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TCMA Vital Signs Oct. 24, 2022

To Deneitra Hutchison <denny@wadealliance.com>

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TCMA Vital Signs October 24, 2022

UPCOMING EVENTS:

October 24 - Early Voting Begins

October 26 - Book Group

November 4 - Election Day

November 13 - Alliance Arts

November 19 - Book Group

November 30 - Book Group

December 9 - Holiday Luncheon

A Letter from the President

I don't think I ever realized how busy the fall season is for Travis County Medical Alliance. We are able to accomplish so much because we have incredible volunteers who are working on many different projects simultaneously while I'm trying to stay up to speed and support their efforts!

Last week's general meeting at Lirios Pediatrics was a great example. It was so nice to catch up with everyone over lunch; get updates on all that is going on in our Alliance; and especially to see and learn about Lirios Pediatrics—which was selected as one of our 2023 grant recipients. As VP of Programs, Treva Horwitz planned a fantastic meeting at the clinic, while VP Community Service Elaine Agatston made sure we provided them with bicycle helmets through our Hard Hats for Little Heads program.

Our short business meeting was full of announcements from board members and committee chairs including the annual fund drive letter mailing; a membership drive update; Saint Louise House meal prep and apartment set up; enrichment group events; the Party with a Purpose committee formation; the Nominating Committee upcoming meeting; details and ticket information for Toast to Doctors; the Annual Holiday Luncheon and more!

Toast to Doctors on Sunday afternoon was another illustration of the quality of our volunteer members. A huge thanks to Lori Benold for planning a really fun, relaxing event where we had a chance to celebrate the important work of the physicians in our community.

Finally, our next general membership gathering will be our Annual Holiday Luncheon on December 9 at Tarry House. Carrie Conner is chairing the event, and we are anticipating a great turnout. See you there!



Alliance Arts

Austin Opera's Season Opener:

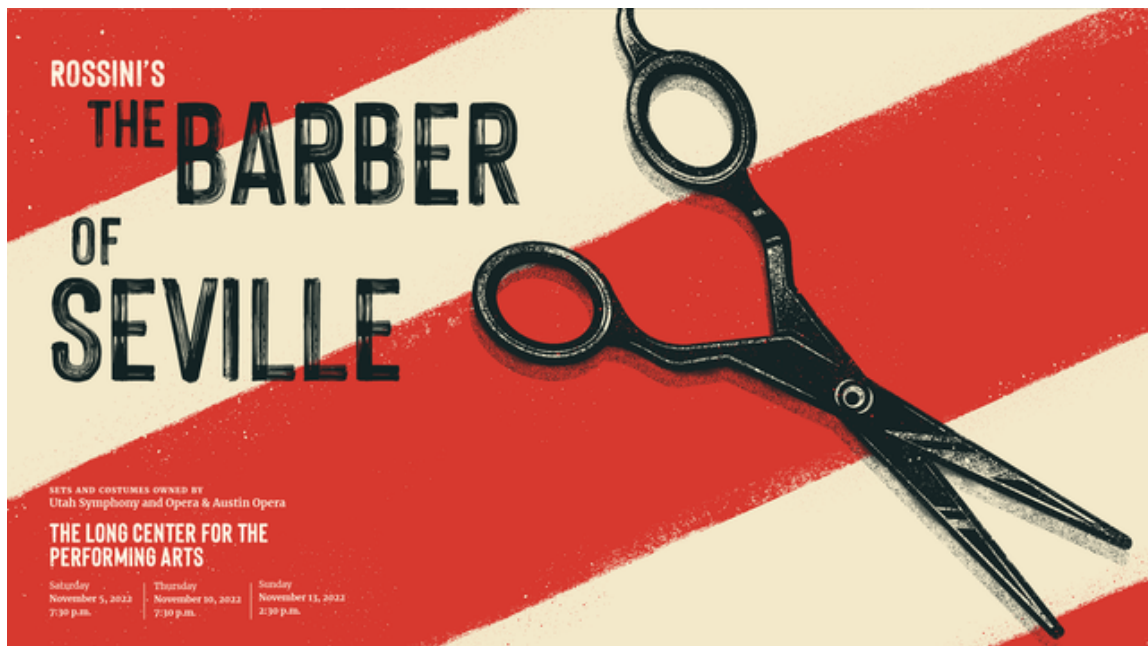
The Barber of Seville

November 13

2:30pm, Sunday Matinée

Long Center

Lunch planned before opera. If interested, contact
Susanne Tetzlaff by October 27 deadline at
512-789-4424.



TCMAF Fund Drive 2022 is underway!

Annual fund drive letters were sent out last week so be sure to watch your mail! All funds help the TCMA Foundation fulfill its mission of improving the health of Central Texans through philanthropic projects and community service grants. This year's worthy grant recipients are:

- **Lirios Pediatrics** - provides free comprehensive primary healthcare to uninsured children.
- **Hope Clinic** - provides primary care to uninsured and under-insured residents, with special focus on the needs of resettled refugees.
- **Austin State Hospital Volunteer Services Council** - improves the quality of life of patients at the Hospital through a variety of programs and special projects.
- **halfHelen** - provides vision screening, exams, and glasses to children from low-income families.
- **Memory Caregiver Academy of Austin** - trains high school students to be caregivers for elderly people with dementia, especially in low-income and under-served areas.
- **Volunteer Healthcare Clinic** - provides health care for the working poor and uninsured children.
- **St. Louise House** - provides housing and comprehensive services for women with children experiencing homelessness.
- **TCMS Physician Wellness Program** - promotes the professional and personal well being of TCMS physicians and their spouses through collegial support, educational resources, and confidential counseling services.

