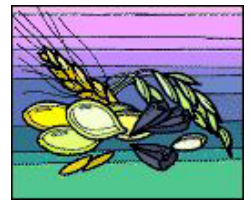




Scoop




Nat'l. Nutrition Month


Friday, March 12, 1999

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS - HOUSTON MEDICAL SCHOOL

EVENTS TO KNOW:

- **University Classified Staff Council**, "brown bag" sessions, Mon., **March 15**, MSI 110; Tues., **March 16**, RAS 102A; noon-1 p.m.
- **Fourth Annual Public Forum for Brain Awareness Week**, Tues., **March 16**, 5:30-7 p.m., MSB 3.001, call 713-500-5540.
- **Town Hall Meeting, Update on RPR-IDX**, Wed., **March 17**, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., MSB 2.103.

 **Don't Forget**
- **Dr. C. Everett Koop**,
Former Surgeon General, "Ten Critical Health Issues For the 21st Century," Wed., **March 17**, 1-2 p.m., MSB 3.001.



Dr. C. Everett Koop

UTmost Interest

Dr. Andrj Holian, Internal Medicine, was a member of the EPA Particulate Matter Centers review panel in Washington, D.C....**Dr. Pedro Ruiz**, Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, was elected President Elect of the American College of Psychiatrists, and re-elected to the Directors of the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology.

LUNCH & LEARN NUTRITION

Join the Fitness Center in welcoming **Karen Calabro**, RD, MPH, who will present a Lunch & Learn nutrition seminar on Tuesday, **March 16** in room 2.135. Karen will present a surprise topic relating to nutrition. Please bring your own lunch. Call 713-500-5044 for information.

WOMEN'S SELF CARE GROUP

The Fitness Center will sponsor a Women's Self Care Focus Group, noon-1 p.m., Wed., **March 17 & Wed., March 24** in room G.718, the John Freeman building. Call 500-5044 to register for the class. A representative from the Employee Assistance Program (EAP) will be present.

DR. WOLINSKY TO LEAD NATIONAL STUDY ON MS

I never got to know my uncle. My mother, Marion Petit, a second-generation Irish woman, had one brother and two sisters. Albert was six years older than my mother, six feet tall, "with a smile as broad as the sun," she would say. During his bout with multiple sclerosis and eventual death in his 30s, she would often see him in his wheelchair out on the front porch. Today, over 300,000 people, approximately 10,000 people each year, have been diagnosed with multiple sclerosis in the U.S. It most often appears in people between the ages of 20 and 40, of European, Canadian, U.S. or South American heritage, and over three-quarters are female. What is multiple sclerosis? What has happened simply is that after the disease attacks the myelin of the brain and spinal cord, parts of the medullary sheath can be strewn with inflammation and scarring. Myelin is the tissue that covers and protects our nerve fibers, thus the disease disrupts nerve communication. It is still primarily an underdiagnosed disease. A recent survey in Northern Ireland revealed that one third of nearly 100 patients were told about their disease by someone other than their doctor, and only a small percentage had been put in touch with other health care professionals to deal with their disease. Last Monday, March 1, at UT-Houston, the largest drug trial for primary progressive multiple sclerosis, the most severe form of the disease, was inaugurated by **Dr. Jerry Wolinsky**, professor of Neurology and Director, Multiple Sclerosis Research Group. The three-year study is aimed at following the effectiveness of a new promising drug, glatiramer acetate for injection. The trial involves 54 universities and medical centers in the U.S. and Canada, and hopes to recruit 900 patients. Hope for people today living with this neurological predator, is on the horizon. - *C. O'Brien*



Dr. Jerry Wolinsky

DR. DICKEY TO PRESENT KIRKENDALL LECTURE



Dr. Nancy Dickey

Dr. Nancy W. Dickey, President of the American Medical Association and a graduate of UT-Houston Medical School, will present the 1999 Walter M. Kirkendall, M.D., Endowed Lecture Series, 1 - 2 p.m., **March 30**, MSB room 3.001, **Dr. Philip Johnson**, planning committee chair has announced. Johnson is Director of the Division of General Medicine. The Kirkendall lectureship, set up three years ago, is given as close as possible to March 31, which was the birthday of Dr. Kirkendall, chairman of Internal Medicine from 1972 - 76 and director of the Hypertension Unit from 1976 until his death in 1991.

RESEARCH SUPPLEMENTS & UNDERREPRESENTED MINORITIES

UT-Houston, the recipient of over a dozen awards from the Research Supplements for Underrepresented Minorities, invites UT-Houston faculty funded by the National Institutes of Health, and investigators considered underrepresented in the biomedical and behavioral sciences, to discuss how each may benefit under a setaside program sponsored by all the Institutes. Three briefings have been set to discuss the program. Dates of the program are: Tues., **March 16**, 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m., Dental Branch, Room 446; Wed., March 17, 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m., SPH, Room W204; and Thurs., **March 18**, 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m., MSB room 2.135. Faculty are encouraged to attend. For more information contact the Office of Research Services, 500-3075.

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS-HOUSTON
HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER



Medical School

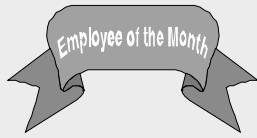
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Produced weekly by the Office of Community Affairs and Public Education

March Employee of the Month - Faye Viola

The keeper of the faculty files, **Faye Viola**, in the Office of Faculty Affairs, is a walking historian on the history of the Medical School. Joining the Dean's office nearly 25 years ago, Faye handles everything to do with faculty except financial affairs. That includes everything from supporting administration with the details of job offers, appointment paperwork, recruitment protocols, promotion and tenure processes, and many other faculty support functions. Mentoring, annual reviews, and six year reviews are also part of the plethora of hats Faye wears on her job.



