



## Psychiatry research receives \$500,000

The Department of Psychiatry has received a \$500,000 donation — the largest gift ever made to that department — from a donor who wishes to remain anonymous.

The funds will help establish the Adult Psychiatric Research and Development Endowment Fund to develop research in adult psychiatry and adult psychiatric programs and sustain the clinical services necessary for the projects, according to Stephen Soltys, M.D., chair of the Department of Psychiatry.

The department has also received funds to support child psychiatry. These funds are helping establish the Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Development Endowment Fund that is targeted to develop child and adolescent psychiatry programs, services and research. The child endowment fund originated with a gift of \$20,000 from the estate of Marian F. Meier and has received a number of smaller donations. The Accrediting Council for Graduate Medical Education recently approved a child and adolescent psychiatry fellowship training program.

“Child and adolescent psychiatry is facing a severe nationwide shortage that is having a major impact on children in central and southern Illinois,” Dr. Soltys says. “Building this endowment will help assure the long term viability of child and adolescent psychiatry training at SIU.”

To contribute to either endowment, contact Radmila Bogdanich at 217-545-7625, SIU Department of Psychiatry, P.O. Box 19642, Springfield, IL 62794-9642 or contact the SIU Foundation office at 217-545-2955.

**DID YOU KNOW?** THE AVERAGE STUDENT DEBT OF THE CLASS OF 2006 WAS \$125,900, A 60% INCREASE FROM FIVE YEARS AGO. Contact the Foundation office to find out how to help today’s students.

## Alumni give back

Alumni have donated \$60,000 for the Alumni Annual Fund. “Yearly giving is so important to the vitality of our medical school. We hope the Alumni Annual Fund continues to grow and flourish,” says Lisa McKennedy, director of annual giving.

The funds will go into three areas at SIU School of Medicine: The Dean’s Excellence Fund, the Student Resource Fund and the Cancer Institute Fund.

With these donations, furniture will be purchased for the OB/GYN and psychiatry clerkships; medical students will receive speculum lights, stethoscopes, and ophthalmoscopes to assist their training; the medical library will be well stocked with the most up-to-date journal subscriptions; the internal medicine clerkship students will be able to refer to *Fitzpatrick’s Color Atlas & Synopsis of Clinical Dermatology*; students will enjoy recreational activities including memberships at Gold’s Gym, discounted tickets for events at Sangamon Auditorium and dinner and dancing at the Winter Ball.

Haven’t given yet? It’s not too late. Contact Lisa McKennedy at 217-545-2955.

“I am confident in my education from SIU and have applied that to my solo practice. My former residents all asked me, ‘What do you do if you don’t know something?’ My reply is ‘I find the answer.’ Their question shows that they are waiting to be spoon fed instead of initiating the educational process [like I was taught at SIU]. I am proud to be an SIU grad class of 2002.”

—George Tomaski, M.D.

# Homegrown donations

*\$2 gifts add up*

By Karen Carlson • Photo by James Hawker

A \$2 donation isn't much, but when a local builder, community sponsors and real-estate enthusiasts work together, \$2 can add up to a bundle of good-will givings.

During two weekends in April, more than 2,000 people (the **aspects** staff included) slipped surgical booties over their shoes and got a peek into three new homes that line Cumberland Drive in Park Forest Place in Rochester, Ill., a small community just outside of Springfield. Each guest earned the SimmonsCooper Cancer Institute (SCCI) a \$2 donation from Moughan Builders.

The effort, called the "Gallery of Homes" was constructed by Jim Moughan, co-owner of Moughan Builders. Moughan, who was diagnosed with Stage III Non-Hodgkins Lymphoma two years ago, was referred to the University of Nebraska Lieb Transplant Center in Omaha for a stem-cell transplant that saved his life.

"I'd been given a second chance in life, and I realized it was time to give something back to the community."

Moughan donated \$2 for each of his 2,270 visitors and bumped up that amount to \$6,000. Many guests also gave donations, totaling \$8,439.96. Moughan also appealed to his vendors and secured \$20,000 from corporate sponsors, bringing the total gift to more than \$34,400.

"I've been able to raise more money than what we could give by ourselves," says Moughan, who owns the business with his brother, Dave. The company has built 350 homes in the area over the past 15 years.

"It's good for Springfield to be known as a regional cancer center," says Moughan, who spent eight weeks in Omaha for treatment. "It'll be good that patients can get treatments locally."

The funds will be used for cancer re-



Cancer survivor Jim Moughan of Moughan Builders gave the public a peek into his newly-constructed homes in Rochester, Ill.

search and prevention at the SCCI.

"We at SimmonsCooper Cancer Institute are deeply appreciative of Jim Moughan and his co-workers for their efforts and generosity," says Thomas Robbins, M.D., director of the SCCI.

"We share the common goal of developing a cancer program for our community that is sufficiently broad and

comprehensive to eliminate the need to travel long distances for care."

Speaking of new construction, work on the SimmonsCooper Cancer Institute is well under way, and the building is slated to open next year. ●●●