



NewsCatcher

The latest news for and about our SPH community

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December 20, 2012

Got News?

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SPH in the News

[The world is getting wider. What can be done about it?](#) - *The Economist*; cites research led by **Christopher Murray** (GH, HServ)

[Dangerous distraction: Study finds many texting pedestrians](#) - *Seattle Times*; quotes **Beth Ebel** (Epi)

[Let's end the prescription drug death epidemic](#) - *CNN*; quotes **Gary Franklin** (DEOHS, HServ)

[Genome challenge emerges in society sharing DNA benefits](#) - *Bloomberg News*; quotes **Mary-Claire King** (Epi)

Who Knew??



Patrick Lennon (DEOHS) is a professional actor in his

"other" life. This holiday season, he's starring in *The Santaland Diaries* by David Sedaris, a [one-man play](#) about a man's experience working as an Elf at Macy's in New York.

On the Calendar

Jan 8, 3:00 pm
[Lessons from the Multi-Ethnic Study of Atherosclerosis and Air Pollution](#)

Jan 12, 11:30 am
[Tribute to MLK Jr: Achieving Health Equity Through Non-Violent Social Change](#)

Jan 14, 3 pm
[SPH State of the School Meeting](#)

Jan 17, 8 am
[Supersized Ethics - Obesity and Child Protective Services](#)

We'll keep you busy: take a look at the [SPH Events Calendar](#).

Opportunities

Check out the [SPH job listings page](#) for national and local public health jobs and opportunities.

Congrats!



The American Heart Association's Council on Cardiovascular and Stroke Nursing has bestowed its highest honor, the [Katharine A. Lembright Award](#), on **Pamela Mitchell** (HServ), interim dean of nursing.



Bruce Psaty (Epi) was appointed to the [National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute Advisory Council](#).



PhD student **Nicole Van Abel** (DEOHS) received a departmental grant to spend five months in the Netherlands conducting research on the public health risks of aging water supply infrastructure.



Jack Thompson (HServ) was recently named a board member for [Children's Alliance](#), a WA-based child advocacy organization.

[See recent SPH grants and contracts »](#)

Making a Difference



Adrienne Hidy (DEOHS) is helping lead a volunteer effort at Asa Mercer Middle School in Seattle to improve safety for pedestrians and bicyclists. She wrote a successful grant application for \$25,000 from the national Safe Kids organization and FedEx. The city of Seattle added \$75,000 more through its Safe Routes to Schools program. The project will work with families, students and staff to improve safety awareness. Plans are underway to improve sidewalks and add traffic calming features near the school. The project also will enhance the current Seattle Neighborhood Greenways project on Beacon Hill. Other partners include Mercer PTSA and school administration, Feet First, Beacon BIKES, and the Seattle Department of Transportation. Anyone interested in volunteering on this project can contact [Adrienne](#).

Around the Water Cooler



Work by **Amy Hagopian** (GH, HServ) and Kathy Barker prompted the American Public Health Association to adopt [a policy statement](#) opposing military recruitment in the nation's primary and secondary schools.



Dean **Howard Frumkin** (DO, DEOHS) has been spreading the word about the importance of the built environment to public health. Check out his recent [TEDxRainier talk](#) and [this video](#) on UW|360.



Laura Farren is the new program coordinator for the Health Research and Promotion Center. Most recently, she worked at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center.



After 20 years together, **Nancy Shawn** (DO) married her partner, Antje Helfrich, at Seattle City Hall on Dec. 9. Attending were their daughter, Francesca, and friends.

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Undergrads [Nicole Rover](#) and [Amanda Chin](#) (PH) took part in the 2012 Jingle Bell Run/Walk (5K) in downtown Seattle, raising funds for the Arthritis Foundation.



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