

# cancerlines



the inside line up



**3** Nancy DeMore is motivated by her patients



**4** Joseph Pagano receives distinguished cancer research award



**6** Volunteer Edwina Woodbury blends humor and leadership



**6** Chair Jamie Lanier helped make Fire & Ice a hot evening for a cool cause

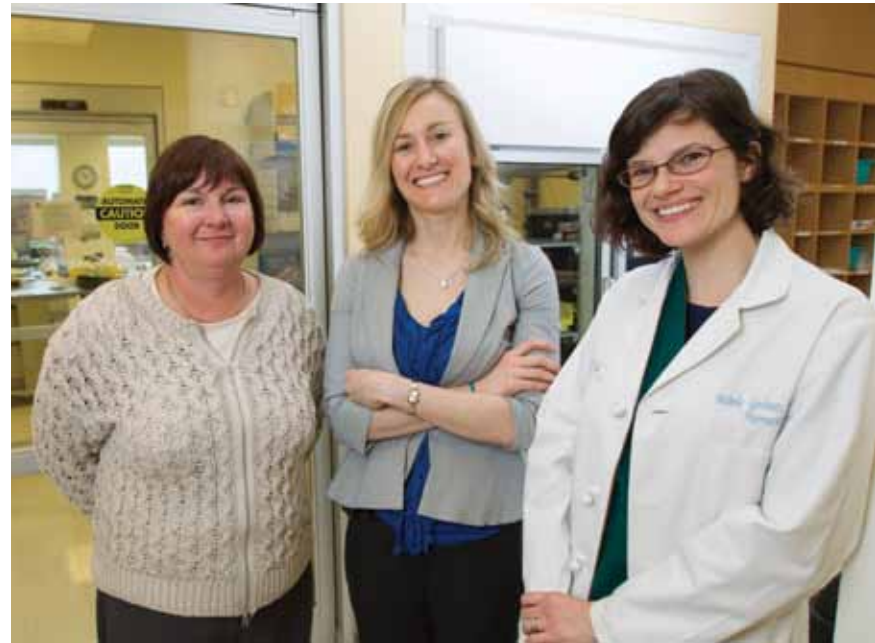


## Pharmacists put heart, expertise to work for cancer patients

Recently, news stories have highlighted patients around the country who have been affected by shortages of drugs used to treat all kinds of diseases and conditions. In cancer care, drug shortages can be particularly anxiety-producing for patients, families and for the physicians taking care of them.

“We treat people according to the best practices guidelines we have,” says Thomas Shea, MD, Director of the Bone Marrow and Stem Cell Transplant Program and Associate Director for Outreach programs at UNC Lineberger. “For some drugs there is just no substitute. We have seen patients from other areas of the state at UNC because we had the drugs needed to treat them,” he adds.

The ability of UNC Lineberger physicians to give patients optimal treatment is, in large part, thanks to UNC Health Care’s Maryann Oertel, PharmD, BCPS, and the team of pharmacists she works with. For almost a year now, her job has been to track, anticipate, and manage drug shortages so that they don’t impact UNC patients. “We have a list of about 150 products that we’re tracking. It’s a 40-page spreadsheet and we’ve been tracking these products for more than 18 months.” Oertel works closely with UNC Health Care’s suppliers to locate supplies of scarce drugs and with UNC pharmacists, physicians, and nurses to manage their use in the most efficient way to maximize patient benefit.



UNC Pharmacists Maryann Oertel, Lindsey Poppe and Michelle Gardiner work closely with suppliers, their colleagues, care teams and physicians to limit the impact of drug shortages for cancer patients treated at UNC.

Oertel’s colleagues in oncology, including pharmacy clinical manager Lindsey Poppe, PharmD, MS, BCPS and oncology pharmacist Michelle Gardiner, PharmD, say their top priority is making sure that cancer patients get the best treatment possible.

*continued on page 2*

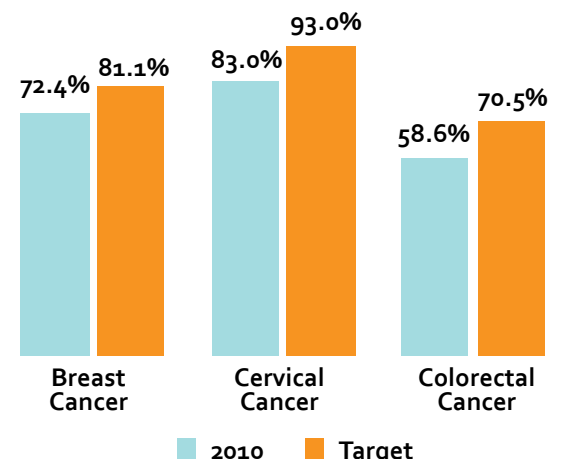
## Cancer Screening Guidelines: Who does, who doesn’t, who should?

