

Noon News



Today
High: 73 Low: 52
Showers likely



Tomorrow
High: 79 Low: 53
Partly cloudy

Thursday, July 30, 2009

More faculty and staff news:
thepoint.healthcare.uiowa.edu

Wal-Mart construction to start next spring

Wal-Mart officials said work on the controversial Wal-Mart Supercenter on Highway 1 in Iowa City will begin next spring, the *Iowa City Press-Citizen* reports. The new store, to be ready by late summer 2011, will replace the current store at the site. The company has faced local opposition to the project.

Sinclair fire remains stubborn

Firefighters remained at the former Sinclair meatpacking plant in Cedar Rapids last night and this morning, following a fire Tuesday that destroyed a massive brick building at the long-closed plant. The smoldering fire is proving stubborn, with roof materials and other debris causing flare-ups yesterday.

School may jam cell phone signals

School officials in St. Ansgar in northeast Iowa are considering buying equipment to jam students' cell phone signals, the Associated Press reports. Officials say students aren't following rules that prohibit cell phone use during school hours. Earlier this month, the school board passed a motion to spend up to \$5,000 to block the phone signals, but school officials are looking into whether the measure is legal.

Democrats press committee action on health care

Congressional Democrats are determined to show progress on health care reform before they adjourn for their August break. The House Energy and Commerce and the Senate Finance committees are getting closer to reaching compromises on health care legislation, the Associated Press reports.

Obama to hold 'beer summit' today

President Barack Obama, Cambridge, Mass., police Sgt. James Crowley, and Harvard scholar Henry Louis Gates Jr. will meet today for a beer at the White House today in hopes of resolving a racially charged dispute and defusing the political fallout from Obama's comment last week that police had "acted stupidly" in arresting Gates at his home after responding to a call about a possible break-in.

Study finds organic food no better

Organic food has no nutritional or health benefits over ordinary food, according to a study published yesterday in the *American Journal of Clinical Nutrition*. Scientists at the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine said consumers pay more for organic food because of its perceived health benefits, but the group's review of scientific literature over the past 50 years found no significant difference.

Iranian police use force at graveside memorial

Iranian police today fired tear gas and beat protesters with batons to disperse thousands attending a memorial at the graveside of Neda Agha Solton, a young woman killed at a June 20 protest of the Iran's disputed presidential election and whose name has become a rallying cry for the opposition.

Nigerian troops battle Islamic militants

Security forces hunted door-to-door for Islamic militants in northern Nigeria today after killing more than 100 of them by storming the Boko Haram sect's compound last night. The government blames the sect for sparking days of violence in the mostly Muslim region of the country.

Libya, Canada sign nuclear deal

Libya and Canada have signed a memorandum of intent on nuclear power that will allow cooperation between the two countries in the mining, processing, and transport of uranium, officials said today. Since July 2007, Libya has signed similar agreements with France, Russia, and Ukraine.

Muffy comes home—finally

Nine years after vanishing from outside her Australian family's home, Muffy the dog was found alive and well this month in another backyard —1,200 miles away—officials said today. A microchip in the dog's neck identified the original owners; Muffy's "missing years" remain a mystery.

Phillies get Cy Young winner Lee

The Philadelphia Phillies acquired left-hander Cliff Lee from the Cleveland Indians yesterday. Lee, the reigning American League Cy Young Award winner, is 7-9 with a 3.14 ERA this season.

Today in history

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**On this day in
1965, President
Lyndon Johnson
signed Medicare
into law.**

