

MAY 2010



NEIL FRANKL

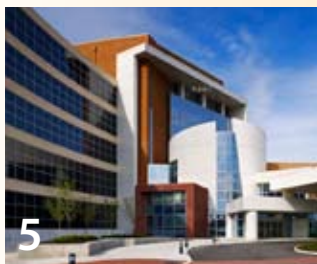
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UC Health

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Adding to Our 'Primary' Focus

Healthy future in growing primary care team

University of Cincinnati Physicians—traditionally known for its excellence in subspecialty care—is making strides in its goal of building a comprehensive primary care network.

Several practices have recently committed to join University of Cincinnati Physicians, which aims to build a network of about 90 primary care doctors over the next three years. New practices include physicians in Mason, West Chester and Trenton.

"Primary care is critical to the success of a hospital and subspecialty practice—it's a key referral source," says



Lori Mackey

Lori Mackey, chief operating officer of University of Cincinnati Physicians. "We're excited about bringing such a dedicated primary care group into UC Health to support both University Hospital and West Chester Medical Center."

Mackey says the combined primary care group—which will include physicians from UC, Alliance Primary Care and the community—will become its own operating unit within University of Cincinnati Physicians and have representation on the governing boards of University of Cincinnati Physicians and UC Health, once it is established.

Business functions will continue to be shared, along with access to the same electronic medical record (EMR) system for easy coordination with UC Health specialists.

Jeffrey Baker, MD, PhD, says UC Health was the best fit for his internal medicine practice in Mason.

"It's the best choice for patient care," he says. "The administration and physicians in place at UC Health have excellent goals that are consistent with our needs."

Shyamala Jagtap, MD, joined UC Health after spending most of the last 12 years practicing in the northern suburbs.

"When you're affiliated with a university, you have access to a higher quality of care, more options for treatment and more specialists," she says. "There's increased access to knowledge and learning in an academic institution." •

>> PATIENT APPOINTMENTS

All UC Health Primary Care practices are accepting new patients. Call My UC Health at 475-UCDR (8237) or visit ucphysicians.com for a full list of primary care providers.

Recent additions demonstrate the new focus on building a primary care network at University of Cincinnati Physicians.



Jeffrey Baker, MD, PhD



Shyamala Jagtap, MD

New to UC Health Primary Care:

MASON (Internal Medicine)

- Jeffrey Baker, MD, PhD
- Amy Hovermale, MD
- Garvin Nickell, MD
- Jo Ann Rivera, MD

(513) 584-6999

WEST CHESTER (Family Medicine)

- Lena Bhargava, MD

(513) 585-5100

WEST CHESTER (Internal Medicine)

- Shyamala Jagtap, MD

(513) 475-8140

WYOMING (Family Medicine)

- Kellie Boyd, MD

(513) 821-0275

In the Midst of Change, a Time for Growth

COLLEAGUES,

As we continue to grow as a health care organization, UC Health University of Cincinnati Physicians is committed to continuing the excellent level of care



Thomas F. Boat

that we provide for our patients and the community. But we have not only continued that care, we've expanded it, increasing our reach to patients and developing new methods of treatment.

In this issue of *Connected*, we're proud to announce the addition of several practices from Alliance Primary Care to our organization. They, along

with our family medicine, internal medicine and internal medicine/pediatrics physicians, make up the newly formed UC Health Primary Care. We want to welcome them to UC Health and look forward to working closely with those physicians and their staff.

We also welcome and encourage the growing partnerships between our departments, the relationships that make our care the best the region has to offer. From collaborations between otolaryngology and neurosurgery to advances in managing cardiovascular disease, our doctors are stretching the boundaries of available treatments.

University of Cincinnati Physicians is also making it easier for patients to

access all the services we provide. This summer, UC Health gastroenterologists will be available five days a week in West Chester for office consultations and to perform a wide range of procedures.

As we move forward under the banner of UC Health, it's imperative that we support our own growth and success at University of Cincinnati Physicians. Please don't hesitate to contact me at thomas.boat@uc.edu if you have any questions or comments.

THOMAS BOAT, MD
Chief Executive Officer,
University of Cincinnati Physicians

We're all UC Health

Neil Frankl, RN

Clinical Care Coordinator

Neil Frankl's career has taken him from an Ohio commune to a Florida antiques store to the seventh floor of the University of Cincinnati Physicians Medical Arts Building—and his patients couldn't be happier.

