

Noon News



Today
High: 79 Low: 59
Mostly sunny



Friday, July 31, 2009

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

Tomorrow
High: 75 Low: 55
Partly cloudy

Illinois couple donates \$1 million for research

An Illinois couple has donated \$1 million to The University of Iowa for epilepsy research. The gift, made through the UI Foundation from Beth and Nathan Tross of Highland Park, Ill., establishes the Beth L. Tross Epilepsy Fund in the UI Carver College of Medicine Department of Neurosurgery.

Lottery profits add \$2.8 million to state budget

Officials announced yesterday that profits from the Iowa Lottery will add \$2.8 million more to the state's budget than projected. According to Gov. Chet Culver's office, the state ended the fiscal year with a \$58 million shortfall. Officials say rainy day funds and lottery profits will help close that gap.

Too many clunkers, too little cash?

Less than a week after it launched, the \$1 billion Cash for Clunkers program may be almost spent out. Congressional sources said the program would be put on hold, but a Department of Transportation official said the Obama administration would work with Congress to try to find more funds.

Congress set to vote on executive pay

The House of Representatives is expected to vote today on a bill to shut down what some consider excessive executive compensation. The measure gives regulators the power to ban pay practices that prompt "inappropriate risk" at financial firms. It also would give shareholders a non-binding annual vote on salary and bonuses for the top executives at all public companies.

U.S. announces sanctions on North Korean corporation

The United States imposed economic sanctions yesterday on the Korea Hyoksin Trading Corp., a company the United Nations said is linked to Korea's nuclear weapons program. The order freezes U.S. assets of Hyoksin and prohibits Americans from dealing with it, the statement said.

Famed aviator Amelia Earhart mystery solved?

The mysterious 1937 disappearance of Amelia Earhart and navigator Fred Noonan, who attempted to fly around the world, remains unsolved. Now, researchers at the International Group for Historic Aircraft Recovery hope to recover DNA evidence showing that Earhart was stranded on Nikumaroro Island (Gardner Island) before perishing there. A \$500,000 expedition will take place next summer.

Crew of Royal Caribbean's Voyager of the Seas hit by widespread illness

A 3,144-passenger Royal Caribbean cruise ship pulled into a French port today with dozens of ill crew members. The Associated Press quotes French officials as saying about 60 crew members already were diagnosed with H1N1 flu, and 70 more are showing symptoms, but a Royal Caribbean spokesperson said the illness has not been confirmed as swine flu.

Farmer saves \$200,000 with poo power

Shawn Saylor, a Pennsylvania farmer, is using technology to turn manure from about 600 cows into energy to power his farm and 12 neighboring homes. A mechanical scraper in the barn drops the material into a 19,000 gallon tank where the slurry moves into a 70 feet wide, 16 feet deep 'digester.' Bacteria break down the organic matter and produce methane gas that burns two engine generators.

'Seinfeld' cast to reunite on 'Curb'

"Seinfeld" co-creator Larry David says the cast of the show will appear together in the upcoming finale of his HBO comedy "Curb Your Enthusiasm," marking the first time in 11 years that Jerry Seinfeld, Julia Louis-Dreyfus, Jason Alexander, and Michael Richards have appeared together on screen.

Report: Ramirez, Ortiz tested positive in '03

Manny Ramirez and David Ortiz, who helped the Boston Red Sox win the World Series in 2004, tested positive for performance-enhancing drugs in 2003, *The New York Times* reported yesterday. Ramirez and Ortiz were among 104 players who tested positive in what was meant to be confidential testing.

Today in history

**On this day in
1990, Nolan Ryan
won the 300th
game of his
career.**

MORE ANNOUNCEMENTS ON BACK

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Friday prayers for those of the Muslim faith are held at 12:45 p.m. in the Meditation Room, Elevator B, Level 1.
- The Patients' Library and the Medical Museum, Elevator F, Level 8, are open 1 to 4 p.m. weekends.
- Spiritual Services holds a Protestant service at 10:30 a.m. and a Catholic Mass at 3:30 p.m. Sundays in the East Room, Elevator F, Level 8. Services are televised on Channel 5.
- An Alcoholics Anonymous open meeting will be held at 7 p.m. Sunday, Conference Room G, Elevator F, Level 7.
- Visit the Books are Fun Sale from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday; 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesday; and 6 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thursday in the Pappajohn Pavilion Lobby, Elevator I, Level 1. A portion of the proceeds will benefit UI Children's Hospital.
- Volunteers are needed for the first-aid tent at the Summer of the Arts' Sand in the City event Aug. 28 to 30 in downtown Iowa City. Volunteers will provide basic first-aid services. For more information, contact Tom Walljasper at 384-1745 or tom-walljasper@uiowa.edu.
- Register for Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction, an eight-week program to manage stress and chronic conditions and/or promote wellness. Upcoming classes are scheduled for 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays Sept. 15 through Nov. 3; 9 to 11 a.m. Wednesdays Sept. 16 through Nov. 4; and 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays Sept. 30 through Nov. 18. Attendance at an informational session is required prior to registering. The cost is \$400; tuition support is available through UI Wellness. For more information, visit www.uihealthcare.com/mindfulness, e-mail mindfulness@uiowa.edu, or call 384-5089.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 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.
- Domestic hot and cold water service to Colloton Pavilion will be interrupted for approximately four hours beginning at noon tomorrow 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://http://hawkid.uiowa.edu/project>. Pick up a pocket reminder card in any hospital dining room soon.
- Read the summer liveWELL e-newsletter from UI Wellness at www.uiowa.edu/livewell. Topics include personal resilience, yoga at work, and expanding your capacity for energy. For a printed copy, call 353-2973 or e-mail livewell@uiowa.edu.

RESEARCH VOLUNTEERS INVITED

- Do you have severe to moderate asthma? Do you have a history of uncontrolled asthma? Do you use an inhaled corticosteroid with or without a long acting beta-agonist? Are you 18 or older? If so, you may be eligible to participate in a research study. Compensation. For more information, call 356-3240 or 877-428-0635.
- Women, age 18 and older, with bothersome bladder control problems (frequent urinary leakage and urgency to urinate) are invited to participate in a research study evaluating the medication fesoterodine compared to a placebo (inactive substance) for 12 weeks. After 12 weeks, participants may choose to take the fesoterodine for up to an additional nine months as part of the study. Participation would last up to one year and involve nine study visits. Compensation is provided. If interested, call 384-8028 or e-mail regina-arthur@uiowa.edu.
- Infants ages 5 months through 6 months are invited to participate in a research study examining speech perception. The study requires three 30-minute visits. Compensation. Contact Lea Greiner at lea-greiner@uiowa.edu or 353-6582.
- Volunteers between the ages of 50 and 70 with a high school education and no history of neurological disease are invited to participate in a research study of cognitive function. Participants will be asked to undergo neuropsychological testing which will include two hours of involvement. Compensation. For details, call 356-8759 or e-mail natasha-feuerbach@uiowa.edu.

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.