Hospital Expansion Spurs Support

The $72 million expansion of USA Children’s & Women’s Hospital (CWH), slated for completion in Spring 2013, will nearly double the size of the hospital, ensuring it will continue to meet the ever-growing demands for complex care for the Gulf Coast community. The provision of essential services is being augmented with comfort and convenience enhancements that are creating a more patient-centered, healing environment for the more than 70,000 patients served annually.

Supporters of the concurrent $10.6 million “Campaign for USA Children’s & Women’s Hospital” are providing vibrant new resources to bolster the programs that will reside in the expanded facility. The hospital’s long-standing child-life program, a cornerstone of patient care at CWH from its inception, is being advanced through a gift of $500,000 by Louis and Melinda Mapp of Point Clear. Pioneered at the USA Medical Center in the late 1970s, the program today employs child life specialists, recreational therapists, and credentialed teachers to ensure that each patient’s developmental, educational and emotional needs are met during their hospitalization. This vital program was established to ease stress for the hospital’s young patients and their families—helping them to better understand and manage their illness and treatment. In the future, the program will be known as the Mapp Child and Family Life Program.

In addition, dozens of generous donors are building a perpetual resource for the hospital through the CWH Excellence Endowment. Income from the endowment will provide an ongoing source of funds to address priority needs keeping the hospital flexible and able to plan strategically. Naming of rooms and spaces at the hospital honor donors who have provided significant support to this endowment. Recent namings honor:

- Denise and Marvin Anderson
- Mr. and Mrs. John J.B. Ayres III
- BBVA Compass Bank
- Dr. M. A. Baaheth
- Belinda and Joe Baggett
- Todd and Joni Cheney
- Laney and Trudi Christopher
- Lanetta Dowell
- Cathy and Richard Faison
- J. Stephen and Ellen Harvey
- Manuella Hayes
- Christopher and Katie Jett
- Jeanie and David Lindsey
- Amy and Jay McRae
- Beth and Peyton Mattei
- Jackie Pettaway
- Robby and Krisha Smith

Visit www.southalabama.edu/usacwh to view the live web cam and learn more about the CWH expansion.
Kennedys’ Lasting Impact

Many of USA’s donors find great satisfaction in supporting the University and are eager to find ways to leave a more meaningful legacy. Insurance policies are one gift in which a modest, current investment can offer a return that will later create an impact that goes much further to strengthen the University.

Ray and Patsy Kennedy are among a growing number of USA alumni who are finding life insurance a good way to give and create a positive impact. In years to come, the Kennedys’ gift will support multiple programs at the University and establish an endowed scholarship in their names. Mr. Kennedy explained, “We made the decision long ago that we would always support the University both as active alumni and with financial support. To that end, we chose a life insurance gift because it would let us do more for the University.” A number of other donors have made the same choice recently, including:

- Paul and Shannon Taylor
- Beth and Peyton Mattei
- Gregory and Jacqueline Pettaway

Offering Hope Becomes Lacey Family Mission

At age 27, Austin Lacey, a non-smoker, was diagnosed with lung cancer. “More than anything else, he was extremely practical. When he saw the need for something, he would do everything he could to get the means to fix it,” said Haley Westbrook Lacey in describing her husband, Austin. During his treatment, Austin and Haley had to spend a great deal of time away from family and friends. Their personal struggle fueled a powerful desire to improve treatment options for others and provide more funding for research. Haley explained Austin’s motivation saying, “He just wanted to make it better for other people.” Throughout his illness, Lacey worked diligently with his family to establish the Austin Lacey Fund at USA’s Mitchell Cancer Institute (MCI) to provide more resources for people in the Gulf Coast region.

“He just wanted to make it better for other people.”  
-Haley Westbrook Lacey

Since his death in May 2011, Lacey’s family has stepped in to sustain the impact of his work. Austin’s parents Richard and Cindy Lacey, recently made a substantial gift to enhance this fund. Cindy Lacey says the family was very inspired by a tour of MCI. She explained their choice to focus fundraising on MCI’s Drug Discovery Research Center saying, “We thought it would be more motivational to work towards something specific as opposed to just ‘cancer research’ in general.” Richard Lacey seconded his wife’s sentiment, and further expressed the family’s readiness to continue what his son began saying, “Lung cancer is the greatest killer but least funded of the cancers, and we believe our greatest impact should be in our own community.”

Gifts That Keep Giving

Program Benefits Students, Teachers

Many students, particularly struggling readers, forget some of what they’ve learned during the summer break. This phenomenon, known as the “summer slide,” is combated annually by the USA College of Education in partnership with the 100 Black Men of Greater Mobile, Inc. through their Summer Enrichment Program. This past summer, this partnership helped 320 Mobile County elementary students while giving 20 USA education majors the opportunity to practice their craft.

Since 2008, USA’s senior education majors, under the supervision of faculty members, have provided hands-on lessons in math, science, reading, and art. Character education and the development of a positive self-image are also a program focus.