Frankl, a registered nurse, is clinical care coordinator for the division of urology. In that capacity, he handles testing, counsels patients, is involved in chemotherapy and triage, takes care of many business matters and talks to area prostate cancer support groups.

It's a long list of activities, and that's just the way Frankl likes it. His personable manner makes him an ideal fit for the busy practice that comprises five physicians who see patients for conditions including prostate cancer, erectile dysfunction and incontinence.

"I give my card with my cell phone number to every patient I see, and I tell them if they have any questions or problems, especially post-surgical, to give me a call," says Frankl. "And when they do call, I can tell in their voice that

to be able to contact an office at an unusual hour is priceless these days."

With 25 years of experience in urology, Frankl has earned his doctors' trust as well.

"What makes me really happy is I have autonomy," he says. "That's terrific for me or for any nurse to be able to use their skills and be trusted in what

they're doing."

Frankl grew up on Long Island and graduated from Ohio University with a degree in psychology. He started a commune near Marietta, Ohio, and later opened an antiques store in Florida that lasted three years before he attended nursing school at Bethesda Hospital and Northern Kentucky University. •



"What makes me really happy is I have autonomy. That's terrific for me or for any nurse to be able to use their skills and be trusted in what they're doing."

Connected

Connected is a monthly publication for physicians and staff of University of Cincinnati Physicians. Send your comments and ideas to ucpmarketing@ucphysicians.com or call (513) 475-8006.

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Partnership Allows for New Possibilities

UC Neuroscience Institute team can remove difficult tumors

With a research and clinical partnership between their departments, two UC Health surgeons are expanding the practice of skull base surgery in the region.

For four years, otolaryngologist and head and neck surgeon Lee Zimmer, MD, PhD, has worked with neurosurgeon Philip Theodosopoulos, MD, to develop new surgical methods to reach difficult tumors at the skull base. Using small endoscopes, drills and specialized equipment, they have successfully accessed and removed cysts through the nasal cavity and sinuses.

"Only UC Health has the fellowship-trained expertise, experience and equipment in the three-state region to perform these procedures," says Zimmer. "There are no external skin incisions, and recovery is within days with little to no pain."

In their latest surgical innovation, they removed a skull base cyst via a minimally invasive approach through the sphenoid sinus. Instead of the traditional approach, which requires large incisions behind the ear and

dissection around the cochlea and carotid artery, Zimmer and Theodosopoulos used endoscopic tools to access the tumor and were able to drain the cyst and create a drainage window into the sinus.

"From the standpoint of surgical complexity and post-op recovery, this is a much cleaner method of accessing these skull base cysts," says Zimmer. "We were just waiting for the right patient to get started."

As they develop their practice, Zimmer and Theodosopoulos are utilizing a state-of-the-art skull base lab at UC to understand the endoscopic anatomy of the skull base and practice surgical approaches in cadavers before taking the knowledge to the operating

Conditions treatable with endoscopic skull base surgery include:

- Brain fluid leaks
- Clival lesions
- Juvenile angiofibromas and other rare skull base tumors
- Petrous granulomas
- Sinus malignancies

"ONLY UC HEALTH *has the fellowship-trained expertise, experience and equipment in the three-state region to perform these procedures."*

