

Editor: Henny van Dijk

www.uthro.org

May, 2022

Cinco de Mayo Luncheon



We just received notice that we have a reservation for OCB Rio Grande room for Thursday May 5th, 2022 from 10am to 2pm for our Cinco de Mayo lunch.

Plan to join us on that day as we celebrate Cinco de Mayo, the date in 1862 when a ragtag small Mexican army (2000 men) defeated the mighty French forces (6000 strong) in the battle of Puebla.

Of course having a good time means enjoying each other's company while enjoying good food, so bring your favorite Tex-Mex dish. UTHRO will serve the tacos. We plan on providing meat, tortillas, basic fixings (lettuce, cheese, onion, jalapeño etc) but please bring a side dish such as tamales, rice, beans, salsa, guacamole and desserts (and maybe chips for those who don't want to cook).

Members attending need to let Gill Rittman know by Saturday April 30th. Parking validations for the OCB lot will be available.



And while we enjoy the food we thought it would be fun to play Loteria or Mexican Bingo, not for money mind you, but just for fun and some of you might get lucky and win a small prize. And for those who never played the game, think of it as Bingo with pictures instead of numbers. To start the game, the caller selects a card from the deck and announces it to the players by its name. The players with a matching image on their board mark it off with a chip. The first player with four chips in a horizontal, vertical or diagonal row, or fills the *tabla* first shouts "Lotería!" and is the winner.

RSVP by Sat. April 30 so we have an idea of how many tacos we need and what dish you plan to bring.

RSVP to: Barry Rittman at uthro@uth.tmc.edu

OR

Gillian Rittman at uthro@uth.tmc.edu

Retirement – Highly Recommended

My career with UTHealth started in March of 1979 and I was privileged to retire in 2011. I took a couple of months off work and joined UTHRO. My former boss quickly asked me to come back to work part-time to assist with his research, finances and regulatory submissions. He sweetened the deal by offering to let me work from home. I could not resist and went back to work. It was terrific to be able to set my own hours, and it allowed me the time to become active in UTHRO and indulge in my passion for travel. I continued to work part-time until 2019. At that time, I was ready for full-time retirement!

I often tell friends that are considering retirement that it is a stage of life that I fully treasure. However, it is equally important to stay active. Often it is the simple pleasures of retirement that I enjoy the most. One being time. I thoroughly enjoy starting each day with a steeped pot of hot tea and lingering over the Houston Chronicle. I read the paper cover to cover and work the crossword puzzle each day. Most days I can even finish the crossword puzzle! Since retirement it has been my pleasure to serve as UTHRO's Treasurer, President and now Vice President. I also serve as UTHRO's representative on UTHealth's Consortium on Aging (COA) Executive Committee. Active involvement with UTHRO and the COA have kept me connected to UTHealth old friends and allowed me to make new ones. I thoroughly enjoy the many outings planned by our wonderful events committee, the annual Health Symposium, and our annual meeting. The establishment of the UTHRO Endowment is an accomplishment of which I am very proud to have been a part.



Travel has long been a passion of mine. Retirement has enabled me to indulge that passion. Whether it is short jaunts, or long trips, my suitcase is packed and I am ready to go! I have planned 3 European trips for UTHRO. In 2018 seventeen of us did the "Danube Waltz" from Budapest to Regensburg visiting the Christmas Markets along the Danube River. In 2021, twenty-two of us were off to France for a few days in Paris and

then a river cruise on the Seine to Normandy. Our third trip is scheduled for September 22, 2023 and we are headed to Portugal and Spain. You can follow our adventures on Facebook by joining UTHRO Travels. Better yet, go with us!

Retirement for me is a special stage of my life that has allowed me to grow in new ways and experience new and varied pleasures. I highly recommend it!

Barbara Kelly

TMC-3 starts to take shape...

On March 22, 2022 on a great day in H-town we celebrated the “topping out” of the TMC Collaborative Building, located in the mid-campus of the Texas Medical Center (the world’s largest). I’ve spent a lot of the last three years working with groups of financial, legal, and architectural professionals, helping to make this 250,000 g.s.f, \$186 million, multi-institutional (UT MD Anderson, Texas A&M, UTHealth and TMC) research building a reality. And after a very rainy and windy morning, the clouds parted and we had a beautiful, clear day for the ceremonial beam rising.

Note the traditional tree, placed just to the right of the American flag in the picture below.

The TMC3 CB is scheduled to open in late calendar 2023.