Dr. Andre’ Green is an associate professor in the department of leadership and teacher education at USA who has been involved with the Summer Enrichment Program since its inception and is also a member of the 100 Black Men of Greater Mobile, Inc. He explained the group’s commitment saying, “Whatever we invest in summer enrichment will pay dividends down the road. I look at it as an opportunity for the betterment of the education majors who are interacting with students from all over Mobile County. The experience they gain is invaluable.”

Nevertheless, Dr. Green maintains, “The primary focus is the kids. At the end of USA’s five-week program, the students have improved their skills in every subject taught. Further, we see a shift in attitude. We send these children back to their schools with renewed vigor and a love of learning.”

McCall Collection Unveiled

The first portion of the Doy Leale McCall Collection has opened to the public and scholars worldwide, making more than 13,000 imprints from the collection accessible for the first time. Among these documents is a copy of The Mysteries of Udolpho by Ann Radcliff, published in 1794. This work is often considered to be the original Gothic novel. Also within the accessible material are private correspondence, business records, catalogs, and state and federal publications.

Siblings Doy Leale McCall III, Margaret McCall Rolfsen, and John Peter Crook McCall, established the Doy Leale McCallRare Book and Manuscript Library in 2011. The gift of their grandfather, Doy Leale McCall, Sr.’s, archive of one million rare printed documents spanning the late 18th to the early 20th centuries formed the McCall Collection. Since the gift, Carol Ellis, director of the library, and her staff have worked diligently to prepare the collection for the public. Opening the full collection is expected to be completed during the next 4 to 5 years.
Community Joins Celebration

A group of 50 leaders from the business community have committed to an important role in the 50th Anniversary Campaign for the University of South Alabama. The University thanks these members for their generous gifts and their willingness to raise awareness and encourage fellow business people to support the campaign with a gift to honor USA on achieving this historic milestone.

With deepest appreciation, the University of South Alabama presents the

50th Anniversary Annual Fund
Business Leadership Circle

Airbus Americas Engineering Inc.
  David Trent
Alabama Power Company
  Mike Saxon
Alabama State Port Authority
  James K. Lyons
Beard Equipment Company Corp.
  Melissa Beard
Beard Equipment Company Corp.
  W. Bradley Beard, Jr.
Callis Communications
  Dean Parker
China Doll Rice
  Harris V. Morrissette
City of Mobile Council President
  Reggie Copeland, Sr.
City of Mobile Mayor
  Samuel L. Jones
Community Leader
  Anne Nix
Creola Investments
  Lowell J. Friedman
D Bark Associates
  Dow Bark
Former Mayor, City of Fairhope
  James P. Nix, Sr.
GMAC (GoDaddy.com Bowl)
  Jerry Silverstein
Hancock Bank
  G. Robert Baker, Jr.
Hand Arendall LLC
  R. Preston Bolt, Jr.
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  James Grodnick
Joseph R. Sullivan LLC
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JRB Associates
  J. Ronald Blount
Lewis Communications
  Ellen Wingard
Long’s Human Resource Services
  Sarah Damson
Long’s Human Resource Services
  Thomas S. Damson
Lyons & Crane
  Beth M. Lyons
Mayer and Arlene Mitchell Charitable Foundation
  Arlene Mitchell
McCollough Plastic Surgery Clinic
  Gaylon McCollough
Mitchell Brothers Inc.
  Abraham A. Mitchell
Mobile Airport Authority
  Bill Sisson
Mobile Gas Service Corp.
  James “Mike” Fine
Mobile Paint Manufacturing Co. Inc.
  Robert Williams
Morgan Stanley
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  Herbert A. Meisler
Scotch and Gulf Lumber
  Sandy Stimpson
SH Enterprises Inc.
  Sheila Hodges
Silver Voit & Thompson PC
  Irving Silver
Smith, Dukes, Buckalew LLP
  Gilbert “Tup” Dukes
Spherion Staffing Services
  Cheryl Williams
Starnes Davis Florie LLC
  John Peter Crook McCall
State of Alabama, House of Representatives
  Jamie Ison
Strategic Wealth Specialist
  Charles E. Jackson, Jr.
Terry Thompson Chevrolet
  Terry Thompson
Thames Batre’ Mattei Beville & Ison
  Jay Ison
The Center for Dermatology PC
  Amy M. Morris, M.D.
The Gardner Firm PC
  J. Cecil Gardner
Thompson Engineering
  John Baker
Tidewater Real Estate
  W. Allen Cox, Sr.
Woodrow Reynolds & Son Timber Company Inc.
  Chuck Reynolds
Youngblood Realty
  Bill Youngblood
Taking the Lead is a bi-annual publication featuring the philanthropic impact of gifts made to the University covered by this issue.

If you have any questions or comments please contact the development office at 460-7032 or development@usouthal.edu.