



## Winter 2009

Our previous issue featured stories on plans for a major expansion of the KU School of Pharmacy and on World War II's 77th Evacuation Hospital, which was affiliated with the KU Medical Center.

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### Pharmacy expansion

As a pharmacist, I had a special appreciation for your article's overview of the challenges facing pharmacy and the need for more pharmacists in Kansas. The pictures, case studies and profiles made it personal. I know my former professor, Dr. Ronald Borne at the University of Mississippi, will enjoy it. He received his Ph.D. in medicinal chemistry at KU and is still a Jayhawk at heart.

ANN TANNER  
Overland Park

We need to address the severe shortage of pharmacists in Kansas, and the School of Pharmacy has a great plan to help. I have practiced in a rural setting my entire career and believe all citizens in Kansas, rural and urban, should have convenient access to health professionals. This undertaking will be challenging given the economic environment, but we must continue our efforts and be willing to sacrifice to make it a reality.

MAX M. HEIDRICK, S&S Drug  
Pharmacy '71  
Member, KU School of Pharmacy Advisory Council  
Beloit, Kan.

It is heartening to know that the leadership at KU has taken the initiative to remedy this potentially dire situation. I am also inspired by the foresight of the leadership in Kansas government. Their support for the expansion of the school at the Lawrence and Wichita campuses speaks to their understanding of the pharmacist shortage and the ramifications to the Kansas economy. I am personally acquainted with many current KU pharmacy students. They are just the type of individual we want

to keep in Kansas after graduation. I'm confident the expansion will help.

MICHAEL LARKIN, MPA '98  
Executive Director  
Kansas Pharmacists Association  
Topeka

### 77th Evac

Thank you for the article on the KU Hospitals' relationship to the 77th Evacuation Hospital during WWII. My mom and dad, three aunts and two uncles all received medical training at the KU Hospitals around the time the 77th was created. The ladies all became RNs, while my father and uncles became MDs. By early 1943 all three men were serving in our military overseas as Jayhawk physicians.

One uncle, Dr. Tom Duckett, MD '34, was an original member of the 77th and was in the unit throughout its existence. After the war he practiced family medicine in Hiawatha, Kan., for nearly 40 years, finally passing away from us in 2000. Through your article and the KU Medical Center's reprint of the 77th's unit history, *Medicine Under Canvas*, we have these records of an important chapter in his life and in those of others in the KU family.

I took Mom, who's Tom's sister and 92 now, to see the medical center's documentary about the 77th at the Kansas Union last fall. We are privileged to remember these people, who served their country well.

SCOTT W. CAMPBELL, Associate Director  
KU Field Station and Ecological Reserves  
Biology '80, master's in aquatic biology '82  
Lawrence

### Distinguished professorships

I enjoyed seeing the write-up in the winter issue on the Roy A. Roberts professorships. An unexpected

benefit of having my photo included was that I've heard from KU alumni who are interested in participating in our research on language and aging. Projects like mine depend on both financial support and the active participation of Jayhawks of all ages.

SUSAN KEMPER  
Roy A. Roberts Distinguished  
Professor of Psychology  
Lawrence

### KU memories

The stories in *KU Giving* bring back fond memories. People today may be surprised to know there once was a dandelion-digging competition on campus. We worked in couples, and we each had a large gunnysack to put dandelions in. We weighed the sacks to see who had dug the most dandelions. Some of the boys put rocks in their sacks and were eliminated from the contest. I don't think we did this exercise again.

Most people may not know that during World War II, KU opened the campus to the military for officer and technical training programs. I had the privilege of holding a civil service job at the cafeteria in Lindley Hall, where we served meals to Navy personnel enrolled in the officer-training program.

Later, all four of my children went to KU. I have been a lifelong Lawrence resident and am proud to be a Jayhawk. *KU Giving* is a great reminder of that!

LAURINE CLARK MULALLY  
Class of 1943  
Lawrence

### Write to us

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We welcome your comments on our magazine and invite you to share your KU experiences with our readers. Please include your name, address, email and daytime phone. Letters may be edited for length and clarity; we assume letters are intended for publication unless indicated otherwise.