**Health Briefs**

**Gospel concert benefits C4CR**

The Young at Heart Gospel Choir will perform a fundraising concert at 6 p.m. Sunday, March 27, at the New Mexico State University Atkinson Music Recital Hall. This group of singers has performed across the United States.

Tickets are $10 each, and all proceeds benefit Cowboys for Cancer Research, C4CR. Bob Nosbisch public writing collaborative cancer research being done at NMSU and the University of New Mexico Cancer Center.

For more information contact Bernadene Rudeen at 640-1425 or bernadene@nmsu.cs, or contact Geraldine Calhoun at 642-3969 or gcalhoun@nmsu.cs.

**MMC Cancer Center welcomes new doctor**

The Board of Associate Editors of the National Cancer Institute (NCI) Technology Award at the American Association of Health Education’s (SOPHE) mid-year conference in early May in Albuquerque. Kratzke supervised graduate student Elva Palmer and Andrew Vernon on this project.

Kratzke also worked with graduate students Aishu Kudura and Savannah Pierson on their abstract, “Diabetes and Diet: Evaluation of Online Health Materials for Older Adults and Implications for Health Education.” This abstract has been accepted for the mid-year SOPHE conference. Kudura also has accepted a summer research internship with the National Institutes of Health. National Cancer Institute.

These are just a few examples of the work of the profession- alism in the NMSU Department of Health Science as they continue to educate people about disease prevention and health promo- tions. Kittleton is fond of saying, “We ARE public health,” and there is no doubt that public health at NMSU is moving on up, thanks to these dedicated men and women, and also at the Spot to donate, call 523-6130.

**National Nutrition Month comes to Las Cruces**

National Nutrition Month officially came to Las Cruces via proclamation from Mayor Ken Miyagishima, naming the City Council meeting Monday, March 7.

The MMC Cancer Center is fully staffed with two full-time physicians, an oncology nurse practitioner, special- ly trained chemotherapy nurses, oncology pharmacists and a certified cancer registrar.

**Red Cross seeking local heroes**

The Southwestern New Mexico chapter of the American Red Cross is seeking nominations for local heroes that exemplify the Principles and Ideals of the American Red Cross humanitar- ian mission to provide relief to victims of war, and help people prevent or prepare for and respond to emergen- cies. Local heroes selected include individuals who have assisted others during emergency situations, as well as those who live their everyday lives as heroes by helping others in need. These brave individuals will be nomi- nated by the public and later selected by a panel of community leaders.

**Denver hosts blood drive**

Doña Ana County employees and the public will have the op- portunity to give blood from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Friday, March 18, in the rotunda of the Doña Ana County Government Center at 845 N. Motel Blvd. The blood drive is coordinated by Janine Dvivak. To schedule a time to donate, call 523-6130.

**Bright Star scholarship deadline nearing**

Dr. Brian Gilbert of Bright Star Dental will again grant the Bright Star Dental Health Care Scholarship to five Las Cruces graduating seniors.

The scholarship provides five $1,000 one-time awards to students planning a career in health care. The recipient will be named from each school: Mayfield, Oñate, Las Cruces High, Mesilla Valley Christian and home schooled.

Students who apply must write a 500- to 1,000-word essay that includes general information about the applicant (i.e. hobbies, interests, abilities, personal characteristics, etc.); what field in health care the applicant has chosen; why this particular area was chosen; what dreams and goals the appli- cant has for his/her health care care; and the applicant’s name, address, phone number and school affiliation.

Applications are due Thursday, March 31. For more information, call Lorena Ruiz at 526-4334, email brightstar@gmail.com. Complete scholarship requirements are online at www.brightstardental.blogspot.com.

**NMSU sorority raising funds for autism**

The Alpha Xi Delta chapter at New Mexico State University will host ‘Amaze, Challenge, Xi Marks the Spot’ at 10 a.m. Sunday, March 13, at the NMSU Intramural fields to raise autism awareness and funds in support of Autism Speaks, the nation’s leading autism advocacy organization and Alpha Xi Delta’s national philanthropic partner, Autism Speaks.

Xi Marks the Spot is a campus treasure hunt where each team will be required to complete 10 different tasks at stations set up across campus hosted by the NMSU Alpha Xi Delta chapter to raise autism awareness and funds in support of Autism Speaks, the nation’s leading autism advocacy organization and Alpha Xi Delta’s national philanthropic partner. Autism is the fastest growing developmental disorder, affecting 1 in 110 children born today. Despite the high prevalence and growing health care needs, most students are not supported. For a child with autism, autism research receives less than 5 percent of the re- search funding of other, less preva- lent, childhood diseases.