Part one of a series exploring current issues in cancer screening with some of UNC Lineberger’s top experts.

Recent news stories have covered public debates regarding how often and who should get recommended screening tests for cancer. People at high risk — due to a previous cancer diagnosis or family history — are often confused by changes in the guidelines and whether those guidelines apply to their personal situation. Some screening tests are thought to lead to unnecessary procedures and biopsies, others are highly effective but can be inconvenient or expensive.

In January, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and National Cancer Institute (NCI) noted that the percentage of Americans screened for cancer remains below national targets, and that there are significant disparities among racial and ethnic populations. In the CDC study, only 72.4 percent of women are screened for breast cancer and 83 percent for cervical cancer. Only 58.6 percent of Americans are screened for colon cancer as recommended.

### Actual and Target Cancer Screening Rates in the United States



Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

*continued on page 3*



# director's message

April 2012 was a blockbuster month for UNC Lineberger research teams. We were recognized nationally, with five major findings in a row dominating the National Cancer Institute web site banner. Being the lead

story on the NCI web site is quite an accomplishment, but what's even more impressive is the range of research areas represented: from fundamental findings about cancer gene expression and control, through new technologies with applications to patient populations, to new findings that will have far reaching implications for preventing and treating cancer. April made it especially clear that the NCI agrees: we are a "triple threat" — basic, clinical/translational, and prevention and control — research center.

## Cancer and genomics

Two of the NCI banners described findings by UNC basic scientists working in cancer genetics and molecular therapeutics. **Jason Lieb**, in our Cancer Genetics program, led a study published in *Nature* that delves into the fundamentals of gene expression. Jason showed that transcription factors, which were thought to act like switches to turn particular genes "on" or "off" in cells, are actually much more complex in their behavior. They regulate flow like a real-time "traffic cop". These regulatory differences between normal and abnormal expression are keys to cancer.

Also reflecting LCCC basic science strengths,

Lineberger members **Nikolai Dohkolyan and Kevin Weeks** of the Molecular Therapeutics program published a new technique for three-dimensional RNA modeling in *Nature Methods*. Their impressive accomplishment will help researchers target RNAs molecules increasingly seen as regulating human diseases.

## Colon cancer development

Exploring the causes of cancer in this case, colon cancer, **Jenny Ting** and **Christian Jobin** of our Immunology Program, reported in *Immunity* that a certain family of proteins that Jenny discovered control responses in inflammatory bowel diseases. Aberrant manipulation of these genes led to colon cancer in mouse models.

## Translational research: drug resistance

Another headliner was **Gary Johnson**, co-leader of our Molecular Therapeutics program, who unveiled the first broad-based test for activation of protein kinases "en masse." This technology enables measurement of mechanisms behind drug resistance to the increasing number of agents that target protein kinases. The report published in *Cell* used the technique to discover one entirely new mechanism of resistance and rationally design a successful combination therapy. The team findings are being moved toward clinical trials by **Keith Amos**, **Lisa Carey**, and our UNC Breast Center and Breast Cancer SPORE teams.

## Comparative effectiveness: prostate cancer

Finally, **Ron Chen** and **Paul Godley**, members of

our Cancer Prevention and Control Program, with UNC Lineberger and the Sheps Center colleagues, published an important paper in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*. Their analysis of over 13,000 prostate cancer cases suggested that one treatment for localized prostate cancer known as Intensity Modulated Radiation Therapy (IMRT) gave better outcomes than conventional conformal radiation therapy (CRT) and was equivalent to the much more expensive proton beam therapy. This type of research now termed comparative effectiveness will be crucial to containing health care cost. It will help us focus on which treatment works best. Their high impact findings made it to the national press, with CBS News and others reporting their conclusions.

**What a month!** From molecules to evidence-based medicine, our research is top-notch. We're working against cancer on multiple fronts and in ways that are nationally recognized as significant.

On the all-important clinical care side, in this issue we recognize some hard-working professionals whose behind the scenes work is crucial to our patient care. The UNC Health Care oncology pharmacy team is essential to our research and care programs. They are integral to all we do and recently their tireless advocacy and planning has kept UNC Cancer Care patients from experiencing the impact of recent drug shortages that have been reported in the news.

Thank you for all that you do to make our "great news week" possible, to support our hardworking staff on the front lines of cancer care, and for helping us honor the contributions of those who have made a difference for the field, for patients and for families. 🙏

## Pharmacists

continued from page 1



Oncology pharmacists and technicians work in the clean room at the N.C. Cancer Hospital to prepare chemotherapy drugs for cancer patients.