Thanks in advance for your support!

Beth O'Farrell, Annual Fund Drive Chair, bofarrell21@gmail.com

DONATE by mail

- OR -

DONATE HERE

TCMA donated 60 hard hats to 100BikesForKids, whose goal is to get kids on bikes, free of cost, while promoting the values of recycling, sustainability, and community. The helmets were distributed at this year's HopeFest at Northeast High School. Dr. Jeff Hutchinson volunteered as photographer.



Cares & Concerns

We all experience times in our lives when we could a little extra help. If you or a fellow TCMA member needs care after adopting a child or welcoming a new baby; recovering from an illness or surgery; or are grieving the loss of a loved one, please contact Vickie Blumhagen (vickieblumhagen@gmail.com).

We want to support our members!



Bring your costumed goblins to the "spirited"

TCMS Halloween Trunk-N-Treat event

Your family will walk to each decorated vehicle gathering Halloween treats

Date: Sunday, Oct. 30, 2022

Time: 3:00 - 5:00 pm

Place: Riverbend Church parking lot,
4214 N. Capitol of TX Hwy, Austin 78746



RSVP to Trunk-N-Treat

NO KIDS? NO WORRIES! We need more candy stations for the families.
If you would like to decorate your vehicle and hand out candy to the kids,
please email [Leanne DuPay](#).



Get Involved! Join a TCMS Committee



Ready to expand your circle of colleagues, enhance your CV, and keep the Travis County medical community safe and healthy? Sign up for a 2023 TCMS committee. Committees for Public Health, Medical Legislation, Physician Wellness, The TMA Delegation and more are open for consideration.

Committee Interest Form





TEXPAC GIVES PHYSICIANS A VOICE AT THE CROWDED TABLE OF POLITICS

On November 8th, Texas voters will elect local, state and national leaders who will determine the future of medicine in Texas. The stakes are extremely high, and there are several high profile advocacy groups with professional lobbyists working in opposition to the best interests of local physician practices, the medical profession, and Texas patients.

TEXPAC stands up for the party of medicine - your practice, your profession, and your patients - by helping elect medicine-friendly candidates. Join other passionate TEXPAC members in our grassroots efforts to educate physicians and medical advocates to support and elect bipartisan candidates that serve as our VOICE AT THE CAPITOL. Knowledge is power. By becoming a member of TEXPAC you will receive timely information on the critical issues facing medicine today. Learn more about how TEXPAC serves the party of medicine at [Advocacy](#).

You can become a TEXPAC Alliance member by 1) checking the TEXPAC box and paying your membership fee as part of your annual TMAA/TCMA membership renewal, or 2) join now at TEXPAC [Membership](#).

"In politics, you're either at the table or on the menu, and TEXPAC ensures Texas physicians are at the table to protect the practice of medicine and enable us to do what we have been trained to do - care of our patients." ~ Jimmy Widmer MD, TEXPAC Chair

Advocacy - https://www.texpac.org/tmainis/Texpac/Membership/Get_Involved/Texpac/About/Get_Involved.aspx

Membership - https://www.texpac.org/tmainis/Texpac/Membership/TEXPAC_Alliance/Texpac/Membership/TEXPAC_Alliance.aspx





Volunteer with half Helen

half Helen believes that clear eyesight is a basic human right. Their mission is to ensure every child and adult has the opportunity to see the world clearly.

Glasses Dispensing Prep

(Flexible, M-F 9am - 4pm, half Helen Main Office 7801 N Lamar Blvd F34, 78752)

Log glasses received at the half Helen office; prepare student dispensing lists and wearing instructions; text adult patients to let them know their glasses are ready; help dispense and fit glasses for adult patients picking up at the office.

(Bilingual-Spanish helpful.)

Glasses Day for Children

(October - April, M-F, 8-2 by appointment, Good for Individuals and Small Groups)

Help dispense glasses to children at their school during the school day. Volunteers check-in children; fit glasses for comfort; and provide wear/care instructions to children.

Contact meghan@halfhelen.org to volunteer



Save the Date

Friday, December 9
TCMA Holiday Luncheon
Tarry House
Supporting BookSpring



Book Group Schedule

October 26 - *The Boys from Brazil* by Ira Levin
November 19 - *The Girl in His Shadow* by Audrey Blake
November 30 - Annual pot-luck luncheon

To join the book group and receive emails with locations,
contact Peggy Russell at pjmrtexas@gmail.com



2023 Membership Campaign

The 2023 Membership Renewal Campaign has begun. A September 20 email was sent with your personalized auto-login information. Just click the link in the email and it will take you directly to your TMAA account to renew your dues. (Note: Please do not forward this email to colleagues – it is personalized to your account.)

Alliance members now have three ways to renew memberships:

1. Go online to www.texmedalliance.org. (Click on the blue “Renew” button in the upper-right corner if you’re a current member.)
2. Call the TMA Knowledge Center at (800) 880-7955 with credit card information.
3. Mail an application form or paper statement with a check to TMA Alliance, 401 W. 15th Street, Austin, TX 78701.

Please note the dates below:

Nov. 2: Auto-renewal (if the initial charge failed)

Nov. 29: Renewal email reminder

Dec. 13: Second mailed invoice

Jan. 17: Email reminder (first statement for physicians)

Feb. 21: Final email reminder

Feb. 28: Final mailed invoice

Mar. 31: Drop date

New Renewal Incentive! During membership renewals this year you will have an option to check Auto renewal. If you enroll in membership auto renewal you will be added to a drawing for a special Kendra Scott necklace and earring set. You **MUST** be in attendance for the Holiday Luncheon on December 9, 2022 at the Tarry House to win.



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