Where would she like to see the Office of Faculty Affairs going in five years? Laughing easily, Faye says the Office just needs to be known. "We're a small team, **Dr. Anna Steinberger, Dr.**

Henry Strobel, myself, **Mary Cole**, and **Juanita Mattingly**. But who we are, what we do, and what we can do for faculty, is the important message we need to disseminate. We just need to get the word out!" And getting the word out is now easier than ever before, with a quick web guide to the Office of Faculty Affairs at <http://deanweb.med.uth.tmc.edu/Faculty/index.html>. There's a wealth of information there from "Link to On-line Faculty Resources," to "Faculty Guide," to "The UT-Houston Faculty member," to a three-page single-line description of "Promotion and Tenure at UT-Houston." For a vibrant woman who loves both her job and her inner loop city lifestyle, Faye does manage to slip away every so often with her husband, **Andy**, in computer sales, to their favorite city by the sea, San Francisco.



SUPPORTING THE SENIOR OLYMPICS

The Memorial Hermann Healthcare System is again co-sponsoring this year's Houston Senior Olympic Games. Gearing up for its athletes ages 50 and older, the event is now in its 11th year. Set for **March 18-28**, it will feature 21 different sports. A different twist will be reaching out to baby boomers, the new blood of senior events, that made working out at the local health club a popular pastime more than two decades ago. Last year was declared the 'International Year of Older Persons' at the United Nations' two-day conference, "Aging and Urbanization: Challenges and Opportunities - Towards a Community for All." Facing the theme of - is the city good for older people and are older people good for the city, they discussed how the whizz kids of Silicon Valley can learn from their elders and vice versa. For another chance to step off the curb and run for your health, call 713-551-7250.

MEDICAL SCHOOL RESEARCH RETREAT OCT. 15 - 16, 1999

The Medical School Research Retreat has been scheduled for **Oct. 15-16, 1999** (Friday and Saturday) at The Woodlands Conference Center. Both basic science and clinical research topics will be included in the two-day event which begins noon Friday and ends at 1:45 p.m. on Saturday. Watch *Scoop* for additional details. For questions call **Marijane deTranltes** at 713-500-5633.

DESIGNING YOUR OWN FREE WORKSHOP

It's back - only bigger and better! The Fourth Annual Classified Staff Workshop, presented by the University Classified Staff Council (UCSC), will soon take place on Wednesday, **March 31**, at the Sheraton Astrodome.

Workshop Agenda

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| 7 - 8 a.m. | Registration & Continental Breakfast |
| 8 - 8:45 a.m. | John Kollaer , President, Greater Houston Partnership, Key Speaker |
| 9 - 10:30 a.m. | First Morning Session |
| 10:45 - noon | Second Morning Session |
| noon - 1 p.m. | Lunch |
| 1:15 - 2:45 p.m. | First Afternoon Session |
| 3 - 4:30 p.m. | Second Afternoon Session |

Sessions include: health, work/life, your financial future, leadership, and mind/body/soul. Topics on the agenda are: "Music Therapy," "Eating/Cooking Healthy," "The Sandwich Generation," "Wills & Trusts," "Tips for Time Management," "Tai Chi," "NASA: Looking Forward," "True Colors," "Leadership Skills for Everybody," "Massage Therapy," "Brain Gymnastics/Thought Field Therapy," "The Future of TMC," "Buying Your First Home," "Mentoring & Being Mentored," and "7 Habits for Effective Families." Supporters include: **Dean Max Buja**, **Dr. Bryant Boutwell**, **John Porretto**, **Dr. Tom Burks**, and Frost Bank. For more information contact **Alexis Basha** at 713-500-5110 or abasha@dean.med.uth.tmc.edu.



Elisa Castillo

JOINING FORCES FOR COMMUNITY HEALTH

"Medical school is not just about classes and books, but more about interaction among physicians, students and patients. Hands-on experiences provide us with an insight as to what

our profession is, and how we can use our knowledge to help those who are in need of that knowledge," says **Elisa Castillo**, right, a UT-Houston second-year medical student, who is a co-chair of Community Health Fair, 11 a.m.-3 p.m., Saturday, **March 20** at Northline Mall.

For the first time, students from the Texas Medical Association - Medical Student Sections of The University of Texas-Houston Medical School and Baylor College of Medicine have formed a partnership and will be hosting the event.

Twenty students from will work at different stations including information, registration, glucose reading and general medical questions. Dental and vision screenings will also be conducted. Face painting and balloons will entertain the children and fingerprinting will be provided by the Houston Police Department to aid families in cases of kidnapping. Health education brochures in English and Spanish on heart disease, pre-natal care, diabetes and breast cancer will be available. Among those providing information are the American Heart Association-Houston Division, the American Cancer Society, and the Women's Fund for Health Education and Research.

"Helping the community is a reminder of why we decided to pursue medical careers; there are constant fruitful rewards for both parties, the physician and the patient."

CLINICAL TRIALS SPEAKER'S TIPS

Testing a drug on human subjects is a complex process. Come hear just how complex and involved that process is on Monday, **March 22**, 7:30 p.m., from **Dr. Judith Beto**, professor of nutrition sciences at Dominican University, River Forest, Illinois, in "Understanding Clinical Trials," at the Children's Nutrition Research Center (CNRC), 1100 Bates, in the Texas Medical Center. For a detailed map, dinner and lecture details, contact **Ellen Koch**, 713-522-2477 no later than Wednesday, March 17.