



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY
HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER™
at El Paso

Viewbox

CMN Nominated for 2006 NpACT Cornerstone Award

The Children's Miracle Network of El Paso has been recognized and nominated by The Nonprofit Enterprise Center for the 2006 NpACT Cornerstone Award.

The NpACT award recognizes organizations that are a model of capacity building and demonstrates significant impact in the region. A model organization builds its infrastructure through evaluation, education and training to assure that its programs and/or services are mission oriented and powerfully impact the community. A luncheon and ceremony to announce winners in the community is Oct. 18 at the Radisson Suite.

State Employee Charitable Campaign

The State Employee Charitable Campaign (SECC) runs until October 31.

"Our tradition of contributing to society is a vital part of Texas Tech. We are committed to our social responsibilities because we believe it is the right thing," said Dottie Samaniego, TTUHSC El Paso Director of Volunteer Services and Chair of the State Employee Charitable Campaign (SECC).

For more information on contributing to SECC, employees should contact their department SECC representative. For more information, contact 545-6840.

ACLS Provider Course

Healthcare professionals may call and sign up now for the October 16 and 18 Advanced Cardiac Life Support Course. This is a two-day course from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. The optional ACLS Provider Prep Course will be offered Tuesday, October 10 from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Contact Terry Velez or Christine Merrow, Department of Emergency Medicine, 545-7333. Seating is limited.

Health Literacy and Communication

"Health Literacy and Communication" will be presented via TechLink on September 26, from 12 noon to 2 p.m., in Room 212 of the Admin Building.

Lorraine Wallace, PhD, associate professor of Family Medicine at the University of Tennessee Graduate School of Medicine-Knoxville is the speaker. The conference is sponsored by TTUHSC Department of Family and Community Medicine and the Office of Continuing Medical Education.

The activity will provide an update on current clinical information on health literacy and physician-patient communication to enhance the provision of quality patient care.

Sept. 18-22

21 SERVICEplus Session I
 1:30 - 5:30 p.m.
 Faculty Lounge

UBCC Luncheon is October 4

The University Breast Care Center Celebrate Life Luncheon will be held Wednesday, October 4, at 11:30 a.m. at the El Paso Convention Center.

Individual tickets are \$50 and a table of ten is \$500.

Raffle items include a one-of-a-kind 14K brooch designed by Susan Eisen; a two-night stay (golf package) at Inn of the Mountain Gods; Dillard's gift certificate for \$1,000; custom made boots by Lucchese; and a diamond bracelet from Benny's Pawn Shop.

The UBCC is also selling pink rhinestone pins, charm bracelets, and pink baseball caps with the pink survivor ribbon as fundraisers. The pins and bracelets are \$12 each or two items for \$20. The caps are \$15. The items are on sale through the day of the luncheon. For more information, contact the UBCC, 545-6400.

Pain in the Belly

People experiencing chronic abdominal pain or discomfort accompanied by a change in bowel movements might have a medical condition known as Irritable Bowel Syndrome or IBS.

The Department of Internal Medicine, Division of Gastroenterology is looking for men and women with IBS to participate in a clinical research study of an investigational medication for the treatment of the abdominal pain or discomfort associated with IBS. To qualify:

- * A person must be between the ages of 18 and 80 years
- * Diagnosed or have been diagnosed with IBS as a result of having at least 6 months, not necessarily consecutive, in the preceding 12 months of recurrent symptoms of abdominal discomfort or pain
- * Experiencing at least moderate abdominal pain or discomfort
- * Have undergone a flexible sigmoidoscopy or colonoscopy with normal results in the past three years, or are willing to undergo these procedures.

All participants in this study will receive study medication, office visits, and study-related medical procedures at no cost.

For more information, please contact Nancy Casner or Yvette Quezada-Gomez at 545-6514.

FDA Warning on Serious Foodborne E.coli Outbreak One Death and Multiple Hospitalizations in Several States

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is issuing an alert to consumers about an outbreak of E. coli O157:H7 in multiple states that may be associated with the consumption of produce. To date, preliminary epidemiological evidence suggests that bagged fresh spinach may be a possible cause of this outbreak.

Based on the current information, FDA advises that consumers not eat bagged fresh spinach at this time. Individuals who believe they may have experienced symptoms of illness after consuming bagged spinach are urged to contact their health care provider.

“Given the severity of this illness and the seriousness of the outbreak, FDA believes that a warning to consumers is needed. We are working closely with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and state and local agencies to determine the cause and scope of the problem,” said Dr. Robert Brackett, Director of the FDA’s Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (CFSAN).

E. coli O157:H7 causes diarrhea, often with bloody stools. Although most healthy adults can recover completely within a week, some people can develop a form of kidney failure called Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome (HUS). HUS is most likely to occur in young children and the elderly. The condition can lead to serious kidney damage and even death. To date, 50 cases of illness have been reported to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, including eight cases of HUS and one death. At this time, the investigation is ongoing and states that have reported illnesses to date include: Connecticut, Idaho, Indiana, Michigan, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah and Wisconsin.

Thumbs Up

A “thumbs up” to Rosaline Serafin, Department of OB/GYN, from the staff of the University Breast Care Center (UBCC). “Rosaline took time to help out at the Breast Cancer Awareness Kick-off Event held last Friday on campus. It was very inspiring for patients to hear that Rosaline is a 20-year survivor,” said Yolie Torres, Assistant Director of the UBCC.

Approximately 250 people visited the kick-off event, said Torres.