Lee Zimmer, MD, PhD

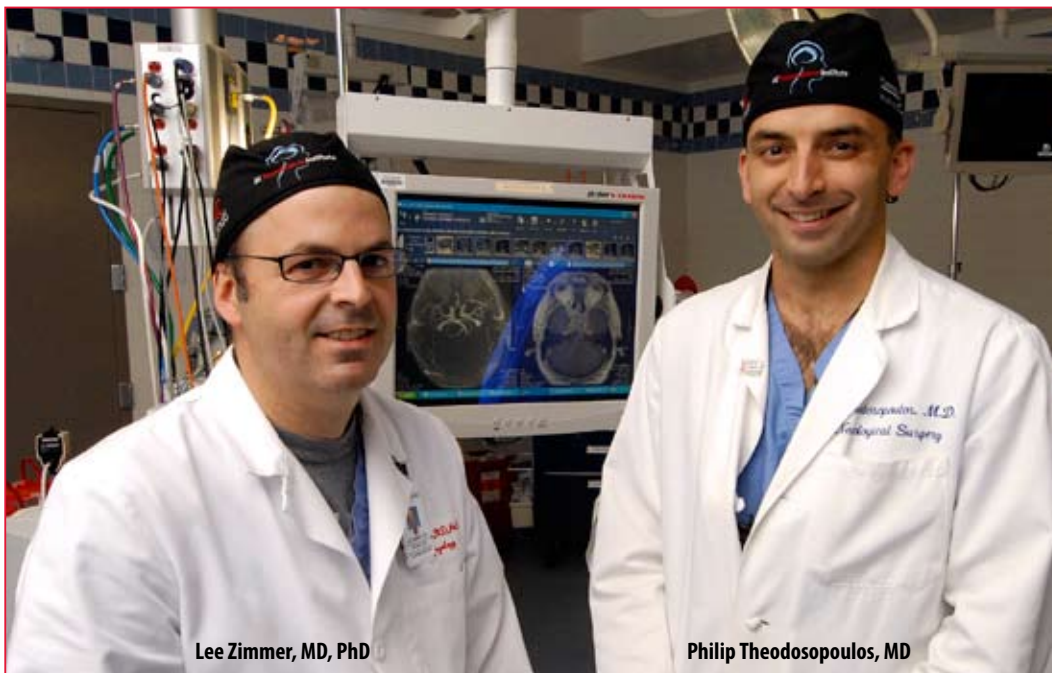
room and their patients.

They've also shared their work with several neurosurgery and otolaryngology journals in the past two years.

"Where, in the past, people have said, 'You can access the sinuses, but you can't go through them,' we've pretty much put that to rest," says Zimmer. "You can go through the sinuses; you just need to understand the anatomy." ●

>> **PATIENT APPOINTMENTS**

To refer a patient or schedule an appointment for head and neck surgery, call (513) 475-8400. For more information about UC Neuroscience Institute, call (866) 941-UCNI.



Lee Zimmer, MD, PhD

Philip Theodosopoulos, MD

FOCUS ON CLINICAL TRIALS

Multi-center Trial Evaluates Medication

Cholesterol drug may reduce progression of heart disease

Research from clinical trials may help reduce the development of cardiovascular disease, and improve quality and duration of life for cardiac patients.

Heart disease affects roughly 26 million people in the United States, and unfortunately, although there are treatments for the illness, they don't always work for slowing progression of the disease or reversing its effects.

UC Health cardiologists and electrophysiologists are conducting clinical trials locally to try to find new and better treatments for cardiac patients, improving the quality and duration of their lives.

One new clinical trial—being conducted at UC Health University Hospital—will help evaluate the effects of a cholesterol medication on patients at risk for heart disease.

Imran Arif, MD, UC Health cardiologist and main investigator, says the multi-center trial may help reduce cardiovascular death and further disease development in those who have already experienced symptoms of heart disease.

"The study drug is thought to raise good cholesterol and may help physicians discover an effective treatment for cardiac patients to prevent cardiac disease-related death," he says.



The study, which is double-blind, randomized and placebo-controlled—meaning neither patient nor doctor knows if a placebo or actual medication is being administered to participants—will take place over the course of two and a half years.

Patients who have been hospitalized with acute coronary syndrome—an umbrella term used to describe any group of symptoms compatible with heart attack or chest pain due to

insufficient blood supply to the heart muscle that leads to heart disease—will be selected to take part in this trial.

"Eligible patients will be stabilized for the first four to 12 weeks and will then be given either 600 mg of dalcetrapib, a cholesterol medication that raises levels of HDL (good cholesterol), or a placebo," he says, adding that researchers are hoping to look at 1,600 cases locally. "Patients will visit the clinic at the four-week and three-month periods and then every three months during the first year.

"This has the potential to be a cost-effective, efficient way to prevent progression of heart disease in patients, improving their quality of life." •

Other cardiac-related clinical trials at UC Health include:

- **CYPRESS Trial:** This study, led by Massoud Leeser, MD, UC Health cardiologist, is looking at the clinical outcomes of 2,500 patients nationally who take anti-platelet therapy (blood thinners) following coronary stenting. This may help doctors determine the best way to prevent blood clotting in this sub-group of patients.
- **Cardiac resynchronization therapy (CRT):** CRT has been included in the official guidelines for the management of heart failure subjects, but this study removes the "wide QRS" criteria that is usually necessary for patients to receive CRT. Patients must still have left ventricular systolic dysfunction—a malfunction of the pump action in the left ventricle. Dyssynchrony is determined by QRS duration, or echocardiogram. This study will hopefully determine if patients who have a narrow QRS, but dyssynchrony on an echocardiogram, show improvement with CRT.