"We are passionate about this issue," says Poppe, "and we have all put a great deal of time and effort into working with Maryann and with the physicians to schedule procedures, monitor the use of scarce drugs, and ensure that the patient is getting the best drug for their particular situation."

Earlier this year, Michelle Gardiner was talking with pediatric oncologists and working to schedule patients to maximize the use of preservative-free methotrexate, commonly used to treat children with leukemia. "It has to be

preservative free, which means that an open vial expires very quickly — in a matter of hours — and can't be used. One vial can provide dozens of doses and we wanted to maximize what we had to treat the largest number of patients, so at the height of the shortage in February, we scheduled patients as close together as possible to ensure that everyone got the treatment they needed," she explains.

"The oncology pharmacy staff is top-notch and was really helpful in making sure that patients here at UNC were only minimally

affected by the shortage — maybe a small schedule change but nobody went without a needed drug," says Stuart Gold, MD, Chief of the Division of Pediatric Oncology. "I know how hard they have to work to ensure that this is the case."

That culture of caring is at the heart of UNC's pharmacy services, says John Valgus, PharmD, who works directly with patients through UNC's Supportive Care Consult Service. "The issue of

drug shortages has created an added level of anxiety and stress for many patients. Patients should not have to worry if the best therapy for the treatment of their cancer is available or not. The shared efforts of our pharmacists and physicians to prevent drug shortages for our patients demonstrates the power of the collaborative model of care at UNC." 🙏



Pharmacy clinical manager Lindsey Poppe works with an automated inventory system that helps track drug supplies on hand.

### Prostate Cancer: Too much treatment?

“It can be hard for people to determine how and when they should get screened,” says Matthew Nielsen, MD, assistant professor of urologic oncology and a member of UNC Lineberger.

“The US Preventive Services Task Force recently gave PSA (prostate-specific antigen) testing a ‘D’ grade in a draft recommendation, based on some evidence that the harms — issues like overtreatment — may outweigh the benefits,” he says. “At the same time, deaths from prostate cancer have declined since PSA testing was implemented and so there are questions as to whether the task force’s recommendation is consistent with the weight of all the evidence.” He points out that 20 years ago, 20 percent of men diagnosed with prostate cancer had metastatic disease. Now only four percent have cancer that has already spread at the time of diagnosis. The Task Force’s final recommendations have not been determined.

Nielsen thinks doctors and patients should make decisions together. “There are harms in not screening. At UNC, we are very aware of the risks of overtreatment and we do a lot of ‘watchful waiting’ when a patient’s test indicates an elevated PSA, and even with a prostate cancer diagnosis when other factors

indicate low risk disease. We need to disseminate these best practices to physicians and patients. In many cases, there are low risk cancers for which close monitoring may be the best choice in the near term.”

### Colorectal Cancer Screening: Why don’t we follow the guidelines?

According to Robert Sandler, MD, MPH, “Some of it is inertia, people don’t get around to it. Primary care providers have a crowded agenda and sometimes don’t remind people. Finally, there are a lot of choices about how to be screened and sometimes choice is paralyzing.”

Sandler, who is the Sessions Distinguished Professor and Chief of the Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, notes that fecal tests are low tech, but have been shown to work. “In this country, we don’t use flexible sigmoidoscopy often and colonoscopy requires sedation and can be inconvenient.” In general, everyone should get screened at age 50. If they select colonoscopy and the test is normal, they won’t need to be re-screened for 10 years.

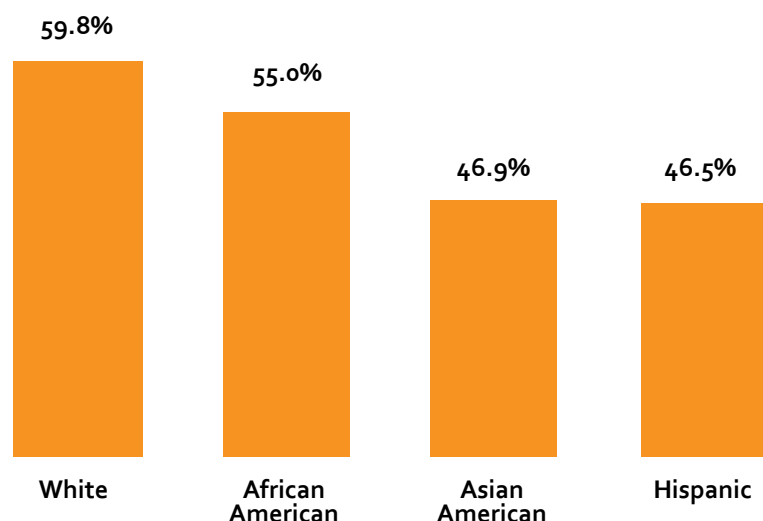
“High-risk patients are very different,” he notes. “With a parent or sibling with colorectal cancer you should start at 40 or even earlier if your relative was diagnosed early in life.” Sandler, who is also a UNC Lineberger member, runs a collaborative high-risk clinic with the cancer genetics program. “We take a family history and make individual screening recommendations — we’re seeing 5-6 new patients a week.”

