



# Scoop

April 26, 2002

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS MEDICAL SCHOOL AT HOUSTON

## Events to Know

### April

**26 Today. UT-Pathology Research Seminar. Dr. Britt-Marie Ljung,** "Fine Needle Aspiration: How Does it Fit in Current Breast Care," noon, MSB 2.024.

**28 March of Dimes WalkAmerica.** For information, call 713-500-3048.

**29 Biochemistry & Molecular Biology Seminar Series, Dr. Paul D. Gershon,** "Polymerase Aerobics," noon, MSB 2.135.

### May

**23 Annual Faculty Meeting,** 11:45 a.m., MSB 3.001.

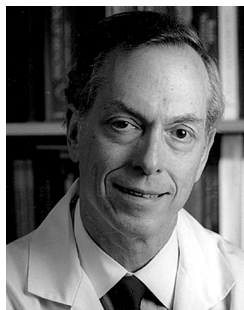
**FYI - Beginning Monday April 29,** 7 a.m. - 2 p.m., the Regal Chef will be open for breakfast and lunch, located at the top of the loading dock, behind the John Freeman Building.



## UTMost Interest

**Dean Max Buja** and his wife **Donna** recently presented "Responding to Disasters of Natural and Human Origins" at the Association of American Medical Colleges Council of Dean's meeting in Savannah, Ga....**Dr. Buja** also recently presented "Changes and Opportunities: Changes in Medical Education and Research" at the Memorial Hermann Annual Board Retreat in Austin...**Dr. Kimberly Napoli**, assistant dean of Admissions and associate professor of Surgery, spoke at an Advances in the Study of Therapeutic Drugs and Toxicology meeting, in Santiago, Chile...**Dr. Michael Mauk**, Neurobiology and Anatomy, published "Inhibition of Climbing Fibres is a Signal for the Extinction of Conditioned Eyelid Responses" (*Nature*, March 21 issue)...**Dr. Agnes Schonbrunn**, Integrative Biology and Pharmacology, has been appointed chair of the publications committee for The Endocrine Society.

## NEUROSCIENCE LECTURER, DR. SNYDER, ON CAMPUS MAY 2



**Dr. Solomon Snyder**

**Dr. Solomon Snyder** will address "Novel Neural Messengers" at the Distinguished Lecture in the Neurosciences, Thursday, **May 2**, 4 p.m., MSB 3.001. Dr. Snyder is director of the Department of Neuroscience and is the Distinguished Service Professor of Neuroscience, Pharmacology and Psychiatry at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. He is internationally recognized for his research on the biochemistry of nervous system signal transmission.

Dr. Snyder has published more than 1,000 journal articles and book chapters and has accrued numerous awards, including the Albert Lasker Basic Medical Research Award for his work on opiate receptors, the molecular targets for heroin activity in the brain. His research has led him to study the molecular basis of psychiatric disorders, and he has made significant contributions to understanding how heroin, LSD, marijuana, and other drugs affect the brain. Recently his work has focused on D-serine and nitric oxide as neurotransmitters and novel intracellular second messengers, the immunophilins.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR UT-HOUSTON HEALTH FAIR

UT-Houston faculty, staff, and students are invited to volunteer their time and talent for an innovative health fair 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., Saturday, **May 18**, at the Third Ward Multi-Service Center, 3611 Ennis. The event is sponsored by UT-Houston along with **State Senator Rodney Ellis** and **Houston City Councilwoman Carol Alvarado**. Volunteer opportunities include:

- ◆ Set up and host an information booth on a specific health program or area of expertise. Call **Liz Gettings**, Office of the President, 713-500-3015, or e-mail <Elizabeth.A.Gettings@uth.tmc.edu>.
- ◆ Present a 15-minute lecture for laypersons on a specific health topic. Call **Liliana Rodriguez**, Office of Community and Educational Outreach, 713-500-3289, or e-mail <Liliana.F.Rodriguez@uth.tmc.edu>.
- ◆ Assist with providing blood pressure or glucose screenings. Call **Dr. Joe Bedford**, Department of Family Practice and Community Medicine, 713-500-7580, or e-mail <Joe.A.Bedford@uth.tmc.edu>.