>> FOR MORE INFORMATION
For more information about these clinical trials and other cardiac-related studies that are accepting patients, call (513) 558-CARD (2273).

To schedule an appointment with a UC Health cardiologist in Clifton, Montgomery, West Chester or Wyoming, call (513) 475-8521.

UC Health Expands GI Care North

Range of treatments available soon at West Chester Medical Center

The best medical care is not always convenient.

But soon, patients in West Chester, Middletown, Dayton and even Columbus will have far easier access to the region's best physicians.

Many programs at UC Health University Hospital are expanding to West Chester Medical Center and the UC Health Surgical Hospital, also in West Chester, bringing the quality and expertise of UC Health in Cincinnati closer to home for many.

Starting in July, doctors specializing in esophageal disorders, acid reflux, pancreatic diseases, liver and biliary diseases, inflammatory bowel disease and irritable bowel syndrome will be available five days a week for office consultations and to perform procedures ranging from screening colonoscopies to endoscopies, liver biopsies and much more.

Nathan Schmulewitz, MD, a UC Health gastroenterologist who focuses on pancreatic disease as well as general gastroenterology, says he has already begun the transition and has been spending much of his time seeing patients in West Chester. Furthermore, he and his group will be caring for hospitalized patients with GI and liver disorders at the West Chester Medical Center.

"Our doctors have been available at the UC Health Surgical Hospital and the University of Cincinnati Physicians Medical Office Building in West Chester for more than five years," he says. "However, this full-time move will give patients more accessibility to the full range of services currently available at University Hospital."

Schmulewitz says that patients previously needed to travel to Cincinnati for certain kinds of tests, to see certain specialists or for specific inpatient care.

"Now, the whole gamut, including radiofrequency ablation for Barrett's esophagus, endoscopic ultrasound and even liver transplant evaluations, will be available to our patients at our West Chester facilities," he says. "In addition to being closer to home for many individuals, there is an easier parking situation and overall more accessibility to our facilities."

"This brings academic medicine and the expertise UC Health is known for right to your neighborhood." •

>> **PATIENT APPOINTMENTS**

To refer a patient or schedule an appointment with Dr. Schmulewitz or another gastroenterologist, call (513) 475-7505.

Specialists at West Chester Medical Center and the UC Health Surgical Hospital will be able to see patients five days a week for the following conditions/procedures:

- Acid reflux and Barrett's esophagus
- Colonoscopies
- Esophageal disorders
- Liver and biliary diseases
- Inflammatory Bowel Disease
- Irritable Bowel Syndrome
- Pancreatic disease
- Small bowel diseases

EXPANDING PROGRAMS to
West Chester Medical Center
*will give patients **more accessibility***
to the full range of services
currently available at University Hospital.



in brief

Luke Named Chair of Regents

Robert "Robin" Luke, MD, professor of medicine, has been named chair of the American College of Physicians (ACP) Board of Regents, effective April 24. ACP is the nation's second-largest physician organization, and the Board of Regents is its main policymaking body. Luke has served on ACP's Board of Regents since 2004 and was named a laureate of the ACP Ohio Chapter in 2004. He has been a fellow of ACP since 1970 and a master since 2003. For more, visit acponline.org.

Two to Serve as Board Trustees

UC Health radiologists Lane Donnelly, MD, and Mary Mahoney, MD, have been selected to serve as American Board of Radiology (ABR) trustees. Selection is



considered one of the highest honors bestowed upon a radiologist. Donnelly and Mahoney join UC Health radiologist Stephen Thomas, PhD, who serves as the ABR associate executive director for radiologic physics. Another UC Health radiologist, Janet Strife, MD, recently retired as an ABR trustee and the assistant executive director for maintenance of certification.

Psychiatry Changes Name

The psychiatry department is now the department of psychiatry and behavioral neuroscience. The name change was approved by the UC Board of Trustees at its March 16 meeting at the recommendation of David Stern, MD, dean of the College of Medicine and vice president for health affairs at UC.

Mini-Marathon Prize Winners

As part of UC Health's position as the top fundraising organization in the history of the American Heart Association's Heart Mini Marathon, several University of Cincinnati Physicians/UC College of Medicine teams received prizes for their participation and fundraising support. The team from the department of surgery had the most team members with 48 participants. Neurology raised the most dollars with \$12,411 and the top individual fundraiser was Brett Kissela, MD, of neurology, with \$8,875. ●

The recommendation followed a unanimous vote by the department's faculty and approval by the College of Medicine Council. Stephen Strakowski, MD, is chair of the department.