Michael Pignone, MD, MPH, has been involved in the creation of national colorectal cancer screening guidelines. “No matter what the choice of test, people are not getting screened. Minority individuals lag, but the biggest gap is between the insured and uninsured,” he notes. Colonoscopy is the most common, but most expensive test. “Even co-pays or high-deductible insurance plans can discourage getting screened in tough economic times,” he observes.

He agrees with Sandler that physicians don’t offer screening as much as they should and, “When it is offered, patients put it off due to competing demands. No one has a financial incentive to keep track of people who haven’t scheduled their colonoscopy.” Pignone’s research team is currently testing whether patient navigators can help patients get through the barriers to screening. [8](#)

*Watch for the next installment of this series, discussing breast cancer screening recommendations and new evidence about lung cancer screening tests. For evaluation of an elevated PSA test, please call the urology clinic at (919) 966-1316. For more information about the high-risk gastrointestinal cancer screening clinic, please call 919-843-0758.*

### Disparities in Colorectal Cancer Screening



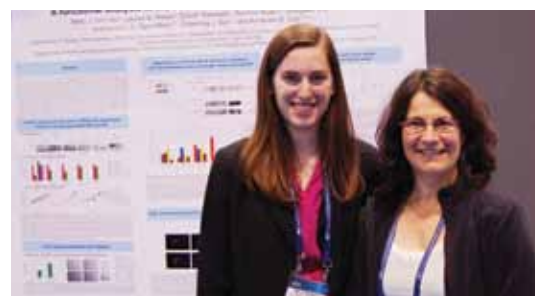
Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

### Sharpless Appointed to Distinguished Professorship



Norman E. “Ned” Sharpless, MD, professor of medicine and genetics and Associate Director for Translational Research at UNC Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center has been appointed the Wellcome Distinguished Professor in Cancer Research. The professorship was established by the School of Medicine in 1988 with gifts from the Burroughs Wellcome Fund and the William A. Smith Trust of Wadesboro, NC. The gifts were supplemented with state funds from the Distinguished Professors Endowment Trust Fund to create an endowed professorship.

### UNC junior’s research honored at American Association for Cancer Research meeting



Dr. Adrienne Cox and Molly Decristo at the AACR meeting

UNC junior Molly DeCristo attended her first international scientific meeting, but not just as a participant. The American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) honored her poster with a rosette, judging it as “highly rated,” among the top 2.5 percent of those submitted.

Decristo has worked in the lab of Adrienne Cox, PhD, associate professor of radiation oncology, since January 2011. The lab is studying how a protein called Ect2 is involved in ovarian cancer. Decristo is working with Lauren Parker, a graduate student in Dr. Cox’s lab, and her AACR poster is based on their collaboration.

But the AACR rosette is not the first time Decristo’s work has been recognized. Last year, when Decristo was a Summer Undergraduate Research Fellow working with Lauren Parker, she was the recipient of a William and Ida Taylor Honors Fellowship from the UNC Office of Undergraduate Research and the UNC Honors program. Decristo has also been recognized as a Carolina Research Scholar. [8](#)

## Surgeon-Scientist-Entrepreneur Nancy DeMore, MD, is motivated by her patients

Dr. Nancy DeMore says, “As a physician, I’m acutely aware of how much more we need to learn about breast cancer and how urgently we need better therapies. It really gives me hope to be in the lab and to know that I’m working towards something that may make things better for patients.”

Dr. DeMore is an associate professor of surgery and a member of the UNC Breast Center. With Cam Patterson, MD, MBA, she co-founded Enci Therapeutics, Inc., a start-up company that is developing a monoclonal antibody therapy for cancer that blocks the growth of blood vessels that tumors need to grow, a process called angiogenesis.

She has studied angiogenesis since her undergraduate days at Wheaton College in Massachusetts. After earning her medical degree from the University of Health Sciences, Chicago Medical School and completing her internship and residency at Boston University, Dr. DeMore completed a surgical research fellowship in the lab of renowned physician-scientist Judah Folkman, MD, of Children’s Hospital Boston, who pioneered the field of angiogenesis.