.Kevin Dillon

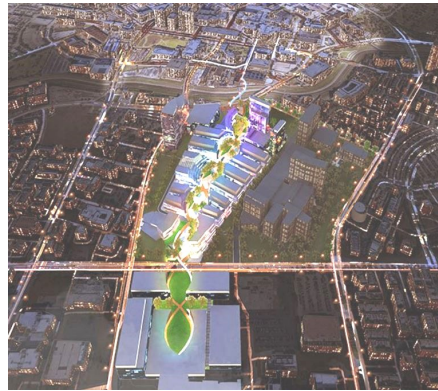
Founding institutions celebrate topping-out of the 250,000-square-foot building



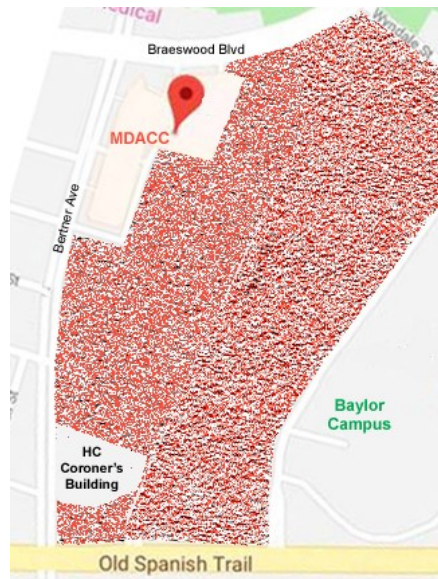
“The topping-out of the TMC³ Collaborative Building marks an integral milestone in the future of life science research and innovation and reflects an unprecedented commitment to collaboration among the four founding institutions,” said William McKeon, president and CEO of TMC. “The lifesaving research and technologies that will come out of this building will truly revolutionize healthcare.” Located at the heart of the TMC³ campus, the 250,000 square-foot building is designed to foster innovation and maximize collaboration among the founding institutions, as well as with academic, healthcare, and industry partners. A key feature of the building is a 43,000-square-foot research lab shared by MD Anderson, Texas A&M Health, and UT Health Houston comprised of both lab and office/co-working space. The environment is deliberately designed to facilitate the seamless exchange of life science ideas and advancements. “The TMC3 Collaborative Building will provide an outstanding opportunity for our faculty leaders to collaborate with our founding partners and industry leaders to turn discoveries into therapies and new approaches for treating diseases,” said Michael R. Blackburn, PhD, executive vice president and chief academic officer at UTHealth Houston.

Edited article from TMC.edu/news 2022

From the original article 06/2019



TMC3 founding institutions – Texas Medical Center (TMC), Baylor College of Medicine, Texas A&M University Health Science Center, The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (UTHealth) and The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center – announced that Elkus Manfredi Architects, Transwestern Development Company, and Vaughn Construction will serve as the architectural and development team for the 37-acre TMC3 translational research campus.



The area between Braeswood to the N. Bertner to the W. Harvin Blvd. to the E and OST to the S. will be transformed and bring together leading researchers and expertise from the private sector to create the number one biotechnology and bioscience innovation center in the entire world.

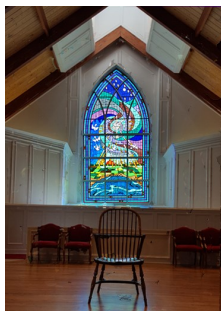
Elkus Manfredi Architects' David Manfredi added, “Our idea was to expand on the DNA design concept and create a series of spaces that would elongate the strand all the way north to the historic core of the Texas Medical Center and south to the new development by UTHealth and MD Anderson in order to create more opportunity for connections and collisions. We’re implementing the connective tissue between all these places and establishing opportunities for unplanned interactions. Science, technology, medicine, discovery and innovation are all about making connections, and we are building a space for institutions, industry and startups to interact.

We are creating a place where people will want to be, because they’re constantly stimulated – whether it’s breakfast at the local coffee shop, or a volleyball league in the afternoon, or working in a central lab and the person next to them is doing something that intersects with their own research.” A skybridge across OST will be constructed to connect the UT Research Park with the TMC3 Campus, so when TMC3 opens in 2022, Texas Medical Center will signal its arrival as the Third Coast for life sciences for the foreseeable future.

Brookwood Revisited...



The visit to the Brookwood Community Center was an eye-opening experience for me. The UTHRO group of some 26 members was greeted by two guides in the on-campus chapel who explained what the Center stood for, how it was run and its history. The most profound moment for me came when they explained about the “God Chair”, a single wooden chair on the dais symbolizing the presence of God in their midst and replicated in the individual housing units for their citizens as their charges are called. The Center occupies some 480 acres along Hwy 1489 in Brookshire and the developers did think about almost anything in terms of care for the adult disabled. One of the guides took the group on a tour of the facility, that beside housing also includes one building complex containing 5 separate functions – an indoor pool, a gym, an admin section, a cafeteria and health clinic. Before one gets to the main entrance, there is another group of two buildings, the Giftshop and the Café. However nothing stood out for me than that one single chair in the chapel and one story just grabbed me. After the tour we ended up in the Café and had some excellent luncheon, followed by a visit to the Gift shop featuring a huge array of products made by the citizens showing a variety and expertise of craftsmanship.