Volunteers need to call the specified contacts promptly to assure that space and time are available for a booth, talk, or help.

## WEDNESDAY WALKERS SHAPE UP

Bring your water bottle, put on your walking shoes, and meet with like-minded souls at noon each Wednesday in front of the Institute of Religion gazebo for a 1.5 mile walk. A grassroots group, "Shape Up Houston," formed to combat Houston's "fattest city" label. For more information e-mail <Jeanne.B.Martin@uth.tmc.edu> or call 713-500-9347.



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India booth participants at the recent April 5 International Festival Day, (l. to r.), Shailendra Mundhada, Joye Purser, and Sridhar Rajappan.

**EVENTS CELEBRATED AROUND** the Medical Center recently included International Festival Day April 5, and to commemorate UT-Houston's 30th anniversary, the Office of Equal Opportunity and Diversity hosted Diversity Week, April 15-19, built on the theme "Building Bridges, Breaking Barriers: From Traditions to Transformations." The program featured a lecture series, art, dance, and music each day.



During Diversity Week, April 16, Christina Koutsoudas (foreground) taught a Middle Eastern dance to audience volunteers in the Fifth Floor Gallery.



Also during Diversity Week, April 18, Lucia Rodriguez, (background), and her group perform on Hispanic/Spanish / American Culture Day.

## ATTA GIRL, LYNNE!



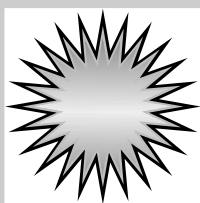
Lynne Fife

Lynne Fife, Management Information Services, and 27 other Health Science Center bicyclists participated in the Multiple Sclerosis 150 Bike Ride to Austin April 20 and 21. **Charlie Figari**, Auxillary Enterprises, sponsored the UT team, **John Porretto**, Office of the Executive Vice President, initiated the team, **Corey Jefferson**, Auxillary Enterprises, organized the UT-H participants, and **Shelly Comer**, Facilities Planning & Development, served as team captain.

Back from the trip, Lynne said, "The ride was good, though the temperatures, humidity, sun, and wind took their toll!" Organizers estimated that 9,500 people participated in the trip to Austin, raising \$5M this year through pledges, for the Multiple Sclerosis Society.

The UT-H group plans to have a team again next year.

## APRIL EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH - ROY PRICHARD



Although he isn't often asked at work to sing "Lida Rose" or "Colors of the Wind," **Roy Prichard**, our April Employee of the Month, can definitely carry a tune. Not only has Roy been a graphic designer in Graphic Communications with UT-Houston for five years, he also has been a tenor barbershop quartet singer for the last 11 years and a very active member of the second oldest musical group in the city of Houston, *The Houston Tidelanders*. Last year Roy was named "Barbershopper of the Year"—a distinction he's won four times since joining the group 20 years ago. As interim director last year, he also led the 90-member strong group to victory in a chorus championship in Little Rock, Ark.

From Pasadena, Texas, Roy went into the newspaper business, working on *The Pasadena Citizen*, a daily, right after high school. Majoring in art and minoring in music at the University of Houston, he graduated with a degree in fine arts and a major in graphic design. Before coming to UT-Houston, Roy worked as a graphic designer for 10 years at St. Joseph's Hospital. Roy is known for giving an extra effort and managing to pipe in his good humor, with no visible signs of stress, even in the midst of pressing deadlines. A colleague commented, "He makes us all look good through his professional and creative designs."

Roy said his biggest challenge and delight at work is finding just the right connection between the words given to him and the picture or image he will create to exactly fit the meaning. Take M. D. Anderson's 'Making Cancer History.' "It has a double meaning, and although it's only three little words, it says so much," he said. And by the way, just in case you're interested in hiring Roy's barbershop group "At Ease," Roy, who's preparing for an international contest in Portland in July, said "We'll sing any song that's harmonic."



Roy Prichard