She explains, “The time I spent in his lab as a fellow and my surgical residency made me decide on surgical oncology because I could combine my interests in surgery and research. Dr. Folkman always emphasized how important it was to keep working, even seven days a week, because there were patients who needed new therapies. There was and is always an urgency to our work.”

Her urgency comes from her clinical work with breast cancer patients. “I was very drawn to oncology patients because of the emotional and long-term connection you develop. I became interested in breast cancer because of family members who were

diagnosed with breast cancer, from my work with Dr. Folkman, and from my longtime interest in women’s health.”

When she arrived 10 years ago, she said, “I was truly amazed at the opportunities at UNC. What I like about UNC is that the people I work with all have strong research interests. Everyone is trying to move the field forward. I have been very happy here.”

She began working with Dr. Cam Patterson on reasons why blocking VEGF, a protein that is very important in tumor angiogenesis, does not completely halt tumor growth. The drug Avastin neutralizes VEGF. Although Avastin is effective, there are still many patients who don’t respond to it and many tumors ultimately become resistant.

“We thought there were probably other angiogenesis factors that continue to stimulate tumor growth, even when VEGF is being blocked, so we began to look for novel angiogenesis targets.” Initially funded by the UNC Breast SPORE, Dr. DeMore used a new technique she developed to find a number of genes that were highly expressed in tumor blood vessels but not in normal blood vessels.

A UNC Lineberger start-up grant allowed us to develop enough data to attract the SPORE funding and eventually identify a protein called SFRP2 that is a potent stimulator of angiogenesis. With an Innovation Award from the University Cancer Research Fund, we developed an antibody that neutralizes SFRP2 in



Nancy DeMore, MD.

Photo by: Tamara Lackey studios

triple-negative breast cancer and angiosarcoma, a rare cancer of blood vessels in the lab. To do the necessary testing and refine the antibody, we formed Enci Therapeutics. It’s encouraging to have the University support faculty start-up companies.”

When she’s not in the clinic or the lab, Dr. DeMore delights in her family. She and her husband, Ed, a retired Air Force Master Sergeant, have a daughter, and her mother lives in the Chapel Hill area. Her father, a longtime internist and role model for Dr. DeMore, died in 2011 at the age of 102.

She cites the help of her family and her lab members as key to her ability to manage so many responsibilities. “You cannot do science alone. Their support is critical.”



Dean William Roper, MD, MPH, Nancy Raab-Traub, PhD, Joseph Pagano, MD, UNC Lineberger Director Shelley Earp, MD

### Joseph S. Pagano receives 2012 Battle Distinguished Cancer Research Award

Joseph S. Pagano, MD, has been awarded the fifth annual Hyman L. Battle Distinguished Cancer Research Award in recognition of his accomplishments in cancer research. Dr. Pagano is the director emeritus of UNC Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center.

Founder of the Lineberger Cancer Center, Dr. Pagano has almost 50 years of continuous National Institutes of Health research funding for his lab and has served as principal investigator of the longest-running National Cancer Institute

postdoctoral fellowship training program in the United States. He is an internationally renowned virologist who was among the first to uncover molecular links between viruses and cancer.

The Battle Distinguished Cancer Research Award was presented to Dr. Pagano at the 36th annual Lineberger Research Symposium. The award established in 2007 by the Battle Foundation of Rocky Mount, recognizes exceptional cancer research at the UNC School of Medicine and comes with a \$25,000 prize. The Battle award fund is a permanent endowment held by The Medical Foundation of North Carolina, Inc.

### UNC Bone Marrow and Stem Cell Transplantation Program gets high marks

A medical procedure called allogeneic hematopoietic cell transplantation, commonly known as a bone marrow or stem cell transplant, is the only known curative option for many patients with life-threatening blood-borne cancers such as leukemia and lymphoma. According to the National Marrow Donor Program, the number of transplants performed in the United States doubled between 2005 and 2010 to more than 5200 a year.

UNC Cancer Care’s Bone Marrow and Stem Cell Transplantation Program was rated an “over-performing” center. Based on a risk adjusted assessment, UNC’s bone marrow and stem cell transplantation patients had a much higher survival rate than expected, despite the high level of complexity of the cases that were treated. These results were for all patients who underwent a transplant from a related or unrelated donor. Out of 156 centers from across the country, UNC was one of only 14 to achieve this ranking. “We are extremely pleased to achieve this distinction as these excellent results reflect the hard work and dedication of the many faculty, nurses and other staff at UNC who are involved with our program,” said Thomas Shea, MD, Director of the Bone Marrow and Stem Cell Transplant Program and Associate Director for Outreach programs at UNC Lineberger.

