Pardee racks up honors, grants and participates in drug trial

Elizabeth Reilly Breast Center at Pardee Hospital in Hendersonville, N.C., was recognized as a Certified Quality Breast Center of Excellence in the National Quality Measures for Breast Centers Program. It is the first breast center in North Carolina to receive this recognition and just one of 17 nationwide, according to a news release.

The honor is the highest level at which a breast center can be certified and recognizes the hospital’s commitment to providing high quality care to patients.

The breast center also is a Breast Imaging Center of Excellence through the American College of Radiology and is accredited with the National Accreditation Program for Breast Centers through the American College of Surgeons.

In other news, Pardee Hospital/Pardee Foundation, on behalf of Blue Ridge Community Health Services in Henderson County, received a $250,000 grant from The Duke Endowment to assist in building a new medical facility on the campus of BRCHS. The new facility will allow expanded medical services and bring additional healthcare providers and diagnostic capabilities to the community.

The Duke Endowment funds will be used to help complete the $7 million dollar building.

Also, the Pardee Hospital Foundation has been awarded gold and silver recognition in the 2011 Aster Awards. The Aster Awards are hosted by Marketing Healthcare Today Magazine and Creative Images Inc. The program recognizes healthcare professionals for excellence in advertising and marketing efforts. Pardee’s foundation received a gold award for a direct-mail fundraising piece, and a silver award for the Smokehouse Soiree annual donor event invitation.

UTEP produces most Hispanic nurses in U.S.

The University of Texas at El Paso’s School of Nursing has been named the No. 1 school in the United States in awarding bachelor’s degrees to Hispanics, according to the El Paso Times.

“We are setting the bar now in educating Hispanic nurses,” Elias Provenzo-Vasquez, RN, PhD, FAAN, FAANP, the school’s dean, said in the article. “That gives us the spotlight that we are the experts in educating a diverse student body.”

Of the 324 nurses who graduated from the School of Nursing in 2010, 228, or 70%, were Hispanic.

“Other schools across the country are looking at us as a model of education for bilingual and bicultural nurses,” Provenzo-Vasquez said in the article. “Our nursing students are being recruited by other cities across the country who have an influx of immigrants that are Hispanic.”

According to Provenzo-Vasquez, 60% of RNs who practice in El Paso are UTEP graduates. “When I first got here, I went out and met every chief nursing officer, every CEO of every hospital because I wanted to make sure we were educating our students so that they wanted to hire them,” said Provenzo-Vasquez.

Ethics award goes to HCA

Hospital Corporation of America, the parent company of Pasco/Hernando County hospitals, Community Hospital, the future Medical Center of Trinity, Oak Hill Hospital and Regional Medical Center Bayonet Point, has been recognized by the Ethisphere Institute as one of the 2011 World’s Most Ethical Companies, according to a news release. HCAs ethics and compliance program has served as a model for others, according to the release. “This recognition from the Ethisphere Institute is particularly meaningful to all of us at HCA because it is based on the totality of our organization’s efforts and performance,” said Alan Yuspeh, HCA’s senior vice president and chief ethics and compliance officer. It reflects not only an energetic ethics and compliance program, but also our dedication to patients, our support for communities we serve, our generosity of spirit in providing charity care, our focus on sustainability, and our culture of integrity.”

The rankings appear in Ethisphere Magazine’s Q1 issue. The 2011 list features companies in 38 industries. Ethisphere’s methodology includes reviewing codes of ethics, litigation and regulatory infraction histories, and evaluating the investment in innovation and sustainable business practices.