

Piney Woods Perspective

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Piney Woods Area Health Education Center

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Medical Camp – Jasper, Texas

The devastation of Hurricane Rita will remain with east Texas residents for many years. Homes were damaged or destroyed, jobs lost, and financial resources strained to the breaking point. In the months since the hurricane, the East Texas Health Access Network (ETHAN) in Jasper has received hundreds of calls from county residents seeking assistance with health care and other related needs.

To help address the health care needs of those within our communities who are without the financial resources to obtain medical care, ETHAN and its community partners hosted a medical camp on Feb. 4, 2006, at Harvest Way Church, located at 1500 S. Wheeler, Jasper, Texas. The camp started at 8 a.m. and continued until the last person was seen.

Presently, there are 21,403 uninsured individuals in the counties served by ETHAN and an additional 17,282 who are under- insured through Medicare and Medicaid for many of their health care needs. This medical camp provided free medical, dental and other health-related screenings for children and adults residing in Jasper, Newton, Sabine, San Augustine, and Tyler counties who may not otherwise have access to such care. More than 500 east Texans visited the camp, while 465 received services.

The tremendous support for this camp came from local health care providers, the community and regional partners. All screenings and services provided were free. The major supporters for the medical camp came from various groups: the SAI Group of Dallas, Christus Jasper Memorial Hospital, First Bank and Trust of East Texas, First National Bank of Jasper, KJAS 107.3 FM, STAT Care EMS, and Wallace & Gwen Crossley of Jasper. Volunteers helped the medical camp run smoothly. There were 220 volunteers; 125 were brought in by the SAI group and included 20 doctors, four nurses, one physical therapist, and eight lab technicians. Local volunteers included



Volunteers escorted clients to various services in the camp.



Before the doors opened to medical camp attendees, the volunteers gathered for a group picture.

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New Area Substance Abuse Services

The Burke Center has enhanced its services to include outpatient substance abuse treatment throughout its service area. The Peavy Switch programs will be available in the following cities; Lufkin, Nacogdoches, Livingston, Woodville, Crockett, Jasper, and Buna. Services are available for adolescents and adults.

The adolescent outpatient program provides community-based treatment for adolescents, ages 13-17, experiencing problems because of alcohol and/or other drugs and alcohol and/or other drug dependence. The treatment allows the client to remain in the community, yet get help as needed. The adult outpatient program provides community-based treatment for adults, ages 18 and older, experiencing problems because of alcohol and/or other drugs and alcohol and/or other drug dependence. The program allows the client to remain in the community, continue work and family involvement while receiving the treatment and needed support.

Specialized services also are provided for adults with co-occurring psychiatric and substance abuse disorders. For more information, to make a referral, or to schedule appointments, contact Greg Valentine at (936) 874-4910.

Top 12 Reasons to Consider Outpatient Treatment over Inpatient Treatment

1. Less expensive than inpatient treatment
2. More accessible service with flexible hours
3. Participant stays at home with family

4. Participant continues work and/or school
5. Practice in dealing with problems in one's environment
6. Commitment to treatment is determined earlier
7. Education on relapse prevention and triggers involved
8. Program and community support group participation
9. Family involvement in recovery established
10. Realistic view of what it takes to maintain sobriety
11. More time for counselor involvement, up to six months
12. Promotes dealing with problem earlier, less devastation.



Primary Care Conference and Exhibition

The second annual 2006 Pri-Med Southwest Conference and Exhibition was held at the George R. Brown Convention Center in Houston on Jan. 26 - 28. The primary goal of the conference was to provide an extensive educational opportunity for primary care practitioners to help broaden their knowledge base as, well as cover a broad spectrum of current clinical concerns in primary care.

The core three-day program was developed and presented by nationally recognized faculty from Harvard Medical School and Baylor College of Medicine and offered more than 50 clinical lectures addressing challenges faced by primary care practitioners today. Also, Physicians Practice, a leading

practice management journal, presented practice management solutions to office support staff that attended.

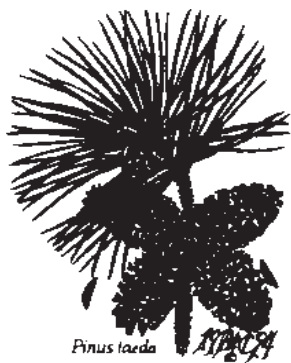
The 2007 Conference and Exhibition will be held Jan. 25-27 at the George R. Brown Convention Center in Houston.



New PWAHEC Staff!

In February, Evan Dolive began work at Piney Woods AHEC. Dolive received a Bachelor of Science degree from Stephen F. Austin State University in kinesiology with a minor in biology. Dolive serves as the assistant program coordinator for the practice entry and support and health careers promotion programs. Dolive brings with him experience from the SFASU housing department in customer service and publication design.

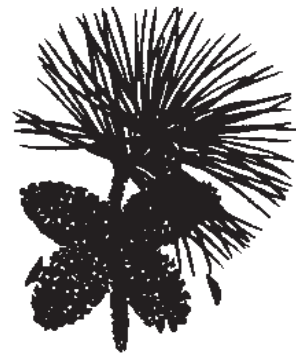
In practice entry and support, Dolive is working with the Alzheimer's Association to plan their annual conference, assisting with the Mission Possible conference, and the Nacogdoches Community Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) Taskforce to encourage schools in Nacogdoches County to implement school AED programs. In health careers promotion, Dolive will be working with the Summer Health Career Camp and upcoming convocations for students enrolling in health career professional programs. You can reach Dolive at (936) 468-6910 or edolive@pwahec.org.