The Center for International Bone Marrow & Transplant Research, an international organization dedicated to improving transplant outcomes, publishes outcomes data each year for transplantation centers across the United States.

## UNC Lineberger welcomes new faculty



### Stergios Moschos, MD

Stergios Moschos, MD, is an associate professor in the division of hematology and oncology. His research focuses on targeted therapies and immunotherapies for metastatic melanoma, including brain metastases. He is a member of the multidisciplinary melanoma program.

Dr. Moschos comes to UNC from the University of Pittsburgh, where he was an assistant professor and a member of the NCI recognized University of Pittsburgh Medical Center Melanoma and Skin Cancer Program. There he was involved in development of tumor tissue-based biomarkers and early clinical development of drugs for melanoma, including participation in the pivotal BRIM2 and BRIM3 trials that led to the FDA approval of vemurafenib in metastatic melanoma.

He earned his medical degree at the National & Kapodistrian University of Athens Medical School in Athens, Greece, where he also completed a research fellowship. He completed his residency in internal medicine at Newton-Wellesley Hospital (Tufts University) in Newton, MA, and a research fellowship in the division of endocrinology at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Boston, MA. He went on to complete a fellowship in hematology and oncology at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center. He is author or co-author of more than 45 peer reviewed articles and six book chapters.



### Philip Roehrs, MD

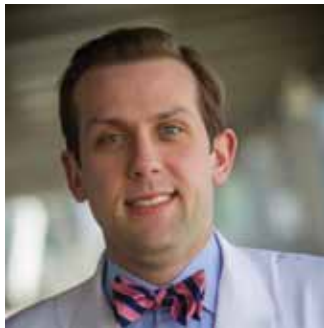
Philip Roehrs, MD, is an assistant professor of pediatrics in the division of hematology/oncology. He specializes in bone marrow transplantation in children. Prior to joining UNC, he was a bone marrow transplant physician at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center. His research and clinical interests focus on the immunology of bone marrow transplantation and primary immunodeficiency.

Dr. Roehrs graduated magna cum laude from Clemson University and earned his MD at the University of South Carolina School of Medicine. He completed his residency in pediatrics at the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston, SC and fellowship in pediatric hematology/oncology at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center.

### Timothy Zagar, MD

Timothy Zagar, MD, is an assistant professor of radiation oncology. His research interest focuses on agents that enhance the effectiveness of radiation treatment, including chemotherapy and hyperthermia. He is a member of the UNC Breast Center and the multidisciplinary thoracic oncology program.

Dr. Zagar graduated magna cum laude from Georgetown University and earned his MD from Mount Sinai School of Medicine, where he was elected a member of the Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society and later served as the chapter's president. He completed his radiation oncology residency at Duke University, where he also served as chief resident. He is the principal or co-author of eight peer-reviewed journal articles.



### 36th Annual Lineberger Symposium

UNC Lineberger's 36th annual scientific symposium drew large crowds with over 450 participants. The "Cancer Therapies and New Drug Targets" meeting was chaired by Stephen Frye, PhD, professor of medicinal chemistry and director of the UNC Center for Integrative Chemical Biology and Drug Discovery in the UNC Eshelman School of Pharmacy. Pictured here are speakers James Bradner, MD, Harvard University and Gary Johnson, PhD, UNC Kenan Distinguished Professor and Chair of Pharmacology.



### Tate named director of CHAI Core

Deborah Tate, PhD, Associate Professor of Health Behavior and Nutrition in the Gillings School of Global Public Health has been named director of the Communications for Health Application and Intervention (CHAI) Core. She is an associate professor in the departments of health behavior and nutrition. She is nationally recognized for

her intervention work to promote and maintain weight loss, particularly regarding her incorporation of new technology to deliver and evaluate interventions. CHAI Core is a shared resource for intervention and other researchers that is supported by the UNC Lineberger's Cancer Center Support Grant and the Department of Nutrition's Nutrition Research Center. Dr. Tate is a member of UNC Lineberger's Cancer Prevention and Control Program.

Get the latest research news from UNC Lineberger, subscribe to our RSS feed at [unclineberger.org/news](http://unclineberger.org/news) or get email updates by subscribing at [unclineberger.org/subscribe/enews](http://unclineberger.org/subscribe/enews).

# volunteer profile

## Edwina Woodbury



Edwina Woodbury has served on most committees and in almost every office for the UNC Lineberger Board of Visitors, receiving the 2012 Distinguished Service Award from UNC Lineberger.

