

## Events to Know

### December

**25-26 Medical School closed for Holidays**

**27-29 Skeleton Days**

### January

**1 Medical School closed for New Year Holiday**

**12 Scoop resumes** (no issue Dec. 29 or Jan. 5)

**12-13 The Science and Strategy of Biopreparedness Symposium.** Marriott Houston Medical Center. Info: [www.5StarMedEd.org/bio](http://www.5StarMedEd.org/bio). Co-sponsored by the School of Public Health.

**15 Bridging, Just Missed, NIH K Award Supplement Deadline.** Info: Kimberly.J.Campbell@uth.tmc.edu.

**17 CRU 101 Session.** 3 p.m. MSB 1.006. Info: 713.704.1722.

**22 MSRDP Board annual meeting.** 4-6 p.m. MSB 2.103. All clinical faculty invited.

## UTMost Interest

At the recent 44th Annual Meeting of Infectious Diseases Society of America (IDSA) in Toronto, **Dr. Barbara E. Murray**, professor and director of Infectious Diseases and co-director for the Center for the Study of Emerging and Re-Emerging Pathogens, was presented The Editors' Award for an article that "illustrates the highest ideals of IDSA." The article leading to the award, "Destroying the Life and Career of a Valued Physician-Scientist Who Tried to Protect Us from Plague: Was It Really Necessary?" was published in 2005. Murray also presented two invited symposium lectures at the meeting and was re-elected to a second three-year term as secretary-treasurer of the Society.

## Dean's Holiday Message



**Dr. Wolinsky**

*The Holiday season is a time of rejoicing, the exchange of gifts, and a measure of the promise of things to come.*

*There has been much to rejoice over this past last year; individual recognition for the research spearheaded by our basic science and clinical faculty in the form of multiple new and renewed contracts and grants during an increasingly difficult time of constrained federal resources, individual recognition for both exceptionally promising novel thinking as well as prior pioneering concepts put to practice on a world scale, major team wins like the NIH-funded Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences, and the opening and routine use of the Surgical and Clinical Skills Center. Similarly, we have or are about to open hard earned gifts from our fellow Texans and many friends; the Institute for Molecular Medicine, the Research Replacement Building, and further on the horizon, the new Dental School, Stem Cell Center and Neuroscience Institute, marked expansion nearing completion at Memorial Hermann Hospital and long awaited additions in final planning by our other partner in the Harris County Hospital District at LBJ – some integrally part of the Medical School, but all a part of what we are about – providing the best functional laboratory possible in which to incubate the caretakers of the future. One can only look to the future with much hope and expectation. This has been a year of outstanding successes and much promise.*

*This medical school has come a long way, and I thank each and every one of you for the part you play in making that happen. Building a great medical school is not simply about structure – it is about its people, about shared visions, about enduring commitments, about unfaltering efforts, about endless compassion and understanding. To be successful we all must do our best to assure that we contribute our best every day in every way. Most of what we individually do never appears in Scoop, on the Web site, or in the news, but cumulatively they contribute to each more visible marker of success – steps can never be achieved alone.*

*I thank you for each and every success story that you helped to happen in 2006 as we look forward to an even more academically prosperous New Year.*

*Happy holidays and best wishes for 2007.*



## Martinez wins employee of quarter, year

Since being hired at the Medical School in 2002, **Sara Martinez** has been an asset – taking on increasingly more responsibility with ease and not complaining one bit. This attitude has won her the titles of Employee of the Quarter and Employee of the Year, as announced by interim **Dean Jerry Wolinsky** at the annual cookie reception Dec. 14.

As the recipient of these awards, Martinez received not only two administrative days off (one for each award), but \$500 as employee of the year and \$250 as employee of the quarter – thanks to the new reward structure announced by Wolinsky last week. In addition, Martinez received an engraved crystal award, a plaque, and a portrait.

