Health care excellence. The Wexner Medical Center and The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center — Arthur G. James Cancer Hospital and Richard J. Solove Research Institute are collaborating with Nationwide Children’s Hospital on the region’s first proton therapy treatment facility. Proton therapy is an advanced type of radiation treatment that uses protons instead of X-rays to kill cancer cells. A machine delivers a high-energy proton beam painlessly through the skin from outside the body.

Cycle of success. Pelotonia raised a record $27,400,779 this year, bringing its 10-year total to more than $184 million to fund innovative cancer research at Ohio State’s Comprehensive Cancer Center — James Cancer Hospital and Solove Research Institute. The 2018 event featured 8,470 riders and 3,056 volunteers from more than 40 states and 13 countries. It is all part of a focus on driving breakthrough health care solutions to improve people’s lives. Registration for 2019 opens in February.

International honor. Laila Ujayli, a 2018 alumna, has been named the university's seventh Rhodes Scholar. Thirty-two scholarships are awarded annually to outstanding seniors and recent graduates across the United States. Ujayli was selected for her commitment to advocating for policies benefitting immigrants and refugees, her drive to encourage diplomatic interventions and her use of film and literature to increase mutual understanding between the Western and Arab worlds.

Renowned leadership. The Wexner Center for the Arts has appointed its next director. Johanna Burton has served as Keith Haring Director and Curator of Education and Public Engagement at the New Museum in New York and will succeed Sherri Geldin, who has served as director for 25 years. "Johanna is the perfect leader — intelligent, inquisitive, collaborative and ambitious. We couldn't be more thrilled that she will guide the arts center into the future, while building on the superb work of Sherri Geldin and the talented staff," said Abigail Wexner, center trustee and co-chair of the selection committee.

Changing communities. The President's Prize, now in its third year, is the highest university recognition bestowed on exceptional students committed to social change. President Michael V. Drake surprised recipients whose projects include reducing waste sent to local landfills and creating a center for children who have been involved in the justice system and may otherwise be homeless. Also last month, Drake became the first Ohio State president in nearly four decades to serve as board chair of the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities, which comprises 238 universities dedicated to uplifting their communities.