She explains, “Like most of us, I’ve been touched by cancer. I’m from a small family, and my oldest cousin — there were only five of us — passed away from a glioblastoma when he was 40. Now his mother, my aunt, has lung cancer. I’ve lost many friends to cancer and I know so many people who either are survivors or are living with cancer. I’m very passionate about

finding ways to prevent it, cure it, or enable people to live meaningful lives with it.”

Edwina joined the Board 10 years ago, after her former father-in-law, Louie Woodbury, a founding member of the Board, asked if she and her husband, Dennis McGill, might be interested in serving. “I was familiar with UNC Lineberger because I had been invited to attend the dedication of a lab named after the Woodbury family. I had a good feeling about the organization, so we agreed to serve.”

She chaired the Communications Committee and then served on the Development Committee before agreeing to serve as Vice Chair. “In preparation for my first Board of Visitors meeting as Vice Chair, I got a call from the Chair who said she had a family emergency and couldn’t attend. I had to step in and chair the meeting. It went fine, but of course the staff at UNC Lineberger makes it easy.”

After serving as Chair, Edwina headed the Nominations Committee. “There is a very effective leadership succession plan in place. First you serve as Vice Chair, stepping in when needed and observing the board leadership process, and by the time you’re Chair, you know the ropes. Then, when you step down from the position of Chair, you lead the Nominating Committee which closes the circle because you’re aware of what the Board needs and what’s involved in being a Board member, so you can contribute more to the nomination process.”

She says, “Over the years, I’ve been able to watch UNC Lineberger grow, and I feel like I’ve been able to ride the wave as the organization has become so much bigger and the scope of its work so much broader. One of the most wonderful things about being involved with the Board is that we learn so much about what’s going on both in research and clinically from the updates we get from staff. It’s exciting to me because not only am I able to contribute my efforts to the organization and pursuit of its mission but I also have the opportunity to hear about the really groundbreaking research that’s being done before it’s ever transferred to the clinical phase.”

Edwina vows to stay involved with UNC Lineberger. “Whenever there’s a need, I’m just a phone call away.” She now serves on the Board of the Medical Foundation of North Carolina and does other non-profit work. She and Dennis own a book publishing company, The Chapel Hill Press, which keeps them engaged and busy.

Shelley Earp, MD, director of UNC Lineberger, says, “Edwina’s extensive experience serving on corporate boards truly helped UNC Lineberger as our Board of Visitors expanded and became more alive. Her blend of leadership and humor were simply terrific. She made Board and Committee meetings fun and productive!”



## A special place in honor of a special person

UNC Lineberger Director Shelley Earp, MD, Anna Lineberger Stanley of Charlotte, Boyce Lineberger Ansley of Atlanta and Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Chief Stuart Gold, MD, with the plaque dedicating the Pediatric Oncology Waiting Room in the N.C. Cancer Hospital in memory of Anna Boyce Rankin Lineberger. Anna passed away in February 2011 at the age of 97.



## 25th Annual Lineberger Club Luncheon

Emily Kleisch Crawford, RN, (third from right) talked about her personal experience with leukemia, the importance of research, and her relationship with her physician, William Wood, MD, at the 25th annual Lineberger Club luncheon, held February 18, 2012. Emily is a nurse at UNC Health Care.



## Franklin Street 5k

The ZTA Franklin Street 5k was pink and green this year, held on March 17th – St. Patrick’s Day, with a portion of the proceeds going to UNC Lineberger. Zeta Tau Alpha sorority has supported UNC Lineberger for 18 years, raising over \$50,000 for cancer research and treatment.

## Paul Muenzner: gift remembers loved one's career, care



*Dr. Paul Muenzner's gift to UNC Lineberger honors his late wife, Annie*

Knowing that your gift can make a difference is a small thing when facing the loss of a loved one, but Paul Muenzner, MD, of Fayetteville says that remembering his wife Annie through two endowment funds at UNC Lineberger is something that he is proud of. Annie, a nurse, lost her battle with leukemia in 2011. The couple had been married almost 48 years.

"Annie and I discussed our financial situation when her leukemia came back after remission, and I proposed that we give away some of what we had saved for retirement. She said, 'I like the idea. You're doing that for me,'" he says. The Annie G. Muenzner Endowment Fund for New Ideas in Cancer Research

reflects the couple's knowledge, as members of the health care community, "that seed money is really important because early research doesn't get funded."

The second endowment, Dr. Muenzner notes, is meaningful for several reasons. The Paul & Annie G. Muenzner Oncology Nursing Endowment Fund will support educational and professional development opportunities for outpatient and inpatient oncology nurses. "It honors Annie's career as a nurse and it reflects the outstanding care that she received at UNC. The nurses often don't get thanked and they are the ones who do a lot of the hard work," he says.

