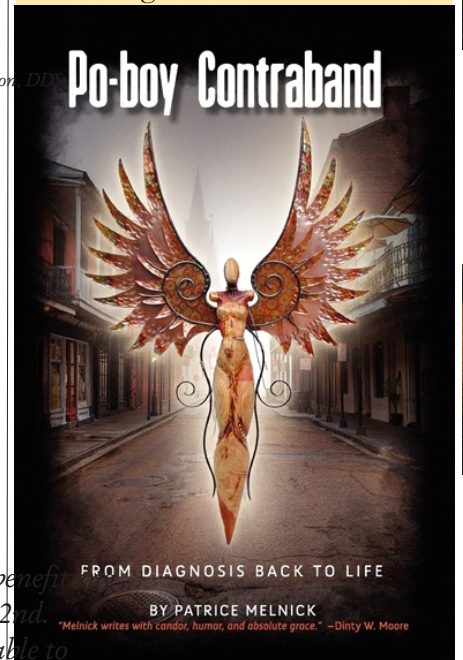


Dr. Bettie Borton

## Coming up

The Office of the Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic & Multicultural Affairs is pleased to announce that Po-boy Contraband: From Diagnosis Back to Life, by Patrice Melnick, has been chosen for the 2013 LSUHSC Campuswide Book Club.

This creative non-fiction book is an enlightening and entertaining story of one woman's journey from "diagnosis back to life." This



summary includes a very diverse group of people who help to shape the protagonist's outlook and disposition.

The Book Club will gather on Thursday, November 14, from 12:15 - 1:30pm in MEB Seminar 4 for a "brown bag" discussion. The book's author, Ms. Melnick, has agreed to join us for this discussion.

Po-boy Contraband is available in the campus bookstore, in many major bookstores, and online. We look forward to a lively discussion, so please consider joining the conversation in November.