Leesar Invited to Join TCT Scientific Committee

Massoud Leesar, MD, professor of medicine and associate chief of cardiology, has been invited to join the scientific committee in the 2010 Transcatheter Therapy (TCT) Meeting this September in Washington, D.C. The TCT is the largest national and international interventional cardiology meeting with over 12,000 interventional cardiologists attending last year. Leesar will help organize and co-chair a session "FFR in the Cath Lab: A User's Guide." He also serves as director of Cardiac and Vascular Invasive Services at UC.



Govil Named Medical Director

Amit Govil, MD, assistant professor of medicine, was named medical director of the pancreas transplant program in fall 2009. Govil, who completed a nephrology fellowship at UC, went on to complete a renal transplant fellowship at Oregon Health

Sciences University in Portland in 2005. He moved back to UC in 2006 to serve as a transplant nephrologist in the division of nephrology and hypertension. With his new role, Govil handles the administrative responsibilities of the pancreas transplant program along with Amit Tevar, MD, who serves as the surgical director of the pancreas transplant program. Govil continues to clinically care for all kidney and pancreas transplant patients along with Gautham Mogilishetty, MD, and Prabir Roy-Chaudhury, MD, PhD.

Brammer Selected to National Health Policy Position

Craig Brammer, senior research associate in the public health sciences department and project director of Cincinnati's Aligning Forces for Quality, has been named deputy director for the national Beacon Community program within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology. Brammer will be charged with working to accelerate the adoption of information technology, performance measurement and payment reform strategies in communities



across the country. He will commute to Washington, D.C., but will remain a UC employee.

Britigan, Weintraub to Lead Clinical Research Society

This April, Bradley Britigan, MD, Taylor Professor and chair of the department of internal medicine, became president of the Central Society for Clinical Research, one



of the oldest regional academic professional societies in the country. Neal Weintraub, MD, Stonehill Professor and division director of cardiology, was elected to the position of vice-president in the society and will become president in two years. Membership in the society is by nomination only and is based on success in research. Past leaders in the organization rank among the leaders of academic medicine in the Midwest.



Nightingale Award Winners Announced

This April, the UC College of Nursing's Board of Advisors named 16 area nurses who best exemplify excellent direct patient care. Jeanette Buckholz, with the UC College of Medicine Department of Environmental Health, was one of the six top winners at the Nightingale Awards ceremony, presented with a bronze bust of Florence Nightingale, the founder of modern nursing, and \$1,000. UC Health University Hospital nurse Cynthia Hughes was among 10 finalists honored with the Dean's Award. For more information, visit nursing.uc.edu. ●

Welcome New Clinicians*Mason*

Jeffrey Baker, MD, PhD
Internal Medicine
(513) 584-6999



Amy Hovermale, MD
Internal Medicine
(513) 584-6999



Garvin Nickell, MD
Internal Medicine
(513) 584-6999



Jo Ann Rivera, MD
Internal Medicine
(513) 584-6999

West Chester

Lena Bhargava, MD
Family Medicine
(513) 585-5100



Shyamala Jagtap, MD
Internal Medicine
(513) 475-8140

Wyoming

Kellie Boyd, MD
Family Medicine
(513) 821-0275

‘My UC Health’ to the Rescue

Mother and son realize benefit

For Laura Hergert and her son, Dan Geiman, it was “My UC Health” to the rescue.

Hergert, assistant to Joseph Broderick, MD, chair of the neurology



Laura Hergert

department, experienced the benefits of “My UC Health” from both a mother’s and a UC Health employee’s perspective in March when Geiman, 24, injured his foot and wound up in a local hospital’s emergency room.

“My UC Health” is a concierge telephone service available to employees of University of Cincinnati Physicians, the UC College of Medicine and UC Health University Hospital. It has a dedicated staff to answer questions and connect callers to the medical schedulers they need.

“Dan was treated and told to see an orthopedic physician in two days for follow-up, but by the time he got home it was too late for an appointment,” says Hergert. The next day I called ‘My UC Health,’ knowing it would be difficult to arrange an appointment for the following day.”

