



TechView

Patient Care

Education

Research

Weekly News - October 24, 2008

First Class Begins In...

37

Mark Your Calendar

Mobile Early Voting on Campus

The County Elections Department will bring a mobile early voting station to Thomason Hospital's Auditorium, located in the basement of the Hospital by the cafeteria, Thursday, Oct. 30 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Annual Flu Drive

Texas Tech employees, including residents and medical students, can get a free flu shot on Friday, Oct. 31, from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m., in the Thomason Hospital Auditorium. Everyone must wear their ID tag before arriving for a flu shot. For more information, contact *Donna Holguin*, 545-6501.

PNKD Study

The Paso del Norte Kidney Disease Study (PNKDS) is evaluating the exposure to the heavy metal lead among patients with chronic kidney disease in the El Paso border region.

The study is looking for people who have chronic kidney disease, are not on dialysis, and who would like to participate and have their blood tested for lead. The study is supported by the Paso del Norte Health Foundation, Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center Paul L. Foster School of Medicine, and the Manuel and Guadalupe Soto Memorial Research Fund.

Interested participants should contact Natalia Vega in the Division of Research, Nephrology and Hypertension, TTUHSC Paul L. Foster School of Medicine, 545-7399.

From the Desk of the Founding Dean

Governor Rick Perry made an impromptu visit to our campus Sciences Thursday afternoon to catch up on the progress of the new Paul L. Foster School of Medicine. Joining me in welcoming the Governor were Texas Tech Regent *Rick Francis*, our Associate Deans, and Thomason Hospital CEO *Jim Valenti*. Timing is everything, and the Governor's visit happened to coincide with a group of students going through the interview process for Admissions. He spoke to each of them and wished them all well, saying, "You all are so blessed. You are venturing out on a journey that will be, apart from your family, the most exciting of your life - and certainly the most passionate."

As the Governor toured our new Clinical Skills and Simulation Center, he mentioned his desire to have Mrs. Perry visit the new facilities. As you will recall, we recently announced the expansion of the newly re-renamed Anita Thigpen Perry School of Nursing to El Paso. Upon his departure, Governor Perry told us he was very impressed with our progress, our state-of-the art equipment, and the caliber of our students and faculty.

Also on my agenda this week was the quarterly El Paso Chamber of Commerce Governing Board Meeting, giving an update on our Paul L. Foster School of Medicine at the Federal Managers Association Conference, and attending the Children's Hospital Presentation to the community, hosted by Thomason.

I also wanted to mention the success of the first-ever Hablando de la Salud de la Mujer Women's Conference held last weekend. It was a sell-out crowd - and the waiting list for next year's event is already growing! Our own Mary Carmen Gonzalez was honored as a Super Hero for her work as a patient educator at the University Breast Cancer Center.

And finally, congratulations to the Medical Center of the Americas. During this week's City Council meeting, the ordinance to incorporate the MCA Master Plan into the City's Comprehensive Plan was approved by a 5 - 2 vote.

- Jose Manuel de la Rosa, M.D.

Doc Rejoins Texas Tech After Gynecologic Oncology Fellowship

J. Salvador Saldivar, M.D., M.P.H., has joined the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center at El Paso Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology as an assistant professor of gynecologic oncology.

Dr. Saldivar, a native El Pasoan, is board certified in obstetrics and gynecology. He received his medical degree from the University of Illinois at Chicago College of Medicine and completed his residency training in OB/GYN at Texas Tech University HSC in El Paso. He received a master's of public health from the University of Texas School of Public Health and research training in gynecology oncology at the MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, Texas. He completed his clinical fellowship in gynecologic oncology at the University of British Columbia and the British Columbia Cancer Agency in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada.

Dr. Saldivar is also just one of two gynecologic oncology specialists in El Paso. He has authored numerous research articles involving genetic susceptibility and biomarkers in gynecological malignancies. His areas of interests include minimally invasive surgery, management of complicated gynecologic cancers and fertility-sparing surgery in women with gynecologic malignancies.

Hablando de la Salud de la Mujer Introduces Women To the Super Hero Within

On Saturday, October 18, the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center Laura W. Bush Institute for Women's Health hosted the first Hablando de la Salud de Mujer conference in El Paso--to a sold out crowd!