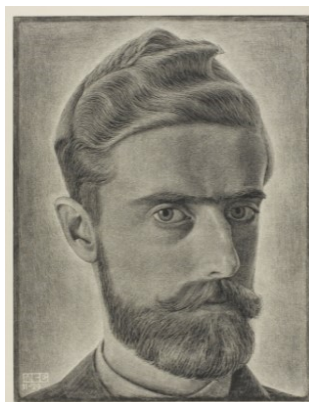


Now about that chair - the story is that one day one of the day citizens was waiting for the bus to take him home and he sat in “the chair”. His group leader said “you know where you are sitting don’t you” yes he said “but my day was pretty terrible and I needed to sit in God’s lap to comfort me.” To me that was so profound that nothing on that trip could top that.

Article and photos by Henny van Dijk



The Reality of MC Escher ...



The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston’s *Virtual Realities, The Art of MC Escher*, features more than 400 prints, drawings, watercolors, printed fabrics, constructed objects, wood and linoleum blocks, lithographic stones, sketchbooks, and the artist’s working tools—at the MFA through September 5th. Maurits Cornelis Escher (1898–1972), is known internationally for his self-described “mental images,”

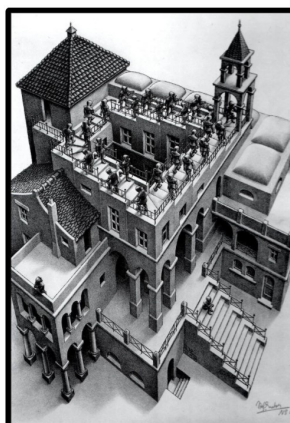
which connect to mathematics and various branches of science. Considered a “one-man art movement,” he remained outside of the art establishment. Escher was heralded in the psychedelic era of the 1960s and 1970s and is treasured today for his mind-bending works.



The artist’s singular, sometimes unsettling works, have become icons of the 20th century. Escher’s imagery evolved from realistic observations of the world to inventions from his imagination that explore the relationships between art and science, order and disorder, and logic and irrationality.

In his April 1961 column, Martin Gardner introduced U.S. audiences to Dutch artist M. C. Escher, a meticulous craftsman who took great delight in defying expectations and breaking rules.

He created mind-bending worlds where impossible things happen: Animals crawl out of the page, staircases rise to meet themselves and form infinite closed loops where one can climb forever, gravity pulls in multiple directions, and waterfalls cascade into the same pools that produced them.



It was a natural pairing: For all of his blatant disregard for convention and authority, Escher embraced the laws of

symmetry in geometry. In math-speak, “symmetry groups” refers to the collection of ways one can slide, reflect or rotate an object so that its final appearance is the same as its starting one. Escher often invoked translations, mirror reflections and repetition of forms. In Escher’s own words about his intricate designs and often playful works:

“You have to retain a sense of wonder; that’s what it’s all about.”

UTHRO

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To update your address or phone number
please contact us at 281-655-1983

And Now For Something Completely Different...

The following appeared in church bulletins
or were announced at church services.

Miss Charlene Mason sang: "I will not pass this way again", giving obvious pleasure to the congregation

Ladies don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of things not worth keeping .Bring your husbands

The church will host an evening of fine dining, super entertainment and gracious hostility

The ladies of the church have cast off clothing of every kind. They may be seen in the basement

Low Self-Esteem Support group will meet at 7 PM. Please use the back door

This being Easter Sunday, we will ask Mrs. Lewis to come forward and lay an egg on the altar.

Compiled by Max Bowen

UTHRO OFFICERS 2022

President Kathryn Bradley
Vice-Pres Barbara Kelly
Secretary Daun Gray
Treasurer Margaret Zambrano
Web Administrators Henny van Dijk, Pat Grealy & Glenn Schreyer

To protect our officers' personal information on our website, UTHRO has instituted a new general purpose email address: uthro@uth.tmc.edu. This is a "forwarding" email that will send copies to both the UTHRO president and Efren Pena who will then forward the email to the appropriate person. Including the recipient's name in your subject will be very helpful; e.g. Subject: For Barry, BBQ lunch. If UTHRO members already know the phone number or personal email address of an officer then by all means continue using that for your communication needs.

Newsletter Editor Henny van Dijk