



Scoop



Friday, March 31, 2000

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS - HOUSTON MEDICAL SCHOOL

EVENTS TO KNOW:

➤ **TODAY, 9 a.m., Dr. Zehava Gottesfeld,** Neurobiology and Anatomy, "Gender Differences in Acute Phase Responses to Traumatic Brain Injury: Effects of Prenatal Alcohol Exposure," MSB 7.150.

UTmost Interest

Dr. Robert F. Lodato, Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine, has been named to the Editorial Board, *American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine*.

Hot News

WALK FOR HOPE CHILDREN'S BENEFIT, APRIL 27

How do you stop a disease called "child abuse," a behavior characterized by aggressive action toward children, whether physical, sexual, or emotional? Kids abused often develop a range of post-traumatic stress symptoms. On Thurs., **April 27**, noon - 1 p.m., at the M. D. Anderson Track, 1100 Holcombe and Fannin, come out for the "walk," sponsored by the Committee on the Status of Women, to benefit the Star of Hope. Entry items needed are: diapers, formula, pedalyte, infant supplies, socks, underwear, and personal hygiene items. Light snacks provided. For information call **Marla Lampp**, x6873; **Delia Saenz**, x3285, or **Sherry Reed**, 713-704-5803.



Founders, **Dr. Margaret McNeese**, associate dean, Student Affairs, and **Ellen Cokinos**, of the Children's Assessment Center, a safe haven for child sexual abuse victims, believe that their young guests are treated with dignity, respect, and unconditional love. Experts nationwide now stop by Bolsover Street in Houston to see the model program. (See *Houston Press*, March 16-22, pg. 8). Child molestation is considered a growing nationwide epidemic. One in three girls and one in six to seven boys, will be molested before the age of 18. The emotional scars take years to heal, and left untreated, can last a lifetime.



Dr. William Dowhan

DR. WILLIAM DOWHAN HONORED

Dr. William Dowhan is now the holder of the *John S. Dunn, Sr., Chair in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology*, thanks to the generous support of the John S. Dunn Research Foundation. The endowed chair, recently approved by the UT System, represents the ongoing accomplishments and excellence of Dowhan's work. Receiving his doctorate from the University of California at Berkeley in 1969, he completed his postgraduate training as a fellow at Harvard Medical School and joined the UT-Houston Medical School faculty in 1972. Dowhan served as chairman for the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology 1992 -97. Since joining the Medical School, his research has concentrated on the structure, function, and biogenesis of cellular membranes. One of his NIH grants is currently in its 28th year of continuous funding. Well published in his field, his most recent honor among many was his election as a Fellow of the American Academy of Microbiology. (see *Scoop* 3/3/00 and 5/28/99).

DR. ERIC OLSON AND CARDIAC MYOGENESIS, APRIL 27

Dr. Eric N. Olson, the next Dean's Lecturer, will address "Transcriptional Control of Heart Development and Disease," on Thurs., **April 27**, 4 p.m., MSB 3.001. Olson is professor and chairman, the Department of Molecular Biology, and director, the Hamon Center for Basic Cancer Research, at The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas, Texas. He has indelibly marked the progress of genetics research by defining the molecular events that determine cell destiny, and whether they develop normally or abnormally. He has also achieved widespread acclaim for his discoveries of the genes that control the development of heart muscle and skeletal muscle cells.



Dr. Eric Olson



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TEE UP TOMORROW FOR CHARITY GOLF AT HERMANN PARK

The University of Texas Housestaff Association is proud to be hosting the first annual "Tee Up and Make a Wish" charity golf tournament benefiting the Texas Gulf Coast chapter of the Make a Wish Foundation, which works with children with terminal illnesses. The tournament will be held at the newly renovated Hermann Park Golf course tomorrow, Sat., **April 1**. It's a four-man-scramble format open to golfers of all abilities. Tee off will be a shotgun start at 8 a.m. Entry fee for golfers is \$75 and includes a barbecue lunch and silent auction at the course afterwards at 1p.m. Those who want to come to the lunch and auction only, can do so for \$10. Prizes will be awarded for the longest drive, closest to the pin, and longest putt, as well as for the top team in each third of the final standings. Contact **Matt Tompson**, 713-807-7846, for details.



THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS-HOUSTON
HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER



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22ND ANNUAL EYORE'S 5K FUN RUN, APRIL 1

The race is tomorrow, Sat., **April 1**, 8 a.m., Texas Medical Center, starting at the corner of Holcombe & Bertner, and is open to runners, walkers and wheelchair participants of all ages. It's 3.1 miles long and there's several sponsors, including the Houston Texas Exes, and the UT-Houston Health Science Center. The event will raise funds this year for 12 scholarships of \$3,000 each (\$1,500 freshman year, \$1,500 sophomore year) to outstanding high school seniors from the Houston area. The race entry fee is \$20 per person. Bring the whole family for the free activities planned, including fitness testing, kids' activities like a moonwalk, a maze, jousting and spin art, fingerprinting, and an after-party with refreshments. Oldies 94.5 FM is providing music. Volunteers are needed. Coffee and breakfast will be provided for volunteers, along with an Eeyore T-shirt. Arrive at 6 a.m. Contact **Suzanne Tamas**, 713-627-3938, to sign up to volunteer.



CLASS OF '75's 25TH

ANNIVERSARY, THIS WEEKEND

Reunion 2000 kicks off today. A reception honoring the reunion classes of 1975, 1990, and 1995, will take place today, 6 – 9 p.m., Visual and Performing Arts Gallery, 5th floor, Medical School. Celebrations continue tomorrow, Sat., **April 1**. Welcome!



RESEARCH SCHOLAR GRANTS PROGRAM

The American Cancer Society (ACS) announces the new *Research Scholar Grants* program, a new grants program that replaces the Society's former Research Project Grants. These new grants, which offer increased funding and extended time periods, are designed to fund the work of gifted, innovative investigators engaged in a broad spectrum of cancer research. *Research Scholar Grants For Beginning Investigators* offer funding up to \$250,000 a year for a period of four years, renewable for an additional four years. They support basic, preclinical, clinical, cancer control, or epidemiologic research projects initiated by investigators in the first eight years of their independent research careers.

Research Scholar Grants For Health Services And Health Policy And Outcomes Research offer funding up to \$250,000 a year for a period of four years, renewable for an additional four years. These grants support research projects centered on health services or health policy and outcomes research that are initiated by independent investigators at any stage of their careers.

Research Scholar Grants For Psychosocial And Behavioral Research provide funding up to \$500,000 a year for five years with the option of renewal for another five years. These grants are offered to independent investigators at any stage of their careers; however, applications in which beginning researchers are partnered with senior investigators as co-principal investigators are encouraged.

Deadlines for these grants are **April 1** and **October 15**. For the first time, the Society is offering electronic application via the website at <www.cancer.org/research/grants_overview.htm>.

ELDER CARE SEMINAR, APRIL 20

"Self-Healing Methods for Older Adults: Meditation and Self-Massage," with **Marie Vellani, R.N.**, a Deepak Chopra graduate and mind/body health educator, will take place on Thurs., **April 20**, noon – 1 p.m., Dental Branch, Rm. 446. Deepak Chopra is an alternative medicine author, who wrote *Journey Into Healing*, and other works. Refreshments provided. Call **Emma Lamb**, 713-500-3013.

NIH RESEARCH FUNDS

The Office of Research Services will be holding three information sessions to discuss a Federal Research Supplement program. This program is initiated by the National Institutes of Health to promote collaboration between underrepresented faculty and PHS (Public Health Service)-funded investigators and to increase the number of behavioral and biomedical researchers. The three sessions will be held Mon., **April 10**, John Freeman Building, room G.709, Tues., **April 11**, Dental Branch, Room 446, and Wed., **April 12**, School of Public Health, Room W102B. If you plan to attend any of these sessions or for more information, please contact the ORS at 500-3075.

March Employee of the Month - Patricia Nelson

Pat Nelson, a staff assistant in the Department of Radiology, has been with the UT-Houston Medical School since 1993. A LaMarque native, Pat first encountered working in a Radiology department here right after high school when she entered x-ray technology school. "I soon realized I didn't want to become a radiologic technologist, but the idea of working in a Radiology department enticed me," said Pat. "Everyone at UT-Houston has been very supportive, and I work for some terrific physicians. My family is very large, with 11 nieces and nephews. I also consider the people I work with at UT to be a part of my family, as well."

Her supervisors say that Pat is not only an exceptional and intelligent worker, she is an ideal team player. And even though she is asked to take on more responsibility than she has time for, she adroitly prioritizes her tasks. She is consistently accurate and is "one of the most organized and talented employees with whom we have ever worked," her supervisors also comment.

When asked where her favorite place to unwind is, Pat didn't hesitate. "I love Galveston," she said. "I love to walk on the beach and enjoy the pleasures of a small, close-knit community." Pat Nelson has that unique ability to transfer her love of a close-knit community to her job, and support her office family with strength, dedication and optimism.