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Continuing Education Opportunities



2/27 - 3/1

**National Rural Health Association's
Rural Health Policy Institute**
National Rural Health Association
Washington, D.C.
www.NRHArural.org

4/20

Traveling the Road of Alzheimer's
Alzheimer's Association - STAR Chapter
Nacogdoches, Texas
Contact: (936) 569-1325

5/21 - 5/24

**Conference on Public Health
and Disasters**
University of California, Los Angeles
Long Beach, Calif.
www.cphd.ucla.edu

3/10

**East Texas Geriatric
Education Center**
**Topics in Health and Aging:
Expanded Geri Syndrome - Falls**
Piney Woods AHEC
Nacogdoches, Texas
Contact: (936) 468-6941

4/21

**East Texas Geriatric
Education Center**
**Topics in Health and Aging:
Expanded Geri Syndrome
Heart Disease**
Piney Woods AHEC
Nacogdoches, Texas
Contact: (936) 468-6941

8/15 - 8/18

**Physical Assessment of
Adults by the RN**
The University of Texas at Arlington
School of Nursing
Arlington, Texas
Contact: (817) 272-2778

3/18 - 3/19

**Society of Trauma Nurses
Conference**
Society of Trauma Nurses
Las Vegas, Nev.
www.traumanursesoc.org

4/23 - 4/25

**Healthy Communities:
The Big Picture**
Texas Public Health Association
Plano, Texas
www.txpha@aol.com

8/20-8/23

**National Association for Rural
Mental Health 32nd Annual
Conference**
Co-sponsored by
National Institute for Mental Health
San Antonio, Texas
www.narmh.org

3/20 - 3/22

Trauma and Critical Care Conference
Trauma and Critical Care Foundation
and American College of Surgeons
Las Vegas, Nev.
www.trauma-criticalcare.com

4/27 - 4/28

**Cool Topics in Emergency
and Trauma Care**
Emergency Nurses Association:
Houston Chapter
League City, Texas
www.txena.org

Online Education

**Working with Case Management:
Roles, Benefits, and Improved
Outcomes**
MSU Nursing/Michigan State AHEC
www.nursing.msu.edu/ahecce1

3/24

**Unlocking the Secrets of
Effective Coding**
Piney Woods AHEC
Nacogdoches, Texas
Contact: (936) 468-6901

5/15-5/16

**National Rural Minority and
Multicultural Health Conference**
National Rural Health Association
Reno, Nev.
www.NRHArural.org

Texas Webinar Series
Texas Hospital Association
www.thaonline.org

3/29 - 3/30

Trauma Nursing Core Course
St. Joseph Regional Health Center
Bryan, Texas
Contact: (979) 776-5361

5/17- 5/19

National Rural Health Conference
National Rural Health Association
Reno, Nev.
www.NRHArural.org

Telephone Workshops

Telephone Education Workshop
CancerCare Connect
www.cancercare.org

4/7

**Mission Possible XI:
Embracing Recovery**
Burke Center
Nacogdoches, Texas
Contact: (936) 468-6941

All questions regarding continuing education offerings, including payment information, should be directed to the contact.



Piney Woods AHEC

info@pwahec.org

You may contact the staff at the following locations:

SFA Science & Research Center
P.O. Box 6123, SFA Station
Nacogdoches, Texas 75962
(936) 468-6901 (voice)
(936) 468-6913 (fax)

Physical Address
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(936) 468-6916

Letters, news, research and articles welcome.
Please e-mail any changes in your contact
information to info@pwahec.org

Unlocking the Secrets of Effective Coding

Friday, March 24, 2006

Registration – Noon

The Famous Fredonia Lunch Buffet will be provided ~ Noon
Coding Session – 1 to 4 p.m.

Accurate coding and documentation is vital to the financial well-being of any present-day medical practices. Friday, March 24, you are invited to attend an informative workshop on coding and documentation billing issues. You will receive expert answers on a variety of topics, including modifier use, denials and common coding and documentation pitfalls. This workshop is NOT for coding beginners. While the workshop targets medical clinics, hospital coders will also find the information useful.

Conference speaker, Diana Adams, RHIA, has 30-plus years expertise in coding and documentation as well as reimbursement and compliance issues. She is principal of RRA Inc., a consulting firm specializing in coding and documentation compliance. Adams' presentations have been attended by such clients as the Texas Medical Association, Texas Medical Liability Trust, the Arkansas Medical Society, government facilities, and private physician practices and hospitals.

Contact the Piney Woods AHEC at (936) 468-6901 to register. R.S.V.P. by March 10, 2006. The conference fee is \$25 and includes lunch and conference materials.

Life Support Courses

2/17, 3/3, 3/17

**Basic Life Support
Health Care Provider**

Nacogdoches Memorial Hospital
EMS Education and Training
Nacogdoches, Texas
Contact: (936) 569-4600

4/8-4/9 and 8/19-8/20

**Advanced Cardiovascular
Life Support**

Piney Woods AHEC
Nacogdoches, Texas
Contact: (936) 468-6941

Alternate formats of this material are available upon request. Please contact the PWAHEC office at (936) 468-6901.

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