Volunteer News

Please join us for a day of discovery at the 2nd annual Markesbery Symposium!

November 10, 2012, 8:30-12 noon
Lexington Convention Center

The University of Kentucky Sanders-Brown Center on Aging presents the 2nd Annual Markesbery Symposium on Aging and Dementia. You are invited to attend this free informational program on Alzheimer’s disease to be held on Sat, Nov 10, 2012 at the Lexington Center. The symposium will kick off at 8:30 am with check-in and breakfast. The program will include several presentations designed to present research highlights and promote normal, healthy brain aging, and conclude with a question and answer session on memory and brain health issues. Please bring a friend and spread the word. This event is open to all in the community that want to understand the latest research discoveries and learn how to keep your brain healthy! Highlights of the presentations are as follows:

• Cheryl Wellington, PhD from the University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada will speak on “Living Life to its Fullest: New Perspectives on What You Can Do About Alzheimer's Disease”.
• Paul Murphy, PhD from Sanders-Brown will discuss “Developing Therapies”.
• Deborah Danner, PhD from Sanders-Brown will highlight “Community Education and Outreach” across the Commonwealth.
• Fred Schmitt, PhD our own Neuropsychologist will present the latest data on “Staying Sharp” as you age.
• Greg Jicha, MD, PhD from Sanders-Brown will review the latest discoveries on “Nutritional Supplements for Brain Health”
• Steve Estus, PhD will moderate this session!

The symposium is free and open to the public, but registration is required. For more information or to register contact the Sanders-Brown Center on Aging at 859.323.6040 or shmall2@uky.edu.

SANDERS-BROWN FOUNDATION DINNER TO HOST CAPT. “SULLY” SULLENBERGER

If he can land a plane in the middle of the Hudson River, he can help teach us how to be “Heroes” in our own community by supporting the Center on Aging!

Chesley B. “Sully” Sullenberger, III has been dedicated to the pursuit of safety for his entire adult life, although he is best known for serving as Captain during what has been dubbed the “Miracle on the Hudson”. After logging more than 20,000 hours of flight time Sullenberger became internationally renowned on January 15, 2009 when he and his crew safely guided US Airways Flight 1549 to an emergency water landing in New York City’s frigid Hudson River. The Airbus A320’s two engines had lost thrust following a bird strike. Sullenberger and his crew received international acclaim for their actions that day, including the passage of a Congressional resolution recognizing their bravery. Sullenberger was ranked second in Time’s “Top 100 Most Influential Heroes and Icons of 2009” and was awarded the French Legion of Honor.

The Sanders-Brown Foundation Dinner has been a premiere event in Lexington for over 20 years. The dinner has helped to raise awareness of Alzheimer’s disease and other impediments to healthy brain aging. All proceeds directly support the research, education & outreach, and clinical care activities at the Center on Aging!

Wednesday, November 14, 2012 • Lexington Center • Cocktail Reception 6:30pm • Dinner and Program 7:30pm.
Sponsorships and individual seating available.
For more information call 859-323-5374 or email lisa.greer@uky.edu.
ARE SOME FAMILIES GENETICALLY RESISTANT TO ALZHEIMER’S DISEASE?

Wouldn’t it be nice to know that you were completely resistant to Alzheimer’s disease and that you would never develop this devastating disease? Sound like a pipe-dream, well it may not be...

Researchers have recently discovered a family in Iceland that carries a mutation in the gene that makes the amyloid precursor protein. Unlike other genetic mutations that cause Alzheimer’s disease, this genetic mutation makes one-half of all family members completely resistant to Alzheimer’s!

How does this work? Well, for years we have known about mutations in the amyloid precursor protein gene that increase the chances that a small toxic piece of protein (Beta-amyloid, shown in green in the inset panel) will be cut out of the larger protein and released to damage the brain and kill nerve cells. These mutations universally lead to Alzheimer’s disease in everyone that may inherit them. Fortunately this is rare!

The newly discovered mutations do just the opposite, they prevent the cutting of the protein, and in doing so, prevent Alzheimer’s disease.

The good news is that you don’t have to be of Icelandic decent to benefit from this discovery. New experimental medicines are being tested in persons with Alzheimer’s disease that block this protein-cutting exactly like the naturally occurring mutation. To learn more about ongoing and planned clinical trials in Alzheimer’s disease and in Healthy Aging, contact Sarah at the center at (859) 323-1331 or go online to http://www.uky.edu/coa/adc/participate-study/clinical-trials.

Solve the number/letter riddles:
1) 31 = F at B R
2) S W and the 7 D
3) A S in T S 9
4) 7 B for 7 B
5) 1001 A N
6) 12 = S of the Z
7) 88 P K
8) $200 for P G in M
9) 99 B of B on the W

New faces at SBCOA: Beth Coy, APRN & Sara Everman, PAC

Our newest staff members, Beth Coy, Nurse Practitioner, and Sara Everman, Physician Assistant, have extensive experience caring for the aging population. Both joined the staff recently, after our longstanding colleague and friend, Dr. Greg Cooper made the move to full time clinical practice at Central Baptist Neurology. We wish Dr. Cooper the very best as he continues to care for many with Alzheimer’s disease in his practice. Yes, it took two to replace him! Beth & Sara have found their work at the center extremely rewarding and both have rapidly become valuable members of our staff, and an important part of the Sanders-Brown family. We hope you will all join us in welcoming them to the center at your next visit!

Understanding your vascular risks for memory loss and dementia...

While almost all of us would agree that Alzheimer’s disease is a major plague of aging, few of us appreciate the significant contribution of cerebrovascular disease (vascular wear & tear on the brain) to the development of memory problems and overt dementia. We have recently studied this in over 4,000 persons that are part of national Alzheimer initiative (NACC), including our participants here at UK, and have found that after the age of 50 years, half of all persons will have some degree of vascular injury to the brain, and by the age of 90, almost 90% of folks will have evidence for this damage as well (see inset graph).

Normal Brain
Abnormal (White) vascular disease