Forty Forward

The School of Medicine celebrates 40 years of graduating physicians and honored community medical educators at their 40th Anniversary celebration dinner. Steven Berk, M.D., dean of the School of Medicine, said it is a privilege to recognize those who continue to promote the medical profession. The following community physicians were honored as outstanding community medical educators:

- Mark McClanahan, M.D., Department of Family and Community Medicine, Plainview, TX; Private practice.
- Bryan Smitherman, M.D., Department of Orthopaedic Surgery; Center for Orthopaedic Surgery.
- Doug Klepper, M.D., Department of Pediatrics; Pediatric Associates of Lubbock.
- John Cobb, M.D., Department of Psychiatry; private practice.
- Mark Gallardo, M.D., Department of Ophthalmology, El Paso, TX; El Paso Eye Surgeons.

Medical Champion

The American Red Cross South Plains Regional Chapter recently honored several life savers of the South Plains during their 2nd Annual Champions Breakfast. TTUHSC Clinical Faculty Assistant Professor, John Thomas, M.D. received the 2009 Medical Champion award for Operation Hope. Dr. Thomas, a Lubbock surgeon, founded Operation Hope in 1999, a missionary organization that assists impoverished people in Africa and other countries. Operation Hope provided 40,000 servings of food last winter and his team of volunteers performed surgeries and delivered babies.

www.operationhopeusa.org

Lubbock Eye Clinic turns 10

Dr. Peter Ho’s ‘vision’ to serve patients in West Texas and the surrounding communities led to the establishment of The Lubbock Eye Clinic and Optical Center now in its 10th year. The clinic recently hosted a reception to celebrate their 10th year anniversary and the additions of Dr. B.N. Le and Dr. Krishan Patel as well as the expansion of their new facility, The Lubbock Vision Center on Slide Rd. Adjacent to the clinic is a conference center used to host events and seminars.

www.lubbockeyeclinic.com Dr. Ho serves as a preceptor and clinical assistant professor.
Save the Date

- **October 6** - Pinktober
  www.facebook.com/pinktoberlubbock
- **October 10** - LCGCMS Fall CME Medical Surgical Symposium. Knippling Education Center. 785.7917.
- **October 27** - Psychiatry Grand Rounds, 1:00—2:00p.m. ACB 110. “Recognizing the Signs of Stress and Fatigue in the Medical Profession” by Alan Korinek, Ph.D. CME credit offered.
- **November 6-11** AAMC annual conference, Boston, MA http://www.aamc.org

Clinical Faculty Snapshot

A native of Nebraska, Scott Dahlbeck, M.D., Pharm.D., calls Lubbock home. Dr. Dahlbeck is medical director of Prostate Health and is part of the oncology team at Lubbock Cancer Center and a partner at Radiation Oncology Associates. Medical interests include high-dose-rate (HDR) brachytherapy (prostate) and intensity modulated radiation therapy (IMRT). Dr. Dahlbeck completed medical school at the University of Texas Health Sciences Center in Houston and finished a radiation oncology residency at Kaiser Permanente in California. Dr. Dahlbeck is a clinical assistant professor. For more information visit: http://www.lubbockprostate.com

Lubbock IMPACT

A partnership between TTUHSC School of Medicine, Lubbock Impact, Inc., and Lubbock Ambulance opened a free clinic in the Family Church Building at 2707 34th Street. Several community physicians have volunteered their services to work with the medical student run clinic. Ryan Ballard, director of Lubbock IMPACT clinic says they are always in need of volunteers. You can help by contacting Ryan at krsdad33@yahoo.com or visit http://www.lubbockimpact.com.

Community lectures

Dr. Ralph Paone with Lubbock Heart Surgery recently spoke on “Minimal Invasive Cardiac Ablation” at the Seniors Are Special monthly meeting at University Medical Center. Dr. Paone discussed surgical treatment for Atrial Fibrillation, a procedure offered at the Southwest Arrhythmia Center. Dr. Paone serves as a clinical assistant professor in the department of Surgery. http://lubbockheartscurgery.net.

Burkhart Center for Autism

The Burkhart Center for Autism is the proud recipient of the Caprock Foundation Gala Latina grant for 2009. Local physicians Athos Colon, Bachar Al-Alami, and Jorge Brothers along with other volunteers host the annual fund raising event that provides funds to benefit local charity organizations. www.educ.ttu.edu/edsp/burkhartproject.

Urologic Robotic Surgery

Dr. Girish C. Vallabhan completed a one year fellowship in Urologic Robotic Surgery at the Vattikutti Urology Institute at Henry Ford’s Health System in Detroit, Michigan. Dr. Vallabhan is Board Certified in Urology, is a member of AMA, TMA, the American Urological Association, the Texas Urological Society and is a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons. Dr. Vallabhan received the 2008 Best of Lubbock Physician Award and is a partner at Lubbock Urology Clinic, L.L.P., www.lubbockurology.com.