MORE ANNOUNCEMENTS ON BACK

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Weight Watchers will host an open house/registration meeting from noon to 12:30 p.m. Wednesday in Braley Auditorium, Elevator K, Lower Level, for a 17-week “at work” series. Several payment options are available for UI faculty and staff. Free “e-tools” are included if 20 people join. Learn more at www.uiowa.edu/hr/wellness or contact Megan Moeller, UI Wellness coordinator, at 335-5424.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Domestic hot and cold water service to Colloton Pavilion will be interrupted for approximately four hours beginning at noon Saturday for installation of water-treatment piping. Inpatient areas will have cold water only. The scrub sinks for Main Operating Rooms #18 to #22 and Utility Room 5808 will have water. Affected areas may experience rusty or dark water for a short period of time. If this occurs, run water continuously until water is clear. Questions? Contact Merle Hagie, Engineering Services, at 384-9675.
- August 4 will be here before you know it. Have you set your new HawkID password? It’s a good idea to do it as soon as possible to ensure a smooth transition to the new ID system for all UI Health Care employees and students. For more information or to set a new HawkID password now, go to <http://hawkid.uiowa.edu/project>. Pick up a pocket reminder card in any hospital dining room soon.
- UI Children’s Hospital and the Iowa Hawkeyes are partnering on “Kid Captain,” a program to honor current or former pediatric patients during UI football games. Children selected will receive game tickets, a commemorative jersey, and will be on the field for the pre-game coin toss. Only parents or guardians may nominate a child, but faculty and staff are encouraged to share this information with families. For details, visit www.uihealthcare.com/children. Entry deadline is Aug. 16.

RESEARCH VOLUNTEERS INVITED

- Adults ages 56 to 80 who previously received the smallpox vaccine at least 10 years ago and are in good overall health are invited to participate in a smallpox vaccine study at the UI. Participation involves a total of seven visits over approximately nine months to evaluate the safety and efficacy of an investigational new generation of smallpox vaccine in people over age 56. For more information, call 356-4848 or e-mail recruit-vaccine-research@uiowa.edu and put “BN-024” in the subject line.
- Healthy individuals ages 18 to 54 are invited to participate in a study to evaluate if a specific type of bacteria can survive in the nose and throat. Volunteers must not have had treatment for allergies in the last year or treatment for sinusitis, ear infections, or asthma in the past five years. No history of smoking within the past year. Compensation is available. For details, call Geri Dull at 384-7245.
- Children 6 years, 6 months through 12 years, 6 months are invited to participate in a study examining word learning and executive function abilities, such as attention, inhibition, and planning. Participation will consist of one 60-minute visit. Contact Lea Greiner at 353-6582 or lea-greiner@uiowa.edu.
- Adults with breast cancer ages 20 to 75 and their caregivers are invited to participate in a Department of Rehabilitation Therapies research study investigating the effects of participation in music therapy cancer support groups on mood, coping, social support, and quality of life. Groups meet twice a week for six weeks. Compensation. For more information, call Abbey Dvorak at 356-4718 or e-mail abbey-dvorak@uiowa.edu.
- Healthy female volunteers ages 25 to 40 who have given birth in the last five years are invited to participate in a research project involving ultrasound of the uterus. Participants should have regular menstrual cycles (25 to 35 days apart), have no history of infertility, and be off all methods of birth control for three months. The study involves a single 30-minute appointment. Compensation. Contact Michelle Maifeld at 353-8491 or e-mail jill-goodman@uiowa.edu.
- A UI study on lung disease seeks current and former smokers ages 45 to 80 who are non-Hispanic white or African-American. The study aims to look for genetic differences and learn why some smokers develop Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) and others do not. People with a respiratory disorder other than COPD are not eligible to participate. Participation involves one or two visits. Call 353-8862 or e-mail kimberly-sprenger@uiowa.edu.
- Healthy females ages 18 to 60 are invited to participate in a research study examining the effects of transcutaneous electrical nerve stimulation (TENS) on pain. TENS is a commonly used treatment for pain that uses an application of low intensity (non-painful) electrical stimulation to the skin. Subjects cannot currently have pain or be on pain medication. Subjects will be compensated for five consecutive daily visits. For details, e-mail slukalab@uiowa.edu or call Shannon Lehman at 384-3052.

View the most recent study announcements at www.uihealthcare.com/depts/clinicaltrials/volunteer.html.

Contact *Noon News* at noonnews@healthcare.uiowa.edu. Persons with a disability requiring reasonable accommodations in order to participate in programs at University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics may discuss their needs with Concierge Services in advance at 356-1900.