Dr. Muenzner, an orthopedic surgeon, says that the couple's experience during Annie's illness was exceptional, "I have been in medicine for 40 years and never known a hospital so patient-oriented. I know that as a doctor and a nurse, we are often the people who can be meddlesome in our own care. People at UNC who knew that were exceptionally nice to us but it was really everyone, from the people who cleaned the floors and changed the beds, up to the nursing staff and doctors."

When he gets to Chapel Hill, Dr. Muenzner goes to see the people who took care of Annie, who "will be remembered in perpetuity because the oncology nurses endowment will always be available. I will continue to donate and encourage others to do so."

"Annie's care is the reason I gave and I would encourage anyone who has any expectations of being charitable toward people with cancer, donate as much as they can to UNC Lineberger," he says. "Decide what you want to support and establish your own endowment." 8



## Hot evening for a cool cause

The UNC Lineberger Ball: Fire & Ice was held on April 14, 2012 at the Chapel Hill Country Club to support cancer treatment, prevention and research in the community.

Since its inception, this event has raised over one million dollars to benefit UNC Lineberger, and this year's attendees continued to help fuel the fire for cancer research, helping raise more than \$122,000.

Over 400 party-goers dressed in oranges, reds, blues and grays enjoyed food, dancing and music by DJ A-Minor in addition to a candy buffet sponsored by Performance BMW and a photo booth sponsored by Eurosport. After a red hot evening of fun, guests cooled down with a swag bag of goodies sponsored by Finn Facial Plastics. Much thanks to the Chapel Hill Herald, WCHL/Chapelboro, Chris & Ann Cox, West End Wine Bar, L & N Andreas Foundation, simplicity event design, SKANSKA, Butch and Tammy Davis and to all of the sponsors of this year's event!

Guests attending Fire & Ice had the opportunity to purchase snowball ornaments in honor or in memory of a loved one. These personalized ornaments were displayed at the event.

Read more: <http://unclineberger.org/signature-events/stories/fireandice>



*Jean and Woody Durham, shown here with UNC Lineberger Director Shelley Earp, MD, served as honorary chairs of the 9th annual UNC Lineberger ball, themed Fire & Ice.*



*Above: Fire & Ice event committee chair Jamie Lanier shared a fun moment with Dr. Stuart Gold and her husband, Patrick Lanier.*

*Top: Guests used electronic bidding to get in on a cool silent auction offering jewelry, sports packages, one-of-a-kind getaways, photo packages and art items. A live auction of a few special items including cooking classes with chef Seth Kingsbury and a trip to Aruba generated red hot bidding — all benefiting UNC Lineberger.*

# FOLLOW US...

Get the most up-to-date news and events from UNC Lineberger.



"Follow" us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/unclineberger>



or on twitter @UNC\_Lineberger!



UNC  
LINEBERGER

Nonprofit Org  
US Postage  
PAID  
Chapel Hill, NC

UNC Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center  
CB# 7295  
School of Medicine  
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill  
Chapel Hill, NC 27599-7295  
(919) 966-5905  
[www.unclineberger.org](http://www.unclineberger.org)

Address service requested.



## Wells Fargo Tar Heel 10-miler and Fleet Feet 4 miler



Kurt Ribisl, PhD, shows great form in the Tar Heel 10-miler, which benefited UNC Lineberger. Ribisl is a

member of UNC Lineberger's Cancer Prevention and Control Program and a Professor of Health Behavior and Health Education at UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health. More than 4200 runners turned out for a record field in both the 10-mile and 4-mile races — an increase of more than 700 over the previous year.



## UNC's BaseBald for the Cure raises more than \$30,000



The UNC BaseBald for the Cure 2012 event raised close to \$31,000 for pediatric cancer research at UNC Lineberger.

Chase Jones, UNC graduate and cancer survivor, created the event in 2010 when he was a junior at UNC and bullpen catcher for the Diamond Heels men's baseball team. Now he works for the St. Baldrick Foundation and organizes BaseBald events across the US. Several families of pediatric patients treated at UNC took part. In one family, every member had his and her head shaved.

A special performance of "On Golden Pond" was held at the Cape Fear Regional Theatre on May 3rd, starring UNC Board of Visitors Member Bo Thorp and William Christopher of M\*A\*S\*H fame. A post-performance reception for UNC Lineberger was hosted Thorp and Tony and Karen Rand. Shown here, Shelley Earp, MD, UNC-Chapel Hill Chancellor Holden Thorp, PhD, Cape Fear Valley Health CEO Michael Nagowski, and UNC Lineberger Board of Visitors member Tony Rand.

