Making Louisville a Nucleus for Economic Development

The prospect of a partnership with the University of Louisville was a major factor in the decision of a long-term care company to relocate its headquarters to Louisville. Signature HealthCARE announced last month that it is moving to Louisville from its current home in West Palm Beach, Fla., in part, because of the opportunity to set up an International Center for Long-Term Care Innovation (LTC Innovation) in conjunction with UofL’s Nucleus project. Signature expects to employ about 120 people at its Louisville headquarters. The company operates senior living facilities, including three in Louisville and 17 in Kentucky.

THE FOREFRONT

UofL President James Ramsey

“We have several tremendous faculty and researchers that are at the forefront in senior-focused health care, gerontology, geriatric medicine and aging. As the state’s life science and innovation center, Nucleus has everything it needs to establish a center that will be a core component of this effort.”

INNOVATION & COMPASSION

Louisville Mayor Jerry Abramson

“The leaders at Signature HealthCARE are running what is one of the most innovative and compassionate senior care companies in America. The fact that they’ve chosen Louisville for their headquarters adds yet another company to the city’s growing senior care industry.”

AMAZING TALENT POOL

E. Joseph Steier III, president & CEO of Signature HealthCARE

“Signature spent several months strategizing and researching possible locations throughout Florida, Tennessee and Kentucky. Louisville will provide a great central location with one of the best quality of life environments for families, rich university partnerships and an amazing talent pool to foster aggressive growth.”

QUALITY OF LIFE

Kentucky Gov. Steve Beshear

“Kentucky is proud to once again attract an industry-leading headquarters operation, creating more than 120 new high-paying, quality jobs. The location of Signature HealthCARE’s national headquarters helps to solidify Louisville as a leader in the aging care industry and is a testament to the business climate and quality of life Kentucky offers.”

SIGNATURE THINK TANK

Signature HealthCARE also is planning to start a think tank at its corporate headquarters, which will be located in the Blankenbaker Crossings development in eastern Louisville. The think tank intends to use faculty from UofL’s Kent School of Social Work, Speed School of Engineering, College of Business and others to produce white papers and best practices on dealing with geriatric and aging adults.

ABOUT NUCLEUS

UofL’s Nucleus Life Science and Innovation Center will house multiple facilities in close proximity to expedite collaboration and shared expertise among researchers and companies.
University of Louisville faculty, staff and students got their first glance at the Democratic candidates for U.S. Senate (shown above), who answered tough questions during an on-campus evening debate on April 1. Two days before, they had the same chance during a forum featuring 11 Louisville mayoral candidates.

UofL sponsored the events in conjunction with the UofL College Democrats, College Republicans and Pi Sigma Alpha as part of their Cards Decide 2010 week and the new UofL Votes series of forums and debates. Each forum was open to faculty, staff, students and the general public.

During the forum for the U.S. Senate race the five Democrats who are running to replace Sen. Jim Bunning answered questions about gay rights, federal bailouts, the recently passed health care reform law, offshore drilling and other topics during a 90-minute debate in Bigelow Hall.

Darlene Price, Jack Conway, Daniel Mongiardo, James Buckmaster and Maurice Sweeney shared many of the same views but offered stark contrasts on some issues.

UofL Director of Media Relations Mark Hebert served as the moderator and asked questions submitted by audience members. Other questions were asked by Elizabeth Donatelli of WAVE-TV and Andy Alcock of WLKY-TV.

During the mayoral race forum in a packed Chao Auditorium, candidates explained how they planned to improve the area economy and do more to sustain the environment. The candidates for mayor answered questions from the audience during the 90-minute forum.

Hebert said the university hopes to sponsor more political forums or debates before the November elections.

**UofL's Research Building Tops Louisville’s ‘Structures’**

UofL’s new Clinical and Translational Research Building in downtown Louisville was featured in the Business First special section “Structures” on April 2. The article outlines how the LEED Gold Certified, state-of-the-art facility is designed to encourage collaboration and discovery.

**Last structural beam in place for downtown arena**

Construction workers, city leaders, the Louisville Arena Authority and University of Louisville officials celebrated the addition of the final structural beam to the new downtown arena on March 29.

Since construction is ahead of schedule and the final beam already had been placed, they signed a ceremonial beam that was hoisted with a flag and small tree to symbolize respect for nature.

The 22,000-seat arena is scheduled to open in November. It will be home to the UofL men’s and women’s basketball teams.

The nanny who risked her life to save a 5-year-old boy from a burning home was treated by the University of Louisville Hospital Burn Unit, Alyson Myatt (above), who garnered national attention on the Today Show, The Ellen DeGeneres Show and several other media outlets after her heroic actions, suffered second- and third-degree burns on her feet and hands. But Aden, the boy Myatt was watching, escaped unharmed.

The nanny who risked her life to save a 5-year-old boy from a burning home was treated by the University of Louisville Hospital Burn Unit, Alyson Myatt (above), who garnered national attention on the Today Show, The Ellen DeGeneres Show and several other media outlets after her heroic actions, suffered second- and third-degree burns on her feet and hands. But Aden, the boy Myatt was watching, escaped unharmed.