SIDELINES

Highlights of TTUHSC President John Baldwin's State of the University Address

- The University, which treats about 2.5 million patients per year, has made strides in its missions of education, health care and research
- Talented students and faculty, new programs and a renaissance in research have strengthened the University
- Paul L. Foster School of Medicine, set to open in 2009, has received 2000 applicants for 40 slots, a testament to its quality
- University's research expenditures this year have increased about 18 percent to \$25 million and its NIH funding has risen 51 percent since last year
- The University has added 69 new faculty members in Lubbock and 16 new members in El Paso
- The School of Nursing graduated 450 students, the second largest for a nursing school in the state, and expanded in Dallas, Amarillo and El Paso
- Highlighted two new distinguished research groups--a cancer research team formerly of the University of Southern California, and a team of infectious disease scientists, moved from Harvard to El Paso.

The event is dedicated to educating women and helping them make informed decisions about health, well-being and personal safety for themselves and their families.

During the conference, women were treated to health screenings, manicures, massages and great healthcare sessions hosted by local and regional experts. Two internationally renowned Hispanic speakers, *Maria Marin* and *Alberto Sardinias*, introduced the attendees to the idea of women as Super Heroes—which resonated with the audience. And two local super heroes were also honored for their impact on women in the El Paso community—*Mary Carmen Gonzalez* of the UBCC, and *Maria Sanchez*, . The Center Against Family Violence and AVANCE were also honored as Community Investment Grant recipients. The event was such a success say organizers, that several hundred women have already preregistered for next year's conference!

Laura W. Bush Institute for Women's Health hosts inaugural national advisory board meeting

The TTUHSC Laura W. Bush Institute for Women's Health hosted the inaugural meeting of its National Advisory Board in Dallas this week. El Paso's Adair Margo has been appointed to this very elite Board.

Executive director of the LWBIWH, *Marjorie Jenkins, M.D.*, provided an overview of the institute's strategic plan and priorities such as the education of health care professionals, improved access to quality health care and development of partners to improve community health.

Donate to What is Near and Dear to You Through SECC Campaign

There are many worthy organizations on the State Employee Charitable Campaign (SECC) list TTUHSC employees can donate to. Your contribution helps improve the quality of life--and makes a difference, for thousands of people.

This is an opportunity to reach out to others who need help. If your heart is in helping children, there are many organizations, both statewide and local, you can contribute to. If preventing animal abuse is near and dear to your heart, there are a number of organizations listed. The TTUHSC Paul L. Foster School of Medicine, as well as the Children's Miracle Network, is also listed in the brochure. You have the option of determining exactly where your money will go and which agency will receive your gift.

Contributions can be made several ways, including payroll deduction, using the SECC authorization form.

The amount raised by TTUHSC El Paso employees last year was over \$24,000.

"So far, \$10,781 has been collected with 119 pledges. Imagine what the impact would be if the 1000 employees on our campus donated to the campaign. We've received some very generous gifts, and some employees who haven't participated in the past have signed on. That's great news. All we need now is that surge of support we know is out there to surpass last year's total," said *Dottie Samaniego*, SECC coordinator.

SECC Reception, Pumpkins and Skits, Oh, My!

A pumpkin carving contest, as well as a performance of departmental theme skits, are part of the festivities surrounding the announcement of the SECC total, and drawings for prizes, during a reception October 31, starting at 11:15 am in the Misenhimer Auditorium of the HSC. A \$5 donation through SECC puts employees in the drawing for some great gifts.

Pumpkins should be carved at home and brought in for display Thursday, October 30. Pumpkins will be displayed in the lobby of the HSC Building all day Thursday and judged Friday, October 31.

Entries can be submitted as an individual or a department. Judges will select Best Pumpkin for both entries. Participants must pick up a 'Facility Use on Texas Tech El Paso Campus Guideline Brochure' before submitting entries to ensure that safety and fire guidelines are met. These are available at the Volunteer Department located on the 1st floor of the Medical Center. Entries must be submitted to the Volunteer Department by 5 p.m., Monday, October 27. Winners will be announced at the reception.

Performances of departmental theme skits begin at 11:30 a.m. and winners will be announced at noon, followed by drawings for prizes. Let's have a fa-boo-lous time at this year's SECC event. For more information, please call the Volunteer Department at 545-6840.