

Celebrating Doctors

National Doctors Day is celebrated each year on March 30. It is a day marked to recognize the work, dedication, skill and compassion our physicians embody. Lufkin and our surrounding areas are blessed to have so many physicians caring for our health in the many different specialties available here.

What comes to mind when you think of your physician? For me, it's commitment. These men and women have made a commitment. First, they made a commitment to their education. The schooling required to gain the skills and knowledge needed to care for the human body and mind is intense, to say the least. They sacrificed and put in countless hours of learning to care for others. And that learning never stops as they continue to stay updated on new procedures, new studies, new skills, new equipment, and the list goes on. They strive to do their best for us.

The sacrifice continues, as well. The profession of being a physician is not necessarily one with normal eight-to-five hours. They have given up time with family and friends, sleep, meals, kids' soccer games and dance recitals. The emergencies at 2 a.m. and the Sunday afternoon call outs are just a couple of examples of the craziness that is the schedule of a physician.

So....why do they do it? I believe they do it because they care. They want to help. They want to make a difference. They want to make things better. I am convinced these are at the heart of every physician. This is not an easy job. They did not take an easy road, but I hope they know how much they are appreciated. I hope they continue to care for us and I hope they motivate and encourage the next generation to continue in their legacy of compassionately caring for friends and neighbors here in deep East Texas.

We are fortunate to have these men and women and I acknowledge their contributions, sacrifices, skills and unwavering concern for our community. This article barely touches on the differences they make in our lives, but it is my way of saying, 'thank you.' I hope you make time to show your appreciation for your physician....not just on March 30, but every day.

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