In her position as executive assistant to **Jeff Scott**, DMO of five departments, Martinez works in the departments of Neurosurgery, Orthopaedic Surgery, Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation,

*(Cont'd. on back)*



**Sara Martinez**



## First CRU 101 session set for January

The Clinical Research Unit (CRU) will hold its first of a series of CRU 101 sessions at 3 p.m., Wednesday, Jan. 17 in MSB 1.006. Formerly the University Clinical Research Center (UCRC), the CRU is one of the components of the recently formed Center for Clinical & Translational Sciences (CCTS), funded as the Clinical & Translational Sciences Award (CTSA) by the National Institutes of Health. The purpose of the sessions will be to acquaint investigators and study coordinators with the services available to support clinical research in the CRU at Memorial Hermann Hospital and in Valley Baptist Regional Hospital in Brownsville, Texas. For more information, contact **Ruby Benjamin-Garner** at 713.704.1722.

## Burn-out, eat up



**Lauren LaRoche and her mom, Lennis Richardson wish Medical School students good luck during a burn-out dinner during the week of finals. Lots of goodies were baked by the parents to give the students some extra energy during test time, and parents donned new aprons designed by Leslie Holland, of Institutional Advancement.**



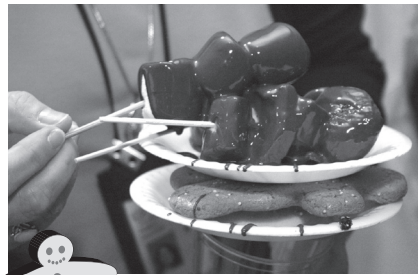
## Preventive cardiology forum set for Feb. 3

The University of Texas Medical School, Division of Cardiology will host the Preventive Cardiology Forum XVII: Prevention of Acute Coronary Syndromes and Stroke Feb. 3 in MSB 3.001. Faculty, staff, students, and the public are invited to attend this free daylong event.

Medical School speakers include **Dr. L. Maximilian Buja, Dr. James Grotta, Mary Vooletich, Dr. H. Vernon Anderson, and Dr. Francisco Fuentes.**

For more information and to register, please visit: [http://www.utmc.net/Registration/Event\\_Snapshot.asp?EventID=884](http://www.utmc.net/Registration/Event_Snapshot.asp?EventID=884) and click on "BROCHURE" to print/fax the attached flyer to 713.500.6556 or e-mail [ms.pcfreg@uth.tmc.edu](mailto:ms.pcfreg@uth.tmc.edu).

Continuing education credits may be granted to physicians (4.5 credits) and nurses (4.5 contact hours).



## Cookies for all

**Chocolate fountains, towers of sweets, and tunes by the Raider Chorus provided the festive environment of the Annual Dean's Cookie Reception.**



## Bridging, Just Missed, Supplement applications due

Requests for interim grant assistance must be received by Jan. 15, 2007. The Just Missed Grant provides support to full-time Medical School faculty with new NIH grants who place in the top 25th percentile but have not received funding. The Bridging Grant provides support to full-time Medical School faculty seeking to renew grant applications that have not been funded within the past nine months by an extramural agency and have received a competitive ranking (e.g., 25th percentile). The NIH K-Award Supplement is offered to full-time clinical investigators who are recipients of new (Year 01) or (Year 02) NIH type career development awards.

Send your requests electronically to [Kimberly.J.Campbell@uth.tmc.edu](mailto:Kimberly.J.Campbell@uth.tmc.edu). For further information and/or a copy of the guidelines, please contact the Research Committee at 713.500.5605.

## *Martinez, cont'd.*

Otolaryngology, and Cardiothoracic and Vascular Surgery, and continues to add to her job duties.

"The thing that impresses me is the fact that she not only takes on these additional responsibilities, but she does them very well," wrote her nominator. "She very rarely misses work and will stay late or come in on a Saturday, if she has something she needs to complete. She initiates this on her own. She goes far beyond the call of duty."

Martinez said she was not expecting the awards.

"I was very, very surprised and honored to receive both of the awards in one week," Martinez said. "I was just happy to be nominated."

She said she loves the diversity of her job. "I get the opportunity to learn so much and work with so many departments. I'm happy to help other people, having a variety of duties, and getting a chance to grow here," she said. "I want to thank my director, Jeff Scott, for the opportunity he has given me. Working for him has helped me learn and grow so much here. He, as well as my co-workers, have made it enjoyable."

Martinez has a four-year-old son, Isiah Jon, whom she described as her "biggest and greatest joy who keeps me going every day."

"I had no idea about the money, which will come in handy with my son for Christmas, but he was most excited about the congratulations balloons," she said.