

August 12, 2022



### Green Labs finds cool way to reuse lab ice packs 🌱

Thousands of ice packs are used in deliveries to UAB research labs each year — the same kinds used in meal-kit delivery services, which can stay cold for days, unlike regular ice. To divert them from the landfill, UAB's Green Labs program is donating 200 lbs. of ice packs per month to local organizations: Farmers selling their wares at the Market at Pepper Place use them to keep eggs and produce cool for customers, while Meals on Wheels depends on the packs to keep perishable items like milk cold during deliveries. [Read more online.](#)

→ An initiative from UAB Sustainability, the *Green Labs program* aims to reduce the use of energy, water, material goods and hazardous chemicals in UAB labs without compromising research integrity or safety. [Want your lab to go green? Learn how online.](#)



### Lyons-Harrison demolition begins Aug. 15

The demolition, part of the construction of the new Altec/Stysinger Genomic Medicine and Data Sciences Building project, will affect pedestrians who use the elevated walkway to commute between buildings. [Consult this map](#) to plan new routes.



### From leukemia patient to pediatric ER nurse

Nursing student Serenity Lane battled leukemia as a child. Now, she will graduate from UAB this weekend and begin work as an emergency medicine nurse at Children's, almost 15 years after beating cancer.



### 2 UAB experts share COVID community updates

Jeanne Marrazzo, M.D., director of the UAB Division of Infectious Diseases, and David Kimberlin, M.D., co-director of the Division of Pediatric Infectious Diseases at Children's of Alabama, share facts on the COVID BA.5 variant, what to know for kids returning to the classroom, info on vaccine effectiveness and booster recommendations and more in this informational video.

- Why am I getting COVID now when I haven't before?
- How does the COVID vaccine work with the BA.5 variant?
- What should I know as kids return to school?
- Could we see another COVID surge in children?
- What is the effectiveness of the COVID vaccine in children?
- What is the rate of COVID reinfection with new variant?
- What are booster recommendations for immunocompromised and pregnant people?
- How do I know if I should test for COVID or if I just have a cold?
- When should I test after exposure to COVID?
- What are the symptoms for COVID long-haulers?
- Who should take Paxlovid?
- What should I know about COVID vaccinations and the approaching flu season?
- What might COVID vaccinations look like going forward?

[Read a summary on UAB News.](#)

→ **Remember:** *Public health and infectious disease experts continue to support a mask-optional policy on campus as cases in the UAB community remain steady. [Read more in the UAB Reporter.](#)*

## Things to know



### Refer a future Blazer from your network of family and friends 🌱

Proud to work at UAB and want a student to experience that same Blazer spirit? Refer a Future Blazer can help employees share key information about UAB with prospective undergraduates — and secure them a \$250 book scholarship. [Learn more and refer someone online.](#)



### Explore the great outdoors with UAB Adventure Recreation

Backpack in the Mount Cheaha wilderness, ski in North Carolina, whitewater raft on the Chattooga River, explore Yellowstone National Park and more with UAB Adventure Recreation. Trips are scheduled through summer 2023; [see a full list of dates and costs and register online.](#) 🏕️

### Nominations open for Ingalls lifetime achievement award

Nominations are open for the Ellen Gregg Ingalls/UAB National Alumni Society Award for Lifetime Achievement in Teaching, presented to a full-time faculty member who has demonstrated an outstanding commitment to teaching for 20 or more years. Nominations are due Aug. 26 to [samili@uab.edu](mailto:samili@uab.edu); [see details online.](#)

### More news online

Get campus news at [uab.edu/reporter](http://uab.edu/reporter) and [uab.edu/news](http://uab.edu/news) COVID-19 updates at [uab.edu/uabunited](http://uab.edu/uabunited). Check the [Campus Calendar](#) for more events on campus, and submit your own. If you have news you want to share, use the [Request Publicity form](#) online.

## Mark your calendars



### 3 UAB experts will explore staying well at work in this seminar

Hear a discussion on employee wellness, work-life balance and how intentional arts programming can support employee well-being in a webinar noon Aug. 15, featuring expertise from Salaam Green, artist-in-residence with UAB Arts in Medicine, Laurence Boitet, Ph.D., chair of the UAB Postdoctoral Association, and Tami Long, executive director of the UAB Employee Assistance and Counseling Center. [Register online.](#)



### Summer fun: Legacy Family Day 2022 is Aug. 14 🧡

Join the National Alumni Society for Legacy Family Day 3-5 p.m. this Sunday, Aug. 14, on the Campus Green — there will be photo ops with Blaze, water slides, face-painting, snacks and more. Tickets are \$5 and must be purchased in advance; [buy them online.](#)

### Apply to support second-year students through the Navigator program by Sept. 1

The Second Year Experience Navigator program is a one-year mentorship opportunity for juniors, seniors and employees to mentor students throughout their second year on campus. [Apply for the program](#) by Sept. 1; contact Columbia Young at [cyoung@uab.edu](mailto:cyoung@uab.edu) with questions.

Lectures	Arts	Athletics
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