Much to Hergert’s relief, she was able to quickly schedule an appointment through “My UC Health,”

receiving both a phone call confirmation and an e-mail with a photo and information about Michael Archdeacon, MD, the University of Cincinnati Physicians clinician Geiman would be seeing.

It was “My UC Health” to the rescue again when Geiman was told by his employer that he needed a note from Archdeacon’s office before returning to work, with less than 24 hours’ notice. When he contacted the office, the person who could help him was busy in clinic, but a call to “My UC Health” again produced results—and the note, in the nick of time.

“Dan and I realize how lucky we were to get this appointment and



Michael Archdeacon, MD

what a benefit ‘My UC Health’ is to us,” says Hergert. “What impressed both of us even more was the kindness, efficiency and overall willingness to help of the ‘My UC Health’ staff.” ●

>> TO ACCESS “My UC Health,” call (513) 475-UCDR (8237).

upcoming

Ride Cincinnati

Sunday, June 13
Yeatman's Cove,
Sawyer Point
Cincinnati

Ride Cincinnati is the annual cycling event benefiting local breast cancer research at UC. Non-competitive rides of 62.8, 45.2, 26, 18.4 and 8.2 miles are scheduled and open to all skill levels. To register or make a donation, visit ridecincinnati.org.



ucphysicians.com
(513) 475-8000

OHIO
ADAMS COUNTY
ANDERSON
BROWN COUNTY
CLIFTON
FOREST PARK
KETTERING
MADISONVILLE
MASON
MONTGOMERY
SPRINGDALE
TRENTON
WEST CHESTER
WESTERN HILLS
WILMINGTON
WYOMING

KENTUCKY
FLORENCE
SOUTHGATE

INDIANA
DEARBORN COUNTY

HOW WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE

From Daddy's Girl to Kidney Donor Father and daughter both enjoy new futures

When James McGee needed a kidney, he was too anxious to talk to his daughter face-to-face. But after almost two years of dialysis and several months on the transplant registry, he was at the end of his rope.

So, after an afternoon doing some handiwork at her house, McGee left a business card for the UC Health University Hospital transplant coordinator in her bathroom.

"He didn't even really express how serious it was. ... He completely left the decision up to me," says daughter Jennifer McGee Fultz. "And of course I called that minute."

Already a survivor of prostate cancer, McGee had kidney failure and was having a difficult time with dialysis, which left him with erratic blood pressure and extreme fatigue. Living with his wife, Marie, just outside Dayton, McGee was also watching his daughter go through health issues.

Fultz, from London, Ohio, had just ended a series of fertility treatments with her husband of more than six years. "I had given up on having a baby," she said, "I was told I wasn't producing enough eggs ... but at least if I could help my dad, and give life that way, then it could work out."

McGee had pursued transplantation after a recommendation from UC Health internal medicine resident Ted Kopp, MD. Kopp, a family friend whose father had gardened with McGee for nearly 25 years, had consulted Amit Govil, MD, UC Health renal transplantation specialist, on the case.

With University Hospital's excellent patient and graft survival rates, Govil recommended McGee look into living donor transplantation.

"The survival and quality of life benefits after kidney transplantation are unparalleled compared to remaining on dialysis," he says. "With most of the cancers, especially prostate cancer, the disease-free survival is excellent, but this can be

hampered by dialysis-related morbidity and mortality."

After Fultz was found to be a good match, coordinators scheduled the transplant for Feb. 5, 2009. The morning of the surgery, McGee found himself nearly sick with worry—but not for himself.

"My little girl was going into surgery," he said. "Even though she's 38 years old, she's still your little girl."

But both surgeries went well, and, after leaving the hospital, both father and daughter recovered at the McGees' home before Fultz returned to London.

A few months later, Fultz called her parents with good news: She was pregnant, having conceived naturally after the surgery.

On Jan. 13, 2010, Grace Alexis Fultz was born. Now the happy grandparents see their granddaughter weekly—and Fultz is able to see all three generations of her family together.

"You really appreciate all the little things more. ... Just to hear my dad laugh, to have the whole circle complete now and have him around Grace, you really appreciate it when your health has been at risk," she says. "I just feel really lucky."

McGee feels lucky as well, both for his family and his new future. Now more than a year after his transplant, he's busy working on this year's garden.

"I've been through quite a bit," he says, "but being able to plan for the garden this year... it means another year when I'm healthy enough to do things. It's a big deal."



James McGee, daughter Jennifer Fultz and granddaughter Grace Fultz

"You really appreciate all the little things more."