

Noon News



Friday, February 29, 2008

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

Today
High: 32 Low: 14
Slight chance of
flurries



Tomorrow
High: 37 Low: 35
Slight chance of
light snow or rain



Leap Day birthday facts

About four million
people are estimated
to have been born on
Feb. 29.

About 200,000 of
them live in the
United States.

About 684 out of one
million people have
Leap Day birthdays.

The odds of being
born Feb. 29 are
roughly one in 1,461.

Staff clinics back in business after small fire

A small fire that temporarily closed the University Employee Health Clinic (UEHC) and Workers Health Clinic yesterday afternoon will not affect clinic operations, which resumed at 7 a.m. today. The fire occurred as a contractor was removing old air conditioning equipment in the west sub-basement of Boyd Tower. It was quickly extinguished and there were no injuries or significant damage. UEHC's twice-monthly extended hours schedule continues Monday, with service from 6:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Iowa City Council to look at game day parking

Because of concerns from the fire department and residents in the area, the Iowa City Council will look at limiting parking to one side of the street for certain small side streets near Kinnick Stadium on home football gamedays, the *Press Citizen* reported. John Yapp, Johnson County Council of Governments executive director, said other university towns have passed similar proposals.

Record breaking February

Iowa City's 27.7 inches of snow this month, through Wednesday and not counting last night's snowfall, make this the city's snowiest February, breaking the 1874 record of 25 inches. A warming trend this weekend could bring a high of 42 Sunday, the first reading above 40 since Jan. 29.

Deadly toxin found in hotel room

Authorities were called to a Las Vegas hotel yesterday after a man brought a bag with a small container he said he found in his room to the manager's office. The substance is "100 percent ricin," Capt. Joe Lombardo of the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department said. Ricin is a poison. As little as 500 micrograms, an amount the size of the head of a pin, can kill an adult. "At this point, it has been contained and processed where it's not a threat to anybody," Lombardo said.

Teen son charged with murder in deaths of Georgia deputy, two children

Anthony Tyrone Terrel Jr., 17, was arrested today in and charged with killing his mother, who was a sheriff's deputy, and his two small sisters, authorities said. Terrell was charged with murder in the shooting deaths at the family home near Lawrenceville, Georgia, where the bodies were found late yesterday, police spokeswoman Illana Spellman said. The motive for the killings is not known.

UK pulls Harry from Afghanistan

Prince Harry will be pulled out of Afghanistan immediately amid fears for his safety after news of his deployment was made public yesterday, according to the British Defense Ministry. The 23-year-old prince, third in line to the British throne, had been deployed to Afghanistan since December, fighting the Taliban in Helmand Province for the past 10 weeks. Many news outlets agreed to keep the information secret for security reasons, but a Web site broke the news blackout yesterday.

Turkey withdraws troops from Iraq

Turkey's military said today it has ended a ground offensive against Kurdish rebels in Iraq, but said that foreign influence from the U.S. did not play a role in its decision. At least 200 trucks carrying Turkish troops were seen leaving the Iraqi border area and heading into Turkey's interior.

Hottest ticket in town

With seven weeks until Pope Benedict XVI arrives in Washington, DC the hunt is on for one of the hottest tickets of the year: to the Mass he will offer at Washington National Stadium on April 17. Letters and e-mails are flooding the offices of parish priests. Requests for tickets are appearing on eBay. Diocese officials are fielding phone calls from desperate Catholics as far away as Australia.

Costly wheelchair ramp?

In San Francisco City Hall, a 10-foot-long wheelchair ramp may wind up costing \$1 million. Thanks to a maze of bureaucratic indecision and historic restrictions, taxpayers may shell out \$100,000 per foot to make the Board of Supervisors president's perch in the historic chambers accessible to the disabled.

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 near Elevator B, Level 1.
- Normal electrical power to the College of Public Health and General Hospital, Level 2, will be interrupted from 7 to 11 a.m. tomorrow to connect new circuits for the Autopsy Relocation Project. Questions? Contact Randy Sharp at 356-7544.
- 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 to Level 8. All are welcome to attend; services are televised on Channel 5.
- An Alcoholics Anonymous open meeting will be held at 7 p.m. Sunday, Conference Room G, Elevator F to Level 7.
- The Magnet Quilting Bee—24 hours of quilting and refreshments—will be 7 a.m. Monday to 7 a.m. Tuesday in the East Room, Elevator F, Level 8. Help the Department of Nursing Services and Patient Care stitch the Magnet Quilt. No sewing experience required. The quilt represents the “tapestry of excellence” at the hospital—the result of our nursing department working with other departments to provide excellent patient care. Go to The Point to print and post a flyer in your area.
- Tune in to an interview about the effects of war on weapon-related injuries and deaths among children with Corinne Peek-Asa, PhD, professor of occupational and environmental health, airing at 7:30 and 9:50 a.m. Monday on the KXIC-AM (800) University of Iowa Health Care Today program.
- A closed Alcoholics Anonymous meeting will be held from noon to 1 p.m. Mondays, 5027 BT, Elevator A to Level 5.
- *SHAPEDOWN: Just for Teens*, a 10-week weight management program, is accepting referrals for seventh to 12th graders whose BMI is in the 85th percentile for their age. Interested parents and teens are encouraged to attend an informational meeting at 6 p.m. Tuesday in the Family Medicine Conference Room, 01125 PFP, Elevator L, Lower Level. Cost is \$180; fee may be covered by insurance. For information, visit www.uihealthcare.com/healthyweight or contact Krista at 384-7900.
- UI Obesity Surgery Support Group meets from 6 to 7 p.m. Tuesday in the Clinical Cancer Center conference room, 4638 JCP, across from Elevator H, Level 4. The support group is free and open to anyone who has had bariatric surgery or is considering it. Registration recommended. For questions or to register, contact Chris Melichar at 356-1887 or obesitysurgery@uiowa.edu.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Interested in starting a 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Kalona vanpool? Call 356-4107 for more information.
- Staff Council is accepting nominations for the UI Outstanding Staff Award, recognizing staff who have made outstanding contributions to UI; the Board of Regents Staff Excellence Award, acknowledging staff who have made outstanding contributions to UI and to the state; and the David J. Skorton Award for Staff Excellence in Service, honoring individuals who perform exceptional service to the university community. For nomination instructions, visit www.uiowa.edu/~staff.
- The UI College of Dentistry is looking for patients who are missing all upper and/or lower teeth to serve as patients for a June 2008 continuing education course. E-mail Ali Fakhry, DDS, MS, at ali-fakhry@uiowa.edu for details.

RESEARCH VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

- Healthy women ages 75 to 90 are invited to participate in a study looking at how familiar partners communicate and learn while playing an easy card game together. If eligible, you and a partner (spouse, adult child, friend, or relative) will come to the Department of Neurology for two consecutive days for three hours or less each day. Compensation provided. For more information, call Diana Gallegos at 384-5717.
- Individuals ages 50 to 70 with no history of neurological disease are invited to participate in a Department of Neurology study of cognitive function. Participants will be asked to undergo neuropsychological testing. Compensation provided. For details, contact Chris at christopher-chuick@uiowa.edu.
- Adults ages 66 to 80 with no history of neurological disease are invited to participate in a research study on the effects of interactive video games. This study will involve up to 12 visits over the next month; vision, thinking, and pencil-and-paper tests; questionnaires; and playing Nintendo Wii or other video game consoles. Compensation provided. For more information, call 356-2240 or e-mail neuro-drivingstudy@uiowa.edu (use “Computer Gaming” in subject line).

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 Patient and Visitor Programs in advance at 356-1200.